

# MARITIME SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN GHANA & DENMARK, Annual report for 2019

Danish Authorities in International Cooperation



Ghanaian tugboat masters training on a Danish DanPilot tugboat in the Port of Aarhus. Also in the picture, Mr. Jonas Aryee Regional Maritime University in Ghana, collaborating with Aarhus University on the project: "Port Efficiency and Public Private Capacity in Ghana"

## Project description

The objective of the maritime Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) between Ghana and Denmark is to strengthen the framework conditions for the maritime sector in Ghana, through cooperation between the maritime authorities in the two countries as well as Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA).

Phase II of the SSC was signed in March 2019 entailing three main engagements:

- A furthering of Ghana's enforcement of, and compliance with, IMO standards by implementing a national, maritime quality unit.
- Improving maritime safety in the Port of Tema by competence building of tugboat masters.
- Increasing the Maritime Domain Awareness in the Gulf of Guinea by implementing state-of-the-art e-Navigation solutions, thus giving access to timely maritime information in order to prevent unwanted security, safety, economical or environmental situations.

## Key activities in 2019

- Interagency workshop in Ghana in September on promulgation of digital, maritime security information convening public, maritime stakeholders.
- Three tugboat masters completed [competence training in Denmark](#). The training entailed ship handling in both ship simulators and on-board tugboats in the Port of Aarhus.
- Two visits by a Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) IMO expert have been undertaken in Ghana with focus on improved IMO Compliance and Ghana Maritime Authority's (GMA)s follow-

up on the IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) Corrective Action Plan.

## Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019

- The training of tugboat masters has improved safety measures in the Port of Tema and the competences of the GPHA crew. Utilising ship simulators in Denmark, the tugboat masters familiarized themselves with new and more powerful tugboats, prior to being put into service in Tema. Further, the tugboat masters were able to train tugging of much bigger vessels calling port in the new MPS Terminal in Tema, where almost every third vessel is Danish.
- In July 2019, the project management assisted DanPilot in providing further training and capacity building to the GPHA, in addition to the activities in phase 1 & 2 of the SSC project.
- Within the SSC e-navigation engagement, the Ghana Maritime Authority has been assisted in in convening and entering into a MoU with relevant public, maritime shareholders on the cooperation on promulgation of maritime safety information. Collaborative digital dissemination benefits both national and international shipping, sailing in or through Ghanaian waters in the Gulf of Guinea.
- Ghana is continuously improving compliance with IMO regulations, thus conducting both monitoring and auditing surveys of recognised organisations. For example, the GMA ensures compliance with the IMO Standards of Training, Certification and Watch keeping for Seafarers (STCW) Convention through monitoring and auditing activities on the Regional Maritime University.
- The SSC in Ghana takes on a train-the-trainer approach, which contributes to a subsequent knowledge dissemination of acquired skills to other persons in the different organisations. This approach has proven a success in working with both tugboat masters in the Port of Tema; on the work related to e-Navigation; and regarding training surveyors conducting IMO recognised monitoring and auditing surveys.
- The SSC has assisted and gained additional knowledge on the maritime sector through the SSC-related and DANIDA-sponsored "Port Efficiency and Public Private Capacity in Ghana" project. The project is undertaken by Aarhus University in collaboration with the Regional Maritime University in Ghana running until 2022.

**Status:** Phase II of the Strategic Sector Cooperation on Maritime.

**Project period:** 08/2018-07/2021

**Partners:** Ministry of Transport, Ghana Maritime Authority and Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority

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