

**2020 NF-POGO Visiting Fellowship for
Ship-board Training**

Fellowship Report

Name of Trainee: KOUADIO MAFFOUE JEANNE

Name of Supervisor (Parent Institution): AFFIAN KOUADIO

Supervisor (Host Institution): NUBI OLUBUNMI AYOOLA

Dates of Training: 13/12/2020 – 13/02/2021

Section A

(To be completed by the fellow)

It is the responsibility of the trainee to forward this form to the host and parent supervisor, and to submit a fully completed version to the POGO Secretariat. Please note that the complete report will be made public on the OTP website; Private comments should be included in the separate confidential form.

1) Please provide a brief description of activities during the training period:

Title: Shipboard training fellowship on the Gulf of Guinea cruise aboard the RV Bayagbona

The NF-POGO shipboard training onboard the Gulf of Guinea cruise took place from 13th December, 2020 to 13th February, 2021. It was hosted by the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR)-Nigeria under the supervision of Dr. Nubi Olubunmi Ayoola.

The goal of this fellowship is to contribute to the oceanographic information for the African region through the global ocean science map which is currently sparse. It is important for understanding the dynamics of the Gulf of Guinea waters and also key to the sustainable management of the resources therein.

Prior the cruise, the first month was dedicated to cruise preparation and planning. So, after the inauguration ceremony, a visit of the various departments within the NIOMR institute was organised. Later, participants were introduced to the various instruments and equipment used in biological, physical, chemical and geological analyses.

We successfully completed a training in security awareness, personal survival technique, fire prevention and firefighting, elementary first aid and Personal safety and social responsibility of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, STCW 1978 as amended in 2010.

During the cruise onboard RV Bayagbona, I was part of deployment, retrieval and recovering sampling from the Niskin bottom, the CTD, the Grab and the Coreer. I was in charge of physical parameters measurements at each station with the Water quality monitor.

On the Wet-lab onboard, practice-oriented tutoring was conducted on laboratory analysis for dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll and nutrients measurements.

Sub-samples obtained were appropriately stored for further studies at the institutes' laboratory and the data acquired were analysed using the appropriate statistical tools.

2) What applications of the training received do you envision at your parent institution?

This is my first time on board a research vessel and going into the deep-seas. So, for the first time I have learnt more about equipment, their deployment and retrieval, as well as sample collection in open-ocean in oceanographic research. This training has built my capacity in the area of handling and working with laboratory equipment. So I will share the knowledge and experiences I have gained with colleagues in my institution.

I will be able to teach students and young scientists on the best practices and methods of collecting oceanographic samples at sea in my country. I will use my knowledge to build capacity of technical staff members of the ministry of sustainable development, environment and those in charge of coastal management as well. We will be able to participate to cruise projects, something that was previously impossible for us.

3) Please provide your comments on the Fellowship Programme.

This is an amazing experience that all marine scientists should have. This Fellowship Programme is a great opportunity offered to young African researchers to build their capacity in ocean observation data collection and analyses. It gives them the possibility to improve their understanding and knowledge on ocean research world.

This programme also offers a large platform for collaboration and continuing partnership opportunity to expand professional network with other colleagues from diverse fields in oceanography.

I cannot be thankful enough to NF-POGO, the sponsors, NIOMR and the dedicated researchers for this training which has life lasting impact for me.

PRINT NAME

Kouadio Maffoué Jeanne

Date: 16/02/2021

Section B

(To be completed by the host supervisor and returned to the trainee)

Please note that the complete report will be made public on the OTP website; Private comments should be included in the separate confidential form.

1) Please provide your comments on the performance of the trainee.

KOUADIO MAFFOUE JEANNE has proved herself to be a diligent scientist, hardworking, and always willing to take on extra responsibilities. She possesses excellent human relations with her colleagues from other institutions / countries and staff of the host institution. Throughout the training period she displayed great commitment in her duties and she was willing to take on new challenges. She has also proved herself to be very dependable, bright and outstanding trainee. During the laboratory / field work and departmental seminars, she participated in all the stages, and she often makes critical points that demonstrated her outstanding ability to read critically and successfully analyse difficult materials. While her selection for the NF-POGO Shipboard Training was not in any way regretted, her participation fulfilled in all ramifications the mandate of NF-POGO in ensuring global and regional capacity building in the field of Ocean sciences.

2) Is this exchange likely to lead to future collaboration with the trainee's parent institution? If so please give example(s) of how this collaboration may be pursued.

YES.

CURAT has indicated one of its areas of strength and strong focus to be **Remote Sensing**; which is an area some other partner institutions within the West African sub-region (including NIOMR) have not fully developed capacity in. Making more institutional exchanges would likely lead to future collaboration with the trainee's parent institution and also strengthens the existing ones.

3) Please provide your comments on the Fellowship Programme.

In line with its mission to promote regional capacity building through academic/ research institutions and shipboard training, NF-POGO Shipboard Fellowship Programme has provided a great opportunity for early career scientists to develop themselves in the field of Ocean sciences. This long term commitment of NF-POGO has again produced a crop of outstanding scientists whose injection into the field of Ocean sciences would make global and regional impacts.

Nubi Olubunmi Ayoola

Date: 21 / 02 / 2021

SECTION C

(To be completed by the parent supervisor and returned to the trainee)

Please note that the complete report will be made public on the OTP website; Private comments should be included in the separate confidential form.

1) Do you agree with the above comments and do you have any additional feedback you wish to provide?

At Félix Houphouët-Boigny University, capacity building is our concern. So far we experience a lack of research vessel, we are fully satisfied with Dr. Maffoué Kouadio's experience on a research vessel. We are convinced that the experience gained by Dr Kouadio Maffoué Jeanne through will be beneficial for our institution.

I take this opportunity to encourage once again POGO to have initiated a Programme which aim to provide an opportunity for early career scientists to develop themselves in the field of Ocean sciences.

I am fully happy with the above comment and will urge more candidate from my institution to apply to that kind of training.

PRINT NAME

Prof AFFIAN Kouadio

Date: 11/03/2021