The project incorporates an integrated approach to port design that is stakeholder-inclusive and encompasses engineering, ecological, economic and governance aspects. A bottom-up approach is employed, with research in all four disciplines directed at relevant and practical cases in Africa.

Maintaining the marine ecology in and around a port is of the utmost importance; this contributes to biodiversity, provides ecosystem services, and facilitates port development.

The communities around the port participate in creating a port blueprint; including this local knowledge ensures that they derive sustainable benefits from port development.

Applied research and knowledge institutes, practitioners and potential users collaborate as partners in this project; this is invaluable for research and knowledge development.
MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT
The aim of this project is to develop a framework and tools for designing integrated and sustainable ports in Africa in which environmental, economic and public benefits are balanced. Additional deliverables of the project are ‘Best practice guidelines for implementing integrated and sustainable port development in Africa’ and an international 'Sustainable Ports Africa network', a community of researchers and private sector practitioners.

PARTNERS
Technical University Delft (TUDelft), Wageningen University (WUR), IMARES, University of Ghana, UNESCO-IHE, Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC), Boskalis, Deltares, Ghana Netherlands Business and Culture Council (GNBCC), CWT, DAMEN, DeepBV, FMO, MTBS, IHCMerwede, VanOord, STC, Port of Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF NL).