

GHANA WING

Second Stakeholder Workshop Report



"Defining our Operational and Institutional Framework" 9th June, 2017

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00. Summary

The second meeting of the Delta Alliance-Ghana Wing took place on the 9th of June, 2017 at Coconut Grove Regency in Accra, Ghana was organized by the Development Institute with a financial support from Delta Alliance Secretariat, Netherlands. This was a follow-up to the first critical stakeholders' meeting which took place in February, 2017. This second meeting aimed to define the strategic management framework of the Ghana-Wing. The twenty-one participants were representatives from critical institutions: government and non-governmental, national and the local levels. Amongst them; Volta River Authority and Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission who were not present in the first meeting. Participants went into three working groups after the main presentation focusing on the outcomes of the first meeting and the purpose of the second meeting. The results of the three working groups including comments from others were:

- i. a clearly defined terms of reference for the mapping and scoping of the Volta Delta including structure for reporting;
- ii. research agenda defined for the Wing and the areas for the proposed Ghanaian-Netherlands Universities project for the Volta Delta and
- iii. institutional arrangement for the Ghana Wing and funding possibilities.

The follow –up activities suggested during the meeting were:

- to introduce Ghana Wing officially to relevant Chief Directors of state institutions and Ministers
- prepare by booking appointments towards the visit in July of Dr. Peter van Veelen from Delft University of Technology to Ghana for detailed discussions with stakeholders concerning the intended Ghanaian-Netherlands Universities Project for the Volta Delta
- develop concept note for meeting with world bank, National Development Planning Commission, the presidency, a communiqué on the Volta Delta
- releasing press statements to media (graphic, electronic); by involving the Coastal Development Authority to support coastal initiatives
- write and send report to DA secretariat
- send report to all participants before the next meeting

1.0 Introduction

On the 9th of June, 2017, the Ghana Wing of the Delta Alliance held its second critical stakeholders meeting at the Coconut Grove Regency Hotel in Accra with the theme: "Defining our operational and institutional frameworks." This was indeed a follow up to the first stakeholders' meeting in February, 2017. The First stakeholder meeting ended with the consensus that; establishing Delta Alliance Ghana Wing was very relevant as the deltas in Ghana especially the largest; the Volta Delta, calls for an integrated management. Secondly, The Development Institute was also given the mandate to continue the coordination function of the Ghana Wing. This second meeting which was in fact a practical workshop aimed to define the strategic management issues of the Ghana Wing. Due to outreaches made to some critical stakeholders such as Volta River Authority and Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission who could not participate in the first meeting; these were represented and fully participated in this meeting. Financial support for this meeting was by the Delta Alliance Secretariat in the Ntherlands on submission of a proposal from the Ghana Wing.

The meeting commenced at 9:30 am with a prayer by Mr. Elliot Kottoh one of the participants. This was followed by a self-introduction by participants. After which Mr. Ken Kinney (wing coordinator) welcome participants and briefly presented the purpose of the meeting; to build a collective vision for strategic management of the Ghana Wing.

2.0 Workshop Process

After participants got settled, the workshop began with a power point presentation by the wing coordinator capturing the outcomes of the first meeting, progress made and the purpose of the second meeting, followed by questions for clarification. Three groups were then formed based on the three critical issues to be addressed by workshop. The three groups went into working a session and presented their results in the plenary followed by questions for clarification and contributions from other participants who were not in the same group.

2.1 Presentations, questions and answer session

There was one main presentation by the Wing Coordinator, recapping the first stakeholders' meeting and the consensus by stakeholders on the follow-up activities. He then elaborated on the task for the Second Ghana Wing stakeholders meeting. These were:

- (i) defining the terms of reference for mapping and scoping exercise of the Volta Delta;
- *(ii)* agreeing on the research agenda linked to the proposed Ghana–Netherlands Universities research collaboration in the Volta Delta;
- (iii) institutional framework design and functions of the Ghana Wing

The session was followed by a question from some participants who were not at the first workshop.

Q: Can you elaborate more on what Delta Alliance is, the need to establish a wing in Ghana and the reasons for giving so much attention to it?

A: The push for the Delta Alliance Ghana Wing was necessitated to address the changing and complex challenges of deltas of Ghana; particularly the Volta Delta. Studies had shown that, delta regions are some of the highly environmentally stressed areas in the world, with great competition for land and water uses, coupled with climate change, delta communities are vulnerable. For example in Ghana these areas are experiencing coastal erosion due to climate change impacts. Others include activities carried out in the up stream river basins for example: illegal mining, salt and sand winning, over exploitation of fisheries resources, water pollution and high levels of poverty. Participants were encourage to read the report of the first meeting to appraise for themselves of its outcomes.

2.2 Group Work

Participants were encouraged to put themselves into three groups according to their fields of expertise based on the three topics or areas for discussion. These were:

i. Terms of reference (ToR) for mapping and scoping for the Volta Delta

ii. Research agenda linked to Dutch-Ghanaian students workshop design and

iii. Institutional arrangement/communication and funding issues for the Ghana Wing

The groups work took one and half hours followed by 15 minutes presentations per group with questions and answers sessions.

3.0 Results of Group work:

3.1 Group One: Terms of Reference for Mapping and Scoping for the Volta Delta

This group was led by Dr. Simon Sovoe; the Area Manager of the Southern Volta office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He also made the presentation on behalf of the group. Dr. Simon Sovoe gave an overview on mapping and scoping and proposed a structure to be followed. On the context analysis he indicated that, defining the boundary of the Volta Delta requires maps and interest of key stakeholders. He indicated that literature on "Optimization and Re-operationalization of the Akosombo and Kpong dams need be sources for reference. He again emphasized on consulting research institutions such as Institute for Environmental and Sanitation Studies of the University of Ghana which replaced the Volta Basin Project; for information that will benefit the project. Other stakeholders to be consulted for data without much difficulty included: Volta River Authority, Environmental Protection Agency, Water Research Institute, Water Resources Commission, NGOs working the area such as The Development Institute, Forestry Commission, District assemblies, Traditional Authorities, Minerals Commission, relevant Ministries and, Community Based Organizations. The review of relevant policies; international and national were also suggested to go along with the mapping and scoping exercise. Suggestions were also made of other relevant legislations such as the EPA Act 490 of 1994; WRC Act 522 of 1996 VRA Development Act 46 of (1960) and the International Commission of Large Dams (ICOLD) Act of 2015. These legislations support water and the environment management.

On the aspect of scoping, the physical features of the delta were to be focus. The four main physical features and sub headings were stated as follows:

Hydrology

- Surface water
- Ground water
- Rainfall
- Evapotranspiration

Land cover/land use

- Vegetation
- Biodiversity

Socio-economic profile

- Demography
- Health,
- Socio-cultural (gender, historical)

Drivers of Change

- Climate change
- Political Economy

Expertise needed: Expertise for successful work to on mapping and scoping of the delta regions include: Social Scientist, Hydrologist, Geologist, Environmental Scientist and Remote Sensing/GIS expert.

Dr. Sove concluded the Group 1 's presentation on Mapping and Scoping with a summarized proposed structure for reporting as follows:

- I. Introduction
- II. Physical-hydrology, boundary, land cover/land use
- III. Socio-economic profile
- IV. Drivers of Change-climate change, political economy
- V. Stakeholders
- VI. Policies and Regulations
- VII. Annexes

3.2 Group Two: Ghana Wing Research Agenda and Dutch-Ghanaian Student Design Workshop

Dr. B.A. Amisigo of Water Research Institute led the group in their discussion and presentation was done by Geerten Horn (affiliate to Delft University of Technology) on behalf of the group. He commerce by stating that the Natural, Human and Management systems to be considered as the three main research areas of the Ghana Wing for her deltas. Further explanations were made under the key areas mentioned earlier. Natural environment has the physical processes, the biological environment, and the impact of climate change. Erosion is a major threat to the delta areas as a result of climate change. He indicated that the hydrology enlightens us more on river dynamics, the biology and water quality which affects the distribution of species (flora and fauna). Consequently, knowledge of the history and nature of the deltas is critical to prepare for the future scenario of the delta. It is also important to consider water temperature, sea level rise, rainfall patterns for study on deltas

For the Human systems three categories were to be considered: Socio-cultural, Economics and Tourism. It was stressed that the country would gain a lot of benefit from the economics and tourism when given the maximum attention.

On the Management system; infrastructure and governance are the vital areas to be considered. Mapping institutional arrangements and traditional systems, interaction between traditional and formal systems, and bridging gabs and conflict all fall under this and therefore be of critical studies.

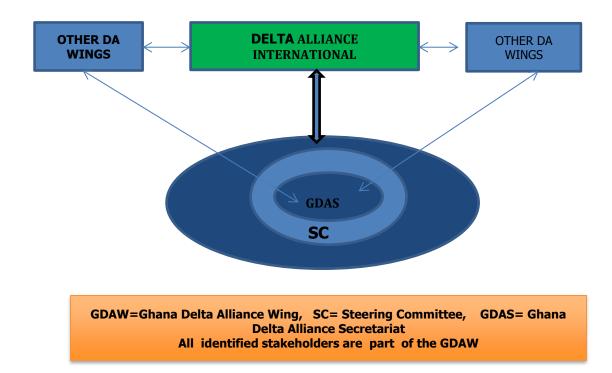
The second aspect of his presentation focused on Dutch-Ghanaian students design workshop

This initiative is to bring together students from some universities in Ghana and Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands to collaborate in multi-disciplinary research in the Volta Delta of Ghana for their masters and PhD thesis. Research will throw more light on mapping and valuation of ecosystem services in the delta, alternatives to current solutions to coastal erosion, investigating the possibilities of sustainable urban planning, study coastal morphology and dynamics, adaptive spatial planning for the

delta, conflicts between businesses, public and community interests and governance system for delta management and policy implications. This collaborative project planning is under way and to begin in October, 2017 where students and their professors would organize a workshop after the initial field studies and to present their preliminary results. This would be continued in Delft, Netherlands in 2018 with the final presentation of results.

3.3 Group Three: Institutional arrangement/communication and funding issues

Mr. John Ntibrey, the Planning Officer for Keta Municipal Assembly(one of the main local government areas in the Volta Delta area) presented on behalf of the Group Three. The institutional arrangement proposed for the Ghana Wing by the group was as follows and are of three levels: The Secretariat, Steering/working group and the members.



Proposed structure of the Delta Alliance Ghana Wing

The Ghana Wing stakeholders are classified into Formal and Informal Institutions. Examples formal institutions include District Assemblies, Forestry and Water Resources Commissions, Universities, Ministries (fisheries and aquaculture), Lands Commission to mention but a few. The informal institutions include CSOs; Traditional Authorities: Chiefs and Queen mothers, Farmer/fishermen Associations among others.

The steering/working groups proposed comprises of The DI as the host/secretariat and key institutions who will work with The DI to achieve the set objectives of the Ghana Wing; to plan and carry out activities on regular basis. The role of steering committee are as follows:

- Be able to partner with other like-minded organization for coordinated approach to the delta management issues
- Give guidance and direction to other Delta Alliance Ghana Wing members
- Plan activities for the wing

- Take management decision
- Identify sustainable funding opportunities
- Make recommendation for approval of strategies.

Group Three also proposed a communication structure. This is an expected to be an inclusive and interactive of all stakeholders. The Delta Alliance Ghana Wing is expected to function as a knowledge hub and clearing house of Delta issues. Consequently, it is expected communication within country and with DA international partners is expected to be through the secretariat (Ghana Wing). About funding the group proposed a strong fund raising capacity of the secretariat such as proposal writing identification and building strong relationship with funding source; the Green Climate Fund, development partners including DA secretariat, Embassies in Ghana, Global Environmental Facility, District Assemblies (counterpart fund), participating communities, institutional collaboration/integration.

3.3.1 Contributions and suggestions:

It was suggested that the wing be made up of members/stakeholders to make it more strong and the suggested core members are the

- University of Ghana- relevant departments
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Water Resource Commission
- Water Research Institute
- Wildlife Division of Forestry Commission
- Volta River Authority
- NGOs (IGED-AFRICA, OIL WATCH)
- Co-opted members are the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) and Local Government Service

4.0 Next Steps

The following next steps were suggested:

- Book appointment, to have meetings with Chief Directors of state institutions and Ministers
- In 2nd and 3rd week of July Dr. Peter van Veelen from Delft University of Technology and will visit Ghana for detailed discussions with stakeholders concerning the intended Ghanaian-Netherlands Universities Project for the Volta Delta.
- September/October the Netherlands and Ghanaian University project will commerce
- Develop concept note for meeting with world bank, National Development Planning Commission, the presidency, a communiqué on the Volta Delta.
- Releasing press statements to media (graphic, electronic); by involving the Coastal Development Authority to loud coastal initiatives.
- Write and send report to DA secretariat.
- Send report to all participants before the next meeting.

5.0 Annex

5.1: 2nd Critical Stakeholders' meeting at Coconut Groove Hotel Accra June 9, 2017 PROGRAMME OUTLINE

TIME	ACTIVITY	LED BY
09: 00 am- 09:30 am	Arrival & Registration	All
09:30 am- 09:35 am	Opening prayer	Participant
09:35 am- 09:50 am	Purpose of the meeting	Ken Kinney, Wing Coordinator
09:50 am- 10:40 am	Mapping & scoping of the Volta Delta	Prof. Appeaning Addo, UG
		Dr. S. Sovoe, EPA
10:40 am- 11:20 am	Discuss potential research collaboration with the Delta Alliance secretariat.	Dr. Amisigo, WRI
		Prof Adiku, UG
11:20 am- 11:35 am	Coffee Break	All
11:35 am- 12:20 pm	Proposal for joint workshop of Ghana-Wing	Ken Kinney,
	& Netherlands	Prof Appeaning Addo, UG
12:20 pm- 01:00 pm	Lunch Break	All
01:00 pm- 01:50 pm	Institutional issues of Ghana wing (Delta Alliance)	Group & All
01:50 pm- 02:40 pm	Discuss and conclude on funding of activities and communication framework for the Delta Alliance-Ghana Wing	Groups & All
02:40 pm- 03:00 pm	Closing Remarks	Wing coordinator



Delta Alliance – Ghana Wing: Second Critical Stakeholders' Meeting @Coconut Groove Regency Hotel, Accra, Date: June 9, 2017

List of Participants

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