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**Agenda item 3: Child Project 2.2 Workplan 2021-2022**

**Child Project 2.2 Progress Report**

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UNEP/MAP  
Athens, 2021

## **Child Project 2.2 Progress Report**

### **1. Background**

The MedProgramme Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus” (GEF ID 9685) is designed to build countries’ capacity to balance competing water uses in priority coastal areas through water, food, energy and ecosystems integrated governance (the ‘nexus’ approach), with the aim of enhancing environmental security and sharing of benefits. Activities include institutional strengthening on the application of the nexus approach in natural resources management, nexus assessments in three countries (Albania, Lebanon and Morocco) and associated strategies/action plans, and the testing of nexus solutions on the ground, amongst other interventions. Child Project 2.2 will interact synergistically with Child Project 2.1 (GEF ID 9687) and the SCCF Project (GEF ID 9670) to demonstrate the application of the nexus approach as appropriate with activities in those projects addressing integrated coastal zone management, water resources management in the coastal zone (including the conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater) and the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation solutions in coastal plans.

### **2. Progress achieved since the MedProgramme Inception Meeting (July 2020)**

To date, the primary progress achieved has been the establishment of the legal instrument with the project’s executing partner, GWP-Med. This legal instrument entered into force on 11 January 2021. It is anticipated that the first instalment of funds will be transferred to GWP-Med by 28 February 2021 so that the execution of activities may begin in earnest in Q2 of 2021.

Regular monitoring of progress on the execution of activities, expenditures and co-financing for Child Project 2.2 will be facilitated through a set of reporting templates that were developed by UNEP/MAP and which form an integral part of the legal instrument with GWP-Med.

In February 2021, GWP-Med, along with the executing partners of the other Child Projects of MedProgramme Component 2, initiated consultations with country representatives to evaluate any changes to the design of project activities that may be needed, due to the lapse of time since the endorsement of the project document and the unprecedented impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. These consultations are projected to continue into the second quarter of 2021, and their results will be used to adapt and further refine the project activities and schedules according to the needs and expectations of the country representatives.

Finally, a gender monitoring framework has been developed for the MedProgramme, and efforts are under way to document the contributions of each Child Project to the programme’s overall objectives for gender mainstreaming and women’s empowerment. To that end, a gender action plan for Child Project 2.2 (UNEP/MED WG.496/6) has been drafted and is under review by the participating countries and the executing partners.