

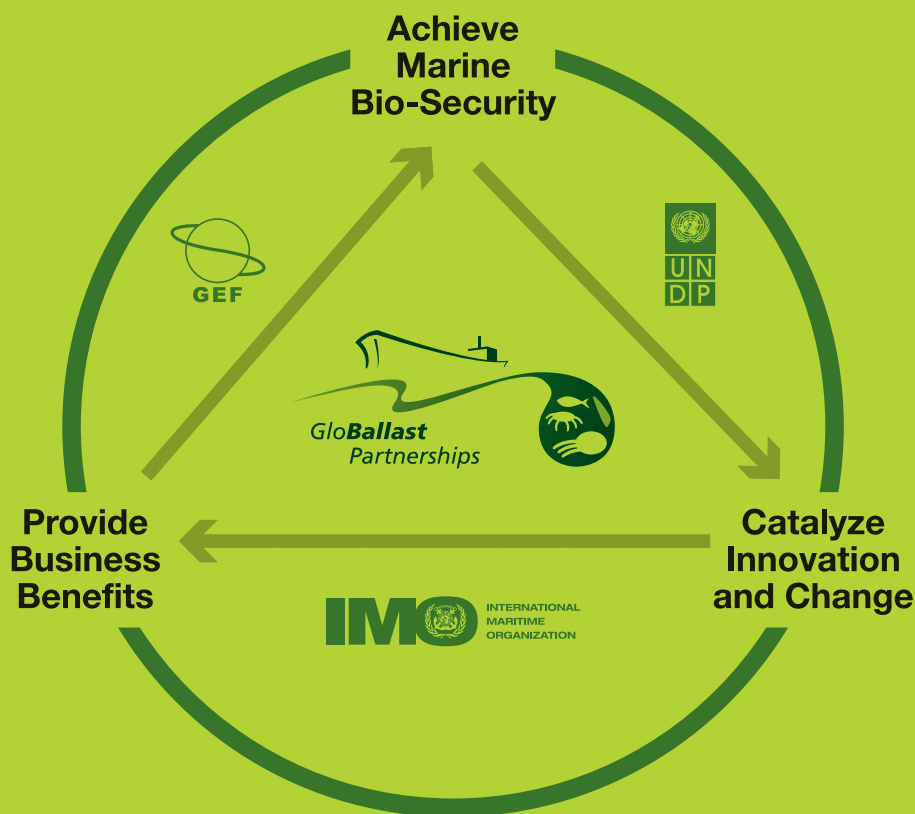


Global Industry Alliance

The “Global Industry Alliance” (GIA) is an alliance of maritime industry leaders working together with the GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Partnerships Programme on ballast water management and marine bio-security initiatives. The objective is to reduce the transfer of harmful organisms via ships, and to maximize global environmental benefits from addressing this issue in a sustainable and cost-effective manner.

Harmful organisms transported in ballast water by ships have caused biological and economic havoc around the world, largely due to the expanded sea trade and traffic volume over the last few decades. The effects in many areas of the world have been devastating. The Global Industry Alliance will seek to enhance and develop the technological measures which can be taken to prevent the spread of harmful organisms.





A GIA Fund has been established, which provides the necessary financial resources for the GIA to implement selected projects, through an annual membership contribution by the GIA industry partners.

This innovative public-private sector partnership model is the first of its kind, and will assist in creating common solutions for addressing the ballast water issues, including new technologies, along with training and capacity-building activities to benefit the participating private sector companies.

The GIA will also publicize advances in technology development, and provide a global forum to share information and to facilitate communications between technology vendors, technology test facilities and end users of technologies. The GIA will also encourage and facilitate accelerated development and transfer of alternate ballast water management solutions that are cost effective, safe, practical and environmentally friendly.

The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments stipulates that all ships should be equipped with ballast water management systems to meet the ballast water performance standards, by the year 2016. This means that it is essential that the current technology hurdles are overcome in the near future.

Through the GIA, the proactive maritime industry leaders work together with the United Nations to create opportunities for the GloBallast Project to positively influence industry practices while benefiting from private sector strengths, including R&D knowledge and practical experience.

The GIA is advised by a Global Industry Alliance Task Force (GIA-TF), consisting of the GIA partner companies. IMO acts as the fiduciary of the GIA Fund and GloBallast Partnerships PCU acts as the Secretariat for GIA-TF and also as the executing body for the activities supported by GIA Fund.

The GIA will initially focus its activities in the following areas:

- Development of an information clearing-house mechanism for one-stop access by shipping industry;
- Development of capacity building tools targeted at maritime industry;
- Co-organizing global conferences / symposia focussing on technology developments;
- Establishing an IMO-GEF-UNDP-Industry Dialogue Forum; and
- Activities that accelerate technology transfer and technology diffusion within industry.

The current GIA members include four major shipping companies; BP Shipping, Vela Marine International, Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering Co., Ltd., and APL. It is expected that new members will be added to the GIA to increase the representation from various maritime sectors.

For further information on GIA, please contact:

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