



## Mr. Theodore Kwadjosse

### Ghana

#### Bio-sketch

Currently an Assistant Fisheries Officer, Monitoring Control and Surveillance Division of the Directorate of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Ghana, Mr. Kwadjosse obtained a B.Sc. Natural Resource Management degree (with specialization in Freshwater Fisheries and Watershed Management) from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in 2004. He has worked as an intern with Monitoring Control and Surveillance Division of the Directorate of Fisheries for a year before being employed as an Assistant Fisheries Officer in 2006. Duties include analyzing fish import and export situation and making recommendations through reports, maintaining the databases for monitoring fish import and export activities in Ghana, monitoring activities of fishing vessels with a vessel monitoring system (VMS) to ensure compliance with fisheries regulations, and training fisheries technical officers in the use of software to collect fisheries related data. Mr. Kwadjosse also interned with the Water Resources Commission and the Forestry Services Division of the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy during his undergraduate years.

#### Fellowship Host Institutions and Supervisors

1. Scottish Centre for International Law, Edinburgh University, (Prof. Allan Boyle)
2. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (Dr. François Baillet)

#### Research Abstract

##### **Impacts on the Conservation and Management of Fisheries Resources of Developing Coastal States – Case Study of Ghana**

Ghana like many other developing coastal States is traditionally a fishing nation. During the early 1950s through to the late 1970s, Ghana was noted as a leading fishing nation in the sub-region, with her fishing fleets ranging as far as the coasts of Angola and Mauritania. Hence Ghana depends quite heavily on her coastal resources for food, human settlements and numerous other benefits. This is especially true for the thousands of fisher folk living along the 538km stretch of Ghana's coastline. With the coming into force of UNCLOS, all the long distance fishing vessels lost their rights and returned to Ghanaian waters where they have since been competing with the artisanal fisheries for the same resource, resulting in ever increasing conflicts and depleting fish stocks from over-exploitation and damage to the marine environment. The current scarcity of fisheries resources, disputes over jurisdiction, inadequate conservation and management measures and the continuing decline in global fish stocks with the resultant influx of foreign fishing vessels in West African fishery waters have impacted enormously on the country's ability to meet domestic demand, threatening fish food security and the very livelihood of many Ghanaians, as well as the country's economy.

Hence this research examines the policies that have been adopted by Ghanaian fisheries administrations since Ghana ratified UNCLOS, in an attempt to identify the shortfalls (in their implementation or otherwise) that have led to the current state of fisheries in the country and attempt to suggest solutions to these.

#### Fellow Contact Information

adjosse@gmail.com