

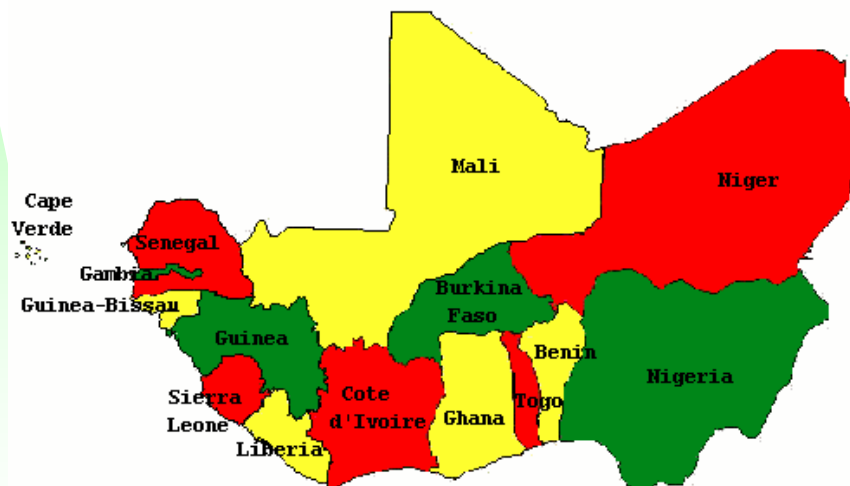


## ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

REINFORCE AND INSTITUTIONALIZE  
AT THE REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL  
OF THE ECOWAS COUNTRIES

*REPORT OF THE VISIT OF CONSULTANTS*

From June 14 to July 5, 2009



# **Sommaire**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Mission Objectives**
- 3. Mission Strategy**
- 4. Activities in Countries Visited**
- 5. Major Findings**
- 6. Observations of Consultants**
- 7. Conclusion**

# Introduction

- n In continuation of their assignment on the “Institutional Strengthening and Development of Environment Statistics in the ECOWAS Region”, the two Consultants, Mme Fanta Kaba and Mr. Philip Bankole undertook the study visits to six ECOWAS Countries from 14th June to 5th July 2009.
- n The Countries visited were: Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Mali and Togo. The mission was to enable the consultants gather relevant information on environment statistics to enable them finalize their consultancy assignment with the Commission on the above subject.

# Mission Objectives

- n Evaluate the capacity of the national statistical system in the production of environmental data;
- n Collect relevant information on environment statistics with the aim of developing a regional compendium;
- n Discuss the list of environmental indicators for the ECOWAS region adopted in Abuja in May 2008 for the compilation and dissemination of environment statistics;
- n Propose groundwork for the preparation of the activities of the programme, including the elements of the budget.

# Mission Strategy

- n Due to financial limitations, it was decided from the onset that the two Consultants should not travel together to all the selected Countries. Rather, it was agreed that Mrs. Fanta Kaba should cover the French-speaking Countries while Mr. Bankole should cover the English-speaking Countries.
- n However, for the purpose of uniform approach on the field and to facilitate the comparison of notes, it was agreed that the two Consultants should meet in Cote d'Ivoire (Sunday, June 14, 2009) at the beginning of the trip to enable them have a common experience on the proposed modalities and to meet again at the end of their trip in Burkina Faso (Sunday, July 5, 2009).

# Activities in Countries Visited

As agreed by both Consultants at the beginning of their trip in Cote d'Ivoire, the programme of activities by the Consultants in each Country visited were:

- Establish preliminary contacts / Discuss with Head of Statistical Agency in the country;
- Interviews with national and international Agencies with environment-related activities;
- Working sessions with representatives of the various stakeholders/Agencies concerned with issues related to the environment.

# Activities in Countries Visited...

Agenda of the working session in each country visited:

1. Opening of the session (by the Director General of the Structure of Official Statistics);
2. Powerpoint Presentation (by the Consultants) :
  - n ECOWAS Program on Environment Statistics;
  - n Questionnaire on the agreed indicators for ECOWAS Countries;
  - n Sample data tables prepared by the Consultants for input of available data by the respective Countries visited;
  - n Outline of the program's budget for five years.
3. Miscellaneous questions and answers

.

# Major Findings

- n In all the Countries visited, there are in existence, the National Office of Statistics and a Ministry/Agency for Environmental matters;
- n In addition to the above, there are other Environment-related Agencies whose activities can generate environment data;
- n In exception of Cote d'Ivoire and Mali, most Countries are yet to have a National Steering Committee on Environment Statistics;
- n Although most Agencies collect data on environment in their daily activities, there has not been a conscious effort towards having a set of uniform indicators for the assemblage and management of environment statistics;



# Major Findings...

- n Very weak collaboration and cooperation among the various Agencies and between the NSO and the other Agencies involved in the generation and management of environment statistics. In most Countries, Line Ministries hardly respond to request for environmental data from the NSO. In some Countries (e.g. Liberia and Ghana), they hardly even respond to call for meetings on environment matters by the NSOs;
- n In almost all the Countries visited, the NSO has a special Unit responsible for the collation of Environment Statistics although activities of this Unit are at different levels of development from Country to Country;
- n The Country visit was a welcomed idea in all the Countries visited;

# Observations of Consultants

Comme prévus, les consultants ont reçu les réponses de la Côte d'Ivoire, du Mali et du Togo. Les autres pays sont notifiés de la nécessité de faire parvenir leur informations sur des données et sur des éléments du budget. Ces entrées seront utilisées à établir correctement le programme d'action dans les pays et aider dans la préparation des éléments de dépense.

Reminder notes were sent to countries to insist on the need to send their questionnaires on the indicators and the budget data for the use of this information in the establishment of an action programme coherent and adapted to the ECOWAS realities.

# Conclusion

On the whole, the mission has achieved the objectives originally set.

The achieved results include:

- Promise of establishing an Advisory Committee (Togo);
- Promise to strengthen collaboration among members of the advisory committee (Cote d'Ivoire, Mali);
- Promise for enhancing collaboration among different structures (Burkina Faso, Mali, Liberia and Ghana);
- New enthusiasm for the development of environment statistics at Country level (e.g. Liberia and Ghana expressed interest in organizing national seminar/training workshops on environment statistics and requested for assistance from ECOWAS);
- Acquisition of available data from the Countries visited.



**Thank you**

**pour votre attention !**