West Africa is experiencing a considerable expansion of offshore oil and gas activities and must, as of now, be prepared for the major development it will generate.

Extractive activities can be a significant opportunity for development. They can help meet national energy needs and contribute to economic and social development.

However, the development of extractive activities, if not properly supervised and controlled, can lead to serious economic, social and environmental consequences.

"The objective of this action plan is to manage and reduce the environmental risks associated with offshore activities."

Salla Ba, Program Officer, MAVA West Africa Programme

WHERE ARE OUR GEOGRAPHICAL INTERVENTION AREAS?

The priority countries are Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone. These are countries that already exploit oil and gas such as Mauritania and Sierra Leone, or have fields already confirmed and are being exploited by private companies.

SPECIES AND HABITATS THREATENED

SPECIES: Marine turtles, small pelagics and seabird

HABITATS: mangroves, seagrass beds
HOW IS THIS ACTION PLAN BEING IMPLEMENTED?

The PRCM ensures the coordination and animation of the action plan in collaboration with the different national institutions of the countries. It also facilitates and leads the steering committee of this action plan. Each strategy is implemented by key partners:

- The ministries, agencies and national technical departments are responsible for actions relating to the preparation and updating of emergency plans and the strengthening of the regulation of norms, standards and practices in force in the world.
- National NGOs support advocacy and awareness-raising activities to mobilise citizens and engage decision-makers.
- Oceanographic research institutes contribute to the production of knowledge and the implementation of a pollution risk monitoring system.
- The PRCM is responsible for capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy at regional and international levels. It also leads the partnership building strategy at national and regional level.

WHO ARE OUR MAIN PARTNERS?

WE AIM TO:
- Anticipate and manage the environmental risks of offshore oil and gas activities;
- Balance the sustainable use of marine resources and development of the offshore extractive sector.

EXPECTED KEY RESULTS

- a governance mechanism and effective coordination is in place
- stakeholders have the knowledge to better manage the environmental challenges of oil and gas activities in the target countries.
- a monitoring and warning system is in place and operational
- marine pollution response plans are strengthened/developed at national level (OPRC)
- the domestication process of the offshore protocol is launched in 4 countries

INTEGRATION WITH OTHER ACTION PLANS

Cross-cuts with the entire of the MAVA strategy for West Africa

BUDGET 2020-2022
- MAVA 1 332 506 euros
- Ensured co-financing 415 000 euros

HOW WE THINK CHANGE WILL HAPPEN

STRAATEGIES
- Strengthening the partnership of this action plan
- Improving knowledge and capacity for citizen engagements
- Implementing monitoring and information
- Developing response plans
- Strengthening and implementing regulations

WE AIM TO:

Anticipate and manage the environmental risks of offshore oil and gas activities;
Balance the sustainable use of marine resources and development of the offshore extractive sector.

WHO ARE OUR MAIN PARTNERS?

Salla BA, salla.ba@fondationmava.org