

# **Marine litter in West, Central and Southern Africa. Need for A Regional Approach:**

(Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West, Central and Southern African Region)

16th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans

Athens, Greece, 29 Sept – 1 Oct 2014



# Outline



## *Marine litter in West, Central and Southern Africa*

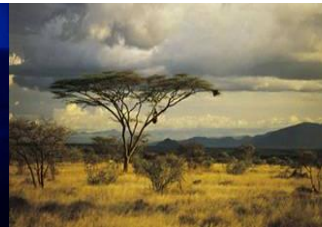
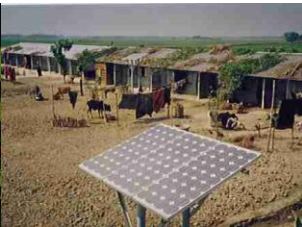
1. Introduction.
2. Marine litter in the Abidjan Convention's area.
3. Mechanisms in place to address the challenge
4. Conclusion / The way forward



# 1. Introduction



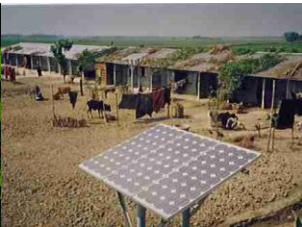
- 1. An environmental, human health, aesthetic and (mostly) economic problem
- 2. Complex and multi-dimensional challenge with significant implications for the marine and coastal environment and human activities in the region.
- 3. Rooted in (i) poor practices of solid waste management, (ii) a lack of infrastructure, (iii) an inadequate understanding on the part of the public of the potential consequences of their actions, (iv) lack of adequate legal and enforcement systems and a lack of financial resources :
- 4. Magnitude of the problem needs to be narrowed more precisely with (accurate) data



## 2. Marine litter in the Abidjan Convention's area



- growing coastal urban populations (more than 60%)
- most of the cities do not have proper waste water or waste treatment facilities:.....> ending up as marine debris (dumped into the ocean without treatment)
  - Lagos, 9.5 million to 12 million people (statistics vary) and generates 10,000 tons of waste daily.
  - Kinshasa, DRC, 9 million (statistics vary), with average solid waste generation around 1.2kg/person/day
  - Annual per capita waste generation: Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire: 365 kg/year; Ibadan, Nigeria: 401 kg/year; Kinshasa, DRC: 438 kg/year; and Lome, Togo: 693 kg/year. (UNIDO)
- in heavily populated centers typically only 40-50% of waste is collected (UNECA)
- considerable economic losses to various sectors (coastal communities, shipping, fishing, fish farming and coastal agriculture)



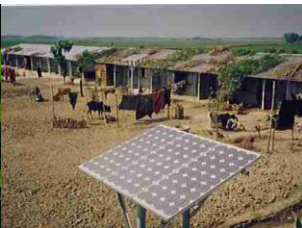


# 3. Mechanisms in place to address the challenge



## 1. The emergency protocol

- **AMENDED PROTOCOL CONCERNING CO-OPERATION IN COMBATING MARINE POLLUTION IN CASES OF EMERGENCY IN THE WESTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION with reference to:**
  - Pollution incident
  - Hazardous and noxious substances
  - Historical and tourist appeal
  - Health of the coastal population
  - Cultural, aesthetic, scientific and educational value of the area
  - “Regional Centre” (Art. 7)
  - Contingency Plan (Art. 4)

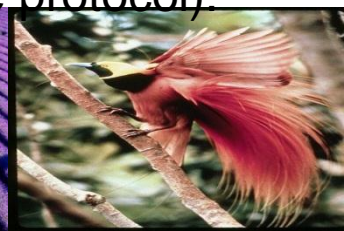
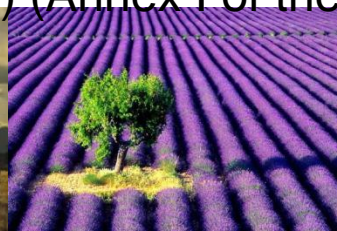


# 3. Mechanisms in place to address the challenge (C'd)



## 2. The LBSA protocol

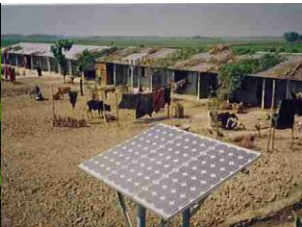
1. 29 articles and 3 annexes.
2. Approved in June 2012 at the first meeting of the plenipotentiaries in Grand-Bassam.
3. 27 articles (very comprehensive, compliance-base and action-oriented)
4. 3 Annexes ((i) activities and substances of concern, (ii) BAT and BEP and, (iii) Environmental quality objectives and standards.
5. In accordance with art 7 of the Convention....CPs shall take appropriate measures to prevent, reduce, combat and control pollution and degradation from LBSA.
6. Geographical coverage is the same as the Convention.
7. Protocol applies to a very wide range of activities and sources (e.g: from developments, emissions, discharges to run off) (Annex I of the protocol)



# 4. Conclusion / The way forward



- Data collection/production
- Collaboration between the ABC and GPA
- Implementation of both the Emergency and LBSA protocols (e.g: Marine Litter Regional Plan?)
- Initiate collaboration with UN Habitat and other relevant stakeholders
- Involvement of local governments
- Public awareness/NGOs/CSOs







**THANK YOU!**

