INTERPOL’s Project AGWE is dedicated to supporting law enforcement agencies in Benin, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo in the investigation of maritime crime incidents including piracy and acts of robbery at sea.

The Project provides training, mentorship and equipment to all beneficiary countries to enhance their capacities to effectively collect and preserve evidence to investigate maritime crimes.

Regional workshops have been designed to enable the development of common standards and practices across beneficiary countries, build a network of specialized officers in the region, and facilitate the exchange of information. Officers who are the recipients of the training are also closely supported and advised by a Project Mentor based in INTERPOL’s Regional Bureau in Abidjan.
FUTURE ACTIVITIES: AGWE II – LINKING INVESTIGATORS AND PROSECUTORS

To consolidate and complement capacities built during Project AGWE I, INTERPOL will implement Project AGWE II. Its overall goal will be to improve maritime law enforcement capabilities and outcomes in the Gulf of Guinea by linking investigators with prosecutors and increasing cross-border collaboration through the following planned activities:

- Training for law enforcement and prosecutors.
- Mock Trials.
- Coordination meetings.
- Exchange visits.

PROJECT AGWE

PROJECT COMPONENTS

AGWE’s key components:

- **Collection and preservation of evidence**: The objective is to equip selected law enforcement officials with the necessary tools to effectively collect, preserve evidence and investigate maritime crimes and to be able to train officials in their home countries on acquired skills.

- **Promoting regional and international cooperation** between law enforcement officers involved in transnational crime investigations, encouraging them to share information, and strengthening interagency relationships in the process.

ACTIVITIES

- **Capacity building**: Project AGWE builds the capabilities which are essential to any successful organized crime and maritime crime investigation and prosecution, including basic investigative skills, interviewing techniques, crime scene investigation and criminal analysis.

- **Mentoring**: Officers are closely supported by the Project Mentor who conducts assessments to identify the specific needs related to training and equipment. He provides support and technical advice in ongoing investigations and promotes the use of the donated equipment and the benefits of information sharing.

- **Equipping** selected law enforcement agencies with the necessary technical tools to preserve a crime scene, collect and exploit evidence, and facilitate criminal data analysis.

- **Extension of I-24/7**: Access to INTERPOL’s secure global police communications system (I-24/7) is extended to one location in each beneficiary country. Priority is given to Marine/Harbour Police.

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