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Global Alliances for Marine Biosafety







## GloBallast Partnerships

Following the success of the original Global Ballast Water Management Project, known as 'GloBallast', IMO has again joined forces with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Member Governments and the shipping industry to implement a five-year follow-up project, to sustain the global momentum in tackling the ballast water problem and to catalyse innovative global partnerships to develop solutions.

The full title of this project is *Building Partnerships to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water*. It is more simply referred to as **GloBallast Partnerships (GBP)**.

GBP's main aim is to assist developing countries to reduce the risk of aquatic bio-invasions mediated by ships' ballast water and sediments. With the help of tools developed and lessons learned from the pilot project, GBP is working to:

- expand government and port management capacities,
- instigate legal, policy and institutional reforms at national level,
- develop mechanisms for sustainability, and
- drive regional coordination and co-operation.

The project also aims to spur global efforts to develop technology solutions, and enhance global knowledge

management and information exchange to support marine biosecurity initiatives.

GBP has a significant Public-Private Sector Partnership component. Private sector participation is achieved through the Global Industry Alliance (GIA) and GIA Fund, established with partners from major maritime companies. GIA currently has such industry members as BP Shipping, Vela Marine International, Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering Co., Ltd. and APL.

### Project Outcomes

GloBallast Partnerships has four key expected outcomes:

- Learning, evaluation and adaptive management increased.
- Ballast Water Management Strategies in place, with legal,

policy and institutional reforms developed, implemented and sustained at national level.

- Knowledge management tools and marine monitoring systems effectively utilized to expand global public awareness and stakeholder support, improve understanding of ballast water impacts on marine ecology, and enhance maritime sector communications.
- Public-private partnerships developed to spur the development of cost-effective ballast water technology solutions.

The project is being implemented by UNDP and executed by IMO, under the GEF International Waters portfolio, using a multi-component, multi-tiered approach involving global, regional and country-specific partners, representing government, industry and non-governmental organizations (NGOs):

- A **global** component, managed through a Programme Coordination Unit at IMO in London, providing international coordination and information dissemination, including the development of toolkits and guidelines, and establishing a strong co-operation with industry and NGOs.
- A **regional** component, providing regional coordination and harmonization, information sharing, training, and capacity building in the application of ballast water management tools and guidelines. This tier is coordinated with the support of Regional Coordinating Organizations (RCOs) in each of the

priority regions: REMPEC (Mediterranean), RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe (Caribbean), CPPS (CPPS plus Argentina), PERSGA (Red Sea and Gulf of Aden), IGCC/GCLME-RCU (West and Central Africa) and SPREP (South Pacific).

- A significant **country** component, that establishes a fast track (Lead Partner Country-LPC) and partner track (Partner Country-PC) process for developing countries in the priority regions to initiate legal, policy and institutional reforms to address the issue and to implement the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments.

13 countries, from 5 high priority regions, are taking a lead partnering role focusing especially on legal, policy and institutional reform. All told, more than 70 countries in 14 regions across the globe are directly or indirectly participating and benefiting from the project.

For up-to-date information about GBP activities, and to access publications, awareness-raising materials and other information resources, please visit the GBP website [globallast.imo.org](http://globallast.imo.org) or contact the Programme Coordination Unit directly.

#### GloBallast Partnerships PCU

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