

## **Lionfish Management Workshop at the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Meeting November 12th, 2015, Panamá**

Presentation proposal for RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe

Title: Regional cooperation in the Wider Caribbean for reducing the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ship's ballast water.

Titre : La coopération régionale dans les grandes Caraïbes pour limiter le transfert d'organismes aquatiques et d'agents pathogènes indésirables provenant des rejets d'eaux de ballast et de sédiments effectués par les navires.

Titulo: La cooperación regional en el gran Caribe para limitar la transferencia de organismos acuáticos y agentes patógenos indeseados que pueda haber en el agua de lastre y en los sedimentos descargados por los buques.

RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe is the Regional Coordinating Organization in the Wider Caribbean Region for the GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Partnerships Programme that assists developing countries to reduce the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water and implement the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention. Several measures were taken to assist these countries with the implementation of the BWM Convention, as the development of training packages and the publication of different guidelines (GloBallast Monograph Series).

In the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR), five Lead Partnering Countries (LPC) (the Bahamas, Jamaica, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela) and several Partnering Countries (eg.: Dominica, Honduras, Nicaragua) have benefited from the funds and expertise of the project to develop a National Ballast Water Management Strategy and participated in several training to raise awareness and increase the expertise of national administrators. Additionally, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe coordinated the development of a WCR strategic action plan for ballast water management.

This presentation will cover the successes in the region as well as the latest tool kits developed by the project to increase collaborations with national institutes, marine biologist and national stakeholders with the result that by the end of the Project, selected maritime institutes in each region and among the LPCs will be training maritime experts in key aspects of shipboard BWM. To that end GloBallast developed a free e-learning training based on the GloBallast Advanced Training Course on Operational Aspects of Ballast Water Management and also published guidance (GloBallast Monograph 22) to help in the planning and execution phases of port biological baseline surveys which can also be very important for Invasive Species Management (including Lionfish).

**[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)**

Vassilis Tsigourakos  
IMO Consultant  
RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe