

2022 NF-POGO-Eurofleets+ Visiting Fellowship for Shipboard Training

Fellowship Report

Name of Trainee: Toyosi Fadekemi IGEJONGBO

Name of Supervisor (Parent Institution): Dr. O.O Olawusi-Peters

Supervisor (Host Institution): Susan Maersk Lusseau

Dates of Training: 25/06/2022 to 8/07/2022

Training topic: Ship-board training on the acoustic monitoring survey of herring and sprat in the North Sea and Adjacent waters.

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 a separate confidential form.

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

During the training period I was involved in offshore procedures and learnt about the use of a trawl net in fishing. Hydro acoustic measurements were taken along predefined transect, I was taught on how to use acoustic imaging to understand fish schools and how echo sounders are used in fishing.

I had practical and hands on experience on how to verify species and size composition of acoustic registration with trawl sampling. I was involved in taking individual lengths, weight and otoliths of biological samples collected. Hydrographic measurements along fishing stations was carried out using the CTD for temperature, chlorophyll concentration, salinity and dissolved oxygen by depth. Software like the Ocean Data View was used to analyse hydrographic Data. Plankton samples were collected using the WP2 for water column integrated dry weight and habitat description.

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

My host institution is located in a coastal state bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the south. My Parent institution can initiate such surveys on a smaller scale to contribute to scientific knowledge for commercial fishery and policy makers. The training I get will be applied to the research work in my department at the undergraduate and postgraduate level, thereby improving the quality of our research output. I will propose that we seek for funding as research grants to embark on acoustic monitoring of our surrounding waters. My parent institution will also benefit from collaborations on interdisciplinary research with other experts.

3) Please provide your comments on the Fellowship Programme.

The fellowship program is great tool for career development and training in oceanographic observations. It is well organized and implemented and my host supervisor took time and effort to impart knowledge. The fellowship avails a life changing experience, I am grateful for the fellowship program.

PRINT NAME

Toyosi Fadekemi, IGEJONGBO

Date: 20 /07/2022

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 a separate confidential form.

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

Toyosi was a joy to have with us as a trainee. She was engaged and very motivated to gain knowledge from this experience from the very first interaction with the team. She involved herself in all practical aspects of the work being carried out and was actively seeking out opportunities to learn about all phases of the science program but also about vessel operations. Toyosi tirelessly showed up for work at all hours of the day to make sure she did not miss any opportunity for learning something new. Due to her ability to rapidly acquire knowledge and new skills she was soon able to contribute to the practical work being carried out as part of the team. She was directly involved in all parts of the acoustic survey. She participated in watch keeping on the acoustic instruments to detect and enumerate fish. On detection of fish she participated in monitoring and directing the fish capture with trawl nets. Once the fish was onboard she worked in the fishlab to sort the catch and identify the species present, weigh and measure the fish and extract otoliths for aging as well as keeping diligent notes for use in the analysis. She operated the CTD for measuring salinity, temperature, chlorophyll and oxygen concentrations through the water column and gained experience with open source software to make use of the hydrographic data collected. It is my opinion that through her dedication to being involved and her curiosity about all aspects of the work she gained a large amount of both practical and theoretical knowledge from the experience. She made it clear to us she wanted to obtain skills and knowledge to be able to teach these in her institute, and also give her the knowledge to initiate programmes to monitor fisheries resources in her home country. Although there is much to learn, I would say she is well on her way to be able to do both and I give her my best recommendations.

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.

There is no formal agreements for future collaboration with the trainee's parent institution at this point.

3) Please provide your comments on the Fellowship Programme.

The fellowship programme provides great opportunity to experience first-hand and receive training in the practical use of advanced ship based marine science equipment and techniques. It provides not only training in specific skills, but also inspiration for projects and new approaches to tackle challenges in home institutes and countries. The exchanges through the fellowship programme is also a great way to promote greater international understanding and tolerance through developing personal relationships across sometimes very different cultures.

PRINT NAME

Susan Mærsk Lusseau

Date: 02 / 09 / 2022

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 a separate confidential form.

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

I agree with the comments above. Also, I will say that she was eager to impart both the students and colleagues with the knowledge she acquired from the fellowship. She has greatly benefited from the training and is always available when related opportunities arises.

PRINT NAME

OLAWUSI-PETERS, OLAMIDE O

Date: 07 / 09 / 2022