

GEF financing for regional action targeting transboundary water systems – linkage with regional seas

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Some financial figures



The economic impacts of LBS on the coastal and marine resources in all Mediterranean countries were evaluated to be equivalent to 2.1-4.8% of national GDP. Through the MAP, 101 pollution hot spots were identified. The cost for addressing these 101 pollution hot spots alone for the ten year period was estimated at **US\$10 billion**.

In South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, the annual value of the ecosystem goods and services from the main coastal ecosystems (mangroves, coral reefs, sea grass beds, estuaries) were estimated at US\$7.49 billion. The cost-benefit analysis revealed that the anticipated action for the coming five years cost **US\$2.99 million** as compared to the expected benefits of US\$1.479 billion (cost-benefit ratio-0.02%).

Global Environment Facility (GEF)



- **Financing for global environmental benefits; a/the financial mechanism for Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) – UNFCCC, CBD, CCD, Stockholm Convention on POPs and Vienna Convention on ODS**
- **Incremental cost – further to baseline actions that are to be conducted by national, regional and global programmes**
- **Required co-financing**
- **Required capacity for execution and monitoring**

Global Environment Facility (GEF)



Six focal areas:

- **Biological Diversity;**
- **Climate Change;**
- **International Waters;**
- **Land Degradation;**
- **Persistent Organic Pollutants; and**
- **Protection of Ozone Layer.**

Many of the interventions in these six focal areas are relevant to Marine and Coastal Environment

GEF International Waters focal area



During GEF phase IV (July 2006 – June 2010), there are four Strategic Programmes (SPs) defined:

SP-1: Restoring and sustaining coastal and marine **fish stocks and associated biological diversity**;

SP-2: Reducing **nutrient over-enrichment and oxygen depletion** for land-based pollution of coastal waters in LMEs consistent with the GPA

SP-3: Balancing over-use and competing uses of water resources for **surface and groundwater** basins that are transboundary in nature

SP-4: Reducing **Persistent Toxic Substances** and testing adaptive management of waters with **melting ice**

GEF International Waters focal area



Typical GEF IW projects for Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) – “ecosystem-based approach”

- Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) - analysis and prioritisation of transboundary issues);
- Strategic Action Programme (SAP) – agreed costed actions for achieving time-bound environmental objectives, involving actions on the ground issues
- Institutional set-up for implementation of SAP;
- Wherever necessary, establish a legal framework for addressing transboundary issues; and
- **Mobilisation of financial** resources and capacity building

GEF projects and regional seas



- **There are GEF projects in the geographic coverage of most of the regional seas programmes;**
- **Concerns raised over linkage between the GEF projects and the regional seas programmes;**
- **Country specific priority, particularly under the GEF programming framework, which may be different from regional programming needs;**
- **Need for regional seas to pursue multiple global environmental benefits?**
- **Ecosystem-based approach – issues that the regional seas may not be mandated to handle – geographic definition**

Possible areas for GEF support in regional seas (1)



- Support for the implementation of Regional Seas Conventions through the SAP development and implementation;
- Support for the implementation of specific protocol(s) under the conventions (resulting in earlier entering into force of protocols)
- Help establish a sustainable financial mechanism for regional seas
- Broker partnership between the regional seas programmes and sub-regional fisheries commissions, and other partnerships;

Possible areas for GEF support in regional seas (2)



- Demonstration of technologies and practices that are relevant to region- specific transboundary issues
- Establishment of regional network of MPAs in support of Specially Protected Areas Protocol;
- IWRM plan processes supported under the regional seas;
- Climate change adaption incorporated in the ICZM and IWRM, based on the National Communication and National Action Plan on Adaptation (NAPA); regional adaptation strategy;

Possible areas for GEF support in regional seas (3)



- Addressing sources of POPs that affect the quality of marine and coastal environment, based on the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans
- Addressing degradation of coastal ecosystems, based on the UNCCD National Action Plans
- Exchange of lessons learnt, good practices and guidelines/tools between GEF projects and regional seas programme.

Example: Mediterranean



- A GEF project already completed with two SAP (SAP-Med and SAP-Bio) and NAPs
- NAPs development involved financial institutions – leading to mobilising investment for the implementation of the NAPs
- Moving towards the implementation of the SAPs and NAPs – establishment of Strategic Partnership (MAP, UNEP, World Bank, UNIDO, FAO, UNESCO, NGO consortium, MAP Regional Activity Centres) together with European Commission, Union of the Mediterranean, etc.

Example: Mediterranean Strategic Partnership



SAPs and NAPs are considered to be documents that describe the operational details of the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols (particularly, LBS and SPA protocols);

Strategic Partnership (UNEP Regional Project and World Bank Investment Fund) mobilises expertise and financial resources for the implementation of SAPs – sustainable financial mechanism; and

Push for the ratification of the 2007 ICZM protocol; IWRM planning processes.

POPs project under implementation, biodiversity add-ons

Example: East Africa



UNEP/GEF WIO-Lab project is producing SAP on land-based activities (land-based sources of pollution and physical destruction of Habitats), in parallel to the development of a LBA/LBS protocol of the Nairobi Convention

The project is implemented based on the Convention partnership

The project is fully incorporated into the Nairobi Convention work programme

Move to mobilise financial resources for the implementation of the SAP

Example: Caribbean



Two demonstration project under implementation (Integrated Watershed and Coastal Area Management, and pesticide runoff), incorporated into the CEP workplan

Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management under preparation I support of the LBS protocol; and

Discussion ongoing using the CEP to implement POPs and biodiversity projects.

UNEP/GEF: Strategic areas for GEF-IV



- Providing technical information and leadership on land-based activities that affect the marine and coastal environment (nutrients and habitat degradation);
- SAP implementation for UNEP-administered regional seas programmes;
- Analysis of complex system interaction in transboundary/priority river basins (climate change/variability, basin ecosystem changes);
- Contaminant demos through regional approaches;
- Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (TWAP);
- and
- Knowledge management (focusing on science-based approaches, data/mapping, groundwater, ecosystem approaches)