

Oil / Environment work summary

Professor Rick Steiner (Oasis Earth, Anchorage Alaska USA)

- Alaska – Professor and marine conservation biologist at University of Alaska from 1980 – 2010. In early 1980s conducted workshops in Arctic communities re: risks of offshore oil development; participated in 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill -- advised emergency response, helped develop the U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990, co-founded the Prince William Sound Science Center, initiated establishment of the Regional Citizens Advisory Councils (RCACs), and proposed settlement of government / Exxon legal case and use of funds for habitat protection; continued public outreach on offshore oil / environment issues.
- Russia – Co-Principal Investigator for project on oil spill prevention and response on Sakhalin Island; served as foreign technical expert on public review commission for the Siberia Pacific Pipeline project, advised Russian government and Duma on oil royalty and taxation issues, and served on IUCN / Shell science panel to review the Sakhalin II project and its threat to the critically endangered Western Pacific Gray Whale.
- Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan - worked with civil society groups to enhance oil sector and government transparency, and enhance government take of oil revenues.
- Africa – Nigeria, worked with Nigeria Ministry of Environment, NGOs, and state governments in assessing and mitigating damage from oil development in Niger Delta; and served as expert witness in lawsuits re: environmental damage from oil. In Mauritania, worked to enhance citizen involvement in offshore oil sector oversight.
- Pakistan - developed and served for Pakistan Ministry of Environment / UNDP as Chief Technical Advisor for first comprehensive oil spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment in a developing nation in 2003 – 2004, for Tasman Spirit oil spill in Arabian Sea
- Lebanon - during Israeli / Hezbollah war of 2006, advised the government of Lebanon on issues regarding the Jiyeh oil spill caused by Israeli air strikes; briefed the Israeli government in Tel Aviv on the spill and recommended financial settlement from Israel to Lebanon.
- China – advised Chinese NGOs and media on Dalian oil spill, 2010.
- Gulf of Finland – conducted workshops in 2005 on behalf of U.S. State Department on oil spill prevention & response in Finland, Russia, Estonia.
- Canada – advised Indigenous tribes in B.C. re: risks of oil transport
- U.K. – advised Shetland Island government on Braer Oil Spill, 1993.
- U.S. – conducted several projects in U.S. re: oil spill prevention and response, including for state of Hawaii, advised groups in Gulf of Mexico BP spill in 2010, many speaking engagements re: risks of oil, etc.
- Belize – conducted rapid assessment of environmental aspects of oil development in Belize for citizen’s coalition (2011).

- Other - Authored dozens of technical and popular publications on environmental risks of oil, including international manual on environmental damage assessment and restoration after large marine oil spills for UNEP and IMO, commented regularly to media on oil risks, etc.