

**GHANA: LIBRARY/INSTITUTION REPORT PROFORMA
JOINT IAMS LIC/EURAS LIC CONFERENCE**

<p>Name of person who is presenting or has prepared the report: Marian Akpene Jiagge (Mrs)</p>
<p>Name and address of institution/organisation: Water Research Institute (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research), P. O. Box M32, Accra, Ghana.</p>
<p>Name of library and address (if different from above): Water Research Library</p>
<p>Name and contact details of Librarian/Head of Library/Information Service: Name: Marian A. Jiagge (Mrs) Tel: (233-21) 770396, 771513-15 Fax: (233-21) 777170, 761031 Email: wri@ghana.com <mjiagge@yahoo.com> Web/Internet</p>
<p>Institutional changes and developments during the preceding twelve months that have impacted on library and information services:</p> <p>The Library has been placed under a newly created division called the Business Development and Information Division (BDID). The library has therefore adopted a more proactive way of reaching out to its target groups. Staff have been trained on how to market information products and services. The library is therefore expected to generate some funds to support the Institute's research activities.</p>
<p>Changes and developments in the library and information services during the preceding twelve months (e.g. staff; services; equipment; systems):</p> <p>Staff have attended various training courses during the past year. Knowledge derived from these courses is used in improving library services to both our internal and external users. The Library acquired a new computer. We have created our own database called "WATLIB" which is based on the CDS/ISIS format. We also have the "GHAGRI" database which holds information on agriculture and related disciplines.</p> <p>Some of the services we provide include Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) to our target groups, Current Information Awareness Services – we issue Information Awareness Bulletins fortnightly. We provide Inter-library Lending and Document Delivery services. (This is an IFLA/DANIDA sponsored ILL/DD for Institutes of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.</p> <p>The BDID provides e-mail services/INTERNET services but the PC in the library is not linked to the INTERNET. The library is on the mailing list of reputable</p>

organisations like UNESCO, WMO, UNDP and the United States of Geological Survey (USGS). The library is also on the mailing list of International Program for Technology Research in Irrigation and Drainage) IPTRID of the ODA and receives their publication called GRID. The library is cited in the "World Guide to Libraries", published by K.G. Saur Verlag GmHH & Company of Germany.

Library and Information Publications:

1. Current Information Awareness Bulletin
2. A Survey of the Information needs of staff of the Water Research Institute
3. Bibliography of African Wetlands with special reference to English speaking Areas of Africa.
4. A National Bibliography of underground water resources
5. A Partially Annotated Bibliography for the Environmental and Ecological Management and utilization of Water Resources of Ghana.
6. Documentation of the 1988-90 Hydrometeorological Disasters in Ghana.

Membership and involvement in library and information Networks:

Ghana Library Association, IAMSLIC. The library was in 1989 designated the sectoral nodal point for the water resources sector under the auspices of the Ghana National Scientific and Technological Network (GHASTINET), a project of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

The Library is also a member of the Ghana Agricultural Information Network System (GAINS) which is a project of the National Agricultural Research Project (NARP), (CSIR) and has linkages with International Agricultural Information centers such as the Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Co-operation (CTA), International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), the Royal Tropical Institute (RTI), Commonwealth Agriculture Bureau, International (CABI) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO, AGRIS).

**GHANA: COUNTRY/REGIONAL REPORT PROFORMA
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Number and range of aquatic libraries in the country or region:

Currently there are 13 well known water related national institutions in Ghana with Libraries.

Summary of recent changes and developments in the country or region that have impacted on aquatic information provision:

The library has achieved some success in the provision of aquatic information in Ghana. It is the depository of the Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstract (ASFA) on CD-Rom in Ghana. It is also a depository of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) publications. It has links with other libraries which provide marine and aquatic information.

The library subscribes to scientific journals such as "Aquaculture Research", "Aquaculture and Fisheries Management" and the "Cladistics", (just to mention a few) and these go a long way in supporting research scientists in their research efforts. The library is listed in the preliminary version of the Directory of Fisheries and Aquaculture Information Resources in Africa (FAO Fisheries) Circular No.960/2000.

Details of national or regional aquatic library and information networks within the country or region:

The goal of the Ghana National Scientific and Technological Information Network, is to establish a well co-ordinated and integrated national network within the framework of a national science and technology plan and based on collaborative efforts for the provision of scientific technological information to various user agencies, through the application of appropriate modern information technologies to assist in Ghana's socio-economic development.

The Water Research Library was designated the sectoral nodal point for the water resources sector within the framework of GHASTINET. It is therefore expected to establish and maintain links with water agencies and water related or water dependent institutions which include institutions such as:

- Water Research Institute (CSIR) under Ministry of Science and Technology
- Marine Fisheries Research Division of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA), Fisheries Directorate (MOFA).
- Food Research Institute (CSIR)
- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Department of Chemistry), (Institute of Renewable Natural Resources) and Kumasi Institute of Tropical Agriculture (KITA, UST).
- Programme for the Integrated Development of Artisanal Fisheries in West Africa (IDAF) in Yeji (formerly part of the FAO regional project, IDAF, based in Benin).
- University of Ghana, Legon – Department of Zoology, Department of Oceanography and Fisheries Library
- Volta River Authority
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Irrigation Development Authority
- Volta Basin Research Project, University of Ghana, Legon
- Ministry of Works and Housing, Hydro-Division
- Ghana Water Company Limited
- University of Development Studies, Tamale.

Subjects covered include fisheries, marine environment, freshwater/inland resources, aquaculture, oceanography, zoology, lagoons, marine biology, planktonology, surface water and groundwater.

Additional relevant information:

Co-operation and Sharing of resources among Libraries of water agencies:

1. CD-ROM facility available at WRL for water agencies to make use of
2. Depository of FAO, UNESCO Publications etc.
3. Exchange of publications; Gifts – publications are sent as gifts to water agencies
4. Inter-library Lending and Document Delivery (IFLA/DANIDA) sponsored by ILL/DD for CSIR Institutes
5. Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI)
6. Current Awareness policy being implemented through the issues of subject bibliographies, Information Awareness Bulletins distributed to water agencies – we are therefore aware of what each agency has at a given time.

We tour libraries of these institutions from time to time to acquaint ourselves with new developments.

PROBLEMS

There is the need for the library to acquire 2 more computers. It is essential that it gets INTERNET connectivity. Our main problem has been with funding. We shall therefore appreciate it very much if some donor organizations could come to our aid. We use this opportunity to thank the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) for donating ASFA on CD-Rom to our institute. We welcome such kind gestures from other organisations.

