









Conclusions and Recommendations of the Fourth Steering Committee Meeting of Child Project 2.2

On 12 June 2024, the 4th Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) of Child Project CP2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus" (GEF ID 9685) implemented in the framework of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): "Enhancing Environmental Security (GEF ID 9607) was held in Athens, Greece. The Meeting was organized by UNEP/MAP Secretariat/MedPCU.

Further to its deliberations, the SCM reached the following conclusions and recommendations:

- 1. The SCM appreciated work progress achieved to date by the GWP-MED under the Child Project CP2.2 and particularly the work related to the demonstration projects and their upscaling as well as the preparation of project fiches and feasibility studies for investments.
- 2. The SCM took note of the budget forecast and endorsed the proposal to extend the project at no cost for an additional 1 year (31 March 2026) on the understanding that:
 - a) There is a good level of commitment already in place by the executing partner including the delivery of all activities as per the approved workplan.
 - b) The extension will not incur additional costs for administrative purposes aiming to support implementation of project activities.
- 3. The SCM reviewed the work plan of Child Project CP2.2 for the period extending from Q2/2024 to Q1/2025. The SCM approved the proposed activities as stipulated in working document UNEP/MED WG.594/4.
- 4. The SCM approved the budget revisions proposed by GWP-MED as indicated in working document UNEP/MED WG.594/5.
- 5. The SCM confirmed that the Implementing Agency has the authority to approve in line with GEF and UNEP financial rules, the re-categorization of individual budget lines within the Umoja classes as proposed by the Executing Agency, countries and project partners, provided that there is no re-purposing in the total amount, substantive activities and component totals.

Table of Contents

		<u>Pages</u>
Report of the	1 - 3	
Annex I	List of Participants	
Annex II	Agenda of the Meeting	
Annex III	Conclusions and Recommendations	
Annex IV	Presentations on Work Progress	
Annex V	Presentations on Workplan (2024 – 2025)	
Annex VI	Presentations on Budget Expenditures Forecast	

Report of the Meeting

Introduction

- 1. In the framework of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): "Enhancing Environmental Security (GEF ID 9607), and Child Project CP2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus" (GEF ID 9685), the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU) held its Fourth Project Steering Committee Meeting of Child Project CP2.2 in Athens, Greece on 12 June 2024. The Project is executed by United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) and the Global Water Partnership (GWP-MED).
- 2. The primary objective of the Project Steering Committee Meeting is to take stock of progress achieved and to review and validate the workplan and budget revisions/forecast of the CP2.2 Project for the forthcoming year.

Participation

- 3. The Steering Committee Meeting was attended by representatives from the following GEF-participating countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, State of Libya, Tunisia and Türkiye. The Meeting was also attended by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), including the Mediterranean Action Plan/ Barcelona Convention Secretariat (UNEP/MAP), as well as representatives from the Global Water Partnership (GWP-MED) and the Priority Actions Programme/Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC).
- 4. The full list of participants is attached as Annex I to the present report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

5. The Meeting was opened at 10:00 AM on 12 June 2024 by UNEP/MAP-MedPCU Coordinator, Mr. Mohamad Kayyal. In his opening remarks, he welcomed the participants to the Meeting. He made reference to the linkage between Child Projects 2.1 and 2.2, and the strong integration between their outputs under the IW GEF focal area. He stressed the need for the executing partners to timely submit their inputs for preparation of the progress and expenditure reports for future Steering Committee Meetings. He indicated that the Meeting will be presented with a proposal to extend the duration of implementation of planned activities under CP2.2 by one year till March 2026. He wished the Meeting all success to reaching positive conclusions and recommendations.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work

- 6. The Steering Committee Meeting elected Ms. Djurdjina Bulatovic from Montenegro as Chair of the Meeting.
- 7. The proposed agenda appearing in document UNEP/MED WG.594/1/Rev.1 and annotated in document UNEP/MED WG.594/2 was presented by the Chair. The Steering Committee reviewed and accepted the agenda as included in Annex II to this report.
- 8. The Steering Committee discussions were held in two plenary sessions, convened over a single day from 10:00 to 13:00 and 14:30 to 17:30. The Meeting was organized in a hybrid mode. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French was available for both sessions.
- 9. The Meeting addressed all Agenda items.
- 10. The Meeting closed on 12 June 2024 after adopting its "Conclusions and Recommendations" appended in Annex III to this document.

Agenda item 3: Review of CP2.2 Project Implementation Progress

- 11. Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, Mr. Tassos Krommydas and Ms. Barbara Tomassini, Senior Programme Officers at GWP-Med presented work progress; highlighting findings and results as well as progress achieved under the five outcomes of Child Project 2.2 as elaborated in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.594/3. Their presentation is included in Annex IV to this report.
- 12. In response to GWP-Med presentation, one country requested that national government authorities are updated of work progress during implementation. Another country inquired whether support from other donors will be sought for implementation of the findings of CP2.2. One country inquired about demonstration projects and the context in which these were selected for application of the WEFE Nexus approach; noting that selection was undertaken without referring to the appropriate national directorate responsible for this type of work. Another country requested information about planned activities in 2025/2026 further to a potential extension of the project. The country inquired whether additional activities can be considered. Several countries indicated their interest in the WEFE approach and requested that further work is undertaken in this area on the regional level, including sharing of knowledge, success stories and capacity building, as well as seeking potential funding for additional projects in this field.
- 13. GWP-Med Officers indicated that all demonstration projects are already completed. With regards to the project fiches, they remarked that GWP-Med is exploring funding from other sources. They indicated that an extension for the project would give a potential to realize a new timeline that facilitates implementation. They noted that there is a need to ensure that the appropriate technologies are available in the countries. Regarding the climate fund, they indicated that GWP-Med is preparing concept notes that will help the countries and specialized institutions to develop feasibility and technical studies which would enable them to explore funding. They noted that funding can be also sought from other donors to upscale the work. With regards to selection of demonstration projects, GWP-Med Deputy Regional Coordinator indicated that a linear approach was applied in sites selection. With regards to Morocco, he noted that a meeting was held with the head of the regional council, further to consultation with EBRD. He confirmed that final selection was not made yet while awaiting approval of the regional authorities.
- 14. UNEP/MAP-MedPCU Coordinator indicated that the extension of CP2.2 is proposed at no cost; meaning that activities remain the same to be implemented over a longer period of time. As a result, no new activities can be proposed as this would entail additional costs.
- 15. The conclusions and recommendations under this agenda item are presented in Annex III of this report.

Agenda item 4: CP2.2 Workplan (2024-2025)

- 16. Under this agenda item, GWP-MED presented the workplan for the project as elaborated in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.594/4, with a focus on planned activities till March 2025 and a summary overview of potential activities till March 2026. The presentation is included in Annex V. GWP-Med provided the rationale for extending the project for one year till 31 March 2026 in order to complete planned activities.
- 17. In response to GWP-Med presentation, one country inquired about the difference between planned activities related to the 1st and 2nd assessments. Another country sought explanation about the linkage between energy and water models in relation to money saved from preventing disasters. One country indicated that their focus is on food security which is given more importance in comparison to the balanced approach of the WEFE Nexus. Another country indicated that activities are lacking in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while seeking to clarify whether NGOs were included in implementation of activities. The Country added that many NGOs are dealing with protection of rivers from pollution,

particularly that many water courses in southeast Europe are highly contaminated with untreated sewage water.

- 18. In response to the inquiries by the countries, GWP-Med Deputy Regional Coordinator clarified the difference between the 1st and 2nd assessments noting that the first is a desk study while the second is a full analysis of the region including drivers pressures, impacts aiming to identify appropriate responses. With regards to rivers' pollution, GWP Programme Officers explained that GWP-Med can play an important role in addressing this issue, including also riverine litter. They added that this issue does not fall under the specific outputs of the project but can be introduced as a component of its own in future GEF projects under the theme of "cleaning of watersheds."
- 19. At the conclusion of the discussion, the countries' representatives adopted the workplan of Child Project CP2.2 as presented by GWP-Med covering the period till the end of March 2025. The countries further approved the project extension till 31 March 2026.
- 20. The conclusions and recommendations under this agenda item are presented in Annex III of this report.

Agenda item 5: CP2.2 Annual Budget Expenditures and Forecast

- 21. Under this agenda item, the GWP-Med Deputy Coordinator presented the budget revisions, expenditure status and budget forecast for Child Project CP2.2 from Q2 to Q4/2024 and for Q1/2025 as elaborated in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.594/5. The presentation is included in Annex VI of the present report.
- 22. Further to the presentation on the expenditures, budget revisions and forecast made to members of the Steering Committee, several countries sought clarifications about the actual expenditures for specific activities. They requested that remaining activities and their budgets are displayed with a focus on spent amounts, committed funds, and those remaining to be spent.
- 23. At the conclusion of the discussion, the countries' representatives approved the budget revisions and budget forecast for 2024-2025 for Child Project 2.2 as presented in Annex VI to this report.
- 24. The conclusions and recommendations under this agenda item are presented in Annex III of this report.

Agenda item 6: Any Other Business

25. No issues were raised for this agenda item on "any other business".

Agenda item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations

26. The Meeting reviewed, commented on, and approved the draft "Conclusions and Recommendations" as amended and attached to the present report as Annex III.

Agenda item 8: Closure of the Meeting

27. After expressing the usual courtesies, the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 17:30 on Wednesday 12 June 2024.

Annex I
List of Participants

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GEF-PROGRAMME PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

ALBANIA	Ms. Elvana Ramaj
ALDAMA	Director
	Circular Economy Directorate
	Ministry of Tourism and Environment
	Ms. Shpresa Domi
	Expert
	Ministry of Tourism and Environment
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Mr. Senad Oprašić
	Head of Environmental Protection Department
	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and
	Herzegovina
LEBANON	Mr. Adel Yacoub
	Head of Protection of Natural Resources Department
	Acting Chief of Natural Resources Service
	Ministry of the Environment
MONTENEGRO	Ms. Djurdjina Bulatovic
	Directorate for Nature Protection
	Ministry of Tourism, Ecology, Sustainable Development and
	Northern Region Development
MOROCCO	Mr. Mohammed Amrani
	Head of the Observatory of Environment
	Department of Sustainable Development
	Ministry of Energy Transition and Development
STATE OF LIBYA	Mr. Omar Sharif (remote)
	GEF Operational Focal Point
	Ministry of Environment
	Mr. Almokhtar Saied
	Head of Marine and Wildlife Section.
	Ministry of Environment
TUNISIA	Mr. Karim Sahnoun
	Director of Conventions and Cooperation Projects Follow-up
	Directorate General of External Relations
	Ministry of Local Affairs and the Environment
TÜRKIYE	Mr. Guven Cakir
	Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of
	Türkiye

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME - SECRETARIAT TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION AND COMPONENTS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN AND OTHER UN AGENCIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its protocols (UNEP/MAP)	Ms. Tatjana Hema Deputy Coordinator Mr. Mohamad Kayyal MedProgramme Management Officer
GWP Med	Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med Greece Ms. Barbara Tomassini (remote) Senior Programme Officer Lebanon Mr. Tassos Krommydas Senior Programme Officer
PAP/RAC	Ms. Daria Povh Skugor Senior Programme Officer

Annex II Agenda of the Meeting

Provisional Agenda

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work

Agenda item 3: CP 2.2 Review of project implementation progress

Agenda item 4: CP 2.2 Workplan (2024 – 2025)

Agenda item 5: CP 2.2 Annual Budget Expenditures and Forecast

Agenda item 6: Any other Business

Agenda item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations

Agenda item 8: Closure of the Meeting

Annex III Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions and Recommendations

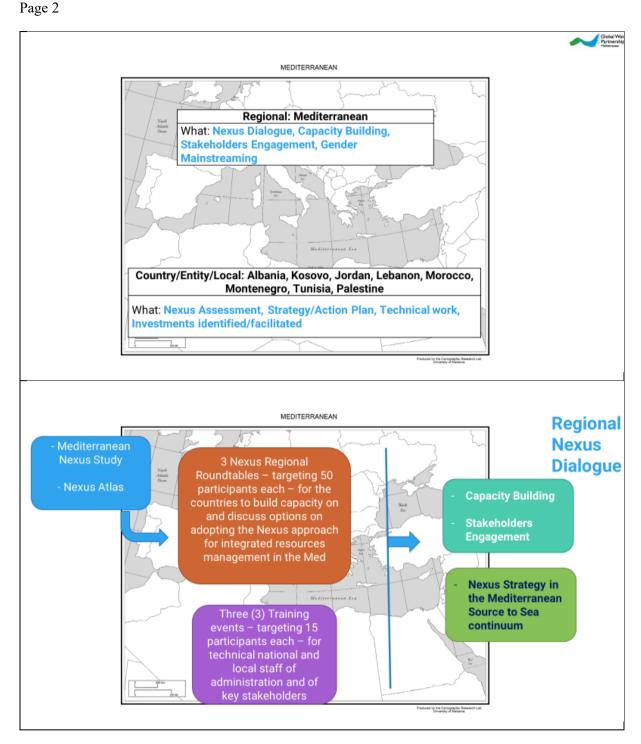
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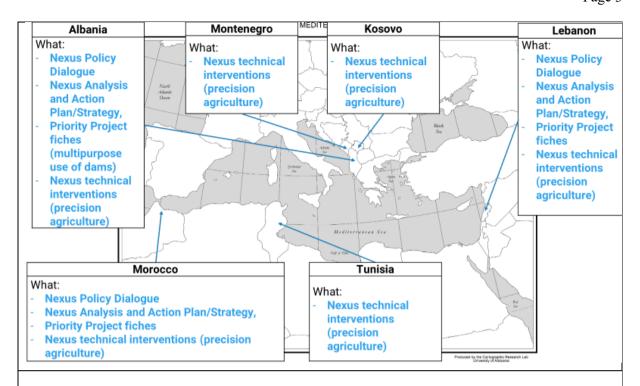
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Annex IV Presentations on Work Progress







- GEF/UNEP/UNEP MAP Project "The Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme Global Water) vironmental Security"

 Partnership Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme Global Water) vironmental Security"

 Output

 Description

 Output

 Description

 Desc
 - · Child Project 2.1 Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection
 - Child Project 2.2 Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus.
 (\$3.2 M, on-going)
- GEF Drin Project (\$300 k, secured to be initiated soon)
- Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Malta (€ 100k, on-going)
- Austrian Development Agency (€ 1,6 M, under negotiation)

Total budget :~\$ 5,5M

[~\$5,3 M secured/concluded + € 1,6 under negotiation M]















COMPONENT 1 INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING





PREPARATION OF A MEDITERRANEAN NEXUS STUDY

• Output 1.1: Regional Dialogue and Capacity Building on Nexus assessment and approach

Aim: To provide a Nexus baseline for the region by identifying in each beneficiary country (i) key Nexus-related challenges and trends, (ii) the level of integration of the management of natural resources related to Nexus, (iii) key inter-linkages and potential conflicts, and providing suggestions on ways forward.

- To better reflect its content and scope, the output has been titled "Rapid Nexus
 Assessment for Mediterranean countries". Additional funds from GWP-Med ensured
 extending the Assessment for further 4 countries: Jordan, Mauritania, Palestine,
 Turkey.
- Following a first draft prepared in 2023 and in order to complement the MedECC scientific report on the Nexus, and to take into account SDGs performance, an updated draft was prepared in 2024 to be shared with FPs in June 2024 for feedback.





NEXUS ATLAS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Output 1.1: Regional Dialogue and Capacity Building on Nexus assessment and approach

[Activity is implemented in-parallel to the Project and contributing to its aims and objectives]

Aim: To offer a scientific -but also cultural- perspective on Nexus issues using an accessible language and collecting Nexus best practices and success stories highlighting the benefits of an integrated Nexus thinking.

- The output was finalised in 2023, prepared by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), with the assistance of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and GWP-Med.
- It is titled "Gateway to the Future of the Mediterranean Water Energy Food Environment"





ORGANIZATION OF REGIONAL ROUNDTABLES

Output 1.1: Regional Dialogue and Capacity Building on Nexus assessment and approach

Aim: To advance Nexus understanding and facilitate cross-fertilization among institutions, organizations and practitioners.

- 1st Regional WEFE Nexus Roundtable was held on 6-7 June 2023 in Rabat.
 - The need for the development of a "WEFE Nexus Strategy in the Mediterranean Source to Sea continuum" under the auspices of UNEP/MAP, UfM and the EC emerged - a "catalytic outcome" over and above the initially envisaged Outcomes of this Component.
- The 2nd Regional WEFE Nexus Roundtable was held on 5 February 2024 as part of the 5th Mediterranean Water Forum in Tunis, Tunisia. 60 stakeholders from around the Mediterranean discussed the draft WEFE Nexus Strategy.
- The 3rd Regional WEFE Nexus Roundtable will be held in Q4 2024 / Q1 2025 to further discuss the Strategy.
 - The aim is to have the Strategy eventually endorsed at the Ministerial level under both the Barcelona Convention and UfM processes



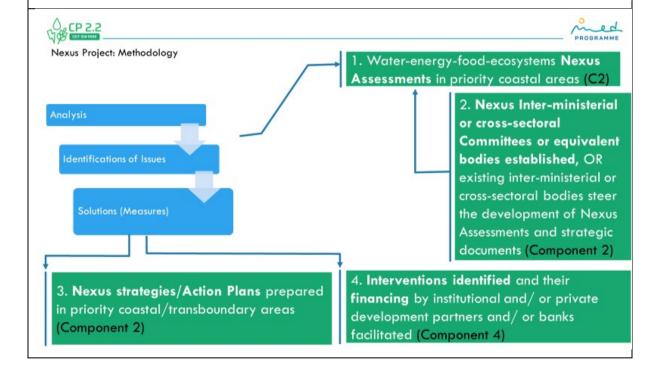


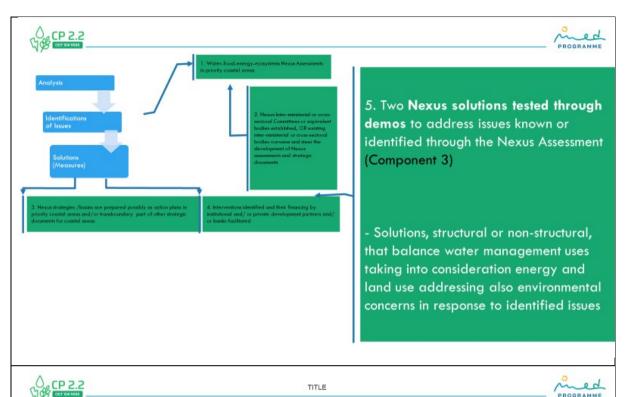
ORGANIZATION OF NEXUS TRAININGS

Output 1.1: Regional Dialogue and Capacity Building on Nexus assessment and approach

Aim: To advance capacities of targeted stakeholders addressing policy, managerial and selected technical issues.

- The trainings will take place in the form of an integrated online course on the WEFE Nexus and 4 dedicated modules, including webinar sessions.
- The focus of each module in the series will be:
 - 1. Module 1: Introduction to the WEFE Nexus
 - 2. Module 2: Scenario Development and Nexus Assessments for informed decision-making
 - 3. Module 3: WEFE Nexus interlinkages in the context of Climate Change
 - 4. Module 4: Response Options and Nexus Solutions
- The workshops are envisaged to take place in Q3&Q4 2024.





COMPONENT 2

TITLE

ADDRESSING NEXUS ISSUES AFFECTING PRIORITY COASTAL ZONES OF THE **MEDITERRANEAN LME**





 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

[Some history...]

The Nexus Policy Dialogue in Albania was launched in 2020-22 as a co-financing activity funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) implemented by GWP-Med. It involved:

- · A Nexus Stakeholders' Analysis
- · Two online multi-stakeholders' national consultation meetings
- Development of a Phase-I Nexus Assessment of the Nexus in Albania (scoping level)
- · Preparation of 2 detailed Project Documents on Nexus interventions
- · Development of a Nexus Roadmap for Albania
- Organisation of a Gender Workshop feeding into a Gender Assessment annexed to the Nexus Assessment report
- Guidance from the government's Thematic Group on Water Resources (TGWR)







THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN ALBANIA

- Output 2.1 New, or existing inter-institutional bodies convening and steering the development of Nexus Assessments and strategic documents
- Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

Activities in Albania under the Child Project 2.2 build up on the findings of the ADA-funded Nexus Dialogue

Phase II Nexus Assessment (In-depth assessment and quantification of specific Nexus
interlinkages): Building up on the findings of Phase-I and in consultation with the WRMA
and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Phase-II Assessment will lead
to a pre-feasibility study for interventions with cross-sectoral benefits in an irrigation
reservoir.



 Activities are steered by an ad-hoc Advisory Group consisting of representatives of the three national institutions relevant to the activities, namely the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, the Water Resources Management Agency, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.





 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase I - Scoping level (Q4/2023), including:

- A Nexus Stakeholders' Analysis
- Development of a Phase-I Nexus Assessment of the Nexus in Lebanon (National level)



- 2 multi-stakeholders consultations, the second (Q1/2023) was organised together with PAP/RAC, Plan Bleu RAC and UNESCO IHP (CP 2.1)
- Online consultation on Stakeholder engagement and gender mainstreaming in the WEFE Nexus process
- · Multiple bilateral consultations with relevant stakeholders
- Guidance from the WEFE Nexus Steering Group that later evolved in the WEFE Inter-Ministerial Group





THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN LEBANON

 Output 2.1 New, or existing inter-institutional bodies convening and steering the development of Nexus Assessments and strategic documents

WEFE Inter-Ministerial Group (WEFE IMG):

- · Led by the Ministry of Water and Energy and facilitated by GWP-Med.
- 7 WEFE related institutions some with representatives from different directions/departments - and other relevant administrations
- 奏
- Regular meetings to discuss the preparation of a WEFE Nexus Action Plan and coordinate on common issues of concern.
- 1 meeting/field visit to practical WEFE Nexus related interventions (Q4/2023)
- Some Members of the Group also participate in the ICZM Inter-ministerial Working Group set-up by Ministry of Environment and PAP/RAC in the framework of CP 2.1 activities, which offers opportunities to strengthen linkages among CP 2.1 and CP 2.2 interventions.





 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase I - Scoping level:

- Overview of Strategic and Decision-Making Frameworks of the WEFE sectors, including policy/thematic areas of priority
- · Governance Analysis at sectoral level and WEFE Nexus level
- Analysis of key interlinkages in the policy/thematic areas of priority
- · In-depth analysis of top priority interlinkages
- Overview of National and International Financing Schemes and Instruments and of IFIs' Strategies and Priorities
- Proposed NEXUS Solutions







THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN LEBANON

 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase II – In depth assessment and quantification of selected Nexus linkages through a modeling exercise.

The main objectives of the work under this Phase are to:

 Assist water and agriculture decision-makers to define policy measures for the optimization of water-use/allocation of water resources and crops production towards water and food security at the River Basin level.



- Assist decision-makers in understanding ecological flows and sustaining freshwater and estuarine ecosystems and the livelihoods that depend upon them
- · Define energy needs for priority crop production.





 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase II – In depth assessment and quantification of selected Nexus linkages through a modeling exercise.

 The ToR for the activity was prepared and indicators related to Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Lebanon were integrated in collaboration with PAP/RAC and as a contribution of CP 2.2 to CP 2.1 relevant activities in the country (Q4 2023).



- A Call for Offers has been issued, and the evaluation of received proposals is currently ongoing (Q2 2024).
- The start of the WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase II is anticipated by Q3 2024.





THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN LEBANON

 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase II – In depth assessment and quantification of selected Nexus linkages through a modeling exercise.

 During the inception Phase 5 River Basins that are key for food security will be selected in collaboration with Ministry of Energy and Water and Ministry of Agriculture and indicators contributing to ICZM planning will be better defined, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and PAP/RAC.



- It will encompass consultations with various stakeholders and further engagements with the WEFE Inter-Ministerial Group (and the Inter-Ministerial ICZM Working Group as applicable).
- The 3rd multi-stakeholder consultation is planned in 2025 to discuss the provisional outcomes of the Assessment.





 Output 2.3 Nexus strategies/action plans for priority coastal areas, possibly as part of other strategic documents for coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Action Plan for Lebanon (Q1 2025):

- A WEFE Nexus Action Plan is being developed, under the guidance of the WEFE Inter-Ministerial Group.

 The development process will streamline the findings and suggestions from the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) activities conducted as part of CP 2.1.





THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN MOROCCO

- Output 2.1 New, or existing inter-institutional bodies convening and steering the development of Nexus Assessments and strategic documents.
- The Nexus Policy Dialogue in the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceïma Region is aligned with the process of elaborating the Coastal Plan for the region (Schéma Régional du Littoral (SRL) pour la région TTH). It contributes with an in-depth Nexus/Source-to-Sea analysis of the pressures on the coastal zone due to in-land causes identifying priority trade-offs (and synergies) between the sectors responsible for water/energy/food security and environmental protection.



- The « Commission Regionale pour le Littoral » comprising around 70 Members, coordinated by the DRE, has served as the Steering body for the Nexus Assessment process.
- A "WEFE Nexus Steering Committee" is being set-up by the DRE (Q2 2024) to review and advise on the draft documents of the Nexus TTA Assessment.





THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN MOROCCO

 Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase I - Scoping level:

- · Definition of the Study area
- · Socio-economic analysis
- · Governance Analysis at sectoral level and WEFE Nexus level
- · Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- · Biodiversity and Ecosystems
- Pollution
- Causality chain of impacts and interlinkages among the WEFE
 Nexus dimensions, including in-depth analysis of top priority interlinkages
- Proposed NEXUS Solutions



THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN MOROCCO



 Output 2.2 Water-energy-food-ecosystems Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholder consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas.

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase I - Scoping level preparation process:

 2nd Nexus Stakeholder Consultation in Tangier by the DRE TTA and GWP-Med, back-to-back with the 4th SRL
 / Climagine Workshop by DRE TTA, PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu (Q2/2023).



 Collection of datasets for Phase I WEFE Nexus Assessment (May 2023-March 2024): This long process was crucial for generating reliable and useful outcomes. It involved conducting bilateral interviews and coordinating communication with key Administrations and Institutions facilitated by the DRE, Nexus Experts, and GWP-Med.

THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN MOROCCO 🖧



 Output 2.2 Water-energy-food-ecosystems Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholder consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas.

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase I - Scoping level preparation process:

- Draft Phase I Nexus Assessment (Q2/2024) **shared** with DRE TTA and the PAP/RAC colleagues, who assist TTA Region with the preparation of the Regional Coastal Plan/SRL for the possible integration of relevant findings in the SRL preparation process (Q2/2024)
- Phase I WEFE Nexus Assessment (Q4/2024) will include a presentation of key outcomes to relevant stakeholders in TTA Region / possible consultation with the members of the WEFE Nexus Steering Committee that is currently being set-up by DRE TTA



THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN MOROCCO



 Output 2.2 Water-energy-food-ecosystems Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholder consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas.

WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase II — In depth assessment and quantification of selected Nexus linkages through a modeling exercise.

Planning for Phase II WEFE Nexus Assessment: On-going coordination
with DRE TTA and PAP/RAC to make sure that Phase II will assist decision
makers with quantifying specific WEFE interlinkages that can support
Integrated Coastal Zone Management Planning following a source-tosea approach in TTA Region (started in Q2/2024).



Phase II Assessment is expected to be launched in Q3 2024





THE WEFE NEXUS POLICY DIALOGUE IN MOROCCO

 Output 2.3 Nexus strategies/action plans for priority coastal areas, possibly as part of other strategic documents for coastal areas.

The development process of the WEFE Nexus Strategy or Action Plan (Q1 2025) will be guided by the Commission Regionale du Littoral and the WEFE Nexus Steering Committee (currently set-up by DRE TTA) and will streamline the findings and recommendations from the Schema Regional du Littoral.







COMPONENT 3

TESTING AND UPSCALING NEXUS SOLUTIONS.





Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.1: Two (2) Nexus demonstration activities testing solutions to address WEFE Nexus related management issues

In Tunisia, after consulting with various government agencies and stakeholders, a
decision has been made to upscale an already successful demonstration project on
precision irrigation using innovative technologies and localized solutions within the
WEFE Nexus framework.



In Lebanon, four promising Nexus solutions were evaluated (Q4 2023) for their
effectiveness and potential for scalability as WEFE Nexus solutions, considering
the economic and financial challenges the country faces. After careful
consideration, a pilot demonstration project was chosen focused on using
advanced technologies for precision agriculture that will also help us explore ways
to scale up these solutions.







TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

- The demonstration activity in Tunisia applies the WEFE Nexus approach in a coastal wetland area (Ghar Elmelh).
- It applies novel technologies, namely Information and Communication
 Technologies (ICT)-based smart irrigation system for farming communities, that
 utilises sensors and data analytics to monitor soil and crop conditions, and
 water requirements in real time, enabling farmers to optimise the use of
 available water resources, even in water-scarce environments.



 It is co-funded by the Maltese Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade (MFET) and MedProgramme/CP 2.2.





TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

• Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

- Recruitment of the technical expert (Q1/2024)
- Meetings have been conducted with key stakeholders at local and regional levels to identify farmers and finalize technical specifications. (Q1/2024)



 Elaboration and launching the call for offers regarding the supply and installation of the equipment (Q2/2024)





TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

The milestones and deliverables of this activity along with the expected dates of completion/delivery are:

Testing phase will take place till Q1 2025



- Three (3) Training sessions to support and assist farmers and local stakeholders (Q2-Q4 2024)
- Two (2) multi-stakeholder Workshops to launch and to conclude the activities (Q3/2024 and Q1/2025)





TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

· Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

- A similar demonstration activity is implemented in **Lebanon** on precision agriculture practices, which will involve the use of sensors, automated irrigation, drones for monitoring soil and crops status and for pesticide application, and other innovative technologies.
- *
- The objective of the project is to reduce the need for chemical inputs and other resources in farming activities, therefore supporting farmers in reducing the production costs, while reducing environmental pollution and water consumption.





TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

An innovative partnership is tested in the context of this demonstration activity through the involvement, already from the inception, of local partners that can contribute to its upscaling.



As the goal is to leverage market mechanisms to expand the demonstration activity, potentially by offering a loan product to farmers interested in the technology being tested, discussions have begun with financial partners, including EBRD, with further conversations planned with other donors to explore opportunities for loan guarantees.





TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

The milestones and deliverables of this activity along with the expected dates of completion/delivery are the following:

- Call for Offers to procure the necessary equipment, to be in place by Q4 2024.
- *
- Techno-economic analysis and market research is planned to start in Q4/2024 and accompany implementation
- Monitoring, evaluation of the effectiveness of the demonstration activity will take place in throughout the testing and implementation period.





TESTING OF NOVEL APPLICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR REPLICATION POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY.

Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities.

Activity 3.1.3: Testing of novel applications and assessment of their replication potential and feasibility.

 The concept note for this project was finalized during Q1/2024 in collaboration with partners, including the Litani River Authority, the Lebanon micro-finance association, and Berytech, a business incubator and accelerator.



- A Memorandum of Understanding outlining each partner's responsibilities has been prepared in Q2/2024 and is expected to be signed by the partners very soon.
- A technical expert to support GWP-Med in implementing the activity will be hired in Q2 2024.





Output 4.1 Identified interventions, including potential sources of funding.
 Activity 4.1.1 Preparation of projects documentation/investments fiches (3) for priority interventions and/or necessary investments.

Project documents have been prepared for Albania co-financed by the ADA project. Discussions with Moroccan and Lebanese authorities have taken place to identify suitable proposals and pool of Partners.











TESTING AND UPSCALING NEXUS SOLUTIONS

- Output 4.1 Identified interventions, including potential sources of funding.
 Activity 4.1.1 Preparation of projects documentation/investments fiches (3) for priority interventions and/or necessary investments.
- Following discussions with various stakeholders in TTA Region/Morocco (Q4 2023) as part of the WEFE Nexus Policy Dialogue, GWP-Med engaged in focused dialogue with the Regional Council of TTA (CRTTA) regarding the development of feasibility studies for Nexus-related solutions.
- CRE TTA and GWP-Med will collaborate on an intervention involving the
 installation of floating solar panels in an existing dam to reduce evaporation
 and generate energy, testing precision agriculture in the irrigated area
 served by the dam to decrease water consumption and pollution, and
 replicating this approach in other areas to upscale its results. The concept was
 also presented to potential funding partners, including the EU delegation to
 Morocco, who have initiated discussions with the EIB, and the EBRD







- Output 4.1 Identified interventions, including potential sources of funding.
 Activity 4.1.1 Preparation of projects documentation/investments fiches (3) for priority interventions and/or necessary investments.
- A concept note outlining the intervention was developed in partnership with CRTTA (Q1 2024).
- A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) delineating the roles and responsibilities of each partner was prepared (Q2 2024).

The milestones and deliverables of this activity are the following:

- · Signing of the CRTTA-GWP-Med MoU (Q3 2024).
- · Procurement of the pre-feasibility, feasibility and Project Fiche preparation.







TESTING AND UPSCALING NEXUS SOLUTIONS

Output 4.1 Identified interventions, including potential sources of funding.
 Activity 4.1.1 Preparation of projects documentation/investments fiches (3) for priority interventions and/or necessary investments.

In **Lebanon** GWP-Med has initiated discussions (Q2/2024) with national institutions regarding two potential interventions. The goal of these interventions is to leverage the opportunities presented by Green Climate Funds for Lebanon, specifically focusing on investment projects related to the WEFE Nexus that have been submitted by the Ministry of Energy and Water as part of the Country Programme's project pipeline. Further discussions with key institutions will take place in Q2 2024 to confirm the specific focus.







Output 4.1 Identified interventions, including potential sources of funding.
 Activity 4.1.1 Preparation of projects documentation/investments fiches (3) for priority interventions and/or necessary investments.

The milestones and deliverables of this activity are the following:

- Studies (e.g. pre-feasibility studies, concept notes etc.), in order to develop a funding request for a grant (up to \$1.5 million USD) from the GCF Project Preparation Facility (Q1 2025).
- Funding request to the GCF Project Preparation Facility (Q1 2025).
- Provided that the request will be positively considered, in the
 period there will be discussions with possible implementation
 agencies, selection of one by the Lebanese institutions to work along
 with GWP-Med for/ and development of a full proposal to submit to
 the GCF to consider for financing the full implementation of the
 interventions.







COMPONENT 4 CONSULTATION AND OUTREACH





Communication activities:

- Creation of <u>CP 2.2 landing page</u> and sub-pages per Component within GWP-Med website (pages related to TTA region/Morocco are both in En & Fr).
- · Publication of 7 MedProgramme articles on GWP-Med website
- Publication of articles on GWP & GWP-Med Newsflow (approx 10k & 2.5k recipients respectively)
- Publication of stories in IW:Learn Bulletin (editions: <u>February</u>, <u>March</u>, June TBC)
- Publication of article on the WEFE Nexus on IW:Learn Website (<u>iwlearn.net</u>) scheduled to be published in IW:Learn Bulletin June edition





Communication activities:

- Production of MedProgramme branded videos available on GWP-Med You Tube Channel here, here and here
- Social Media: 35 Social Media posts on GWP-Med social channels (LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter) and related MedProgramme branded visuals
- · 10 MedProgramme branded multimedia files for online use
- 1 MedProgramme Leaflet (in En & Fr)

Annex V Presentations on Work Plan (2024 – 2025)







3rd Steering Committee Meeting

Summary of workplan for 2024 (Q2) to 2025 (Q1)





Component 1: Institutional Strengthening.

Output 1.1: Regional Dialogue and Capacity Building on Nexus assessment and approach

Activity	Timeline
1.1.1 Preparation of a Rapid Nexus Assessment for the Mediterranean.	Q2 2024: Draft Assessment finalised and shared with national representatives Q3 2024: Final Assessment prepared
1.1.2 Nexus Atlas	Q1 2023: Output finalised
1.1.3 Organization of Regional Roundtables	Q2 2023: 1 st Regional Roundtable Q1 2024: 2 nd Regional Roundtable Q4 2024 / Q1 2025: 3 rd Regional Roundtable
1.1.4 Organization of Nexus Trainings	Q3-Q4 2024: Online integrated course with 4 separate modules





Component 2: Addressing Nexus issues affecting priority coastal zones of the Mediterranean LME.

Output 2.1 New, or existing inter-institutional bodies convening and steering the development of Nexus Assessments and strategic documents (Albania, Lebanon, Morocco). Activity 2.1.1 Facilitation of the work of existing or establishment of inter-institutional bodies to function as Steering Committees of the Nexus Dialogues.

Activity	Timeline
Regular coordination with ad-hoc Advisory Group (Albania)	Q4 2023 (starting) – on-going activity
Regular Meetings of the Inter-Ministerial WEFE Nexus Steering Group (Lebanon)	Q2 2023 (starting) — on-going activity
Regular Meetings of the WEFE Nexus Steering Group (Morocco)	Q3 2024 (anticipated start) - on-going activity





Component 2: Addressing Nexus issues affecting priority coastal zones of the Mediterranean LME.

Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas (Albania, Lebanon, Morocco).

Activity 2.2.1 Development of a Stakeholders Analysis.

Activities	Timeline
Development of a Stakeholders Analysis for Albania	[Prepared in 2019 under the SEE Nexus Project]
Development of a Stakeholders Analysis for Morocco	Finalised
Development of a Stakeholders Analysis for Lebanon	Finalised





Component 2: Addressing Nexus issues affecting priority coastal zones of the Mediterranean LME.

Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas (Albania, Lebanon, Morocco).

Activity 2.2.2 Development of Nexus Assessments including stakeholder consultations

Activities	Timeline
Phase I WEFE Nexus Assessment Morocco: - 2nd Multi Stakeholder Consultation	- Q2/2023
- Data gathering	- Q2/2023 - Q1/2024
- Final Nexus Assessment	- Q4/2024





Component 2: Addressing Nexus issues affecting priority coastal zones of the Mediterranean LME.

Output 2.2 WEFE Nexus Assessments and multi-stakeholders consultation dialogues in priority coastal areas (Albania, Lebanon, Morocco).

Activity 2.2.2 Development of Nexus Assessments including stakeholder consultations

Activities	Timeline				
Phase II WEFE Nexus Assessment Lebanon:					
- Concept Note preparation	- Q4/2023				
- Agreement with Consultants	- Q2/2024				
- Implementation	- Q3/2024 (start)				
Phase II WEFE Nexus Assessment Albania:					
- Concept Note preparation	- Q4/2023				
- Agreement with Consultants	- Q2/2024				
- Implementation	- Q3/2024 - Q1/2025				
Phase II WEFE Nexus Assessment Morocco:					
- Concept Note preparation	- Q2/2024				
- Agreement with Consultants	- Q3/2024				
- Implementation	- Q3/2024 (start)				





Component 2: Addressing Nexus issues affecting priority coastal zones of the Mediterranean LME.

Output 2.3 Nexus strategies/action plans for priority coastal areas, possibly as part of other strategic documents for coastal areas (Albania, Lebanon, Morocco).

Activity 2.3.1 Development of Nexus Strategies or Action Plans.

Activities	Timeline
Nexus Roadmap for Albania	[Prepared in 2022 under the SEE Nexus Project]
WEFE Nexus Action Plan for Lebanon	Q1/2025
WEFE Nexus Action Plan for Morocco	Q1/2025





Component 3: Testing and upscaling Nexus solutions.

Output 3.1 Nexus demonstration activities

Activities	Timeline
WEFE Nexus demonstration activity (Lebanon) -Concept Note preparation -Partnership Agreement (MoU) with implementing organisations/administrations	-Q1/2024 -Q2/2024 (draft)
-Activity implementation	-Q2/2024 (start)
WEFE Nexus demonstration activity (Tunisia) Upcoming discussions:	
- Concept Note preparation - Activity implementation	-Q1/2024 -Q2/2024 (start)





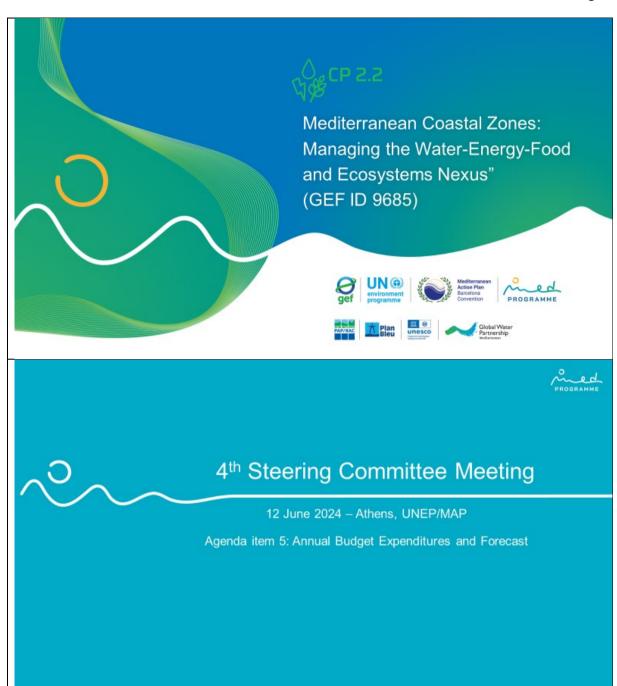
Component 4 Consultation and outreach

Output 5.1 A Stakeholders Engagement Strategy (SEG) coherent with the MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming and Knowledge Management Strategies.

Activity 5.1.1 Preparation of a Stakeholders Engagement Strategy.

Activities	Timeline
Implementation of stakeholder engagement and outreach/communication activities	On-going throughout the project

Annex VI Annual Budget Expenditures and Forecast







BUDGET EXPENDITURES 2023-2024

MED #9685: CP 2.2 Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus.

Code	Expenditure Areas		Tot	al Budget	Tot	tal Expenditure To Date		Balance	Percent expenditures
FT30 010	PROJECT STAFF AND PERSO	NNEL							
		Subtotal	\$	429,000	5	205,183.92	\$	223,816.08	48
FT30_160	TRAVEL		1		0000		00000		
		Subtotal	\$	30,000	S	5,830.67	\$	24,169.33	19
FT30 140	GRANT TO IP							***************************************	
		Subtotal	\$	2,936,000	S	922,838.08	\$:	2,013,161.92	31
		TOTAL	5	3,395,000	s	1,133,852.67	\$ 1	2,261,147.33	33
		***************************************							N





FORECAST IN 2023 VS EXPENDITURES IN 2024

Category	Forecasted amount in 2023	Actual expenditure in 2024	Variance	
Personnel	115,500	59,677	-48%	
Travel	10,500	4,145	-61%	
Implementing partners	1,740,337	550,855	-68%	
Total	1.866.337	614.677	-67%	





NEEDED BUDGET REVISIONS - GWP-MED

To cover costs of consultants/technical advisors, the following is proposed:

Reallocation of \$8,864 from Technical Advisors (Staff; Output 4.1), \$135,924 from International Technical Consultants (Consultants; Outputs 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3) and \$110,400 from Local Technical Consultants (Consultants; Outputs 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3) as follows:

- \$128,409 to Senior Technical Advisors (Staff; Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) that will undertake work that the International Technical Consultants would have done for the Interministerial Committees' operation, Nexus Assessments and Nexus Policy Dialogues
- \$1,329 to International Technical Consultants (Consultants; Output 5.1) to strengthen work in relation to Communications in Tunisia, Lebanon and Albania
- \$52,000 to Local Technical Consultants (Consultants; Output 3.1) for studies necessary for the implementation of demonstration activities in Lebanon and Tunisia
- \$73,450 to cover part of the \$148,265 to Company/Consultancy (Output 4.1) for additional resources to be used for feasibility studies for Project Fiches in Morocco and Lebanon





NEEDED BUDGET REVISIONS - GWP-MED

To cover cost of travel of consultants/technical advisors, the following is proposed:

Reallocation of \$25,166 from Output 1, \$3,100 from Output 3.1, \$6,440 from Output 4.1, and \$14,599 from 2207 Components 1, 2, 3, 4 as follows:

- \$7,483 to Travel (Output Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) to cover costs related to interministerial meetings in Lebanon.
- \$4,384 to Travel (Output 5.1) to cover costs related to meetings with stakeholders for the implementation of the CP.
- \$5,679 to Travel (Output 4 Travels to support IW:LEARN) to increase the budget for travel related to activities to support IWLEARN.
- \$5,000 to Travel (Components 1, 2, 3, 4 Synergies with IW:LEARN) to cover increase the budget for travel related to activities to support IWLEARN.
- \$26,759 to cover part of the \$148,625 to (Company/Consultancy; Output 4.1) for additional resources to be used for feasibility studies for Project Fiches in Morocco and Lebanon.





NEEDED BUDGET REVISIONS - GWP-MED

To cover cost of contractual services for meetings, the following is proposed:

Reallocation of \$3,440 from Meetings (Output 1), \$67,000 from Meetings (Component 1,2,3,4), \$17,408 from Company/Consultancy (Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) and \$54.500 from Company/Consultancy (Output 3.1) as follows:

- \$29,092 to Meetings (Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) to cover costs in relation to Nexus Dialogues in Lebanon, Tunisia and Albania.
- \$63,120 to Company/Consultancy (Output 1) for the development of Capacity Building training material for on-line asynchronous training.
- \$48,056 to cover part of the \$148,625 to Company/Consultancy (Output 4.1) for additional resources to be used for feasibility studies for Project Fiches in Morocco and Lebanon.
- \$2,081 to cover part of the \$92,100 to Demonstration Activities equipment (Output 3.1) to buy additional field equipment for the demonstration activities in Lebanon and Tunisia.





NEEDED BUDGET REVISIONS - GWP-MED

To cover cost of operational and other direct costs for information materials, the following is proposed:
Reallocation of \$28,720 from Information Material (Output 5.1), \$415 from Miscellaneous (Output 1), \$270 from Miscellaneous (Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) and \$54,465 from Miscellaneous (Components 1, 2, 3, 4, Synergies with IWLEARN) as follows:

- > \$79 to Miscellaneous (Output 5.1).
- > \$1,182 to Miscellaneous (Output 4 Travels to support IW:LEARN).
- \$82,609 to cover part of the 92,100 to Demonstration Activities equipment (Output 3.1) to buy additional field equipment for the demonstration activities in Lebanon and Tunisia.

To cover cost of supplies and materials, the following is proposed:

Reallocation of \$7,410 from Software (Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3) to cover part of the \$92,100 to Demonstration Activities equipment (Output 3.1) to purchase additional field equipment for the demonstration activities in Lebanon and Tunisia

