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ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

6 July 2020
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Inception Meeting of the Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme):
Enhancing Environmental Security (GEF ID 9607)

Videoconference, 20-22 July 2020

GEF CEO endorsement request (Project Document) and related Annexes of Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158)

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GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project
 TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

For more information about GEF, visit TheGEF.org

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya.			
Country(ies):	Libya	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UN Environment	GEF Agency Project ID:	01423
Other Executing Partner(s):	UN Environment/MAP, WWF Mediterranean, IUCN, SPA/RAC.	Submission Date:	
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	60 months
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Program: SGP	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name of Parent Program	Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security – ID9607	Agency Fee (\$)	123,853

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES²

Focal Area Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD 1	1.2 Improved management effectiveness of protected areas	GEFTF	1,376,147	5,972,611
Total project costs			1,376,147	5,972,611

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Expanding seascapes under protection and improving protected area management.						
Project Components/ Programs	Financing Type ³	Project Outcomes ⁴	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
Component 1: Improving Governance and Management Support	TA	Outcome 1: Protection of marine biodiversity in Libya's Marine Protected Areas is enhanced through the development of an MPA governance structure at the national level and supported through new on-site	Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya. Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes. Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan in	GEFTF	512,745	1,759,366

¹ Project ID number remains the same as the assigned PIF number.

² When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](#) and [CBIT programming directions](#).

³ Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

⁴ Together, three outcomes contribute to the achievement of the project's overarching outcome (Programme Outcome 7): Expansion of seascapes under protection in Libya, and improved protected area management through the implementation of the Libyan Marine Protected Areas (MPA) National Strategy, mapping of marine key habitats, monitoring of marine megafauna (Mammals, seabirds, turtles and cartilaginous fishes), capacity support mechanisms and adoption of permanent solutions.

		management units, sustainable management plans and monitoring programmes and networks.	at least one MPA.			
Component 2: Participation and Institutional Strengthening	TA	Outcome 2: The governance and sustainable management of MPAs is reinforced through the increased participation of Libyan stakeholders and strengthening of institutional capacities on MPA management and related monitoring activities.	Output 2.1: Civil Society Organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders. Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management.	GEFTF	450,482	1,759,366
Component 3: Awareness-raising and Communication	TA	Outcome 3: Awareness of the value and importance of MPAs is raised at the national level, as a further means of strengthening MPA governance and management.	Output 3.1: Awareness-raising and communication campaigns and materials, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers.	GEFTF	347,420	1,759,366
Subtotal					1,310,647	5,278,098
Project Management Cost (PMC) ⁵				GEFTF	65,500	694,513
Total project costs					1,376,147	5,972,611

C. CONFIRMED SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Please include evidence for co-financing for the project with this form.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
Executing Agencies	UN Environment/MAP	In Kind	108,058
Executing Agencies	IUCN	In Kind	829,000
Executing Agencies	WWF Mediterranean	In Kind	1,284,000
Executing Agencies	SPA/RAC	In Kind	1,251,553
Recipient Government	State of Libya	In Kind	2,500,000
Total Co-financing			5,972,611

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust	Country	Focal	Programming of Funds	(in \$)
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⁵ For GEF Project Financing up to \$2 million, PMC could be up to 10% of the subtotal; above \$2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

	Fund	Name/Global	Area		GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee^{a)} (b)²	Total (c)=a+b
UN Environment	GEF TF	Libya	Biodiversity	(select as applicable)	1,376,147	123,853	1,500,000
Total Grant Resources					1,376,147	123,853	1,500,000

a) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies

E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS⁶

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	2,500 hectares
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	hectares
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	Number of freshwater basins
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	Percent of fisheries, by volume
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO _{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	metric tons
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	metric tons
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	metric tons
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	ODP tons
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	Number of Countries:
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	Number of Countries:

Project Core Indicators		Expected at CEO Endorsement
1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Million Hectares)	
2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Million Hectares)	0.033824 ⁷
3	Area of land restored (Million Hectares)	

⁶ Update the applicable indicators provided at PIF stage. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period.

⁷ The project will improve the marine and coastal management of three sites which together encompass 33,824 hectares (see table 4 for more details).

4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Million Hectares)	
5	Area of marine habitat under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Million Hectares)	
	Total area under improved management (Million Hectares)	0.033824
6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (Million metric tons of CO ₂ e)	
7	Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	1
8	Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (thousand metric tons) (Percent of fisheries, by volume)	
9	Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (thousand metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	2,000 (1,000 Female - 1,000 Male)

F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? NO

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Fund) in Annex D.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Overview of the MedProgramme and context of the Child Project 3.1

The GEF/UN Environment “Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security” (2019-2024)⁸ represents the first GEF programmatic multi-focal area initiative in the Mediterranean Sea aiming to operationalize priority actions to reduce major transboundary environmental stresses in its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The MedProgramme is implemented in nine beneficiary countries sharing the Mediterranean basin: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia. Its eight Child Projects⁹ cut across four different Focal Areas of the Global Environment Facility (International Waters [IW], Biodiversity [BD], Chemicals and Waste [CW], and Climate Change [CC]) and involve a wide spectrum of developmental and societal sectors, ranging from banking institutions, the private sector, governmental and non-governmental bodies, industry, research, media, and various other organizations. It builds on the MedPartnership and ClimVar & ICZM¹⁰ GEF projects which have enriched the knowledge on the Mediterranean environment and unraveled the implications of climate change and variability; strengthened countries’ mutual trust, cooperation and common purpose; consolidated the partnership among countries, UN bodies, civil society organizations, bilateral donors and the European Union (EU); and tested on the ground the

⁸ GEF Lead Implementing Agency: UN Environment. Other GEF Implementing Agency: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Leading Executing Agency: UN Environment/MAP. Executing partners: UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), European Investment Bank (EIB), Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), IUCN, Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC), Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (Plan Bleu), Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Centre (SCP/RAC).

⁹ At the time of its approval in October 2016, the MedProgramme was comprised of seven Child Projects. Subsequently, a Mediterranean climate change adaptation project was developed by UN Environment/MAP for financing through the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). It was agreed by the UN Environment/MAP, UN Environment and the GEF Secretariat that this SCCF project would be managed for all intents and purposes as an additional Child Project of the MedProgramme. Hence the reference to eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme.

¹⁰ More info on MedPartnership, ClimVar and ICZM (Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean) projects: <http://www.themedpartnership.org/>, <https://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/2600> and <https://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/3990>.

feasibility and effectiveness of technical and policy instruments aimed at addressing major present and future threats to environmental sustainability and climate related impacts.

The eight Child Projects (CP) of the MedProgramme (Figure 1 and Table 1) are expected to deliver a set of complementary results embracing three categories of priorities identified by the TDA for the Mediterranean Sea which are translated into three components of the programme: i) Reduction of Land-Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots and measuring progress to impacts; ii) Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone; and iii) Protecting Marine Biodiversity.

The fourth component (Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination) is comprised of Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea LME Environment and Climate Regional Support Project” which plays a key role within the MedProgramme as it “implements mechanisms for Programme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge, monitoring the Programme’s progress to impacts, and fostering synergistic interactions among Child Projects”. Within the GEF programmatic approaches there is a need to ensure programme coherence and impact through coordination among diverse sets of multi-focal area Child Projects contributing to the same programme outcomes. A Support Project functions as a trait d’union (a common link) among Child Projects by providing overall coordination of the programme portfolio, resource-saving services, a robust system to managing knowledge effectively and a sound action plan for gender mainstreaming.

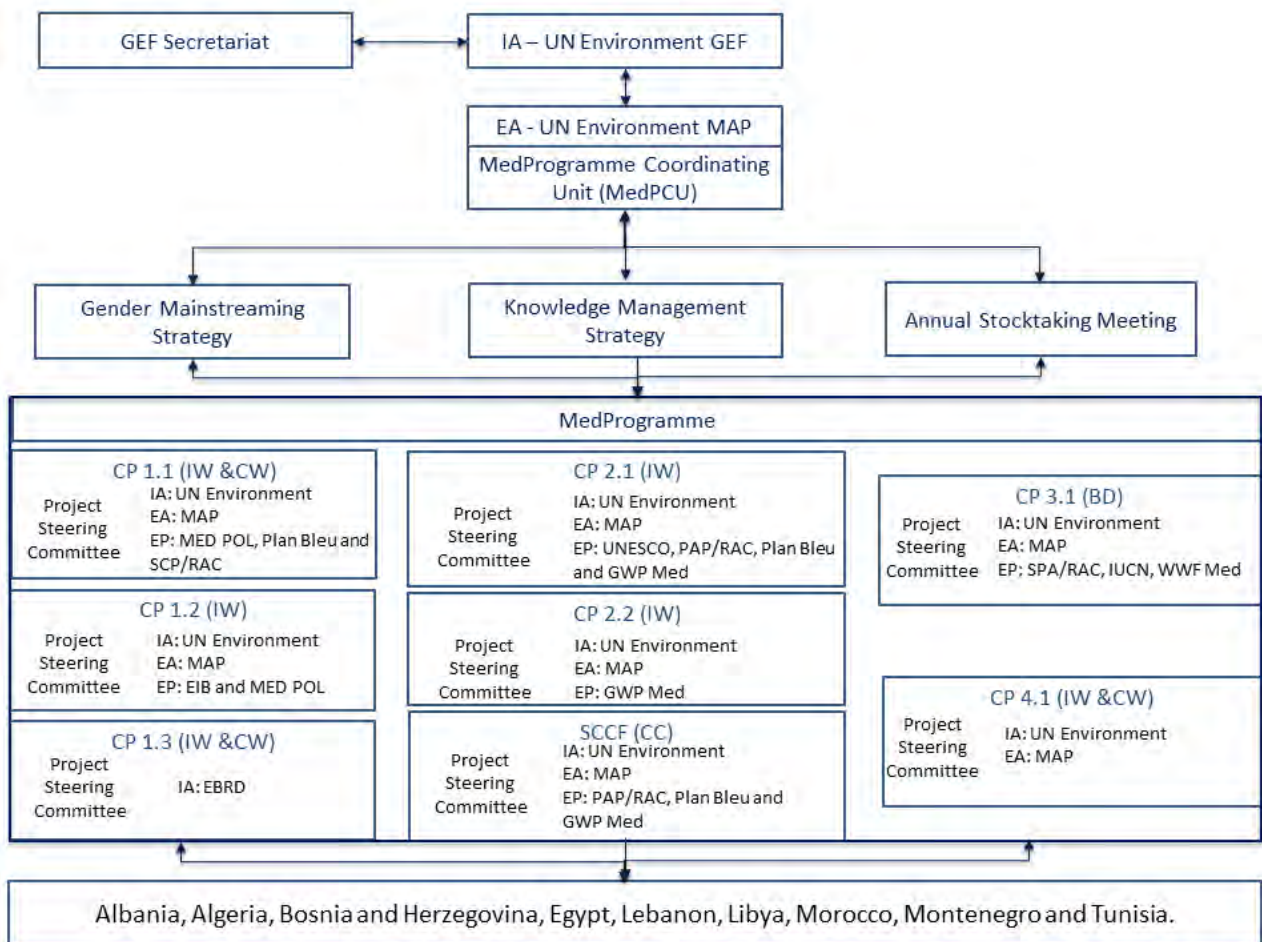


Figure 1 MedProgramme Structure

Table 1 MedProgramme Components, Child Projects and GEF Focal Areas

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

MedProgramme Component	Child Project	GEF Focal Areas
1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts.	1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”	IW and CW
	1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project”	IW
	1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”	IW and CW
2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone.	2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection”	IW
	2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem NEXUS”	IW
	SCCF “Enhancing regional climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”	CC
3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity	3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”	BD
4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination	4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Environment and Climate Regional Support Project”	IW and CW

Context of Child Project 3.1

It is in this context that Child Project 3.1 will be implemented. Child Project 3.1 constitutes Component 3 of the MedProgramme: Protecting Marine Biodiversity. It will address the capacity barriers that hinder the sustainability and effectiveness of the MPA network in Libya, namely through the establishment of MPA management support mechanisms in priority MPAs. This Child Project will include: (i) the assessment of the legal and institutional mechanisms for MPAs; (ii) the collection and centralization of data on marine biodiversity and ecosystems (national platform); and (iii) communication and awareness about MPAs and marine biodiversity and ecosystems. In particular, the specific work in Libya will be focused on advancing the Ain-El-Ghazalah and Farwa Lagoon MPAs towards a phase of operational sufficiency by building the capacity of MPA practitioners, developing the management plan through a step-by-step participatory planning process to ensure the effective protection of ecological and socioeconomic values of the areas.

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF¹¹

¹¹ For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF, no need to respond, please enter “NA” after the respective question.

A.1. *Project Description*. Elaborate on: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area¹² strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) [incremental/additional cost reasoning](#) and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and [co-financing](#); 5) [global environmental benefits](#) (GEFTF) and/or [adaptation benefits](#) (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

There are two notable changes to the project design with respect to the information set forth in the MedProgramme Programme Framework Document (PFD):

1. The elements of the overarching outcome for Child Project 3.1 (Programme Outcome 7) have been distributed among three thematic outcomes to better reflect the nature of the activities in the project's three components. This decision is reflected in the design of the results framework (Annex A), including three additional targets: two related to MPA governance and management support, and one related to awareness-raising and communication.
2. The focus of the training sessions foreseen in Child Project 3.1 has been modified in response to the national consultation with Libyan stakeholders undertaken during the project preparation phase. The five training sessions will now address MPA governance, knowledge, sustainable management, stakeholder engagement and gender dimensions of MPA management.

A.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED.

1. The Libyan coast represents the majority of the southern central Mediterranean coastal area in North Africa. It was identified as one of several hotspots of marine and coastal biodiversity in the region. More than 60% of the country's coastline is composed of pristine sandy beaches, the remaining 40% are either rocky or sandstone cliffs. This diversity in coastline geomorphology made Libya one of the important locations for nesting sea turtles, seabirds and seagrass beds, with all associated sub-habitats, fauna and flora, that have already deteriorated in other Mediterranean countries, due to pollution, tourism impacts and overfishing practices. These aforementioned factors are still underdeveloped in Libya, allowing it to be one of the last natural habitats for several Mediterranean and globally migrant marine and coastal species (e.g. Blue fin Tuna, Lesser crested terns, Sea turtles, Posidonia seagrass meadows, etc.).
2. Libya, like other countries in the region, is bearing the brunt of coastal and marine habitat loss, and its associated impacts in terms of environmental and socio-economic consequences. The situation is exacerbated by the lack of a proper management structure for Libyan marine protected areas, and the immediate threats that hinder the future of marine and coastal biodiversity in the country, due to a rapid recent change in using illegal fishing methods, intrusion of foreign fishing fleets engaged in illegal fishing in Libyan waters, all due to lack of monitoring and implementation of national laws.
3. In 2010, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Parties revised and updated the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity to include 20 biodiversity targets, collectively referred to as the Aichi Targets. Aichi Target 11 specifically called for the global conservation of 10 percent of coastal and marine areas through "...effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures...." Later in 2015, this target was also adopted as Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.5. These internationally agreed targets mandates Libya being one of CBD member states to contribute to the achievement of those international aspirations. However, the goal is not only increasing the marine protected area coverage in terms of countable areas, but to make sure that those areas are effectively and equitably managed. Setting up an effective, gender equitable, representative and well-connected system of marine and coastal protected areas in Libya is a pre-requirement for success in achieving Aichi targets in this country. The country, after the

¹² For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving..

change of the political system in 2011, and even earlier lacks a proper management structure of protected areas, and many violations to national laws on the protection of environment and fishing for example, were reported due to the lack of enforcement, monitoring and management structures in the recent years.

4. Libya is a founding Contracting Party in the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The Protocol concerning the Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity (SPA/BD Protocol) in the Mediterranean aims at protecting the sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity around the Mediterranean region. Libyan authorities and scientists were part of several research and monitoring activities conducted in Libya during the past 20 years, in partnership with the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and other regional organizations, such as the IUCN Mediterranean Cooperation Centre, WWF Mediterranean and others. These efforts have resulted in highlighting several biodiversity hotspots sites along the Libyan coast. These efforts led to the declaration of the first two marine protected areas in Farwa and Ain Al Ghazala in the past few years. There were also efforts between 2012 and 2014 to issue a national marine and coastal protected area strategy and draft the first comprehensive national legislation on the Libyan protected areas selection, finance and management. The present project will build on previous experience and success to provide the state of Libya with an effective structure of MPA governance based on existing national regulations and built on agreed objectives resulted from nation-wide consultations with all stakeholders.

2) BASELINE SCENARIO: STATE OF LIBYA

The Libyan coastal and marine area covers most of the southern region of central Mediterranean, with the longest coastline of about 1,970 km from the Tunisian border to the west and the Egyptian border to the east. It includes more than 1,100 km of sandy beaches and 800 km of rocky, saltmarshes, temporal river mouths, etc. The Libyan coastline is one of the least human developed areas of the Mediterranean basin, which made it a refuge for several endangered taxa in this region. These include habitats for marine turtles (nesting, feeding and wintering habitats), seabirds (migratory and breeding), several species of marine mammals, as well as underexploited fishery stocks, in addition to extensive areas of extended seagrass beds, coastal wetlands and several uninhabited small islands.

The geomorphology of the Libyan coast is lacking major bays or marine heads, except the centrally located Gulf of Sirte (aka. Sidra), the most southern region of the Mediterranean waters, in addition to the different depth ranges and bottom structures that cause some contrasting oceanographic conditions, such as currents and availability of nutrients, that are essential for the marine food web. The sea benthic ecosystems are also diverse, from rocky or sandy to seagrass meadows and deep-water corals. These marine ecosystems support an abundance of life from zooplankton, fish, seabirds to marine mammals. The location of the three MPAs in Libya is set forth in Figure 2.



Figure 2 Locations of the three Marine Protected Areas in Libya.

Along the Libyan coastline, more than 30 sites were identified as sites of conservation interest, either for their high diverse marine faunal and floral species, or due to its ecological complexity and other import features. Many sites are

important nesting, feeding or wintering sites for endangered marine turtle species (Green and Loggerhead turtles), others are important for breeding of several endangered seabird species (Hamza et al., 2011¹³).

The country was divided in 2013 into 90 local municipalities, within three major provinces. The estimated census of Libya in 2017 was 6.3 million and it is projected to reach 8.1 million and 9.8 million in 2020 and 2050, respectively. The recent increase of population movement to the coastal areas due to conflicts in the south is likely to cause increased pressures on coastal ecosystems such as higher pollution levels, increase in illegal poaching of wildlife, and illegal fishing practices (blast and poison fishing). This is in addition to uncontrolled development and sand extraction from sandy beaches for building purposes. Human conflict with wildlife is evident and has further escalated due to the lack of law enforcement mechanisms in the past eight years. The existing Libyan protected areas (mostly terrestrial) suffer from increased illegal land claims by private (tribal) owners, and most of them without any solid management structure or active financing mechanisms and management plans.

To date, two marine protected areas have been established in Libya. The first of these is the Farwa Lagoon and its facing Farwa Island (Zwara municipality) which were placed under protection in 2009. The second is the coastal lagoon of Ain Al-Ghazala and its facing Elba Island, Gulf of Bumbah and its four small islands which were declared as Marine Protected Areas in 2011 (Decision N° 2 Year 2011 of 17 January 2011). Both sites are very important as nesting sites for sea turtles, seabirds and spawning areas for local fisheries and characterized with healthy seagrass meadows. A third site – the Kouf National Park – is the oldest protected area in the country, with a coastal section extending more than 20 km and characterized by mixed sandy and rocky shores along the Mediterranean. The marine and coastal biodiversity of the Kouf National Park was re-examined by SPA/RAC-EGA scientific teams and found to host important marine habitats and species in particular by the presence of Posidonia meadows (Pergent et al, 2010)¹⁴, with growing concerns of impacts from land-based sources (SPA/RAC, 2013¹⁵). Together, these three protected areas are the proposed sites for the activities of Child Project 3.1¹⁶.

The Libyan economy has long been and continues to be strongly dependent on exporting oil. However, since the mid-2000s there has been a growing national interest in the diversification of the economy, through developing the significant potential for tourism. This is in addition to the country's wish to fulfill its obligations under international conservation-related treaties such as the Barcelona Convention's Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity Protocol and its related action plans, as well as those of other international agreements and obligations such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Convention of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) that supports the establishment and expansion and strengthening of the country's marine protected areas (MPA) system. The following is a brief description of the three project sites:

SITE 1: FARWA MARINE PROTECTED AREA

Environmental dimension

Located approximately 150 km west of Tripoli, at 33° 04' N and 11° 50' E to 33° 08' N and 11° 32' E (approximately) from Abu-Kamash east to the Tunisian border in the west. It comprises of the Farwa Lagoon, which is the largest lagoon on the Libyan coast, covering an area of 32 km² (Figure 3). The Farwa MPA has meadows of two seagrass species Posidonia and Cymodocea sp., due to certain economically important species (sponges, molluscs, shrimp, and fishes) in addition to some endangered species which makes it an important area for larva and juvenile protection. Several studies on seagrass, seabirds, sea turtles, fisheries and physicochemical parameters of the area were conducted in the past 30 years. It was recommended for further protection since then.

¹³ Hamza, A., Raïs, C., de Grissac, A.J. and de la Grandrive, R.D., 2011. *Towards a Representative Network of Marine Protected Areas in Lybia*. International Union for Conservation of Nature.

¹⁴ Pergent G., Bazairi H., Langar H., Ben Amer I., Sghaier Y.R., 2010. Caractérisation des principales biocénoses présentes le long du littoral du Parc National d'El Kouf. UNEP-MAP RAC/SPA Ed. RAC/SPAMedMPAnet Project, Tunis : 79 pages.

¹⁵ SPA/RAC - UNEP/MAP, 2013. Economic and social survey of El Kouf National Park in Libya. By Ibrahim BEN AMER and Shakman ESMAIL. Ed. RAC/SPA - MedMPAnet Project, Tunis: 29 pages.

¹⁶ A total of 33,824 hectares of coastal and marine areas are targeted for improved management, distributed across three sites: the Farwa Lagoon and its facing Farwa Island (4,766 hectares); the coastal lagoon of Ain Al-Ghazala and its facing Elba Island, Gulf of Bumbah and its four small islands (26,558 hectares); and the coastal and marine extension of El Kouf National Park (2,500 hectares).

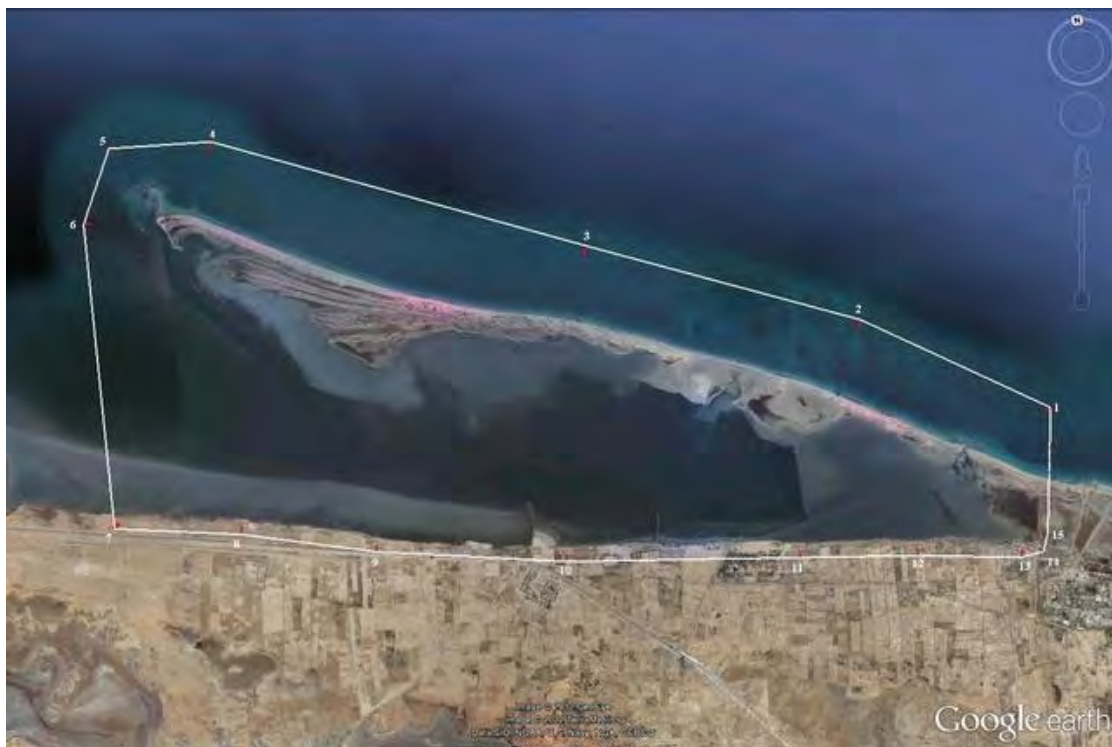


Figure 3 Google satellite image of the new borders of the Farwa MPA

The maximum altitude of the land on both sides of the lagoon is about 2-3 m (Sand type). Mean annual lagoon temperature varies monthly due to the frequent closure of the east side of the lagoon (min 10°C – max 27°C). The meteorological conditions of the area are those of the western part of Libyan coast: winter season extends from November to April and is generally cold and rainy with unstable winds blowing from different directions. The summer season (June to September) is rather hot and dry. The wind is more stable N and NW. Spring and autumn are very short transitional periods. The lagoon is separated from the sea by an 11 km narrow sand bar (Farwa Island). The southern shore of the lagoon (13 km) is shallow, and made of sand and clay, its minimum depth is 0.5 m to 4 m in the centre of the Lagoon. Salinity range in summer is from 38 to 44.5%, and in winter it is from 40 – 41.5 %. At the most western edge of the island, there is an area of accumulated dead leaves of both seagrass species mentioned above. These provide an excellent habitat during summer for breeding of Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*, and Yellow legged Gulls *Larus michahellis*, as well as a stopping over site for other Mediterranean protected migratory bird species.

The island's flora is mainly made up of palms and desert trees and grasses, there are no fruit trees on the island or nearby mainland, many different wild animals were recorded on the island as it is an uninhabited island. The marine fauna of the lagoon is very rich; its marine flora is composed mainly of *Posidonia*, *Zostera* and many species of green and brown algae. The type of the soft bottom allows many burrowing organisms to live there.

Social dimension

Between 40 and 50 artisanal small boat fishers depend on the area as their main fishing ground and the lagoon as their anchorage natural port. Although some fishing is still practiced within the lagoon body, most of the fishing occurs at the shallow continental shelf facing the island to the north. Other socioeconomic activities of the area include small scale agriculture of olives, grape and vegetables, in addition to salt production from the salt marshes that dominate the mainland coastal area of Farwa and municipality of Zwara in general. Some other inhabitants are working in sheep and goat grazing. Some local NGOs have become active in the area since 2012, and have conducted several activities aimed at raising public awareness of the villagers and fishermen on their role of conserving natural resources of Farwa area and using them in a sustainable manner, in addition to actively working towards the protection of some endangered species such as sea turtles and seabirds in the Farwa Lagoon and island.

The lagoon of Farwa was declared by the Libyan government in 2009 as a marine protected area, however, the effective conservation and management of this site is still lacking, as no management unit or management plan is in place.

SITE 2: KOUF NATIONAL PARK

Environmental dimension

This is the oldest protected area in the country, declared in 1979. It is located to the west of the city of El-Beida, in Cyrenaica District. The total conservation area, however, is 100,000 hectares including the large basin area of Wadi El Kouf and also beaches, rocky cliffs, sand dunes, wetlands and lagoons. The area is bounded by the limestone mass of Jabel Al-Akhdar, a mountain of 860 meters forming a rectangular area bordered by the coastline of the Mediterranean Sea. The park protects both marine and land wildlife. The park suffered from excessive grazing, timber exploitation, hunting and illegal bushfires. There is also concern over the introduction of exotic animal species and the misuse of hunting firearms and agricultural chemicals.

The coastal area of the park is featured with sandy and rocky beaches, sand dunes and seasonal wetlands are found on the eastern edge of the coast, a rocky low cliff formation characterizes the western part of the frontage. The park is one of the most diverse habitats in Libya, flora include *Juniperus*, *phoenicea*, *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Arbutus pavarii*, *Olea europaea*, *Myrtus communis*, and *Quercus coccifera*. In a few protected localities, good groves of *Cupressus sempervirens* can be seen. Its Fauna has been considerably reduced by hunting and it includes mammals such as *Hyaena hyaena*, *Canis aureas*, *Vulpes vulpes*, *Genetta genetta*, *Felis libyca*, and *Hystrix cristata*. In the marine environment, *Delphinus delphis* and *Tursiops truncatus* have been recorded. Bird species include *Phoenicopterus ruber*, and several birds of prey. In addition to two species of sea turtles, the area also includes two others of land tortoises, and several snakes and amphibian species.

The National Park extends along the country's Mediterranean shore for approximately 20 km of coastline and encompasses beaches, sand dunes and wetland lagoons, whilst also covering a protected area that includes the northern slopes of Jabel Al Akhdar Mountain. The coastal section of the park consists of sandy beaches interspersed with rock outcrops and coastal cliffs. Behind the beach is an adherent band of sand dunes which are followed by shallow, seasonal brackish lagoons.

The marine area under protection although not specified, is extended to the length of the park coastline (20 km) and to the north to form a rectangle of protected marine waters. This area is aimed to conserve marine fish and mammals, such as common and bottlenose dolphins.

In this area there are two Ramsar sites. The first one is **Ain Al-zarga** (32° 47,955 N 21°27,411 E) of 50 hectares and fed partly by incursions of sea water through channels connecting the site to the sea, but also by springs probably of karstic origin. It is situated in the coastal plain below the limestone plateau of the Jabel Al Akhdar and is unusually surrounded not by sand dunes but by limestone formations. The second is **Ain Al shaqiqah** (32° 49 N 21°29 E). It is a coastal lagoon covering a few hundred hectares, very close to the first lagoon. The site fed partly by incursions of sea water through channels, connecting the site to the sea, but also by springs from Jabel Al Akhdar, probably of karstic origin.

Social dimension

The local population at the vicinity of the park coastal area is mainly small-scale farmers, fishers and wildfowl hunters. Farming activity is family based and includes farming of fruiting trees and vegetables which are aimed at the local market. In addition to active beekeeping with the ownership of a few colonies, this activity is seasonal, so it includes moving beehives from the area during the dry season to other areas where nectar is more available. Both farming and beekeeping involve the growing participation of women. The second main activity is fishing, mostly artisanal and uses natural coves in the region as natural ports. On the other hand, several anthropogenic activities are not compatible with conservation outputs in the park. Among those identified are sand dredging from the park sandy beach area due to lack of monitoring and legal enforcement, blast fishing, and wildlife hunting, unregulated urban development of the coastline as shown in Figure 4 below. As a result, the area is experiencing the effects of population pressure on these natural resources, including an increase in pollutants and chemical waste, all against the overall backdrop threat of climate change.¹⁷ These pollutants and waste have further ripple effects when hazard quotients increase in fish and other seafood, and create exposure risks for marine-dependent populaces.

¹⁷ Bonsignore, M & et al. "Marine Pollution in the Libyan coastal area" in *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. (2018)

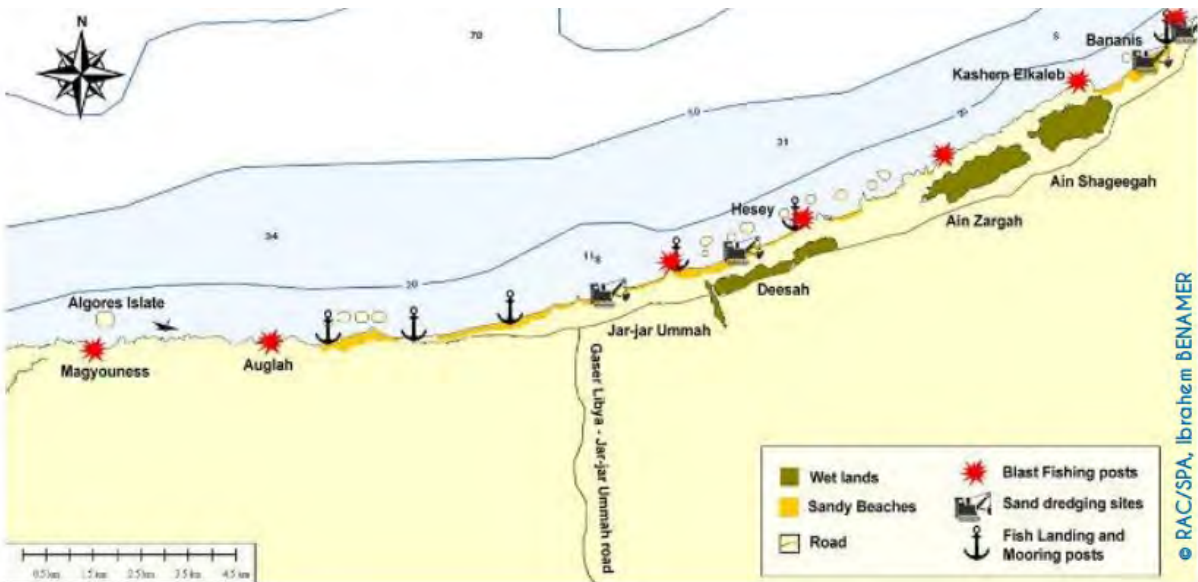


Figure 4 A detailed map of Kouf National Park coastal area with the locations of each human activity (after Ben Amer and Shakman, 2013)

SITE 3: AIN AL-GHAZALA MPA

Environmental dimension

Ain El Ghazala and the Gulf of Bomba were declared as marine protected areas in 2011. The area is located along the eastern-most stretch of the Libyan coastline, between 60 and 70 km to the west of Tobrouk city. The area is characterized mainly by a rocky shoreline and a broader coastal plain with intermingled sandy beaches and deep narrow valleys. The lagoon is a thumb-shaped indentation of the Gulf of Bomba that covers an area of some 180 ha. The lagoon is shallow, with an estimated average depth of 2 m and a maximum depth of 4.2 m. It is fed by freshwater springs from various points around the southern shore.

Four small islands are scattered in the shallow waters of the area. The largest is Jazirat al `Ulbah (Elba Island), located just off Ain El Ghazala lagoon, while the other three are found close to the promontory of Qusur al Bumbah. These islets stretch along an east-west line and are called respectively Jazirat Barda`ah (Bardaa Island), Al Jazirah al Wati`ah (Al Watiah island) and Jazirat Misratah (Misratah Island).

The lagoon and the Bumbah Gulf were reported as a well-preserved environment with a variety of diversified assemblages and natural monuments, unique in the Mediterranean Sea and associated with an exceptional biological diversity. The main characteristics of this site are: the salt marsh, with *Salicornia arabica* and common reed (*Phragmites communis*) and sharp-pointed rush (*Juncus acutus*) fringes, the seagrasses *Cymodocea nodosa* (which cover 77% of the lagoon) and *Posidonia oceanica* (mainly developed in the entrance of the lagoon and towards Elba Island). *Posidonia oceanica* atoll-like structures found at both the entrance to the lagoon and close to Elba Island. Thirty-one algal species were reported from the lagoon, two of them were invasive species. *Halimeda sp.* and *Penicillus capitatus* and one seagrass, *Halophila stipulacea*.

Elba Island (N32.23149 E23.28186) which constitutes a nesting area for numerous birds (in summer for *Larus michahellis* and in summer for *Thalasseus benghalensis*). The lagoon of Ain El Ghazala hosts a breeding site of the loggerhead sea turtle *Caretta Caretta*. Mating occurs inside the lagoon while egg deposition takes place outside along the sandy coastal region located to the east. There are 41 fish taxa and two molluscs from a study on commercial fisheries and fish species composition in the eastern coastal waters of Libya.

Birds have also been extensively studied in several surveys. Pergent et al. report a list of 26 water birds and 10 terrestrial birds in the area of Ain El Ghazala. In surveys carried out in 2005 and 2006, over 500 birds, including cormorants,

waders and gulls, were observed at Temimi salt marsh in both years, while at Ain El Ghazala there were over 300 in 2005 and 600 in 2006, mainly grebes and cormorants, plus some waders, gulls and terns. Ain El Ghazala has been recognized as an Important Bird Area by Birdlife International and has been suggested as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention and as a Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) under the Barcelona Convention. The Lesser crested tern nests on Elba island and the breeding population here is about 60-80 adults. Illegal water bird hunting activities have been reported to be quite extensive in Temimi wetlands and Ain El Ghazala, although reports were based only on the presence of spent cartridges and bird corpses.

The proposed MPA at this area encompass two strictly protected areas, one covers all of Ain Al- Ghazala and the second covers the areas of Bomba Gulf. The outer border includes the extension to the north and the south of the two strict areas, to include the Bardaa island which located further offshore from Elba island (Figure 5).



Figure 5 Borders of Ain Al-Ghazala marine protected area (Source: EGA)

Social dimension

Based on a survey on socio economic activities in Ain El Ghazala and the surrounding area (Badalamenti et al., 2011¹⁸), Ain Al Ghazala has been a focal point for aqua farming activity under the Aquaculture Projects Corporation since 1989, when an experimental floating cage culture was started. Today the farm has only two or three functioning cages and is managed by a family, with three people working under a government concession given to private businesses. Fishing is the other major activity of locals here, approximately 30-35 fishermen operate with 13 boats from Ain El Ghazala harbour, most of them are Egyptian working as partners with Libyan boat owners. The types of fishing practices here are:

- Fish selling;
- Fishing (artisanal);
- Fishing (illegal shallow water trawling);
- Fishing (blast-fishing); and
- Fishing (speargun).

¹⁸ Badalamenti F., Ben Amer I., Dupuy De La Grandrive R., Foulquie M., Milazzo M., Sghaier Y.R., Gomei M. and Limam A. 2011, Scientific field survey report for the development of Marine Protected Areas in Libya. 32 pages.

Livestock farming and grazing is another economic activity of locals in the area, several sheep folds are common in the area, as shepherds are seen at dusk leading flocks to graze. Some camel grazing (nomadic) is also present at some areas. Other activities include the following:

- Boat hiring by local people to fishermen;
- Bird hunting;
- Mollusc collection for fish bait;
- Strategic/military sites; and
- Tourism intended as local/family camping for fishing and hunting water birds.

Threats: Anthropogenic threats to Libya's biodiversity and coastal and marine ecosystems include the following:

1. Fisheries pressure

Over-exploitation is depleting fisheries stocks and threatening the ecological integrity of the marine and coastal ecosystems. Although the fisheries sector in Libya is still underdeveloped compared to neighboring countries to the north, east and west, the state of fisheries stocks are declining due to several factors, among them the illegal fishing in Libyan territorial waters by fleets of different nationalities, especially during the Bluefin tuna fishing season from April to August. The fishing and landing production reached its climax in the 2000s with over 49,900 metric tons (FAO data). During the mid-2000s, catches increased, and due to the fact that the economy and political situation of the country were improving in that period. Indeed, in 2004, the embargo on Libya ended which allowed economic development, including the encouragement of fishing activities. However, this production dropped again in 2011 and 2014, and recovered slightly to 30,000 metric tons in 2016.

Many species became rarer in the local market, and were replaced by other invasive species, which indicate an overharvest in some sectors of Libyan waters, due to a concentrated fishing effort.

The expansion of industrial fishing may lead to several negative consequences on artisanal subsistence fisheries which support thousands of job sites for Libyans, as well as accelerate the exhaustive exploitation of the country's marine resources in just a few years in an unsustainable way. After the 2011 uprising, due to a noticeable lack of government regulation enforcement on fishing, which certainly led to wider illegal fishing by foreign vessels. Meanwhile more small-scale fisheries increasingly used illegal and destructive fishing methods, such as blast fishing in many parts of the coastal area. This manner of fishing may change the way some small-scale fishers operate for long time, unless urgent measures and awareness are put in place.

2. Invasive species

The introduction of alien species into the marine environment, naturally, intentionally or by accident, is thought to be the most important threat for marine biodiversity.

According to the Mediterranean Action Plan on invasive species (SPA/RAC, 2005), the main known vectors of species' introduction into the Mediterranean Sea are:

- Entry of Red Sea organisms through the Suez Canal;
- Shipping (ballast water, anchoring and sediments, fouling);
- Aquaculture (both marine and brackish water); and
- Trade in live marine organisms (e.g. aquarium activities, fishing bait) and scientific research.

From the Red Sea the number of invasive species that entered into the Mediterranean waters was about 77 fish species. The list of alien fish has exceeded 22 species. Shakman and Kinzelbach (2008) reported 17 species originated from crossing the Suez Canal, four of them new records for Libya. More recently, an additional five fish species, one squid and one algae species were discovered at several sites along the coastal waters of the country.

Another recent survey in collaboration between SPA/RAC, EGA and a local University had reported 9 new invasive species in the marine waters of Kouf National Park (Cyrenaica), the total list of invasive species includes 63 marine alien species, which have been recorded along the Libyan coastline. These include three Foraminifera, three Ochrophyta, five Rhodophyta, five Chlorophyta, one Magnoliophyta, 11 Arthropoda, 13 Mollusca, one Echinodermata and 21 Chordata. Among these Non-Indigenous Species, 43 are known as established along the Libyan coast including eight invasive, 11 casual, five questionable, three cryptogenic and one unidentified (Figure 6).

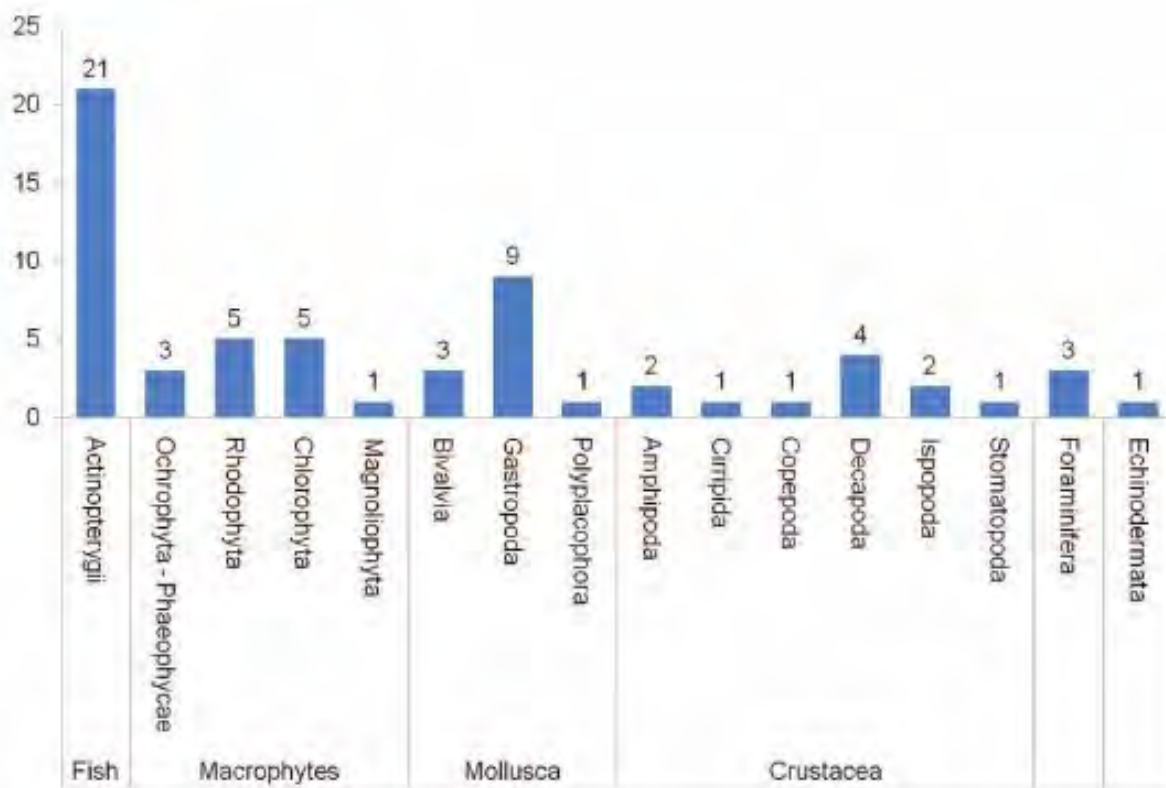


Figure 6 Marine alien species in Libyan waters by taxonomic group (after Bazairi et al., 2013)

There is a need to intensify research on other areas and less noticeable invasive taxa (invertebrates, algae, etc.), as they play a crucial role in changing food webs of native species and may eliminate several native species. The reporting of invasion spread and monitoring of those invasive species should be an essential part of any future marine protected area project in the country, as the changes into the natural habitats and species composition can be irreversible unless mitigation measures are taken at the right time and magnitude.

3. Habitat alteration, pollution and land use

The present development of the Libyan coastal zone is still among the lowest in the central Mediterranean, and the dependency of the national economy on oil exports partially saved this area from major industrial or tourist development in the past. However, the forecasting of the national economy to diversify sources of the state income, including some adopted plans since early 2010 to develop several coastal sites, that overlap with several identified sites as of conservation interest, threaten those sites with mass-tourism style of development.

There is an urgent need to enforce environmental legislations and increase dialogue with all stakeholders in the coastal area prior to developing new projects, without proper environmental impact and social impacts assessments. The development of tourist, industrial or urbanization of sandy coasts can have adverse consequences on nesting marine turtles due to all types of pollution resulted from development, including water and light pollution, in addition to land use change. Likewise, the development of rocky areas can also impact seabirds, sea grass and other unique habitats in the country. This does not mean to stop developing the coastal area, but development should follow scientifically sound methods such as integrated coastal zone development. This concept regardless of several projects conducted in training and piloting sites along the coast, is still underused in the urban planning process in Libya. Collaboration and dialogue by all stakeholders (including NGOs and local people) is a key to any successful planning in the future.

Regardless of the general pristine condition of the Libyan coast, pollution sources may disturb the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular the dumping of untreated sewage, waste (in Wadis or along the seafront) or spilled petrochemical products from refineries (accidental) and maritime related ballast water discharge, the transfer of spilled

oils, pumping and pouring of seawater for desalination, cooling systems used by oil refineries and electric generation stations. Recent studies have indicated the presence of hazardous chemicals such as mercury and arsenic in surface sediments, which are primarily generated through anthropogenic activities.

4. Climate change

Libya was, in its natural history impacted by changes in its climate, once was a tropical rainforest, which is reflected in the fossilized tree trunks and paleomegalakes that can be found today in many parts of Libya. In the present age, Libyan ecosystems including coastal and marine ecosystems are very sensitive to changes in temperature, wind and rainfall. Libya on the other hand is a major producer and consumer of fossil fuels which puts the country at the front of those that have caused and are affected by climate change.

There is strong evidence from global models for human influence on regional temperatures and precipitation. It is clear that the effects of climate change on habitats already threatened by other pressures can accelerate the rhythm of deterioration of those habitats (Shilling et al., 2012¹⁹). No study to date has been launched in Libya on the effects of climate change on biodiversity,

Studies on general trends of climatic changes within Libya have mainly been conducted by Libyan research students abroad (e.g. Elfenadi, 2004, El-Tantawi, 2005²⁰), but the considering of the results by the Libyan administration has not been considered as a priority yet. After the last eight years in Libya, since the 2011 uprising, climate change impacts should also take into consideration social geography and conflict research, in addition to the environmental sciences aspect of climate change assessment.

5. Protected Areas management system

The public sector was the main player in setting up and implementing conservation activities in the country. To date there is a set of several legislations (usually contradictory in mandates) in terms of who assigns, manages and monitors protected areas in general. The Marine Biology Research Centre is mandated under Law No. 14/1989 on marine wealth exploitation and has been given the task of assignment and management of marine protected areas. This center affiliation changed in the last decade several times following changes in government ministries. The other important player was the Environment General Authority (EGA) which in its foundation law No. 15/2013 on protection and improvement of the Environment, was also mandated to manage areas to protect wildlife (including marine) and ecosystems. In all cases no single specialized institution is working solely on the protection of biodiversity in the marine realm. Efforts were made between 2009 and 2013 by the Regional Activities Center for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) in order to help the Libyan authorities to issue a specific law on Marine Protected Areas. Although the law was not yet issued by the Libyan parliament, it constitutes a basis for development and giving clear tasks to who is in charge of what on MPA issues.

The civil society (non-governmental) organizations are still in the foundation stage, and there are some constructive steps towards building their capacities in both managing conservation projects and increase their own organization management systems. A current project on the role of NGOs in new Libya is underway with support of WWF North Africa, for 22 Libyan-based NGOs. Several projects were also funded by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation within a larger project for several North African countries. Those two projects were also a good opportunity to bring together both government authorities to work together with NGOs.

There is also a limited increase in activities conducted by universities in conservation work. Several university students and staff are conducting research on endangered marine species and on invasive species issue. Others are working as consultants to other governmental bodies.

¹⁹ Schilling, J., Freier, K. P., Hertig, E., & Scheffran, J. (2012). Climate change, vulnerability and adaptation in North Africa with focus on Morocco. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment*, 156, 12-26.

²⁰ El-Tantawi, A. M. (2005). Climate change in Libya and desertification of Jifara Plain. *PhD Diss., University of Johannes Gutenberg, Mainz, Germany.*

Marine protected areas (% of total surface area) in Libya were reported at 0.6365 % in 2016, according to the World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially recognized sources. This area needs to be effectively managed and increased to meet the national level Aichi Target 11.

Finally, the baseline scenario for Child Project 3.1 also comprises an important set of activities undertaken in recent projects in support of the implementation of SAP-BIO and related NAPs, in Libya and in other countries in the Mediterranean Basin. An overview of the most relevant baseline projects is set forth in Table 2.

Table 2 Associated baseline projects for Child Project 3.1

Name of the project, duration	Description of activities and envisaged outcomes
<p>The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) 2010 - 2015</p>	<p>In the MedPartnership, SPA/RAC and WWF MedPO worked together in Libya to lay the foundations for an institutional framework for marine conservation, to build knowledge and understanding of marine biodiversity and generate momentum for the designation and effective management of MPAs. The main activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scientific field survey report for the development of Ain Al Ghazala and Bomba bay marine protected area; ● Characterization of the main biological communities present along the coast of El Kouf National Park; ● Economic and social survey of Ain Al Ghazala and Bomba bay; ● Economic and social survey of El Kouf National Park; ● National strategy for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in Libya; ● Draft law on Protected Areas in Libya; ● Guide on monitoring Mediterranean lesser crested terns <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i> emigrates; and ● Toolkit on stakeholders' involvement in the establishment and management of marine protected areas. <p>The main outcomes of the above-mentioned joint activities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The declaration of the Ain Al-Ghazala coastal lagoon and its facing Elba Island and Farwa Lagoon as Marine Protected Areas; ● The development of a management plan for Ain-Al-Ghazalah and Farwa Lagoon MPAs; ● Capacity building on MPA management for relevant Libyan stakeholders; ● The development of a draft national strategy for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in Libya; and ● The elaboration of a draft law on Protected Areas in Libya.
<p>Mediterranean Representative Areas and Species Project (MedRAS Project) 2009 - 2011</p>	<p>The MedRAS Project is an initiative financed by the MAVA Foundation, Total Foundation and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID), and coordinated by IUCN-Med with many Mediterranean partners. Its general objective was to help Mediterranean countries to identify and develop the most representative and coherent network of areas of conservation interest. Its implementation was conducted with the participation of scientists and practitioners from the participating countries, namely Spain, Morocco Algeria for the Alboran Sea and Libya.</p> <p>Specifically, for Libya, the project led to the elaboration of a synthetic report "Towards a Representative Network of Marine Protected Areas in Libya". This report contains a compilation of information from national and international experts and from available documentation on marine and coastal biodiversity in Libya. It proposes and describes 24 sites of conservation interest along the Libyan coast.</p>
<p>The Small-scale Initiative Programme for Civil Society</p>	<p>This Programme is managed by IUCN Mediterranean Cooperation Centre and funded by the French Global Environment Facility and MAVA Foundation. During</p>

<p>Organizations in North Africa (PPI-OSCAN) 1st phase 2014-2017 2nd phase 2018-2021</p>	<p>the first phase, five projects have been funded and supported technically in Libya. These projects were submitted by CSOs working in the conservation field. Two projects were targeting protected areas and aiming to strengthen the conservation and management of Meselatah National Park in Tripoli. The second phase of the project is aiming to support the implementation of ten projects. The average IUCN grant for each project is around EUR 23,000.</p>
<p>Enabling Libyan NGOs to shape the future of a new Libyan democracy (WWF North Africa) 2017 - 2019</p>	<p>The overall objective of the action is to promote and strengthen a broad-based and inclusive civil society in Libya, which is capable of representing common interests and to engage with communities and government authorities at different decision-making levels. Duration of the project: 24 months Funded by: European Union and MAVA Foundation.</p>
<p>Project on “The conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean Region” 2017 - 2019</p>	<p>The project led by SPA/RAC in close collaboration with several Mediterranean partners aims at protecting marine turtles in the Mediterranean, by minimizing/eliminating human induced direct mortality and reducing the interaction with fisheries. The State of Libya is concerned, through the project, by the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research and monitoring, ● Coordination reinforcement between decisions makers, scientists and MPA managers. ● Capacity building through Professional Training courses tailored to scientists, managers, administrative and sea users) and by sharing of experience. ● Improvement of management/protection of nesting sites and adaptive management in nesting, wintering and feeding sites. ● Illegal trade by updating the National Action Plans for the Conservation of Sea Turtles in Libya. <p>Funded by the MAVA Foundation.</p>
<p>Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast through an Ecologically Representative and Efficiently Managed and Monitored Network of Marine Protected Areas (IMAP-MPA Project)</p>	<p>The overall objective of the IMAP-MPA Project is to contribute towards the achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES) in the Mediterranean Sea and along its coast. In so doing, the project proposes to consolidate, integrate and strengthen the ecosystem approach (EcAp) for Marine Protected Area (MPA) management and their sustainable development. This will be done through the monitoring and assessment of environmental status in the Mediterranean Sea and its coast, including MPAs, in a comparative and integrated manner. The project also proposes to enhance MPA management through coordinated implementation of the MAP Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean, as well as enhance the integration of the Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) in this process. The IMAP-MPA Project will strengthen IMAP implementation and further develop the Mediterranean network of ecologically representative, interconnected, effectively managed and monitored MPAs. This will be achieved through improving national monitoring biodiversity-related governance and policies; preparing and implementing management plans for MPAs and improving MPA management with targeted actions. Furthermore, the project will support the monitoring and assessment process for aligning the Mediterranean priorities with the upcoming Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) post-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, as well as for other global and regional emerging issues</p>
<p>Mediterranean Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach, in coherence with the European Union Marine Strategy</p>	<p>The overall objective of this project is to support the UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Convention and its Southern Mediterranean Contracting Parties to implement the ecosystem approach in synergy and coherence with the implementation of the European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive. It seeks to support these countries, including Libya, to implement the EcAp Roadmap,</p>

Framework Directive (EcAp Med II Project)	through assisting them in establishing new monitoring programmes in line with EcAp. Hence, as a main output/outcome of the project in Libya was the development of the national monitoring programme related to biodiversity and Non-Indigenous Species.
Other past/current complementary activities and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support provided by SPA/RAC and other partners to organize annual water bird census along the Libyan coastal area between 2005-2012. The three sites proposed within the Child Project 3.1 were involved in the census. ● Study and monitoring of the Mediterranean breeding population of lesser crested tern <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>. Ain Al Ghazala's Elba island was one of the sites monitored. ● Study on seagrass mapping in Farwa (2000-2006) and Ain Al Ghazala (2006). ● Field surveys on Mediterranean Monk seals in Cyrenaican coastal area (Kouf and Ain Al Ghazala were involved in the survey). ● The Libyan Seaturtle Programme, with the support of SPA/RAC, has been regularly conducting sea turtle monitoring at nesting beaches along the Libyan coast since 2005. The monitoring concerns especially Farwa, Sirte, Benghazi, Ain Al Ghazala and Kouf National Park areas. ● Several scientific studies on levels of pollution in Farwa lagoon waters were conducted and published. ● Several surveys were conducted by Marine Biology Research Centre on the fish stocks of Libyan waters, concerning all Child Project 3.1 sites. ● Several papers were published on invasive marine species including fish and several invertebrates, among them some first species recorded in Child Project 3.1 project sites.

3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO

The Mediterranean Sea Programme - Enhancing Environmental Security: Rationale and Framework

The MedPartnership and ClimVar & ICZM GEF projects have enriched the knowledge on the Mediterranean environment, unraveled the implications of climate change and variability and the importance of coastal aquifers; strengthened countries' mutual trust, cooperation and common purpose; consolidated the partnership among countries, UN bodies, CSOs, bilateral donors and the EU; tested on the ground the feasibility and effectiveness of technical and policy instruments aimed at addressing major present and future threats to environmental sustainability and climate related impacts. Alongside and thanks to these GEF funded support actions, UN Environment/MAP, at the request of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, has developed a comprehensive regional policy framework including strategies, plans and guidelines that will serve as guidance for the regional and national efforts in the Mediterranean for the years to come.

The update of the National Action Plans (NAPs) and preparation process succeeded in creating a momentum at local, national and regional levels, with a remarkable level of involvement and participation of all stakeholders. In each country, national and local authorities, the industrial sector and NGOs discussed priorities, possible actions and opportunities for investment thus making the NAPs a realistic initiative.

These remarkable achievements, while not yet bringing about measurable changes in the levels of environmental stress or in degradation trends, have however created the indispensable foundation and the enabling conditions for initiating national actions targeting major causes of marine and coastal transboundary degradation. The task is now to confront the challenge of implementation, thereby achieving concrete and lasting results.

The stage of assessments, diagnostics, priority setting, planning and experimentation having been completed and a higher level of effort is now required at the national and regional levels. This renewed and expanded effort is not only justified by the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone and shallow marine environments, but also urgent in view of the looming climate related threats, and of the loss of livelihoods and dramatic deterioration of social conditions along critical sections of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean shores.

To address this multiplicity of threats, countries have joined efforts and obtained further GEF support through the Programmatic Approach funding modality. The “Mediterranean Sea Programme: Enhancing Environmental Security”, approved by the GEF Council in 2016, aims to assist GEF beneficiary countries of the Mediterranean Basin to rise to this challenge and step up their efforts and commitments, including those financially related.

The term “environmental security”, used in the title of the proposed Programme to capture its overall perspective and goal, embraces three categories of concerns:

- Concerns about the adverse impact of human activities on the environment - the emphasis here is on the security of the environment, for the sake of future generations, as the context for human life.
- Concerns about the direct and indirect effects on national and regional security of various forms of environmental change (especially water scarcity and degradation), which may be natural or human-generated - here the focus is on environmental change triggering, intensifying or generating the forms of conflict and instability relevant to conventional security.
- Concerns about the insecurity that individuals and groups (from small communities to humankind) may experience due to environmental change such as water scarcity, air pollution, climate variability and change.

The current situation of the Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean shows all the signs of progressive deterioration of environmental security as a consequence of complex and interlinked factors. Among them, the loss and degradation of coastal and shallow marine ecosystems and of the scarce freshwater resources, compounded by the increasing negative impacts of climate variability and change, play an important role in determining social instability and political volatility. The presumption underlying the Programme design is that overall environmental security, including the sustainability of the livelihoods of growing coastal populations and their resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change and variability, will be improved by:

- I. Reducing nutrient pollution and habitat degradation in coastal hot spots (Child Projects 1.2, 1.3);
- II. Contributing to the improved health of humans and ecosystems through the elimination of persistent toxic substances in hot spots (Child Projects 1.1, 1.2, 1.3);
- III. Implementing ICZM and introducing conjunctive surface and groundwater management in the coastal zone, thereby protecting coastal groundwater-related ecosystems (Child Project 2.1);
- IV. Promoting the nexus planning approach to reconcile conflictive coastal resources uses (Child Project 2.2); and
- V. Protecting coastal/marine biodiversity (Child Project 3.1).

Child Project 3.1 “Management support and expansion of marine protected areas”: Rationale

To address the above-mentioned challenges, root causes and barriers in conjunction with the baseline scenario interventions, the project is built on the Theory of Change in Figure 7 and will work on the integrated components outlined following section. The expected project achievements for Child Project 3.1 are set forth in Table 3.

Theory of Change

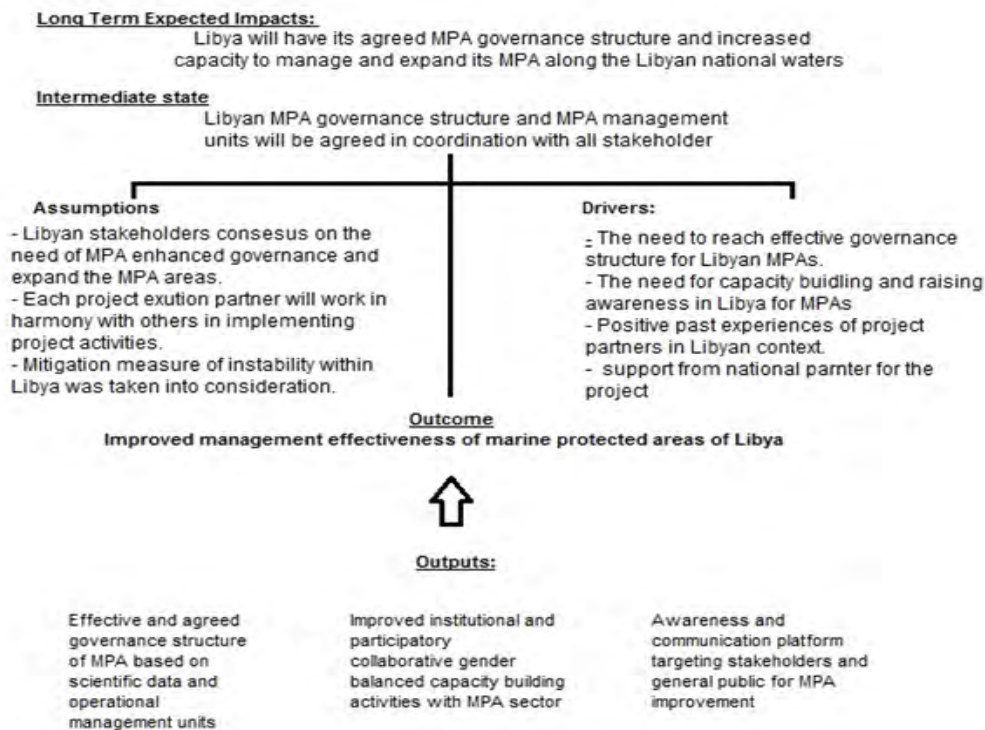


Figure 7 Theory of Change for Child Project 3.1

Table 3 Summary of Expected Project Achievements for Child Project 3.1

Objective	Targets	Outputs
Protecting marine biodiversity	At least 2,500 additional hectares of marine areas under protection in Libya.	Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya. Output 3.1: Awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers.
	At least one (1) MPA endowed with an operational management plan in Libya.	Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan operational in at least one MPA.
	At least one (1) MPA under sustainable management scheme.	Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan operational in at least one MPA. Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.
	At least two (2) sites covered by marine megafauna monitoring programmes.	Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes.

	At least two (2) monitoring networks for marine key habitats established.	Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes.
	At least five (5) training sessions to Libyan nationals (reflecting gender balance) on MPA networks planning and management, marine key habitats mapping, and marine megafauna monitoring.	Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management. Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.

By the end of the project, at least 33,804 hectares of seascape will be benefiting from newly protection status through additional 2,500 hectares of El Kouf newly established MPA and 31304 hectares of Ain El Ghazala and Farwa lagoon MPAs. The table 4 below describes the evolution of the expansion of the seascapes under protection and marine protected area management improvement in Libya.

The analysis conducted during the early project development phase indicated to select the three MPAs included in CP3.1 as priority sites. The Governmental partners in Libya supported and validated this selection and made the commitment to be fully engaged in addressing the threats and obstacles that hinder the sustainability and effectiveness of the MPA network in Libya rather than activities focusing on only one MPA since an individual MPA along the big coastal and marine area will not be effective, i.e. will not generate a positive impact even if it is well managed. What is effective is to move from individual MPAs to a network of MPAs as clearly stated by CBD global Aichi Target 11.

Table 4 evolution of the expansion of the seascapes under protection and MPAs management improvement in Libya

		BEFORE THE PROJECT			AFTER THE PROJECT		
	Current Status	Seascapes under protection (ha)	Management plan availability	Management Unit availability	Seascapes under protection (ha)	Management plan availability	Management Unit availability
Farwa lagoon	MPA (since 2011)	4 766	Not available	Not available	4 766	New management plan	Available
Ain Al Ghazala	MPA (since 2011)	26 558	Outdated	Not available	26 558	updated management plan	Available
El Kouf	Terrestrial National Park (since 1979)	0	Not available	Not available	2 500	New management plan	Available
TOTAL area		31 324			33 824		

The project consists of three Components:

Component 1: Improving Governance and Management Support

Governance is a broad topic that encompasses the legislative and jurisdictional framework, policies, and mechanisms used to support decision-making and the rule of law in a certain sector²¹. Successful management of marine protected areas depends largely on the quality of the governance system employed, furthermore MPA governance approaches that build social-ecological resilience through both institutional and biological diversity. Establishing effective marine resource governance requires long-term commitment to develop the formal and informal arrangements, institutional capacity, public engagement processes and social behavior that determines how resources are managed for present and future generations. The Child Project 3.1 aims at establishing an operational governance structure for marine protected areas in Libya. It will endeavor to adopt a bottom up structure with four major activities: 1) Assess the current governance structure in charge of MPAs in Libya; 2) Conduct a national consultation process to define and adopt the most suitable governance structure for the country; 3) Develop processes and tools to make operational the strategy; and 4) Implement processes and tools on the ground.

The activities proposed under component 1 will be executed under the lead of the Environmental General Authority (EGA) in Libya which is the competent authority for environment protection and governance. Under the coordination of EGA, a wide range of stakeholders will be involved in the proposed activities. Moreover, EGA will work in close coordination with other key agencies and stakeholders in particular with the Marine Biology Research Centre (MBRC) and the Agriculture and Fisheries Sector, the Tourism authorities, coastal management authorities, infrastructure and equipment authorities, coastal guard authorities, legal authorities, research institutes and academics, etc. The Project will also engage with local communities and civil society organizations with focusing on gender mainstreaming and women empowerment. The IUCN Green List Standard for Protected and Conserved Areas will provide the basis framework for the development of a sound governance and management structures for the targeted MPAs (output 1.1 and output 1.3).

Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya.

The project will provide a Libyan MPA designed and agreed management structure on the national level and at the level of MPAs. Initial stakeholder consultations yielded the preferred option on the shape of such governance structure, but additional consultations with all involved stakeholders and national experts will be concluded with agreement of all parties, either through an ad-hoc group or other advisory bodies on both local and national levels.

The above-mentioned governance structure will have the capacity to play a central role not only to manage current MPAs, but also in the establishment and advertising of the new MPAs, with the target to protect effectively an additional 2,500 hectares by the end of the project duration. This will be done in coordination with other key agencies and stakeholders including civil society organizations (CSOs) and women empowerment in all stages. This governance body will be the first for Libya, as it was lacking in the past, which certainly hinders the country from expanding its conservation efforts in the marine environment.

This work will also be based on the actual implementation of the Libyan Protected Areas National Strategy and on finalizing the consultations and approval of the draft law on protected areas in the country, that anticipated to be issued by legislative committee in the House of Representatives. A governance structure for MPAs in Libya is designed, and at least one MPA with an adequate governance structure established and operational. This will be in line with the UN Environment Strategic Outcome 3.3 on strengthening national implementation of biodiversity conservation policies, strategies and legislation measures.

SPA/RAC will lead execution of Output 1.1, with support from IUCN-Med.

²¹ CAR-SPAW-RAC (2018) Issue Briefs for the Caribbean MPA GOVERNANCE Design and implement the appropriate legal, policy and social framework for long term success. http://www.car-spaw-rac.org/IMG/pdf/MPA_Governance_Brief.pdf.

Activity 1.1.1: Assess current governance structure and prepare recommendations.

The assessment will take into consideration the current Protected Areas (PA) legal framework as well as the provisions of the draft new law on protected areas in Libya. A SWOT analysis for the current governance structure will be conducted to identify the areas of improvements and recommend practical options for the establishment of a new governance structure. The governance structure will be developed for both national and MPA levels after conducting a large consultation process with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 1.1.2: Organize national consultation to agree on the appropriate governance structure including necessary tools and processes.

Recommended options for a new governance structure from the previous activities, i.e. the draft law prepared on Protected Areas and the national strategy for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), elaborated within the MedPartnership project, will be shared with national MPA stakeholders for inputs. This will be done through national consultations via surveys and targeted meetings at national and local levels at the projects' sites. The results of the consultation will be shared with the project steering committee to validate the governance structure to be established. In accordance with the national legal framework, administrative arrangements as well as ministerial agreements will be sought to formally establish the governance structure through the most appropriate legal means.

Activity 1.1.3: Develop processes and tools to operationalize the governance structure.

For the operationalization of the agreed national and on-site governance structures, a specific document on the needed tools and processes will be developed. This will take into consideration human and financial resources, roles and responsibility of the lead institution and the entire members, internal and external communication and further organization rules. This document should be validated by the project ad-hoc group representing the key stakeholders of the project and any other relevant institutions involved in MPAs planning and management issues.

Activity 1.1.4: Implement processes and tools on the ground.

The current project will provide an opportunity to assess the pertinence and efficiency of the governance structures and operate further adjustments if needed. The governance structure will intend to declare new MPAs among the previously identified potential marine and coastal sites of conservation interest (activity 1.2.3) and provide recommendations for the management of the current MPAs.

Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes.

This component will include characterizing marine and coastal sites of conservation interest via rapid biodiversity surveys at selected sites, from the 24 sites identified in 2012 and any new sites of conservation interest, including some open water sites, to assess the quality of the ecosystems involved at each site and its floral and faunal communities, with understanding the present and forecasted threats that can alter such diversity, including coastal development, climate change and potential impact of invasive species. The results of these surveys will be presented at a national workshop on the inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya, with broader conservation community and other relevant stakeholders in the country, including civil society organizations and relevant public institutes prior to submitting the final results to the government for follow-up actions. This output is also based on the UN Environment Strategic Outcome 3.4, the monitoring, inventory and assessment of biodiversity with focus on endangered and threatened species, non- indigenous species and key habitats.

IUCN-Med will lead the execution of Output 1.2, with support from SPA/RAC.

Activity 1.2.1: Collect and analyze the existing data and surveys and identify the target areas to be visited.

A consultant will be selected to collect and analyze the available data at national and international levels related to marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya. This will be done through online consultation, targeted stakeholders visits and desk research. The objective is to draw a state of the art of the existing data and prepare a

targeted and tailored action plan to update and complete the inventory of sites of conservation interest. The 2012 publication “Towards a Representative Network of Marine Protected Areas in Libya” will be one of the background documents to be considered by the consultant for the sites identification.

Activity 1.2.2: Conduct at least one field survey to identify and characterize sites of conservation interest in Libya through rapid assessment.

This activity consists of implementing the action plan developed in the previous activity. A consultant or a group of consultants will conduct a field visit to update and complete the data on sites of conservation interest in Libya. A report presenting and describing the list of sites will be prepared by the consultants. The field visits will be coordinated by and with relevant administrations and key actors in the marine and coastal fields to ensure proper and efficient progress of this activity. Identification of sites will consider the 2012 findings as previously said and also other criteria related to quality of the ecosystems, flora and fauna characteristics and actual threats to biodiversity.

Activity 1.2.3: Organize a national workshop to present, discuss and validate the results of the survey.

The findings of the consultants regarding the sites of conservation interest in Libya will be presented and discussed during a one-day national workshop. Representatives from key national administrations, research centers, relevant municipalities, universities and CSOs will be invited to participate and to provide feedback on the proposed sites. Apart from validating the results of the survey, participants should also agree on a clear roadmap that will ensure the conservation of the identified sites through their declaration, among others, as marine and/or coastal Protected Areas. The final results of the survey and the roadmap will then be submitted to the government to take follow-up action.

Activity 1.2.4: Initiate a monitoring programme for the conservation of marine megafauna and key habitats in the identified sites.

To ensure a proper and efficient protection of the identified marine and coastal sites, a monitoring program targeting the conservation of the marine megafauna and key habitats will be prepared. This programme will be based on the assets and threats of each site and also on the available resources and capacities of the key national and international actors. The first draft of the monitoring programme will be prepared by the consultants in coordination with national stakeholders in charge of marine and coastal biodiversity conservation. Then it will be presented, discussed and validated during meetings to be held under the auspices of national administrations. A monitoring network composed of the main involved stakeholders will be established. This network will meet once or twice a year to agree on the monitoring actions to be conducted and assess the progress and results of the previous period.

Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan in at least one MPA.

This component will focus on the establishment of on-site MPA management units at declared MPAs in Libya (Farwa, Ain Al-Ghazala MPAs and Kouf National Park coastal area). The management units are in fact a part of the output 1.1 on setting up a governance system for MPAs in Libya. Although the project aims at setting up these units at all three MPAs, at least one functional management unit at one of the MPAs is expected to be established before the end of the project duration. The project will facilitate the development of an Integrated Management Plan for each of the three MPAs. This will allow the continuation of a systematic programme at each MPA designed, based on financial, ecological, socioeconomic conditions of each protected areas. The elaboration of management plan will include inputs from local scientists and engagement of local communities during initiation, preparation and consultation on these management plans. The management plans will use best examples of success in similar conditions and will largely depend on previous ecological and socioeconomic surveys conducted during the past few years at the project sites. This output also recalls UN Environment strategic outcomes 3.3 and 3.4 mentioned earlier.

SPA/RAC and WWF will co-lead the execution of Output 1.3, with support from IUCN-Med.

Activity 1.3.1: Update of ecological and socio-economical surveys for the selected MPAs.

In the framework of the GEF-MedPartnership Project (2010-2015) and with the financial support of the European Union, SPA/RAC and WWF have undertaken ecological and socio-economic surveys in Ain El Ghezala and El Kouf areas. For these areas, the current project will build on the previous results and outputs and will update and fill in gaps of the ecological and socio-economic context in the selected MPAs.

For the Farwa Lagoon, existing scientific studies will be compiled to provide a proper ecological and socio-economic assessment on Farwa Lagoon biodiversity.

Furthermore, a preliminary fishery stock assessment in and around the selected MPAs for better knowledge on the stock exploitation will be conducted for a better management translation in the Management Plan.

Activity 1.3.2: Elaborate management plans of targeted MPAs.

The existence of a management plan is one of the major criteria for qualifying as an MPA. This activity will include defining operational objectives, setting an action plan and a calendar of implementation, allocating resources, and defining indicators to assess management effectiveness.

The proposed action will therefore ensure continuity to the activities implemented under the GEF MedPartnership Project (2010-2015) and whose biodiversity component has been co-funded by the European Union.

Thus, management goals will be set up based on the updated/complementary ecological, socio-economic/fisheries studies and a SWOT analysis which will lead to identify certain threats such as Invasive Alien Species and the proposed actions to mitigate them. Provisional versions of the management plans will be drafted jointly with the national authorities responsible for the protected areas and in consultation with the civil society and socio-professional and economic actors involved in the protected area, during national/local consultation processes. Indeed, using MPAs as platforms for consultation among stakeholders may significantly contribute in the resolution of user conflicts and in promoting equitable sharing of benefits. The final versions of the management plans will be produced, considering both conservation objectives and the requirement that the protected area be integrated within its economic and social environment and ICZM approach application.

Activity 1.3.3: Submit legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units to the competent authorities for official approval.

The submission of legal texts to set up on-site MPA management units for the selected MPAs will take into account:

- The provisions and orientations that will be developed within the management plans for the selected sites, in particular with regards to the management governance structures to be proposed at local level; and
- The guidance and provisions of both the draft law on protected areas and governance structure at national level.

Stakeholder consultation either through the Ad-hoc Group or other advisory bodies on both local and national levels will be conducted in order to submit the draft text for the approval of the competent authorities.

Activity 1.3.4: Establish at least one operational management unit in concertation with competent authorities able to implement the management plan on the ground.

An operational management unit will be set up in close consultation and guidance of the authorities in charge of the establishment and management of MPAs. The management unit will be in charge of implementing the management plan on the ground. Its members are practitioners and managers of the MPAs, they will be selected among local environmental NGOs members, Small Scale fishery representatives, local and national authorities and scientists (MBRC). Their role will be to implement and maintain marine and coastal protected areas (MPAs), to run monitoring and evaluation systems and to perform conservation goals' evaluation. The project will provide support for the establishment of the management units and will contribute to start and initiate the management plans through trainings, study tours and continuous technical support from the partner organisations during the course of the project, in particular on the ecological monitoring and surveillance, stakeholders involvement especially fisherfolks and local communities. The management units will seek further financial opportunities during and after the project ending to respond to any additional need from the country related to the sustainable and effective management of the MPA network in Libya. Furthermore, through the Protected Areas Green List programme, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (responsible of this programme) will provide continuous support to the three targeted MPAs to improve the

planning, management and governance components in order to reach the conservation outcomes of the three sites. This support will be conducted through the evaluation of a set of indicators to be done by the MPAs managers and the Expert Assessment Group for the Green List in the Maghreb (Maghreb – EAGL).

Component 2: Participation and Institution Strengthening

The selection, financing and management of marine protected areas should be a participatory process that involves not only the governmental sector, but also the growing civil society sector, which represent local stakeholders and active non-governmental organizations as one of the factors that can contribute to the successful partnership in managing marine protected areas. The civil society organizations²² (CSO) in Libya are gaining more experience and influence on how natural resources are managed by the government, and previous projects successfully built a collaborative partnership between government agencies and CSOs. Building on that, Child Project 3.1's Component 2 will strive to strengthen the institutional and participatory management approach between governmental and nongovernmental key players in the marine protected areas sector in Libya with special focus on fishers. This will be achieved through several activities: 1) Identifying the core CSOs to be involved in the project implementation; 2) Signing of a collaboration agreement between the administration and the core CSOs defining their specific roles in the project implementation; 3) Providing training for CSOs governance staff and local fishers on MPAs identification, management and sustainable fishery; and 4) Developing three collaborative projects between the administration and the CSOs for the co-management of the targeted MPAs in Libya.

Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.

CSOs are growing in monitoring and advocacy for marine conservation in the country, especially after the political change of 2011, when new associations were established. To organize the involvement of these organizations in the process of marine protected area governance and partnerships with the governmental sector in protecting Libyan marine and coastal ecosystems, a participatory platform of CSOs will be formulated in partnership with both WWF and IUCN to allow these CSOs to have active participation in the project works. These CSOs were selected based on the merit of their experience and geographic activities at the locations of the three MPAs. The project aims at involving at least five organizations in the project activities via the signing of collaboration agreements between CSOs and conservation authorities established.

The platform will act as a capacity building mechanism for these CSOs and will allow other CSO members to benefit from the project outputs and experiences, including products related to raising awareness on the importance of Libyan MPAs for conserving biodiversity and sustainable fishing activities around MPAs in Libya and for the whole Mediterranean, being a latest hub within the Mediterranean network of MPAs. The inclusion of CSO is in-line with UN Environment Strategic Outcome 1.3 on strengthened participation, engagement, synergies and complementarities among global and regional institutions and Strategic Outcome 1.6, on raised awareness and outreach, in addition to Strategic Outcome 3.3 on strengthening national implementation of biodiversity conservation policies, strategies and legislation measures.

This Output will also seek to incorporate specific gender and socioeconomic elements: to begin with, the capacity building element will reflect gender balance, and both men and women will equally participate in marine management and policy training. Further, the CSOs will define the ground-level realities of the target sites and will act as the link between executing entities and the local populace. This is important because, as Clarke et al show, MPAs have potentially a wide range of social and economic impacts, and the ability to achieve the conservation and environmental outputs of this marine management tool is highly influenced by unmonitored perception and buy-in of local stakeholders.²³ A stakeholder-responsive CSO platform will, in tandem, provide avenues for gender mainstreaming and the involvement of a diverse range of actors and interests.

WWF and IUCN-Med will co-lead the execution of Output 2.1, with support from SPA/RAC.

²² These include non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

²³ Clarke, B. & et al. "Stakeholder Perceptions of a Coastal Marine Protected Area" in *Journal of Coastal Research* (Vol 1, March issue). (2016)

Activity 2.1.1: Organize an inception meeting with the main Libyan CSOs involved in marine conservation, fishery and MPA and identify the core CSOs to be involved in the project implementation.

At the beginning of the project an inception meeting will be held with the participation of the main Libyan CSOs present and active in the field of marine and coastal conservation. The objective of this meeting is to present the project objective, results and activities and to identify the group of CSOs that will be involved directly in the project implementation and follow-up. The selection of these CSOs will take into consideration their past and current activities, knowledge on the potential marine and coastal sites to be identified later and the main local stakeholders and also recommendations from national and international organizations that have developed or are conducting programmes with CSOs in Libya.

Activity 2.1.2: Preparation and signing of collaboration agreement between the administration and the core CSOs regarding their role in the project implementation and communication.

The core of CSOs identified in the previous activity will be invited to sign a collaboration agreement with the national administration acting as the focal point of the present project in Libya. This agreement will indicate, among others, the set of actions to be taken by CSOs, the planning and the financial issues and also describe the role and responsibilities of the CSO and the administration to reach the expected results. The first draft of the collaboration agreement will be prepared by the focal point administration in coordination with the regional partners (SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN).

Activity 2.1.3: Conduct three training courses with the core CSOs and representatives from the administration on MPAs identification and management.

Three trainings courses of two days each will be conducted during the first six months of the project. They will target the core of CSOs involved in the project implementation. At least two representatives from each CSO will be invited to take part to these events. Representatives from the administration, research institutions fishery sector and relevant universities will be conducting the trainings. Representatives from SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN will also participate and share their experience within the training modules. These modules would be tentatively the following: (i) Protected Areas: definition, objectives and categories; (ii) Management Plan for a PA: from preparation to implementation; and (iii) role of CSOs in MPAs supporting sustainable fishery in Libya: development of a co-management scheme.

Activity 2.1.4: Develop three collaborative projects between the administration and the CSOs for the co-management of MPAs in Libya (Farwa, El Kouf and Ain El Ghazala).

Following the three trainings and the upgrade of the Libyan CSOs in relation to marine and coastal PAs conservation in Libya, and in light of the outcomes of the third training focusing on the co-management aspects and the potential role that CSOs could play in the MPAs conservation and management, three collaborative projects will be prepared for each of the following sites: Farwa, El Kouf and Ain El Ghazala MPAs. The aim of these projects is to boost and improve the collaboration between the administration and CSOs in the conservation field and create an environment of confidence and trust between the two parties. These projects will further contribute in the establishment of a sustainable CSO participatory platform responsible among other in coordinating the action and the involvement of CSOs in conservation projects to ensure potential synergies and complementarities with the ongoing or future initiatives launched by the government in Libya. A consultant will be responsible for preparing these collaborative projects in coordination with the key stakeholders from the administration and the universities in Libya. These projects will be contributing in the implementation of some components of the management plans developed for each site. They will also help creating a core of national managers that will provide tailored support to the newly created MPAs in the future.

Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management.

This component will focus on building skills and sharing best practices. The level of government and local institutions' capacities in the field of marine protected areas, fisheries and other marine related management topics for coastal and offshore habitats will be improved via specific training sessions targeting managers, practitioners and civil society organizations. The project will help to reach a better implementation level of national regulations, governance and

natural resources management issues in the governmental sector and civil society organizations. This is a crucial step to develop and update Libyan legislations and effective running of the new proposed operational governance structure for MPAs in Libya. Other training sessions will be held for government institutes involved in the project, including Environment, tourism, fisheries and CSOs on the best practices for stakeholder engagement in the conservation planning process, and how to address conflicts of interest within the government sector and with the whole setting of stakeholders in Libyan MPAs. Training sessions on effective ways of knowledge dissemination and sustainable management of natural resources will be held. Therefore, the present project will help in establishing capacities in both government and civil society sectors, to be independent in the management of both existing and future MPAs in Libya. This component is in-line with UN Environment Strategic Outcome 3.5 on technical assistance and capacity building at regional, sub-regional and national levels to strengthen policy implementation and compliance with the biodiversity-related national legislation.

SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN-Med will co-lead the execution of Output 2.2.

Activity 2.2.1: Organize training workshops for MPA managers, practitioners and relevant authorities of MPAs based on the preliminary need assessment.

A national and a site-specific management capacity training needs assessment will be prepared based on a national consultation among stakeholders from administrations, universities fishery sector and CSOs. The national consultations will be conducted by a consultant through an online survey and face to face meetings. The results of the survey will be presented and validated by the ad-hoc group of project stakeholders which will identify the top three capacity building themes/areas to be conducted. At least five training workshops on topics including MPA governance, knowledge, sustainable management, stakeholder engagement and gender dimensions of MPA management will be undertaken for a target audience mainly composed of MPA managers, practitioners and relevant authorities of MPAs. The structure of the training programme and design will be specifically tailored to regional needs.

Selected CSOs will also be involved in these trainings. Training workshops will be conducted during the first two years of the project. Modules for the training and their implementation will be coordinated between national and international experts when needed.

Activity 2.2.2: Develop MPAs management tools.

To reach its conservation goals, MPAs should be well planned, appropriately resourced and properly managed. Having a sound management plan requires the development and use of several management tools, including:

- Spatial planning tools;
- Public/stakeholders participation and involvement mechanisms;
- Guidelines for an effective management of selected MPAs as a practical tool for managers; and
- Enforcement, education, extension, patrol and survey programmes.

This activity will intend to introduce these tools to the MPA stakeholders in Libya and support them in their development for the implementation of management plan of the targeted MPAs. Part of this activity could be considered in the training workshops of activity 2.2.1.

Activity 2.2.3: Organize specific technical assistance and exchange/twinning programmes to provide on-site assistance to MPA managers, practitioners and relevant authorities.

Technical assistance for MPA stakeholders is crucial to ensure a good understanding of the management challenges and the ability to timely respond to various constraints and situations that will hinder reaching the conservation outcome of the site. In the Mediterranean, several success stories of MPA management and lessons learned could be shared by and with MPA managers.

This activity will develop a technical exchange and twinning programme with other Mediterranean MPAs sharing the same assets and challenges with the Libyan MPAs. Technical assistance will be provided by national and when needed international consultants on the basis of the site needs and the progress on the establishment of the management plan in the targeted MPA.

Component 3: Awareness-raising and Communication

The message of communication and conservation with all stakeholders, the general public and decision makers is a key to success of the present project. The Child Project 3.1 project will adopt a communication strategy that involves specific action oriented towards the design and production of awareness materials on marine protected areas in Libya, using traditional means (TV, radio and leaflets) and the trending mass communication platforms that reached wider audiences such as social media and internet sites. The communication component is in line with the MedProgramme's Knowledge Management Strategy, as to increase awareness also with the existing regional and national organizations involved in marine conservation in the Mediterranean and in Libya respectively.

Output 3.1: Awareness and communication campaigns and materials, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers.

The project will develop, implement and monitor awareness and communication campaigns, to increase appreciation for MPA's importance within the Libyan society (public and decision makers). To support greater public awareness of marine and coastal biodiversity conservation, a comprehensive media outreach and education campaign will be implemented with national and best practices in neighboring Mediterranean countries. The campaigns will be designed and implemented in a joint partnership among Project partners (SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN), the Libyan government institutions and the CSOs. All activities devoted to awareness-raising and communication will be designed to be coherent with the MedProgramme's overarching Knowledge Management Strategy (Annex Q), and will reflect the visual identities established for the MedProgramme and for the Child Project 3.1.

The project will conduct four awareness programmes, that will target school children (and the public), fisheries, tourism sector, coastal management and urbanization authorities around the three sites to increase their respective awareness levels with the importance of MPAs. Several outreach means will be tested and used, according to the local conditions in Libya. These will include TV interviews/documentaries/short breaks, social media dissemination of awareness messages, banners, radio programmes talks in schools and face to face meetings with target groups. This component recalls the Strategic Outcome 1.6 on raised awareness and outreach. The project will aim to develop a programme that target local communities near MPAs to improve their contribution in MPA management through citizen-science strategy.

SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN-Med will co-lead the execution of Output 3.1.

Activity 3.1.1: Produce an Intranet/Internet site and on-line magazine to create a shared vision and disseminate the project's progress and lessons learned.

An analysis of the available options to create the internet or intranet site will be done at the beginning of the project. Project partners and national stakeholders will select the most practical option in terms of accessibility, costs and available resources for managing and updating the information. This portal or website will reflect on the project progress and the latest findings and news to the general public through a publication of an online magazine. This will also capture and share the lessons learned and provide a new information platform for the people interested in coastal and marine conservation activities in Libya and elsewhere.

Activity 3.1.2: Design, produce an ad hoc communication material (leaflets, brochures, banners and posters, etc.) for selected audiences and share lessons learned.

A set of communication material will be prepared and disseminated during the course of the project. This material will target several audiences and present various themes and information related to marine and coastal conservation especially through marine protected areas, in addition to promoting artisanal sustainable fishery heritage in and around the selected MPAs. The shape and content of the communication material (leaflets, brochures, banners and posters) will be discussed and adopted considering the audience expectation and the progress of the project. The project partners in collaboration with the national focal point administration will be in charge of the preparation of this material.

Activity 3.1.3: Develop awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision makers and particularly youth, local communities and decision makers.

The objective of this opportunity is to develop and share communication tools/campaigns/initiatives and produce lessons learned and engage local community, particularly youth in MPA monitoring using new technology. This will be done through the following actions:

- Wise use of a broad range of tools for disseminating information on the project: web pages (mentioned above), links to partner sites, animation of social networks, newsletters, etc.;
- Negotiation of agreements with the media (televisions, radios, newspapers) to broadcast articles and spots on the project;
- Develop an interactive application to monitor biodiversity in the MPA: the data collected from the citizens will be managed by MPA managers;
- Organization of press conferences backed to different national and regional events organized as part of the implementation of the project; and
- Preparation and dissemination of a summary brochure presenting the results of the project.

Activity 3.1.4: Planning of an *ad hoc* audiovisual campaign for wide media dissemination.

Production and dissemination of a video of about 10 minutes presenting the project and its main achievements. A specific video for each project site will also be prepared focusing on the environment, social and economic importance of the site and the support of local community to the protected area project. These videos will be shared on the project website and presented during a national and international conference related to marine and coastal conservation.

4) INCREMENTAL COST REASONING, EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE AND CO-FINANCING

The incremental approach can be summarized as follows: The project will seek to reduce threats to Libyan coastal and marine biodiversity and related ecosystem services by establishing an effective MPA governance and policy framework, that will be built on a sound science basis and involve all potential stakeholders in marine ecosystems conservation management. The intervention of this project is timely as Libya has the longest coast in the central Mediterranean, but with MPAs existing on paper without proper management units, clear policies, solid governance or management plans. The involvement of multiple sectors (government and non-governmental) will promote the enhanced sustainable management and governance of the broader Libyan marine biodiversity and natural resources. As part of this process, the three selected MPAs will provide intrinsic and vital protection for Mediterranean and globally significant biodiversity (including sea grass meadows, seabird breeding and foraging areas, sea turtles foraging and nesting areas, endangered sharks, several Mediterranean endangered marine mammals) along the coastlines of an existing MPA.

Table 5 Baseline Practices, Alternatives and Global Environmental Benefits of Child Project 3.1

Baseline practices	Alternatives to be put in place by the project	Global Environmental Benefits
Absence of national governance system of MPAs, coordination and capacity to support the formal protection of marine and coastal protected areas leads to further degradation of Libya's natural capital.	Participatory approach designed MPA governance framework for the country and adopting both the national strategy on protected areas and the first national legislation on protected areas including MPAs. Inter-institutional and inter-sectorial coordination and policies in place to coordinate interventions of key agencies (e.g. Environment General Authority, Marine Biology Research Centre, Fisheries, Coastguard, Tourism). Capacity development of national and local marine/coastal stakeholders, including CSOs.	Several thousands of marine areas safeguarded through establishment and effective management of three MPAs. Additional 2,500 hectares of newly established MPAs.

Marine Protected Areas declared several years ago but kept on paper without effective management units or plans. The low capacity to protect and manage fragile marine and coastal biodiversity will result in additional biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.	Development of integrated management plans based on an inclusive consultative process, including local stress level and threat reduction targets agreed by all stakeholders. Conduct rapid biodiversity surveys of high priority coastal and marine areas to confirm further MPA site selection, update both baseline information and key threats. Establishment of local management structures, equipment and capacity to manage and monitor MPAs.	Conservation of globally significant and threatened species including Mediterranean endemic sea grass meadows, migrator and residence sea birds, sea turtles, sharks and marine mammals.
Uncontrolled coastal development and continuous illegal fishing and overfishing, resulting in local declines followed by outright extinctions of endangered marine and coastal species, degradation of bottom habitats due to blast fishing impact; coastal ecosystem degradation due to land claims and urbanization; marine pollution from land based and offshore sources.	Local management unit is capacitated to protect and monitor the existing MPAs and prevent loss of threatened species and monitor coastline activities. Engagement with private sector companies to reduce impacts of extractive industries (fisheries, oil and gas) in MPAs. Greater public awareness of marine and coastal biodiversity conservation through a comprehensive multimedia outreach and education campaigns.	

The project is building on and is fully embedded within the Barcelona Convention system; thus, it is benefitting of all the investments (projects and activities) promoted by this context. The same applies to the activities led by WWF Med and IUCN Med in the Mediterranean.

As a matter of example, the Barcelona Convention COP21 held in Naples on December 2019, agreed and mandated the Barcelona Convention and SPA/RAC to prepare an undated SAP/BIO for the entire Mediterranean region, including Libya over the period 2020-2021. To this purpose the Mediterranean Trust Funds allocated 600,000 USD which will also benefit Libya. On the same line the Barcelona Convention and SPA/RAC will implement over the period 2019-2024 a 4,000,000 EUR EU funded project which is also benefitting Libya and its MPAs (see table 2). Other projects are being developed by the Barcelona Convention system, WWF Med and IUCN. This will ensure that a considerable amount of investments and funds will support the effort of Libya over the lifespan of Child Project 3.1 and beyond.

These projects/initiatives cannot be formally reported as co-financing because there is not a formal agreement of the donors. However, during the inception these funds will be tracked, and synergy will be ensured by the MedPCU at both Child project 3.1 and the overall MedProgramme level.

5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

The three Libyan established MPAs will provide critical protection for Mediterranean and globally significant marine species and ecosystems within Libyan waters. Coastal habitat and lagoons provide nurseries for marine species of economic and tourist importance to the country. These will be protected along with other endangered species including whales, dolphins, sharks, rays, seabirds and sea turtles. Through more effective management Libya will contribute to the pan-Mediterranean goals set out under the Barcelona Convention and the Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity Protocol, which promotes an ecosystem approach to marine ecosystem governance, with emphasis on improved biodiversity and sustainable use of marine natural resources. In addition, the effective management of three MPAs in Libya will enable the country to meet its global obligations relating to conservation and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, including Aichi Targets 6 and 11 and SDG 14—*Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*, notably Target 14.5—*By 2020, conserve at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on best available scientific information*. In addition, the project will contribute to SDG 5—*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*. Further details on contributions to these Aichi Targets and SDGs are provided in Table 6.

Table 6 Contributions of Child Project 3.1 to Aichi Targets 6 and 11 and SDGs 14 and 5

Targets	Activities of proposed project contributing to Aichi Targets
Aichi Target 6: By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying	Effective management of three Libyan declared MPAs would ensure better protection of coastal

ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	and marine ecosystems and biodiversity, including through increased monitoring and enforcement capacity to prevent illegal fishing and harvesting of marine resources.
Aichi Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 percent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	Three MPAs encompassing 33,824 hectares have been formally established, with an additional 2,500 hectares of marine and coastal habitats under protection.
SDG Goal 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, in particular: Target 14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.	The project will involve fisheries and fishing communities as target groups for training on sustainable use of fish catch, for an integrated fisheries approach, where conservation run side by side with sustainable utilization of marine natural resources.
SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.	The project highlights the importance of gender equality, from national consultation process to training and implementation stages.

6) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP

The development of cost-effective and sustainable solutions to reduce the detrimental impacts of poor marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem management is central to all aspects of this project. The project will work to support and strengthen Libya's governmental institutions and civil society to work in a participatory approach on effective governance and management of marine and coastal ecosystems. The underlying foundation for the project is that interest already exists within the Libyan Government to achieve this, as part of its commitment to manage and expand Libya MPAs. Facilitation and demonstration are both needed to show that resources can be applied at scale and sustainably for the benefit of globally important biodiversity and Libya's sustainable development. After the completion of the Child Project 3.1 project, national agencies, research institutions and selected Libyan civil society organizations will be endowed and better trained to exercise their mandates in protecting marine and coastal resources in a harmonized manner and long-term partnership. The project will review and implement the MPA governance structure including reviewing the draft law on protected areas of Libya and national marine protected areas strategy elaborated with the previous MedPartnership Project. These two documents will then be sent by a government agency to legislative authorities for approval and to start the legal enforcement. Communities living near the three declared MPAs will gain socio-economic benefits from Libya's multi-sectorial efforts to manage marine and coastal zones in support of conservation and sustainable use objectives. By protecting significant biodiversity and reducing the impacts of unsustainable and over-fishing and other identified risks including unregulated coastal development, the project will contribute to create a platform for sustainable economic growth, rather than the unsustainable and destructive removal of collective natural resources. By enabling rural communities to gain income from conservation and effective biodiversity management, the project will support Libya in achieving the Aichi Targets, SDGs and other global initiatives that seek to sustain marine biodiversity and reduce impacts of human populations on fragile natural habitats and their resources. Innovative aspects of this project include: i) The development of a specific MPA governance structure with clear mandates to different stakeholders; ii) To provide needed capacity (based on capacity gap analysis) to deliver the country's national and site level actions to protect marine and coastal biodiversity in Libya, bringing together state and civil society organizations and local communities to manage marine and coastal biodiversity on three MPAs of Libya, reduce resource exploitation and protect ecological functions while minimizing pressures on natural resources; and iii) conduct specific awareness campaigns and produce materials for the necessity to protect Libya's unique marine and coastal biodiversity and its sustainable use for the present and future generation.

Looking at the long-term sustainability of the actions executed by Child Project 3.1 will be fully consistent with the Barcelona Convention process and other ongoing processes and/or mechanisms being created in the Mediterranean region. In this context, the Mediterranean MPA Forum (Antalya, Turkey) in 2012 highlighted the need to establish a regional financial mechanism to support the sustainable financing of the Mediterranean MPAs in accordance to the 2014 Athens Declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean and to help countries meet their commitments under the Barcelona Convention. Following this recommendation, the initiative to set up a sustainable financing mechanism for Mediterranean MPAs was launched jointly by France, Monaco, and Tunisia in October 2013 during the high-level session of the International MPAs Congress. The initiative to set up a sustainable financial mechanism received political support from the countries bordering the Mediterranean at the Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change in May 2014 and at the 19th Meeting of The Parties of the Barcelona Convention in February 2016. In 2015, the Association for the Sustainable Financing of the Mediterranean MPAs was created to bring together States and civil society to lead the initiative. The Association is a cooperation platform that aims to set up a regional trust-fund. It is open to a) States that have confirmed their commitment to implementing an ambitious policy to support MPAs and explicitly shown their support for the initiative (to date, Albania, France, Monaco, Morocco, Tunisia and Spain); and to b) regional organizations involved in the conservation of Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems (currently including the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), Network of MPAs Managers in the Mediterranean (MedPAN), WWF-Mediterranean, the IUCN Mediterranean Cooperation Center, and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation) and Conservatoire du Littoral (a French public agency for the preservation of the coastline). In 2018 the Association for the Sustainable Financing of the Mediterranean MPAs received funding from the GEF IW focal area to establish a regional CTF for Mediterranean MPAs. The project entitled “Long-term financial mechanism to enhance Mediterranean MPA management effectiveness” (GEF ID 9959) implemented by CI-GEF and executing by Association for the Sustainable Financing of the Mediterranean MPAs has started in April 2018 for a 2 years period in order to establish the fund itself and develop a resource mobilization strategy for the capitalization of the Fund. Child Project 3.1 will aim to working with the Libyan government and EGA towards joining this regional initiative. If successful, this strategy could become part of the longer term funding strategy fostered by Child Project 3.1 confirming the commitment of Libya to implementing an ambitious policy to support MPAs.

A.2. CHILD PROJECT? IF THIS IS A CHILD PROJECT UNDER A PROGRAM, DESCRIBE HOW THE COMPONENTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL PROGRAM IMPACT.

The eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme (Table 1) are expected to deliver a set of complementary results embracing three categories of priorities identified by the TDA for the Mediterranean Sea which are translated into three components of the Programme: i) Reduction of Land-Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts; ii) Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone; and iii) Protecting Marine Biodiversity.

Child Project 3.1 constitutes Component 3 of the MedProgramme: Protecting Marine Biodiversity. It will address the capacity barriers that hinder the sustainability and effectiveness of the MPAs network in Libya, namely through the establishment of MPA management support mechanisms in priority MPAs. This Child Project will include: (i) the assessment of the legal and institutional mechanisms for MPAs; (ii) the collection centralization of data on marine biodiversity and ecosystems (national platform); and (iii) communication and awareness about MPAs and marine biodiversity and ecosystems. In particular, the specific work in Libya will be focused on advancing Ain-El-Ghazalah and Farwa Lagoon MPAs towards a phase of operational sufficiency by building the capacity of MPA practitioners, developing the management plan through a step-by-step participatory planning process to ensure the effective protection of ecological and socioeconomic values of the areas.

A.3. STAKEHOLDERS. IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND ELABORATE ON HOW THE KEY STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT IS INCORPORATED IN THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT. DO THEY INCLUDE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (YES /NO)? AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (YES /NO)? ²⁴

²⁴ As per the GEF-6 Corporate Results Framework in the GEF Programming Directions and GEF-6 Gender Core Indicators in the Gender Equality Action Plan, provide information on these specific indicators on stakeholders (including civil society organization and indigenous peoples) and gender.

The complete list of stakeholders for Child Project 3.1 is provided in Annex R

A.4. GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT. ELABORATE ON HOW GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT ISSUES ARE MAINSTREAMED INTO THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DIFFERENCES, NEEDS, ROLES AND PRIORITIES OF WOMEN AND MEN. IN ADDITION, 1) DID THE PROJECT CONDUCT A GENDER ANALYSIS DURING PROJECT PREPARATION (YES /NO)?; 2) DID THE PROJECT INCORPORATE A GENDER RESPONSIVE PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING SEX-DISAGGREGATED INDICATORS (YES /NO)?; AND 3) WHAT IS THE SHARE OF WOMEN AND MEN DIRECT BENEFICIARIES (WOMEN X%, MEN X%)? NOT APPLICABLE.

UN Environment and all the MedProgramme partner agencies are committed to supporting capacity development of its national partners to adopt approaches that advance women's rights and take account of the full range of their contributions to development. Involving both women and men in the Programme's activities is likely to increase project effectiveness and efficiency. Participation by both genders also improves project performance and improves the likelihood of sustainability. In other words, a project is more likely to achieve what planners hope it will achieve if women and men (both rich and poor and representing different sectors) are active participants and decision makers. (MedProgramme)

Gender mainstreaming and promoting women's empowerment are strategic and operational imperatives for the GEF, UN Environment and the Libyan Government.

Having launched its initial gender policy in 2011, the GEF approved a reinforced policy in October 2017, shifting the focus from a gender-aware 'do no harm approach' to a gender-responsive 'do good approach'. UN Environment, in tandem, recognizes the role of gender equality as a 'driver of sustainable environment development'²⁵, particularly to enhance environmental security and climate resilience; to assuage the stresses on natural resources and dependent communities; and, to preserve the health of large marine ecosystems (like the Mediterranean Basin) which provide vital environmental and economic services to coastal populations. Overall, the organization focuses on the increased visibility and capacity of vulnerable groups in sustainable development policy- and decision-making.

The Libyan government, in its Vision 2020, also lays out a clear imperative for inclusive and gender-responsive development strategy: as the strategy states, gender equality is the foundation of transformative change, and laws, political processes, educational policies and the labor market require careful revision to be able to engender women's empowerment²⁶. However, to operationalize these promising policy and legal reforms, consistent and coherent efforts have to be made through interventions and their mandates – Child Project 3.1, thus, in this context, will be timely. An MPA stakeholder survey, conducted online for this project proposal, showed a growing consensus for the incorporation of gender mainstreaming perspectives in the programmatic scope. Further, stakeholders highlighted the need to not exclusively treat 'gender' as a socioeconomic category, but to further consider issues of intersectionality with local livelihoods, vulnerable artisan communities and the management of resources.

MPAs, while effective marine management tools to regulate access and use of resources as well as engender biodiversity preservation, can also be fragile governance structures²⁷, if not designed and delivered with consistent stakeholder participation and consideration of the communal needs²⁸. In Libya, it is particularly important to recognize the role that men and women play in garnering coastal livelihoods, take stock of their differentiated access to these resources and, as a result, understand how they are affected differently by changes to these existing structures. Indeed, since gender inequality and social exclusion increase the negative effects of environmental degradation and climate change on vulnerable population subgroups, top-down conservation attempts can adversely affect resource-dependent people, who reside at the periphery of human settlements. Gender-mainstreamed MPA policies, which include both genders and different social groups in planning and execution, can simultaneously maximize resource protection

²⁵ *Gender Equality and the Environment: Policy and Strategy*. UN Environment. (2015)

²⁶ *Libya: Vision 2020*. Libya Institute for Advanced Studies.

²⁷ 'Stakeholder Participation' in *Scaling Up Marine Management*. World Bank. (2006)

²⁸ Marshall, N. and et al. "Using social resilience and resource dependency to increase the effectiveness of marine conservation initiatives in Salum, Egypt" in *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*. (2009)

(through compliance and low resistance) and provide an opportunity for empowerment (through alternative livelihood options and devolved authority).

Through its Output 2.1 – the CSO participatory platform, the project has a precise avenue for gender mainstreaming. The CSOs are uniquely positioned as a linkage between ground-level realities and high-level policy implementation – through this, women’s groups, local stakeholders and devolved bodies can be engaged to understand the gendered landscape of resource access and use. This information and data can then inform policies, reflecting the needs and considerations of these groups and bringing their narrative into the mainstream. Further, the project will conduct national training courses to familiarize stakeholders on gender analysis and indicators, sex disaggregated data collection²⁹ as well as on cross-cutting issues such as gender and poverty in coastal contexts, livelihoods and resource access etc., to build capacity towards gender mainstreaming as well as ensuring buy-in from the actors involved. Additionally, other outputs (particularly Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya and Output 3.1: awareness and communication campaigns) will work in the background to provide the institutional and policy support as well as generate a public consensus required for establishing a gender-responsive MPA framework.

Annex O (Gender Assessment and Action Plan) explores these issues and lays out a detailed MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (Annex Q).

A.5 RISK. ELABORATE ON INDICATED RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE, POTENTIAL SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND, IF POSSIBLE, THE PROPOSED MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS AT THE TIME OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

Table 7 Risks and mitigation measures for Child Project 3.1

Risk	Level of risk	Mitigation measures
Lack of Political Support	Medium	Although the current political situation in Libya may decrease the level of political support to the project this is unlikely to create an issues for the following reasons: 1) Child Project 3.1’s design is the result of extensive consultations with the GEF Operational Focal Point of Libya, Environment General Authority of the State of Libya (EGA) and a consultation with a wide set of stakeholders in Libya including civil society organizations which was also consulate in a National Survey; 2) Child Project 3.1 responds to the priorities identified by the State of Libya; and 3) Child Project 3.1 relies on the support of the four executing agencies (namely, UNEP/MAP, SPA/RCA, WWF Med and IUCN Med) that will support the State of Libya with experts guiding and facilitating the work of national experts and government officials and representatives, who will be in any case in charge in all major decision points.
Political instability	High	As stated in the MedProgramme Framework Document, “some southern and eastern Mediterranean countries are going through a period of political volatility and social unrest that might negatively affect the Programme’s full implementation”. The situation in Libya is also affected by that political and social unrest, since the uprising and change of regime in 2011. That being said, 2019 is expected to witness new elections based on the roadmap proposed by the special representative of UN Secretary General to Libya, and most analysts exclude any further deterioration in political and security situations, as the government of national accord has taken several actions that prevented violence in 2018 and 2019. The local executing agency, the Environment General Authority, assured the project partners of its full backing of the project implementation once adopted.
Local tensions due to loss of access to natural resources or land as a result of MPA creation	Low-Moderate	The three MPA sites were declared state owned lands, the Sea in Libya belong to state as well. At Ain Al-Ghazala and Farwa there is a potential conflict of interest with local fishermen/ hunters, but this would be overcome via stakeholder involvement in management plan preparation and implementation. Private ownership issue at Kouf National Park do not involve coastal strip as it

²⁹ Without sex-disaggregated data, it is not possible to fully measure progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Without sound, scientifically collected data, it is difficult to make effective analytical assessments of the comparative situation (and thus, formulate effective policies) of women and men in different communities, countries, or parts of the world.

		belongs to the state nationwide.
Oil concessions standing in the way of MPA establishment	Medium	The three MPAs are already established and the National Oil Corporation is aware of this. Oil and gas offshore exploration in Libya represents 15% of the nation oil production. Ain Al-Ghazala is located within the concession area 43, however the oil and gas exploration is likely to be at offshore sites away from coastal waters where the MPA is located. In addition there is evidence that this area was withdrawn from the bidding process ³⁰ Furthermore this aspect can be discussed with the National Oil Corporation to take adequate measures to prevent any risk of oil spill or seismic survey activities within the buffer zone of the MPA. Farwa MPA is located the other site in proximity with offshore oil field is Farwa, again agreed mitigation measures for oil spill or exploration mitigation measures should be clearly set with NOC and its partner companies, related to their activities near MPA sites. The Office of Environment and Risk mitigation will be invited to participate in all project consultations and meetings and special attention will be given to this risk. No current offshore oil operations are planned near Kouf National Park.
Climate Change and Variability	Moderate	Future climatic scenarios indicate the Mediterranean region as one of the most affected by climate change and variability, whose signs are already being felt particularly in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. Improving the resilience of coastal population and ecosystems to climatic impacts – increased frequency, duration and intensity of droughts, sea level rise, increased evaporation – is in fact a key objective of the MedProgramme. It is not expected that climate change will have an impact on the Child Project’s execution. Nevertheless, climate change might be contributing to the instability of the region and to the migratory fluxes. Therefore, the project’s Steering Committee will have the authority to adopt contingency measures including changes in project activities and sites, to manage the potential adverse effects of unanticipated events.
Scarce coordination and synergies between the three project Components	Low	The project design revolves around only three major components: one dealing with improving governance; a second addressing participation and institutional strengthening; and a third dedicated to awareness-raising and communication. These components will be co-executed by the three executing partners or will be led or co-lead by one or more partners. While cooperation and complementarities have been built into the project activities in all three Components, there might remain some risk of poor communication and overlaps. To avoid this, the execution arrangements of the project establish ad hoc mechanisms for dialogue and joint decision making involving both executing agencies and country representatives.

A.6. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT AND COORDINATION. DESCRIBE THE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION. ELABORATE ON THE PLANNED COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELEVANT GEF-FINANCED PROJECTS AND OTHER INITIATIVES.

The institutional arrangement and coordination of the Child Project 3.1 is illustrated in in Figure 8.

³⁰ Business Monitor International. 2010. *LIBYA OIL & GAS REPORT Q1 2011 INCLUDES 10-YEAR FORECASTS TO 2020*. See Page 49.

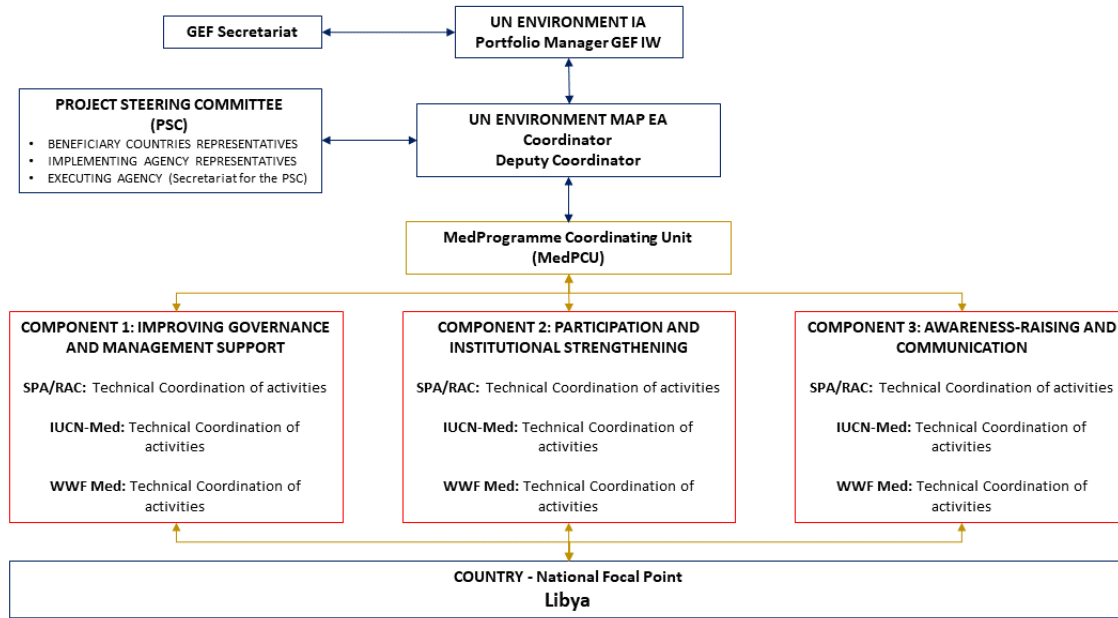


Figure 8 Institutional Arrangements and Coordination Structure of the Child Project 3.1

Implementing Agency (IA): The GEF Units in the Ecosystems Division of UN Environment will serve as Implementing Agency (IA) for Child Project 3.1. The IA will be responsible for overall supervision of the project and will oversee its progress through the monitoring and evaluation of activities and through progress-raising reports. The IA will report on the project implementation progress to the GEF and will take part in the Project Steering Committee (PSC). The IA will provide guidance and oversight of project execution by the Executing Agency (EA) including through the review and approval of work plans, budget allocations and budget revisions proposed by the Executing Agency.

Project Steering Committee (PSC): The PSC will be established and will carry out the function of a Project Board. The PSC will consist of: 1) beneficiary countries, the IA and the Executing Agency (EA) representatives; and 2) the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU) acting as Secretariat for the PSC. These are the Members of the PSC. Countries will be represented at the PSC at a technical, decision making level, e.g. national focal points. Following the model of the PPG MedProgramme Regional Consultation Meetings, the PSC meetings will bring together International Water stakeholders, with parallel technical working sessions combined with plenary discussion and approval of workplans to maximize transparency and joint working across the two Focal Areas.

It is anticipated that to ensure an efficient use of the resources, PSC of different Child Projects of the MedProgramme will be organized back to back. These meetings will dedicate one session to inform the countries about the progress made by the entire MedProgramme followed by several sessions dedicated to specific decisions to be made by the countries for each Child Project.

The Executing Partners (EP) will intervene at the PSC to present the progress made and support the Secretariat for the PSC by providing background information on substantive and technical issues, as well as on modification to the Project Document and its annexes presented to the PSC by the MedPCU. The role of the PSC is to:

- Oversee the project;
- Provide overall guidance and ensure coordination among all parties;
- Provide overall supervision for project implementation;
- Approve the annual work plan and budget;
- Oversee the implementation of corrective actions;

- Enhance synergy between the project and other ongoing initiatives related to the GEF International Waters Focal Area;
- Ensure full coordination of the project with the entire MedProgramme.

Additional stakeholder representatives from private sector, academia, CSOs, NGOs, etc. can be invited to join the PSC during the project execution as observers. At all times, the PSC and its activities will comply with the policies, conditions and regulations of the UN and the GEF.

Executing Agency (EA): The UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (UN Environment/MAP) will serve as the Executing Agency (EA) for the entire project. The EA will report on the project implementation progress to the IA (including those activities executed by the Executing Partners). The EA will organize the PSC and host the MedPCU which will act as Secretariat to the PSC. The EA will be responsible for, inter alia, the following required activities to achieve the project objectives, outputs and outcomes:

- Establishing, hosting and supervising the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU);
- Acting as Secretariat for the Project Steering Committee (PSC);
- Ensuring that the project is executed according to the agreed work plan and budget;
- Review and submit required reporting obligations to the IA, including quarterly expenditure reports and annual Project Implementation report (PIR);
- Ensuring all procurement is done in compliance with Agency standards;
- Communicating with and disseminating information to the Executing Partners (EP) and other stakeholders.

The EA will ensure that all activities, including procurement of goods and services, are carried out in strict compliance with the rules and procedures of UN Environment and GEF. The EA will be responsible for the establishment, adequate staffing and uninterrupted functioning, throughout the project's life span, of the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU).

MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU):

During the project development phase of the Child Projects under the MedProgramme (GEF ID9607), particular attention was given to setting up a MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU). The MedPCU was designed taking into consideration the high complexity of the MedProgramme. The staff under the MedPCU will have to deliver a multitude of cross-cutting functions across the Child Projects of the Programme. Moreover, particular attention was given to cost efficiency by centralizing the overall Programme management into a single cost-cutting unit, thus avoiding duplication of project management units, functions, task and deliverables. This choice will also ensure timely and consistent execution of the Child projects of the MedProgramme, allowing at the same time transfer of lessons learned and cross-fertilization. It is anticipated that the MedPCU will be staffed with the following core positions:

- MedProgramme Coordinator (P4)
- Programme Officer CW (P3)
- Programme Financial Assistant (G5)
- Programme and Administration Assistant (G5)

In addition to this, the MedPCU operations will be supported during specific periods of the lifespan of the Child Project 3.1, by one Gender Specialist, one Knowledge Management Specialist and by a regional expert on biodiversity to be engaged through out-sourced contracts. The proposed organigram for the PCU is:

**MEDPROGRAMME COORDINATING UNIT
(MEDPCU) ORGANIGRAM**

**MedProgramme Child Project 3.1 MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AND EXPANSION OF MARINE
PROTECTED AREAS IN LIBYA**

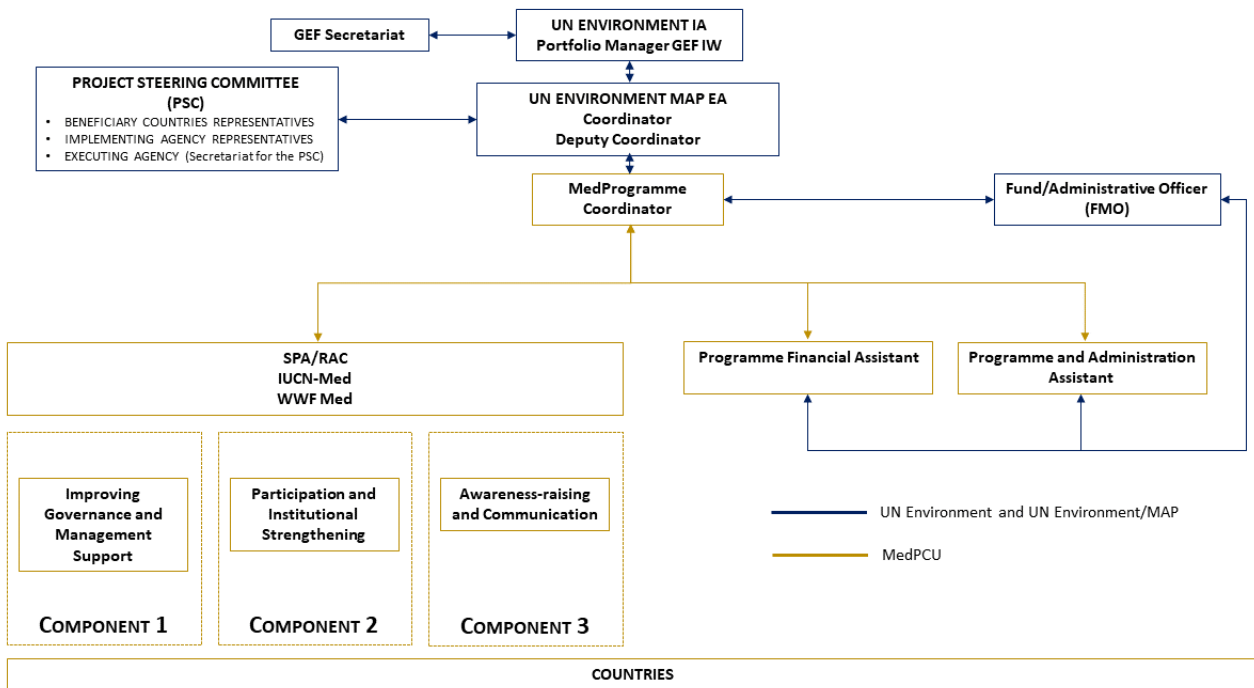


Figure 9 Organigram of the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit

The MedPCU will be established, hosted and supervised by UN Environment/MAP. The MedPCU will ensure coordination across the entire MedProgramme and the consistent execution of the seven Child Projects implemented by UN Environment and executed by UN Environment/MAP, as well as the Child Project implemented by EBRD. In terms of MedProgramme coordination, the MedPCU will provide management functions to the Child Projects implemented by UN Environment and executed by UN Environment/MAP and EBRD.

The Unit will be responsible for, inter alia, the following tasks:

Child Project 3.1 management services:

- Manage the flow of information from the field and produce periodic monitoring reports, namely quarterly financial expenditure reports; annual expenditure forecasts and procurement plans; half-yearly narrative reports of progress including the annual Project Implementation Review;
- Initiate, validate, sign and implement legal instruments with all bilateral partners including executing partners and countries where appropriate;
- Organize travel and payment of DSA for staff and consultants as needed;
- Coordinate and support the project activities of SPA/RAC, IUCN-Med and WWF Med (Component 1, 2 and 3);
- Organize the meetings of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and serve as its Secretariat;
- Ensure the Project governance and oversight of the financial resources from the GEF investment and the co-financing delivered by the Project stakeholders.

Programmatic coordination:

- Ensure that the execution of the entire MedProgramme is aligned and integrated with the priorities of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, its 2016-2021 Mid-Term Strategy and biennial Programmes of Work;
- Ensure that the execution of the MedProgramme Gender and Knowledge Management Strategies is consistent across the entire Programme.
- Establish a mechanism to monitor and evaluate progress towards the objectives of the MedProgramme as a whole.

MedProgramme Visibility:

- Represent the MedProgramme in global events and initiatives.
- Ensure that the Programme Annual Stocktaking Meeting is organized in a coordinated manner to efficiently serve the countries, IA, EA and stakeholders;
- Share the Project achievements, products/outputs with the Project and MedProgramme’s stakeholders;

Technical support (refer to detailed deliverables in Table 8 below):

- Provide staff time and expertise in guiding and advancing the execution of technical activities under the Project;
- Coordinate with administrative and technical staff on drafting and compiling tender documents as needed; advertise tenders where relevant; convene and/or contribute to tender review committees where appropriate;
- Coordinate with administrative and technical staffs on drafting and compiling tender documents as needed; advertise tenders where relevant; convene and/or contribute to tender review committees where appropriate

The cost of the MedPCU will be covered by PMC, cash co-financing provided by the Barcelona Convention and to a minor extent, by the projects budget as detailed in Table 8. The latter will be allocated specifically for Child Project 3.1 to run technical and substantive tasks as described in Table 9 below.

Table 8: Details of the budget allocated for the MedPCU

MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU)		Budget Allocated for the MedPCU US\$		Total US\$
	GEF Grants	PMC ¹	Technical Tasks ²	PMC+Technical Tasks
Child Project 1.1 (GEF ID 9684) ³	14,250,000	677,000	760,000	1,437,000
Child Project 1.2 (GEF ID 9717)	5,000,000	90,000	-	90,000
Child Project 2.1 (GEF ID 9687)	7,000,000	333,000	90,000	423,000
Child Project 2.2 (GEF ID 9685)	3,500,000	166,000	84,000	250,000
Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158)	1,376,147	65,500	58,500	124,000
Child Project 4.1 (GEF ID 9686)	2,500,000	119,000	95,000	214,000
SCCF Project (GEF ID 9670)	1,000,000	80,000	5,000	85,000
Total GEF Grants	33,626,147	1,530,500	1,092,500	2,623,000
Staffing costs as %:		5%	3%	8%

1: Including travel costs of the MedPCU’s staff.

2: Details of the technical tasks executed by the MedPCU’s staff are provided in Table 10 below under the sections A.6 of the GEF CEO Endorsement Request Template

3: Breakdown of the 760,000 allocated for Technical Tasks: 485,000 US\$ from CW grants for the Programme Officer CW and 275,000 US\$ from IW grants for the technical support on TDA of the Med POL Officer.

Table 9: Deliverables and costing of the MedPCU technical support

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ per Person Month (i.e. one month 22 working days)</i>	<i>Tasks to Be Performed / Deliverables</i>	<i>Related workplan activity</i>
PCU Technical support			
Biodiversity			
P4 MedProgramme Coordinator	17,900 per 3 months and 6 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees the technical execution and develop technical products for Child Projects 3.1 • Directs the organization of the MedProgramme’s Annual Stocktaking Meetings, ensuring that the technical contribution of Child Project 3.1 is enriching the meeting as well as aligned with the other Child Projects of the Programme. • Directs review of relevant documents and reports; identifies priorities, problems and issues to be addressed and proposes corrective actions; liaises with relevant parties; identifies and initiates follow-up actions. 	Cross-cutting (all Child Project 3.1 workplan activities)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directs the preparation of Child Project 3.1’s specific technical documents for the organization of the MedProgramme’s Annual Stocktaking Meetings, ensuring that they are organized in a coordinated manner to efficiently serve the Contracting Parties, implementing agencies, executing agencies and stakeholders. ● Directs review of relevant Child Project 3.1’s specific technical documents and reports; identifies priorities, problems and issues to be addressed and proposes corrective actions; liaises with relevant parties; identifies and initiates follow-up actions. ● Contributes to the elaboration of management plans of targeted MPAs ● Contributes to preparation design and production of ad hoc communication material. ● Contributes to the producing materials for awareness raising campaigns for Child Project 3.1 ● Participates in dissemination and awareness raising activities at the regional and global levels campaigns for Child Project 3.1 	
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Execution at National Level: Libya will designate a National Project Focal Point (NPPF) during the inception phase. The NPPF will act as the liaising person between the government, the EA and EP. The NPPF will be fully involved in the selection of the national consultants and experts which will support the execution of activities on ground under Components 1, 2 and 3 of the Project. The NPPF will also facilitate collaboration with other country offices, as well as the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU). Moreover, special attention will be given in all countries to overcoming fragmentation across sectors in decision making related to project’s goals and activities.

Executing Partners (EP): The EP will execute activities of the project that fall within their core areas of expertise. They have been identified among (sub) regional institutions, UN and non-governmental organizations, on the basis of their mandates and broadly recognized roles and comparative advantages of in thematic areas of work relevant to the Project and MedProgramme. Based on these criteria, the EA will establish:

- Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with the MAP Regional Action Center SPA/RAC
- Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med), and
- Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with WWF Mediterranean (WWF-Med).

These arrangements will be established with full consideration of the applicable UN Environment and GEF principles and procedures, including cost-efficiency and effectiveness.

The three EPs will be executing the national activities foreseen under Component 1, 2 and 3 of Child Project 3.1.

Please refer to Annex H - Project Implementation Arrangements for further details on the specific roles and tasks of the MedPCU and the Executing Partners.

A.7 BENEFITS. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS. HOW DO THESE BENEFITS TRANSLATE IN SUPPORTING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF)?

The project will bring about a wealth of benefits at the national and local levels:

- Establishment of a national system of MPA and PA management, which in turns will provide training and job opportunities for local communities and on the national level.
- Managed MPAs can contribute to reversing trends of commercial species population decline where overfishing cause stocks to be dominated by immature fish. Healthier fish stocks inside the three MPAs due to reduced fishing pressure, may result in spillover of adult fish into adjacent fishing grounds. Both can benefit the local fishing sector and compensate, for restrictions imposed on fishing or reduction of fishing opportunities due to the designation of the three MPAs.

- The project sites (3 MPAs) also can contribute to establishment of selected recreational fishing and diving tourism in the three sites of the project, which can also reflect on local and national economy.
- Improved health and sustainability of coastal habitats (sand dunes, rocky shores, wetlands, coastal lagoons, sea grasses, etc.) and of living marine and freshwater resources;
- More sustainable tourism and of other socio-economic activities through the introduction of alternative livelihoods for local fishermen and farmers. Such as organic farming products (Organic Honey, Olive oil, vegetables and fruits) as well as increase the revival of traditional food selling, traditional handicrafts of the areas near MPAs, and introduce fishermen and hunters to ecotourism activities, including tour operations, diving boats and seabird watching for local and international tourists.
- Improved gender equality by mainstreaming gender consideration in Libyan MPA's policies and practices.
- Strengthening the partnership between the UN Environment/MAP, project partners, Libyan Government departments and Libyan non-governmental organizations in working together for conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity of Libya
- The three MPAs will contribute to mitigation of climate change via their extensive sea grass meadows, which act as carbon sinks in the marine and coastal environment.

These national or local benefits will all be derived through actions also aimed at accruing global benefits in line with the provisions of the GEF Instrument. Global benefits will relate to (i) restored integrity of a globally significant biodiversity in central Mediterranean countries through multi-country cooperative actions; (ii) more effective protection of globally significant coastal ecosystem goods and services through enhanced transboundary cooperation.

A.8 KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT. ELABORATE ON THE KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR THE PROJECT, INCLUDING, IF ANY, PLANS FOR THE PROJECT TO LEARN FROM OTHER RELEVANT PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES (E.G. PARTICIPATE IN TRAININGS, CONFERENCES, STAKEHOLDER EXCHANGES, VIRTUAL NETWORKS, PROJECT TWINNING) AND PLANS FOR THE PROJECT TO ASSESS AND DOCUMENT IN A USER-FRIENDLY FORM (E.G. LESSONS LEARNED BRIEFS, ENGAGING WEBSITES, GUIDEBOOKS BASED ON EXPERIENCE) AND SHARE THESE EXPERIENCES AND EXPERTISE (E.G. PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY OF PRACTICES, ORGANIZE SEMINARS, TRAININGS AND CONFERENCES) WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS.

Child Project 3.1 will be managed under the umbrella of the MedProgramme, which is composed of eight Child Projects addressing the GEF focal areas of International Waters, Chemicals and Waste, and Biodiversity. Effective knowledge management (KM) is a core leveraging mechanism of the MedProgramme to achieve up-scaling of approaches, policies and technologies promoted by the Programme at multiple scales. The Knowledge Management Strategy (Annex P) will be implemented under Child Project 4.1 and will support the KM activities of all Child Projects, maximizing their effectiveness in providing opportunities for south-south learning, fostering intergovernmental cooperation, using monitoring and evaluation (M&E) tools and geospatial services, applying best practices and developing portfolio-wide training and communication strategies.

A centralized system coordinated by the MedProgramme Coordination Unit (MedPCU) is designed to capture, digest and share the vast amount of information and knowledge generated across the MedProgramme portfolio with its intended audiences and stakeholders. Each Child Project participates in the common knowledge management (KM) strategy in order to maximize efficiency, ensure good governance of the portfolio and achieve greater impact at the different functional levels identified (portfolio level, general public level and policy- and decision-making level).

The full KM Strategy of the MedProgramme is annexed to each Child Project document for transparency and ease of reference.

While specific needs related to the diverse outputs of the individual projects will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis, all Child Projects are expected to contribute to the overall MedProgramme KM activities as described in the following text (included in the project documents of each of the Child Projects).

KM Platform

A web-based knowledge hub comprised of a data and information management system (with both public and restricted access) and a combination of visualization tools to serve the portfolio's needs will be implemented by the MedPCU in close consultation with all Child Projects. The integrated platform will host: (1) a project management/coordination tool; (2) a public portal including sub-webpages for each Child Project; (3) visualization tool(s) to display digitized representation of data through GIS and other suitable means; and (4) a database for raw/primary data.

1. Child Projects are expected to contribute to each of these components as follows:
Upon initiation of the MedProgramme, every Child Project will receive specific training on how to use the project management tool selected by the MedPCU. Features powered by this tool include (but are not limited to): automated reporting, task monitoring, calendars, live editing, Gantt-Charts, time tracking, encrypted security, backups, file management and cloud repository, integration with other products, role-based access control, mobile apps, email integrations, and discussion boards. Project managers (and designated project collaborators) are expected to use the tool to facilitate communication and information exchange throughout the MedProgramme, promote knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer learning, ensure tracking and monitoring of progress, and meet their reporting requirements for the MedPCU.
2. The outward-facing portal will be populated with key information showcasing progress towards impact and the contribution of the MedProgramme to global and regional environmental goals. In addition to the umbrella portal, each Child Project will have dedicated sub-pages for their specific projects. The Child Projects are expected to provide regular information (in different multimedia formats) to generate content for their respective project sub-pages and the overall programme portal. The MedPCU will be responsible for curating the information provided and packaging them for the intended audiences.
3. One or more visualization tools will be used to display information generated by each project. Different types of data (be them quantitative, normative or qualitative) are best visualized through a variety of ways, such as GIS, story maps, map dashboards, infographics, trend line charts, etc. Child Projects will be prompted to submit their inputs on a rolling basis to make sure that every result/achievement is captured through one or more of these tools.
4. A shared data model/protocol will be agreed at the beginning of the MedProgramme to ensure that projects will compile relevant data with a standardized approach and enable a harmonized data entry system. Issues related to open data, ownership, quality and review of data will be addressed in this exercise; a mapping of voluntary standards will help to evaluate feasible options. Raw/primary data will be stored in a database with flexible restricted/public access.

Milestone Events

Annual Stocktaking Meetings

All project partners are expected to attend, and meaningfully participate in, the Annual Stocktaking Meetings of the MedProgramme. These are major regional events organized by the MedPCU in cooperation with all Child Projects and country representatives and will take place on a rotation basis in different project countries. The meeting will involve: all Child Projects and Governments of the participating countries, the MedProgramme's implementing and executing agencies, the GEF Secretariat and Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE), Convention Secretariats, the UN Environment Global Programme of Action (GPA), as well as major regional and global NGOs, representatives of those Mediterranean countries not participating in the MedProgramme, bilateral and multi-lateral donors, IFIs, the UfM, other regional intergovernmental organizations (Sahara and Sahel Observatory, etc.), and major private sector coastal area actors, water users, tourism associations and the shipping industry. Representatives of faith-based leaders, women's organizations, youth organizations, fashion/art/sport testimonials, media specialists, among other relevant groups will also be invited to participate in these events, following a dedicated stakeholders' analysis.

These meetings aim to establish synergistic interactions among Child Projects, and with other relevant initiatives and stakeholders, including with all other Mediterranean countries not participating in the MedProgramme. The Annual Stocktaking Meetings will provide an opportunity to all Child Projects to showcase their implementation advancement, progress towards impacts and problems encountered, and to engage with a broad audience of peers and stakeholders sharing similar objectives within the overarching goal of achieving environmental security in the Mediterranean Basin. The Annual Stocktaking Meetings will be an occasion for face-to-face knowledge exchanges, south-south and north-south learning, and promotion of the broader adoption of MedProgramme approaches and solutions. The participation of regional and global media will raise public awareness across the Mediterranean countries and beyond. The design,

objectives and architecture of the Annual Stocktaking Meetings will be defined during the first year of MedProgramme operation and approved at the Child Project 4.1 Steering Committee level.

Child Projects will be informed about modalities for their contributions in detail. The first Annual Stocktaking Meeting will be held during the second year of the MedProgramme execution.

GEF events

The MedProgramme will be featured in all relevant GEF events and activities involving the four focal areas addressed by the Programme (International Waters, Chemical and Waste, Biodiversity and Climate Change). For the IW focal area see “Synergies with IW:LEARN”.

Global events

Experiences and lessons learned from the MedProgramme will be of relevance in a number of global processes, shaping policies related to the sustainable management of natural resources in coastal areas. Participation in selected global and regional events, as well as in significant ongoing awareness raising campaigns, will be evaluated by the MedPCU according to relevance and impact criteria. Child Projects will contribute to these events in different forms, ranging from physical attendance, production of specific products, content and multimedia material to be packaged in suitable products.

Launching/Closing events of the MedProgramme

The design and practical details of these events will be planned during the inception phase of the MedProgramme. Considering the staggered initiation timeframes of the different Child Projects, a launching event of the MedProgramme could be organized in the form of a press conference to coincide with the kick-off of the Support Child Project 4.1. Basic communications material about the objectives of the MedProgramme (such as visual identity, slogan, mission statement, description of Child Projects, informative brochure, short promo video, basic online pages, etc.) should be prepared prior to the launching event. Project managers will be informed in a timely manner about practical details of these events and modalities for contribution.

Sharing knowledge and building capacity

One of the objectives of the MedProgramme is to improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders and build socio-economic resilience of impacted communities. To this end, a series of knowledge exchanges will take place at different levels taking inspiration and practical lessons learned from the GEF Partnership (reflecting the wealth of experience and examples from projects and programmes around the world) and other relevant Organizations involved.

At the portfolio level, the MedPCU will capacitate Child Project teams with knowledge and training that can help them to deliver better project results and achieve greater impact. The identification of topics and modalities of exchange (face-to-face, virtual meetings, Communities of Practice, Expert visits, Study Tours, manuals, among others) will be defined at the beginning of the Programme implementation. Preliminary topics could include:

1. Gender mainstreaming and stakeholders’ engagement;
2. Scientific communication: bridging the gap between scientists/technical practitioners and media specialists;
3. Lessons learned from the MedPartnership and the ClimVar and ICZM projects.

It is expected that these knowledge exchanges will further empower project stakeholders, enhance cooperation, strengthen the institutions they represent and ultimately influence policies and norms for better management of natural resources in coastal areas.

Additionally, Child Projects will participate in learning exchanges by twinning with other relevant GEF IW projects as facilitated by the GEF IW:LEARN Project (see more below).

Moreover, the MedPCU will support specific capacity building activities foreseen by each Child Project by taking stock and amplifying results through the programme-wide outreach.

Communication, outreach and awareness raising

MedProgramme identity

In terms of visibility, the MedProgramme will be presented in a holistic and coherent way (i.e. clear vision statement and positioning, visual identity, logo design, etc.) showing consistency and integration across the portfolio. At the same time, each Child Project will be granted individual identities within the overall MedProgramme-branding in order to promote specific activities and benefit from ad hoc services. This will entail the design of consistent logos for each Child Project, creation of sub-websites within the MedProgramme web-portal, organization of tailor-made trainings, preparation of specific publications, social media services, among others. To this end, the MedPCU will develop, in close consultation with project managers of all Child Projects, a proposal and, once adopted, all Child Projects are encouraged to use it consistently.

Newsletters (Med Bulletin)

Periodic MedProgramme Bulletins will be published (every six months or on a quarterly basis) to showcase progress of the Programme as a whole and of individual Child Projects, including highlights of results, success stories and project events, and relevant global, regional and national relevant meetings and events. It will be one of the primary tools for tracking the achievement of targets and milestones for all Child Projects, based on the corresponding results frameworks. Bulletins will feature a “journalistic” style making the content appealing for a wide range of audiences. Therefore, all Child Projects are expected to contribute to these Bulletins with different types of inputs in order to document their activities and progress, such as high-quality pictures, articles, statistics, quotes, interviews, footage, among others. The MedPCU will inform all Child Projects about the format of these bulletins and the corresponding timelines for submission.

Storytelling for advocacy

A number of traditional storytelling instruments will be blended with innovative and creative approaches to increase dissemination and advocacy efforts. Particular emphasis will be given to the preparation of high-quality short movies and animations, graphic novels, documentaries, podcasts/radio programmes, infographics, digital interactive stories/articles/interviews, microblogging, e-books, art exhibits, among others. The MedPCU will inform Child Projects about the type of multimedia material that will be necessary to collect for the preparation of these products.

Translations of key communications outputs will be carried out in English, French and Arabic to ensure ample dissemination in the participating countries. Specific translations in other national languages will be considered in light of budget constraints and upon due evaluation of stakeholders’ needs.

Social Media

Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter are four social media tools suggested for use by the MedProgramme. Development of timely and appropriate content and material to populate these channels is indispensable to achieve the desired impact. Child Projects will be prompted to contribute with relevant and ad-hoc information, pictures, statistics and other data to enrich the social media campaign. The use of hashtags will be coordinated with the GEF IAs and EAs and project and country representatives of the Programme in support also of other related initiatives and campaigns. The registration on the above-mentioned channels (or a selection of them) will take place at the beginning of the Programme and content population will start as soon as data and information from the projects becomes available.

Engagement with media and testimonials

To maximize impact of the MedProgramme and share its findings and results with the widest possible audience, the MedPCU aims to reach out to a different number of media outlets and journalists with a view to establish long-lasting collaborations. To this end, Child Projects will be asked to facilitate contacts with national and local media of the countries where the activities are implemented (for instance, by providing the MedPCU with a list of relevant contacts).

A series of direct interactions with communications specialists, media experts and social media influencers is foreseen by the KM Strategy throughout the duration of the Programme to increase mutual understanding and flow of information.

The MedPCU also aims to reach out to renowned personalities from different realms (such as art, sports, entertainment or fashion) to act as ambassadors for the MedProgramme and raise awareness about the main environmental challenges (and solutions) in the coastal areas of the Mediterranean. The Child Projects will be prompted to suggest names, and facilitate contacts when possible, of suitable and potential “goodwill ambassadors” of relevance in the region.

Synergies with the GEF IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN Projects

The MedProgramme will closely collaborate with the GEF International Waters Learning and Resource Exchange Network (IW:LEARN) Project to facilitate uptake of lessons learned and knowledge exchange from/to the MedProgramme portfolio. Cooperation in the following activities will be particularly addressed:

- Participation to the GEF International Waters Conferences (landmark biannual events of the IW portfolio). The first MedProgramme contribution is expected for the 10th edition of the IWC in 2020.
- Production of Experience Notes (short case studies) produced by Child Projects to showcase worthy results and disseminated through IW:LEARN channels and the MedProgramme KM platform. The format of Experience Notes is standard (<https://iwlearn.net/documents/experience-notes>).
- Participation to IW:LEARN Twinning with other GEF relevant projects and programmes.
- Contribution to IW:LEARN.net with specific content (i.e. data visualization).
- Contribution to social media, news, events, etc.
- Participation to GEF Communities of Practice (CoPs) on IW, CW, when relevant.

Strengthening the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) and Influencing Decision-Making

Replication Atlases

A number of highly informative National Replication Atlases, translated in relevant languages, will be produced to stimulate replication of successful practices demonstrated by the Programme and encourage regional and global dialogue. Broader adoption and replication of the successful policies, practices and technologies implemented under the Programme will be promoted through these means, highlighting areas and situations where replication of the Programme's demonstrations should preferentially occur.

Relevant results of Child Projects will be featured in the Atlases and the MedPCU will inform about the participatory process to collect and present the inputs.

Technical reports and scientific publications

The MedPCU will ensure that relevant scientific reports and scientific peer-reviewed publications are prepared by the various Child Projects providing technical information about the achievements of the Programme.

Specific guidance on how to contribute (format, frequency, purpose, etc.) to each of the aforementioned activities will be provided during the initial phase of the Programme as a result of targeted consultations carried out by the MedPCU.

Specific synergies with Child Project 3.1 regarding knowledge management

The portfolio-wide architecture developed for the KM of the MedProgramme will support the activities of Child Project 3.1 with the aim of amplifying the project results and maximizing their impact at all functional levels identified (internal, corporate and external).

As the Child Project 3.1 will produce an inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya, monitoring networks and programmes as well as other data needed for the elaboration of MPA management plans, this information could be featured using GIS-based and other types of visualization tools in the MedProgramme KM online platform and also "digested" and packaged in different outreach products. The most suitable instruments to visualize project results and different types of quantitative and qualitative data (which include but are not limited to the number of hectares of landscapes and seascapes under improved management; number of persons involved in awareness raising activities; etc.).

Child Project 3.1 includes activities dedicated to stakeholder engagement, capacity building, awareness-raising and communication. These activities will take full advantage of the related tools foreseen in the KM Strategy, including the KM platform, the sub-website that will be developed for Child Project 3.1, the MedProgramme Bulletin, the Annual Stocktaking Meetings, social media tools for the MedProgramme, and networks established with the media, amongst others. Preliminarily, the following activities will be coordinated with, and benefit from, the overall KM Strategy:

- Activity 1.2.2: Conduct at least a field survey to identify and characterize sites of conservation interest in Libya through rapid assessment.
- Activity 1.2.4: Initiate a monitoring programme for the conservation of marine megafauna and key habitats in the identified sites.
- Activity 1.3.1: Update of ecological and socio-economical surveys for the selected MPAs.
- Activities under Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.
- Activity 3.1.1: Produce an Intranet/Internet site and on-line magazine to create a shared vision and disseminate the project's progress and lessons learned.
- Activity 3.1.2: Design, produce an ad hoc communication material (leaflets, brochures, banners and posters, etc.) for selected audiences and share lessons learned products.
- Activity 3.1.3: Develop awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision makers and particularly youth; Develop and share communication tools/campaigns/initiatives and produce lessons learned products.
- Activity 3.1.4: Planning of an ad hoc audiovisual campaign for wide media dissemination.

B. CONSISTENCY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

B.1 CONSISTENCY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS SUCH AS NAPAS, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCS, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURS, INDCs, ETC.:

The project will adhere to the priorities set forth by the State of Libya in its National strategies and action plans for the implementation of the provisions of the Barcelona Convention and the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean and will implement SAP-BIO and NAP priority actions. It will also support Libya in its contributions to the Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean. A synopsis of the priorities and gaps related to protection and conservation of marine biodiversity in Libya is provided in section 2B) Baseline Scenario.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN:

Project execution performance will be monitored through the following standard GEF M&E activities. The associated M&E budget and work plan is provided in Annex G-M&E Budget and Work Plan.

Project start:

A Project Inception Workshop will be held within the first 8 months of project start, with participation of those with assigned roles in the project organization structure. The Inception Workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the annual work plans for the first 2 project years. It is anticipated that the Inception Workshop will also be the de facto first meeting of the Project Steering Committee.

The Inception Workshop will address a number of key issues including:

1. Assisting all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project. Detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UN Environment, MAP and MedPCU staff vis à vis the project team. Discuss the roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms.
2. Based on the Project Results Framework and the International Waters GEF Tracking Tool, the Annual Work Plans for the first two years will be finalized. Indicators, targets and their means of verification will be reviewed, revised (as needed) and agreed, and assumptions and risks will be re-checked.
3. A detailed overview of reporting, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements will be provided. The Monitoring and Evaluation work plan budget will be agreed and scheduled.
4. Financial reporting procedures and obligations will be discussed.

Project governance meetings will be planned and scheduled, and the overall project governance mechanisms will be reviewed and further fine-tuned, giving particular attention to cost-efficiency, enhanced stakeholder ownership, and the continuity of efforts towards SAP implementation beyond the project life span. Roles and responsibilities of all project organization structures will be clarified, and a meeting/reporting calendar will be elaborated.

Together with the GEF approved Project Document, the Inception Workshop Report will constitute a key reference document for the Project and will be prepared and shared with participants to clarify and formalize various agreements and plans decided during the meeting.

Annually:

1. Annual Project Review/Project Implementation Report (APR/PIR): This key report is prepared to monitor progress made since project start and in particular for the previous reporting period (1 July to 30 June). The APR/PIR combines both UN Environment and GEF reporting requirements.

The APR/PIR includes, but is not limited to, reporting on the following:

- Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes - each with indicators, baseline data and end-of-project targets (cumulative);
- Project outputs delivered per project outcome (annual);
- Lesson learned/good practice;
- Annual Work Programme (AWP) and other expenditure reports;
- Risk and adaptive management; and
- GEF International Waters Tracking Tool indicators.

Mid-term of project cycle:

In-line with UN Environment Evaluation Policy and the GEF's Monitoring and Evaluation Policy the project will be subject to a Terminal Evaluation and, additionally, a Mid-Term Review will be commissioned and launched by the Project Manager before the project reaches its mid-point. Based on the conclusion of the Mid-Term Review, the Evaluation Office will determine, whether an independent Mid Term Evaluation (MTE) is required at the mid-point of project implementation. If the decision is to proceed with an independent Mid-Term Evaluation, this will assess the progress made toward the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; it will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions, and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the Mid-Term Evaluation will be decided after consultation between the parties. The Terms of Reference for this Mid-Term Evaluation will be prepared by UN Environment

Information in the GEF International Waters Tracking Tool will also be updated during the mid-term evaluation cycle.

End of Project:

The Evaluation Office will be responsible for the Terminal Evaluation (TE) and will liaise with the Task Manager and Executing Agency(ies) throughout the process. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UN Environment, the GEF, executing partners and other stakeholders. The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget. The Terminal Evaluation will be initiated no earlier than six months prior to the operational completion of project activities and, if a follow-on phase of the project is envisaged, should be completed prior to the submission of the follow-on proposal. Terminal Evaluations must be initiated no later than six months after operational completion.

The draft TE report will be sent by the Evaluation Office to project stakeholders for comment. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. The project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six-point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the report is finalized and further reviewed by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office upon submission. The evaluation report will be publicly disclosed and may be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY(IES)

A. GEF Agency(ies) certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies³¹ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address

³¹ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT

LIST OF ANNEXES CHILD PROJECT 3.1

- Annex A Project Results Framework CP3.1
- Annex B GEF Secretariat Review Sheet CP3.1
- Annex C status of implementation of PPG CP3.1
- Annex D calendar of expected reflows CP3.1
- Annex E Consultants to be hired CP3.1
- Annex F1 Detailed GEF budget template CP3.1
- Annex F2 Detailed GEF co-financing template CP3.1
- Annex G M&E Plan and Budget CP3.1
- Annex H Project Implementation Arrangements CP3.1
- Annex I Key Deliverables and Benchmarks CP3.1
- Annex J Figures Tables and Text Boxes for the GEF CEO ER CP3.1
- Annex K OFP Endorsement Letter MedProgramme
- Annex L1 CO-FINANCING COMMITMENT LETTERS FROM PROJECT PARTNERS CP3.1
- Annex L2 CO-FINANCING COMMITMENT LETTERS FROM COUNTRIES CP3.1
- Annex M ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS CP 3.1
- Annex N Project Implementation Timetable CP3.1
- Annex O Gender Assessment and Action Plan CP3.1•
- Annex P MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy
- Annex Q MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming Strategy
- Annex R Complete list of Stakeholders for CP3.1
- Annex S Reports of the stakeholder consultations for CP 3.1

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

MEDITERRANEAN SEA PROGRAMME: ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY					
MedProgramme Objective	To accelerate the implementation of agreed upon priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations				
MedProgramme Component 3 - Protecting Marine Biodiversity					
Child Project 3.1: Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Libya					
Project Objective	Objective level Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Targets	Means of Verification	Assumptions & Risks
Expanding seascapes under protection and improving protected area management.	Number of additional hectares of marine protected areas in Libya.	Two existing MPAs in Libya cover an area of 31,324 hectares. Neither of the MPAs is endowed with on-site management units or sustainable management plans.	At least 2,500 additional hectares of marine areas under protection in Libya ¹ .	At least one (1) MPA in Libya is endowed with a management plan. At least one (1) MPA under sustainable management scheme.	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation.
<u>Component 1: Improving Governance and Management Support</u>					
Outcome 1	Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Targets and Monitoring Milestones	Means of Verification	Assumptions & Risks
Protection of marine biodiversity in Libya's Marine Protected Areas is enhanced through the development of an MPA governance structure at the national level and	1.1 Existence of a national level governance structure for MPAs, including provisions for on-site management units.	No governance structure for MPAs exists in Libya.	The National Strategy on MPAs in Libya is considered by the government for approval. The law on protected areas is considered by the	The National Strategy on MPAs in Libya and the law on protected areas are approved by key stakeholders	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation and

¹ While the approved target for the project is 2,500 hectares, it is anticipated that the interventions will succeed in improving the management of marine protected areas in Libya covering a total of 33,824 hectares (the Farwa Lagoon and its facing Farwa Island [4,766 hectares]; the coastal lagoon of Ain Al-Ghazala and its facing Elba Island, Gulf of Bumbah and its four small islands [26,558 hectares]; and the coastal and marine extension of El Kouf National Park [2,500 hectares]).

supported through new on-site management units, sustainable management plans and monitoring programmes and networks.			government for approval.	and submitted for consideration by competent authorities. MPA governance structures submitted to the competent authorities for official approval.	unrest.
	1.2 Number of additional marine protected areas in Libya having management plans.	Ecological and socio-economic surveys exist for the two existing MPAs in Libya (Ain Al-Ghazala (2012) and El Kouf marine area (2013)), but no MPA management plans exist. No fisheries (coastal fish stock) baseline available.	At least one (1) MPA endowed with a management plan in Libya.	Management plan developed and submitted for approval by the competent authorities.	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation.
	1.3 Number of MPAs that developed strategies to strengthen the sustainability and effectiveness of the MPAs.	None of the existing MPAs in Libya are under a sustainable management scheme. No site level management units exist for MPAs, but there are local offices of the Environment General Authority (EGA) and the Marine Biology Research Centre (MBRC).	At least one (1) MPA under sustainable management scheme.	Management plan developed and submitted for approval by the competent authorities. Legal text setting up the on-site MPA management unit submitted to the competent authorities for official approval.	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation.
	1.4 Number of sites covered by marine megafauna monitoring programmes.	No sites currently monitored for marine megafauna.	At least two (2) sites covered by marine megafauna monitoring programmes.	A field survey report and national workshop on the inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya.	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation.
	1.5 Number of monitoring networks of marine key habitats.	No monitoring networks of marine key habits currently exist. However, 24 marine and coastal sites of conservation interest were preliminarily established in 2012.	At least two (2) monitoring networks for marine key habitats established.	The inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and the draft	

				monitoring programmes submitted for approval by competent authorities.	
Component 2: Participation and Institutional Strengthening					
Outcome 2	Outcome indicator	Baseline	Targets	Means of verification	Assumptions
The governance and sustainable management of MPAs is reinforced through the increased participation of Libyan stakeholders and strengthening of institutional capacities on MPA management and related monitoring activities.	2.1 Number of training sessions for Libyan nationals (reflecting gender balance) on MPA networks planning and management, marine key habitats mapping and marine megafauna monitoring.	Three national trainings organized within the MedPartnership (GIS, socio-economic assessment, and stakeholder involvement). There is existing capacity in scientific institutions especially on fisheries, and low capacity on legal, governance and management issues in government authorities. There is no capacity in government institutions to manage or engage in stakeholder planning processes. There is limited capacity of local EGA and MBRC personnel to manage MPAs, engage stakeholders, and resolve conflicts. There are four environmental conservation NGOs involved in protected areas development in Libya.	At least five (5) training sessions for Libyan nationals (reflecting gender balance) on MPA governance, knowledge, sustainable management, stakeholder engagement and gender dimensions of MPA management.	CSO participatory platform organized. Collaboration agreements between CSOs and conservation authorities established. Training sessions developed. Participation certificates issued.	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation.
Component 3: Awareness-raising and Communication					
Outcome 3	Outcome indicator	Baseline	Targets	Means of verification	Assumptions
Awareness of the value and importance of MPAs is raised at the national level, as a further means of strengthening MPA governance and management.	3.1 Number of awareness raising and communication campaigns implemented.	Awareness of the value and importance of MPAs is very low. Only a few environmental activists have locally implemented awareness and communication campaigns.	At least four (4) awareness raising and communication campaigns targeting the general public, fisheries, tourism, coastal management and urbanization sectors.	Awareness raising and communication campaigns developed.	A: The political situation in Libya allows to implement the activities. R: Political stagnation.

ANNEX B: GEF SECRETARIAT REVIEW SHEET

No specific comments and the activities, outputs and outcome of Child Project 3.1 were made by the STAP or the council at PFD stage. For ease reference the following table reports the comments made by the STAP on the activities, outputs and outcomes of the entire MedProgramme and the feedback provided by the Programme.

Comments of STAP and Council at PFD stage and answers provided by the MedProgramme.

Comment received	Response at CEO Endorsement
PFD Review Sheet	
The majority of comments received in the Review Sheet for the PFD were all addressed at that time and were recorded as 'Addressed' in the Review Sheet. Some comments that remained are summarized below:	
Please change the submission in the country section, where it is noted to be a GLOBAL project. The project is regional, with participating countries having included endorsement letters.	Done in the portal submission.
In regard to chemicals and waste, please provide a description of the baseline projects in relation to PCBs and POPs chemicals	Please refer to the National Baseline tables and Baseline sections in the CEO Endorsement Request
A detailed M&E plan should be presented at the time of CEO endorsement.	Please refer to Section C of the CEO Endorsement Request and budget.
STAP Review	
The need for the proposed Programme is understood by STAP to be a demand for a coordinating mechanism for the implementation of actions identified through the MedPartnership project.	The actions that will be addressed in the MedProgramme were defined by the Countries after a long and complex participatory TDA-SAP process leading to the National Action Plans where all the major stakeholders at national level were involved along with the major decision makers and political institutions. The MedPartnership was instrumental in supporting the final phase of this process in order to ensure that the NAPs were developed by the countries in a coordinated and efficient sound manner.
The updating of the TDA proposed in Child Project 1.1 should not be permitted to distract from the implementation of the two agreed SAPs and various NAPs.	It will not, activities which address the SAPs and NAPs will be mainly implemented under CP1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.1. The CP 1.1 will work on POP and Hg, moreover it will ensure to put in place all the diagnostic tools that can help us to measure the progress to impact; being the updated TDA one of those.
It is not clear from the PFD that the child projects proposed have been designed in a participatory manner with national and local stakeholders, particularly with civil society representatives and community groups. The PFD still reads as largely a top-down document and proponents need to address this deficit, regarding roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of stakeholders especially at sub-national level.	As stated in the STAP "the Programme followed the successful implementation of the MedPartnership". The MedProgramme has been developed by request of the countries and with an approach that considers all the major stakeholders who will be instrumental to the implementation of the proposed activities. For example, for the investment component, both EIB and EBRD, will use the NAPs which has been endorsed at national level with a bottom-up approach involving a wide number of stakeholders at national and local level. The same applies to the conjunctive surface and groundwater management which will be implemented in those countries that recognized its importance through processes which involved (under the MedPartnership) the main stakeholders.
It is not clear from the PFD that the child projects proposed have been designed in a participatory manner with national and local stakeholders, particularly with civil society representatives and community groups. The PFD still reads as largely a top-down document and proponents need to address this deficit, regarding roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of stakeholders especially	As stated in the STAP "the Programme followed the successful implementation of the MedPartnership". The MedProgramme has been developed by request of the countries and with an approach that considers all the major stakeholders who will be instrumental to the implementation of the proposed activities. For example, for

at sub-national level.	the investment component, both EIB and EBRD, will use the NAPs which has been endorsed at national level with a bottom-up approach involving a wide number of stakeholders at national and local level. The same applies to the conjunctive surface and groundwater management which will be implemented in those countries that recognized its importance through processes which involved (under the MedPartnership) the main stakeholders.
Therefore, the entire Programme design should provide for sufficient flexibility and appropriate adaptive management strategies to counteract political instability and continuously changing circumstances of the countries in the Mediterranean region	The adaptive management strategy at the MedProgramme level relies on one major tool, the Annual Stocktaking Meetings, part of CP 4.1 (output 2.2). Through these major meetings all issues of concern related to changes in political will or instability in the recipient countries will become manifest and allow for timely adaptive management responses at both the Child Project and at the Program levels.
During the further preparation of the Programme and its individual projects, STAP strongly recommends using a common analytical approach using scenarios to explore possible futures and identify specific intervention points for most impactful programme/project interventions.	Done. In the selection of the many hot spots addressed by MedProgramme, a homogeneous approach has been adopted including future scenarios, whenever necessary.
Ecosystem-based adaptation solutions could be explored.	Done. Nature based solutions, and circular economy approaches inform a number of CPs, in Particular CP 1.2 and 2.1.
Recognizing the current regional security context, STAP recommends developing further cooperative and transboundary infrastructure to protect human security of refugees and migrants by e.g., supporting livelihoods diversification among human traffickers.	The implementing and executing partners of the MedProgramme fully recognize such much needed actions, however based on discussion with the GEF Secretariat during the development phase such kind of actions do not seem to be under GEF mandate. Nevertheless, we believe that by increasing environmental security, the MedProgramme will indirectly strive improve the conditions of migrants, and regional stability.
Many of the Programme interventions are best described in the framework of the Source to Sea concept. Programme proponents are advised to consult the recently released Source to Sea conceptual framework to consolidate and design further often loosely connected activities of the Programme (available at: http://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/conceptual-framework-governing-and-managing-key-flows-source-sea-continuum).	The source to sea conceptual framework, coupled with the GPA guidelines, has clearly inspired the MedProgramme design, which builds on the 40 years' experience, data, information and country ownership produced by the Barcelona Convention.
A priority not dealt with in Component 4 is provision of support to participating countries to incentivize application of IMAP to policy reform or implementation.	The IMAP has been endorsed by the Contracting Parties to the BC in February 2016. All the countries made provision for its implementation at national level. The intention of the MedProgramme is to support and coordinate part of this process at regional level. This will happen especially under CP1.1. Moreover, CP4.1 will implement a KM Strategy which on top of bring benefit to the Programme is also helping the countries to manage the data and information produced by the child project and transfer them, as needed, to the Barcelona Convention IMAP process.
The PFD does not provide substantive evidence of ownership (the word is missing from the entire document), beyond the formal country endorsements, and as is the case with regional projects in general, an emphasis on the demand side needs to be more fully demonstrated, especially for the proposed child projects.	On the contrary, the Programme builds on over 20 years of GEF IW involvement in supporting the TDA-SAP-NAPs process, and on the actions of the Barcelona Convention and of its Regional Activities Centres. This has ensured a level of country ownership rarely achieved in previous efforts globally.
There should also be consideration of potential non industrial sources of POPs and other toxic chemicals and seeking out of the	The Chemicals and Waste component addresses non-industrial use of PFOS by firefighting services, in line with

potential role of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques to minimize use of pesticides in agriculture, horticulture, general pest control, vector control, structural preservation treatments and others.	the priorities expressed by countries in their NIPs. Country NIPs do not prioritize
Where there are data gaps as relates to chemicals pollution, there should be careful retention of such data in the course of implementing this project, as well as key lessons learned in the course of implementation of methods to curtail chemicals pollution from various sources, including the impacts of climate change and variability on the concentration and behavior of harmful chemicals.	The Child Project 1.1 includes data compilation using a GIS platform on waste inventories and for tracking of disposal progress. It also proposes collection of data on gender aspects of exposure to these waste sites. Finally, it will produce lessons learnt on prevention of new POPs and mercury. Through the links with Child Project 4.1 these knowledge products will be retained systematically in the wider KM systems and made available for stakeholders.
GEF Council	
Germany on OUTCOME 1: Reduction of land-based pollution in priority coastal hotspots and measuring progress to impacts. Germany suggests expanding the suggested focus on chemicals pollution (in particular POPS, PAHs, and mercury) to include also non-industrial sources of POPs of high relevance. Furthermore, a more detailed analysis for each country (how effective support and coordination will be reached) is recommended for better monitoring and evaluation purposes.	The reduction of land Bases Sources of pollution (LBS) and measuring of progress to impact in the Mediterranean Sea is based on a 15 years cycle stated with the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, followed by the preparation and endorsement by the countries of the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for LBS (SAP-MED) and for Biodiversity (SAP-BIO). The implementation of the two SAPs led to the definition of national Action Plans were the hotspots of intervention in terms of LBS are clearly indicated and agreed upon by the countries. Unfortunately, this process did not include the tracking, monitoring and identification for POPs, PAHs and Mercury. , Nevertheless, the Child Project 1.1 (GEF ID 9684) of the MedProgramme addresses non-industrial use of PFOS by firefighting services, in line with the priorities expressed by countries in their NIPs. Country NIPs do not prioritize. Moreover, the work done by the Barcelona Convention on defining stocks of POPs and Hg in the Mediterranean countries, together with the further development of this information under the MedProgramme will allow a huge step forward in the region to support the countries in their effort of addressing this issue.
Germany on OUTCOME 4: Germany welcomes the promotion of an integrated coastal zone management (ICZM). Participatory management, thus the empowerment of user groups into the management decisions as well as the surveillance and monitoring are crucial for the projects' success. A stronger emphasis on alternative livelihoods for fishing communities is recommended.	Child Project 2.1 (GEF 9687) focuses on major coastal wetlands, lagoons, humid zones and coastal habitats, providing very valuable services and contributing to coastal livelihoods and biodiversity, are all in part or totally dependent on groundwater regimes. This included livelihoods for fishing communities. Moreover, being the MedProgramme executed under the umbrella of the Barcelona Convention, it will benefit of the ongoing partnership between the Convention and the General Fishery Commission of the Mediterranean which will introduce elements related to fishing in the Programme.
Germany on OUTCOME 7: Germany welcomes the improvement of management capacity as well as the expansion of the Libyan Marine Protected Areas (MPA). It is recommended to incorporate the high importance of artisanal fisheries for local food security and livelihoods. The MPA management plan should imply buffer zones between the MPA and fishing areas. In these small strips local fishermen communities can use an exclusive access (ban for industrial fisheries) and benefit from extensive fisheries. Involvement of fishermen in the management of marine protected areas is crucial for their sustainability.	Artisanal fisheries are included in Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158), concretely in its output 31 where the importance of artisanal fishery is recognized and supported by several activities such as the preparation and dissemination of a set of communication material to promoting artisanal sustainable fishery heritage in and around the selected MPAs.
Germany on the MedProgramme: Lobbying for a higher political prioritization of the implementation of national fishery policies and	Although this activity is not directly included in the MedProgramme (which mainly addresses the priorities

frameworks promoting sustainable marine resource management.	defined by the Mediterranean Countries under the Protocols of the Barcelona Convention), implementation of national fishery policies and frameworks promoting sustainable marine resource management it is focus of the collaboration partnership between the Convention and the General Fishery Commission of the Mediterranean. Outcomes and outputs of this partnership will be linked to the MedProgramme.
Germany on the MedProgramme: ‘Blue Carbon’ offsets as an economic potential for coastal villages.	Although we recognize the importance of the comment made by Germany, ‘Blue Carbon’ offsets as an economic potential for coastal villages is not in the scope of the MedProgramme. However, being the Programme executed in the wider framework of the Barcelona Convention process linkages with Blue Carbon offset and related matter will be explored and certainly made if appropriate.
Germany on the MedProgramme: Decentralized adaption strategies for the intrusion of saline groundwater into aquifers. In sunny areas PV-driven small-scale desalination plants could allow local approaches.	Although we recognize the importance and technical relevance of the comment made by Germany, desalination plan/processes/standards are not eligible under GEF 6 therefore have been removed by the Programme. Nevertheless, under Child project 1.2 (GEF ID 9717), the Barcelona Convention will develop common environmental standards on desalination for the Mediterranean Region by using NON-GEF funds. These standards will be submitted to the Conference of Contracting Parties of the Convention for consideration. If approved they will be the first step to support the approach suggested by Germany.
Germany on the MedProgramme: The involvement of wastewater reuse and freshwater consumption reduction strategies.	Child Project 1.2 (GEF ID 9717) is promoting investments at national level will focus on WWTP Extension and upgrade including treated wastewater reuse/reinjection (MAR) to decrease water consumption in the countries where national actions will take place (Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia). Moreover, the same Child Project will develop regional standards on wastewater management (including reuse) for deliberation of the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention.
Germany on the MedProgramme: More investments into wastewater-treatment facilities for the reduction of heavy metals, endocrine disrupters, plastic and other pollutants as runoff in the Mediterranean Sea.	Under Child Project 1.2 (GEF ID 9717) EIB will mobilize more than USD 600M in investments on WWT facilities in Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia. Moreover, the MedProgramme is already generating interest of other potential investors to engage in advanced WWTP in the region to achieve reduction of LBS of pollution and increase climate change adaptation resilience.

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS¹

N/A

¹ If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

N/A

ANNEX E - Child Project 3.1: Deliverables and costing of PCU technical support and consultants to be hired

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ per Person Month (i.e. one month 22 working days)</i>	<i>Tasks to Be Performed / Deliverables</i>	<i>Related workplan activity</i>
Consultants			
Biodiversity			
Regional consultant Biodiversity	7,300 per 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researches, analyzes and presents information gathered from Child Project 3.1 • Prepares various written outputs, e.g. draft background papers, analysis, sections of reports and studies, inputs to publications, GEF Experience Notes, summaries for policy makers, etc., related to Child project 3.1. • Assists with the organization of the MedProgramme’s Annual Stocktaking Meetings, helping to ensure that Child project 3.1 is properly contributing and benefitting from the meeting • Provides technical contributions related to Child Project 3.1 for the Steering Committees, including the preparation of background and working documents and drafting of meeting reports, etc. • Undertakes survey initiatives; designs data collection tools; reviews, analyzes and interprets responses, identifies problems/issues and prepares conclusions for Child project 3.1 • Contributes to the analyses the existing data and surveys and identify the target areas to be visited. • Contributes to organization of a national workshop (Libya) to present, discuss and validate the results of the survey • Contributes to the development of MPAs management tools as relevant. 	Cross-cutting (all Child Project 3.1 workplan activities)
Regional consultant Knowledge Management	6,700 per 5 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaises with the Executing Partners (EPs) of Child Project 3.1 in order to collect, analyze, harmonize, package and share data and information generated by the Project and support the achievement of related objectives. • Provides technical advice and improve capacity of the Child Project 3.1 team to address specific needs and effectively manage knowledge at the Project and 	Cross-cutting (all Child Project 3.1 workplan activities)

		<p>Programme levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepares an Action Plan (including timeline and budget) for the duration of the Child Project 3.1 and supports the execution of both KM Strategy and Action Plan; • Facilitates MedProgramme contribution of Child Project 3.1 to IW:LEARN activities (including participation to the International Waters Conferences and twinnings, preparation of Experience Notes, among others) and other GEF relevant initiatives and events, particularly related to the focal areas of International Waters • Supports the communications of Child Project 3.1 and outreach components of the KM Strategy. • Develop Knowledge Management analysis for Child Project 3.1 as relevant. 	
Regional consultant Gender Expert	6,700 per 4 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducts mapping and analysis highlighting gender-relevant information and data on vulnerabilities, social dynamics and different community needs of the selected conversation sites. • Conducts capacity-building workshops and training to increase active participation of different communities in on-site MPA management units • Liaises and engages with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to define gender goals and outputs of the CSO participatory platform, particularly identifying those engaged at grassroots level on these issues. • Develops training modules and workshop inputs to feed into the overall capacity building for marine governance in Libya, ensuring gender mainstreaming capabilities are generated and strengthened. gender-responsive inputs for the ICZM protocol ratification that are underway, and for the implementation for those that have been processed. • Collaborates with the KM expert to consolidate gender-relevant information, data and research generated through project activities. • Provides guidance to the EPs of Child Project 3.1 for the execution of the Project's Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan • Monitors the execution of the Project's Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan and provide corrective measure where needed it. • Contributes to the design of gender balanced trainings, meetings, events and publications for Child Project 3.1. • Develop gender assessments and analysis for Child Project 3.1 as relevant. 	Cross-cutting (all Child Project 3.1 workplan activities)
Justification for travels		The consultants may be required to travel to the countries and or premises of the executing	

	<p>partners to discuss execution of the activities and programmatic issues related to the implementation of International Waters' activities, Knowledge Management and Gender mainstreaming Strategies. Moreover, the consultants may be also required to participate and contribute to the MedProgramme Steering Committees, Annual Stocktaking Meetings and other meetings and events as relevant.</p>	
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GEF ID: 10158

Project Name: Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya

Project Short Name: CP 3.1 - MedProgramme

Programmatic Approach: Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security (GEF ID 9607)

Implementing Agency: UN Environment

Executing Agency: UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)

UN Environment Umoja Sponsored classes/Object of the Budget	BUDGET BY COMPONENTS					BUDGET BY YEAR					
	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	PROJECT MANAGEMENT	Total	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	Total
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
FT30_010 PROJECT STAFF AND PERSONNEL											
1101 MedPCU - MedProgramme Coordinator (P4)	11,700	11,700	35,100	35,500	94,000	47,000	9,400	-	4,700	940	62,040
1120 MedPCU - Programme Financial Assistant (G5)	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
1121 MedPCU - Programme and Administration Assistant (G5)	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
1121 Regional consultant Biodiversity	14,525	16,600	10,375	-	41,500	11,500	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	41,500
1201 Regional consultant Knowledge Management	-	-	35,000	-	35,000	13,000	10,000	7,000	5,000	-	35,000
1202 Regional consultant Gender Expert	-	-	25,000	-	25,000	9,000	7,000	6,000	3,000	-	25,000
Component Total	26,225	28,300	105,475	55,500	215,500	90,500	36,400	23,000	22,700	940	173,540
FT30_160 TRAVEL											
1601 Staff Travel & Transport (MedPCU)	3,000	3,000	4,000	10,000	20,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	20,000
1604 Travels to attend PSC and ASM (Stakeholders from Countries)	13,000	13,000	28,000	-	54,000	6,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	54,000
Component Total	16,000	16,000	32,000	10,000	74,000	10,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	74,000
FT30_140 GRANT TO IP - (See footnotes 1, 2, 3 and 4)											
2201 Execution activities Comp 1, 2 and 3 (SPA/RAC) ⁽¹⁾	190,000	70,000	36,667	-	296,667	35,335	65,333	75,333	75,333	45,333	296,667
2202 Execution activities Comp 1, 2 and 3 (WWF) ⁽²⁾	99,667	130,000	67,000	-	296,667	59,333	59,333	59,333	59,333	59,333	296,667
2203 Execution activities Comp 1, 2 and 3 (IUCN) ⁽³⁾	117,853	132,182	46,632	-	296,667	35,235	65,335	70,450	75,565	50,082	296,667
Component Total	407,520	332,182	150,299	-	890,001	129,903	190,001	205,116	210,231	154,748	890,001
FT30_125 OPERATING AND OTHER DIRECT COSTS											
3301 Meetings (PSC, ASM, etc.)	20,000	20,000	40,000	-	80,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	80,000
3301 Training on MPAs	17,000	18,000	-	-	35,000	4,000	6,000	8,000	7,000	10,000	35,000
4101 Office supplies, consumables, shipping, couriers, etc.	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	600	600	600	600	600	3,000
4301 Miscellaneous	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	600	600	600	600	600	3,000
5101 Equipments and maintenance	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	600	600	600	600	600	3,000
5201 Products for the KM Strategy, Publication, Translation, Dissemination and reporting costs	6,000	6,000	8,000	-	20,000	2,000	4,000	6,000	4,000	4,000	20,000
5301 Communications (tel, fax, e-mail, etc..)	-	-	2,646	-	2,646	529	529	529	529	529	2,646
5302 Mid-Term Evaluation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
5303 Terminal Evaluation	-	30,000	-	-	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
Component Total	63,000	74,000	59,646	-	196,646	23,329	27,329	51,329	28,329	66,329	196,646
TOTAL COSTS	512,745	450,482	347,420	65,500	1,376,147	253,733	269,731	295,446	277,261	238,018	1,334,187

TOTAL Component 1:	512,745
TOTAL Component 2:	450,482
TOTAL Component 3:	347,420
TOTAL PMC:	65,500
TOTAL GEF Grant:	1,376,147

Footnote 1: Budget Lines 2201 will be part of a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between UN Environment/MAP and SPA/RAC.

Footnote 2: Budget Lines 2202 will be part of a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between UN Environment/MAP and WWF Med.

Footnote 3: Budget Lines 2203 will be part of a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between UN Environment/MAP and IUCN Med.

ANNEX G: MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN AND BUDGET CP3.1

M&E activity	Purpose	Responsible	Budget (US\$)	Time-frame
Inception workshop and Annual Stocktaking meetings	Full 5-year workplans, budgets, procurement plans etc. will be confirmed. Inception report to be finalized as key project document.	MedPCU	14000 for 1 Inception workshop and 10,000 for 4 Annual Stocktaking meetings (total 54,000)	Inception workshop within 8 months of project start. Annual Stocktaking meetings once a year starting from the 2 nd year of execution.
Project Steering Committee	Annual review of project activities, outputs and intended outcomes; and detailed annual implementation and budget planning The first year's SC meeting is also the Inception Workshop where the	EA MedPCU	80,000 for 5 meetings	At least annually Additional component-specific coordination/ advisory meetings will also be held to support preparation of recommendations to PSC.
Travel for project monitoring	Monitoring and support to the technical activities under Components 1, 2 and 3)	EA and regional consultants	Included in component budgets	1-4 missions per year, depending on needs e.g. to unlock bottlenecks or support partners
Midterm Review	Reviews progress and draws lessons on execution issues and impact of project activities to midterm. Proposes corrective actions as required.	IA- Consultant	20,000	At the midterm of the project
Terminal report	Reviews effectiveness against implementation plan Highlights technical outputs Identifies lessons learned and likely design approaches for future projects, assesses likelihood of achieving design outcomes	EA	Included in component budgets	At the end of project implementation
Independent Terminal evaluation	Reviews effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, coordination mechanisms and outputs	UNEP Evaluation Office	30,000	At end of project implementation

	Identifies lessons learned and likely remedial actions for future projects Highlights technical achievements and assesses against prevailing benchmarks			
Total indicative Monitoring &Evaluation cost			184,000	

ANNEX H: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The institutional arrangements as described in the CEO Endorsement Request (section A.6) are further detailed in this annex, which provides information on the roles of the MedPCU and the Executing Partners.

MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU):

The detailed list of services to be provided by the MedPCU are as follows:

Child Project 3.1 management services:

- Manage the flow of information from the field and produce periodic monitoring reports, namely quarterly financial expenditure reports; annual expenditure forecasts and procurement plans; half-yearly narrative reports of progress including the annual Project Implementation Review;
- Initiate, validate, sign and implement legal instruments with all bilateral partners including executing partners and countries where appropriate;
- Organize travel and payment of DSA for staff and consultants as needed;
- Coordinate and support the project activities of SPA/RAC, IUCN-Med and WWF Med (Component 1, 2 and 3);
- Organize the meetings of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and serve as its Secretariat;
- Ensure the Project governance and oversight of the financial resources from the GEF investment and the co-financing delivered by the Project stakeholders.

Programmatic coordination:

- Ensure that the execution of the entire MedProgramme is aligned and integrated with the priorities of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, its 2016-2021 Mid-Term Strategy and biennial Programmes of Work;
- Ensure that the execution of the MedProgramme Gender and Knowledge Management Strategies is consistent across the entire Programme.
- Establish a mechanism to monitor and evaluate progress towards the objectives of the MedProgramme as a whole.

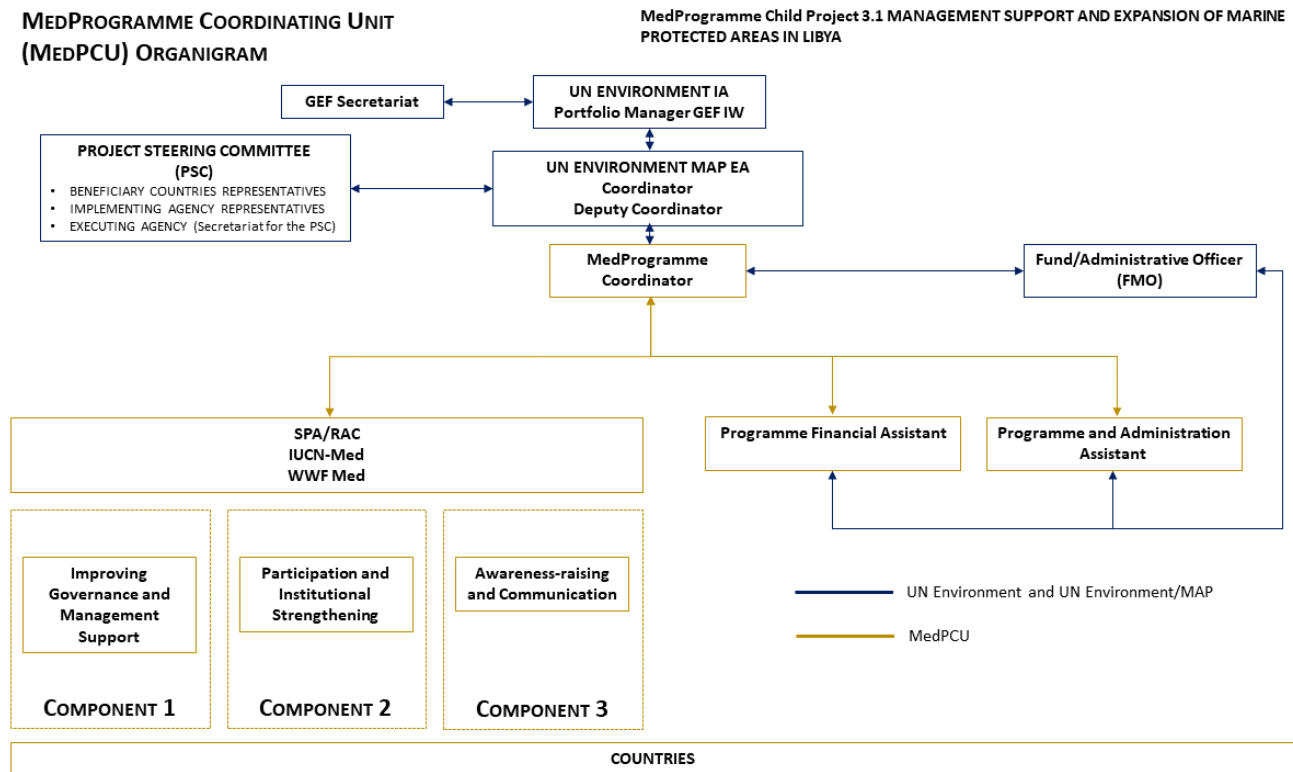
MedProgramme Visibility:

- Represent the MedProgramme in global events and initiatives.
- Ensure that the Programme Annual Stocktaking Meeting is organized in a coordinated manner to efficiently serve the countries, IA, EA and stakeholders;
- Share the Project achievements, products/outputs with the Project and MedProgramme's stakeholders;

Technical support:

- Provide staff time and expertise in guiding and advancing the execution of technical activities under the Project;
- Coordinate with administrative and technical staff on drafting and compiling tender documents as needed; advertise tenders where relevant; convene and/or contribute to tender review committees where appropriate;
- Coordinate with administrative and technical staffs on drafting and compiling tender documents as needed; advertise tenders where relevant; convene and/or contribute to tender review committees where appropriate

The proposed staffing arrangements for the MedPCU are provide in figure 1:



It is anticipated that the MedPCU will be staffed with the following core positions:

- MedProgramme Coordinator (P4)
- Programme Officer CW (P3)
- Programme Financial Assistant (G5)
- Programme and Administration Assistant (G5)

In addition to this, the MedPCU operations will be supported during specific periods of the lifespan of the Child Project 3.1, by one Gender Specialist, one Knowledge Management Specialist and by a regional expert on BD, to be engaged through out-sourced contracts. The MedPCU will be established and hosted by UN Environment/MAP in Athens, Greece, following the successful model of the MedPartnership Project.

Executing Partners (EP): The EP will execute activities of the project that fall within their core areas of expertise. SPA/RAC, IUCN-Med and WWF Med will be executing the national activities foreseen under Component 1, 2 and 3 of Child Project 3.1. The specific contribution and responsibilities of each of the EPs is described in the CEO Endorsement request and linked to specific actions, outcome and outputs. The EPs will report on the project implementation progress to the MedPCU, the EA and IA and will contribute to the PSC. The main roles of EPs are to:

- Provide technical advice and engage with the countries for all aspects of the execution of activities under the relevant Components of the Child Project 3.1;
- Provide staff time and expertise in guiding their respective project activities;
- Supervise experts hired to ensure on time, high-quality deliverables;
- Manage the flow of financial resources earmarked for the implementation of activities;
- Review technical and substantive inputs by partners and countries on workplans etc.;
- Support the MedPCU and provide inputs for the preparation of the Child Project 3.1 workplans, budgets, reports and other documents as relevant;
- Review the technical quality of the Child Project 3.1 outputs in coordination with the MedPCU.

In addition, the EP will also liaise and meet periodically with the MedPCU to: 1) discuss emerging issues and challenges in order to prepare timely contingency plans and measures; 2) update the MedPCU and the other EP on the progress made in the execution of their respective activities; 3) to prepare the working and information documents for the PSC and key events of the Project and the MedProgramme; and 4) to ensure effective coordination during the execution of the activities.

ANNEX I: KEY DELIVERABLES AND BENCHMARKS

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
Component 1: Improving Governance and Management Support			
Outcome 1: Protection of marine biodiversity in Libya's Marine Protected Areas is enhanced through the development of an MPA governance structure at the national level and supported through new on-site management units, sustainable management plans and monitoring programmes and networks.			
Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya developed and submitted for approval.	1.1.1 Assess current governance structure and prepare recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report analyzing the current governance structure for MPAs in Libya and the actions that should be done to improve its efficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of the existing governance structure and the related legal framework.
	1.1.2 Organize national consultation to agree on strategy for appropriate governance structure including necessary tools and processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report on the results of the national consultations to agree on strategy for appropriate governance structure including necessary tools, processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from national and local stakeholders participating in the national consultations.
	1.1.3 Develop processes and tools to operationalize the strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report presenting the operational plan for the implementation of the strategy including the processes and tools to be developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of existing data on financial and human resources needed for the implementation of the strategy. Coordination meetings between national stakeholders to agree on the governance structure.

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
	1.1.4 Implement processes and tools on the ground.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report presenting the results of the implementation of processes and tools in at least one site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation for the identification of processes and tools from the strategy Feedback from the pilot phase of the implementation of tools and processes in the target site.
Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes	1.2.1 Collect and analyses the existing data and surveys and identify the target areas to be visited.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report on the results of the data analysis and on the identification of target areas to be visited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from the analysis of the existing data Feedback from the stakeholders consultations on sites of conservation interest in Libya.
	1.2.2 Conduct at least a field survey to identify and characterize sites of conservation interest in Libya through rapid assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report on the results of the field survey presenting an updated list of sites of conservation interest in Libya. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of available data and reports on potential sites of conservation interest Results of the stakeholder's consultation.
	1.2.3 Organize a national workshop to present, discuss and validate the results of the survey.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report summarizing the results of the national workshop and validating the list of sites of conservation interest in Libya. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results of the survey compiled and presented during the national workshop.

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
	1.2.4 Initiate a monitoring programme for the conservation of marine megafauna and key habitats in the identified sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report presenting the monitoring programme processes and tools in the identified sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites are identified and agreed among stakeholders, in line with the integrated monitoring and assessment programme developed for Libya. meetings with stakeholders to define the monitoring programme processes and tools, in line with the integrated monitoring and assessment programme developed for Libya.
Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan in at least one MPA.	1.3.1 Update of ecological and socio-economical surveys for the selected MPAs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report presenting an updated survey of the ecological and the socio-economic components for the selected MPAs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk study on available ecological and socio-economic data; Feedback from stakeholder consultations and national workshops
	1.3.2 Elaborate management plans of targeted MPAs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A management plan report for each of the targeted MPAs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection and analysis of current management plan, similar document or surveys available for the targeted MPAs. Results of the national consultations and workshops.

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
	1.3.3 Submit legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units to the competent authorities for official approval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A document presenting the on-site management unit to be formally established and its related legal framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk study on existing texts and legal framework for the establishment of management units for MPAs. Desk study of similar case studies related to the establishment of management units for MPAs in the Mediterranean. Consultation on the legal feasibility of the on-site management plan with the stakeholders.
	1.3.4 Establish at least a management unit in concertation with competent authorities able to implement the management plan on the ground.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written approval from the competent authorities for the establishment of a management unit specifying the human and financial resources to be allocated for the implementation of the management plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on the management plan of the targeted MPA ready and approved. Coordination meetings between national stakeholders to define the operational phase of the management plan.

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
Component 2: Participation and Institutional Strengthening			
Outcome 2: The governance and sustainable management of MPAs is reinforced through the increased participation of Libyan stakeholders and strengthening of institutional capacities on MPA management and related monitoring activities.			

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.	2.1.1 Organize an inception meeting with the main Libyan CSOs involved in marine conservation fishery and MPA and identify the core CSOs to be involved in the project implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report of the inception meeting with the main Libyan CSOs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desk study and consultations for the identification of the CSOs and of the related activities to be assigned to them during the project implementation.
	2.1.2 Preparation and signing of collaboration agreement between the administration and the core CSOs regarding their role in the project implementation and communication.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration agreements signed between the competent administrations and the identified CSO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the workshop identifying the CSOs and the activities to be conducted by them. • Feedback from targeted CSOs and administration about the agreements.
	2.1.3 Conduct three trainings with the core CSOs and representatives from the administration on MPAs identification and management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three training modules developed. • Report documenting the results of each training conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of training modules developed in similar trainings done by regional or national partners. • Feedback from participants on the trainings.
	2.1.4 Develop three collaborative projects between the administration and the CSOs for the co-management of MPAs in Libya (Farwa, El Kouf and Aïn El Ghazala).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project concepts developed for the three MPAs (one for each MPA). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from the consultation meetings between CSOs and national administrations to define the technical and financial part of the projects. • Actions needed to be implemented in the three sites identified and agreed among the partners.

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
.Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management.	2.2.1 Organize training workshops for MPA managers, practitioners and relevant authorities of MPAs based on preliminary need assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report on the training needs assessment based on an online and face to face consultations. • A report presenting the modules of the training workshops. • A report presenting the results of each training workshop. • training the trainer sessions planed and conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation conducted to identify the training needs assessment. • Training modules used for the training workshops prepared and shared. • Feedback from participants on the training workshops. • Future enablers/instructor identified to ensure following training.
	2.2.2 Develop MPAs management tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report presenting MPAs management tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyses and evaluation of different management tools.
	2.2.3 Organize specific technical assistance and exchange/twinning programmes to provide on-site assistance to MPAs managers, practitioners and relevant authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A technical assistance and twinning programme document • A report for each activity developed to provide on-site assistance to MPAs managers, practitioners and relevant authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the main needs for technical assistance. • Identification of similar MPAs in the Mediterranean for potential twinning programmes.

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
Component 3: Awareness-raising and communication			
Outcome 3: Awareness of the value and importance of MPAs is raised at the national level, as a further means of strengthening MPA governance and management.			

Component/Outcome/Outputs	Activities	Deliverables	Benchmarks
<p>Output 3.1: Awareness-raising and communication campaigns and materials, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers.</p>	<p>3.1.1 Produce an Intranet/Internet site and on-line magazine to create a shared vision and disseminate the project's progress and lessons learned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Report presenting the platform to be used for the dissemination of the project's progress and lessons learned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of existing Intranet/Internet sites to be used as a reference for the project website. • Feedback from stakeholders on the best tools and mechanisms to be used for the dissemination of project progress and lessons learned.
	<p>3.1.2 Design produce an ad hoc communication material (leaflets, brochures, banners and posters, etc.) for selected audiences and share lessons learned products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of each communication material designed and produced. • Dissemination plan of the communication material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the communication material content and the target audience.
	<p>3.1.3 Develop awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision makers and particularly youth, local communities and decision makers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication plan developed at the beginning of the project specifying the communication campaigns and materials to be developed and the audiences categories to be targeted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of the existing communication material developed within MPAs in Libya. • Feedback from the stakeholder consultation on the appropriate material to be used for a sound and an efficient communication on the project outcomes and lessons learned.
	<p>3.1.4 Planning of an ad hoc audiovisual campaign for wide media dissemination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report identifying the list of audio-visual products to be prepared. • Report identifying the list of media to be involved for the dissemination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of media contacted and agreed to disseminate the products.

ANNEX J: FIGURES TABLES AND TEXT BOXES FOR THE REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT-APPROVAL

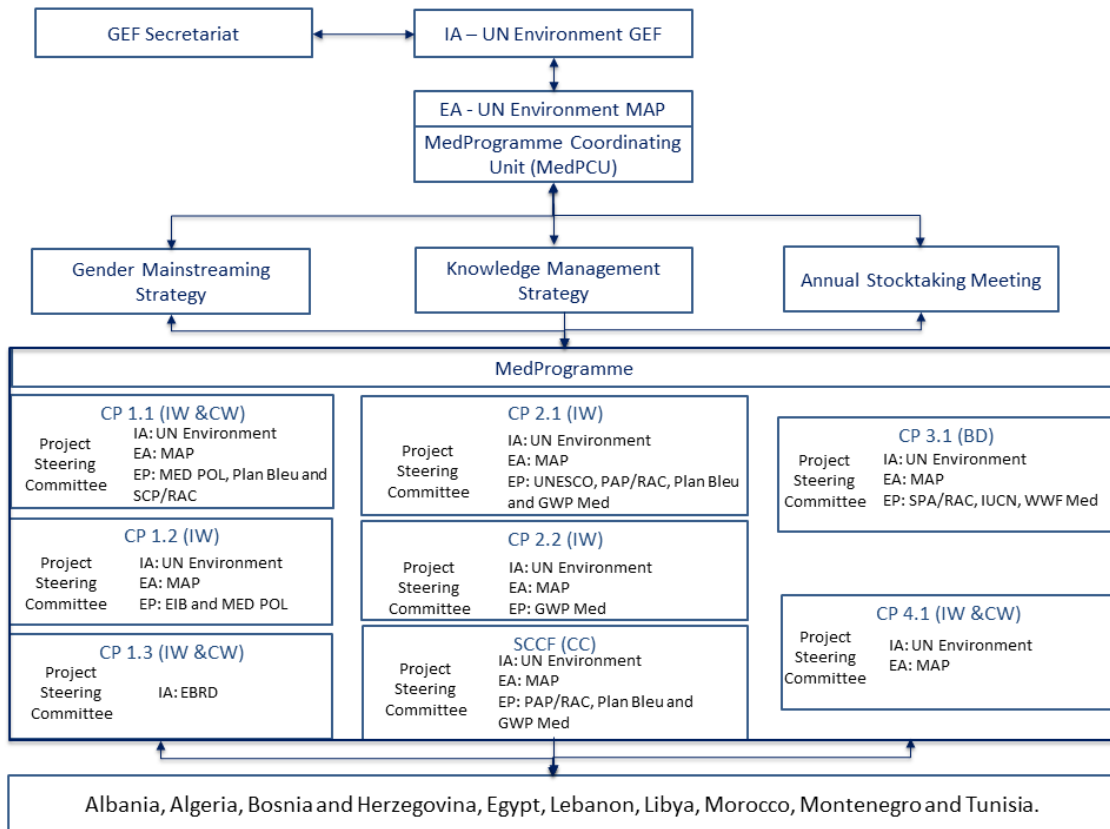


Figure 1 MedProgramme Structure



Figure 2 Locations of the three Marine Protected Areas in Libya.

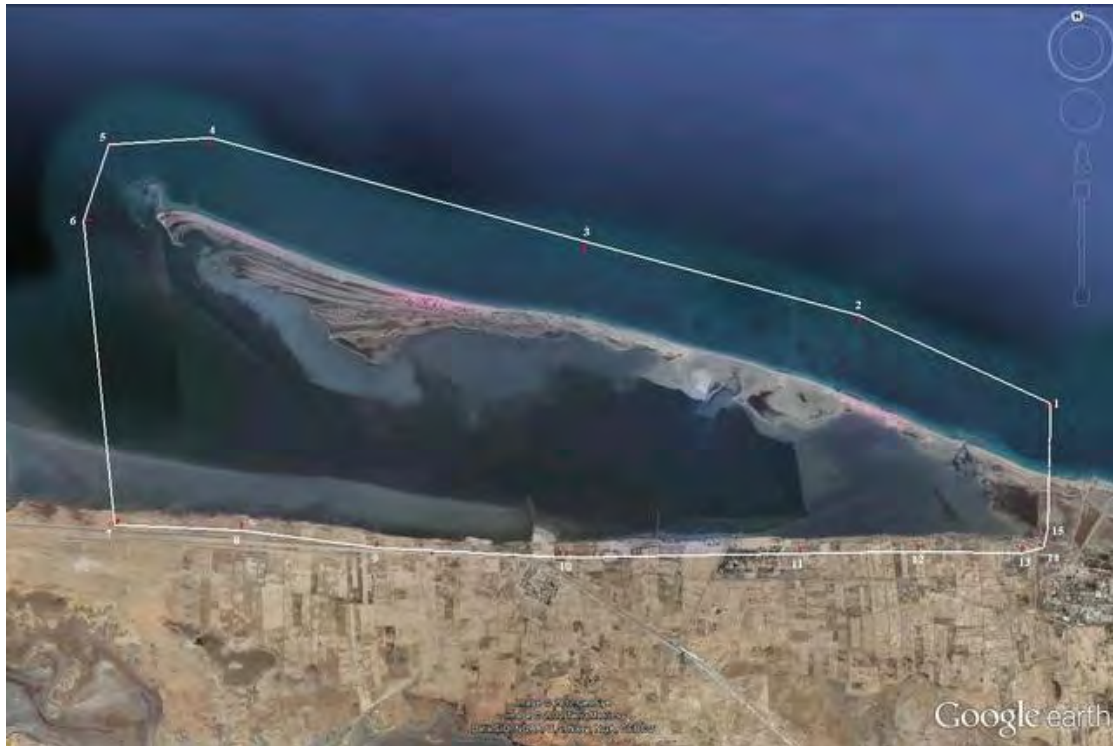


Figure 3 Google satellite image of the new borders of the Farwa MPA



Figure 4 A detailed map of Kouf National Park coastal area with the locations of each human activity (after Ben Amer and Shakman, 2013)



Figure 5 Borders of Ain Al-Ghazala marine protected area (Source: EGA)

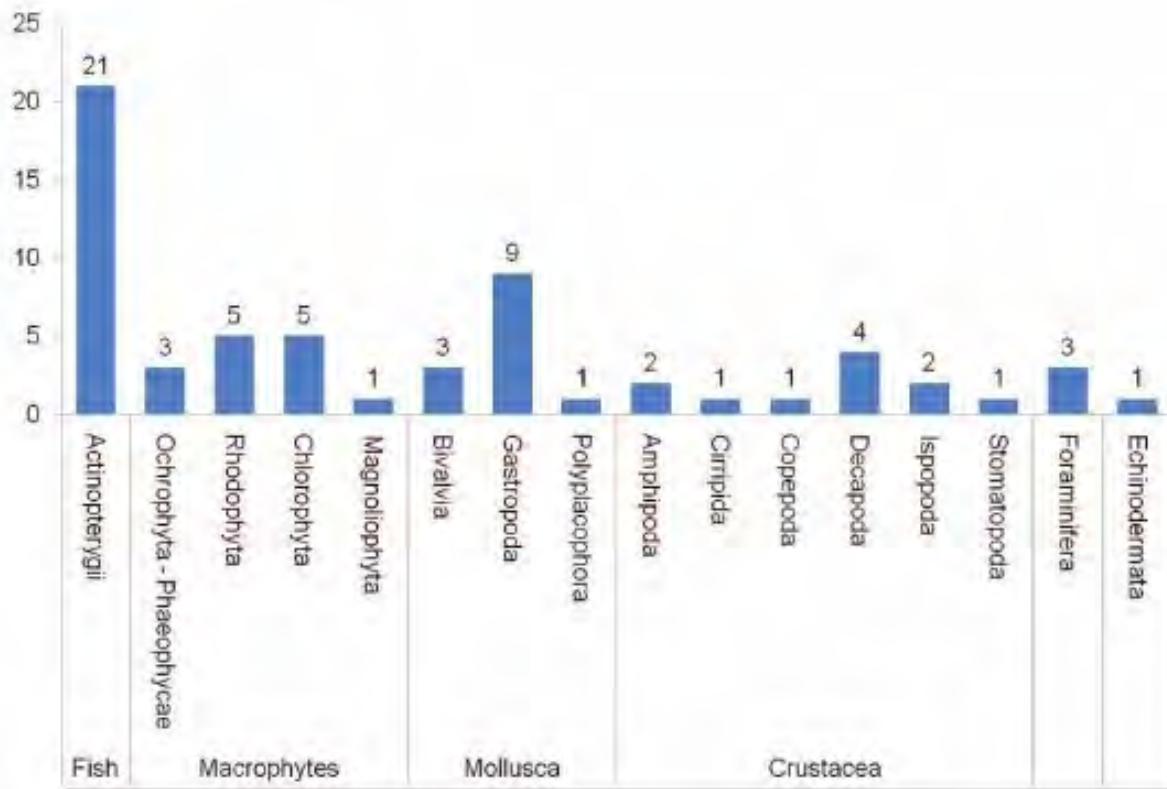


Figure 6 Marine alien species in Libyan waters by taxonomic group (after Bazairi et al., 2013)

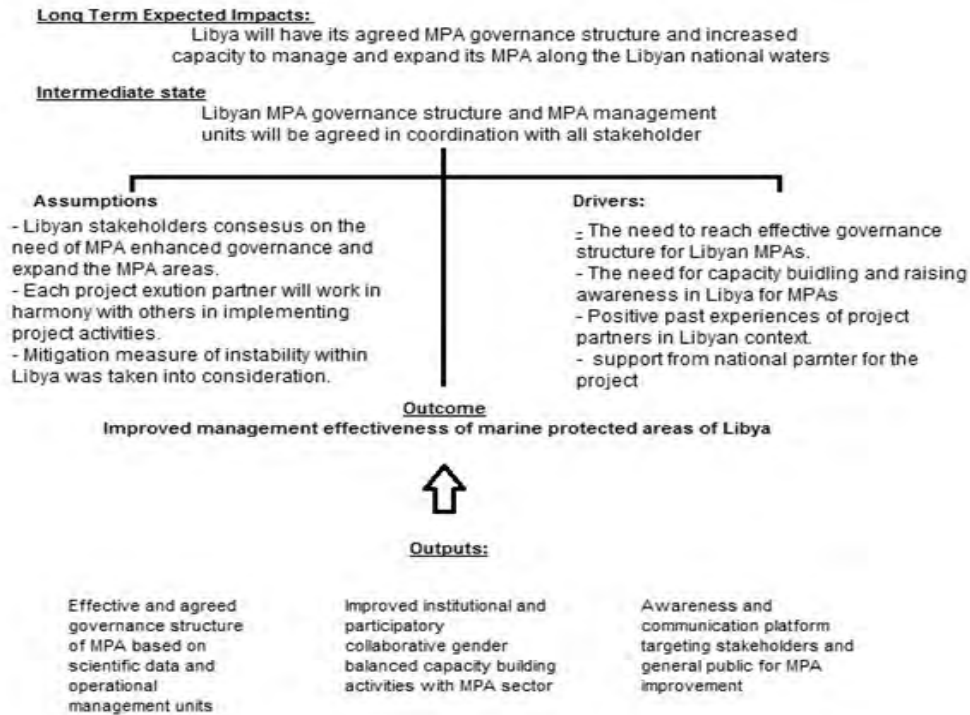


Figure 7 Theory of Change for Child Project 3.1

MedProgramme Child Project 3.1 MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AND EXPANSION OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN LIBYA.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND COORDINATION

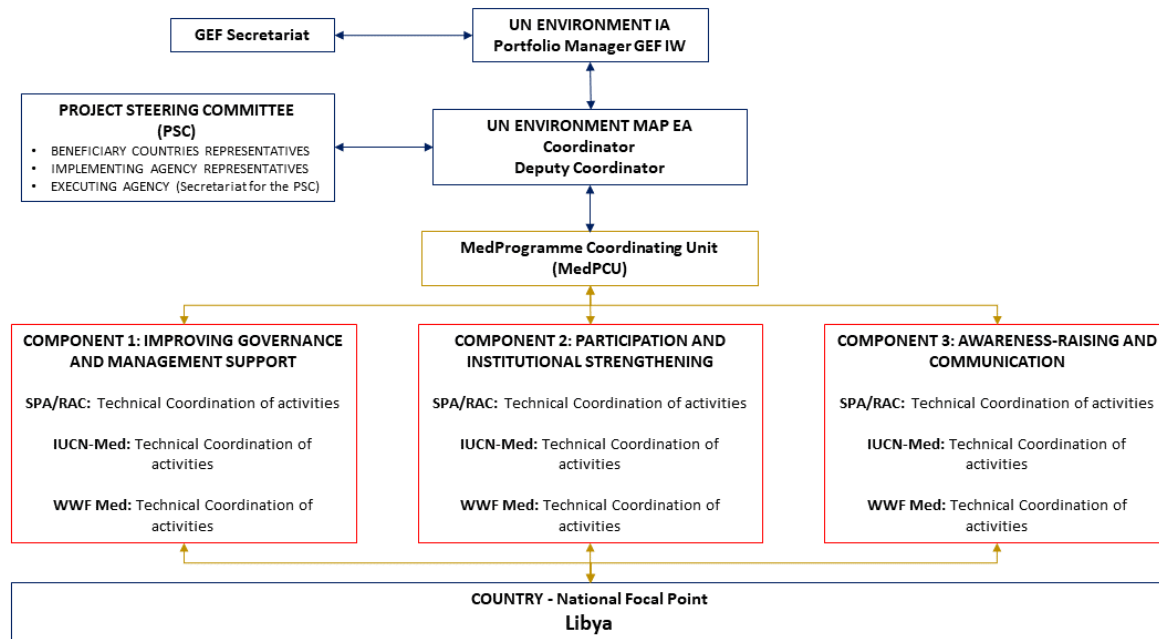


Figure 8 Institutional Arrangements and Coordination Structure of the Child Project 3.1

MEDPROGRAMME COORDINATING UNIT (MEDPCU) ORGANIGRAM

MedProgramme Child Project 3.1 MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AND EXPANSION OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN LIBYA

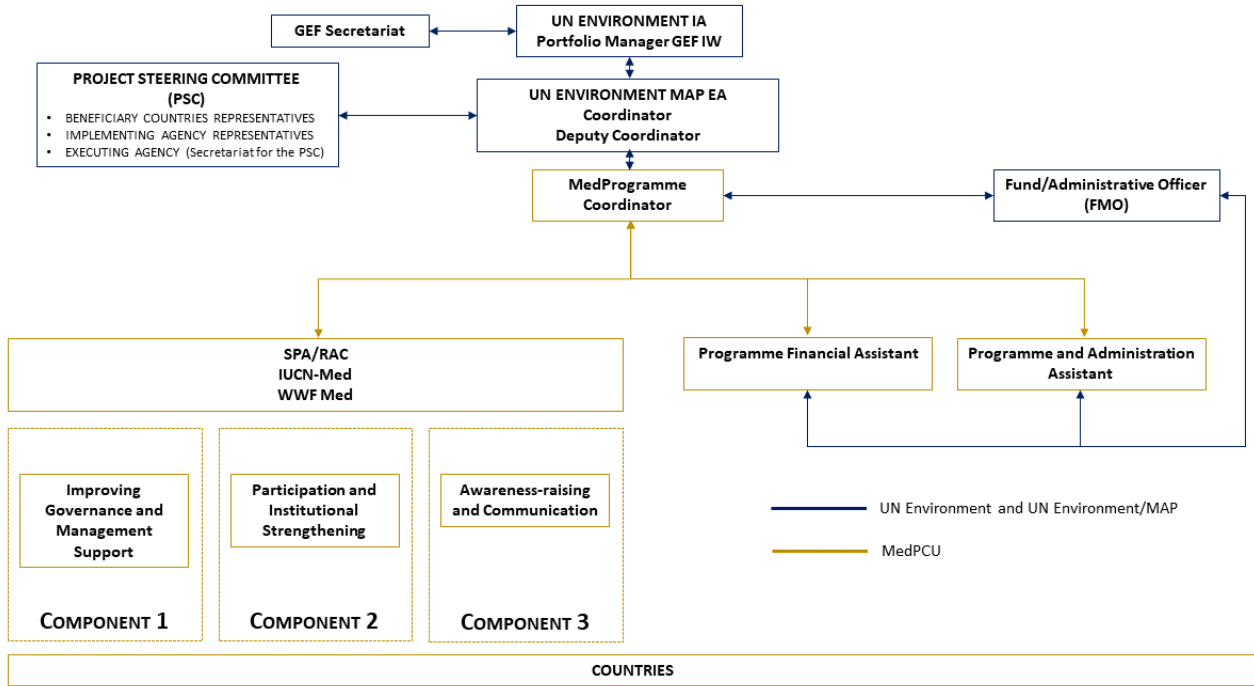


Figure 9 Organigram of the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit

Table 1 MedProgramme Components, Child Projects and GEF Focal Areas

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)		
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	GEF Focal Areas
1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts.	1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”	IW and CW
	1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project”	IW
	1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”	IW and CW
2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone.	2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection”	IW
	2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem NEXUS”	IW

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)		
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	GEF Focal Areas
	SCCF “Enhancing regional climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”	CC
3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity	3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”	BD
4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination	4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Environment and Climate Regional Support Project”	IW and CW

Table 2 Associated baseline projects for Child Project 3.1

Name of the project, duration	Description of activities and envisaged outcomes
The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) 2010 - 2015	<p>In the MedPartnership, SPA/RAC and WWF MedPO worked together in Libya to lay the foundations for an institutional framework for marine conservation, to build knowledge and understanding of marine biodiversity and generate momentum for the designation and effective management of MPAs. The main activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific field survey report for the development of Ain Al Ghazala and Bomba bay marine protected area; • Characterization of the main biological communities present along the coast of El Kouf National Park; • Economic and social survey of Ain Al Ghazala and Bomba bay; • Economic and social survey of El Kouf National Park; • National strategy for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in Libya; • Draft law on Protected Areas in Libya; • Guide on monitoring Mediterranean lesser crested terns <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i> emigrates; and • Toolkit on stakeholders’ involvement in the establishment and management of marine protected areas. <p>The main outcomes of the above-mentioned joint activities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The declaration of the Ain Al-Ghazala coastal lagoon and its facing Elba Island and Farwa Lagoon as Marine Protected Areas; • The development of a management plan for Ain-Al-Ghazalah and Farwa Lagoon MPAs; • Capacity building on MPA management for relevant Libyan stakeholders; • The development of a draft national strategy for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in Libya; and • The elaboration of a draft law on Protected Areas in Libya.
Mediterranean Representative Areas and Species Project	The MedRAS Project is an initiative financed by the MAVA Foundation, Total Foundation and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development

Name of the project, duration	Description of activities and envisaged outcomes
(MedRAS Project) 2009 - 2011	(AECID), and coordinated by IUCN-Med with many Mediterranean partners. Its general objective was to help Mediterranean countries to identify and develop the most representative and coherent network of areas of conservation interest. Its implementation was conducted with the participation of scientists and practitioners from the participating countries, namely Spain, Morocco Algeria for the Alboran Sea and Libya. Specifically, for Libya, the project led to the elaboration of a synthetic report “Towards a Representative Network of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”. This report contains a compilation of information from national and international experts and from available documentation on marine and coastal biodiversity in Libya. It proposes and describes 24 sites of conservation interest along the Libyan coast.
The Small-scale Initiative Programme for Civil Society Organizations in North Africa (PPI-OSCAN) 1st phase 2014-2017 2nd phase 2018-2021	This Programme is managed by IUCN Mediterranean Cooperation Centre and funded by the French Global Environment Facility and MAVA Foundation. During the first phase, five projects have been funded and supported technically in Libya. These projects were submitted by CSOs working in the conservation field. Two projects were targeting protected areas and aiming to strengthen the conservation and management of Meselatah National Park in Tripoli. The second phase of the project is aiming to support the implementation of ten projects. The average IUCN grant for each project is around EUR 23,000.
Enabling Libyan NGOs to shape the future of a new Libyan democracy (WWF North Africa) 2017 - 2019	The overall objective of the action is to promote and strengthen a broad-based and inclusive civil society in Libya, which is capable of representing common interests and to engage with communities and government authorities at different decision-making levels. Duration of the project: 24 months Funded by: European Union and MAVA Foundation.
Project on “The conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean Region” 2017 - 2019	The project led by SPA/RAC in close collaboration with several Mediterranean partners aims at protecting marine turtles in the Mediterranean, by minimizing/eliminating human induced direct mortality and reducing the interaction with fisheries. The State of Libya is concerned, through the project, by the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and monitoring, • Coordination reinforcement between decisions makers, scientists and MPA managers. • Capacity building through Professional Training courses tailored to scientists, managers, administrative and sea users) and by sharing of experience. • Improvement of management/protection of nesting sites and adaptive management in nesting, wintering and feeding sites. • Illegal trade by updating the National Action Plans for the Conservation of Sea Turtles in Libya. Funded by the MAVA Foundation.
Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast through an Ecologically Representative and Efficiently	The overall objective of the IMAP-MPA Project is to contribute towards the achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES) in the Mediterranean Sea and along its coast. In so doing, the project proposes to consolidate, integrate and strengthen the ecosystem approach (EcAp) for Marine Protected Area (MPA) management and their sustainable development. This will be done through the

Name of the project, duration	Description of activities and envisaged outcomes
Managed and Monitored Network of Marine Protected Areas (IMAP-MPA Project)	<p>monitoring and assessment of environmental status in the Mediterranean Sea and its coast, including MPAs, in a comparative and integrated manner.</p> <p>The project also proposes to enhance MPA management through coordinated implementation of the MAP Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean, as well as enhance the integration of the Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) in this process. The IMAP-MPA Project will strengthen IMAP implementation and further develop the Mediterranean network of ecologically representative, inter-connected, effectively managed and monitored MPAs. This will be achieved through improving national monitoring biodiversity-related governance and policies; preparing and implementing management plans for MPAs and improving MPA management with targeted actions. Furthermore, the project will support the monitoring and assessment process for aligning the Mediterranean priorities with the upcoming Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) post-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, as well as for other global and regional emerging issues</p>
Mediterranean Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach, in coherence with the European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive (EcAp Med II Project)	<p>The overall objective of this project is to support the UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Convention and its Southern Mediterranean Contracting Parties to implement the ecosystem approach in synergy and coherence with the implementation of the European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive. It seeks to support these countries, including Libya, to implement the EcAp Roadmap, through assisting them in establishing new monitoring programmes in line with EcAp.</p> <p>Hence, as a main output/outcome of the project in Libya was the development of the national monitoring programme related to biodiversity and Non-Indigenous Species.</p>
Other past/current complementary activities and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support provided by SPA/RAC and other partners to organize annual water bird census along the Libyan coastal area between 2005-2012. The three sites proposed within the Child Project 3.1 were involved in the census. • Study and monitoring of the Mediterranean breeding population of lesser crested tern <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>. Ain Al Ghazala's Elba island was one of the sites monitored. • Study on seagrass mapping in Farwa (2000-2006) and Ain Al Ghazala (2006). • Field surveys on Mediterranean Monk seals in Cyrenaican coastal area (Kouf and Ain Al Ghazala were involved in the survey). • The Libyan Seaturtle Programme , with the support of SPA/RAC, has been regularly conducting sea turtle monitoring at nesting beaches along the Libyan coast since 2005. The monitoring concerns especially Farwa, Sirte, Benghazi, Ain Al Ghazala and Kouf National Park areas. • Several scientific studies on levels of pollution in Farwa lagoon waters were conducted and published. • Several surveys were conducted by Marine Biology Research Centre on the fish stocks of Libyan waters, concerning all Child Project 3.1 sites. • Several papers were published on invasive marine species including fish and several invertebrates, among them some first species recorded in Child Project 3.1 project sites.

Table 3 Summary of Expected Project Achievements for Child Project 3.1

Objective	Targets	Outputs
Protecting marine biodiversity	At least 2,500 additional hectares of marine areas under protection in Libya.	Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya developed and submitted for approval. Output 3.1: Awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers.
	At least one (1) MPA endowed with a management plan in Libya.	Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan in at least one MPA.
	At least one (1) MPA under sustainable management scheme.	Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan in at least one MPA. Output 2.1: Civil society organisations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.
	At least two (2) sites covered by marine megafauna monitoring programmes.	Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes.
	At least two (2) monitoring networks for marine key habitats established.	Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes.
	At least five (5) training sessions to Libyan nationals (reflecting gender balance) on MPA networks planning and management, marine key habitats mapping, and marine megafauna monitoring.	Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management. Output 2.1: Civil society organisations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.

Table 4 Baseline Practices, Alternatives and Global Environmental Benefits of Child Project 3.1

Baseline practices	Alternatives to be put in place by the project	Global Environmental Benefits
Absence of national governance system of MPAs, coordination and capacity to support the formal protection of marine and coastal protected areas leads to further degradation of Libya’s natural capital.	Participatory approach-designed MPA governance framework for the country, and adopting both the national strategy on protected areas and the first national legislation on protected areas including MPAs. Inter-institutional and inter-sectorial coordination and policies in place to coordinate interventions of key agencies (e.g. Environment General Authority, Marine Biology Research Centre, Fisheries, Coastguard, Tourism). Capacity development of national and local marine/coastal stakeholders, including CSOs.	Several thousands of marine areas safeguarded through establishment and effective management of three MPAs. Additional 2,500 hectares of newly established MPAs.
Marine Protected Areas declared several years ago, but kept on paper without effective management units or plans. The low capacity to protect and manage fragile marine and coastal biodiversity will result in additional biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.	Development of integrated management plans based on an inclusive consultative process, including local stress level and threat reduction targets agreed by all stakeholders. Conduct rapid biodiversity surveys of high priority coastal and marine areas to confirm further MPA site selection, update both baseline information and key threats. Establishment of local management structures, equipment and capacity to manage and monitor MPAs.	Conservation of globally significant and threatened species including Mediterranean endemic sea grass meadows, migrator and residence sea birds, sea turtles, sharks and marine mammals.
Uncontrolled coastal development and continuous illegal fishing and overfishing, resulting in local declines followed by outright extinctions of endangered marine and coastal species, degradation of bottom habitats due to blast fishing impact; coastal ecosystem degradation due to land claims and urbanisation; marine pollution from land based and offshore sources.	Local management unit is capacitated to protect and monitor the existing MPAs and prevent loss of threatened species. Engagement with private sector companies to reduce impacts of extractive industries (fisheries, oil and gas) in MPAs. Greater public awareness of marine and coastal biodiversity conservation through a comprehensive multimedia outreach and education campaigns.	

Table 5 Contributions of Child Project 3.1 to Aichi Targets 6 and 11 and SDGs 14 and 5

Targets	Activities of proposed project contributing to Aichi Targets
<p>Aichi Target 6: By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p>	<p>Effective management of three Libyan declared MPAs would ensure better protection of coastal and marine ecosystems and biodiversity, including through increased monitoring and enforcement capacity to prevent illegal fishing and harvesting of marine resources.</p>
<p>Aichi Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 percent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.</p>	<p>Three MPAs encompassing 33,824 hectares have been formally established, with an additional 2,500 hectares of marine and coastal habitats under protection.</p>
<p>SDG Goal 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, in particular: Target 14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.</p>	<p>The project will involve fisheries and fishing communities as target groups for training on sustainable use of fish catch, for an integrated fisheries approach, where conservation run side by side with sustainable utilization of marine natural resources.</p>
<p>SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p>	<p>The project highlights the importance of gender equality, from national consultation process to training and implementation stages.</p>

Table 6 Risks and mitigation measures for Child Project 3.1

Risk	Level of risk	Mitigation measures
Lack of Political Support	Medium	Although the current political situation in Libya may decrease the level of political support to the p[roject this is unlikely to create an issues for the following reasons: 1) Child Project 3.1’s design is the result of extensive consultations with the GEF Operational Focal Point of Libya, Environment General Authority of the State of Libya (EGA) and a consultation with a wide set of stakeholders in Libya including civil society organizations which was also consulate in a National Survey; 2) Child Project 3.1 responds to the priorities identified by the State of Libya; and 3) Child Project 3.1 relies on the support of the four executing agencies (namely, UNEP/MAP, SPA/RCA, WWF Me and IUCN med) that will support the State of Libya with experts guiding and facilitating the work of national experts and government officials and representatives, who will be in any case in charge in all major decision points.
Political instability	High	As stated in the MedProgramme Framework Document, “some southern and eastern Mediterranean countries are going through a period of political volatility and social unrest that might negatively affect the Programme’s full implementation”. The situation in Libya is also affected by that political and social unrest, since the uprising and change of regime in 2011. That being said, 2019 is expected to witness new elections based on the roadmap proposed by the special representative of UN Secretary General to Libya, and most analysts exclude any further deterioration in political and security situations, as the government of national accord has taken several actions that prevented violence in 2018 and 2019. The local executing agency, the Environment General Authority, assured the project partners of its full backing of the project implementation once adopted.
Local tensions due to loss of access to natural resources or land as a result of MPA creation	Low-Moderate	The three MPA sites were declared state owned lands, the Sea in Libya belong to state as well. At Ain Al-Ghazala and Farwa there is a potential conflict of interest with local fishermen/ hunters, but this would be overcome via stakeholder involvement in management plan preparation and implementation. Private ownership issue at Kouf National Park do not involve coastal strip as it belongs to the state nationwide.
Oil concessions standing in the way of MPA establishment	Medium	The three MPAs are already established and the National Oil Corporation is aware of this. Oil and gas offshore exploration in Libya represents 15% of the nation oil production. Ain Al-Ghazala is located within the concession area 43, however the oil and gas exploration is likely to be at offshore sites away from coastal waters where the MPA is located.in addition there is evidence that this area was withdrawn from the bidding process ¹ Furthermore this aspect can be discussed with the National Oil Corporation to take adequate measures to prevent any risk of oil spill or seismic survey activities within the buffer zone of the MPA. Farwa MPA is located the other site in proximity with offshore oil field is Farwa, again agreed mitigation measures for oil spill or exploration mitigation measures should be clearly set with NOC and its partner companies, related to their activities near MPA sites. The Office of Environment and Risk mitigation will be invited to participate in all project consultations and meetings and special attention will be given to this risk. No current offshore oil operations are planned near Kouf National Park.
Climate Change and Variability	Moderate	Future climatic scenarios indicate the Mediterranean region as one of the most affected by climate change and variability, whose signs are already being felt particularly in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. Improving the resilience of coastal population and ecosystems to climatic impacts – increased

¹ Business Monitor International. 2010. *LIBYA OIL & GAS REPORT Q1 2011 INCLUDES 10-YEAR FORECASTS TO 2020*. See Page 49.

Risk	Level of risk	Mitigation measures
		frequency, duration and intensity of droughts, sea level rise, increased evaporation – is in fact a key objective of the MedProgramme. It is not expected that climate change will have an impact on the Child Project's execution. Nevertheless, climate change might be contributing to the instability of the region and to the migratory fluxes. Therefore, the project's Steering Committee will have the authority to adopt contingency measures including changes in project activities and sites, to manage the potential adverse effects of unanticipated events.
Scarce coordination and synergies between the three project Components	Low	The project design revolves around only three major components: one dealing with improving governance; a second addressing participation and institutional strengthening; and a third dedicated to awareness-raising and communication. These components will be co-executed by the three executing partners or will be led or co-lead by one or more partners. While cooperation and complementarities have been built into the project activities in all three Components, there might remain some risk of poor communication and overlaps. To avoid this, the execution arrangements of the project establish ad hoc mechanisms for dialogue and joint decision making involving both executing agencies and country representatives.

Table 7: Details of the budget allocated for the MedPCU

MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU)		Budget Allocated for the MedPCU US\$		Total US\$
	GEF Grants	PMC ¹	Technical Tasks ²	PMC+Technical Tasks
Child Project 1.1 (GEF ID 9684)³	14,250,000	677,000	760,000	1,437,000
Child Project 1.2 (GEF ID 9717)	5,000,000	90,000	-	90,000
Child Project 2.1 (GEF ID 9687)	7,000,000	333,000	90,000	423,000
Child Project 2.2 (GEF ID 9685)	3,500,000	166,000	84,000	250,000
Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158)	1,376,147	65,500	58,500	124,000
Child Project 4.1 (GEF ID 9686)	2,500,000	119,000	95,000	214,000
SCCF Project (GEF ID 9670)	1,000,000	80,000	5,000	85,000
Total GEF Grants	33,626,147	1,530,500	1,092,500	2,623,000
	Staffing costs as %:	5%	3%	8%

1: Including travel costs of the MedPCU's staff.

2: Details of the technical tasks executed by the MedPCU's staff are provided in Table 10 below under the sections A.6 of the GEF CEO Endorsement Request Template

3: Breakdown of the 760,000 allocated for Technical Tasks: 485,000 US\$ from CW grants for the Programme Officer CW and 275,000 US\$ from IW grants for the technical support on TDA of the Med POL Officer.

Table 8: Deliverables and costing of the MedPCU technical support

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ per Person Month (i.e. one month 22 working days)</i>	<i>Tasks to Be Performed / Deliverables</i>	<i>Related workplan activity</i>
PCU Technical support			
Biodiversity			
P4 MedProgramme Coordinator	17,900 per 3 months and 6 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees the technical execution and develop technical products for Child Projects 3.1 • Directs the organization of the MedProgramme’s Annual Stocktaking Meetings, ensuring that the technical contribution of Child Project 3.1 is enriching the meeting as well as aligned with the other Child Projects of the Programme. • Directs review of relevant documents and reports; identifies priorities, problems and issues to be addressed and proposes corrective actions; liaises with relevant parties; identifies and initiates follow-up actions. • Directs the preparation of Child Project 3.1’s specific technical documents for the organization of the MedProgramme’s Annual Stocktaking Meetings, ensuring that they are organized in a coordinated manner to efficiently serve the Contracting Parties, implementing agencies, executing agencies and stakeholders. • Directs review of relevant Child Project 3.1’s specific technical documents and reports; identifies priorities, problems and issues to be addressed and proposes corrective actions; liaises with relevant parties; identifies and initiates follow-up actions. • Contributes to the elaboration of management plans of targeted MPAs • Contributes to preparation design and production of ad hoc communication material. • Contributes to the producing materials for awareness raising campaigns for Child Project 3.1 • Participates in dissemination and awareness raising activities at the regional and global levels campaigns for Child Project 3.1 	Cross-cutting (all Child Project 3.1 workplan activities)

ANNEX K OFP ENDORSEMENT LETTER MEDPROGRAMME



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

Adress: Rr.Norbert Jokl, Tirana, Albania, www.moe.gov.al

June 23, 2016

To: Ms. Brennan Van Dyke, Executive Coordinator
United Nation Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552-00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Program (Med Programme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Albania, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nation Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPo, etc).

The total financing¹ being requested for the child projects under this Program is US\$ 47,390,000 inclusive of GEF financing for the child projects, PPG that will finance the preparation of individual child projects under the Program, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the projects under the Program. The funding breakdown requested for this regional Programme is detailed in the table below including the GEF Agencies that will implement the project(s). The below table also includes US\$ 1,500,000 of Biodiversity STAR earmarked by Libya.

Trust Fund	Agency	Focal Area	Programmin g of Funds	Amount (in US\$)			
				GEF Project Financing	Expected PPG	Agency Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	International Waters	(as applicable)	20,500,000	700,000	1,845,000	23,045,000
GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPS and Mercury	11,750,000	300,000	1,057,500	13,107,500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPS	3,750,000		337,500	4,087,500

¹ "Total financing" refers to funding from the GEFTF, LDCF, and/or SCCF.
GEF 6- OFP Endorsement Template-Program April 2015

GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Lybia)		1,376,147		123,853	1,500,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000

Sincerely,



Mr. Pellumb Abeshi

General Director of Environment,
GEF OFP, Albania

Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Stockholm (PoPs)

Convention Focal Point for Minamata

Arab Republic of Egypt

Cabinet of Ministers

Ministry Of environment

Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency

جمهورية مصر العربية

رئاسة مجلس الوزراء

وزارة البيئة

جهاز شؤون البيئة

4/7/2016

To: Ms. Brennan Van Dyke, Executive Coordinator
United Nations Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552 - 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme).

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Egypt, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc.).

The total financing¹ being requested for the child projects under this Program is US\$47,390,000, inclusive of GEF financing for the child projects, PPGs that will finance the preparation of individual child projects under the Program, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the projects under the Program. The funding breakdown requested for this regional Programme is detailed in the table below, including the GEF Agencies that will implement the project(s). The below table also includes US\$ 1,500,000 of Biodiversity STAR earmarked by Libya.

Trust Fund	Agency	Focal Area	Programmin g of Funds	Amount (in US\$)			Total
				GEF Project Financing	Expected PPG	Agency Fee	
GEFTF	UNEP	International Waters	(as applicable)	26,500,000	700,000	1,845,000	23,045,000
GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPs and Mercury	14,750,000	300,000	1,057,500	13,107,500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPs	3,750,000		337,500	4,087,500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Libya)		1,376,147		123,853	1,500,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000

Sincerely,

Ahmed A. Elseoud
Eng. Ahmed Abou Elseoud
Chief Executive Officer
GEF National Focal Point

¹ Total financing refers to funding from the GEF, EIB, and/or WFP.



GEF Unit
 <gefunitegypt@gmail.com
 >
 07/06/2016 02:59 PM

To Shelley.Farrington@unepmap.gr, hoda.elturk@unepmap.gr,
 Lorenzo.Galbiati@unepmap.gr,
 cc "ceo.eeaa@eeaa.cloud.gov.eg"
 <ceo.eeaa@eeaa.cloud.gov.eg>
 bcc

Subject MedProgramme

Dear All,

Hope this email find you well, As agreed with Eng. Abou Elseoud, kindly find below the signed endorsement letter for the MedProgramme.

Best regards

Hoda

Gef unit director at EEAA

*Arab Republic of Egypt
 Cabinet of Ministers
 Ministry Of environment
 Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency*

جمهورية مصر العربية
 رئاسة مجلس الوزراء
 وزارة البيئة
 جهاز شؤون البيئة
 4/7/2016

To: Ms. Brennan Van Dyke, Executive Coordinator
 United Nations Environment Programme
 Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552 - 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Egypt, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc.).

The total financing¹ being requested for the child projects under this Program is US\$47,390,000, inclusive of GEF financing for the child projects, PPG that will finance the preparation of individual child projects under the Program, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the projects under the Program. The funding breakdown requested for this regional Programming is detailed in the table below including the GEF Agencies that will implement the project(s). The below table also includes US\$ 1,500,000 of Biodiversity STAR earmarked by Libya.

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				GEF Project Financing	Expected PPG	Agency Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	International Waters	(as applicable)	20,500,000	700,000	1,845,000	21,045,000
GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPs and Mercury	11,750,000	500,000	1,037,500	13,307,500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPs	3,750,000		377,500	4,087,500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Libya)		1,776,147		123,853	1,900,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000

Sincerely,
Ahmed A. Elseoud
 Eng. Ahmed Abou Elseoud
 Chief Executive Officer
 GEF National Focal Point

¹Total financing refers to funding from the GEF, EIB, EBRD, and the MCF.

٢٠ طريق مصر حلوان الزراعي - خلف فندق سوفيتل العادي - القاهرة الرقم البريدي: 11728 ت: ٢٥٢٥٦١٤ فاكس: ٢٥٢٥٦١٩
 30, Misr Helwan El-Zyrai Rd., Maadi - Cairo Egypt. P.O. 11728 Tel.: 25256452 - Fax: 25256490

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GEF Unit / Egypt

Mobile: +2- 0122- 3352319

Fax: +2- 02 -25256454

Pl. Consider the Environment before printing this email



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

Beirut, 11-07-2016
Our Ref: 3513/B

THE MINISTER

Ms. Brennan Van Dyke
Executive Coordinator
United Nations Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552 - 00100
Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Ms. Van Dyke,

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Lebanon, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD and co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc.).

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GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPS and Mercury	11,750,000	300,000	1,057,500	13,107,500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPS	3,750,000		337,500	4,087,500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Lybia)		1,376,147		123,853	1,500,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000

Sincerely yours,

Mohamad Al Mashmouk
Minister of Environment

- Cc: - Registrar
- Convention Focal Point for Stockholm (POPs),
- Convention Focal Point for Minamata



التاريخ: 28.06.2016

الرقم الإشاري:

الموافق:

To: Ms. Brennan Van Dyke, Executive Coordinator
United Nations Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552 - 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Libya, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc.).

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GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
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GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPS	3,750,000		337,500	4,087,500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Libya)		1,376,147		123,853	1,500,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000

I consent to the utilization of Libya's allocations in GEF-6 as defined in the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR). For projects outside the STAR, I am endorsing funding from the focal area envelopes.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mustafa Soliman
Operational and Political Focal point

Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Stockholm (POPs)
Convention Focal Point for Minamata



¹ "Total financing" refers to funding from the GEFTF, LDCF, and/or SCCF.



MONTENEGRO

MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND TOURISM



Montenegro

A DECADE
OF INDEPENDENCE
A MILLENNIUM
OF STATEHOOD
MONTENEGRO
2016



May Montenegro live forever

Podgorica, June 27th 2016

Ref/No: MM-66/33

To: Ms. Brennan Van Dyke, Executive Coordinator
United Nations Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552- 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Montenegro, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc).

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¹ "Total financing" refers to funding from the GEFTF, LDCF, and/or SCCF.



MONTENEGRO

MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND TOURISM



Montenegro

A DECADE
OF INDEPENDENCE
A MILLENNIUM
OF STATEHOOD
MONTENEGRO
2016



May Montenegro live forever

Trust Fund	Agency	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount (in US\$)			
				GEF Project Financing	Expected PPG	Agency Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	International Waters	(as applicable)	20,500,000	700,000	1,845,000	23,045,000
GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPS and Mercury	11,750,000	300,000	1,057,500	13,107,500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPS	3,750,000		337,500	4,087,500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Lybia)		1,376,147		123,853	1,500,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000



Sincerely,

Ms. Marija Vukcevic

Operational Focal Point

Director General for EU Integration and International Cooperation
Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism

Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Stockholm (POPs)
Convention Focal Point for Minamata



Ministère délégué auprès du Ministre de l'Energie,
des Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement,
chargé de l'Environnement

الوزارة المنتدبة لدى وزير الطاقة والمعادن
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DPCC

010444

24 JUN 2016

To: Ms Brennan Van Duke,
Executive Coordinator,
United Nations Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O.Box 30552-00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Morocco, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPo, etc.)

The total financing from the GEFTF, LDCF, and/or SCCF being requested for the child projects under this Program is US\$ 47 390 000, inclusive of GEF financing for the child projects, PPG that will finance the preparation of individual child projects under the Program, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the projects under the Program. The funding breakdown requested for this regional Programme is detailed in the table below including the GEF Agencies that will implement the project(s). The below table also includes US\$ 1,500,000 of Biodiversity STAR earmarked by Libya.

Trust Fund	Agency	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount (in US\$)			
				GEF Project Financing	Expected PPG	Agency Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	International Waters	(as applicable)	20 500 000	700 000	1 845 000	23 045 000
GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5 000 000	200 000	450 000	5 650 000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPs and Mercury	11 750 000	300 000	1 057 500	13 107 500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPS	3 750 000		337 500	4 087 500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Lybia)		1 376 147		123 853	1 500 000
Total Financing				42 376 147	1 200 000	3 813 853	47 390 000

Sincerely,

GEF Operational Focal Point

Le Directeur du Partenariat de la
Communication et de la Coopération

Mohamed BENHACHIA

Copy to: Convention Focal point for Stockholm (POPs)
Convention Focal point for Minamata

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

—○—
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
 AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
 —○—



Tunis, 27/06/2016

**To: Ms. Brennan Van Dyke, Executive Coordinator
 United Nations Environment Programme
 Gigiri, P.O. Box 30522 – 00100 Nairobi, Kenya**

Subject: Endorsement for Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Tunisia, I confirm that the above Program proposal is (a) in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc.).

The total financing¹ being requested for the child projects under this Program is US\$47,390,000, inclusive of GEF financing for the child projects, PPG that will finance the preparation of individual child projects under the Program, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the projects under the Program. The funding breakdown requested for this regional Programme is detailed in the table below including the GEF Agencies that will implement the project(s). The below table also includes US\$ 1,500,000 of Biodiversity STAR earmarked by Libya.

Trust Fund	Agency	Focal Area	Programmin g of Funds	Amount (in US\$)			
				GEF Project Financing	Expected PPG	Agency Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	International Waters	(as applicable)	20,500,000	700,000	1,845,000	23,045,000
GEFTF	EBRD	International Waters	(as applicable)	5,000,000	200,000	450,000	5,650,000
GEFTF	UNEP	Chemical and Waste	POPS and Mercury	11,750,000	300,000	1,057,500	13,107,500
GEFTF	EBRD	Chemical and Waste	POPS	3,750,000		337,500	4,087,500
GEFTF	UNEP	Biodiversity (Lybia)		1,376,147		123,853	1,500,000
Total Financing				42,376,147	1,200,000	3,813,853	47,390,000

Sincerely,
Sabria Bnoui

GEF Operational Focal Point

¹ "Total financing" refers to funding from the GEFTF, LDCF, and/or SCCF.

Copy to : Convention Focal Poin for Stockholm (POPs)
 Convention Focal Point for Minamata



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND
ECONOMIC RELATIONS

No: 06-3-50-1976- 3/16
Sarajevo, 22 July 2016

To: Ms- Brenan Van Dyke, Executive coordinator
United Nations Environment Programme
Gigiri, P.O Box 30552 – 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Subject: Endorsement for Mediteranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)

In my capacity as GEF Political Focal Point for Bosnia and Herzegovina, I confirm that the above Program proposal is in accordance with my government's national priorities and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above Program proposal which will be led by the United Nations Environment Programme. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and executed through UNEP/MAP, EBRD with co-executing partners (UNIDO, IUCN, UNESCO, EIB and WWF MedPO, etc.).

The MedProgramme follows the successful implementation of the "MedPartnership" and "ClimVar & ICZM" GEF funded projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Among other successful activities, the development of a PCB inventory and disposal of PCB in Bosnia and Herzegovina, has been one of the most relevant achievements of the above mentioned projects during the period 2009 and 2015.

The total financing¹ being requested for the child projects under this Program is US\$ 47,390,000, inclusive of GEF financing for the child projects, PPG that will finance the preparation of individual child projects under the Program, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the projects under the Program.

Kindly note that by endorsing the MedProgramme Bosnia and Herzegovina is not committing co-financing to the Programme at this stage.

Sincerely,



Copy to: Convention Focal Point for Stockholm (POPs)

¹ "Total financing" refers to funding from the GEFTF, LDCF, and/or SCCF.

ANNEX L1 CO-FINANCING COMMITMENT LETTERS FROM PROJECT PARTNERS

CP3.1



**Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit
Barcelona Convention Secretariat**



**United Nations
Environment Programme**

Date: 5 February 2019

Subject: In-kind contribution to the GEF ID 9685 project "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya." – Child Project 3.1 of the MedProgramme.

In my capacity as Coordinator of the Barcelona Convention Secretariat, Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (UN Environment/MAP), I wish to confirm that UN Environment/MAP will coordinate the execution of the child project of the MedProgramme "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya." which will contribute to expanding seascapes under protection and improving protected area management in Libya.

I am hereby pleased to confirm that UN Environment/MAP will support the project with an in-kind contribution of 108,058 USD which will be allocated over the 60 months of the project duration starting from its approval by the GEF Secretariat. The in-kind contribution will be allocated as follows:

- 103,058 USD: Staff time in support of the project (Management of the Barcelona Convention Secretariat, Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan, Administration/Fund Management Officer, Human Resources Officer and Administrative Staff);
- 5,000 USD: In-kind contribution for Sundry and communication costs.

Yours sincerely,

Gaetano Leone
Coordinator

GEF Coordination Office
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Avenue
P O Box 30552-00100

Tunis, 21 December 2018

Ms. Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Subject: Co-financing contribution from SPA/RAC to the MedProgramme Child Project 3.1
« Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya »

Dear Ms Ishii,

I wish to confirm SPA/RAC's interest in and support to the MedProgramme Child Project 3.1 "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya". We look forward to our collaboration with the GEF in the context of this project which will substantially contribute to the establishment of an MPA management support mechanisms in priority MPAs in Libya.

I am pleased to inform you that SPA/RAC will support the Project activities with an in-kind contribution of 1,251,553 USD, made of funding that SPA/RAC is receiving from other donors for projects supporting activities that can be related to Child Project 3.1, as follows:

- Implementing national activities on the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) and Marine Litter in Libya through the Project "implementation of the first phase of the IMAP and the Regional Plan on Marine Litter in Libya" - duration: 2018-2019, Donor EU: 66,553 USD;
- Strengthening and further developing the Mediterranean network of ecologically representative, inter-connected and effectively managed and monitored MPAs, through the IMAP-MPA Project "Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and coast through an ecologically representative and efficiently managed and monitored network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas" - duration: 2019-2022, Donor EU: 679,000 USD;
- Ensuring the long-term conservation of key elements of the marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean through the MedMPA Network Project "Towards an ecologically representative and efficiently managed network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas" - duration: 2017-2019, Donor EU: 406,000 USD;
- Conserving and managing marine turtles habitats, through the Project "Conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean" - duration: 2017-2019, Donor MAVA Foundation: 100,000 USD

With kindest regards, I remain.

Yours sincerely,

Khalil ATTIA
SPA/RAC Director





IUCN-Med
C/ Marie Curie 22
29590 Campanillas
Málaga
España

Tel. +34 952 02 84 30
Fax +34 952 02 81 45
iucnmed@iucn.org
www.iucn.org/mediterranean

Ms. Naoko Ishii

Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Malaga, 21 December 2018

Subject: Co-financing contribution from IUCN for Child project 3.1: "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya" of the MedProgramme.

Dear Ms. Ishii,

The IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med) based in Malaga in Spain is committed to joining forces with the GEF to reduce environmental stress on the Mediterranean Sea through the diverse activities foreseen in the multi-focal area Medprogramme, especially those of Child Project 3.1.

Child Project 3.1 is devoted to supporting the management and the expansion of marine protected areas in Libya. As a co-executing partner of this Child Project, IUCN-Med will be responsible of conducting an inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest and also of developing a Civil Society Organisations participatory platform in Libya. IUCN-Med will also provide, in coordination with the other co-executing partners (SPA/RAC and WWF), technical advice and expertise to the implementation of the three Child project components, namely: (1) improving governance, (2) participation and institutional strengthening, and (3) communication.

Although the activities of the project will all be implemented in Libya, IUCN-Med will disseminate its results all over the Mediterranean to increase its visibility, share the lessons learned and the use of its findings.

To inform and reinforce the activities foreseen in Child Project 3.1, IUCN-Med will provide an in-kind contribution of US\$ 829 K, which will be allocated during the project duration as indicated below:

- Small-scale Initiative Programme for Civil Society Organisations in North Africa (PPI-OSCAN Libya Component);
- IUCN-Med/MAVA Joint Programme 2015-2019 for conserving biodiversity in the Mediterranean;
- Capacity building Strategy for Protected Areas Stakeholders in North Africa (pending approval from the donor);
- Supporting Libyan stakeholder's participation in IUCN Regional and International conservation events, mainly IUCN North Africa Members Forum (2019) and IUCN World Conservation Congress (2020);
- Activities related to different EU funded Projects related to MPAs in the Mediterranean.

Sincerely yours,

Antonio Troya
Director

IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation



UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACIÓN DE LA NATURALEZA
Centro de Cooperación del Mediterráneo
Parque Tecnológico de Andalucía
Edificio Curie 22, 29590 Campanillas (España)
Tel. +34 952 02 84 30 - iucnmed@iucn.org



WWF Mediterranean Tel: +39 06 844 97227
Direct+39 06 844 97381
Fax: +39 06 841 3866

Via Po 25/C
00198 Rome
Italy

plombardi@wwfmedpo.org
www.panda.org/mediterranean

Ms Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Rome, 19 December 2018

Subject: Co-financing contribution from WWF Mediterranean for the Child Project 3.1 "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya"

Dear Ms Ishii,

I am pleased to confirm WWF Mediterranean's interest in and support for the MedProgramme Child Project 3.1 "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya". We look forward to our collaboration with the GEF in the context of this project which will substantially contribute to the establishment of an MPA management support mechanisms in priority MPAs in Libya.

I am pleased to inform you that WWF Mediterranean is able to contribute towards the Project objectives with an in-kind contribution of USD 1,284,000, made of funding that WWF Mediterranean is receiving from other donors for projects supporting activities that can be related to the Child Project 3.1 "Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya", as follows:

Capacity building of Libyan Civil Society Organizations through the project "Supporting Libyan NGOs to shape the future of the new Libyan Democracy (ELNLD)" – duration: 2013-2019; Donor EU, contract: DCI-NSAPVD/2013/314-917 - K€ 427 (USD 504 K)

Building capacity for effective management of MPAs in the Mediterranean (Tunisia, Algeria, Turkey – producing lessons and guidance applicable for Libya MPAs) through the project "COGITO (CONforter la Gestion Intégrée et durable des Territoires littOraux, insulaires et marins et des AMP en Méditerranée)" – duration: 2018-2022 - WWF Mediterranean component, Donor FFEM K€ 500 (USD 600)

WWF Mediterranean North Africa Marine leadership & coordination (including marine conservation strategic leadership, policy, partnerships) – duration: 2018-2020 - Donor Mava Foundation, estimated K€ 150 (USD 180 K).

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours Sincerely,


Paolo Lombardi
Director
WWF Mediterranean Foundation



President: PavanSukhdev
Director General: Marco Lambertini
President Emeritus: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh
Founder President: HRH Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands

Registered as: WWF-World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF-FondoMondiale per la Natura
WWF-FondoMundial para la Naturaleza, WWF-Fonds Mondial pour la Nature
WWF-WeltNaturFonds. Formerly World Wildlife Fund

ANNEX L2 CO-FINANCING COMMITMENT LETTERS FROM COUNTRIES CP3.1



التاريخ: / / 143
الموافق: 22 / 11 / 2018

الرقم الإشاري: _____

Draft co-financing letter for the State of Libya

Ms. Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Subject: Co-financing contribution from the State of Libya for Child Projects 1.1 and 3.1 of the MedProgramme

Dear Ms. Ishii,

The Environment General Authority welcomes the forthcoming collaboration between the State of Libya and the GEF in the “Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security” (GEF ID 9607). We reiterate our commitment to joining forces with the GEF to reduce environmental stress on the Mediterranean Sea through the diverse activities foreseen in the multi-focal area MedProgramme, including those that will be undertaken in the context of Child Projects 1.1 and 3.1. In keeping with the GEF’s policy on co-financing, the State of Libya will contribute to the successful implementation of these Child Projects through a combination of in-kind institutional support and complementary initiatives.

Co-financing for Child Project 1.1

The value of all related in-kind support and complementary initiatives is estimated at 1.3 million USD, which represents the in-kind co-financing contribution of the State of Libya to Child Project 1.1.

Co-financing for Child Project 3.1

Child Project 3.1 is devoted exclusively to management support and expansion of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Libya. The activities that will be undertaken in Libya in this context include the establishment of a governance structure for MPAs, a national inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest, the creation of on-site MPA management units and management plans, capacity building on the governance and management of MPAs, and awareness raising campaigns on the value and importance of MPAs in Libya, amongst other activities. The State of Libya will support these activities through the time of its staff, the provision of relevant data, coordination with relevant institutions and Ministries and logistic support. In addition, activities of Child Project 3.1 will build upon and contribute to any complementary initiatives implemented by the State of Libya, which related to protection of marine areas, assessments of marine and coastal biodiversity, governance of natural resources, etc.}.





التاريخ : / / 143
الموافق : / / 201

الرقم الإشاري : _____

The value of all related in-kind support and complementary initiatives is estimated at 2.5 million USD, which represents the in-kind co-financing contribution of the State of Libya to Child Project 3.1.

We look forward to working together with the GEF on these important new activities in the Mediterranean.

Yours sincerely,

M. Soliman

GEF Operational Focal Point for the State of Libya



Annex M - List Of Acronyms and Abbreviations Child Project 3.1

APR/PIR	Annual Project Review/Project Implementation Report
AWP	Annual Work Programme
BD	Biodiversity
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBIT	Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
CC	Climate Change
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CMS	Convention of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
CO_{2e}	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
CP	Child Project
CW	Chemicals and Waste
DSA	Daily Subsistence Allowance
EA	Executing Agency
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EcAp	Ecosystem Approach
EGA	Environment General Authority of the State of Libya
EP	Executing Partners
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEFTF	GEF Trust Fund
GPA	Global Program of Action
gTEQ	Grams of Toxic Equivalent
Ha	Hectare
IA	Implementing Agency
IAP	Integrated Approach Pilot
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IFI	International Financial Institution
IO	Information Officer
OIE	Independent Office of Evaluation
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IW	International Waters
IW:LEARN	International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network
KM	Knowledge Management
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MBRC	Marine Biology Research Centre of Libya
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MedPCU	MedProgramme Coordination Unit
MedProgramme	Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security

MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
NAP	National Action Plans
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NOC	National Oil Corporation of Libya
NPPF	National Project Focal Point
ODP	Ozone Depletion Potential
PA	Protected Area
PAA	Programme and Administration Assistant
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PFA	Programme Financial Assistant
PIF	Project Information Form
PM	Programme Manager
PMC	Project Management Cost
PO	Technical Programme Officer
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SAP-BIO	Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SPA/RAC	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre
SPAMI	Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TA	Technical Assistance
TDA	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
TE	Terminal Evaluation
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UN Environment	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WWF Mediterranean	World Wide Fund For Nature – Mediterranean Programme Office

Annex N: Project Implementation Timetable

Component	Outcome	Output	YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3		YEAR 4		YEAR 5		
			S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2	
Component 1: Improving Governance.	Expansion of seascapes under protection in Libya and improved protected area management through the implementation of the Libyan Marine Protected Areas (MPA) National Strategy, mapping of marine key habitats, monitoring of marine megafauna (mammals, seabirds, turtles and cartilaginous fishes), capacity support mechanisms and adoption of permanent solutions.	Output 1.1: An adequate governance structure for MPAs in Libya.											
		Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya.											
		Output 1.3: On-site MPA management units and management plans.											
Component 2: Participation and institutional strengthening.		Output 2.1: Civil society organisations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.											
		Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management with trainings on MPA planning, management, stakeholder engagement, etc.											
Component 3: Awareness-raising and communication.		Output 3.1: Awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision makers and investors.											

ANNEX O: Gender Assessment and Action Plan
Child Project 3.1: Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya

*Debasmita Boral
Gender Consultant,
UN Environment
Mediterranean Action Plan*

1. Introduction

This Gender Assessment has been prepared as an input for the design of the GEF-funded ‘Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya’ project, (also referred to as the Child Project 3.1 of the MedProgramme). This project is being envisioned under the aegis of the Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme), a comprehensive and powerful response to the environmental and social challenges faced in the region. Comprising of regional components in tandem with national activities, this project will involve one (Libya) of the nine¹ MedProgramme beneficiary countries.

For the broader context of the Child Project 3.1, it is important to understand the vision, breadth and capacity of the MedProgramme. The MedProgramme is the third step of 20 years of cooperation between UN Environment/MAP and GEF in the Mediterranean region. It builds upon the foundation created by both the successful implementation of previous GEF projects and the legal framework provided by the Barcelona Convention and its protocols. The Programme encompasses a series of interconnected projects (Child Projects or CP²) based on an overarching vision for change: ‘A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse, contributing to sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations’. Through the joining of forces of three GEF focal areas and of numerous partners³ including UN agencies, development banks, MAP Regional Activity Centers (RACs), NGOs and others, under the leadership of UN Environment/MAP, the MedProgramme is expected to achieve large-scale impacts in improving livelihood and health of coastal populations, water security, sustainability of marine and coastal ecosystem services and preservation of biodiversity. The Programme is, at once, a pioneering effort to generate dialogue, cooperation, and also for taking action on a regional scale for greater gender equality; and will, therefore, strategically contribute to the sustainable development efforts and address gender gaps in the Mediterranean basin.

CP 3.1’s focus on the creation and effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) on Libyan shorelines is a necessary step in maintaining marine biodiversity, and the preservation of productive and diverse coastal habitats. A 2018 study⁴ reiterates the need for such an intervention– through an unprecedented environmental dataset compiled to understand the anthropogenic impacts at Mediterranean scale, the researchers find an increased presence of mercury (Hg), arsenic (As) and other chemicals in marine sediments, signaling potential eco-toxicological risks– particularly for fishing communities and pescetarian populace as fish consumption represents the main pathway for exposure to these toxics. Further, CP 3.1 adds to the international conversation reflected at the 14th Conference of the Parties (COP14 held in November 2018) for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)⁵, which highlighted the interrelated pursuit of investing in people and the planet through the prism of biodiversity, particularly the essential economic activities and livelihood dependence natural resources exhibit. Additionally, CP 3.1’s approach feeds into the priorities being laid out the for the post-2020

¹ The nine MedProgramme countries are: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, and Tunisia.

² At the time of its approval in 2016, the MedProgramme comprised of seven Child Projects. Subsequently, UN Environment/MAP developed a Mediterranean-focused climate change adaptation project, for financing through the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). It was agreed by the UN Environment/MAP, UN Environment and the GEF that this SCCF project would be managed, for all intents and purposes, as an additional Child Project of the MedProgramme. Hence, the number of Child Projects now stands at eight.

³ GEF Lead Agency: UN Environment. Other GEF Agencies: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Executing Partners: UNEP/MAP, European Investment Bank (EIB), UNESCO International Hydrological Program (IHP), Global Water Partnership (GWP) Med, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), MEDPOL, UNIDO, and IUCN.

⁴ Bonsignore, M., Salvagio Manta, D., Al-Tayeb Sharif, Ehab A., D’Agostino, F., Traina, A., Quinci, E. M., Giaramita, L., Calogera, M., Benothman, M., & Sprovieri, M. “Marine Pollution in the Libyan coastal area: environmental and risk assessment” in *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. (2018)

⁵ See this [SDG note](#) by the CBD, describing the biodiversity connection of each SDG and human activities.

biodiversity framework, set to succeed the current CBD Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020 in China with an added focus on bridging the gap on climate change and biodiversity action, focusing on human actors and consequences.⁶

2. Contextualizing CP 3.1 and Gender Actions in the Mediterranean

Gender relations in the Mediterranean region are a kaleidoscope⁷ of overlapping social, economic and cultural roles, spread across a diverse multitude of countries and communities. The European Mediterranean countries have distinct social patterns and gender norms, are distinctive in certain facets, from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Mediterranean countries, for example. Additionally, the varying political situations in the region also determine how women and men are able to access and leverage biodiversity preservation opportunities or marine governance tools to be able to cope with environmental degradation, pollution-related risks, livelihood stress, and pressures on natural and managed resources.

As Child Project 3.1 has a streamlined focus on Libya and hence (broadly) the MENA region, the various disparities as well as commonalities in gender relations and the socioeconomic situation of the region and among the countries require highlighting. Labor market dynamics, for example, exhibit a significant gender gap and is a regional issue: women's employment rates and labor force participation, as a general trend, are lower, along with an existing gender wage gap. Libya's overall labor force participation rates reflect the realities of the MENA region (wide gender disparities – men [61%]; women [33.8%]), but are far lower than other emerging economies in different regions of the world (such as Malaysia, Peru and South Africa).⁸ Since economic capital is among the important determinants of coping capacities to external shocks (in this case, economic costs of marine pollution and lack of access to adequate marine management tools, lack of resilient livelihood and economic stress caused by non-participation in MPA process etc.), women from certain communities (and once-remote traditional and artisanal fishing societies) are more likely to be vulnerable. The 'double disadvantage' of the situation should also be reckoned with: due to lack of viable economic capital or socioeconomic rights, vulnerable groups are often excluded from, and limited by their lack of representation and agency, in marine governance policies, and coastal management plans– increasing the possibilities of exposure to the threats looming in the Mediterranean region.

Further, in Libya, coupled with barriers to the labor market and employment opportunities, women face difficulties in garnering meaningful participation within civil society and political spheres. Decision-making power within the household and the polity is limited by the patrilocal organization of society and gender-based customs, curtailing women's capacities to engage in the public sphere and gear development opportunities to safeguard their interests. In recent years, however, more and more women have been capitalizing on opportunities presented by pluralistic interpretations of local sociocultural ethos, and entering both the work force and the public space as compared to previous trends. Indeed, women played a significant role in the 17th February Revolution– gaining rights and access, in the post-Gaddafi era, which have challenged preceding traditional norms and customs.⁹ That being said, the gains achieved through social change in this region may not keep pace with the risks and threats arising from the lack of: water security; collective management policies for marine resources; and implementation of common environmental protocols and prohibitive laws to avoid overexploitation or pollution of the Libyan coastline. The burdens of emerging health risks and shocks resulting from these paucities, thus, may fall on the vulnerable groups.

From a combined biodiversity and livelihoods perspective, MPAs can potentially enhance the complementarity of a combination of marine management tools: spatial protection, ecosystem-based

⁶ See this [news report](#) ("A Paris moment for Biodiversity") by the PBL Netherlands Assessment Agency.

⁷ See [this report](#) by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) regarding an action plan towards investing in gender equality in the region.

⁸ "Structure of the Libyan Labor Market" in *Labor Market Dynamics in Libya*. World Bank. (2015)

⁹ Bruce, R. "Libya's gender wars: the revolution within the revolution" in *Journal of North African Studies*. (Vol. 22). (2017)

management, integrated coastal management and coastal fisheries sustainability.¹⁰ Practitioner-focused and research literature have indicated that, despite indication of mounting environmental and social costs of degrading coastal ecosystems, which are among the most productive and biologically diverse in the world¹¹, a tiny percentage of marine habitat is currently under protection. Further, where legislation, common protocols and regulation measures do exist, these are not updated in accordance to latest scientific research, marine mapping data, political activities (Libya, for example, has seen exploitation of its national waters by foreign actors during the years of conflict, given the lack of effective governance and control) and exposure studies, and also generally lack specific policy focus.

Given this complex context, CP 3.1 can advocate for transformative and inclusive change in the marine management domain. Through its components, the project will work on building effective governance tools and adequate management policies; invest in capacity of local and national stakeholders—particularly through civil society engagement; and, ensure dissemination of relevant information regarding MPAs to raise awareness and target a varied audience. This will accelerate actions towards marine management, while prioritizing the consideration of gender and socioeconomic conditions that play an important role in determining the effectiveness of such governance structures. It also provides the means for Libya to sustainably address a national marine and coastal resources issue, and to fill important knowledge gaps as well as set an example that can potentially be replicated at the Mediterranean scale.

Given the project’s focus, therefore, a gender lens is both necessary and relevant for the project to achieve its primary objectives. Efforts will be made, as this Assessment will present, to incorporate the dimension of gender in a holistic manner in the project’s activities: by capacity-building on how to mainstream gender-responsive actions (and, simultaneously awareness-raising) for personnel involved in the development of MPA policies; by creating the impetus towards collection of gender-relevant and sex-disaggregated data and information as pioneering effort to understand the crosscutting nature of gender and marine governance; and, by engaging stakeholders on gender and socioeconomic aspects within policy solutions. In this manner, the project can ensure both environmental and social co-benefits through its results framework, optimal achievement of its objectives, and lay the groundwork for inclusive marine governance and management tools in Libya.

3. Gender Mainstreaming at the GEF, and UN Environment

Employing a strong mandate of operationalizing gender equality actions and promoting women’s empowerment as well as contributing to the international conversation on gender mainstreaming, the GEF, and UN Environment have prioritized the delivery of inclusive and gender-responsive results, and mitigation solutions towards environmental issues, pollution risks, sustainable resource management, and coastal ecosystems degradation.

Having launched its initial gender policy in 2011, the GEF approved a reinforced policy in November 2017¹² at the 53rd Council Meeting, shifting the focus from a ‘*gender-aware, do no harm*’ approach to a ‘*gender-responsive, do good*’ approach. This requires robust standards in the design, implementation and evaluation of GEF sponsored activities, and introducing measures that will allow the GEF, over time, to better leverage strategic opportunities to address gender gaps critical to the achievement of global environment benefits through project funding.¹³ More recently, the *GEF-7 Programming Directions*, prepared by the Secretariat at the Stockholm meeting (April 2018) further clarifies the GEF’s evolving and progressive gender strategy – by providing gender action points tailored for each GEF focal area.¹⁴ It lays out clear gender standards for each domain under the GEF, and for CP 3.1—gender directives of the Biodiversity focal area (such as: building gender equity in resource access—

¹⁰ “MPAs in Context” in *Scaling Up Marine Management: the role of MPAs*. World Bank (2006)

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² See here for the latest [GEF Gender Mainstreaming guide \(EN\)](#). GEF. (2017) (publication)

¹³ “A new Policy on Gender Equality for the GEF”. [GEF official website](#). (2017) (news update)

¹⁴ GEF-7 Replenishment – Programming Directions. Meeting Report from the 4th meeting held at Stockholm, Sweden for the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, in April 2018.

GEF-funded IUCN project in Nepal; integrating indigenous and gender concerns within the broader context of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use– GEF-funded FAO project in Ecuador; etc.)¹⁵, are particularly relevant and have been incorporated as action points for the operationalization for this Assessment.

UN Environment recognizes the role of gender equality as a ‘driver of sustainable environment development’¹⁶, particularly to enhance environmental security and climate resilience; to assuage the stresses on natural resources and dependent communities; and, to preserve the health of large marine ecosystems (like the Mediterranean Basin) which provide vital environmental and economic services to coastal populaces. Overall, the organization focuses on the increased visibility and capacity of vulnerable groups in sustainable development policy- and decision-making. To that end, the agency has:

- A. Published a lessons-learnt report¹⁷, through gender case study compilation, on issues homologous with the overall MedProgramme agenda: gender integration in marine and coastal pollution, coastal disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, coastal developmental planning and urban issues, and advocacy for gender-inclusive marine ecosystem management and research.
- B. Highlighted the importance of gender for the improvement of ocean health at the first-ever UN Ocean Conference, particularly the importance of integrating the needs and perspectives of diverse users of marine resources.

Thus, in keeping with the policies, actions and prerogatives of the GEF and UN Environment, the imperative of this Gender Assessment is the inclusion of more gender-responsive elements throughout this propitious project. Alongside, the development of a dedicated Gender Action Plan in the preparation stage (with clear timelines, responsible parties, indicators and budgetary allocations to be refined in the implementation phase) based on the Assessment, will ensure that the project generates gender-equitable and accessible benefits, promotes greater gender equality, and the empowerment of vulnerable gender demographics in context-specific locales.

4. Methodology

The Gender Assessment has *four* methodological building blocks:

- A. An online stakeholder survey was conducted in the preparation stage for CP 3.1 (November 2018), and the responses overwhelmingly favored both gender mainstreaming as well as engagement of local actors. Particularly, the role of gender within fishing communities – wives of fishermen and women who belong to these – required highlighting in the MPA planning and implementation process, according to quite a few responders. Further, it was reiterated that these communities are essential in the management and protection of marine ecosystems, and their meaningful participation would be crucial for the success of MPAs in Libya.
- B. A comprehensive desk-review of existing literature was conducted on gender, MPAs, marine pollution and coastal livelihoods in Libya. The literature review revealed useful data and research on MPAs as governance tools, stakeholder participation and civil society engagement in natural resource management, and coastal livelihoods in Libya. However, these thematic areas are not triangulated in mainstream research, and there exists lacunae of data and information sources on Libya-specific gender-based and socioeconomic enquiry into these topics. Thus, a *socioeconomic and gender indicators and baseline* (Section 5) was derived from national aggregate statistics (from United Nations Development Programme – UNDP, World Economic Forum – WEF, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Institute – OPHI, International Labor Organization – ILO, and, the World Bank) to identify the potential impacts on different vulnerable groups and demographics, in view of the current state of Libyan coastlines, MPAs and political situation.

¹⁵ See the [full blog post](#) (“Gender and Biodiversity: Joint Gains”) on the official GEF blog, published in 2013.

¹⁶ *Gender Equality and the Environment: Policy and Strategy*. UN Environment. (2015)

¹⁷ *Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 207* (forthcoming). Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Unit. UN Environment. (2018)

- C. Gender-responsive entry points towards MPAs, coastal livelihoods and access, and effective communication of gender-sensitive information have been expounded upon in Section 6. This section locates specific gender considerations and actions for the project outcomes, and presents normative information to gear the same towards better socioeconomic and environmental co-benefits.
- D. Section 7 explores the policy environment of Libya, and presents a potential list of gender stakeholders, relevant for the project activities and collaborations during the project cycle.
- E. Section 8 presents the Gender Action Plan, laying out specific action points mainstreamed within this GEF proposal’s results framework, corresponding actions, indicators, timelines, responsible parties, and budget allocations, to address the gender issues identified by the preceding Assessment.

5. Mainstreaming Entry Points, Gender Baseline and Socioeconomic Issues in the CP 3.1 Beneficiary Countries

Libya, as in any other emerging economy and in a civil war context, faces different developmental challenges and socioeconomic disparities, which require tradeoffs between priorities. Adopting the current perspective from development research, this Assessment proceeds from the following entry point: poverty, labor force status and economic stability, marginalization, and gender inequities have conclusive and direct links with increased risk of vulnerability stemming from degradation of marine resources, mismanagement of coastal habitats, and livelihood stress from unsustainable biodiversity use and loss thereafter. Table I explores these nuances in detail by showing the potential of moving from a gender-blind paradigm to a gender-mainstreamed one¹⁸, and why gender is a cross-cutting issue across the domains of MPAs, coastal livelihoods and natural resource management, and natural resource management:

TABLE I: MPAs, COASTAL LIVELIHOODS, BIODIVERSITY and NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GENDER BLIND	GENDER MAINSTREAMED	RELEVANCE
Marine management tools such as MPAs have environmental and technical outputs – preservation of coastal habitats, marine resources, and biodiversity	MPAs can be designed to have socioeconomic ‘co-benefits’ along with environmental outputs	The current baseline of research and action on coastal-marine management remains in a formative phase, in comparison to the extensive knowledge bank, tools, implementation lessons, and financial support available for sustainable development and conservation of terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity. ¹⁹ The original conceptual frameworks informing MPA demarcation were site-specific and were visible predominantly as ‘national parks’ or as conservation strategies with primarily environmental and technical outputs, for example: Australia’s Great Barrier Reef. ²⁰

¹⁸ The MedProgramme’s overall Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (GMS) 2019 – 2024 consists of three targets: (1) address gender-blind hurdles with gender-differentiated impacts; (2) mitigate gender-specific barriers and discriminatory norms; and, (3) scale up gender-sensitive policies and deliver gender-responsive outcomes. The first target is relevant here as often issues of marine biodiversity loss and degradation of coastal habitats are deemed to affect the general populace. However, as feminist ecological studies have shown, such a gender-blind approach only leads to sub-optimal achievement of project objectives, as the different needs and perspective of vulnerable and/or marginalised groups and other diverse users are not adequately represented. Yet, at the same time, gender-blind policies and project goals can be easily made into gender-responsive ones, without requiring a complete overhaul of existing structures – this requires gender mainstreaming action points incorporated after in-depth studies of the context as well as stakeholder consultations.

¹⁹ “MPAs in Context” in *Scaling Up Marine Management: the role of MPAs*. World Bank (2006)

²⁰ *Ibid.*

GENDER BLIND	GENDER MAINSTREAMED	RELEVANCE
		<p>However, MPAs can be mobilized to have extensive sociological and economic benefits as well: enhancing and restoring productive potential of fisheries; protecting artisanal communities (and their religious or spiritual symbols) by limiting access; encouraging community livelihood projects (through environmental stewardship and education); and, improving overall social resilience (through increased food availability and other needs).</p> <p>These types MPAs, part of the multiuse marine management repertoire, integrate diverse agendas and focus on balanced zoning and management, rather than creating ‘no-take’ zones. Co-managed and community-friendly MPAs provide opportunities for resource-user communities to both maintain their historical access to important resources, conservation outputs and also generate stewardship – enhancing the longevity of such interventions and creating overall sustainable and inclusive development opportunities.²¹</p>
<p>It is important to accelerate the implementation of marine conservation strategies (such as MPAs), given the current state of crisis in that signal widespread and irreversible loss of marine environments</p>	<p>MPAs can also have socioeconomic ramifications – as it can determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - who can access marine resources, - to what extent, when, - where, - how, and - under what conditions 	<p>Given the current state of marine resource and coastline degradation, top-down blanket protection or stringent measures may seem appealing. However, a case study in Salum, Egypt (12kms off the Libyan border, on the Mediterranean) concludes that conservation goals require compatibility with social and economic perspectives, as the consequences of altering existing socio-ecological relationships (between communities and marine resources) could undermine resilience, and perpetuate negative opinions in local communities (regarding MPAs and other marine governance/management tools).²²</p> <p>Indeed, recent experience²³ has shown that successful MPAs work because they are able to include the needs and perspectives of local stakeholders in its selection, establishment and management. Particularly, considerations of factors such as poverty, gender and social realities, as well as economic determinants, should feed in MPA policy²⁴ – ensuring that they work as assets for the vulnerable social groups rather than burdens.</p>

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² Marshall, N., Abulla, A., & Marshall, P. “Using social resilience and resource dependency to increase the effectiveness of marine conservation initiatives in Salum, Egypt” in *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*. (2009)

²³ MACEMP in Tanzania (Marine and Coastal Environment Project in Tanzania) is an excellent example of efforts to increase sustainable management and use of Tanzania’s EEZ, territorial seas, and coastal resources, leading to enhanced revenue collection, reduced threats to the environment, better livelihoods for participating coastal communities. See Box 3.3 in “Significance and Diversification of MPAs in Coastal Marine Management: Key Issues” in *Scaling Up Marine Management: the role of MPAs*. World Bank. (2006)

²⁴ A study on ‘reef dependency’ by DFID (2003), for example, reveals that marginalized fisherfolk communities’ income and livelihood outcomes, nutrition performance and even health indicators are sensitive to the health of coral reefs. (Whittingham, E., Cambell, J., & Townsley, P. [eds.] *Poverty and Reefs – Vols. 1 & 2*. DFID. [2003]).

GENDER BLIND	GENDER MAINSTREAMED	RELEVANCE
<p>Strengthening MPA policies and institutions can be achieved through community-engagement and stakeholder-friendly processes</p>	<p>Although stakeholder-friendly processes and community engagement schemes are necessary steps to bolstering MPA policies and implementation, it is important to incorporate a gender-sensitive lens to further improve upon the accessibility of this marine management tool. A gender-sensitive lens reveals what are the differences between men and women in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - accessing decision-making bodies, - time poverty, - economic welfare, and - health equity 	<p>Building on the previous points, assessing the emerging reality of marine resources, gendered differences and socioeconomic outcomes is important. Particularly:</p> <p>A 2016 FAO report²⁵ finds that women make scarce inputs towards community discussions and decisions on marine and coastal resources, particularly in fishing communities. This is primarily because labor patterns in this sector mimic the patrilocal societal structures the communities have – women traditionally do not participate in direct capture or boat fishing (which are a male preserve), and rather participate in economically-undervalued or invisible post-harvest tasks. The bulk of the remuneration, thus, is controlled by men in these communities, creating both an economic capital gap as well as lack of access to tangible decision-making arenas.</p> <p>Additionally, there remains the issue of time poverty. Women, and adolescent girls, particularly in the MENA region, disproportionately shoulder the burden of unpaid care and domestic work.²⁶ This leads to a phenomenon called 'time poverty', defined as a situation where a certain person's time use is inflexible and determined by external factors, consumed by non-remunerative and non-productive tasks, perpetuating their absence from decision-making or governance structures and raising the opportunity costs for other profitable pursuits.</p> <p>Health outcomes resulting out of unsafe fish consumption or chemical exposure can have ripple effects by creating income shocks among poorer groups, particularly those that lack health equity and access. Vulnerable groups – particularly women in these marginalized communities – often lack stable sources of income (if at all – labor force participation rates among men and women reveal gender gaps and concomitant gender wage gaps in the Mediterranean, and this lowers access to healthcare, when insurance or free health provisions are not widely available. Lack of economic capital also lessens the decision-making and bargaining power of individuals within the household – where men (often engaged in direct economic activities in the breadwinning roles) may prioritize other necessities.</p>

The following data profiles, keeping in context the gamut of issues outlined in Table I, thus borrow from UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI), Gender Inequality Index (GII), and Gender Development Index (GDI). Additionally, they refer to the Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI) (WEF) and compiles national-level poverty statistics (conducted by national authorities of the nine countries, as well as the

²⁵ See *The State of World's Fisheries and Agriculture*. FAO. (2016)

²⁶ *Beyond Scarcity: Water Security in the Middle East and North Africa*. World Bank. (2018)

World Bank, in some cases), labor force participation rates and status (primarily from ILO data), and traces the rural-urban dichotomy. These indices have differing methodologies, and are being employed, at the outset, as indicative (and *not* conclusive) measures of current levels of development, gender equality, and poverty and labor force participation.

As Booyesen’s research²⁷ shows, composite indices present both challenges and advantages. It should be noted that numerous fallacies have been identified in the methodologies employed in composite indexing. These indices are mainly quantitative, and present empirical and aggregate measures of complex development phenomena, making values apparently objective, at the cost of subjective nuances. Yet, these also remain invaluable as useful supplements to income-based development indicators, understanding relative degrees of development, simplifying complex measurement constructs as well as providing access to non-technical audiences. To balance this dichotomy, ranks should be given less precedence in certain indices and relevance notes have been included to contextualize the results.

TABLE II: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI)²⁸
(out of 188 countries – United Nations Development Program – UNDP, 2018)

Defining the HDI: This index measures and combines three basic dimensions of human development (long and healthy life, knowledge and decent standard of living) and provides an overall socioeconomic landscape of a country.

Relevance of the HDI: Since socioeconomic capital and security are crucial determinants of the capacities to adapt towards pollution risks, health hazards, loss of coastal livelihoods due to ecosystem goods and service depletion, marine and environmental degradation, this index indicates how poised each country may be to consider and invest in different alternatives such as MPAs, marine resource management, resilience, adaptation and mitigation options.

Indicative, not conclusive: In line with Booyesen’s argument, the HDI should be treated as indicative, not conclusive. It provides an overview of relative degree of development in a particular country but remains a ‘synthetic indicator’. Recent research has shown the need to supplement the HDI with other indicators associated with economic and social cohesion, sound development strategies, and sustainability in growth models.²⁹

Rank	RELEVANCE
108 ^h	With ‘high human development’, Libya’s economic readiness towards investing in MPAs is primed, however given the civil war context the government may prioritize other pursuits. ³⁰ With an unpredictable political climate, and entrenched gender inequality, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.

TABLE III: GENDER INEQUALITY INDEX (GII)³¹
(out of 159 countries – UNDP, 2018)

Defining the GII: This index, showing inequality in achievement between men and women in three aspects (reproductive health, empowerment and labor market), provides a useful gender baseline in terms of health equity, economic capital and financial access,

²⁷ Booyesen, F. “An Overview and Evaluation of Composite Indices of Development” in *Social Indicators Research*, (Vol. 59 No. 2). (2002)

²⁸ UNDP. (2018)

²⁹ Bilbao-Ubillos, J. “The Limits of Human Development Index” in *Sustainable Development*, (Vol. 21 No. 6). (2011)

³⁰ *Inequalities, Uprisings and Conflicts in the Arab World. MENA Monitor.* World Bank. (2015)

³¹ UNDP. (2018)

speaking to the gender opportunities of men and women in the countries. This baseline has been elaborated upon using existing gender studies literature on each country.

Relevance of the GII: This index provides a primary understanding of the different levels of achievements on basic development indicators between men and women. This displays useful features towards the gender status quo hypotheses, which could then be derived in the context of this project.

Indicative, not conclusive: In line with Booyesen’s argument, the GII should be treated as indicative, not conclusive. Pernmayer finds that the functional form of the index could be unclear, particularly the inclusion of indicators of relative performance of women vis-à-vis men, along with absolute women-specific indicators.³²

Rank	RELEVANCE
38 th	Political, social and economic capitals are not equitably distributed among Libyan men and women – and paints a unique gender reality for the country Despite high female education rate (69.4% with some secondary education, as compared to men – 45%), the workforce participation and retention rates for women remain unperturbed, signaling both gendered entry barriers and a stagnated job markets (only 25.8% of the females in working age category are in the labor force, as compared to 79% of males). ³³

TABLE IV: GENDER DEVELOPMENT INDEX (GDI)³⁴
 (grouped in 5 categories, 1: high equality to 5: low equality – UNDP, 2018)
& GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX (GGI)³⁵
 (out of 144 countries – World Economic Forum – WEF, 2017)

Defining the GDI & GGI: The GDI (UNDP) index shows the ratio of female to male HDI values. GDI expresses values in deviation, hence, in order to facilitate understanding GDI grouped categories have been used (as grouped by UNDP) to show the absolute deviation from gender parity in HDI values. This further reiterates the results of the HDI and GII (also by UNDP), and shows the real gender gap in human development achievements.

The GGI (WEF) benchmarks 144 countries on their progress towards gender parity on four thematic dimensions – economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival, and political empowerment. The Index benchmarks national gender gaps on economic, political, education- and health-based criteria, and provides country rankings that allow for effective comparisons across regions and income groups, over time.

Relevance of the GDI & GII: Since the GDI and GGI use different methodologies, and are conducted by different agencies, this report does not suggest a causality between the two indices. However, a correlation is undeniable, and both indices pick up similar rates of gender disparity in the CP 3.1 countries.

Indicative, not conclusive: In line with Booyesen’s argument, the GDI & GII should be treated as indicative, not conclusive. Geake Dijkstra and Hanmer find that although gender-related development indices have increased attention towards ‘feminization of poverty and underdevelopment’, more robust data needs and indicators are required to create aggregate indices that are sensitive to contemporary trends in gendered privation, particularly with the categorization of ‘women’.³⁶

³² Pernmayer, I. “A Critical Assessment of the UNDP’s Gender Inequality Index” in *Feminist Economics*, (Vol. 19 No. 2). (2013)

³³ UNDP. (2018)

³⁴ UNDP. (2018)

³⁵ WEF. (2017)

³⁶ Geske Dijkstra, A. & Hanmer, L. C. “Measuring Socio-Economic Gender Inequality: Towards an Alternative to the UNDP Gender Index” in *Feminist Economics*, (Vol. 6, No. 2). (2000)

GDI – Group	GGI – Rank	Relevance
3 - Medium Equality	unavailable	The gender gap in Libya has improved on certain indicators (educational attainment, health and survival) and has remained wide on others (political empowerment, labor force participation). This signals the need for holistic gender-sensitive investments, to encourage overall development in different subindices.

TABLE V: SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS

Note: This table is compiled from various sources, and determines poverty levels (according to USAID income grouping), rural-urban divide and labor force participation parity in Libya.

Poverty Level: Resource stress from environmental degradation affect dependent communities, and often their impacts combine with poverty– hence this is an important indicator, corroborating HDI ranking. To illustrate this, the Multidimensional Poverty Index has been used. OPHI and UNDP calculate the MPI, for measuring different facets poverty in developing countries. It complements traditional income-based poverty measures by capturing the severe deprivations with regard to different indicators: education, health, and living standards. The index not only identifies those living in multidimensional poverty, but the extent (or intensity) of their poverty. The MPI can help the effective allocation of resources by making possible the targeting of those with the greatest intensity of poverty; it can help address some SDGs strategically and monitor impacts of policy intervention.³⁷

Labor force participation parity (% of working age population active)³⁸: In the Mediterranean, one of the prime sectors facing gender disparity is labor force participation parity. The region is plagued with high unemployment rates³⁹ (12.5% average), and this phenomenon remains a gendered one: women and youth are less likely to be employed than men, as a general trend. Additionally, the existing gap in labor force participation indicates that women possess less economic capital, and can often be limited by gendered (mostly unpaid care work) roles. This directly correlates to lessened participation in coastal economies and scarce or unstable livelihoods; lack of decision-making power both within the household (especially health decisions) and larger policy frameworks such as marine management policies; and, greater exposure to repercussions of marine environmental degradation, resource stress and loss of livelihoods (which often acts as a threat multiplier, in this context).

Poverty Indices	<p>Labor Force Participation</p> <p><i>(The gender gap is calculated as the difference between women’s and men’s labor force participation rates – simply, the number of working age men and women employed in a country, ILO 2016)</i></p>
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³⁷ See UNDP’s [Technical Notes](#) (2016) for more.

³⁸ *World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends for Women*. ILO. (2017)

³⁹ “Unemployment: The Mediterranean Effect”, [World Bank](#). (2012)

Exact statistics are unavailable for Libya.

Since the outbreak of the civil war, particularly in 2011, Libya represents what is known as an ‘interrupted economy’ – despite vast oil reserves, the economy shrunk almost by 60%. It is estimated about 37% of the population live in some type of poverty, and an additional 4% are vulnerable to being poor.⁴⁰

**25.8% female
79.0% male**

Female labor force participation is low in Libya, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world.⁴¹ This is a significant loss as including women and enabling conditions to retain them in the workforce can boost the growth rate and recovery of the Libyan economy.

6. Gender Entry Points for CP 3.1 Components

Building on Table I, which showed why gender and socioeconomic conditions require mainstreaming in actions in MPAs, Table V provides a break down of the project components and posits gender-mainstreaming considerations for each. These entry points have been suggested after reviewing the existing literature and data, and have the potential to shift the needle on the success garnered through the project objectives – from optimal to inclusive.

TABLE V: COMPONENT-SPECIFIC GENDER CONSIDERATIONS FOR CP 3.1

COMPONENT	GENDER MAINSTREAMING CONSIDERATIONS
1. Improving Governance	<p style="text-align: center;">BASELINE:</p> <p>Given the uneasy political climate in Libya, natural resource management and mitigation of environmental degradation have been sidelined. Indeed, while the country has faced civil war turmoil and violence, foreign actors have capitalized on resources from unmanaged marine and coastal shorelines, leading to overexploitation and damage. This not only affects national environmental sustainability, but has immediate repercussions for communities that reside in these coastal habitats. Effective marine management tools, such as selection, demarcation and implementation of MPAs, are urgently required before the current levels of degradation convert into irreversible damage.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO:</p> <p>CP 3.1 can bring MPA policy towards local stakeholders and diverse users in site-specific contexts, and provide pioneering information on population subgroups – where men and women lie on the capacity spectrum, and which gender constraints and priorities could to be addressed through community engagement and stakeholder-friendly MPA. Tentatively, it will seek to address these issues through the entry point:</p> <p>α. Vulnerable and marginalized demographics are often limited by the</p>

⁴⁰ See *Libya: Country Briefing – MPI Index Data Bank* by OPHI. (2017)

⁴¹ ILO. *Women in Business and Law*. (2014)

exclusion of their needs and perspectives from water and sanitation management strategies, the lack of decision-making power regarding industrial developments near their habitats, and socioeconomic and political influence in the public sphere.

b. Addressing the lacuna in the literature can also bolster updating of current mechanisms as well as future efforts in the region, by providing data-driven and normative information, and priming regional and national agencies to consider these parameters in the marine management-related policy and action.

c. Gender-responsive information and gender-disaggregated data, deriving from primary field sources (from small-scale surveys in selected target sites) and secondary sources, can help in fine-tuning existent policies, formulate balanced zoning regulations, streamline national and local action, and create a regional effort to address common issues to support vulnerable demographics. Involving vulnerable and marginalized groups, after identification through field surveys and consultations in MPA policy and service delivery as stakeholders, can increase the shelf life and ownership of the project outcomes. An illustrative example is the World Bank’s MACEMP support project in Tanzania.⁴²

PROJECT ACTIVITIES⁴³

Component 1: Improving Governance

Outputs:

- ✓ 1.1: An adequate governance structure for MPAs in Libya

Establishing a governance structure will involve the consideration of the following issues: (i) welfare: material welfare determined through the basic provision of services; (ii) access: policy and management strategy negotiation roles and being able to incorporate inputs from diverse users; (iii) conscientisation: building understanding of the differences between sex and gender roles, and how these affect outcomes; (iv) participation: encouraging grassroots involvement and engagement, ensuring mutual trust and ownership of both interventions and their outcomes.

- ✓ 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya

This inventory will collate relevant information on both the scientific environmental results as well as socioeconomic co-benefits for the communities of these sites.

- ✓ 1.3: On-site management units and management plans

Gender-balanced technical groups will be established for this output. This is because vulnerable groups are often excluded from, and limited by their lack of representation and agency in such management bodies.

⁴² MACEMP in Tanzania (Marine and Coastal Environment Project in Tanzania) is an excellent example of efforts to increase sustainable management and use of Tanzania’s EEZ, territorial seas, and coastal resources, leading to enhanced revenue collection, reduced threats to the environment, better livelihoods for participating coastal communities. See Box 3.3 in “Significance and Diversification of MPAs in Coastal Marine Management: Key Issues” in *Scaling Up Marine Management: the role of MPAs*. World Bank. (2006)

⁴³ Refer to Annex 2: Project Results Framework, [Box 2.1](#) for detailed activity description. For the purposes of this Assessment, these activities are suggestive and will be fleshed out in alignment with project progression in later phases of the cycle.

<p>2. Participation and institutional strengthening</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BASELINE:</p> <p>Building on the baseline presented for the earlier project component, it can be concluded that there exists a lacuna both in participation and proper institutions to operationalize marine management policies and tools. This lacuna has, in fact, resulted in the paucity of concerted and coordinated effort to also incorporate a gender-responsive perspective, and also prevented the generation of country-specific, gender-disaggregated information and data gaps, eclipsing the extent of the problem.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO:</p> <p>CP 3.1 will perform a unique function in establishing a marine governance system in Libya, with a focus on strengthening capacity among local stakeholders, encouraging participation and reifying institutions. In doing so, it can affect the status quo of gender equality in the following ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Capacity building among local stakeholders and communities through CSOs, NGOs and other devolved bodies will ensure a grassroots approach that allows for greater acceptance of MPA selection and demarcation, as well as integration of sustainable economic development with natural resource management. b. Providing a script for future interventions and policies through the successes and lessons learnt for the project, while also creating a foundation for regional engagement by other Mediterranean-north African nations.
<p>PROJECT ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>Component 2: <i>Participation and institutional strengthening</i></p> <p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2.1: <u>CSO participatory platform</u> ✓ Establishing a participatory platform will represent a gamut of local needs and interest in MPAs, leading to greater chances of succeeding. A participatory and informed approach dedicated to bring the marginalized and vulnerable to the table can lead to effective and inclusive policies, and provide a regional metric for future interventions on similar issues. CP 3.1 can potentially pioneer gender-responsive project steering and coordination through this platform, particularly ensuring that women are not only represented, but can also undertake meaningful and responsible roles in marine management. ✓ 2.2: <u>Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management with trainings on MPA planning, management, stakeholder engagement, etc.</u> <p>Capacity building can also be a strong gender-mainstreaming action point. CSOs, NGOs, labor rights groups, women’s organizations and grassroots groups could be trained on the finer nuances of the socioeconomic factors determining the extent of MPA successes and failures. They can, then, be involved to employ a bottom-up approach to include the identified stakeholders, as well as to generate inclusive policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ approach dedicated to bring the marginalized and vulnerable to the table can lead to effective and inclusive policies, and provide a regional metric for future interventions on similar issues.

<p>3. Awareness-raising and communication</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BASELINE:</p> <p>The current baseline of research and action on coastal-marine management remains in a formative phase, in comparison to the extensive knowledge bank, tools, implementation lessons, and financial support available for sustainable development and conservation of terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity.⁴⁴</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO:</p> <p>CP 3.1 will have an important role in generating awareness regarding MPAs and their effectiveness as marine management tools, as well as communicate the important environmental and socioeconomic results brought on by the project.</p>
<p>PROJECT ACTIVITIES</p>	<p><i>Component 3: Awareness-raising and communication</i></p> <p>Output:</p> <p>✓ <u>3.1: Awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision-makers and investors</u></p> <p>As mentioned previously, the dearth of knowledge and information on gender and social factors in this sector not only has prevented effective policymaking and concerted efforts from governments, but also eclipsed the gender and social dimensions of marine and coastal ecosystems. Awareness-raising and effective communication can specifically address this. Additionally, the awareness-raising activity could contribute to better information access for vulnerable and susceptible groups. Women's information networks are often smaller than men's, presenting fewer opportunities for learning about marine management tools and conservation techniques. Spreading the information and data collected through accessible and effective delivery channels could aid in the uptake of more sustainable practices.</p>

7. Policy Environment, Legal Tools and Institutions

This section takes stock of the policy environment and legal frameworks available for gender-responsive actions in the beneficiary countries, as well as a list of potential institutions towards collaboration on gender mainstreaming during the project cycle. Legal tools and enabling policies are crucial in ensuring gender inequality can be addressed through tangible and formal procedures. Additionally, the inclusion of local and national gender partners engenders capacity and technical knowledge towards future gender efforts while establishing ownership of the project and the change narrative being implemented.

TABLE VI: POLICY ENVIRONMENT, LEGAL TOOLS & INSTITUTIONS

This table, compiled from various sources, particularly UN Women and the Equal Futures Partnership, takes stock of international conventions, national laws and policies, and country-level stakeholders that can aid CP 3.1 in gender mainstreaming and narrowing socioeconomic gaps.

⁴⁴ "MPAs in Context" in *Scaling Up Marine Management: the role of MPAs*. World Bank (2006)

Policy Tools, Legal Instruments, Institutions	Provisions
1989: CEDAW	Libya signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1989.
2011 – 2013: Interim Constitutional Declaration of the Government of Libya	After the end of Gaddafi’s rule, the UN-backed interim government (Government of National Accord) has been in charge of developing a draft constitution. Women activists in Libya are currently in the process of including substantive demands in the draft, which will be presented to the Libyan people for referendum. ⁴⁵ This Constitution will lay out the new framework for gender equality legal tools and policy environment in the coming years.

8. Conclusion

This Gender Assessment has identified and expounded upon both explicit and implicit gender and socioeconomic issues that could be addressed through the project outcomes. The findings from the Assessment also form the basis for the Gender Action Plan (Section 9), which will specifically address these by mainstreaming actionable points in the Child Project 3.1 Results Framework, corresponding activities, indicators, timelines, responsible parties, and budget allocations. As gender equality gains priority in the GEF’s, and UN Environment’s portfolios, this project partakes in the international conversation on gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive planning in marine management, MPAs, coastal livelihoods and biodiversity preservation. If implemented effectively, this project has the potential to become a good practice gender mainstreaming guide to future interventions on these domains with socioeconomic considerations, both regionally and globally.

⁴⁵ [Libyan Women’s Demands in the Constitution](#). (UNDP-led Cairo consultations). (2015)

9. Gender Action Plan

CHILD PROJECT 3.1 OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA PROGRAMME: ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY					
Programme Objective		MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AND EXPANSION OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN LIBYA			
COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING GOVERNANCE					
Outputs		Gender Baseline	Alternative Scenario	Gender Action Points	Means of Verification (Evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming Progress) [Gender-responsive monitoring within the overall Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism (\$5000 earmarked in the overall mainstreaming budget)]
1.1	Adequate governance structure for MPAs in Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No gender-responsive marine management policy in place currently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement conservation strategies (such as MPAs) which generate both environmental and socioeconomic output 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage Gender / Social Development Consultant to conduct field research on the gender and social factors that are relevant for conservation sites and how to mainstream them within policy and governance structures (\$50,000 inclusive for potential field visit) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Key Informant Interviews with local target groups ✓ Focus Group Discussions with NGOs working on gender rights, local gender equality lobbying groups, decentralised government bodies to identify needs and interests of each demographic, as well as to map gender relations in site-specific contexts
1.2	Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge and data gap on socioeconomic and gender realities of potential sites (regarding fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generate relevant and reliable information and data regarding gender-sensitive and socioeconomic data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consultant to compile mapping report containing information, data and analysis from gender and sociological perspectives of potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consultant's mapping report, made available online as a knowledge product of the project, and for future reference

1.3	On-site MPA management units and management plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1.1 	<p>communities and other vulnerable groups)</p> <p>regarding local stakeholders and communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure gender equitable-participation and train local stakeholders, especially women, to participate in these units and in decision-making throughout the planning process 	<p>conservation sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consultant to conduct capacity-building workshops and training targeting marginalized groups to increase meaningful participation ➤ Consultant to advise on making management units and plans accessible, gender-equitable, with provisioning for a gender-responsive work environment that incorporates the particular needs of women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Minutes and reports from workshops and training ✓ Gender Consultant's report on specific gender mainstreaming actions taken in the capacity-building activities ✓ Gender-balance (50-50) in MPA units ✓ Gender inputs and socioeconomic considerations reflected in policies
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COMPONENT 2: PARTICIPATION AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

2.1	Civil Society Organizations (CSO) participatory platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grassroots action on marine issues are sporadic, and a gender mainstreaming gap in marine action and policy exists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collate CSOs on a common platform, creating opportunities for exchange and innovation, particularly on gender mainstreaming and community-based engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consultant to liaise with relevant CSOs and produce an Action Plan (for the implementation stage) on gender mainstreaming and community engagement avenues to be reflected in MPA policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Key Informant Interviews with CSOs ✓ Focus Group Discussions with CSOs and engagement on gender mainstreaming ✓ Minutes and reports from exchanges between Consultant and CSOs ✓ Gender Consultant's report on specific gender mainstreaming actions taken in the capacity-building activities
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2.2	Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge, and management with trainings on MPA planning, management stakeholder engagement, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Capacity gap on conservation strategies and planning – both in terms of environmental and socioeconomic results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure gender equitable-participation and train local stakeholders, especially women and other diverse users, on MPAs governance, knowledge and management, to ensure shelflife of intervention as well as ownership by community stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consultant to ensure capacity-building workshops and trainings are accessible, gender-equitable, with provisioning for a gender-responsive work environment that incorporates the particular needs of women and other resource-dependent users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Minutes and reports from capacity-building programmes and training workshops ✓ Knowledge products targeting the vulnerable and marginalized group
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COMPONENT 3: AWARENESS RAISING AND COMMUNICATION

3.1	Awareness and communication campaigns and material on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision-makers and investors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public awareness-raising on these issues are virtually absent, leading to misconceptions and continuation of unsustainable practices, that adversely affect women – who are particularly exposed ● Currently, the consensus and research on gender issues relating to these sectors are scarce, as demonstrated in the Assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mainstream demographic and gender information within the awareness outputs to generate public and technocratic consensus on the requirement of gender-responsive action in this sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consultant to assist in the design of public awareness campaigns (\$2000 earmarked in the overall awareness-raising budget) ➤ Consultant to produce specific knowledge products for policymakers, investors and other technical audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Content of awareness campaign ✓ Reach of the communication strategy and what kind of stakeholders form the audience ✓ Acceptance/approval ratings on gender issues from the general public ✓ Knowledge products to be made available online for future reference
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GEF/UN Environment
“Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)
Enhancing Environmental Security”
(2019- 2024)



*The strategy was developed in the framework of the
Project Preparation Grant (PPG) of the MedProgramme by Lucilla Minelli,
UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) consultant.
June-October 2018*

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1. Overview and background

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the present Knowledge Management (KM) strategy¹ is to offer a structured and integrated approach to leverage and systematically share knowledge assets generated by the Child Projects of the MedProgramme with the intended beneficiaries and audiences. In doing so, the strategy aims to maximize the MedProgramme's impact by: strengthening operational coherence; harnessing synergies and pooling resources, including time; inform policy makers and key stakeholders about the MedProgramme (its activities, needs, outputs, meetings, results, etc.) and of the benefits arising from the Programme interventions. It will also contribute to the objectives of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants by fostering a broader culture of learning, cooperation and environmental sustainability in the region.

1.2 Context

The present KM strategy is designed to support the implementation of the GEF/UN Environment "Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security" (2019- 2024)². The MedProgramme represents the first GEF programmatic multi-focal area initiative in the Mediterranean Sea aiming to operationalize priority actions to reduce major transboundary environmental stresses in its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The MedProgramme is implemented in nine beneficiary countries sharing the Mediterranean basin: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia. Its eight Child Projects³ cut across four different Focal Areas of the Global Environment Facility (International Waters [IW], Biodiversity [BD], Chemicals and Waste [CW], and Climate Change [CC]) and involve a wide spectrum of developmental and societal sectors, ranging from banking institutions, the private sector, governmental and non-governmental bodies, industry, research, media, and various other organizations. It builds on the MedPartnership and ClimVar & ICZM⁴ GEF projects which have enriched the knowledge on the Mediterranean environment and unraveled the implications of climate change and variability; strengthened countries' mutual trust, cooperation and common purpose; consolidated the partnership among countries,

¹ The strategy is illustrated in relevant sections of MedProgramme Child Project 4.1. The full document is annexed to individual MedProgramme Child Project documents to provide a harmonized and consistent reference across the entire portfolio of interventions.

² GEF Lead Implementing Agency: UN Environment. Other GEF Implementing Agency: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Leading Executing Agency: UN Environment/MAP. Executing partners: UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), European Investment Bank (EIB), Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), IUCN, Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC), Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (Plan Bleu), Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Centre (SCP/RAC).

³ At the time of its approval in October 2016, the MedProgramme was comprised of seven Child Projects. Subsequently, a Mediterranean climate change adaptation project was developed by UN Environment/MAP for financing through the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). It was agreed by the UN Environment/MAP, UN Environment and the GEF Secretariat that this SCCF project would be managed for all intents and purposes as an additional Child Project of the MedProgramme. Hence the reference to eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme.

⁴ More info on MedPartnership, ClimVar and ICZM (Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean) projects: <http://www.themedpartnership.org/>, <https://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/2600> and <https://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/3990>. Some partners to the MedPartnership developed a series of dedicated websites for their activities. For instance, PAP/RAC activities on MedPartnership can be found at: <https://pap-thecoastcentre.org/medpartnership> ; <https://pap-thecoastcentre.org/climvar/> and <https://pap-thecoastcentre.org/projects/>

UN bodies, civil society organizations, bilateral donors and the European Union (EU); and tested on the ground the feasibility and effectiveness of technical and policy instruments aimed at addressing major present and future threats to environmental sustainability and climate related impacts.

The Mediterranean countries have worked together with GEF IW support since the late 1990s to set priorities related to national, as well as transboundary environmental concerns (Transboundary diagnostic analysis [TDA] for the Mediterranean Sea⁵) and have jointly agreed on the interventions needed to address these priorities in two Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs): 1) The Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-Based Activities (SAP-MED); and 2) the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP-BIO).

Following the formal adoption by the Barcelona Convention of the SAP-MED and SAP-BIO (2005 and 2003), the Mediterranean countries translated the SAP priorities into National Action Plans (NAPs), and benefited from international support in moving towards on the ground implementation. The MedPartnership project (2010-2015) supported countries in the initial implementation of the SAPs and of the newly developed Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), which was adopted in 2011.

More recently, the 2015 – 2016 update of the NAPs associated with the SAP-MED has succeeded in creating additional momentum at local, national and regional levels, with a remarkable level of involvement and participation of all stakeholders. In each country, national and local authorities, the industrial sector and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) discussed priorities, possible actions and opportunities for investment thus making the NAPs a realistic initiative. These significant achievements, while not yet bringing about measurable changes in the levels of environmental stress or in degradation trends, have however created the indispensable foundation and the enabling conditions for initiating national actions targeting major causes of marine and coastal transboundary degradation. To confront the challenge of implementation, to execute the SAPs and to reinforce implementation of the NAPs thereby achieving concrete and lasting results, are the *raison d'être* of MedProgramme.

The Barcelona Convention provides the policy framework under which the MedProgramme will operate and the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) system will ultimately carry forward the legacy of the outcomes of the MedProgramme's Child Projects, and in particular of its knowledge management mechanisms, approaches and tools. The MAP Regional Activity Centers (RACs) will play a crucial role in sustaining and amplifying these efforts. Moreover, regular reporting to the Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention on the progress made by the MedProgramme will be ensured through the UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan-Barcelona Convention Secretariat.

⁵ Transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) for the Mediterranean Sea, UNEP/MAP, 2005 - <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/598/medtda.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y>

Box 1 The Barcelona Convention and the MAP system

The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (referred to as the Barcelona Convention) is a regional convention adopted in 1976 to prevent and abate pollution from ships, aircraft and land-based sources in the Mediterranean Sea. It is developed under the UN Environment Regional Seas Programme which was established in 1974 with the scope of coordinating activities aimed at the protection of the marine environment through a regional approach. The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) was the first UN Environment initiative to be developed under the Programme and became the model for other seas across the globe. Since 1975, MAP has provided the institutional framework for cooperation in addressing common challenges of marine environmental degradation adopted by the Mediterranean States and the European Union.

There are 22 Contracting Parties (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, the European Union, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey) and they decide on MAP strategies, budget and programme of work in pursuit of MAP's goal at their Ministerial level meetings, held every two years. They appoint Focal Points to review the progress of work and ensure the implementation of recommendations at the national level. A rotating Bureau of six representatives of the Contracting Parties guides and advises the MAP Secretariat (located in Athens) in the interim period between the biannual meetings.

More information on the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan, Secretariat to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols at: <http://web.unep.org/uneppmap/>.

The Minamata Convention on Mercury⁶, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants⁷, the Basel Convention⁸ and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activity (GPA)⁹ are also among the key guiding frameworks for the Child Projects focusing on reduction of land-based pollution (Component 1 of the MedProgramme).

In terms of knowledge management (KM), the MedProgramme holds a tremendous opportunity to generate new information and consciousness, encourage transboundary cooperation, scale up needed investments and raise general awareness about the benefits arising from good governance and management of natural resources in coastal areas.

The eight Child Projects (CP) of the MedProgramme are expected to deliver a set of complementary results embracing the categories of priorities identified by the TDA for the Mediterranean Sea which are translated into three components of the program: i) Reduction of Land-Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots and measuring progress to impacts; ii) Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone; and iii) Protecting Marine Biodiversity (see Table 2, MedProgramme Components, Child Projects and GEF Focal Areas, page 16).

⁶ The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury. It entered into force on 16 August 2017. More info: <http://www.mercuryconvention.org>

⁷ The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is an international environmental treaty, signed in 2001 and effective from May 2004, that aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs). More info: <http://chm.pops.int>

⁸ The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal is an international treaty that was designed to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations, and specifically to prevent transfer of hazardous waste from developed to less developed countries (LDCs). The Convention was opened for signature on 22 March 1989 and entered into force on 5 May 1992. As of February 2018, 185 states and the European Union are parties to the Convention. More info: <http://www.basel.int>

⁹ The UNEP Global Programme of Action (UNEP/GPA) aims at preventing the degradation of the marine environment from land-based activities by facilitating the realization of the duty of States to preserve and protect the marine environment. It is unique in that it is the only global initiative directly addressing the connectivity between terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems. More info: <https://www.unenvironment.org/nairobi-convention/unep-global-programme-action-uneppgpa>

The fourth component (Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination) includes Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea LME Environment and Climate Regional Support Project” which plays a key role within the MedProgramme as it “implements mechanisms for Programme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge, monitoring the Programme’s progress to impacts, and fostering synergistic interactions among Child Projects”. Within the GEF programmatic approaches there is a need to ensure programme coherence and impact through coordination among diverse sets of multi-focal area Child Projects contributing to the same programme outcomes. A Support Project functions as a trait d’union (a common link) among Child Projects by providing overall coordination of the programme portfolio, resource-saving services, a robust system to managing knowledge effectively and a sound action plan for gender mainstreaming.

The present strategy provides the context and the boundaries within which KM will operate in the MedProgramme, essentially answering the strategic questions: where are we now? (baseline and project needs), what do we want to achieve? (vision and objectives), and how to get there? (framework for processes, tools, activities and governance).

The present strategy does not aim to provide a final definition of the tools, software and instruments that will be used to reach its goals. Although a wide range of them is considered and analysed, their selection will take place during the inception phase of the MedProgramme together with its stakeholders (countries and executing partners). This process will be driven by the specific needs of the stakeholders and will follow a competitive process for selection ensuring an efficient use of resources.

1.3 Where are we? (Baseline Scenario)

A baseline scenario in the context of this strategy was built through a detailed scanning of existing initiatives related to KM and the objectives of the MedProgramme, and a survey addressed to project designers aimed at diagnosing needs and expectations related to KM and outreach of Child Projects.

The overview of regional (and global when relevant) initiatives on knowledge/ information management focusing on pollution reduction, biodiversity, water resources (fresh water and marine) and climate change revealed that there is a great potential for cross-fertilization and incremental innovation. At the same time, the analysis brought to light some challenges, such as fragmentation, the inability of some projects to sustain their results, insufficient resources or attention devoted to KM approaches, gaps in information sharing, among others, which point to the need to clearly address these challenges at the onset of the MedProgramme.

The responses to the web-based survey served to inform the design of the strategy and its levels, in terms of target audiences, objectives, tools and activities.

1.4 What do we want to achieve? (KM Vision and Objectives)

The MedProgramme strives to become a knowledge hub in the Mediterranean region to scale up successful practices, encourage broader adoption, promote knowledge sharing and support the common objectives of the parties to the Barcelona Convention.

In this effort, it also pioneers a new integrated KM methodology for GEF-financed programs in line with GEF programmatic approaches. The strategy puts in place a framework that will underpin and guide the MedProgramme knowledge-sharing activities and support the achievement of the programme outcome(s), reflecting the complexity of its portfolio while ensuring that its findings are effectively translated, shared and delivered to the intended audiences.

The strategy aims to maximize the MedProgramme impact by (the KM strategy objectives):

- Strengthening coordination and operational coherence among Child Projects and their partners;
- Monitoring the execution of the activities under the entire Programme to assess progress to impact;
- Leveraging and systematically sharing knowledge assets generated by the Child Projects with the intended beneficiaries and audiences;
- Strengthening the science-policy interface (SPI) and influencing decision making through data and information sharing, capacity building, and regional stakeholder engagement;
- Supporting the objectives of the Barcelona Convention and the work of the MAP system through effective stocktaking and scaling up of programme results; and
- Fostering incremental innovation within GEF programmatic approaches and enriching the knowledge base of GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies.

1.5 How to get there?

In order to achieve this vision and related objectives, three interconnected functional levels¹⁰ have been identified to articulate the KM strategy:

1. at the **PORTFOLIO LEVEL** to support the work of project managers and executing partners by providing project management tools and training to key regional stakeholders;
2. at the **GENERAL PUBLIC LEVEL** to share results, inform and influence target audiences by reaching out to and engaging with civil society, media, and representatives of non-scientific community;
3. at the **POLICY and DECISION-MAKING LEVEL** to support the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention, relevant decision makers in the region and the work of GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies by contributing to relevant regional policy processes and related GEF initiatives (particularly the IW:LEARN project).

Organizational coherence and strong synergies among MedProgramme Child Projects are considered critical to sustain effective knowledge sharing and ensure the successful achievement of the KM objectives. Careful consideration was given to the different types of knowledge that will be generated throughout the lifespan of the programme to ensure that intangible assets (tacit knowledge, intended as human and intellectual capital) as well as technical and codified information (explicit knowledge) are properly valued and managed.

1.6 Methodology

The strategy was prepared during the period June - September 2018 in the framework of the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase of the MedProgramme (October 2017- December 2018) in close coordination with the senior staff of the UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan Secretariat. It is based on the analysis of the Program Framework Document (PFD) of the MedProgramme¹¹ various background documentation (including the Report from the First Regional Consultation held on 7-8 March 2018 in Athens which confirmed the decision of the countries to prepare a KM strategy), the results of a dedicated online survey, exchanges

¹⁰ Activities and tools outlined in this strategy contribute to one or more of these operational levels.

¹¹ The Program Framework Document (PFD) was approved by the GEF Council on 26 October 2016. More info: <https://www.thegef.org/project/mediterranean-sea-programme-medprogramme-enhancing-environmental-securitynairobiconvention/unesp-global-programme-action-uneppga>

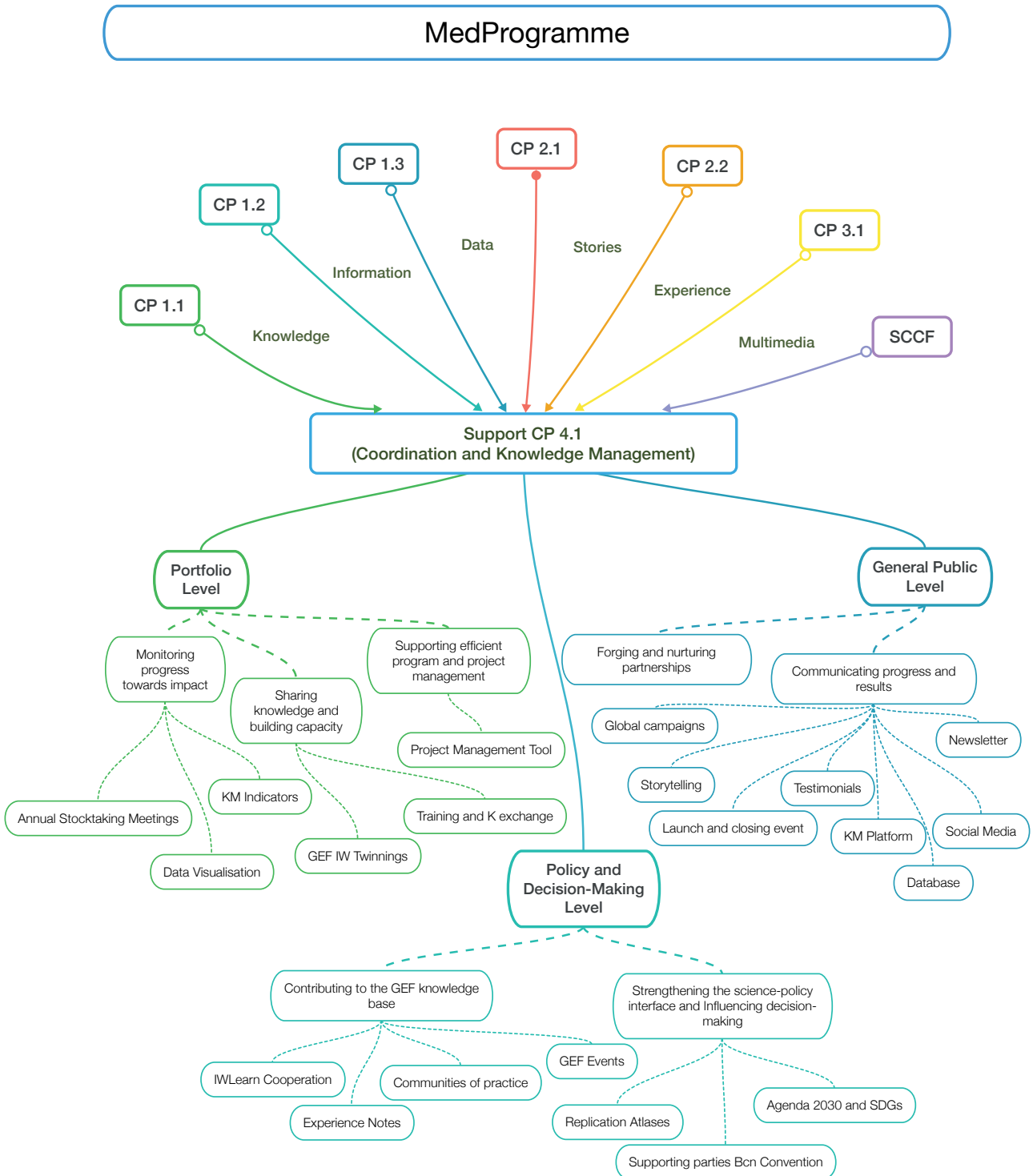
with project designers (with in-depth review of available drafts of Child Project documents), desk research, contact with relevant technical counterparts (i.e. for project management tool, visualization, etc). Further inputs were collected during the Second Regional Consultations for the MedProgramme held on 20 and 21 September 2018 at UNESCO HQ in Paris. Moreover, the design of the strategy took into account lessons learned from the predecessor project of the MedProgramme, the MedPartnership Project.

The approach illustrated in the present strategy will be operationalized during the MedProgramme inception phase in 2019.

1.7 Implementation

The overall KM strategy is built within the MedProgramme Support Child Project 4.1 and executed by the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU) in close coordination with all Child Projects. Outcomes and outputs of Child Project 4.1 are closely aligned with the present strategy, which, in addition to the logframe in the project document, also envisions actions to be possibly undertaken in the course of the execution of the Programme. The final detailed list of tools, activities and initiatives (and their costs) will be validated during the MedProgramme inception phase and fully agreed with the countries, executing partners and stakeholders of the Programme.

Fig. 1 Knowledge production, management and dissemination in the MedProgramme



2. Baseline scenario and projects needs

2.1 Overview of regional KM initiatives

“ Connection, not collection: that’s the essence of knowledge management. –Tom Stewart ”

As the MedProgramme cuts across four different GEF Focal Areas (Biodiversity, Chemicals and Waste, International Waters and Climate Change), its results will be relevant for many different sectors and activities in the Mediterranean region. A review of the existing initiatives related to knowledge management in these domains was carried out with the purpose to: 1) avoid unnecessary duplication; 2) replicate and build on successful practices; and 3) establish potential synergies and partnerships. The research included knowledge platforms, databases, initiatives and projects on knowledge/information sharing in the Mediterranean region (or globally when relevant) focusing on pollution reduction, biodiversity, water resources (fresh and marine) and climate change.

The result is a detailed knowledge map that will be useful during the execution of the MedProgramme to: establish collaborations (for content sharing and use of respective networks to increase impact and dissemination), benefit from existing collected data and technical information, make reference to relevant policy and legal frameworks, get inspiration from effective data visualization examples and platform designs, and replicate/participate in successful awareness raising campaigns and capacity building activities (see legend in Table 1 “Relevance for the MedProgramme”).

Against this baseline, the MedProgramme will generate new data and develop additional capacity of beneficiary countries to reduce pollution in marine and freshwater coastal bodies, increase resilience to climate change, improve the governance of water resources, promote the nexus approach and protect biodiversity and ecosystems.

The analysis of the knowledge map shows that there is an existing wealth of information in these domains. This poses a number of challenges as well as opportunities for effective knowledge sharing. The risk of fragmentation is high, and coordination among similar or complementary initiatives is not always optimal. Often, the results of projects are not fully sustained after their closure (possibly due to lack of funds after project execution is completed, insufficient ownership of results by key stakeholders and partners, or inadequate emphasis and instruments dedicated to KM). Another crucial issue remains the integration of different environmental datasets. Aware of these challenges, the MedProgramme is tackling KM at the very outset identifying possible solutions to overcome them. Moreover, there is ample room for cross-fertilization and learning: one must avoid the temptation to reinvent the wheel, and build instead on existing knowledge useful for incremental innovation. Lastly, the wealth of partners involved in the MedProgramme and especially the MAP system, can prevent pitfalls due to lack of ownership by leveraging and sustaining the KM efforts through their networks.

Legend Table 1














	Potential Collaboration for Content Sharing and use of Respective Networks to Increase Impact and Dissemination		Relevant Scientific Data and Technical Information	IW	BD	GEF Focal Areas (International Waters, Biodiversity, Chemical and Waste, Climate Change)
	Reference to Key Policy and legal Frameworks		Effective Example(s) of Data Visualisation, Web Design and UX	CW	CC	
						Successful Awareness Raising, Outreach and Capacity Building

Table 1 Overview of selected knowledge platforms and initiatives relevant for the MedProgramme (2018)

A selection of platforms, databases, initiatives and projects on knowledge - and information - sharing in the Mediterranean region (or globally when relevant) focusing on pollution reduction, biodiversity, water resources and climate change compiled for the purpose of drawing a KM baseline scenario for the GEF/UN Environment “MedProgramme”.

Initiative Name and URL	Organizations	Where - When - What	Relevance for MedProgramme					
AMAre https://amare.interreg-med.eu https://bit.ly/2BxKG9J	Executing Partners: CNR, Interreg Mediterranean Donors: ERDF, IPA	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 36 months (ongoing) Description: The objectives of this project are 1- to develop shared methodologies and geospatial tools for multiple stressors assessment, coordinated environmental monitoring, multi criteria analyses and stakeholders' engagements; 2- to translate these guidelines into concrete pilot actions and coordinated strategies in selected Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to solve hot spots of conflicts affecting marine biodiversity and the services it provides.						BD CW
AQUACROSS http://dataportal.aquacross.eu	Executing Partners: IOC-UNESCO Donors: EU	Geographical Area: Europe Activity Period: 2018 - ongoing Description: Aquacross Information Platform aims to provide open access to a wide range of resources related to aquatic (freshwater, marine and coastal) ecosystem and biodiversity management at the European level. The primary focus is on data used in the various project Case Studies and Work packages, and resulting maps, model outputs and tools.						IW BD
Aquastat http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/main/index.stm	FAO	Geographical Area: Global (particular focus on Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean) Activity Period: 1994 - ongoing Description: AQUASTAT started with the aim to contribute to FAO's goals through the collection, analysis and dissemination of information related to water resources, water uses and agricultural water management, with an emphasis on countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. AQUASTAT is FAO's global water information system, developed by the Land and Water Division. It is the most quoted source on global water statistics. We collect, analyze and disseminate data and information by country on water resources, water uses, agricultural water management.	 					IW CW CC
Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Joint Clearing House Mechanism http://synergies.pops.int/Implementation/KnowledgeManagementandOutreach/Clearinghousemechanism/tabid/5382/language/en-US/Default.aspx	UN and UN Environment	Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 2001 - ongoing Description: The joint clearing-house mechanism is a multi-stakeholder global system that facilitate the exchange of information and expertise relevant for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. To achieve such an objective the Secretariat has developed, and is continuously enhancing, a global knowledge base made of <i>information</i> and <i>tools</i> , fed and used by all members of the clearing-house community.	 					IW CW
Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE) https://biodiversity.europa.eu/	European Commission, European Environment Agency	Geographical Area: Europe Activity Period: Ongoing Description: BISE is a single entry point for data and information on biodiversity supporting the implementation of the EU strategy and the Aichi targets in Europe.	 					IW BD CW
Blue Med Virtual Knowledge Centre http://www.bluedmed-initiative.eu/virtual-knowledge-centre/	Executing Partners: UiM, EU Commission, EIB, IMO Donors: EU Commission	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Area Activity Period: 2014 - ongoing Description: The Digi-gate for Marine and Maritime Knowledge in the Mediterranean. The Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC) was launched with the objective to provide a centralised platform for marine and maritime information and to improve synergies across different initiatives and projects in the Mediterranean region.	 					IW
Climate-ADAPT https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu	EU Commission, European Environment Agency	Geographical Area: Europe Activity Period: 2012 - ongoing Description: Climate-ADAPT aims to support Europe in adapting to climate change. It is an initiative of the European Commission and helps users to access and share data and information on: Expected climate change in Europe; Current and future vulnerability of regions and sectors; EU, national and transnational adaptation strategies and actions; Adaptation case studies and potential adaptation options; Tools that support adaptation planning.	 					CC
CONSUME-LESS Consume Less in Mediterranean Touristic Communities https://consume-less.interreg-med.eu		Geographical Area: Mediterranean Area Activity Period: 2016 - 2019 Description: Consume-Less aims to develop integrated sustainable energy, water and waste management strategies and to promote sustainable tourism models in Mediterranean cities. Six pilot areas are involved: Gozo, Vélez-Málaga, Saranda, Ragusa, Realmonte and Naxos.						CW
COPERNICUS Marine Environment Monitoring Service http://marine.copernicus.eu	Executing Partners: EU Commission, ESA, EUMETSAT, ECMWF Donors: EU Commission	Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 2015 - ongoing Description: The Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS) provides regular and systematic reference information on the physical state, variability and dynamics of the ocean and marine ecosystems for the global ocean and the European regional seas.	 					IW BD CW CC
COPERNICUS Land Monitoring Service https://land.copernicus.eu/ https://scihub.copernicus.eu/ https://www.sentinel-hub.com/	Executing Partners: EU Commission, ESA, EUMETSAT, ECMWF Donors: EU Commission	Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 2015 - ongoing Description: Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS) provides geographical information on land cover to a broad range of users in the field of environmental terrestrial applications. This includes land use, land cover characteristics and changes, vegetation state, water cycle and earth surface energy variables.	 					BD CW CC

EMODnet http://www.emodnet.eu/	Geographical Area: Europe Marine Environment Activity period: 2013 - ongoing Executing Partners: EU Donors: EU Commission DG MARE	Description: The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) consists of more than 160 organisations that together work on assembling, harmonising and making marine data, products and metadata more available to public and private users. The main purpose of EMODnet is to unlock fragmented and hidden marine data resources and to make these available to individuals and organisations (public and private), and to facilitate investment in sustainable coastal and offshore activities through improved access to quality-assured, standardised and harmonised marine data which are interoperable and free of restrictions on use. EMODnet provides access to European marine data across seven discipline-based themes: Bathymetry; Geology; Seabed habitats; Chemistry; Biology; Physics; Human activities. EMODnet motto is 'collect data once and use it many times'.								IW	BD	CW		
Environment LIVE https://environmentlive.unep.org	UN Environment Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: Ongoing	Description: Environment Live provides the UN Member States open access to information and knowledge on the environment at the global, regional and national levels. Environment Live is a dynamic on-line platform for sharing contextualized data and knowledge to keep the environment under review.									IW	BD	CW	CC
Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector (EMWIS) http://www.semide.net/ http://www.emwis.org	Executing Partners: UfM, EEA, GWP, WWF, Lebanese Minister of Energy and Water, INBO-MENBO, MED-EUWI, IME, ACWUA, AQUAMADRE, EcoMENA, MEDRC, UNU-INWEH, L'Ambassade de l'Eau Donors: EU Commission, EuropeAid Co-operation Office & EC DG Environment, France, Italy and Spain	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 1999 - 2020 Description: EMWIS is an initiative of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. It provides a strategic tool for exchanging information and knowledge in the water sector between and within the Euro Mediterranean partnership countries. All the countries involved in the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) are concerned: The 27 EU member states of the EU and the 16 Mediterranean Partner Countries (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey).									IW			
European MSP Platform https://www.msp-platform.eu/	Executing Partners: EASME on behalf of DG MARE Donors: EU Commission under the EMFF	Geographical Area: Europe Activity Period: Ongoing Description: The European MSP Platform is an information and communication gateway designed to offer support to all EU Member States in their efforts to implement Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) in the years to come. Funded by the EU Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), the European MSP Platform acts as the central exchange forum for the rich knowledge generated in past, current and upcoming MSP processes and projects.									IW			
European Ocean Biogeographic Information System – EurOBIS http://www.eurobis.org	EMODnet, MarBEF, LifeWatch, Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Area Activity Period: 2004 - ongoing Description: EurOBIS - the European Node of the international Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) - publishes distribution data on marine species, collected within European marine waters or collected by European researchers outside European marine waters. EurOBIS is an online marine biogeographic database compiling data on all living marine creatures. The principle aims of EurOBIS are to centralize the largely scattered biogeographic data on marine species collected by European institutions and to make these data freely available and easily accessible.									IW	BD		
FATE and impact of pollutants in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems http://fate.jrc.ec.europa.eu/rational/home.html	Executing Partners: EU Commission, JRC, Institute for Environment and Sustainability Donors: EU, JRC	Geographical Area: Europe Activity Period: 2009 - 2015 Description: FATE is the ensemble name for the pool of activities related to the assessment of fate and impacts of pollutants in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems carried out at the Institute for Environment and Sustainability (IES) of the Joint Research Centre (JRC). Contaminants spread across different environmental media through atmospheric deposition, leaching from soil to groundwater, accumulation in rivers and lakes, and discharge into the sea. FATE addresses the fate and impacts of pollutants across a range of temporal and spatial scales depending on the policy question and making the best use of available data. The results are pollution risk and vulnerability maps, which are very useful to assess the impact of EU policies, raise public awareness and facilitate planning of management scenarios.									BD	CW		
GBIF Global Biodiversity Information Facility https://www.gbif.org	EMODnet, EU, EU BON, Japan Ministry of Environment	Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 1999 - ongoing Description: GBIF—the Global Biodiversity Information Facility—is an international network and research infrastructure funded by the world's governments and aimed at providing anyone, anywhere, open access to data about all types of life on Earth. Coordinated through its Secretariat in Copenhagen, the GBIF network of participating countries and organizations, working through participant nodes, provides data-holding institutions around the world with common standards and open-source tools that enable them to share information about where and when species have been recorded.												BD
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) http://www.fao.org/gfcm/data/en/	FAO	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea Activity Period: 1997 - ongoing Description: The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is a regional fisheries management organization (RFMO) established under the provisions of Article XIV of the FAO Constitution. The GFCM initially started its activities as a Council in 1952, when the Agreement for its establishment came into force, and became a Commission in 1997. The main objective of the GFCM is to ensure the conservation and the sustainable use, at the biological, social, economic and environmental level, of living marine resources as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the Mediterranean and in the Black Sea (GFCM area of application).									IW	BD		
Geo-referenced information system for coastal aquifers in the Mediterranean (INWEB) http://www.inweb.gr/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=220#	Executing Partners: UNESCO Chair and Network/International Network of Water-Environment, Centres for the Balkans (INWEB), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Donors: UNESCO	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Area Activity Period: 2003 - 2015 Description: The UNESCO Chair/INWEB is a network of academic and non-academic institutions. Each of the ten Balkan member countries has a focal point for its own country's members. Concentrating mainly on transboundary issues, the UNESCO Chair/INWEB promotes a multi-disciplinary approach to water resources management issues, involving scientists, engineers, economists, legal experts and sociologists. It encourages initiatives on water resources management issues from the bottom up, and promotes joint training projects and the sharing of expertise. The objectives of INWEB are to: 1. Establish an open international network of communication and shared expertise in the Balkans and other developing countries to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise in the field of water and the environment; 2. Promote the services to the region of an international body of recognised experts in water and environmental issues; 3. Create and maintain a database on transboundary water and the environment by developing an inventory of existing transboundary monitoring systems for water resources and the environment.									IW			

<p>GODEM - Optimised Management of Waste in the Mediterranean</p> <p>https://fra4dev.cor.europa.eu/portal/EN/coopmonth/Pages/GODEM.aspx</p> <p>Green Growth Knowledge Platform - GGKP</p> <p>http://www.greengrowthknowledge.org</p>	<p>EU Commission</p> <p>Executing Partners: GGGI; OECD; World Bank; UNEP.</p> <p>Donors: MAVA, Swiss, Netherlands, Germany</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin</p> <p>Activity Period: 2010 - 2012</p> <p>Description: The project is aimed at setting a network for the exchange of information and experiences between European local/regional authorities and institutions of the southern Mediterranean on the sustainable management of waste treatment.</p> <p>Geographical Area: Global</p> <p>Activity Period: 2012 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The GGKP is a global community of organisations and experts committed to collaboratively generating, managing and sharing green growth knowledge and data to mobilise a sustainable future.</p>		<p>CW</p> <p>CW CC</p>
<p>H2020/SEIS Info system</p> <p>https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south</p> <p>https://www.h2020.net/</p>	<p>Executing Partners: EEA, UN Environment MAP</p> <p>Donors: EU</p>	<p>Geographical Area: South Mediterranean (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia)</p> <p>Activity Period: 2015 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: ENI SEIS II South Project aims to contribute to the reduction of the marine pollution in the Mediterranean by developing a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) supporting the regular production and sharing of quality assessed environmental data, indicators and information.</p>		<p>IW</p> <p>CW</p>
<p>ICZM Platform</p> <p>http://www.iczmpatform.org</p>	<p>Executing Partners: PAP/RAC</p> <p>Donors: MTF</p>	<p>Activity Period: 2018 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: This interactive space is designed as a multi-disciplinary "bank" of information, documentation and good practices related to ICZM in the Mediterranean (and elsewhere), as well as a place for networking and exchange. This platform provides information on the legal and policy framework, capacity building, awareness raising, data base of projects, library and the resources for networking.</p>		<p>IW</p> <p>CC</p>
<p>IMAP Info Pilot System</p> <p>(website under development as of 11/2018)</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UN Environment MAP, InfoRAC</p> <p>Donors: UN Environment MAP, EC</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin</p> <p>Activity Period:</p> <p>Description: Pilot IMAP compatible Data and Information System, connected to MAP Components' information systems and other relevant regional knowledge platforms, will provide data based on data standards and data dictionaries for ten selected IMAP Common Indicators.</p>		<p>IW</p>
<p>INSPIRE Knowledge Base</p> <p>https://inspire.ec.europa.eu</p>	<p>Member States of the EU</p>	<p>Activity Period: 2007 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The INSPIRE Directive aims to create a European Union spatial data infrastructure for the purposes of EU environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. This European Spatial Data Infrastructure will enable the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organisations, facilitate public access to spatial information across Europe and assist in policy-making across boundaries. INSPIRE is based on the infrastructures for spatial information established and operated by the Member States of the European Union. The Directive addresses 34 spatial data themes needed for environmental applications. The Directive came into force on 15 May 2007 and will be implemented in various stages, with full implementation required by 2021.</p>		
<p>INTEGRATED COASTAL WATER MANAGEMENT FOR MED (ICWM)</p> <p>https://business.esa.int/projects/icwm-for-med</p>	<p>ESA; Planetek</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Tyrrhenian Sea</p> <p>Activity Period: 2015 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The objective of ICWM for MED is to demonstrate the benefits of a service based on the integration of Earth Observation based products, Satellite Communication and Navigation solutions together with Terrestrial assets and crowdsourcing features, for the set-up of an improved coastal surveillance and water quality monitoring service.</p>		<p>IW</p> <p>CW</p>
<p>Interreg Mediterranean</p> <p>https://interreg-med.eu</p> <p>http://forum.interreg-med.eu/en/med-community/(Forum)</p>	<p>European Regional Development Fund, IPA fund</p>	<p>Activity Period: 2014 - 2020</p> <p>Description: 13 countries are working together in the transnational European Cooperation Programme for the Mediterranean area towards low carbon economy, the protection of natural and cultural resources and the strengthening of innovation. The main objective of the Interreg MED Programme is to promote sustainable growth in the Mediterranean area by fostering innovative concepts and practices and a reasonable use of resources and by supporting social integration through an integrated and territorially based cooperation approach. In the period 2014-2020, Interreg MED Programme will promote cooperation between a varied typology of actors of these thirteen Mediterranean countries.</p>		<p>IW</p> <p>BD</p> <p>CC</p>
<p>IODE</p> <p>https://www.iode.org</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNESCO IODE</p> <p>Donors: UNESCO</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global</p> <p>Activity Period: 1961 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The programme "International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange" (IODE) of the "Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission" (IOC) of UNESCO was established in 1961. Its purpose is to enhance marine research, exploitation and development, by facilitating the exchange of oceanographic data and information between participating Member States, and by meeting the needs of users for data and information products.</p>		<p>IW</p>
<p>IW:LEARN (Global Environment Facility's International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network)</p> <p>www.iwlearn.net</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNDP; UN Environment.</p> <p>Donors: GEF</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global (GEF IW portfolio)</p> <p>Activity Period: 2004 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: IW:LEARN is the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network. The IW:LEARN project was established to strengthen transboundary water management around the globe by collecting and sharing best practices, lessons learned, and innovative solutions to common problems across the GEF International Waters portfolio. It promotes learning among project managers, country officials, implementing agencies, and other partners.</p>		<p>IW</p>
<p>IW:LEARN Groundwater Community of Practice</p> <p>http://groundwatercop.iwlearn.net</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNDP, UN Environment (Implementing Agencies); UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (Executing Agency)</p> <p>Donors: GEF</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global (GEF IW portfolio)</p> <p>Activity Period: 2012 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The GW CoPs aims to accelerate learning from and within the GEF IW portfolio, and promote replication of good practices in transboundary freshwater management. The CoP acts as a catalytic coalition among GEF IW projects to promote learning that meets project-level priorities. It is designed to build on existing knowledge from inside and outside the GEF portfolio and be responsive to the learning needs of the GEF IW projects. The CoP provide an opportunity to build capacity on groundwater resources management and promote the conjunctive management with surface freshwater and marine waters.</p>		<p>IW</p> <p>BD</p> <p>CW</p>

MAMIAS - Marine Mediterranean Invasive Alien Species http://www.mamias.org	UNEP/MAP, RAC/SPA	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 2012 - ongoing Description: The Database includes among Alien species, cryptogenic ones. Tropical Atlantic species, which have expanded their geographic distribution in the Mediterranean, are noted as range expansion, or vagrant. The Database includes also species that have been occasionally reported as alien but were subsequently excluded from lists, along with the reasoning of their exclusion.												BD
MAPAMED http://www.rac-spa.org/mapamed	MedPAN and SPA/RAC	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 2012 - ongoing Description: MAPAMED (Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean) is a GIS database that gathers information on marine protected areas of the Mediterranean, and more generally on sites of interest to the conservation of the marine environment. It is developed and jointly administered by the MedPAN association and SPA/RAC. MAPAMED (i) facilitates the access and the sharing of data on Mediterranean MPAs, (ii) allows the analysis and the evaluation of the status and trends of the MPA network and (iii) identifies ecological and management issues at a supra-AMP scale.												IW BD
MapX https://www.mapx.org	UN Environment, World Bank, GRID-Geneva	Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: Ongoing Description: MapX was developed by UN Environment, the World Bank and the Global Resource Information Database (GRID-Geneva) to capitalize on the use of new digital technologies and cloud computing in the sustainable management of natural resources. One of the founding principles was to equalize information held by different stakeholders as a prerequisite to better dialogue, decision making and monitoring. MapX evolved from an initial focus on extractive resources to include a range of different resource types and themes. Of particular relevance for the MedProgramme are the data layers in MapX developed by UN Environment for MapX to support countries in meeting their reporting obligations on mercury use and emissions under the Minamata Convention, and to manage spatial information regarding PCBs and facilitate reporting for the Stockholm Convention.												IW BD CW CC
Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning EU Network of Excellence - MarBEF http://www.marbef.org	EU	Geographical Area: Europe Marine Environment Activity Period: 2004 - 2009 Description: A key task of the MarBEF Network is the integration of different resources related to marine biodiversity. The inventory of these resources can be found on this website. At the moment, this relational database includes information on different European marine biodiversity research sites and European marine biodiversity datasets. The European Register of Marine Species, ERMS and the European node of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System, EurOBIS is also accessible through this website. The terms of use of data are formulated in the MarBEF data policy.												IW BD
MED POL Info System http://www.info-rac.org/en/activities/infomap	UNEP/MAP	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 2001 - ongoing Description: MED POL Info System is an online portal that allows Contracting Parties to submit their quality assured data generated from the implementation of the national marine pollution programmes designed in accordance with LBS Protocol.												IW CW
MED-3R Euro-Mediterranean Strategic Platform for a Suitable Waste Management - Recycle, Reduce, Reemploy http://www.med-3r.org/index.php/en/about/the-med-3r-project	Executing Partners: Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme ENPI CBCMED Donors: 90% European Union, 10% Partners	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin Activity Period: 2012 - 2015 Description: MED-3R sets up an institutional innovation of multi-level governance, implemented on the basis of strategic platform: "The Euro-Mediterranean Strategic Platform for a Suitable Waste Management" to the benefit of technical managers and experts on waste management over the Mediterranean basin.												CW
MEDACES - Mediterranean Database of Cetacean Strandings medaces.uv.es/home_eng.htm	Executing Partners: RAC/SPA, ICBIBE Donors: Spanish Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs (MMA)	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 2001 - ? Description: In November 2001, the 12th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols, within the "Biological Diversity and Specially Protected Areas" section, recommended for implementing the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea, to approve the offer by Spain with regard to the establishment in Valencia of a Mediterranean database on cetacean strandings (MEDACES).												BD
MediCIP http://medicip.grid.unep.ch	Executing Partners: UNEP/MAP, Plan Bleu, GWR, PAP/RAC Donors: GEF	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin Activity Period: 2009 - 2015 Description: MediCIP is an online multi countries effort to share data and information on Climate Change in the Mediterranean coastal areas. It is a "portal of portals" which gathers data, information and web links towards other institutions (national and regional), in support the implementation of the ICZM protocol.												IW CC
Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot http://www.birdlife.org/cepf-mad/hotspot	Executing Partners: CEFF (Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund); Bird's Life; LPO; DOPPS. Donors: CEPF (GEF, World Bank, AFD, CI, EU, Japan Gov.)	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin Activity Period: 2012 - 2022 Description: During the initial investment, 108 grants were awarded to 84 different organizations in 12 countries. This first investment phase demonstrated that civil society organizations do exist in each hotspot country, and that adequate financial support, combined with technical support, has the potential to build strong constituencies able to tackle conservation issues at the local level. CEPF's second phase of investment will focus on protecting plants, promoting regional networking and preserving three ecosystems—coastal, freshwater and traditionally managed landscapes. CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank.												BD CC
MEDITERRANEAN OBSERVATORY ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT http://obs.planbleu.org/en/	Executing Partners: Plan Bleu, UNEP/MAP Donors: MAVA, UN Environment	Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin Activity Period: Ongoing Description: Plan Bleu, acting as a Mediterranean Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development, has developed an experience in collecting, managing and disseminating data on Sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean Region. One of Plan Bleu's mission is to provide the Contracting Parties of Barcelona Convention with environmental and sustainable development statistics, indicators and assessments to support their action and decision making process.												IW CC

<p>Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform (MWKP)</p> <p>http://www.emwis.net/initiatives/MWKP</p>	<p>International Office for Water (IOWater); Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME); Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin</p> <p>Activity Period: (Phase 1) 2013-2016 - (Phase 2) 2016-2018</p> <p>Description: The regional project towards a Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform got the UfM label on 8 April 2014, at the unanimity of 43 countries members of the Union for the Mediterranean. The project has two components: the 1st one, coordinated by the International Office for Water (IOWater), aims at strengthening the National Information Systems on Water in line with the regional approach taken implemented by the Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector (EMWIS); the 2nd one, coordinated by the Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME), is based on the exploitation of data and information on water for the preparation of a Mediterranean White Paper on Water. This White Paper is part of logical showcasing best practices for integrated water resources management.</p>				<p>IW</p>
<p>MEDLEM (MEDiterranean Large Elasmobranchs Monitoring) PROGRAM</p> <p>www.arpat.toscana.it/medlem</p>	<p>ARPAT (agenzia regionale per la protezione ambientale della Toscana)</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea</p> <p>Activity Period: 2002 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: MedLem is a monitoring programme on the captures and sightings of the large cartilaginous fishes occurring in the Mediterranean Sea. A tool for storing and sharing the large shark's data collected in the Mediterranean countries. The database is under maintenance: it will be on line again at the end of 2017.</p>				<p>BD</p>
<p>MedOpen</p> <p>http://www.medopen.org</p>	<p>Executing Partners: PAP/RAC</p> <p>Donors: UNEP</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Area</p> <p>Activity Period: Ongoing</p> <p>Description: MedOpen aims at assisting Mediterranean countries in building capacities for coastal management. The training programme has been created to share ideas, knowledge and strategies to forward the art of designing and implementing local, national and regional place-based integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), as well as to enhance a policy dialogue and build / improve capacities on implications of climate variability and change (CV&C) considerations. The MedOpen training is completely free of charge.</p>			<p>IW</p>	
<p>MedPAN - The network of Marine Protected Areas managers in the Mediterranean</p> <p>http://medpan.org</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNEP RAC/SPA, WWF, IUCN</p> <p>Donors: EU Commission, UNEP, WWF and others</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea</p> <p>Activity Period: 2008 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The MedPAN network's mission is to promote, through a partnership approach, the sustainability and operation of a network of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean which are ecologically representative, connected and effectively managed to help reduce the current rate of marine biodiversity loss.</p>			<p>IW</p>	<p>BD CC</p>
<p>NBB PRTR</p> <p>(website under development as of 11/2018)</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UN Environment MAP, InfoRAC</p> <p>Donors: UN Environment MAP, EC</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin</p> <p>Activity Period:</p> <p>Description: Provides information on pollution load from sectors and activities in accordance with the requirements LBS Protocol of Barcelona Convention</p>			<p>IW</p>	<p>CW</p>
<p>OBIS - Ocean Biogeographic Information System</p> <p>http://www.iobis.org/</p>	<p>IOC-UNESCO, IODE</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global</p> <p>Activity Period: 1997 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: OBIS is a global open-access data and information clearing-house on marine biodiversity for science, conservation and sustainable development. Its aim is to build and maintain a global alliance that collaborates with scientific communities to facilitate free and open access to, and application of, biodiversity and biogeographic data and information on marine life. Obis mission is to build and maintain a global alliance that collaborates with scientific communities to facilitate free and open access to, and application of, biodiversity and biogeographic data and information on marine life.</p>			<p>IW</p>	<p>BD</p>
<p>OpenChannels</p> <p>https://www.openchannels.org/</p>	<p>Executing Partners: Open Communication for The Ocean and Partners</p> <p>Donors: Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global</p> <p>Activity Period: 2012 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: OpenChannels aims to foster a vibrant online community of ocean planners and managers sharing experience, knowledge, and advice with peers. In doing so, we can speed the advancement of sustainable ocean management and conservation. OpenChannels is designed to be highly focused on user needs. We want to provide access to all the information that ocean planners and managers need to do their jobs most effectively, including existing high-quality content and new information products and services.</p>			<p>IW</p>	
<p>PANACeA project</p> <p>https://biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu</p>	<p>Executing Partners: Malaga University, Interreg Mediterranean, Plan Bleu</p> <p>Donors: ERDF, IPA</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin</p> <p>Activity Period: 36 months (ongoing)</p> <p>Description: Devised as a one entry point to scientific evidence supporting best practice on protected area management and environmental policymaking in the region, the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Platform (BPP) gathers the expert knowledge generated by the Mediterranean biodiversity protection community as main providers of content. The MedBiodiversity Knowledge platform will open in 2018.</p>				<p>BD CC</p>
<p>Pegaso Project - People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing Sustainable development of Ocean and coast</p> <p>http://pegasosdi.uab.es/</p>	<p>Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea</p> <p>Activity Period: 2010 - 2014</p> <p>Description: The main objective of PEGASO is to build on existing capacities and develop common novel approaches to support integrated policies for the coastal, marine and maritime realms of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Basins in ways that are consistent with and relevant to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean. The PEGASO SDI is a distributed sharing infrastructure made up of GeoNodes and with three main components: a map viewer, map services and a spatial catalog.</p>			<p>IW</p>	
<p>Protected Planet</p> <p>https://www.protectedplanet.net/marine</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN</p> <p>Donors: UNEP, IUCN</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global</p> <p>Activity Period: 2014-ongoing</p> <p>Description: Protected Planet is the most up to date and complete source of information on protected areas, updated monthly with submissions from governments, non-governmental organizations, landowners and communities. It is managed by the United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre with support from IUCN and its World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA). It is a publicly available online platform where users can discover terrestrial and marine protected areas, access related statistics and download data from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA).</p>			<p>IW</p>	<p>BD</p>
<p>SPACE ALBORAN</p> <p>http://www.iucn-geoportalboran.org/</p>	<p>Executing Partners: IUCN Center for Mediterranean Cooperation</p> <p>Donors: IUCN, EU, MAVA, POCTAFEX</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Alboran sea (Gibraltar strait)</p> <p>Activity Period: 2007 - ongoing</p> <p>Description: The geoportal's aim is to promote governance of the natural resources of the Alboran sea. A space for governance that promotes the exchange of knowledge, participation, management and learning.</p>			<p>IW</p>	<p>BD</p>

<p>Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) http://www.saicm.org/Home/Tabid/5410/language/en-US/Default.aspx</p>	<p>Donors: UN Environment, ICCA, EU + 15 countries</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 2006 - ongoing Description: SAICM was developed by a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral Preparatory Committee and supports the achievement of the 2020 goal agreed at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. SAICM overall objective is the achievement of the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle so that by the year 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health.</p>								CW
<p>The Mediterranean Biodiversity Platform http://data.medchm.net/en/</p>	<p>Executing Partners: SPA/RAC Donors: MAVA Foundation</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Sea Activity Period: 2017 - ongoing Description: The Mediterranean Biodiversity Platform is an online tool to inventory, catalog and store data on marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean, and view them on maps.</p>				IW	BD			
<p>The MPA Action Agenda https://www.mpaaction.org/</p>	<p>WWF and partners</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 2014 - ongoing Description: The MPA Action Toolkit is an online platform designed for MPA managers and establishes, marine researchers and other MPA advocates. The objective of this online platform is to share knowledge on MPAs and tools that can contribute to MPA advocacy. On this toolkit you find infographics, videos, academic articles, reports and other types of material that can be used for MPA advocacy and relating activities.</p>				IW	BD			
<p>The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) Project http://themedpartnership.org</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNEP/MAP Donors: GEF, EU, others</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Mediterranean Basin (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey) Activity period: 2010 - 2015 Description: The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) is a collective effort of leading environmental institutions and organizations together with countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea to address the main environmental challenges that Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems face. The goals include: to improve environmental conditions of pollution and biodiversity hotspots and other priority areas under stress, to promote the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources through integrated approaches, to reduce pollution from land-based sources, to enhance the protection of 'critical' habitats and species, and to integrate climate considerations into national marine and coastal planning.</p>					IW	BD		
<p>UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre https://www.unep-wcmc.org/</p>	<p>UNEP, WCMC</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: Ongoing Description: The UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) works with scientists and policy makers worldwide to place biodiversity at the heart of environment and development decision-making to enable enlightened choices for people and the planet. Our 100-strong international team are recognised leaders in their field and have unrivalled understanding of the institutional landscape surrounding biodiversity policy and ecosystem management. Based in Cambridge, UK, UNEP-WCMC is a collaboration between UN Environment and the UK charity, WCMC. By working with expert partners worldwide, we draw together, analyse and interpret information on biodiversity, and strengthen the ability of others to do so.</p>						IW	BD	
<p>Water Information Network System (WINS) http://ihp-wins.unesco.org/</p>	<p>UNESCO IHP</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 2017 - ongoing Description: Launched in January 2017 by the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO, WINS is an open-access and participatory platform to share, access and visualize water-related information at all levels. It provides also a networking hub through online working groups, which aims to facilitate exchange among stakeholders. As of June 2018, 40 Member States have joined the platform.</p>				IW				
<p>WISE - Water Information System for Europe https://water.europa.eu/ https://water.europa.eu/freshwater/ https://water.europa.eu/marine/</p>	<p>Executing Partners: DG-ENV, JRC, EEA, Eurostat Donors: EU Commission, European Environmental Agency (EEA)</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Europe Marine Environment Activity Period: 2007 - ongoing Description: The Water Information System for Europe (WISE) is a partnership between the European Commission (DG Environment, Joint Research Centre and Eurostat) and The European Environment Agency. WISE is a gateway to informations on European marine issues in support of ocean governance and ecosystem based management</p>					IW	BD	CW	
<p>WOCAT - World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies https://www.wocat.net/en/about</p>	<p>Universität Bern, SDC, GIZ, CIAT, ICARDA, FAO, ISRIC, ICI-MOD</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 1992 - ongoing Description: The World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) is a Network that was established in 1992. The WOCAT Network launched efforts to compile, document, evaluate, share, disseminate, and apply sustainable land management (SLM) knowledge. It was far ahead of others in recognizing the vital importance of SLM and the pressing need for corresponding knowledge management. In early 2014, WOCAT's growth and ongoing improvement culminated in its being officially recognized by the UNCCD as the primary recommended database for SLM best practices.</p>					IW	CW	CC	
<p>World Resource Institute http://www.wri.org</p>	<p>WRI</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: 1982 - ongoing Description: World Resources Institute (WRI) is a global research organization that spans more than 60 countries. Our more than 700 experts and staff turn big ideas into action at the nexus of environment, economic opportunity and human well-being. We start with data, creating user-friendly information systems, protocols and standards. We conduct independent, unbiased research to analyze relationships and design solutions, and communicate our findings in a compelling manner.</p>				IW	BD		CC	
<p>World Water Quality Portal http://www.worldwaterquality.org</p>	<p>Executing Partners: UNESCO-IHP, IWQ (International Initiative on Water Quality), EOMAP Donors: UNESCO-IHP</p>	<p>Geographical Area: Global Activity Period: Ongoing Description: UNESCO, through its International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ) under IHP, has launched the first comprehensive worldwide water quality online portal for freshwater systems, lakes and rivers, retrieved from satellite-based earth observation data, to assist with global water quality assessment and capacity building.</p>				IW	CW			

2.2 Analysis of preliminary survey results



Every project creates knowledge. Every project depends on knowledge. –Unknown



The eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme are expected to produce different sets of outputs and results while contributing to the overarching goal of enhancing environmental security in the region, embracing three categories of transboundary concern (components 1, 2 and 3) as illustrated in Table 2. The fourth component hosts the Support Child Project on coordination and knowledge management.

Table 2 MedProgramme Components, Child Projects and GEF Focal Areas

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)		
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	GEF Focal Areas
1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts.	1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”	IW and CW
	1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project”	IW
	1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”	IW
2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone.	2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection”	IW
	2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem NEXUS”	IW
	SCCF “Enhancing regional climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”	CC
3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity	3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”	BD
4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination	4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project”	IW and CW

In order to diagnose KM-related needs and expectations of Child Projects (CP), a preliminary survey¹² was prepared and shared with project designers (July-August 2018). The designers of all projects participated in the web-based survey (27 questions), sometimes with representation of more than one person per CP. The analysis of the answers helped building the KM approach, identifying tools and levels of intervention particularly related to:

- Target audiences
- Project / Programme management
- Managing and Visualizing the data
- Information and Knowledge Management

Relevant results of the survey are presented below by cluster topics, however overall the following can be observed:

- The Child Projects of the MedProgramme will produce a rich and heterogenous amount of data and results (quantitative, qualitative, normative). A responsive system to manage the information flow is therefore needed to: capture, store and digest raw data; ensure smooth reporting and coordination; offer a digital representation of the progress through visualization tools for both spatial and non-spatial information; and use the collective information to package appropriate products and knowledge-sharing assets for the intended target audiences of the MedProgramme.
- Data sharing and data collection modalities are critical for generating and managing knowledge. Defining how projects will prepare and make available their data should be addressed at the beginning of the Inception phase of the MedProgramme, once indicators are selected for all Child Projects. A dedicated workshop should be organized to identify sharing standards, protocols and practices for data collection and reporting, including to ensure data quality, respect of privacy and compatibility with data visualization tools on the MedProgramme portal.
- The primary audience of the MedProgramme CPs are policy- and decision-makers in the region. However, in order to influence policy making there is a need to engage and involve a large number of diverse stakeholders to inform them about the findings and benefits arising from the MedProgramme interventions. To this end, three different functional levels (see page 32) and groups of audiences/ stakeholders have been identified to articulate the KM strategy.
- Technical practitioners are among the principal consumers of scientific reports and detailed assessments; therefore, each Child Project shall consider specific groups of technical practitioners in their stakeholder analysis to make sure that the KM strategy can incorporate these views at the programme level.
- The mapping of stakeholders and related engagement plan is crucial to ensure the impact of the KM strategy and of the MedProgramme as a whole. It is important to identify knowledge suppliers/ brokers, knowledge recipients/ beneficiaries and potential change agents at the project level (to be done during the inception phase) and then make sure that these are involved and engaged at the Programme level (see more page 25).
- During the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase (June-September 2018) details on activities, stakeholders, outputs and indicators of every Child Project were not available due to the staggered timeframes in preparing the individual project documents. However, through the survey (and several bilateral consultations) it was possible to collect enough insights into the planning of each CP to suggest appropriate solutions and frameworks to manage knowledge holistically across the MedProgramme portfolio.

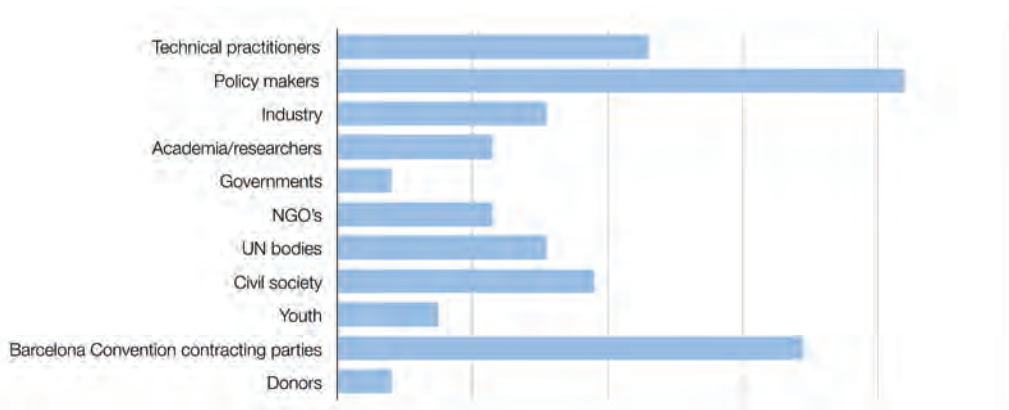
¹² Ref. The preparation of the survey benefitted from the expert and kind advice of staff from UN Environment, Plan Bleu and PAP/RAC. The full questionnaire, which was shared through Google Forms, is annexed in .pdf

Target audiences

[Q2] Who will the primary target audience for your project results be?

The respondents identify as their principle target audience policy makers and the parties to the Barcelona Convention, followed by technical practitioners and civil society. Other relevant audiences are: industry, academia and other UN bodies are: industry, academia and other UN bodies.

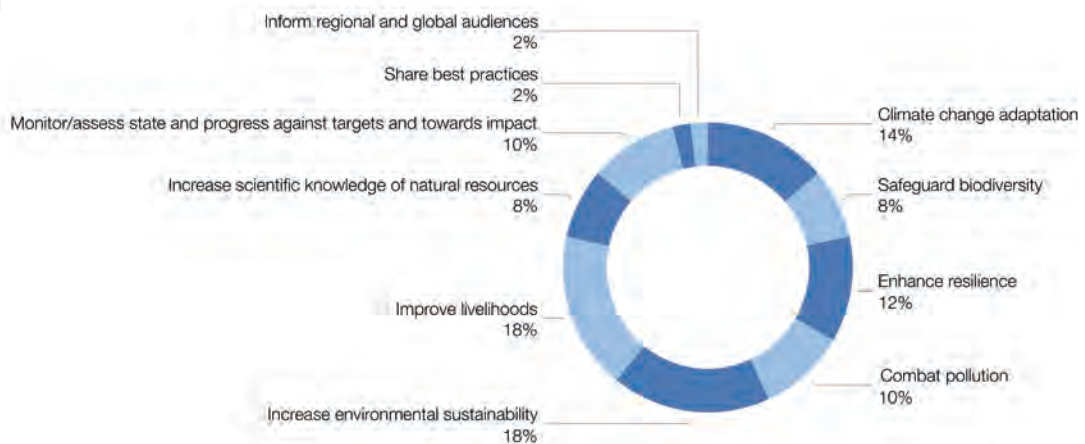
Chart 1



[Q4] Why is your data important?

The data produced will have different objectives, including the priorities to enhance environmental sustainability, increase livelihoods, and adapt to climate change.

Chart 2

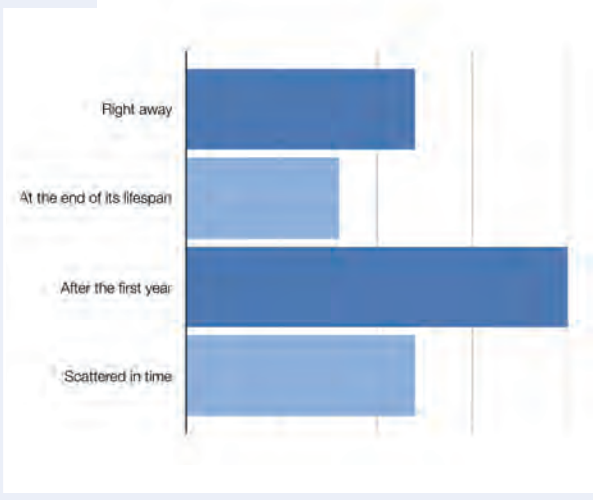


Project/Programme management

[Q3] When will your project start to produce data/results?

Three projects will start producing data right away while other projects will produce data at different times.

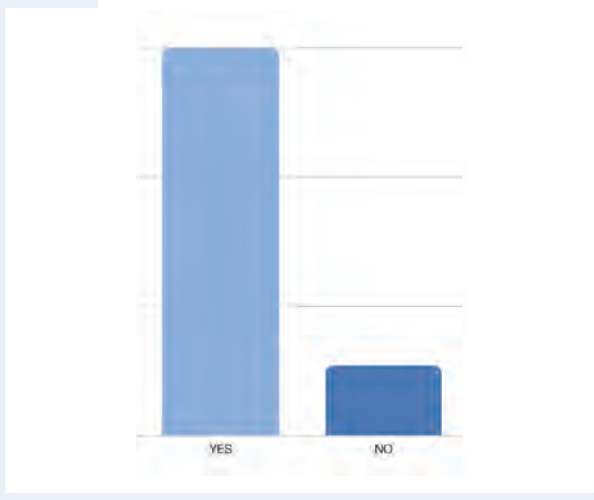
Chart 3



[Q7] Will you and your collaborators be willing to adopt the selected project management tool?

85% of respondents are willing to adopt a web-based project management tool with initial training provided.

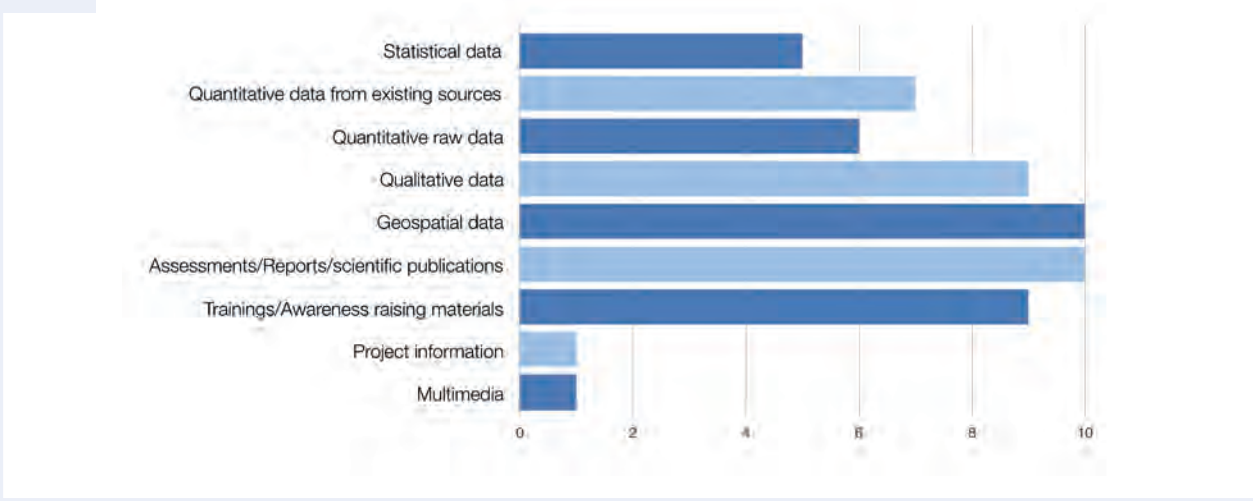
Chart 4



Managing and Visualizing the Data

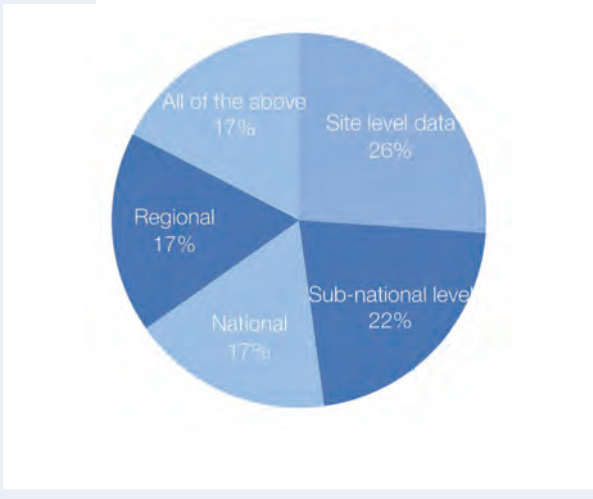
[Q10] What type of data will you collect and manage as part of your project?

Chart 5



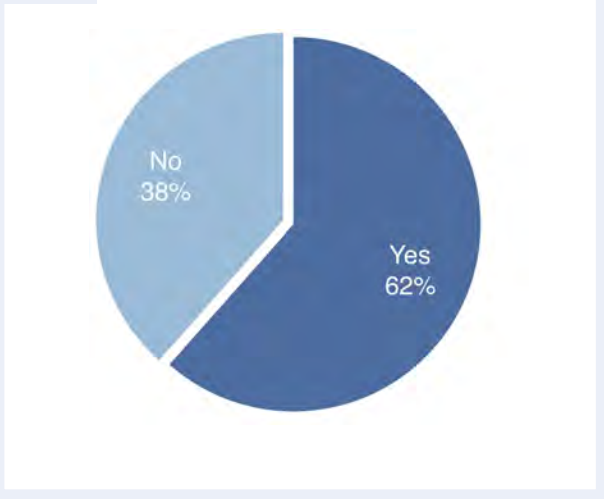
[Q11] **If your project works with geospatial data, what scale do you work at?**

Chart 6



[Q13] **Does your project include the collection and management of time series data?**

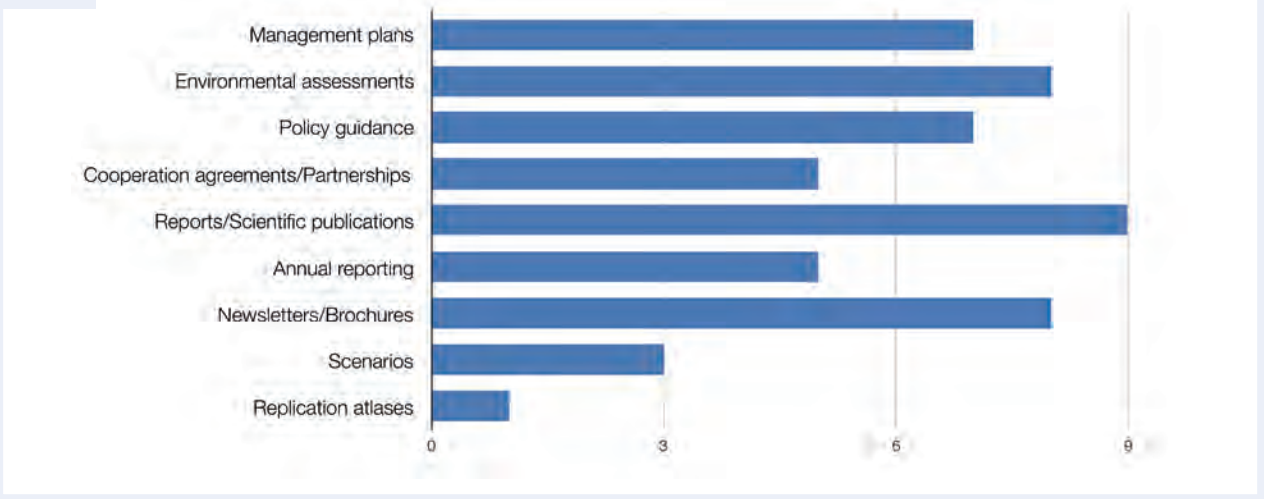
Chart 7



[Q10,11,13,14] Six of the CPs will produce geospatial data from site to regional levels, five will produce qualitative data (see also [16], data from surveys), four will use existing data from external sources, and three will generate new raw data, some of which will be in the form of time series with varying update frequency.

Chart 8 [Q12] **If your project produces qualitative data, what kind is it?**

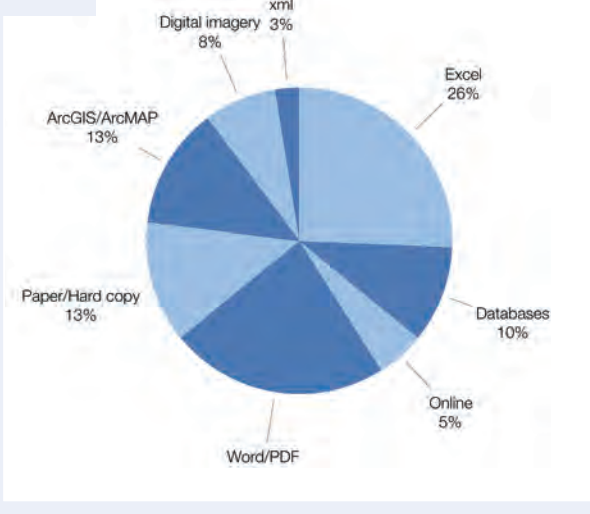
Chart 8



[Q16] What format will you prepare your data in?

A majority of respondents will use Excel to manage their data. Four will use MS Access or similar. Most projects will also manage (qualitative) data in Word, xml and even hard copies (e.g. from questionnaires and surveys). Five projects will manage ArcGIS or ArcMap files and three expect to generate digital images.

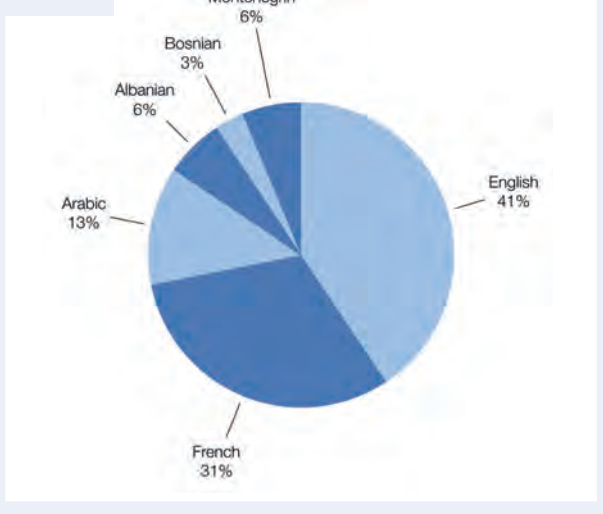
Chart 9



[Q5] What language(s) will your data be produced in?

Data will be produced in six different languages, with the vast majority producing data in English (41%) and/or French (31%) and Arabic.

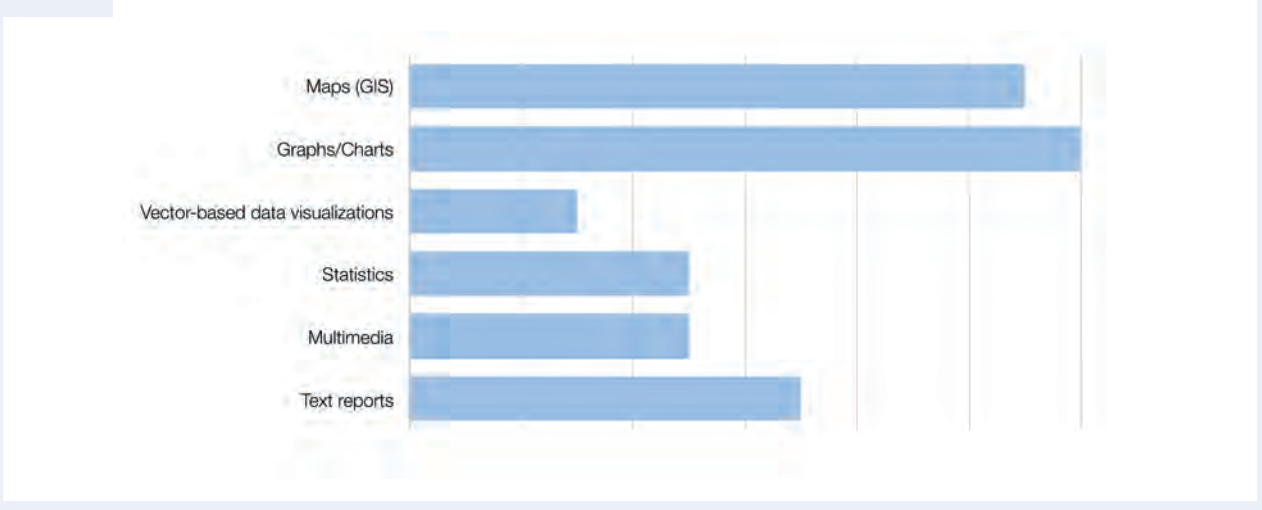
Chart 10



[Q17] Within your Organization/Institution, what type of online visualization tools have you been using so far (if any)?

Most respondents have used charts/graphs and GIS to visualize their data in the past while a smaller number use reports, multimedia and statistics.

Chart 11

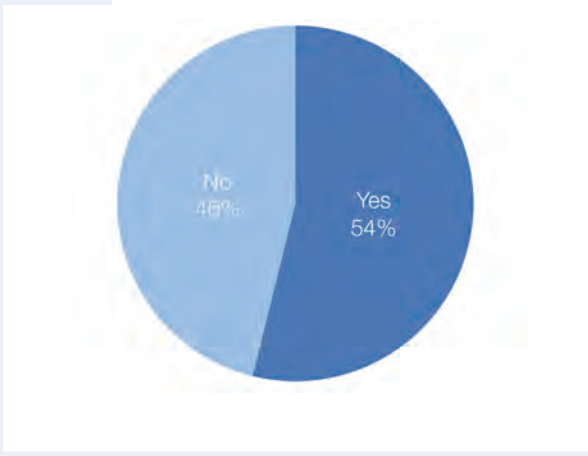


Information and Knowledge Management

[Q8] Have you ever used a Knowledge and Information Management platform?

About half of the respondents have used information and knowledge management platforms before.

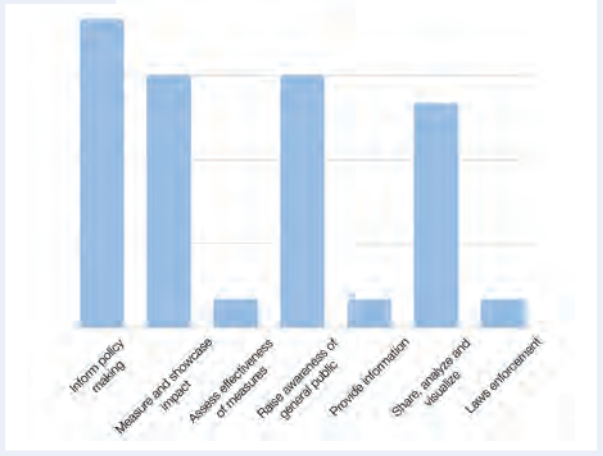
Chart 12



[Q23] What is your key objective for an online (geospatial) platform?

Respondents' expectations in relation to the platform are multiple and include an internal dimension related to data management and information/knowledge sharing among projects, and a public dimension related to showcasing impact, raising awareness and informing policy making in a transparent way. The platform should also help gather the elements that will be needed to tell engaging stories over the lifespan of the programme.

Chart 13



[Q26] What is your key objective for an online (geospatial) platform?

To this open question, respondents illustrated a variety of needs including:

- Engage partners from the beginning so they know they have a channel to promote their work (addressed at the 3 functional levels);
- Help track progress towards set goals (addressed at the portfolio level);
- Improve the internal work between executing partners and the way to communicate (addressed at the portfolio level);
- Facilitate reporting to the GEF (e.g. by timely gathering relevant information from executing partners) (addressed at the portfolio and policy levels);
- Effectively manage documents collaboratively among the co-executing partners (addressed at the portfolio level);
- Provide a roster of environmental experts (addressed at the portfolio level and policy levels);
- Provide a solid and centralized structure as well as cost-effective tools to collect, assess and share data and information (addressed at the portfolio level);
- The strategy should be designed in a way to primarily serve the governments of the contracting parties who have the executive powers to manage the environment, coast, biodiversity, natural resources (addressed at the policy level);
- The strategy should timely inform partners about expectations regarding their contributions to the communication strategy and the amount of work expected (addressed at the portfolio level); and
- The KM strategy should become a best practice for other programmatic approaches and projects.

2.3 MedProgramme Stakeholders

Stakeholder participation is an inherent part of the structure of MAP and the Barcelona Convention where all countries (represented by the MAP focal points) form the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. In addition, about 100 NGOs and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), termed “partners” are participants to the meetings of the Barcelona Convention. It should also be stressed that stakeholders participated in the formulation of the TDA-MED, SAP-MED, SAP-BIO and the NAPs of the countries, on which the MedProgramme is based. In summary, the key stakeholders that CP 4.1 will strive to involve at national level include:

- Public Sector: ministries responsible for water resources; environment; spatial and development planning; transport; tourism; fisheries; industry; maritime affairs; health; fire-fighting; community development; education; culture and local government authorities.
- Private Sector: national and regional organizations representing: farmers; fisher folk; manufacturers/ industrialists; tourism and aquaculture sector; banks; insurers.
- Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs): national trusts; conservation associations; women's organizations; community-based organizations (CBOs);
- Scientific community: researchers; sociologists; environmental managers; engineers (water, civil, environmental); environmental economists; biologists; climatologists, geographers, oceanographers; teachers; curriculum specialists; media practitioners;
- General public such as the entire coastal population of the Mediterranean Basin (in particular those living in identified hotspots and sensitive areas) and the 176 million tourists visiting the Mediterranean annually.;

At a regional and global level, the stakeholders will be the various signatories to the relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (e.g. Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, Convention on Biological Diversity, Basel Convention, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention) and all individuals and organizations associated with the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

The Terminal Evaluation of MedPartnership observed that in spite of the wide stakeholder engagement during implementation of the MedPartnership, the involvement of NGOs, private sector, and Mediterranean countries that are not eligible for GEF funding could have been greater. In the implementation of MedProgramme and its Child Projects, the Lead Implementation and Executing Agencies will foster opportunities to more closely involve NGOs and the private sector in project activities and to engage more closely with non-GEF eligible countries that share the Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) of the Mediterranean Sea. Child Project 4.1 will play an important role in this effort by broadly disseminating information on, and the progress and results of the MedProgramme, stimulating all other Child Projects to design and implement effective stakeholder participation strategies, and promoting involvement in the project's milestone events of relevant NGOs, of the private sector (in particular the tourism industry), and of all non-beneficiary Mediterranean countries.

As regards to specific stakeholders, each Child Project shall undertake its own research and analysis based on respective project objectives to identify partners, target groups and beneficiaries. This analysis is essential to understand who the different players are, their expectations and interest, their characteristics, commitment and constraints, their influence over others, etc. The MedProgramme KM Strategy will support the jump-start and continuous engagement of these groups at the programme level with targeted actions and outreach tools.

Box 2 Glossary: Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, Target groups, Partners

Stakeholders: groups that have a role and interest in the objectives and implementation of a programme or project; they include target groups, direct beneficiaries, those responsible for ensuring that the results are produced as planned, and those that are accountable for the resources that they provide to that programme or project.

Target groups: the main stakeholders of a programme or project that are expected to gain from the results of that programme or project; sectors of the population that a programme or project aims to reach in order to address their needs based on gender considerations and their socio- economic characteristics. When the target group is not sufficiently differentiated, the problem analysis tends to be superficial or too broad and does not allow the effect of the core problem within the various subgroups to be captured.

Direct beneficiaries: usually institutions and/or individuals who are the direct recipients of technical cooperation aimed at strengthening their capacity to undertake development tasks that are directed at specific target groups. In micro-level interventions, the direct beneficiaries and the target groups are the same.

Ultimate (or indirect) Beneficiaries: This is the target group that is expected to be better off as result of the project. The project may provide services directly to this group or more commonly target this group through the strengthening of institutions and organizations (i.e., the direct recipients), which support, increase awareness, or advocate on behalf of the ultimate beneficiaries. The distinction between direct recipients and ultimate beneficiaries is particularly important for donor-funded technical cooperation projects, where donors are primarily concerned with the impact of the project on the latter group. As a result, the project proposal should spell out the intended results of the project beyond just the direct recipients.

Partners: The individuals and/or organizations that collaborate to achieve mutually agreed upon objectives. Note: The concept of partnership connotes shared goals, common responsibility for outcomes, distinct accountabilities and reciprocal obligations. Partners may include governments, civil society, non-governmental organizations, universities, professional and business associations, multi- lateral organizations, private companies, etc.

Source: adapted from UNDP and ILO

2.4 Contributing to the Programme-wide KM

Each Child Project is expected to participate in the common knowledge management (KM) strategy to maximize efficiency, ensure good governance of the programme and achieve greater impact at the different functional levels identified (portfolio level, general public level and policy-making level).

While specific needs related to the diverse outputs of the individual projects will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis, all CPs are evenly contributing to the various activities illustrated in this document. A standard text included in each Child Project document reflects this approach and is aimed at harmonizing individual contributions. The synergetic approach is also reflected in the allocation of evenly distributed budget under each CP that will be used to support KM activities, production of knowledge and data. CP 4.1 will cover for example the costs of developing the KM platform (including the project management tool), organizing activities and events and producing communications material. Each CP will use the dedicated allocation of funds to, for instance, feed the platform with processed data, produce specific information for the preparation of advocacy material, etc.

3. Why a KM strategy?



Much of knowledge management is common sense, but not common practice. –Unknown



3.1 KM in the literature

Since the early 1990s there has been growing attention to the process of managing knowledge within organizations and businesses, mostly with the objective of improving performance and capitalizing on lessons learned. Pioneering professors Ikujiro Nonaka and Hirotaka Takeuchi, were among the first to investigate the benefits of Knowledge Management in organizations and popularize the concepts of “tacit” and “explicit” knowledge. In their 1991 groundbreaking article “The Knowledge-Creating Company”, they affirm that: “In an economy where the only certainty is uncertainty, the one sure source of lasting competitive advantage is knowledge”. Through the work of dedicated scholars, knowledge management (KM) has gained a consolidated reputation leading to its establishment as a recognized discipline. KM is now viewed as an organization’s most valuable and strategic asset deserving to be treated accordingly.

There are many definitions of KM (see Box. 2) but it can be commonly described as the “systematic process to identify, capture, structure, value, leverage, and share an organization’s intellectual assets to enhance its performance and competitiveness through a multidisciplinary approach”.

Box 3 Definitions

Knowledge Management (KM): the systematic processes, or range of practices, used by organizations to identify, capture, store, create, update, represent, and distribute knowledge for use, awareness and learning across and beyond the organization.

Knowledge Management Systems (KMS): any kind of IT system that stores and retrieves knowledge, improves collaboration, locates knowledge sources, mines repositories for hidden knowledge, captures and uses knowledge, or enhances the KM process.

Knowledge Products and Services: these refer to outputs such as databases, publications, visual material, maps (knowledge products) and outcomes such as awareness raising, information sharing, and capacity building (knowledge services).

Knowledge Assets: are the accumulated intellectual resources of an organization in the form of information, ideas, learning, understanding, memory, insights, cognitive and technical skills, and capabilities.

Source: Stocking, M. et al. 2018. Managing knowledge for a sustainable global future. Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC.

Knowledge Sharing: A subset of knowledge management encompassing the exchange of knowledge (information, skills, experiences, or expertise) within and across organizations. Although it can be one- directional, knowledge sharing in most cases is a two-way or multilateral exchange in which the parties learn from each other. Knowledge sharing is more than mere communication because much knowledge in organizations is hard to articulate. In development work, some knowledge sharing has a regional aspect. For example, South-South knowledge sharing refers to exchanges among partners and peers across developing countries.

Source: Steffen Souleiman Janus. 2016. Becoming a Knowledge-Sharing Organization: A Handbook for Scaling Up Solutions through Knowledge Capturing and Sharing. Washington, DC: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-4648-0943-9. License: Creative Commons Attribution CC BY 3.0 IGO

KM is based on two critical activities:

1. the capture and documentation of explicit (technical and codified information) and tacit knowledge (intangible assets intended as human and intellectual capital);
2. their dissemination amongst the intended audiences and stakeholders.

There are two key challenges: knowledge is difficult to assemble, and it is difficult to encourage its use. Many managers see it as a time-consuming distraction from their core role. However, proper knowledge management can reduce risks and increase efficiency through the re-use of proven approaches and avoidance of known pitfalls. It can also produce a virtuous circle as individuals and teams see their contributions recognised and re-used, thus encouraging further participation in the process. Accurate knowledge management is a powerful enabler of organizational learning and an indispensable ally for strengthening the science-policy interface. Writing a report or producing scientific data is only a part of the broader effort to promote environmental sustainability, because without effective sharing of information (in terms of language, tools, channels, etc) and dialogue among all stakeholders involved, the impact of the knowledge produced remains very limited. Considerable progress in raising awareness and improving scientific dissemination has been achieved in recent decades, but the urgency posed by challenges worldwide calls for accelerated and renewed efforts to raise the awareness of policy makers and the public at large about the measures needed to achieve sustainable development and the protection of natural resources.

3.2 KM under GEF programmatic approaches

The policy recommendations emanating from the GEF-7 replenishment¹³ clearly refer to knowledge as a “critical asset of the GEF Partnership” and commend “the steps taken to build the GEF’s knowledge management systems and practices in GEF-6, as well as the increasing attention to learning and knowledge exchange in GEF projects and programs, notably the integrated approach pilot programs, and in outreach to recipient countries”.

The call for more investments in knowledge management systems and practices also stems from recent GEF OPS (Overall Performance Studies) which have found that “the relevance of knowledge management to the GEF mandate has been increasingly recognized, and efforts to improve knowledge management in the partnership have been made on several fronts”. The GEF2020 Strategy emphasizes “strategically generating knowledge” as a priority. In 2014, the policy recommendations in the GEF-6 Replenishment Document similarly emphasized “the importance of developing a knowledge management (KM) system that aims to improve the GEF partnership’s ability to learn by doing and thereby enhance its impact over time”.¹⁴

At the same time, the GEF-7 Programming Directions commend programmatic approaches (see Box 3) to tackle environmental degradation, making the case for better performance and higher impact of projects within a program. It is noted that “Child projects generally performed better than stand-alone projects on all rating dimensions, especially on execution quality, sustainability and M&E design. Child projects have also improved in design and are now better linked to the overall program in terms of objectives, result based

¹³ Ref. GEF-7 Replenishment, Policy Recommendations, Fourth Meeting for the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, GEF/R.7/18, p.9, www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-7-policy-recommendations

¹⁴ Ref. Global Environment Facility Independent Evaluation Office (GEF IEO), OPS6 Final Report: The GEF in the Changing Environmental Finance Landscape. Washington, DC: GEF IEO, 2018, p. 147 www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF.A6.07_OPS6_0.pdf

management and M&E.”¹⁵ In addition, OPS6 reports that “multi-focal area projects are better at achieving global environmental and socio- economic outcomes at completion compared to single-focal area projects”¹⁶. A recent IEO brief¹⁷ further noted that country stakeholders cite “improved knowledge sharing and synergies with other GEF projects among the incentives for joining a program.

Box 4 GEF Programmatic approaches

Programmatic approaches, formalized in 2008¹⁸, are particularly relevant to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), given the long-term nature of the environmental problems the GEF addresses. The GEF-7 Replenishment Programming Directions¹⁹ reaffirms this approach noting that “more complex programs and sets of child projects will tend to offer more entries for development links due to multi-sectoral approach, multi-stakeholder engagements and platforms, and potential for delivering socio-economic co-benefits, along with enhancing the sustainability of the associated investments.”

Managing knowledge holistically within programs is a key undertaking, posing additional challenges due to the extra complexity and number of partners and stakeholders involved. The STAP²⁰ notes that “as the GEF moves further towards integrated approaches, multi-focal projects and impact programs, it is increasingly important to facilitate acquisition of formal and tacit knowledge, organize knowledge assets from complex situations and make them available to inform future investments. The Integrated Approach Pilot (IAP) programs and Impact Programs impose greater needs for connections between ‘child’ projects and program objectives. KM is the obvious means to tie these connections together, to collect evidence-based learning, and to achieve sustained impact that deliver benefits far into the future.”²¹

This emphasis from the GEF on both integrated knowledge management systems and holistic multi-focal area programmes, clearly sets the ground for a purposeful, concrete and action- orientated KM strategy for the MedProgramme. During its execution, the MedPCU will make sure that actions are closely aligned with GEF KM-related guidelines²².

¹⁵ Ref. GEF-7 Replenishment, Programming Directions, Fourth Meeting for the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, GEF/R.7/19, p.6, <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-7-programming-directions>

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Evaluation of Programmatic Approaches in the GEF, IEO Brief, The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the GEF, 2017. Full brief at: <http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/signposts/files/programmatic-approaches-2016- brief.pdf>

¹⁸ “Programs have been part of the GEF since its establishment. [...] In 2008, the Council endorsed the objectives and principles for programmatic approaches. For the first time, detailed procedures for designing programs were approved, including the introduction of the program framework document (PFD). This resulted in an increase in the submission of programs to the Council and a change in their nature from phased to clustered ones. Importantly, a stimulus to program ownership was introduced by defining programs as “a more strategic level interaction with the GEF” for countries. [...] Until GEF-5, Council discussions about programs centered more on administrative than technical matters. This changed in 2014, when the Council approved a revised modality based on program scope: (1) thematic—the program addresses an emerging issue (e.g., a driver of environmental degradation), and (2) geographic—the program focuses on a particular geography. In GEF-6, the GEF introduced the IAPs, which focus on drivers of environmental degradation through supporting broad stakeholder coalitions and scalable activities.” IEO BRIEF, Evaluation of Programmatic Approaches in the GEF, January 2018

¹⁹ The full document of the GEF-7 Replenishment Programming Directions is available at:

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF-7%20Programming%20Directions%20-%20GEF_R.7_19.pdf

²⁰ STAP stands for the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility. More info: <http://www.stapgef.org>

²¹ Stocking, M. et al. 2018. Managing knowledge for a sustainable global future. Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC. p. 3

²² At the time of the PPG phase (June-September 2018) final GEF guidelines on KM were not yet available. However, due consideration of provisions contained in the GEF Knowledge Management Approach Paper (2015, https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.48.07.Rev_01_KM_Approach_Paper.pdf) and other relevant documents was taken into account when preparing this strategy.

4. Getting there: a modular architecture

“ Knowledge is the new capital, but it’s worthless unless it’s accessible, communicated, and enhanced. ”

–Hamilton Beazley

In order to achieve the objectives of the KM strategy, three interconnected functional levels have been identified to structure actions, activities and tools:

1. at the **PORTFOLIO LEVEL**;
2. at the **GENERAL PUBLIC LEVEL**;
3. at the **POLICY and DECISION-MAKING LEVEL**

Each level is articulated along different objectives. Activities and tools contribute to one or more KM levels and to the two Components of Child Project 4.1 (see Table 3, page 32). They are presented associated with objectives (such as “Monitoring progress towards impact”), but in most cases they are meant to respond to the needs of more than one KM level.

Table 3 Contribution of activities and tools to KM levels and CP 4.1 Components

Activity/Tools	Portfolio Level	General Public Level	Policy Level	CP 4.1 Component 1 Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination	CP 4.1 Component 2 Coordination and Synergies
Project/Program Management Tool	X				X
Database and Visualization tools	X	X	X	X	X
Public portal		X	X	X	
Annual Stocktaking Meetings	X	X	X	X	X
Replication Atlases		X	X	X	X
Trainings for portfolio	X				X
MedProgramme identity	X	X		X	
Med Bulletin/Newsletter	X	X	X	X	X
Storytelling (movies, graphic novels, podcasts, infographics, ...)		X	X	X	
Social media		X	X	X	
Technical reports and scientific publications, IW:LEARN Experience Notes		X	X	X	
MedProgramme Launching event and Final Conference	X	X	X	X	X
IW:LEARN IWC and twinnings, GEF events	X		X	X	X
Global campaigns and processes		X	X	X	
Engagement with testimonials		X		X	
Partnerships	X	X	X	X	

4.1 Portfolio Level

The work of project managers and executing partners is supported through provision of project management tools, monitoring frameworks, trainings and knowledge exchanges. A series of IT- based solutions and knowledge-mining and -sharing techniques are used to capture codified information as well as intangible assets.

4.1.1 Supporting efficient project management

4.1.1.1 Project Management Tool

A multilingual online project management tool²³ (integrated in the KM platform) can respond to the need of supporting efficient project (and programme) management by facilitating communication and information exchange among key actors of the Programme; promote knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer learning; facilitate tracking and monitoring of progress; and meet reporting requirements. A review of options currently available on the market (such as Asana, Freedcamp, Wrike, Slack, Microsoft Project, Basecamp, among others) has been carried out in the preparatory phase of the MedProgramme with a view to inform the selection of the most suitable tool to serve the needs of the portfolio. The final selection and adoption of the tool will occur during the inception phase of CP 4.1.

This decision-support system employs effective data-mining techniques and can be customized to suit the programme's needs, and project managers (and designated project collaborators) will receive specific training on its use and adoption to ensure portfolio-wide consonance.

Key features for such a tool include (but are not limited to): automated reporting, shared calendars, live editing/collaboration on document development, workflow and task monitoring, Gantt-Chart, time tracking, file management and cloud repository, encrypted security, back-ups, integration with email and other products, mobile apps, and role-based access control and discussion boards.

The majority of respondents to the online survey on projects needs welcomed the idea of utilizing a PMT (and benefitting from ad hoc training). Previous experience from MedPartnership showed little use of a similar tool, however since then these online tools have greatly improved their features and levels of customization, and have been adopted widely to manage complex, multi- partner and multi-lingual projects.

4.1.2 Sharing knowledge and building capacity

One of the objectives of the MedProgramme is to improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders and build socio-economic resilience of impacted communities. To this end, a series of knowledge exchanges will take place at different levels taking inspiration and practical lessons learned from the GEF Partnership (reflecting the wealth of experience and examples from projects and programs around the world) and other relevant Organizations involved. A milestone activity in this sense is represented by the series of MedProgramme Annual Stocktaking Meetings (see next section).

²³ Project management tools (PMT) are aids to assist an individual or team to effectively organize work and manage projects and tasks. PMTs can either be desktop software, web-based and as a mobile app. Most of the tools are web- based only with a few providing also desktop and mobile based versions, regardless of the kind of version all the work is updated instantly across all devices and accounts.

4.1.2.1 Knowledge Exchanges

At the portfolio level, the MedPCU will capacitate Child Project teams with knowledge and training that can help them to deliver better project results and achieve greater impact. The identification of topics and modalities of exchange (face-to-face, virtual meetings, Communities of Practice, Expert visits, Study Tours, manuals, among others²⁴) will be defined at the beginning of the Programme implementation. Preliminary topics could include:

1. Gender mainstreaming and stakeholders' engagement;
2. Scientific communication: bridging the gap between scientists/technical practitioners and media specialists;
3. Lessons learned from the MedPartnership and the ClimVar and ICZM projects.

It is expected that these knowledge exchanges will further empower project stakeholders, enhance cooperation, strengthen the institutions they represent and ultimately influence policies and norms for better management of natural resources in coastal areas.

Additionally, Child Projects will participate in learning exchanges by twinning with other relevant GEF IW projects as facilitated by the GEF IW:LEARN Project (see more at page 44).

Moreover, the MedPCU will support specific capacity building activities foreseen by each Child Project by taking stock and amplifying results through the programme-wide outreach.

4.1.3 Monitoring progress towards impact

4.1.3.1 Annual Stocktaking Meetings (ASM)

The Annual Stocktaking Meetings (ASM)²⁵ are one of the milestone activities of the MedProgramme. They are major regional events aiming to establish synergistic interactions among Child Projects and with other relevant initiatives and stakeholders, including with all other Mediterranean countries not participating in the MedProgramme.

ASMs hold a two-fold objective: 1) provide a forum for peer-to-peer learning among the Programme portfolio, and 2) catalyze regional and global attention on the progress made towards impact in the entire Mediterranean region.

The ASMs will be an occasion for face-to-face knowledge exchanges, south-south and north-south learning, and promotion of the broader adoption of MedProgramme approaches and solutions. Project managers, stakeholders and beneficiaries will have the opportunity to learn from each other, tap into respective tacit knowledge, and at the same time benefit from experiences and expertise generated by GEF and non-GEF projects and other relevant experts in different disciplines with diverse backgrounds. Moreover, Child Projects will have the chance to showcase their implementation advancement, discuss problems encountered, and engage with a broad audience of peers and stakeholders. The participation of regional and global media

²⁴ Useful guidance can be found in the following publications: “The Art of Knowledge Exchange. A Results-Focused Planning Guide for the GEF Partnership” 2015 (https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF_WB_AoKE_English.pdf); “Becoming a Knowledge-Sharing Organization” 2016 (<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/306761478498267644/pdf/109809-PUB-Box396311B-PUBLIC-DOCDATE-11-2-16.pdf>); and

²⁵ The importance of, and need for stocktaking meetings emerged during the execution of the Strategic Partnership for the Danube and Black Sea Basin, the first GEF experiment in multi-project programs.

will raise public awareness across the Mediterranean countries and beyond. These knowledge exchanges will further enhance cooperation, strengthen the institutions they represent and ultimately influence policies and norms for better management of natural resources in coastal areas. The meetings will involve: all Child Projects and Governments of the participating countries, the MedProgramme’s implementing and executing agencies, the GEF Secretariat and Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE), Convention Secretariats, the UN Environment Global Program of Action (GPA), as well as major regional and global NGOs, representatives of those Mediterranean countries not participating in the MedProgramme; bilateral and multi-lateral donors, IFIs, the UfM, other regional intergovernmental organizations (OSS, etc.), and major private sector coastal area actors, water users, tourism associations and the shipping industry. Representatives of faith-based leaders, women’s organizations, youth organizations, fashion/art/sport testimonials, media specialists, among other relevant groups will also be invited to participate in these events, following a dedicated stakeholders’ analysis.


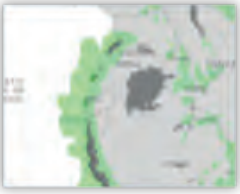

All project partners are expected to attend, and meaningfully participate in, the ASMs. They will be organized by the MedPCU in cooperation with all CPs and country representatives and will take place on a rotation basis in different project countries.

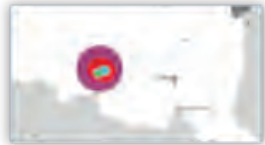

The ASM design, objectives and architecture will be defined during the first year of MedProgramme operation and approved at the CP 4.1 Steering Committee level. The first ASM will be held during the second year of MedProgramme operation.



4.1.3.2 Data visualization

Data visualization tools effectively support monitoring and reporting through easy visualization of selected data thus taking stock of progress. The table below illustrates possible types of visualization for geospatial and other types of data²⁶.

Table 5 Visualization examples for geospatial data and other types of data

GEOSPATIAL DATA		
Type of visualization	Type of data example	Visual example
Pin, symbol (with or without color or icon coding)	Coastal contamination hotspots, industrial wastewater treatment plants, etc.	
Polygon (with or without color coding, with or without color following a scale)	Number of water system clients connected to modern wastewater facilities, Coastal contamination hotspots, Concentration of mercury in coastal waters, Landscape and seascape under improved management, etc.	
Proportional symbol (color and/or size follow a scale)	Amounts of POPs disposed of /recycled on-site, Amounts of Mercury/ disposed of recycled on-site, Volume of industrial wastewater receiving secondary treatment, Volume of treated industrial wastewater reused, etc.	

GEOSPATIAL DATA		
Type of visualization	Type of data example	Visual example
Heatmap	Concentration of POPs in coastal waters, etc.	
Choropleth maps	Countries implementing comprehensive Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Countries implementing sustainable consumption and production (SCP) approaches, Countries having completed inventories of submarine groundwater discharges, etc.	

OTHER TYPES OF DATA		
Type of visualization	Type of data example	Visual example
Animated gauge	Real-time progress towards target of 3,250 tonnes reduction in POPs contamination, progress towards target of 50 tonnes reduction in mercury contamination, etc.	
Pie chart	Training distribution by type of training and by gender, etc.	

Note: For each geospatial visualization above, more information could be displayed in overlays (which appear when hovering the mouse).

4.1.3.3 Measuring Knowledge Management impact



Everything that can be counted does not necessarily count; everything that counts cannot necessarily be counted. –Albert Einstein



Unlike other activities that can be justified in terms of explicit and measurable monetary savings, the added value of knowledge management is more difficult to quantify. Knowledge management benefits are both far reaching and hard to measure as they relate primarily to preventing the waste of money, time and human resources. It is difficult to quantify the expense – in terms of time and money – of finding the right information or reproducing knowledge that already exists, or of using obsolete rather than up-to-date information. The prevention of errors and the savings that are often achieved through better use and reuse of existing knowledge are practically invisible in accounting terms²⁷.

Nevertheless, it is important to assess the performance of KM efforts and measure the impact of the KM strategy. Measurement, benchmarking and incentives are essential to accelerate the learning process and to drive cultural change. When distilling recommendations to improve the systematic treatment of the need for KM, the STAP recommends that “knowledge management progress indicators should be included in the GEF Results-Based Management system”²⁸.

A menu of indicators (both quantitative and qualitative) will be considered by the MedPCU in order to monitor knowledge-related activities (Table 5). Once indicators are discussed and approved during the inception phase of the MedProgramme, related targets can be developed to measure the achievement of the objectives.

Table 6 Possible KM Indicators

What to measure	Indicators	Means of verification
How often are internal users I) accessing, II) contributing to, or III) using the knowledge assets and sharing processes at their disposal?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of connections per day/week/month • Number of knowledge assets downloaded • Number of discussions or messages shared, etc. 	Usage data will be provided by the MedProgramme portal analytics
What is the level of internal user satisfaction with the MedProgramme project management tools and how is it impacting their work?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User friendliness of the tool from 1 to 5 (e.g. interface, design, navigation, etc.) • Technical quality of the tool from 1 to 5 (features, speed, etc.) • Overall level of satisfaction from 1 to 5 • Has facilitated collaboration within your CP from 1 to 5 • Has facilitated collaboration with other CPs from 1 to 5 • Has helped you save time by giving your access to resources from 1 to 5 	This can be measured through internal satisfaction surveys that will also provide a venue for users to suggest improvements, (virtual) meetings, etc. Stakeholders should be engaged in a structured manner, for example through interviews, focus groups, or peer learning activities.

²⁷ Steffen Soulejman Janus. 2016. *Becoming a Knowledge-Sharing Organization: A Handbook for Scaling Up Solutions through Knowledge Capturing and Sharing*. Washington, DC: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-4648-0943-9. License: Creative Commons Attribution CC BY 3.0 IGO

²⁸ Stocking, M. et al. 2018. *Managing knowledge for a sustainable global future*. Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC. p. 5

What to measure	Indicators	Means of verification
How often are public users IV) accessing the MedProgramme portal, and V) accessing the knowledge assets?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of visits, • Average time spent • Number of downloads • Pages visited • Number of recipients opening the newsletter • Ease of finding knowledge resources on the portal from 1 to 5, etc. 	Usage data will be provided by the MedProgramme portal analytics. A feedback form can also be available at all time on the portal.
Is MedProgramme producing quality knowledge assets?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of satisfaction of stakeholders with knowledge asset • Are stakeholders using knowledge assets in their work 	This can be measured through a stakeholder survey.
Is MedProgramme contributing to the GEF knowledge base?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge assets shared on other GEF platforms (IW:LEARN and others) 	This will be monitored by the MedPCU.
Is MedProgramme building the capacity of key regional stakeholders?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key regional stakeholders have been identified • Number of knowledge exchange activities implemented • Number of participants at the Annual Stocktaking meetings 	This will be monitored by the MedPCU.
Is MedProgramme participating / contributing to global and regional campaigns, events and processes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of regional and global events with MedProgramme participation (as presenter) • Number of #MedProgramme mentions on SDG social media channels 	This will be monitored by the MedPCU.
Is MedProgramme getting the attention of the media?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of media hits in target languages / countries • Number of media hits in first tier media outlet • Number of Op-eds placed, etc. 	This can be monitored by a media agency for a fee or with free tools such as Google Alerts.
Are Parties to the Barcelona, Stockholm, Minamata, and Basel Conventions VI) aware of the MedProgramme outputs / outcomes? VII) using the MedProgrammes outputs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of briefing organized with Parties to the Barcelona Convention • Number of countries attending the briefing • Number of countries using MedProgramme outputs 	This will be monitored by the MedPCU and country representatives can be surveyed through face-to-face interviews, etc.

4.2 General Public Level

Civil society, media, and representatives of non-scientific community are informed about MedProgramme’s results and engaged in knowledge sharing activities both as brokers and beneficiaries

4.2.1 Communicating progress and results

The KM strategy foresees a large component on communications and outreach aimed at ensuring that results are properly shared with the intended audiences to maximize, replicate and scale up best practices and lessons learned.

A number of traditional communications activities (such as newsletters, brochures, etc.) will be blended with innovative and creative approaches (graphic novels, documentaries, podcasts, etc.) to ensure visibility of the Programme.

4.2.1.1 Knowledge Management Platform

The engine of the KM strategy is enshrined in a powerful web-based knowledge hub comprised of a

data and information management system (with both public and restricted access) and a combination of visualization tools to serve the portfolio's needs.

The platform will serve as central repository of all the data generated by the Child Projects and will be designed with a view to the following strategic knowledge management objectives:

- Facilitate information sharing and promotion of the Programme achievements among the partners and the regional stakeholders.
- Reflect the indicators of all Child Projects in the establishment of the relevant tools and frameworks, and seek coherence with efforts underway in the GEF's Chemicals and Waste Focal Area to create a platform to assist countries in meeting the reporting requirements of the Stockholm and Basel Conventions.
- Support policy development through its data collection and management tools.
- Strengthen the science-policy interface, incorporating relevant data already generated by the countries, with the clear understanding that no data would be disseminated without the permission of its owner.
- In the long term, become a tool of the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention.
- Assist countries in meeting their IMAP reporting requirements.
- Ensure that the highly valuable legacy of the MedPartnership, which produced a substantial volume of knowledge and information as well as a number of tools and guidelines, lessons, and experiences, is carefully preserved and easily accessible, including translations of key documents.

Such an integrated platform should host: 1) a project management tool; 2) a public/outward-facing portal, including sub-webpages for each CP; 3) visualization tool(s) to display a digitalized representation of data through GIS and other suitable means; and 4) a database for raw/primary data.

1. The project management tool was described previously (page 33)
2. The outward-facing MedProgramme portal will be populated with key information showcasing progress towards impact and the contribution of the MedProgramme to global and regional environmental goals. The portal will serve as a gateway for information related to international waters, coastal zones, biodiversity and climate resilience in the Mediterranean sea basin, bringing together information from GEF and non-GEF projects (for example results from the MedPartnership project will be made available and possibly re-packaged in new material) for broad dissemination and cross-fertilization (several platforms identified in the Baseline can be cross-referenced from the MedProgramme platform to reach out to vaster audience and stakeholders). It will closely dialogue with the GEF's new portal (corporate database for projects, reports, and documentation) and the IW:LEARN website. The MedProgramme portal will feature a highly user-friendly interface including effective search functions, filters (such as drop-down menus) and analytical capabilities. Each Child Project will have dedicated sub-pages about their specific activities. CPs are expected to provide regular information (in different multimedia formats) to generate content for their respective project sub-pages and the overall programme portal. The MedPCU will be responsible for curating the information provided and packaging them for the intended audiences.

3. Visualization tools²⁹ will be used to display spatial and non-spatial data (be they quantitative or qualitative) generated by the projects. Data need to be stored and mined in a way that makes them readily available not only to track progress but also to support decision making by the different stakeholders. GIS (geographic information system³⁰) will be largely used as well as textual information, photos, story maps, pie charts, graph charts, infographics, map dashboards, trend line charts, among others (see examples in Table 5). Users can build a query based on specific criteria such as geographic area, data layer or specific indicators. Alternatively, users can simply browse for information using the icons provided. There are a number of visualization software tools available both as open source and commercial options. A number of products (with license or open access) could be suitable for integration in the MedProgramme knowledge platform, such as Esri ArcMap and ArcGis, Geonode, QGIS, MapX³¹ and Google Earth Outreach³². The final selection will be made during the inception phase.
4. Raw/primary data will be stored in a database with flexible restricted/public access. A shared data model/protocol should be agreed at the beginning of the Programme to ensure that projects will compile relevant data with a standardized approach and enable a harmonized data entry system (the INSPIRE directive³³ could be taken as reference to harmonize the process). Issues related to open data, ownership, quality and review of data will be addressed in this exercise; a mapping of voluntary standards can help to evaluate feasible options. Contributors of data are all stakeholders of the MedProgramme, including the Executing Partners. Child Projects are responsible for producing their own data.

4.2.1.2 MedProgramme identity

In terms of visibility, the MedProgramme will be presented in a holistic and coherent way through the development of clear vision statement and positioning, visual identity, logo design, etc. showing consistency and integration across the portfolio. At the same time, each Child Project will be granted individual identities within the overall MedProgramme-branding in order to promote specific activities and benefit from ad hoc services. This will entail the design of consistent logos for each CP, creation of sub-websites within the Programme platform, organization of tailor-made trainings, preparation of specific publications, social media services, among others.

The MedPCU will develop a proposal³⁴ in close consultation with project teams and, once adopted at the Steering Committee level, Child Projects are expected to use it consistently.

²⁹ Data visualization is the presentation of data in a pictorial or graphical format, and a data visualization tool is the software that generates this presentation. Data visualization provides users with intuitive means to interactively explore and analyse data, enabling them to effectively identify interesting patterns, infer correlations and causalities, and supports sense-making activities.

³⁰ The information about location associated with observation and statistical analysis is called geographic information.

³¹ MapX was developed by UN Environment, the World Bank and the Global Resource Information Database (GRID-Geneva) to capitalize on the use of new digital technologies and cloud computing in the sustainable management of natural resources. More info: www.mapx.org

³² A recent partnership has been established between UN Environment and Google.

³³ The INSPIRE Directive aims to create a European Union spatial data infrastructure for the purposes of EU environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. This European Spatial Data Infrastructure will enable the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organisations, facilitate public access to spatial information across Europe and assist in policy-making across boundaries. INSPIRE is based on the infrastructures for spatial information established and operated by the Member States of the European Union. The Directive addresses 34 spatial data themes needed for environmental applications. The Directive came into force on 15 May 2007 and will be implemented in various stages, with full implementation required by 2021. More info: <https://inspire.ec.europa.eu>

³⁴ In line with both UN Environment and GEF policies on branding and use of logos.

4.2.1.3 Newsletters (Med Bulletin)

Periodic MedProgramme Bulletins will be published (every six months or on a quarterly basis) to showcase progress of the Programme as a whole and of individual Child Projects, including highlights of results, success stories and project events, and relevant global, regional and national relevant meetings and events. It will be one of the primary tools for tracking achievement of targets and milestones for all Child Projects, based upon the corresponding results frameworks. Bulletins will feature a “journalistic” style making the content appealing for a wide range of audiences. Therefore, all CPs are expected to contribute to these Bulletins with different types of inputs in order to document their activities and progress, such as high-quality pictures, articles, statistics, quotes, interviews, footage, among others.

4.2.1.4 Storytelling for advocacy

A number of traditional storytelling instruments will be blended with innovative and creative approaches to increase dissemination and advocacy efforts. Particular emphasis will be given to the preparation of high-quality short movies, animations and documentaries, graphic novels³⁵, documentaries, podcasts³⁶/radio programmes, infographics, art exhibitions, digital interactive stories/articles/interviews, professional photos, microblogging, e-books, art exhibits, among others. The MedPCU will collect different multimedia material from the CPs necessary to prepare these products. Translations of key communications outputs will be carried out in English, French and Arabic to ensure ample dissemination in the participating countries. Specific translations in other national languages will be sought pending budget constraints and upon due consideration of stakeholders’ needs.

4.2.1.5 Social Media

Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter are four social media tools suggested for use by the MedProgramme. Development of timely and appropriate content and material to populate these channels is indispensable to achieve the desired impact. CPs will be prompted to contribute with relevant and ad-hoc information, pictures, statistics and other data to enrich the social media campaign.

The use of hashtags will be coordinated with the GEF IAs and EAs and project and country representatives of the Programme in support also of other related initiatives and campaigns.

The registration on the above-mentioned channels (or a selection of them) will take place at the beginning of the Programme and content population will start as soon as data and information from the projects becomes available.

4.2.1.6 Participation to global campaigns, events and processes

Experiences and lessons learned from the MedProgramme will be of relevance for a number of global processes shaping policies related to the sustainable management of natural resources in coastal areas. In turn, global processes are important for the MedProgramme to align with national, regional and global priorities and be receptive to new “waves” (policies, socio-economic trends, tech advances, etc). MedProgramme activities in this sense will build on existing successful campaigns, for example the “ICZM Mediterranean awareness-raising Strategy (MARS)”. Contribution to these events will take different forms, ranging from physical attendance, production of specific products, content and multimedia material to be packaged in suitable products, among others. Examples of processes and events that could be relevant for the MedProgramme include the Agenda 2030 and SDGs conferences, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), Mediterranean-wide policy-dialogues, the UN Environment campaigns against chemical and plastic pollution, the EU Development Days

³⁵ Graphic novel or graphic journalism” is an increasingly popular literary genre that uses comics and poignant texts to explain complex matters. It is a compelling way of storytelling for scientific dissemination.

³⁶ A mix of radio and audiobooks, podcasts are a very incisive and entertaining way of sending messages across and inform and spark debate on pressing issues. They are easy to share and can reach a vast and varied audience.

and other key gatherings at the EU level, International Days (such as Coast Day, Environment Day, World Water Day, Health Day, etc), among others.

4.2.1.7 Engagement with media and testimonials

The MedPCU will reach out to a different number of media outlets and journalists with a view to establish long-lasting collaborations. To this end, CPs will be asked to liaise with national and local media of the project countries (for instance, by providing the MedPCU with a list of relevant contacts). A series of direct interactions with communications specialists, media experts and social media influencers is foreseen throughout the duration of the Programme to increase mutual understanding and flow of information. The MedPCU will also reach out to renowned personalities from different realms (such as art, sports, entertainment or fashion) to invite them to serve as ambassadors for the Programme and raise awareness about the main environmental challenges (and solutions) in the coastal areas of the Mediterranean. CPs will be prompted to suggest names, and facilitate contacts when possible, of suitable and potential “goodwill ambassadors” of relevance in the region.

4.2.1.8 Launching/Closing events of the MedProgramme

The design and practical details of these events will be planned during the inception phase of the MedProgramme. Considering the staggered initiation timeframes of the different Child Projects, a launching event of the MedProgramme could be organized in the form of a press conference to coincide with the kick-off of the Support Child Project 4.1. Basic communications material about the objectives of the MedProgramme (such as visual identity, slogan, mission statement, description of Child Projects, informative brochure, short promo video, basic online pages, etc) should be prepared prior to the launching event. Participation to these events will not necessarily be open to the large public, however the information and messages emanating by these two occurrences will be relevant for a general audience as well.

4.2.2 Forging and nurturing Partnerships



If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. –African Proverb



Opportunities to enlarge the existing partnership of the MedProgramme should not only be welcomed, but actively sought. By reaching out to different stakeholders – individuals, organizations or companies – and engaging them directly in selected MedProgramme activities, a series of distinct advantages will be produced. These include:

- Contributing to transformational change: groups that are likely to evade the radar of “usual suspects” mapping (intended as classic stakeholders for environmental projects) will be intentionally targeted, moving away from the old-fashioned top-down view of passive beneficiaries of knowledge to a new vision in which conscious citizens are regarded as source of knowledge and potential allies in the strive against environmental degradation. For example, a collaboration with Faith-Based Organizations³⁷ to prepare a workshop or joint statements disseminated through their networks would tremendously increase the chances to inform and influence a large portion of general public that is not reached by traditional channels. Another possibility is a partnership with a fashion magazine to sensitize readers about sustainable business in coastal areas.

³⁷ Faith-Based Organizations could be a very important stakeholder group to engage in environmental decision-making. “Religion plays a significant role in the understanding and shaping of attitudes, opinions and behaviours including for management and use of the environment and natural resources”. UN Environment Foresight Brief 008, April 2018.

- Facilitating a more rapid achievement of the Programme results: for example, a partnership with tourism institutions in the different participating countries could accelerate the adoption of more sustainable touristic habits to reduce pollution load into water bodies and increase the acceptance and reuse of treated freshwater for human consumption.
- Raising the profile of the GEF investments in the Mediterranean and of the countries and partners participating to the effort. A partnership with National Geographic for instance, or with national TVs and radio stations, could enhance the dissemination of knowledge and results generated by the MedProgramme as well as by related initiatives and policy-frameworks, like the Barcelona Convention.
- Further stimulating a sense of ownership and contributing to the sustainability of Programme results: making tight connections for example with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina to host a permanent or temporary exhibition about the MedProgramme, which could then travel around museums of the entire Mediterranean basin (starting with participating countries), and thus ensure that the legacy of the MedProgramme will continue to inspire people even after the programme closure.
- Providing additional means to further expand Programme activities: by adding ad hoc co-financing (cash or in-kind) to produce, for example, through a publication or a short movie for the general public, the MedProgramme could gain positive returns in terms of resources and reputation. Bringing together renown artists from project countries and the private sector to jointly produce a graphic novel on the MedProgramme, for instance, could be rewarding in many regards.

The MedProgramme holds the possibility to create a fertile hub for different partners to come together and share experiences and solutions to common challenges related to environmental degradation and pollution of freshwater/marine waters in the region. The private sector is a prime stakeholder in this effort and should be always engaged to cross-fertilize the MedProgramme's interventions. As emphasized in the GEF 2020 strategy: "Coordination failures abound in environmental management, in part because of the prevalence of 'tragedy of the commons' issues. Moreover, the complexity of environmental challenges requires that actions be taken simultaneously by many different stakeholders to be effective; [...] Partnerships with the private sector, civil society, research groups, and indigenous and local communities are vital in this regard."³⁸

The importance of tightening relations with the private sector is again stressed in the GEF 2020 strategy: "The IAPs (Integrated Approach Pilots) will give special attention to engaging the private sector and improving evidence-based design and implementation to enhance learning and the effectiveness of the IAP interventions."³⁹

Furthermore, in strengthening collaboration with a vast and diverse, yet relevant, groups of stakeholders, the MedProgramme will contribute to the vision encapsulated in the Sustainable Development Goal 17: "A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level."

³⁸ 2020 Strategy for the GEF, April 2015. p.27 Full document: https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF-2020Strategies-March2015_CRA_WEB_2.pdf

³⁹ 2020 Strategy for the GEF, April 2015. p.22 Full document: https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF-2020Strategies-March2015_CRA_WEB_2.pdf

4.3 Policy and Decision-Making Level

The Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention, relevant decision makers in the region, technical practitioners as well as GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies are supported in their work through contributions to relevant regional policy processes and related GEF initiatives (particularly through the IW:LEARN project).

4.3.1 Strengthening the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) and Influencing Decision-Making

4.3.1.1 Replication Atlases

A number of highly informative National Replication Atlases, translated in relevant languages, will be produced to stimulate replication of successful practices demonstrated by the Programme and encourage regional and global dialogue. Broader adoption and replication of the successful policies, practices and technologies implemented under the Programme will be promoted through these means, highlighting areas and situations where replication of the Programme's demonstrations should preferentially occur.

Relevant results of Child Projects will be featured in the Atlases and the MedPCU will inform about the participatory process to collect and present the inputs.

4.3.1.2 Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals

The MedProgramme will produce regional environmental benefits contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular the goals on responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13), life below water (SDG 14), and life on land (SDG 15), which reflect to a large extent the GEF's core mission. By fighting environmental degradation in coastal areas and improving livelihoods, the MedProgramme is supporting beneficiary countries, and all populations living in the Mediterranean basin, to increase their capacity to build climate resilience, reduce pollution from nutrients and persistent toxic substances (POPs and Mercury), sustainably manage coastal freshwater and marine resources, protect biodiversity, and restore coastal ecosystems. Moreover, its focus on improving freshwater quality and quantity will directly contribute to SDG 6 on water and sanitation, while a dedicated gender strategy will ensure compliance with the SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment.

4.3.1.3 Supporting countries to implement IMAP

Since the 2005 Mediterranean TDA, the situation in the Mediterranean in terms of transboundary issues in the marine and coastal areas has evolved. In terms of monitoring, the adoption in 2008 of the EU Marine Strategic Framework Directive (MSFD) led to the development in EU countries of national monitoring plans based on a set of detailed common criteria and indicators. UN Environment/MAP initiated the Ecosystem Approach in 2008, which led to the adoption of 11 Ecological Objectives, 61 indicators and definition of GES and targets in 2012 at the COP17 of the Barcelona Convention. This led to the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) for the Mediterranean, which was adopted in 2016 at the Barcelona Convention COP19. IMAP is the best available common set of tools for informing the science-policy interface (SPI) which is critical to achieve meaningful progress on stress reduction. Now the challenge is for countries, especially the non-EU countries, to redesign their national monitoring programs in line with IMAP and the 23 common indicators covering also the areas beyond national jurisdiction. Regarding monitoring of pollution, countries will build upon their MED POL monitoring program and database that has been in existence since 1999, with agreed parameters and stations in key hotspots and coastal areas. However, very few data exist for the majority of the common indicators, other than some contaminants, nutrients and chlorophyll data, particularly in the GEF eligible countries of the Mediterranean.

4.3.2 Contributing to the GEF knowledge base

The results produced by the MedProgramme (hot spots of coastal/marine pollution and habitat degradation, implementing ICZM and nexus planning, conjunctive surface water and groundwater management, protecting coastal groundwater-related ecosystems and coastal/marine biodiversity) will substantially contribute to the GEF knowledge base and to relevant GEF process, events and activities involving the four focal areas of International Waters, Chemicals and Waste, Biodiversity, Climate Change. Technical practitioners and scientists are also addressed as direct consumers of technical reports and assessments, and they are key agents to strengthen the science-policy interface.

4.3.2.1 Technical reports and scientific publications

The MedPCU will ensure that relevant scientific reports and scientific peer-reviewed publications are prepared by the various CPs providing technical information about the achievements of the Programme.

4.3.2.2 Synergies with the GEF IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN Projects

The MedProgramme will closely collaborate with the GEF International Waters Learning and Resource Exchange Network (IW:LEARN) Project⁴⁰ to facilitate uptake of lessons learned and knowledge exchange from/to the MedProgramme portfolio.

Cooperation in the following activities will be particularly addressed:

- Participation to the GEF International Waters Conferences (landmark biannual events of the IW portfolio). The first MedProgramme contribution is expected for the 10th edition of the IWC in 2020.
- Production of Experience Notes (short case studies) produced by Child Projects to showcase worthy results and disseminated through IW:LEARN channels and the MedProgramme KM platform. The format of Experience Notes is standard (<https://iwlearn.net/documents/experience-notes>)
- Participation to IW:LEARN Twinning with other GEF relevant projects and programs.
- Contribution to IW:LEARN.net with specific content (i.e. data visualization).
- Contribution to social media, news, events, etc.
- Participation to GEF Communities of Practice (CoPs) on IW, CW, when relevant.

4.4 Governance

Both the strategy and its implementation are critical to successful exploitation of knowledge. Many KM strategies fail not because there is something intrinsically wrong with them, but because they are not well implemented.

There must be a good strategy, but also appropriate organizational structure, systems, resources and the right people to execute it.

It is crucial to create teams that are centers of excellence for their specific knowledge skills and experience. Also, the appropriate technical equipment (hardware and software) and adequate expertise are key ingredients to ensure expected results. The GEF STAP concurs with the need for adequate resources noting that “KM delivers cost-efficiency and savings, for example, reduced failure of projects, and it needs up-front resourcing to cover for additional time, specific tools and database needs. [...] KM professionals are essential in applying the discipline, including creating tools and products that help establish KM as a standard practice throughout the organization⁴¹” .

⁴⁰ More info at www.iwlearn.net

The KM strategy of the MedProgramme will require different sets of expertise for its execution. It is anticipated that the following professional profiles will be required throughout the duration of the programme (either full-time and/or part-time):

- Knowledge Management Specialist (to coordinate the implementation of the KM strategy)
- Communications assistant (to support the execution of the communications plan)
- Data Analyst (to help harmonize data produced by Child Projects and maintain the database)
- Web Developer (to develop the KM platform)
- IT Specialist (to administer the IT-based platform and systems)
- Experts in copy-editing, video-making, graphic design, translations, etc. to be contracted as needed.

These and other services will be provided by the staff of the MedPCU, consultants hired to carry out specific tasks and by outsourcing the work to companies (such as for the project management tool, hosting providers, licenses, etc).

“Knowledge-sharing is at the crossroads of core and support functions”⁴². Knowledge-sharing tasks and responsibilities should be as much as possible integrated in the jobs descriptions and terms of reference of projects’ executing teams.

As efforts leading to an effective knowledge management system can be seen as time-consuming and not immediately benefitting the project outputs, there must be a good system in place to incentivize project teams to dedicate time and resources to KM. As noted by the GEF Strategic Technical Advisory Panel (STAP⁴³): “there needs to be better recognition for KM inputs, achievements and publicity. Rewarding projects at mid-term, for example, for demonstrating the use of knowledge to improve and/or adapt the project to meet project objectives may be an effective incentive”. The form of these rewards can vary, but in the case of the MedProgramme they can range for instance from prizes announced at the Annual Stocktaking Meetings, to public recognition mentions (internally or externally the portfolio, such as in the Med Bulletins), among others.

⁴¹ Stocking, M. et al. 2018. Managing knowledge for a sustainable global future. Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC. p. 9

⁴² Steffen Soulejman Janus. 2016. Becoming a Knowledge-Sharing Organization: A Handbook for Scaling Up Solutions through Knowledge Capturing and Sharing. Washington, DC: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-4648-0943-9. License: Creative Commons Attribution CC BY 3.0 IGO, p. 24.

⁴³ Stocking, M. et al. 2018. Managing knowledge for a sustainable global future. Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC. p. 9

5. Legacy and Sustainability



Share your knowledge. It is a way to achieve immortality. –Dalai Lama XIV



The benefits arising from managing knowledge properly are both far reaching and hard to measure. This strategy represents one of the first attempts to manage knowledge holistically within a GEF-financed program with multi-focal areas Child Projects, and the role played by the Support Child Project 4.1 in implementing the programme-wide KM strategy is innovative yet challenging. The envisaged result is to effectively support portfolio coordination, provide beneficiary countries with long-lasting capacity and tools to improve national and transboundary coastal ecosystems, and enrich the GEF Partnership with replicable solutions and lessons learned for future interventions in the Mediterranean region. Its success will be determined by the commitment and ownership of all executing partners and stakeholders, in addition to adequate resources and means in place. Its sustainability will translate into reinforced capacity (information, expertise, awareness...) of MedProgramme stakeholders to address environmental challenges making use of a modular knowledge hub which will continue to evolve after the programme ending.

The contracting parties of the Barcelona Convention will be the custodians of the KM structure implemented for the MedProgramme and will carry forward the legacy of the MedProgramme by supporting informed decision-making, paving the way for more investments and interventions, and encouraging broader adoption and knowledge transfer to improve environmental security in the coastal areas of the Mediterranean.

GEF/UN Environment “Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security”

GEF ID 9607

Implementing Agencies



Leading Executing Agency



United Nations
Environment Programme

Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention

Executing Partners



ANNEX Q

THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA PROGRAMME:
ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY (2019 – 2024)

GENDER MAINSTREAMING STRATEGY

UN ENVIRONMENT/MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN
OCTOBER 2018

*This strategy was prepared during the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase
of the MedProgramme (June – September 2018)*

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1. Introduction

1.1 *Defining Gender Mainstreaming – from 1997 to 2017*

In 2017, shortly after the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP) in Bonn concluded with the ‘Fiji Momentum for Implementation’, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) announced its pioneering Gender Action Plan. The COP23 Presidency underscored the priority of the Plan¹ to increase awareness of, and generate support for the development and effective implementation for, gender-responsive climate and environmental action. Showcasing not only the consensus of the State Parties on these key issues, this critical achievement encapsulates the growing international efforts towards gender mainstreaming and the integration of gender equality perspectives in sectoral policies and programs, since articulated by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) twenty years ago.

In July 1997, the Group of Specialists on Mainstreaming, appointed by the ECOSOC, laid out the tenets of gender mainstreaming, which continue to spur and inform UN action:

*“Gender Mainstreaming is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programs, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs in all political, economic and social spheres so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality”.*²

Elaborating upon this definition, the Division for the Advancement of Women on Gender Mainstreaming, added:

*“Gender Mainstreaming requires more than a quantitative change in numbers of women and men participating in, or benefiting from, policies and programs. It requires a transformation of all sectoral policies at all levels, and of institutions, organizational practices, attitudes and systems that shape them so that they fully consider the realities, needs, and views of women.”*³

The conceptualization and definition of Gender Mainstreaming, as presented above, derives from, and builds on, the preceding conversation of inclusion of women and gendered considerations in development policy. To elucidate, it does not represent a ‘totally’ new approach – but rather, a unique take on gender and developmental policy antecedents dating back to the early 1970s. Functioning as a pivot, gender mainstreaming builds on the Gender and Development (GAD) approach, which differentiates itself from the preceding Women in Development (WID) and Women and Development (WAD) approach, by discarding the notion that gender perspectives should automatically entail the demarcation of women as a target group. The image below⁴ visualizes the timeline of these different approaches leading up to gender mainstreaming, the approach chosen for the Mediterranean Sea Program (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security Gender Strategy towards

¹ See *Recommendations of the Subsidiary Body of Implementation on Gender and Climate Change* (Agenda No. 20). UNFCCC. (2017)

² See *Gender Mainstreaming: An Overview* for more. United Nations. (2002)

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ The image was developed by the author from: Rathgeber, E. “WID, WAD, GAD: Trends in Research and Practice”. International Development Research Centre (Ottawa). Paper Presentation at the meetings of the Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Women held in Quebec City. (1988)

incorporating gender-responsive project outcomes, gender-sensitive policy formulations, and gender-aware decision-making.

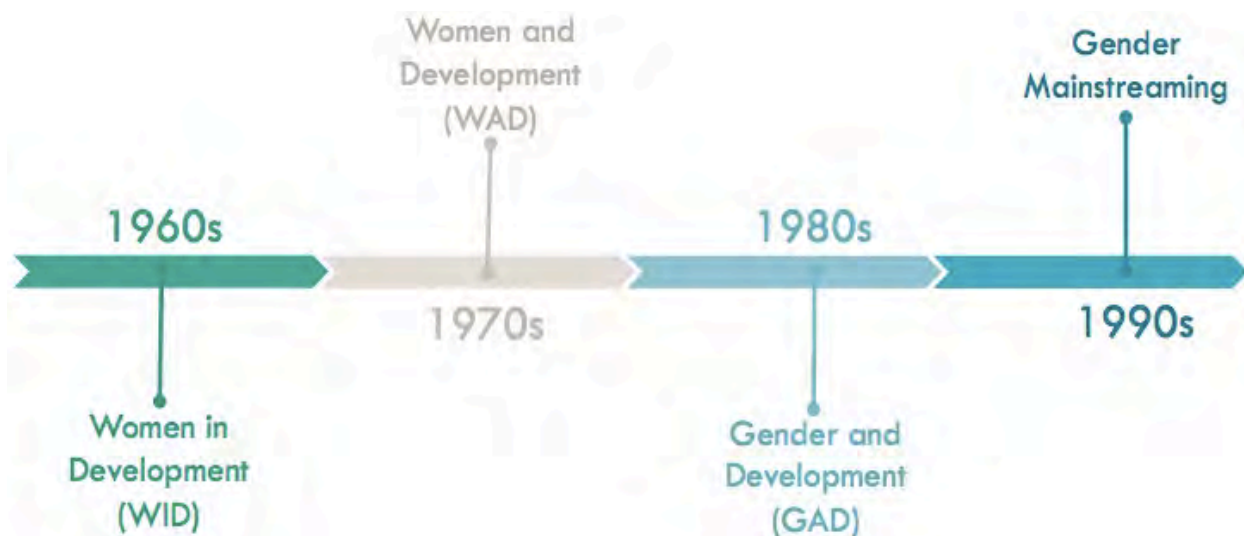


Figure 1: Timeline towards present-day Gender Mainstreaming approach. (adapted from Rathgeber [1988] by author)

1.2 Global Environment Facility (GEF) and UN Environment

Keeping with the above mandate of gender mainstreaming and promoting women’s empowerment, both the GEF and UN Environment have prioritized delivering inclusive and gender-responsive environmental results, and adaptation and mitigation solutions towards climate risks.

Having launched its initial gender policy in 2011, the GEF approved a reinforced policy in November 2017⁵ at the 53rd Council Meeting, shifting the focus from a ‘gender-aware, do no harm’ approach to a ‘gender-responsive, do good’ approach. This requires robust standards in the design, implementation and evaluation of GEF activities, and introducing measures that will allow the GEF, over time, to better leverage strategic opportunities to address gender gaps critical to the achievement of global environment benefits.⁶ More recently, the GEF-7 Programming Directions, prepared by the Secretariat in the April 2018 Stockholm meeting further clarifies the GEF’s evolving and progressive gender strategy – by providing action points for each GEF focal point.⁷ It lays out clear gender standards for each domain under the GEF, and for the MedProgramme, gender directives of the:

- a. Biodiversity focal area (such as: assessments to understand gender-disaggregated biological resource, providing women and other natural resource-dependent groups equal partnership in protection management);
- b. Climate Change focal area (such as: incorporating action points to address the different climate risks faced by men, women, boys and girls and providing adaptation alternatives that improve the status quo);

⁵ See here for the latest [GEF Gender Mainstreaming guide \(EN\)](#). GEF. (2017) (publication)

⁶ “A new Policy on Gender Equality for the GEF”. GEF official website. (2017) (news update)

⁷ GEF-7 Replenishment – Programming Directions. Meeting Report from the 4th meeting held at Stockholm, Sweden for the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, in April 2018.

- c. Chemicals and Waste focal area (such as: understanding the socioeconomic dynamics that expose men and women to different chemicals, as well as their biological implications),
 - d. IW focal area (such as: gender assessments and social analysis during project preparation, and differentiated reporting of output indicators and additional measures based on the GEF's Gender Action Plan⁸)
- are particularly relevant and have been incorporated as action points for the operationalization for this Strategy.

UN Environment recognizes the role of gender equality as a 'driver of sustainable environment development'⁹, particularly to enhance environmental security and climate resilience; to assuage the stresses on natural resources and dependent communities, including unsustainable management of coastal resources; and to preserve the health of large marine ecosystems (like the Mediterranean) which provide environmental and economic services to coastal populaces. Overall, the organization focuses on the increased visibility and capacity of vulnerable groups in sustainable development policy- and decision-making. To that end, the agency has produced a lessons-learnt report¹⁰, through gender case study compilation, on issues homologous with the overall MedProgramme agenda: gender integration in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), marine and coastal pollution, coastal disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, coastal developmental planning, and advocacy for gender-inclusive marine ecosystem management and research.

1.3 *The MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming Strategy*

The MedProgramme represents a pioneering effort, being the first GEF programmatic multi-focal initiative in the Mediterranean region, aiming to operationalize agreed-upon priority actions to reduce major transboundary environmental stresses in its coastal areas, while strengthening climate resilience and water security, as well as improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The MedProgramme will be implemented in nine beneficiary countries sharing the Mediterranean basin: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia. The Lead GEF Agency is UN Environment¹¹. Its eight Child Projects¹² cut across four different Focal Areas of the GEF (Biodiversity, Chemicals and Waste, Climate Change, and International Waters), and involve a wide spectrum of developmental and societal sectors, ranging from banking institutions, the private sector, government and non-government bodies, industry, research, media, and various other organizations.

⁸ *Ibid*, p. 55.

⁹ *Gender Equality and the Environment: Policy and Strategy*. UN Environment. (2015)

¹⁰ *Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 207* (forthcoming). Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Unit. UN Environment. (2018)

¹¹ GEF Lead Agency: UN Environment. Other GEF Agencies: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Executing Partners: UNEP/MAP, European Investment Bank (EIB), UNESCO International Hydrological Program (IHP), Global Water Partnership (GWP) Med, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), MEDPOL, UNIDO, and IUCN.

¹² At the time of its approval in 2016, the MedProgramme comprised of seven Child Projects. Subsequently, UN Environment/MAP developed a Mediterranean-focused climate change adaptation project, for financing through the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). It was agreed by the UN Environment/MAP, UN Environment and the GEF that this SCCF project would be managed, for all intents and purposes, as an additional Child Project of the MedProgramme. Hence, the number of Child Projects now stands at eight.

Seeking to maintain funding agency (GEF) and lead agency (UN Environment) organizational priorities outlined above, as well as preparing for a proactive GEF-7 ready portfolio, this Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, developed in the Project Preparation Grant (PPG – between June to September, finalized in October) phase, will: provide tailored action points to improve the gender status quo in the countries; place gender-responsive activities and gender-aware policy-making at the core of the MedProgramme agenda; and partake as well as further the existing efforts on gender equality, to leverage opportunities for inclusive and accessible environmental and social co-benefits.

2. Methodology

This Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (GMS), as contextualized above, has been tailored for the MedProgramme. Developed with a two-fold framework, the Strategy is informed by: (a) political ecology and gender studies literature¹³(presented below) to establish a mixed methodology, and (b) Program component- and country-level diagnostics to identify the baseline scenario (Section 3), which the Strategy expects to positively impact with strategic, selective and appropriate mainstreaming measures in project-specific contexts.

At the outset, this Strategy adopts a political ecology lens, which aims to influence policy development, environmental action and investment programs by ‘offering chains of explanations’ rather than single and disjointed root causes. This perspective, when combined with a gender-lens, highlights the socio-political dimensions of coastal and natural resource access, control, distribution and agency, which further govern issues such as environmental degradation, climate risks and resource management policies.

In the words of Rocheleau (1996), gender is relevant to a political ecology perspective as:

“A critical variable in shaping resource access and control, interacting with class, caste, race, culture and ethnicity, to shape process of ecological change, the struggle of men and women to sustain ecologically viable livelihoods, and the prospects of community for sustainable development.”¹⁴

Thus, as the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy for the MedProgramme, this Strategy will espouse and embed the use of a combined political ecology- and gender-lens for the constituent projects. This will create a Program-wide focus (albeit, in different site-specific contexts) on understanding the spatially and temporally contingent ways in which gender issues, social relations, and the environment interact. This programmatic approach will, then, be able to consider the gamut of gendered dimensions present in the Mediterranean, such as: gender division of labor, male and female participation in labor, gendered environmental rights and responsibilities, environmental politics and governance, and collective action and resilience.

Secondly, the importance of gender-relevant and vetted data to provide empirical evidence to the policy and program needs is prioritized. Thus, available data indicators (particularly,

¹³ Bauhardt, C. & Harcourt, W. *Feminist Political Ecology and the Economics of Care*. (2018) has been a critical influence on this Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

¹⁴ Rocheleau, D. E. *Gender and Environment: A Feminist Political Ecology Perspective*. (1996)

from the World Bank Gender Data Portal and UNDP indices) and country-specific (and where available, local site-specific) statistics have been extensively used to justify the concerns raised by the Strategy. The data on each country has been collated through gender diagnostics of desk-reviewed literature and secondary statistics, which has further revealed the existing inconsistency and low relevance accorded to gender considerations and corresponding statistics within on-going environmental projects, programs and policies.

Thus, by using gender-relevant data to contextualize its priorities, the Strategy will attempt to set an example and highlight both the need to incorporate targeted and selective gender actions based on empirical data within the MedProgramme, as well as the urgency to bolster internal and country-level monitoring systems for the collection and reporting of sex-disaggregated, environmentally-related data from project, sub-national and national levels.

3. Baseline Scenario for MedProgramme Components

The MedProgramme builds on the significant achievements of the MedPartnership¹⁵ and ClimVar & ICZM¹⁶ GEF Projects. The latter have enriched the knowledge on the Mediterranean environment and unraveled the implications of climate change and variability in the region; strengthened countries' mutual trust, cooperation and common purpose; consolidated the partnership among countries, UN bodies, Civil Society Organizations, bilateral donors and the European Union; tested on the ground feasibility and effectiveness of technical and policy instruments aimed at addressing major present and future threats to environmental sustainability and climate-related impacts. However, despite these different successes, the two projects were limited by the lack of adequate gender-responsive planning in their sectoral strategies and programs. This represents a 'missed opportunity', as incorporating the gender-lens from project preparation phase through to the monitoring and evaluation phase aid in the mapping of links between gender and environment, as well as identifying positive synergy and improve social/gender and environment outcomes from the outset. This Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, which has been developed as an input in the MedProgramme's preparation phase with the scope of scaling up in parallel with the advancement of the program cycle, thus addresses the gender-blind baseline represented by earlier initiatives.

The MedProgramme represents a comprehensive and powerful response to the environmental and socioeconomic challenges faced by the Mediterranean, in light of continued degradation of coastal zones, growing impacts of climate variability, and loss of livelihoods and deterioration of social conditions. Its objective is to kick-start the implementation of agreed-upon priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas, while

¹⁵ Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem-Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its Coastal Areas (MedPartnership) – GED ID 2600

¹⁶ Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM protocol in the Mediterranean (ClimVar & ICZM) – GED IF 3990.

strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The focus will be primarily on hotspots of land-based pollution, harmful chemicals and wastes (POPs and mercury), and excess nutrients; critical sections of the coastal zone particularly affected by climatic variability, freshwater stress and habitat degradation the efficient and sustainable management of priority marine protected areas; measuring progress to impacts and overall Program coherence. Dedicated Child Projects (eight) will prioritize each of these key issues. The Child Projects will be entry points for gender mainstreaming actions through gender assessments and action plans that determine targeted gender-responsive action through project objectives and outcomes at the project, local and national level.

The following table posits the hypothetical effects of a gender-blind approach to the MedProgramme components (the tentative child project – CP – is mentioned alongside), as opposed to mainstreaming robust gender outcomes within the same:

TABLE I: GENDER-BLIND v. GENDER-RESPONSIVE APPROACH

MedProgramme Component	CP	What is a <i>gender-blind</i> approach?	What is a <i>gender-responsive</i> approach?
Reduction of land-based pollution in priority coastal hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts	1.1	Top sources of land-based pollution, contaminating marine and coastal hotspots, result out of anthropogenic activities such as usage of heavy metals and untreated dumping in river systems, sewage, litter, plastic pollution, usage of pesticides and fertilizers and synthetic organic compounds. ¹⁷ Due to the ubiquitous access and usage of marine resources, the coastal populace is vulnerable to the detrimental effects of	Oxfam’s <i>Handbook of Development and Relief</i> provides one of the pioneering accounts of the connections between poverty and environmental degradation, noting a ‘ <i>downward spiral of cause and effect</i> ’ – ‘ <i>poverty can cause environmental degradation, as poor people over-exploit already strained resources, and environmental degradation causes further poverty as people are unable to find the resources to meet their daily needs.</i> ’ ¹⁸ Environmental change, climate disruptions and damage to marine systems and coastal zones have gendered impacts, and women and men shoulder these burdens differently. In what is identified as the ‘ <i>feminization of poverty</i> ’ or women’s increasing burden of and share in global poverty, economists and development analysts have observed that ‘ <i>women constitute an estimated 70% of the world’s poor people, and households headed by</i>

¹⁷ Windom, H. L. “Contamination of marine environment from land-based sources” in *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, (Vol. 25, No. 1-4). (1992)

¹⁸ Eade, D. & Williams, S. *The Oxfam Handbook of Development and Relief*. (1994)

	1.2	land-based pollutants, and therefore, marine pollutants, both in health and livelihood indicators.	
	1.3		<p><i>women alone... are the world's poorest households as a general trend.</i>¹⁹ For example, environmental degradation-induced livelihood impacts are differentiated in coastal areas – fishing communities, based on local gender norms and informal nature of work, relegate remunerative activities (which often tend to be associated with risk, like ‘going out to the waters’) to the men, while women perform post-harvest work, which may not always be remunerated properly, if at all. The gendered allocation of remuneration, thus, creates a disparity in economic capital, and in turn impedes the capacity to adapt to environmental change and climate disruptions. Marine contaminants threaten both human health and the health of marine organisms. However, health impacts are gender-differentiated as well. Many marine and coastal contaminants are particularly dangerous for pregnant women and lactating mothers, as well as for fetal development.²⁰</p>

¹⁹

Ibid.

²⁰

See *Global Gender Environment Outlook*, Section 2.5 for more. UN Environment. (2016)

<p>Enhancing sustainability and climate resilience in coastal zones</p>	<p>2.1</p>	<p>According to a recent report²¹, ocean-related activities in the Mediterranean Sea generate an annual economic value of 450 billion dollars with economic assets for coastal economies and communities amounting to 5.6 trillion dollars. The need for enhancing sustainability and climate resilience in the region is crucial, as the Mediterranean is experiencing a number of immediate coastal problems, which require both short-term and long-term coastal management. Regional scale studies indicate that the Mediterranean is particularly vulnerable to increased flooding and saltwater intrusion as sea levels rise.²² The region has also been marked out as a ‘hot spot of climate change’, with an increase in air temperature range of 2.2°C to 5.1°C predicted over the period of 2080 – 2099.²³</p>	<p>While impacts of environmental degradation and climate risks are undoubtedly severe for the entire coastal populaces, men and women, privileged and vulnerable communities, young and the elderly shoulder burdens unequally. Often the vulnerable and marginalized groups are limited by the exclusion of their needs and perspectives from regional negotiations and management policies. The immediate and long-term coastal problems being faced by the Mediterranean have implications for complex gender relations in the region, which are a kaleidoscope²⁴ of overlapping social, economic and cultural roles, spread across a diverse multitude of countries and communities. The European Mediterranean countries have distinct social patterns and gender norms, which differ from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Mediterranean countries, for example. Additionally, the varying political situations in the region also determine how women and men are able to access and leverage sustainable development opportunities to be able to cope with environmental degradation, pressures on natural resources and coastal and marine ecosystems, and climate risks. For the northern Mediterranean countries (the Western Balkan nations), labor market dynamics exhibit a significant gender gap: women’s employment rates (especially for marginalized communities such as Romas) are lower, along with an existing gender wage gap. Since economic capital is among the important determinants of coping capacities to external shocks (in this case, water stress, degradation of coastal aquifers, loss of</p>
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²¹ See *Reviving the Economy of the Mediterranean Sea: Actions for a Sustainable Future* for more. WWF and The Boston Consulting Group. (2017)

²² Nicholls, R. J. & Hoozemans, F. M. N. “The Mediterranean: vulnerability to coastal implications of climate change” in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, (Vol. 31, No. 2-3). (1996)

²³ See *Climate Change and Energy in the Mediterranean* for more. European Investment Bank. (2008)

²⁴ See [this report](#) by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) regarding an action plan towards investing in gender equality in the region.

	2.2		<p>coastal livelihoods, climate impacts et al), women (and other marginalized groups, including ethnic minorities) are more likely to be vulnerable. The ‘double disadvantage’ of the situation should also be reckoned with: due to lack of viable economic capital, vulnerable groups are often excluded from socio-political control over coastal zone and water resources (coastal aquifers, particularly) management policies – increasing the possibilities of exposure to the threats looming in the Mediterranean region. For MENA countries, coupled with barriers to the labor market and employment opportunities, women face institutionalized exclusion from civil society and political spheres. Decision-making power within the household and the polity is limited, reducing women’s capacities to engage in the public sphere and gear development opportunities to safeguard their interests. In recent years, however, women have been capitalizing on opportunities presented by pluralistic interpretations of traditional gender norms and entering both the work force and the public space. The gains achieved through social change in this region may not keep pace with the risks and threats arising from the lack of proper management policies for natural resources and the coastal zone, and growing threats of climate change and environmental degradation in the region. As with the European Mediterranean countries, burdens of emerging risks and shocks may fall on the vulnerable groups.</p> <p><i>(Refer to footnote 12, for more information on the SCCF Project – and why it is a Child Project under the MedProgramme)</i></p>
Protecting marine biodiversity	3.1	The Mediterranean’s biodiversity underpins the ability of ecosystems	Until recently, there was a lacuna in the empirical and normative literature on gender and marine biodiversity. However,

		<p>to provide humans with the services they require to survive – although as Hooper shows, delineating the role of biodiversity in ecosystem services and relative roles of difference functional groups has been extremely complex. The Mediterranean’s predominantly coastal population is increasingly threatened by the loss of biodiversity, due to mismanagement and unsustainable use, and this situation is projected to worsen with the coupled effects of human-induced climate impacts, such as warming sea surface temperatures, altering ocean chemistry and increasing run-off of land-based pollutants and sediments.²⁵ Resuscitating and protecting these marine ecosystems, which form the resource base for coastal economic and social activities, requires all possible expedition.</p>	<p>with reviewed studies on the role of gender with respect to conservation, particularly that of mangroves and their ecological significance, brought to light the clear link between gender and biodiversity and conservation outcomes. According to the Convention on Biological Diversity, considering gender issues in relation to biodiversity involves identifying the gender roles and relations have on the use, management and conservation of biodiversity. To begin with, this MedProgramme component should address the knowledge gap regarding gendered biodiversity practices in the region, through extensive data and information collection, stakeholder consultations and focused-group discussions. This would contribute towards gender-responsive policies within marine resource management and biodiversity conservation plans that can increase the sustainability of outcomes by incorporating artisanal and traditional knowledge gathered from both women and men. Exposing gender-differentiated biodiversity practices²⁶ will also help demarcate the different levels of harm caused by different groups (income-generating activities, traditionally relegated to men, may be more exploitative in some instances), as well as the inequalities in control of resources. Biodiversity conservation plans can be truly effective if they address poverty, inequality and resource access dynamics among coastal communities.²⁷</p>
Knowledge management and program coordination	4.1	<p>Knowledge management and program coordination, if carried out with a top-down approach and without a stakeholder-facing participatory approach, risks excluding the needs</p>	<p>Robust coordination and knowledge management strategies panning the MedProgramme have to be operationalized to ensure its success. Given the breadth and value of the initiative, as well as the numerous partners and focus points, these strategies will ensure: stakeholder representation</p>

²⁵ Lockwood, M. et al. “Marine biodiversity conservation governance and management: Regime requirements for global environmental change” in *Ocean and Coastal Management*, (Vol. 69). (2012)

²⁶ See the gender tab on *Convention on Biological Diversity* for more.

²⁷ The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity hosted a meeting in Bangkok (December 2017) to develop training material to advance gender inclusion in biodiversity planning in the Asia-Pacific region. See the reporting [here](#).

		<p>and concerns of beneficiaries. Additionally, procedural and red tape hurdles tend to disproportionately affect those with limited resources and access to governing mechanisms, support organizations and implementing agencies.</p>	<p>and engagement, technical and administrative coordination of the program; establish a commune of practice and initiative among different stakeholders and partners; management of knowledge generated on an accessible platform (both data and normative) as well as dissemination of lessons learnt and best practices in later stages of the program cycle; high-quality and timely systems for monitoring of the Program's progress to impacts. In tandem with a knowledge management and program coordination strategy, a gender mainstreaming strategy for the MedProgramme will be developed to provide critical gender-responsive research inputs for Programme components, as well as to espouse a gender-aware policy in the region, taking stock of the existent inequities and gender norms of the Mediterranean. Gender mainstreaming shall be pursued within the different Child Projects, with tailored gender assessments and action plans determining strategic and selective action to improve the baseline inequality within project- and country-specific dimensions. This will safeguard the interests and priorities of the vulnerable and marginalized communities among the Mediterranean coastal populaces, as well as increase the sustainability and inclusion of the MedProgramme's priorities in the region and contribute to the regional conversation on decreasing inequality, poverty and vulnerability.</p>
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4. *Baseline Scenario for MedProgramme Countries*

The nine Mediterranean countries participating in the MedProgramme (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia), face different developmental challenges and socioeconomic disparities, as seen from the country profiles, developed for this Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.. These data profiles borrow from UNDP's Human Development Index, Gender Inequality Index, and Gender

Development Index. Additionally, they refer to the Global Gender Gap Index (World Economic Forum) and compiles national-level poverty statistics (conducted by national authorities of the nine countries, as well as the World Bank, in some cases). These indices have differing methodologies, and are being employed, at the outset, as indicative (and *not* conclusive) measures of current levels of development, gender equality, and poverty and labor force participation.

As Booysen’s research²⁸ shows, composite indices present both challenges and advantages. It should be noted that numerous fallacies have been identified in the methodologies employed in composite indexing. These indices are mainly quantitative, and present empirical and aggregate measures of complex development phenomena, making values apparently objective, at the cost of subjective nuances. Yet, these also remain invaluable as useful supplements to income-based development indicators, understanding relative degrees of development, simplifying complex measurement constructs as well as providing access to non-technical audiences. To balance this dichotomy, ranks have been removed in certain indices and have been linked in the footnoting, and the broader development categories (high/medium/low development) have been used.

TABLE II: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI)²⁹
(out of 188 countries – United Nations Development Program – UNDP, 2018)

Defining the HDI: This index measures and combines three basic dimensions of human development (long and healthy life, knowledge and decent standard of living) and provides an overall socioeconomic landscape of a country.

Relevance of the HDI: Since socioeconomic capital and security are crucial determinants of the capacities to adapt towards natural resource stress, loss of coastal livelihoods, marine and environmental degradation, and climate risks, this index indicates how poised each country may be to consider different resource management, resilience, adaptation and mitigation options.

Indicative, not conclusive: In line with Booysen’s argument, the HDI should be treated as indicative, not conclusive. It provides an overview of relative degree of development in a particular country but remains a ‘synthetic indicator’. Recent research has shown the need to supplement the HDI with other indicators associated with economic and social cohesion, sound development strategies, and sustainability in growth models.³⁰

Country	Rank	Relevance
Albania	68 th	With ‘high human development’, Albania’s capacity to adapt to climate risks and variability is pegged well. However, due to regional variation in poverty rates (high in the Kukës prefecture – 22% v. Gjirokastër prefecture (qarks) – 8%, in particular ³¹) in the country, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.

²⁸ Booysen, F. “An Overview and Evaluation of Composite Indices of Development” in *Social Indicators Research*, (Vol. 59 No. 2). (2002)

²⁹ UNDP. (2018)

³⁰ Bilbao-Ubillos, J. “The Limits of *Human Development Index*” in *Sustainable Development*, (Vol. 21 No. 6). (2011)

³¹ *Portraits of Poverty and Inequality in Albania*. INSTAT (Albanian Institute of Statistics) & World Bank. (2015)

Country	Rank	Relevance
Algeria	85 th	With ‘high human development’, Algeria wields capital, largely derived from its oil economy, in readiness against climate shocks. However, due to high inequality in consumption, high unemployment rates (particularly, women and youth) and largely informal workforce ³² , environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.
Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)	77 th	With ‘high human development’, BiH’s capacity to adapt to climate risks and variability is pegged high and similar to Algeria. As a post-conflict nation, however, educational attainment and labor market access continue to be determined by poverty status ³³ in the country, thus, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be shared.
Egypt	115 th	With ‘medium human development’, Egypt’s readiness towards adopting climate risk mitigation and adaptation opportunities might be limited, wherein the government may prioritize other pressing developmental pursuits. ³⁴ With a volatile political climate, and entrenched gender inequality, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.
Lebanon	80 th	With ‘high human development’, Lebanon’s capacity to adapt to climate risks and variability is pegged well. However, due to high concentration of income and wealth in the country ³⁵ and the spill-over effects of the Syrian civil war, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.
Libya	108 th	With ‘medium human development’, Libya’s readiness towards adopting climate risk mitigation and adaptation opportunities might be limited, wherein the government may prioritize other seemingly pressing developmental pursuits. With a volatile political climate challenging economic stability ³⁶ , dependence on oil production and entrenched gender inequality, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.
Montenegro	50 th	With ‘very high human development’, Montenegro is poised to adapt well to climate risks. However, due to historic ethnic exclusionism (the Roma population, in particular ³⁷) in the country, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.
Morocco	123 rd	With ‘medium human development’, Morocco’s readiness towards adopting climate risk mitigation and adaptation opportunities might be limited, wherein the government may prioritize other seemingly pressing developmental pursuits. Pronounced gender inequality in the country slows economic growth ³⁸ , environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.
Tunisia	95 th	With ‘high human development’, Tunisia’s capacity to adapt to climate risks and variability is pegged well. However, due to concentration of income and wealth in the country ³⁹ , high unemployment rates (particularly, youth) and economic unrest challenging political stability, environmental services and social co-benefits may not be equitably shared.

³² “Poverty has fallen in the Maghreb, but inequality persists”. [World Bank](#). (2016)

³³ *Poverty and Inequality in BiH*. [World Bank](#). (2011)

³⁴ *Inequalities, Uprisings and Conflicts in the Arab World. MENA Monitor*. [World Bank](#). (2015)

³⁵ Assouad, L. “Rethinking the Lebanese Economic Miracle”. [WID](#). (2017)

³⁶ *Libya Economic Outlook*. [World Bank](#). (2018)

³⁷ *Gender at a Glance: Montenegro*. [World Bank](#). (2015)

³⁸ “Reducing gender inequality in Morocco can boost growth”. [IMF](#). (2017)

³⁹ *Tunisia: Economic Outlook*. [World Bank](#). (2018)

TABLE III: GENDER INEQUALITY INDEX (GII)⁴⁰

(out of 159 countries – UNDP, 2018)

Defining the GII: This index, showing inequality in achievement between men and women in three aspects (reproductive health, empowerment and labor market), provides a useful gender baseline in terms of health equity, economic capital and financial access, speaking to the gender opportunities of men and women in the countries. This baseline has been elaborated upon using existing gender studies literature on each country.

Relevance of the GII: This index provides a primary understanding of the different levels of achievements on basic development indicators between men and women. This displays useful features towards the gender status quo hypotheses, which could then be derived in the context of this project.

Indicative, not conclusive: In line with Booyesen’s argument, the GII should be treated as indicative, not conclusive. Pernmayer finds that the functional form of the index could be unclear, particularly the inclusion of indicators of relative performance of women vis-à-vis men, along with absolute women-specific indicators.⁴¹

Country	Rank	Relevance
Albania	52 nd	In Albania, traditional beliefs continue to influence gender roles, particularly in the household setting. During socialist rule, although policies promoted women’s presence in the public sphere (through education and work), the continued responsibility for unpaid domestic work remained with women (leading to time poverty or ‘double shifts’). During the transition to a capitalist economy, gender equality laws were not put in place for private sector jobs, and thus, employment for Albanian women could not be safeguarded. ⁴²
Algeria	100 th	In Algeria, social codes affect women’s empowerment. Since labor force participation disparity is pronounced, women lag behind on economic capital needed to combat risks arising from environmental degradation, mismanagement of water and coastal resources, and climate shocks. According to the Arab Barometer, in 2017, compared to 2013, a greater number of Algerians regarded higher education as more important for men, as well as reinforced the notion that married women should be ideally relegated to household duties. ⁴³ This also makes them dependent on the patrilocal structure of Algerian society.
Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)	37 th	Despite progress in closing the gender gap in endowments - mainly in education among the younger generation - BiH still faces a number of gender issues, particularly in women’s access to economic and employment opportunities. Alongside improved educational outcomes, significant gaps remain in labor market participation and employment in favor of men, as women continue to face challenges in accessing economic opportunities. ⁴⁴ Additional obstacles continue to exist for women in exercising agency (the power to choose and decide options to preserve to act for oneself), particularly managing domestic work, lack of political representation and participation as well as widespread gender-based violence.

⁴⁰ UNDP. (2018)

⁴¹ Pernmayer, I. “A Critical Assessment of the UNDP’s Gender Inequality Index” in *Feminist Economics*, (Vol. 19 No. 2). (2013)

⁴² World Bank. (2012)

⁴³ “Droits des femmes en Algérie: les lois progressent mais pas les mentalités”. *Middle East Eye*. (2017)

⁴⁴ *BiH: Economic Mobility, Jobs and Gender*. World Bank. (2016)

Country	Rank	Relevance
Egypt	101 st	Political, social and economic capitals are not equitably distributed among Egyptian men and women. Without access to these vital resources, the risks identified by MedProgramme will only burden those at the lower echelons of society. Despite improvement of young women's education levels in recent times (Egypt's rank improved by 34 spots in the latest GII quoted here), the workforce participation and retention rates remain unperturbed, signaling a stagnated job market and scarce employment opportunities. ⁴⁵ Egypt also faces some particular gender-specific barriers in high numbers, such as FGM and sexual harassment, arising out of sexual inequality between men and women in the country.
Lebanon	85 th	Lebanese women face the least gender disparity in the Arab world with their male counterparts. Despite this, discriminatory social codes, particularly the focus on intersectional civil and family laws, continue to impede women's empowerment. ⁴⁶ Although the gender gaps at higher levels of education are reversing, women continue to face entry barriers to the labor market as well as time poverty due to the predominance of unpaid care work.
Libya	38 th	Women in Libya have had a long history of actively participating in the economic, social and political development of the country, going back to the 1950s. Yet, with Gaddafi's introduction of the <i>Declaration of the Authority of the People</i> in 1977 and the <i>Great Green Charter of Human Rights in the Age of the Masses</i> in 1988, these rights were compromised at a substantive level. ⁴⁷ Furthermore, traditional family laws, as a general trend in the MENA region, continue to disadvantage women and exacerbate their time poverty. The 2011 uprisings signaled that women were entering the public space, yet changes in women's empowerment has been sluggish in the past seven years.
Montenegro	32 nd	Montenegro is relatively advanced in terms of progress towards gender equality. This enhances the capacities of Montenegrin men and women to face climate-risks and capitalize on adaptation opportunities. However, gender-inequitable dynamics remain in important determinants such as access to labor markets, health equity et al, rendering certain demographics vulnerable.
Morocco	119 th	Political, social and economic capitals are not equitably distributed among Moroccan men and women. Without access to these vital resources, climate risks will only burden those at the lower echelons of society. Gender equity in labor force participation is one of the lowest in the world ⁴⁸ , disadvantaging women further: women lag behind on economic capital needed to combat climate shocks and risks.
Tunisia	63 rd	In Tunisia, traditional social codes affect women's empowerment. Since labor force participation disparity is thoroughly pronounced, women lag behind on economic capital needed to combat climate shocks and risks. This also makes them dependent on the patrilocal structure of Tunisian society. However, the January 2011 uprisings signaled that women were entering the public space, leveraging opportunities for their economic empowerment, ⁴⁹ although it remains to be seen if the force of this societal shift can keep pace with climate risks.

⁴⁵ Egypt: *Country Gender Assessment*. World Bank. (2010)

⁴⁶ Lebanon: *Country Gender Assessment*. European Union. (2015)

⁴⁷ Libya: *Country Profile*. Gender Concerns International. (2015)

⁴⁸ Morocco: *Country Gender Assessment*. World Bank. (2015)

⁴⁹ *Gender in MENA Projects: Tunisia*. World Bank. (2011)

TABLE IV: GENDER DEVELOPMENT INDEX (GDI)⁵⁰

(grouped in 5 categories, 1: high equality to 5: low equality – UNDP, 2018)

& GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX (GGI)⁵¹

(out of 144 countries – World Economic Forum – WEF, 2017)

Defining the GDI & GGI: The GDI (UNDP) index shows the ratio of female to male HDI values. GDI expresses values in deviation, hence, in order to facilitate understanding GDI grouped categories have been used (as grouped by UNDP) to show the absolute deviation from gender parity in HDI values. This further reiterates the results of the HDI and GII (also by UNDP), and shows the real gender gap in human development achievements.

The GGI (WEF) benchmarks 144 countries on their progress towards gender parity on four thematic dimensions – economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival, and political empowerment. The Index benchmarks national gender gaps on economic, political, education- and health-based criteria, and provides country rankings that allow for effective comparisons across regions and income groups, over time.

Relevance of the GDI & GII: Since the GDI and GGI use different methodologies, and are conducted by different agencies, this report does not suggest a causality between the two indices. However, a correlation is undeniable, and both indices pick up similar rates of gender disparity in the MedProgramme countries.

Indicative, not conclusive: In line with Booyesen’s argument, the GDI & GII should be treated as indicative, not conclusive. Geake Dijkstra and Hanmer find that although gender-related development indices have increased attention towards ‘feminization of poverty and underdevelopment’, more robust data needs and indicators are required to create aggregate indices that are sensitive to contemporary trends in gendered privation, particularly with the categorization of ‘women’.⁵²

Country	GDI – Group	GGI – Rank	Relevance
Albania	Medium-high equality	38 th	Despite being categorized as a country with high HDI, a pronounced gender gap in Albania is evinced from the grouping and ranking.
Algeria	Low equality	127 th	Algeria, with Tunisia, shows the greatest disparity in development and gender equity rankings. Despite being categorized as a country with high HDI, an entrenched gender gap is revealed.
Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)	Medium-low equality	66 th	Despite being categorized as a country with high HDI, a pronounced gender gap in BiH is evinced from the grouping and ranking.
Egypt	Low equality	134 th	The gender gap in Egypt is entrenched, requiring tangible efforts to address and lessen gendered disparities in the country.
Lebanon	Low equality	137 th	The gender gap in Lebanon is entrenched, requiring tangible efforts to address and lessen gendered disparities in the country.

⁵⁰ UNDP. (2018)

⁵¹ WEF. (2017)

⁵² Geske Dijkstra, A. & Hanmer, L. C. “Measuring Socio-Economic Gender Inequality: Towards an Alternative to the UNDP Gender Index” in *Feminist Economics*, (Vol. 6, No. 2). (2000)

Country	GDI – Group	GGI – Rank	Relevance
Libya	Medium-high equality	Not available	NA
Montenegro	Medium-high equality	77 th	Although Montenegro features among the upper categories of the previous indices, this reveals a more entrenched gender gap. Women lag behind their male counterparts, in a greater amount than expected, despite very high human development achievements in the country.
Morocco	Low equality	136 th	The gender gap in Morocco is entrenched, requiring tangible efforts to address and lessen gendered disparities in the country.
Tunisia	Medium-low equality	117 th	Tunisia, with Algeria, shows the greatest disparity in development and gender equity rankings. Despite being categorized as a country with high HDI, an entrenched gender gap is revealed.

TABLE V: SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS

Note: This table is compiled from various sources, and determines poverty levels (according to USAID income grouping), rural-urban divide and labor force participation parity in the MedProgramme countries.

***Poverty Level:** Environmental degradation and climate change is a threat multiplier, and often its impacts combine with poverty, hence this is an important indicator, corroborating HDI ranking. To illustrate this, the Multidimensional Poverty Index has been used. (The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Institute (OPHI), and UNDP calculate the MPI, for measuring acute poverty in developing countries. It complements traditional income-based poverty measures by capturing the severe deprivations with regard to different indicators: education, health, and living standards. The index not only identifies those living in multidimensional poverty, but the extent (or intensity) of their poverty. The MPI can help the effective allocation of resources by making possible the targeting of those with the greatest intensity of poverty; it can help address some SDGs strategically and monitor impacts of policy intervention.⁵³

***Rural-Urban Divide:** Climate risks take different forms in rural and urban areas, but lack of development and investment in rural areas (particularly in the Mediterranean) often impedes adaptive capacities of vulnerable demographics, who also derive their livelihoods (in this case, coastal livelihoods) from managed and natural resources.

***Labor force participation parity (% of working age population active)⁵⁴:** In the Mediterranean, one of the prime arenas of gender disparity is labor force participation parity. The region is plagued with high unemployment rates⁵⁵ (12.5% average), and this phenomenon remains a gendered one: women and youth are less likely to be employed than men, as a general trend. Additionally, the existing gap in labor force participation indicates that women possess less economic capital, and are limited to gendered (mostly unpaid care work) roles. This directly correlates to lessened participation in coastal economies and scarce or unstable livelihoods; lack of decision-making power both within the household and larger policy frameworks such as coastal resource use and water management; and, greater exposure to repercussions of marine environmental degradation, water stress and potential climate risks (which often acts as a threat multiplier, in this context).

⁵³ See UNDP's *Technical Notes* (2016) for more.

⁵⁴ *World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends for Women*, ILO. (2017)

⁵⁵ "Unemployment: The Mediterranean Effect", *World Bank*. (2012)

Please find table contents on p. 21 (adjusted for footnoting).

Country	Poverty Indices	Rural-Urban	Labor Force Participation <i>(The gender gap is calculated as the difference between women's and men's labor force participation rates – simply, the number of working age men and women employed in a country, ILO 2016)</i>
Albania	<p>1.2% below the National Poverty Line.⁵⁶</p> <p>The Multidimensional Poverty Index reveals that 7.2% of Albanians are precariously 'near' poverty.</p>	<p>Diber and Kukes <i>qarkes</i> (prefectures) show lowest rates of urbanization, and related issues: fragmentation, population decline, <i>et al.</i> Tirana and Durres, on the other hand, have the highest level of urbanization and best performance on demographic and geographic indicators.⁵⁷ Rural to urban migration is common, and often unbridled, leading to environmental complications as well as socioeconomic tussles.</p>	<p>39.3% female 60.7% male</p> <p>During the socialist rule, the government policy of full employment boosted female participation and, as a consequence employment rates were higher than the average figures of the OECD countries. Policies such as investment in childcare facilities and female education stimulated women to enter and remain in the labor market. The market economy disadvantaged women by providing unstable employment opportunities, although education outcomes and employment sectoral options have improved in recent decades, leading to the widening of the gender gap in labor force participation.⁵⁸</p>

⁵⁶ *Regional disparities in Albania.* UNDP. (2010)

⁵⁷ *Regional disparities in Albania.* UNDP. (2010)

⁵⁸ Garcia-Pereiro, T. "The Determinants of Female Employment in Albania". Open access on [ResearchGate](#). (2016)

<p>Algeria</p>	<p>11.8% below the National Poverty Line.⁵⁹</p> <p>The MPI is unavailable for the country. However, the <i>Ligue Algérienne pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme (LADDH)</i> reports that about 35% (14 million) of Algerians are in poverty.⁶⁰</p>	<p>Poverty in Algeria has a distinctly urban face: 75% of the country's poor live in cities, undertaking informal jobs without access to social safety nets. Additionally, the disproportionate rates of urban poor show that the incidences of poverty in the Algerian Sahara are twice as much than among people living in the Steppe.⁶¹</p>	<p>19.0% female 70.4% male</p> <p>Female labor force participation is low in Algeria, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world.⁶² However, according to ILO, the status quo is slowly altering (although not quite at an ideal pace), as there are marked difference between participation rates from 2011 to 2018.⁶³</p>
<p>Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)</p>	<p>15% below the National Poverty Line.⁶⁴</p> <p>The MPI reveals that 3.2% of the populace are precariously 'near' poverty.</p>	<p>BiH remains one of the most rural countries in Europe – with over 60% of its populace residing in rural areas.⁶⁵ The rural poverty rate is higher than urban areas, although income dynamics are similar.⁶⁶</p>	<p>34.4% female 58% male</p> <p>Between the years 1992-1995, Bosnia and Herzegovina went through a destructive war that resulted in mass emigration of around 50% of the total population. In the period after the war, although considerable number of refugees returned, it remains unclear how the jobs market was affected around the time. With the failing of the state's strong social protection services such as long-term care, child care and elderly care, and new categories of 'returnee refugees' and 'internally-displaced people', women bear the brunt of unpaid care work. Although more women attend university than men, they continue to face sociocultural barriers in entering the labor force.⁶⁷</p>

⁵⁹ Poverty has fallen in the Maghreb, but inequality persists". [World Bank](#). (2016)

⁶⁰ See *Ligue Algérienne pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme*(LADDH)for more.

⁶¹ "Poverty has fallen in the Maghreb, but inequality persists". [World Bank](#). (2016)

⁶² Women face the highest proportion of legal restrictions (*de jure* discrimination) in the MENA region, as well as sociocultural norms (*de facto* discrimination) that stipulate limits to women's entry in the public, and working sphere. Young females are particularly discouraged from seeking employment.

⁶³ This [ILO report](#) (2014) expounds on the factors affecting employment and labor force participation in Algeria.

⁶⁴ *Poverty and Inequality in BiH*. [World Bank](#). (2011)

⁶⁵ *Rural Development in BiH: Myth and Reality*. [UNDP](#). (2013)

⁶⁶ *Poverty and Inequality in BiH*. [World Bank](#). (2011)

⁶⁷ This [ILO report](#) (2011) expounds on the factors affecting employment and gender in BiH.

<p>Egypt</p>	<p>27.8% below the National Poverty Line.⁶⁸</p> <p>Although extreme poverty has been virtually eradicated, Egypt is yet to turnaround the effects of the 2011 Arab Springs on its economy, leaving a third of Egyptians in precarious poverty. Particularly, high inflation over 2015-17 has lowered the purchasing power of households.⁶⁹</p>	<p>Regional disparities continue to be a part of the country's landscape, with upper rural Egypt showing poverty rates three times higher than metropolitan Egypt.⁷⁰</p>	<p>22.8% female 76.1% male</p> <p>Female labor force participation is low in Egypt, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world.⁷¹ This is a significant loss as including women and enabling conditions to retain them in the workforce can boost the growth rate of the Egyptian economy.⁷² In recent times, Egypt's performance on health and education indicators is improving, and this could change labor dynamics.</p>
<p>Lebanon</p>	<p>30% below the Middle-Income-Country Poverty Line.⁷³</p> <p>Although GDP increase in Lebanon remains steady, the country faces the economic and social impact of the Syrian crisis. With the influx of 1.5 million refugees, Lebanon's public finances, service delivery, and the environment have been strained, increasing poverty headcount and unemployment.⁷⁴</p>	<p>Lebanon's population is 87% urban, concentrated particularly in Beirut. The dynamics of urban poor show a pan-Mediterranean attribute: job creation is low, youth unemployment is high, and the vulnerable groups are trapped within the informal sector. In the rural areas, different causes entrench poverty: social protection and government service delivery are limited in these remote and mountainous regions.</p>	<p>23.5% female 70.3% male</p> <p>Female labor force participation is low in Lebanon, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world. This is a significant loss as including women and enabling conditions to retain them in the workforce can potentially boost the growth rate of the Lebanese economy.⁷⁵ Recent studies, however, show that Lebanon is leading the growth rate of female participation in labor force in the MENA region.⁷⁶</p>

⁶⁸ *Egypt: Economic Outlook.* World Bank. (2018)

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ ILO. *Women in Business and Law.* (2014)

⁷² The Economic Research Forum (ERF), a regional forum on economic research in Arab countries, Turkey and Iran finds that encouraging the participation of women in the labor force, particularly the 'married women' demographic could usher in rapid growth for the Egyptian economy. See [here](#).

⁷³ *Lebanon: Rapid Poverty Assessment.* UNDP. (2016)

⁷⁴ *Lebanon: Economic Outlook.* World Bank. (2017)

⁷⁵ Find more on Lebanon on the ERF [website](#).

⁷⁶ See this AN-NAHAR [coverage](#).

Libya	<p>40% below the Middle-Income-Country Poverty Line.</p> <p>Although economic growth is projected to rebound at around 15% in 2018, Libya's oil-dependence does not benefit the majority of the Libyan populace. High inflation coupled with weak basic service delivery have exacerbated socioeconomic exclusion in the country. Libya continues to experience conflict and insecurity.</p>	<p>Libya's population is 85% urban, concentrated particularly in Tripoli, Benghazi, Misrata and Bayda. The dynamics of urban poor show a pan-Mediterranean attribute: job creation is low, youth unemployment is high, and the vulnerable groups are trapped within the informal sector.</p>	<p>27.8% female 78.7% male</p> <p>Female labor force participation is very low in Libya, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world. Women often take on informal sector roles, particularly starting their own small business, despite receiving higher rates of advanced education than men (77% versus 63%). Movement in Libya for women is severely limited and is another deterrent to workforce participation.</p>
Montenegro	<p>8.6% below the Middle-Income-Country Poverty Line.⁷⁷</p> <p>In Montenegro, there has been sustainable reduction in poverty in the last five years.</p>	<p>60.5% of the rural populace is classified poor.⁷⁸</p> <p>In 2010, MONSTAT finds that not only are the rural populace are at a higher poverty risk, they also face more entrenched forms of poverty.⁷⁹</p>	<p>42.5% female 55% male</p> <p>As the country emerged from dirigisme, social property was privatized, and the economy sprouted 'grey areas' of undeclared or unregulated work. Post-conflict Montenegro is still reeling from the economic effects of war, which increased unemployment (17.8% in 2016)⁸⁰ and bolstered GDP loss. The Roma populace face entry barriers to the workforce, and employment rates are far below national averages: 47% Roma male and 8% Roma female are employed.</p>
Morocco	<p>15.5% below the Lower-Middle-Income-Country</p>	<p>3 million out of the 4 million poor live in rural areas⁸²</p>	<p>25% female 74.1% male</p>

⁷⁷ The middle-income country Poverty Line, as defined by the World Bank, stands at consumption below the standardized poverty line of \$5.50/day. World Bank. (2017)

⁷⁸ MONSTAT. (2010)

⁷⁹ MIDAS Project, World Bank. (2016)

⁸⁰ World Bank. (2016)

⁸² Fair Observer. (2017)

	<p>Poverty Line.⁸¹</p> <p>In Morocco, there has been steady decline in poverty, though the underlying factors may be remittances, deceleration of population growth and macroeconomic stability. Inequalities between rich and poor are still abounding, and poverty essentially has a rural face in the country.</p> <p>The MPI also reveals that an additional 12.6% of Moroccans are dangerously ‘near’ poverty. Among the 15.5% poor, 5% are in ‘severe’ multidimensional poverty.</p>	<p>The subjective poverty rate has increased by 15% from 2004 figures in rural Morocco. Meanwhile, the urban poverty rate is half of the national average in 2001, and in 2014, stands at one-third.⁸³</p>	<p>Female labor force participation is low in Morocco, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world.⁸⁴ However, Morocco is entering a period potential demographic dividend, with the number of working-age population, relative to below 15 and above 64 years, increasing. This could either signal a potential economic boom or an unemployment crisis, if economic activity is not encouraged and made inclusive for the marginalized.⁸⁵</p>
Tunisia	<p>24.7% below the National Poverty Line.⁸⁶</p> <p>Poverty rates in Tunisia have seen a significant increase, from 15.5% (2010) to 24.7% (2018). Income disparities are high: the top 20% of Tunisians earn 46% of the national income, while the bottom 20% earn only 5.9%.⁸⁷ Civil unrest since the 2011</p>	<p>Rural areas in Tunisia remain marginalized and underprivileged, leading to high rates of rural to urban migration, particularly towards Greater Tunis and its agglomeration economies.⁸⁸</p>	<p>25.1% female 71.3% male</p> <p>Female labor force participation is low in Morocco, relating to the phenomenon that the gender difference in the labor force participation of the MENA region is the widest in the world.⁸⁹ Like Morocco, Tunisia faces crucial demographic transition in the coming years, yet barriers to the job market remain high. Young women are particularly vulnerable and face exclusion from economic activities.⁹⁰</p>

⁸¹ The lower-middle-income country Poverty Line, as defined by the World Bank, stands at consumption below the standardized poverty line of \$3.10/day. World Bank. (2017)

⁸³ World Bank. (2018)

⁸⁴ ILO. *Women in Business and Law*. (2014)

⁸⁵ This IFAD report expounds on the factors affecting employment and gender in Morocco.

⁸⁶ “Poverty has fallen in the Maghreb, but inequality persists”. World Bank. (2016)

⁸⁷ *Tunisia: Economic Outlook*. World Bank. (2018)

⁸⁸ Amara, M., Jemmali, H. & Ayadi, M. “Rural-Urban Migration and Income Disparity in Tunisia”. *Economic Research Forum*. (2017)

⁸⁹ ILO. *Women in Business and Law*. (2014)

⁹⁰ This ILO report expounds on the factors affecting employment and gender in Tunisia.

	has increased poverty and unemployment and discouraged entrepreneurs and private sector actors.		
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TABLE VI: POLICY ENVIRONMENT, LEGAL TOOLS & INSTITUTIONS

This section explores the policy environment in the countries participating in the MedProgramme, and presents a potential list of gender stakeholders, relevant for the site-specific activities and collaborations during the project cycle. Legal tools, and enabling policies are crucial in ensuring gender inequality can be address through tangible and formal procedures. This table, compiled from various sources, particularly UN Women and the Equal Futures Partnership, thus, takes stock of international conventions, national laws and policies, and country-level stakeholders that can aid the MedProgramme in gender mainstreaming and narrowing socioeconomic gaps.

Country	Policy Tools, Legal Instruments, Institutions	Provisions
Albania	1994 – CEDAW	Albania signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1994.
	1998 (amended 2012) – Constitution of the Government of Albania	Article 18 establishes that all are equal before the law. No one may be unjustly discriminated against for reasons such as gender, race, religion, ethnicity, language, political, religious and philosophical beliefs.
	2016 - 2020 – National Strategy and Action Plan on Gender Equality	The Strategy and the Action Plan represent a commitment for 2016 – 2020, with concrete interventions towards economic empowerment of women and men, ensuring actual participation and engagement in political and public decision-making processes; reducing gender-based violence and domestic violence and strengthening the coordination and monitoring role of the national mechanism of gender equality.
	Institutions	Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth (with contribution of the Inter-Agency Working Group) Ministry of Justice National Referral Mechanisms
Algeria	1996 – CEDAW	Algeria signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1996.
	2008 – Constitution of the Government of Algeria	Under the Algerian Constitution, women enjoy the same civil and political rights as men and have the status of full citizens (Articles 29 and 31).
	Institutions	Ministry of National Solidarity, Family Affairs and Status of Women

<p>Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)</p>	<p>1993 – CEDAW</p> <p>2006 – Law on Gender Equality</p> <p>2014 - 2017 – National Action Plan on Gender</p> <p>Institutions</p>	<p>BiH signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993.</p> <p>Bosnia’s Gender Equality Law provides definitions for direct and indirect discrimination, as well as gender-based violence and sexual harassment. It mandates the creation of gender equality of gender equality strategies and programs in education, employment, access to resources, social protection, etc.</p> <p>The NAP addresses the gender rights principles laid out in the national law, and works towards improving women’s participation in public life and decision-making, and particularly target the legacy of human trafficking and sexual slavery in the country’s post-conflict context.</p> <p>Agency for Gender Equality of Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees</p>
<p>Egypt</p>	<p>1981 – CEDAW</p> <p>2014 – Constitution of the Government of Egypt 1937 – Criminal Code of the Government of Egypt</p> <p>Integrated Gender Program (UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA)</p> <p>Institutions</p>	<p>Egypt signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1981.</p> <p>The two main legislations protecting and supporting women are the Egyptian Constitution of 2014 (Articles 11, 53 and 214) and the Criminal Code of 1937. Crimes against women in Egypt are divided in two groups: misdemeanors and felonies. Misdemeanors, such as catcalling, are usually punished by fines with shortened trials. Felonies, like FGM and rape, are permanent criminal offences, punished by longer jail time.</p> <p>The integrated program is helping to address multi-faceted challenges faced by women and young girl through three pillars of social, legal and economic empowerment. A similar EBRD project for the MENA region is active in Egypt as well.</p> <p>National Council for Women</p>

<p>Lebanon</p>	<p>1997 – CEDAW</p> <p>1936 – Constitution of the Government of Lebanon</p> <p>Women’s International League for Peace and Feminism (WILPF) – ABAAD Resource Centre of Gender Equality</p> <p>Institutions</p>	<p>Lebanon signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1997.</p> <p>The Lebanese legal system is primarily based on French Civil Code and Egyptian legal systems. Whilst there is no unified civil law in Lebanon, the Lebanese Constitution promulgated in 1926 articulates the principle of equality among all citizens (Articles 7 and 12).</p> <p>WILPF and ABAAD are leading national consultations to develop the first National Action Plan towards gender equality currently. The EU wrapped up its ‘Gender Equity and Empowerment of Women in Lebanon’ in early 2017, which has laid groundwork towards the adoption of a quota system for women in the country.</p> <p>National Commission for Lebanese Women</p>
<p>Libya</p>	<p>1989 – CEDAW</p> <p>2011 - 2013 – Interim Constitutional Declaration of the Government of Libya</p>	<p>Libya signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1989.</p> <p>After the end of Gaddafi’s rule, the UN-back interim government (Government of National Accord) has overseen the development of draft constitution. Women activists in Libya are currently in the process of including substantive demands⁹¹ in the draft, which will be presented to the Libyan people for referendum. This Constitution will lay out the new framework for gender equality legal tools and policy environment in the coming years.</p>
<p>Montenegro</p>	<p>2006 – CEDAW</p> <p>2007 – Law on Gender Equality</p> <p>2008 – Action Plan to Achieve Gender Equality in Montenegro – PAPRR</p> <p>Institutions</p>	<p>Montenegro signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 2006.</p> <p>The first Law on Gender Equality was adopted in July 2007. The Law on Amendments to the Law on Gender Equality was adopted in June 2015, in line with international specifications of the UN, the EU, and the Council of Europe. This document was drafted in the context of the accession of Montenegro to the EU, based on CEDAW. Action Plan is updated every 4 years, and out of the critical areas covered in Beijing Declaration, Montenegro has opted for 9.</p> <p>The Ministry of Human and Minority Rights The Department of Gender Equality Affairs</p>
<p>Morocco</p>	<p>1993 – CEDAW</p> <p>2011 – Constitution of the Government of Morocco</p>	<p>Morocco signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993.</p> <p>Article 19 establishes that men and women should enjoy equal rights and freedoms in all civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental matters.</p>

⁹¹

Libya Women’s Demands in the Constitution(UNDP-led Cairo consultations). (2017)

	2013 – IKRAM	The Government Plan for Equality was developed by the Government of Morocco along with key stakeholders. .
	Institutions	The Ministry of Human Rights The Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Equality and Social Development
Tunisia	1985 – CEDAW	Tunisia signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1985. However, in April 2014, Tunisia officially lifted key reservations on the CEDAW.
	2014 – Constitution of the Government of Tunisia	The new constitution adopted in January 2014 includes strong protection for women’s rights: Article 21 confirms equality of rights and duties; Article 34 guarantees women’s representation in all elected bodies; and, Article 46 ensures protection of human rights.
	2015 - 2018 – Gender Equality Promotion Program in Tunisia (EU-Tunisia)	The financing agreement of the EU-Tunisia program was signed in April 2015. It aims to contribute to achieving gender equality in Tunisia by reducing inequalities at national, regional and local levels.
	Institutions	The National Council of Peers for Equality and Equal Opportunities between Women and Men Ministry of Women, Family and Children

5. The MedProgramme’s Gender Approach, Target and Components

5.1 Means to an End: Transformative Gender Mainstreaming Towards Gender Equality

The conversation on gender mainstreaming to mobilize efforts on gender equality and reduction of discriminatory gender practices and social norms has gained currency as an intellectual concern, technical solution and international consensus. However, the discursive landscape of gender equality has shaped and reconfigured what gender mainstreaming could potentially achieve in different contexts, particularly– *the vision of equality* as sameness, which aspires to a gender-neutral world where women are treated according to the same principles, standards and norms as men, enjoying equal rights and opportunities; and, *the approach of difference or reversal*, which problematizes the existence of unquestioned patriarchal norms, reconstructing the political by seeking recognition of non-hegemonic gendered identities that have been treated as different in comparison to male normative identities and cultures.⁹²

This Gender Mainstreaming Strategy adopts the latter transformative approach (‘the approach of difference or reversal’), positing a gender equality vision for the MedProgramme that questions established categories and implements positive action measures towards gender-responsive actions in the Mediterranean region. In effect, gender mainstreaming is

⁹² Verloo, M. *Multiple Meanings of Gender Equality: A critical frame analysis of gender policies in Europe*, p. 23. (2008)

therefore not an end (goal) of the MedProgramme— rather, a means (process) to an end. This approach reflects also the normative standards defined by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), which stipulates the importance of identifying gender mainstreaming as a process because it:

“Ensures that policy-making and legislative work is of higher quality and has a greater relevance for society, because it makes policies respond more effectively to the needs of all citizens – women and men, girls and boys. Gender mainstreaming makes public interventions more effective and ensures that inequalities are not perpetuated.

*It does not only aim to avoid the creation or reinforcement of inequalities, which can have adverse effects on both women and men. It also implies analyzing the existing situation, with the purpose of identifying inequalities, and developing policies which aim to redress these inequalities, and undo the mechanisms that caused them”.*⁹³

5.2 *Targets and Components of the MedProgramme’s Gender Strategy*

Based on the above conceptual hinterland, this Strategy has identified three targets, that the eight Child Projects will address through their tailored assessments and action plans (Section 6):

a. Address gender-blind hurdles with gender-differentiated consequences.

Although formal gender equality rights and guarantees are almost ubiquitous in the Mediterranean nations, this Strategy recognizes that gender-neutral policy language may not result in gender-egalitarian outcomes, when implemented in a gendered environment, influenced by gender imbalances and biases.⁹⁴ The neutral policies and laws, which are veritably gender-blind, often work in concert with social tenets, traditional norms, constitutional interpretations, and cultural expectations in ways that may stymie the advancement of gender-responsive practices. Thus, in tandem with country partners and implementing agencies, the MedProgramme will stipulate the analysis of potential gender-neutral hurdles in project- and site-specific contexts to develop targeted action towards addressing the gender-differentiated consequences.

BOX 1: Female entrepreneurship in Mediterranean faces gender-blind hurdles.

The World Bank reports that seemingly gender-neutral barriers such as cumbersome and costly procedures for opening a business and uncertain chances of recovering assets from a failed venture often have gender-differentiated consequences, notably deterring women’s entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean region. Thus, gender-neutral laws, when implemented and interpreted in gendered contexts, often create ambiguities and unintended consequences for the disadvantaged. This also relates to legal inconsistencies and opaqueness afforded to gender-neutral policy language and laws by the fluid interpretation and precedence given to family law and measures, which are often derived from traditional sociocultural norms.

Source: The Environment for Women’s Entrepreneurship in the Middle East and North Africa. The World Bank. (2008).

⁹³ See *Good Practices in Gender Mainstreaming*, a technical guide by EIGE.

⁹⁴ See *The Environment for Women’s Entrepreneurship in MENA*, p. 52. The World Bank. (2008)

b. [Mitigate gender-specific barriers and discriminatory norms.](#)

Certain barriers and discriminatory norms are framed with gender-specificity, targeting one gender or more, against normative ideals that stipulate hegemonic social identities. Gender-specific barriers have tangible and invisible discriminatory outcomes, prejudices and stigma, and are often accepted, condoned and tolerated within the larger social framework. To address these barriers, attention, awareness and resources must be accorded to address the effects of the multiplicity of social differences and gender norms to usher in enduring change and assuage the gender burdens on specific demographic groups. The MedProgramme will, hence, develop dedicated project- and country-specific gender assessments and gender action plans for each of its constituent projects and from the preparation phase through to the concluding monitoring and evaluation stage of the project cycle, with objectives (relating to broader project objectives), transformative outcomes (relating to the wider focus of the project), means of verification and indicators.

BOX 2: Labor participation has gender-specific barriers in the Mediterranean.

The Union for the Mediterranean, on the occasion of its Ministerial Conference in Barcelona (2015), brought the focus on the importance of fostering women's participation in economic life and on its obstacles in the region: women's low presence in paid labor, low wages – with lower wages of 10 – 40%, and a low level of access to positions of responsibility and decision-making. These gender-specific barriers are exacerbated by the current unequal share of care, domestic and reproductive unpaid labor performed by women in the Mediterranean. Women also face discrimination, violence and legal inequalities, which impede their ability to leverage opportunities towards empowerment and independence.

Source: Visions and Actions to Promote Gender Equality in the Mediterranean. The Union for the Mediterranean. (2017).

c. [Scale up gender-sensitive policies and deliver gender-responsive outcomes.](#)

Building on the knowledge and analysis of gender-blind and gender-specific barriers, the MedProgramme will have the imperative to use consultative and participatory tools to conduct gender-differentiated beneficiary assessments and formulate gender-sensitive policies to address the same. These gender-sensitive policies will provide the basis for gender-responsive outcomes within the results framework of the different projects, by bringing transformative change towards⁹⁵: promoting equitable access to goods, services, status, and decision-making power (both within policy institutions and households); expanding the subjective and objective range of legal, social and psychological choices available to both men and women; breaking gender stereotypes, norms and patterns; and, providing the conducive environment, through capacity-building in policy institutions, governance structures and local bodies and awareness-raising among communities (particularly, male sensitization), for a pan-Mediterranean gender mainstreaming effort that is verifiable on all three accounts of accountability, transparency and incentive mechanisms. To scale up and deliver these policies and actions, the MedProgramme will stipulate gender-budget lines within the constituent projects, as dedicated resources need to be mobilized for positive impacts on the gender gap in the region.

⁹⁵ See *Good Practices in Gender Mainstreaming*, a technical guide by EIGE.

BOX 3: Agricultural reform requires gender-sensitive policies in the Mediterranean.

Women’s contribution to agricultural labor (particularly smallholder farming) in the Mediterranean Basin is significant: providing diversified income sources to households, creating empowerment opportunities, and boosting national agricultural and economic production. However, this contribution is often underplayed and misrepresented – although women undertake the time-consuming aspects of agricultural work, they often do so without or with scarce pay. Land ownership and tenure security in the Mediterranean displays gendered disparities as well, with succession laws and social customs in effect. FAO’s reform framework for agriculture in the region, as highlighted in the May 2018 *Regional Conference for the Near East*, showcases these issues through the “Promoting Food Security, Blue Growth, and Empowerment of Small-Scale Farmers and Women in the MENA region” policy document.

Source: “Mediterranean Women in Rural and Agricultural Communities: Double Jeopardy, Multiple Opportunities”. International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies. (2018).

5.3 *Visualization of the MedProgramme’s Gender Strategy*

Based their justification and review of peer examples, this Strategy has identified the following components for the MedProgramme’s gender targets, which reflect the types of actions that will be implemented by the Child Projects, visualized below:

Please see visual from p.14.

TARGETS AND COMPONENTS – MEDPROGRAMME GENDER STRATEGY

ADDRESS GENDER-BLIND HURDLES WITH GENDER-DIFFERENTIATED IMPACTS

ENSURE GENDER-EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION THROUGH INCENTIVES AND CONDUCIVE MILIEUS FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

INITIATE DIALOGUE ABOUT THE IMPACTS OF GENDER-BLIND HURDLES AND HOW TO ADDRESS THEM AMONG STAKEHOLDERS

CAPACITY BUILD TOWARDS STRONGER ACCESS AND ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN TO ENSURE BENEFITS FROM BENEFICIARY NETWORKS

MITIGATE GENDER-SPECIFIC BARRIERS AND DISCRIMINATORY NORMS

IDENTIFY GENDER-DISCRIMINATORY BARRIERS TO PROGRAMME OUTCOMES AND ADDRESS THEM WITHIN PROJECT RESULTS

PROVIDE ACCESS TO POLICY AND PLANNING TOWARDS MORE INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE, RESILIENCE STRATEGIES

LIAISE WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS ON REFORM ADVOCACY

SCALE UP GENDER-SENSITIVE POLICIES & DELIVER GENDER-RESPONSIVE OUTCOMES

EARMARK RESOURCES (GENDER-BUDGETING) AND IMPLEMENT TAILORED AND TARGETED ACTION POINTS TO TRANSLATE GENDER RHETORIC INTO VERIFIABLE OUTCOMES

BUILD UP GENDER-RELATED ASSETS AND CAPACITIES (such as LOCAL WOMEN'S GROUPS AND THEIR INCLUSION IN POLICY NEGOTIATIONS AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES)

DEDICATE RESOURCES TOWARDS MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF GENDER RESULTS, GENDER-DISAGGREGATED AND SOCIOECONOMIC DATA, BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNT FOR FUTURE INTERVENTIONS

6. Operationalizing the Strategy – the MED Approach

Devising a gender mainstreaming strategy denotes only the very outset of a multi-stage policy cycle that requires consistent efforts of integration and consideration of gender perspectives, in each phase of the program and by all actors involved, to succeed.

To operationalize the Strategy, therefore, three necessary elements ('MED' – 5.1) have to be present and inform the different stages of execution, even if the content changes in real time to adequately meet the necessities of project- and site-specific contexts for the different Child Projects, as described below.

Further, a map (5.2) is presented of how the MED Gender Mainstreaming approach is expected to function.

6.1 *Defining the MED Approach*

The approach to be used to operationalize the Strategy is defined below:

a. *Multidimensional.*

A multidimensional approach ensures that gender is used as a principal analytical category – however not without context or functioning in a void. Linkages between gender, poverty, environmental justice, socioeconomic inclusion, ethnic diversity and customary practices must be identified, analyzed and considered in the formulation of inclusive environmental action and policy. Child Projects, hence, will have the autonomy to identify gender issues relevant to the project objectives and outcomes (gender assessments), and devise strategic as well as appropriate gender action plans to address these.

b. *Empowering*

Integrating empowerment as an operational imperative ensures that program objectives and technical components are geared towards environmental and socioeconomic co-benefits. This is necessary to convert gender-aware rhetoric and gender-responsive analysis into actionable points within project logframes (logical frameworks), and with dedicated resource allocation (gender-budgeting) – which have positive ramifications for the gender status quo in project-specific contexts both nationally and locally. Child Projects, hence, will ensure gender assessments and action plans dovetail with the locale of project activities, stakeholders involved, and ensure budgetary allocations to translate rhetoric towards actions with verifiable results.

c. *Durable.*

Durability is the hallmark of a successful strategy/ intervention/project or program. Gender-responsive actions must ensure a shelf life beyond the duration of the project cycle, with positive uptake among national and local stakeholders. Directing investment towards institutional and technical capacity-building, and ensuring ownership of project by stakeholders, will warrant exit strategies for the different Child Projects. Particularly, it will be a program-wide imperative to generate information and data on the linkages between environmental security, climate risks and gender specifically on the Mediterranean region – while, building up capacities of national and local stakeholders to address these in a holistic manner, beyond the duration of the project cycle.

Please see the visualization of the MED approach – and what it entails for Child Projects and the overall MedProgramme below on p.36.

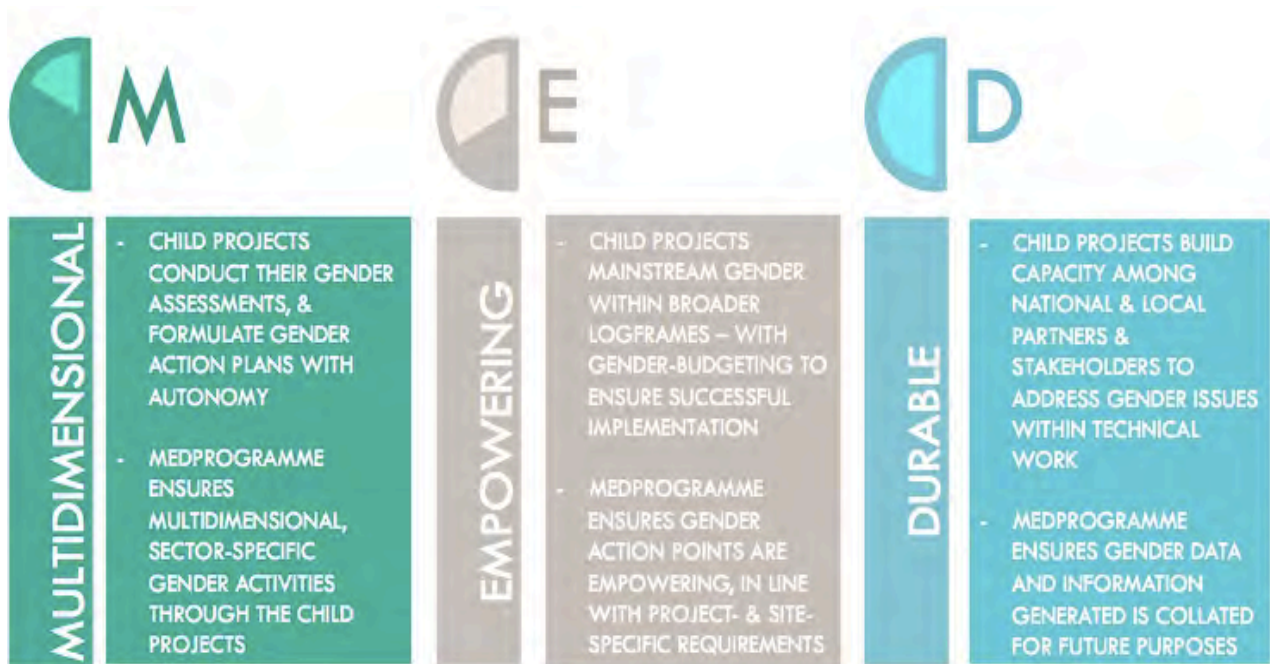


Figure 2: The 'MED' Approach – Child Projects and the MedProgramme

(developed by author)

6.2 Mapping the Programme-wide MED Approach with Child Projects

Having defined the guiding tenets of Program-wide gender mainstreaming to be devolved for each Child Project, the map (presented as a visual) of how this Strategy will tentatively be operationalized is presented below:

a. Preparation Phase – Child Projects identify gender priorities and actions through Gender Assessments

The MED approach of this Gender Mainstreaming Strategy for the MedProgramme will allow for considerable autonomy, as Child Projects will conduct their own gender assessments. The process of conducting a successful gender assessment includes: identifying the gender directives from the GEF focal point of the Child Project, as well UN Environment's gender priorities with regard to the Child Project thematic; desk-reviews of available literature on the theme from – gender, social development, and political risk perspectives; collating relevant data for the gender considerations from international organizations, development banks, national authorities, and think tanks (economic development-focused); structuring a potential baseline upon which the Child Project can positively impact; and finally, gathering information on relevant gender stakeholders (ministries, independent activist groups, NGOs) and legal mechanisms (gender-progressive laws) who could participate during the implementation phase.

b. Preparation Phase – Child Projects develop Gender Action Plans based on assessments

The individual gender assessments conducted by each Child Project will form the basis for the development of a tailored and strategic Gender Action Plan, which will mainstream action points to positively impact upon the gender status quo under the broader project objective, outcomes and activities, as well develop means of verification indicators to measure progress to impacts at later stages. This will ensure that Child Projects are able to cater to their specific gender priorities and issues, pertaining to country- and site-specific contexts, and address them in holistic manner through their activities. Further, such an

approach will avoid the perils of establishing a ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach for the MedProgramme, and allow for a nuanced and focused mainstreaming effort spanning the different Child Projects.

c. *Inception and Implementation Phase – Child Projects will plan the execution of action points identified in the Action Plans*

Operationalizing the Action Plans will involve meticulous planning, as well as resource allocation. As the Child Projects move into the inception phase and ground realities of project implementation take shape – the execution of the action points with dedicated gender budgeting will guarantee that the gender rhetoric moves towards practical and verifiable results within the broader project objectives and outcomes. The steady maintenance of momentum of gender mainstreaming, at this stage, is very crucial – and, will require concerted efforts from different actors within Child Projects to ensure gender stakeholders are engaged, capacity and consensus are mobilized, and resources are used to target beneficiaries to leverage both socioeconomic and environmental co-benefits.

d. *Throughout the Project Cycle – Child Project 4.1*

This Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, intended to structure gender-responsive activities and to provide a coherent mainstreaming methodology, will be included as one of the three pillars of the Child Project 4.1 – the support project providing also the knowledge management and coordination pillars to the entire MedProgramme. This gives the Child Project 4.1 a unique position: at once, while providing a gender support structure to the pan-MedProgramme portfolio, it will also provide a platform for ‘cross-fertilization’ by pooling in gender-relevant research and data (from the different Child Projects) to facilitate Programme-wide learning and exchange.

e. *Reporting and Monitoring – Child Projects align gender results with indicators/develop gender-specific indicators*

In keeping with the *durability* aspect of the MED approach – it is crucial to ensure a prolonged shelf life of the MedProgramme interventions. A step towards this begins in the inception and implementation phase by building capacity and consensus, while mobilizing adequate resources. Going into the reporting and monitoring stages, it will be important for Child Projects to measure progress to impacts against gender-specific indicators that are developed in the Gender Action Plans (in line with GEF gender indicators), to collate Programme-wide gender information and data, and report accordingly. This will also lay the ground for a potential ‘extension’ of the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy through future interventions – by ensuring these can benefit from the gender-responsive actions, policies and capacity building done in the region, and by expanding the entry points these new projects can take with the information and data generated towards cross-cutting issues such as poverty, water access, land and infrastructure etc.

7. Conclusion

This Strategy has stipulated the MedProgramme's gender priorities, targets and components, as well as the operationalizing approach towards achieving the same. The focus has been to usher a change and/or reversal perspective and posit a gender equality vision for the MedProgramme that hopes to question established social and gendered categories and implements positive action measures towards gender-responsive actions in the Mediterranean region. In effect, gender mainstreaming is therefore not an end (goal) of the MedProgramme— rather, a means (process) to an end (greater gender equality).

With international consensus, national priorities and organizational efforts (of the GEF and UN Environment – see 1.2) prioritizing gender mainstreaming as a solution to greater stakeholder involvement, improved environmental results and social outcomes of projects, and ensure inclusivity. In this milieu, this Strategy will generate regional cooperation and contribute to the pan-Mediterranean conversation on the importance of greater gender equality for the overall progress of society, improvement of economy and functioning of a healthy polity.

ANNEX R: LIST OF NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

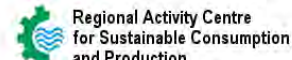
STAKEHOLDER	EXPECTED ROLE
Environment General Authority (EGA)	The Environment General Authority (EGA) will be the National Agency liaising with the executing partners of the Child Project 3.1, providing policy development and implementations and scientific inputs from accumulated experiences from the past projects in marine conservation of species and habitats in Libya.
Marine Biology Research Centre (MBRC)	The Marine Biology Research Centre will work closely with EGA as another national partner in the project implementation process, providing national experts and scientific inputs.
General Authority of Marine Wealth	The General Authority of Marine Wealth, through the Department for planning and studies will be involved in providing data on fishing fleets and landing data of fisheries at the project sites.
Ministry of Interior (Coast Guards)	The Ministry of Interior will be involved in the project through consultations and coordination, given that the patrolling of the Libyan marine waters includes the future monitoring of three declared marine protected areas and will depend on the coast guard.
Ministry of Defence	The Libyan Navy will play a key role in the patrolling of national coastal waters and is a key player in the protection of MPAs from illegal fishing by foreign vessels. Their involvement in the establishment and management of MPAs is critical.
National Oil Corporation and Oil companies working at marine area of Libya	The National Oil Corporation (NOC) is responsible for the oil sector, in which Libya is the largest contributor to the national economy. NOC through partnership with Eni owns and operates the Alburi offshore oil field, which is located northwest of the Farwa MPA. The other two MPA marine offshore areas were offered as concessions for international oil companies for the offshore production of oil, which may hinder the efforts of the MPA establishment in Libya, if no coordination exists with NOC. The NOC will be invited to participate in planning meetings to ensure integrated management of the MPAs with national policies on oil and gas exploration.
Provincial and Municipal Administrations	Provincial and municipal administrations will be fully involved in determining the siting and management of MPAs and alternative livelihoods opportunities. The project will provide capacity building to officials of provincial and municipal governments in order to mainstream coastal conservation and management in their day-to-day decisions such as on coastal development, waste treatment, fishing and tourism development.
Libyan Public Universities	The main Universities of the Libyan coastal zone such as Tripoli, Zlitan, Benghazi and Bayda Universities has marine biology programs that could help in the development and monitoring of marine and coastal conservation programs.
Civil Society Organizations (Environmental NGOs)	Environmental NGOs including Bado society to Protect Farwa, Libyan Wildlife Trust, Libyan Birds Society, Libyan Society for Marine Sciences, Organization of Life – OLPWMO and others will be involved in the training programme and CSO platform of the project, they will also be involved in discussing management plans and governance framework of protected areas that will result from the

STAKEHOLDER	EXPECTED ROLE
	present project. Some of these NGOs will be involved through their experience in environmental education and outreach capabilities via social media and other means, to be involved in awareness raising campaigns throughout the country.
Communities	Communities will be consulted on the siting and management of marine protected areas (notably fishing communities in coastal areas). Their participation will be sought to help rangers to protect critically endangered marine and coastal species and ecosystems through activities such as ecotourism and sustainable fishing practices.
Private sector	The fishing, energy (oil) and tourism industries among other productive sectors will be consulted on the siting and management of marine protected areas. The tourism sector will be involved in developing benefit sharing schemes with local communities and the development of community based marine and coastal tourism programmes.

Annex S

Reports of the stakeholder consultations

(ATTACHED HEREWITH)



The Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security

Report of the First Regional Consultation

Athens, Greece
7 – 8 March 2018

MedProgramme
Report of the First Regional Consultation
(Athens, Greece 7 – 8 March 2018)

Conclusions

1. The GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia took note of the progress achieved on the preparation of the Child Projects and validated the proposed activities, the sites chosen for their execution at national level and the timelines for the submission of the Child Projects to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.
2. The implementing and executing partners agreed to evaluate the feasibility of the specific requests of the countries for additional activities (namely those of Algeria under Child Project 2.1 and Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro under Child Projects 1.1 and 1.3).
3. UN Environment/MAP committed to keep the GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia fully informed of the progress on the development of the Child Projects and to provide the advanced versions of the project documents for comments at the appropriate time to the GEF Operational Focal Points and the country's nominated national thematic experts, if any.
4. The GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia committed to coordinate the gathering of comments from competent national institutions and thematic experts, and to provide UN Environment/MAP with a single set of official comments.
5. Regarding the letters of co-financing, the GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia expressed their preference for a single letter detailing the co-financing contributions for each of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme. The UN Environment / GEF Task Managers for International Waters (IW) and Chemicals and Waste (CW) agreed to seek guidance from the GEF Secretariat and to inform them about how to proceed.
6. The implementing and executing partners and the GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia agreed to take the necessary steps to ensure effective coordination with their respective counterparts in the programme (interministerial bodies, stakeholder groups, etc).
7. UN Environment/MAP took due note of the countries' call to ensure effective coordination among all Child Projects and to consider as much as possible cross-cutting issues like climate change and biodiversity.

Next steps

1. UN Environment/MAP will provide the GEF Operational Focal Points with:
 - a. an overview of the national and regional activities of the MedProgramme foreseen in each of the participating countries.
 - b. a responsibility matrix indicating the executing structure for each Child Project, including the implementing and executing partners and their respective roles.
 - c. the contact information for each of the implementing and executing partners.
 - d. clear indications about how to proceed with the preparation of co-financing letters including a template.
 - e. an overview of the national stakeholders engaged during the development of the project documents.

(Note: Items a, b and c will be submitted with the final meeting report of the First Regional Consultation. Items d and e will be provided in due course.)
2. The GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia will provide UN Environment/MAP with:
 - a. a list of national thematic experts including specific focal points for IW and CW to whom the advanced draft of the project documents will be sent for comments.
 - b. co-financing letters from any relevant national partners, including supporting coordination for combined letters across different child projects as needed.
3. The technical execution partners will support the GEF Operational Focal Points and national focal points in the identification of relevant initiatives which can contribute to the co-financing support by countries. They will also provide UN Environment/ MAP with their own organizational co-financing letters.

Background information

1. The objective of the MedProgramme is to accelerate the implementation of agreed upon priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The MedProgramme was endorsed by the GEF Council in October 2016 and is comprised of seven Child Projects which will contribute to the GEF’s focal areas of International Waters (IW), Chemicals and Waste (CW), and Biodiversity (BD) (Table 1). Nine countries have endorsed the MedProgramme: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, and Tunisia. It will be executed over a period of six years starting in 2019.
2. The First Regional Consultation for the MedProgramme was convened by UN Environment/MAP to bring together the participating countries and the implementing and executing agencies to: (i) take stock of progress on the development of the Child Projects; (ii) discuss next steps for completion of the submission package, including letters of co-financing; and (iii) agree upon a timeline for the submission of documents to the GEF Secretariat. The agenda of the consultation is provided in Annex 1.

Table 1 Overview of the MedProgramme components, Child Projects, Executing Agencies and GEF Focal Areas

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)			
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	Indicative lists of executing Agencies	GEF Focal Areas
1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution In Priority Coastal Hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts	1.1 Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts	UNEP/MAP	IW and CW
	1.2 Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project.	EIB UNEP/MAP	IW and CW
	1.3 Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC).	EBRD UNEP/MAP	IW and CW
2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone	2.1 Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection.	UNEP/MAP UNESCO-IHP GWP-Med	IW
	2.2 Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem NEXUS.	GWP-Med UNEP/MAP	IW
3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity	3.1 Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya.	UNEP/MAP IUCN WWF Med	BD
4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination	4.1 Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project.	UNEP/MAP	IW and CW

Attendance

3. The regional consultation brought together 40 participants, including representatives from eight of the nine countries that endorsed the MedProgramme and all seven of the implementing and executing agencies. The complete list of participants is set forth in Annex 2.
4. The names, titles and affiliations of the GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia and their nominated representatives that participated in the regional consultation are provided in Table 2. It should be noted that the GEF Operational Focal Point of Libya, Mr. Mustafa Soliman, confirmed his wish to attend the consultation, but was unable to do so as a result of difficulties encountered in the organization of his travel by UN Environment/MAP.

Table 2 Names, titles and affiliations of the GEF Operational Focal Points and the nominated representatives that participated in the First Regional Consultation for the MedProgramme

Country	Representative(s)	Title and affiliation
Albania	Ms. Ornela Çuçi*	Vice Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Algeria	Ms. Samira Hamidi	Inspectrice Centrale de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable, Ministère des Ressources en Eau et de l'Environnement Direction Générale de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dr. Senad Oprašić*	Head of Environmental Protection Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations
Egypt	Mr. Mohamed Shehab AbdelWahab*	Chief Executive officer of Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, Ministry of Environment
	Dr. Mohamed Osman	Undersecretary, Head of Sector, Environmental Management Sector, Ministry of Environment
	Mr. Moustafa Fouda	Advisor to the Minister on Biodiversity
Lebanon	Ms. Olfat Hamdan	Head of Protection of Urban Environment Department, Ministry of Environment
	Mr. Adel Yacoub	Head of Department, Protection of Natural Resources Department, Ministry of Environment
	Mr. Paul Moussa	Agricultural Engineer, Department of Natural Resources Protection, Ministry of Environment
Montenegro	Mr. Esef Husic	Acting General Director for Climate Change and Mediterranean Affairs, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism
	Ms. Ivana Stojanovic	Advisor, Department for Mediterranean Affairs, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism
Morocco	Ms. Nassira Rheyati	Chef de Service Coopération Multilatérale, Division de la Coopération Internationale, Direction du Partenariat, de la communication et de la Coopération, Secrétariat d'Etat chargé du Développement Durable
Tunisia	Mr. Karim Sahnoun	Directeur du suivi des conventions et des projets de coopération avec les partenaires étrangers, Direction Générale des Relations Extérieures, Ministère des Affaires Locales et de l'Environnement

* GEF Operational Focal Point

Presentations

5. Presentations were delivered for each of the MedProgramme's seven Child Projects and the GEF Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) Project, in addition to three presentations on the development process for the MedProgramme. The present report does not attempt to summarize these presentations, but focuses rather on the discussions they prompted.
6. All of the presentations delivered during the regional consultation are available at: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zp1kqx6jl9ss8jk/AAD-1U2ik3rfHt5RKOkKza6Za?dl=0>.

Welcoming remarks and initial discussions

7. Mr. Lorenzo Galbiati, UN Environment/MAP Secretariat (hereafter the Secretariat), welcomed the participants to Athens on behalf of the Coordinator of the Barcelona Convention Mr. Gaetano Leone. The Secretariat recalled the 40 year collaboration among the Convention's Contracting Parties, partners and UN Environment/MAP towards a shared vision for "a healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse contributing to sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations." The Secretariat observed that the assessments, diagnostics, planning and experimentation carried out during this time had led to a consensus on priority areas for further intervention, and that together, the countries, UN/Environment MAP, the European Investment Bank, UNESCO-IHP, GWP-Med, WWF MedPO and IUCN have responded to this need by developing the Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security. The MedProgramme will support countries by providing a comprehensive response to the provisions of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, of other legally binding agreements and other instruments and programmes, among them the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions and the UN Environment Global Programme of Action. The Secretariat reminded participants that the GEF Council approved the MedProgramme at the end of 2016 and will support its execution through grants from the International Waters, Chemical and Waste and Biodiversity Focal Areas. In conclusion, the Secretariat stated that the focus of the regional consultation was to update the countries on the status of the development of the MedProgramme and to agree together on the next steps to complete the process.
8. Participants were also welcomed by the MedProgramme's two implementing agencies: UN Environment and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).
9. Mr. Yegor Volovic, the UN Environment GEF Task Manager for International Waters (IW), recalled the longstanding collaboration among GEF and the countries in the region, through the Barcelona Convention (for the Mediterranean Sea) and the Bucharest Convention (for the Black Sea). He also noted the forward-thinking vision of the MedProgramme (approved under GEF-6) which has environment security as its focus, a theme that is now well-established in GEF-7.
10. Ms. Eloise Touni, the UN Environment GEF Task Manager for Chemicals and Waste (CW), spoke about the multi-focal area approach of the MedProgramme and explained that this will be the GEF's strategy going forward. She explained that the GEF's activities on CW in the MedProgramme would support countries in efforts to meet obligations for POPs and mercury under the Stockholm, Basel and Minamata Conventions.
11. Ms. Dana Kupova, Principal of Resource Efficiency Investments at EBRD, explained EBRD's 10 year collaboration with the GEF Secretariat, which to present has focused on climate change

adaptation and mitigation, and expressed her positive anticipation about expanding the Bank's activities to the IW and CW focal areas.

12. The Secretariat reviewed the agenda of the consultation with participants and briefly outlined the desired outcomes of the two-day event.
13. The representatives of several countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt and Lebanon) asked for clarification on the modality for execution of activities at the national level. The Secretariat first clarified the distinction between GEF implementing and executing agencies. Implementing agencies of the GEF are responsible for delivering project proposals to the GEF Secretariat and liaising with the Secretariat and countries at the GEF Council, in addition to providing general oversight and quality control. Executing agencies of GEF projects are responsible for carrying out project preparation and execution of the activities on the ground with national, regional and international organizations, as appropriate, to achieve the expected results of the project. For the MedProgramme, the two implementing agencies are UN Environment and EBRD, and the seven executing agencies are UN Environment/MAP, EIB, EBRD, UNESCO-IHP, GWP-Med, IUCN and WWF-Med.
14. The Secretariat added that activities would be executed at the national level through a variety of arrangements, including through UN Environment's Regional Activity Centres (RACs), through international organizations like UNESCO, WWF and GWP-Med, and through other execution modalities. The Secretariat informed the participants that consultations organized with the countries to date on individual Child Projects (Annex 3) had clarified these arrangements in a number of cases and that future consultations would provide further opportunities to do so. Ultimately, it is up to the participating countries to express their wishes on the best approach to executing activities at the national level, in a manner that is compatible with the rules and regulations of the GEF Secretariat and the executing UN agencies, as well as the available resources for each Child Project.
15. In response to a question about the need to reflect emerging issues in the MedProgramme, the partners explained that GEF funds are earmarked for specific priority areas. For example, the issue of marine litter was not eligible under GEF-6 and was therefore not reflected in the MedProgramme. The issue of marine litter nevertheless will be tackled in the region thanks to complementary initiatives of the MAP system, and will furthermore be eligible under GEF-7. The UN Environment GEF Task Manager for IW reminded the participants that Mediterranean countries express their priorities on environmental issues via three consultative bodies (the UN Environment Assembly, the GEF Council and the Barcelona Convention) and on chemical-specific issues via their participation as Contracting Parties to the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.
16. Mr. Esef Husic, Acting General Director for Climate Change and Mediterranean Affairs of Montenegro, also intervened to greet the participants of the meeting on behalf of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro and Mr. Igor Gradjevic, the GEF Operational Focal Point of Montenegro. He pointed out the positive experience of Montenegro during implementation of the MedPartnership and reminded of the exceptional results achieved in that process such as the preparation and adoption of the National Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (NS ICZM), preparation of the Integrated Resources Management Plan (IRMP) for the Buna/Bojana Area, vulnerability assessment of the coastal area to climate change including the sea-level rise, and the mapping of the valuable coastal habitats, etc. On the basis of these results and in line with NS ICZM, and the National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of the LBS Protocol and NAP for protection of the coastal biodiversity, Montenegro reiterated its priorities for the MedProgramme, including:

- Disposal of harmful waste containing PCBs and remediation of the hotspots, in the framework of the Child project 1.1 and in synergy, if possible, with Child project 1.2;
- Preparation of the local plans which mainstream the adaptation measures to climate change as part of the SCCF Project;
- Realization of priorities determined in the IRMP for the Buna/Bojana Area related to mapping of vulnerability of groundwater, identification of the level of pollution of the groundwater in aquifers, and establishment of the regular monitoring of groundwaters together with their baseline assessment.

Day 1 Agenda Item 1: Setting the scene and objectives of the consultation

17. The Secretariat emphasized that the MedProgramme was designed to accelerate the implementation of agreed actions identified from a series of transboundary diagnostic analyses of the Mediterranean Sea and subsequent strategic action programmes (SAP-MED and SAP-BIO) elaborated in the context of the Barcelona Convention at the request of its Contracting Parties. The MedProgramme is a direct contribution to the implementation of the UN Environment/MAP’s Mid-term Strategy 2016 – 2021.

Day 1 Agenda Item 2: Report on progress for preparation of the MedProgramme documents

18. The Secretariat provided an update on the status of the logframes and project documents for each of the Child Projects and the SCCF Project (Table 3)

Table 3 Status of the logframes and project documents for the MedProgramme and the SCCF Project

Project	Logframe status	Project document status
Child Project 1.1	Preliminary draft prepared	Preliminary draft under preparation
Child Project 1.2	Intermediate draft prepared	Preliminary draft prepared
Child Project 1.3	Intermediate draft prepared	Intermediate draft under preparation
Child Project 2.1	Advanced draft prepared	Advanced draft prepared
Child Project 2.2	Preliminary draft prepared	Preliminary draft under preparation
Child Project 3.1	Preliminary draft prepared	Not yet initiated
Child Project 4.1	Intermediate draft prepared	Intermediate draft prepared
SCCF Project	Advanced draft prepared	Advanced draft prepared

19. The Secretariat provided an overview of the national and regional interventions planned for all countries (Annex 4). A matrix of responsibilities of the executing partners is set forth in Annex 5.

20. The representative from Egypt congratulated the partners on the progress achieved towards preparation of the MedProgramme, and expressed his view that biodiversity and climate change were not adequately addressed in the planned activities. The Secretariat explained that the MedProgramme reflected the GEF Council’s priorities and was funded primarily with earmarked funds from the IW and CW focal areas, but that these issues were being addressed through complementary activities in the region. For biodiversity, this includes the MED MPA Project, the 2020 MPA Roadmap, and the technical support activities of SPA/RAC; and for climate change, this includes a variety of GEF interventions, including the Special Climate

Change Fund Project that will address climate change adaptation in six Mediterranean countries. The Secretariat acknowledged that the MedProgramme cannot address every issue, and for this reason it was better to focus on priority areas to achieve greater impacts. The UN Environment GEF Task Manager for IW offered to work with the countries to develop medium-sized projects to address other priorities, as this type of project can be approved faster than full-size projects or programmes.

21. The representative of SPA/RAC thanked the representative of Egypt for drawing attention to the need to strengthen efforts to protect biodiversity in the region, and noted that many other countries have raised this point in other contexts. In the opinion of the representative of SPA/RAC, this is a sign that the GEF Secretariat needs to consider including a regional biodiversity component in all regional projects/programmes, in view of its link to other areas including pollution and coastal zone management. The representative of SPA/RAC asked UN Environment to consider approaching the GEF Secretariat on this issue. The UN Environment GEF Task Manager for IW indicated that there were good opportunities for this in GEF-7 since its priorities include the blue economy and marine biodiversity, and that IW was a good entry point for transboundary MPAs, for example.
22. The representative of Morocco, speaking about her experience in the preparation of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme and the SCCF Project, pointed out that there is a need for the country to nominate a specific focal point for each of the projects, since the GEF Operational Focal Point and the MAP Focal Point (the same person in this case) cannot manage the entire portfolio of projects. The Secretariat suggested that each country could have a national focal point for each specific technical issue and that these focal points could be consulted (along with the GEF Operational Focal Point) when needed and invited to attend steering committee meetings for the projects that fall under their area of expertise. The UN Environment GEF Task Manager for IW agreed that each country needed specific focal points for the various projects.

Day 1 Agenda Item 3: Next steps and timeline for submission of documents to the GEF Secretariat

23. The Secretariat described the next steps for completion of the project documents, including the gathering of additional baseline information, organization of national consultations, preparation of co-financing letters, and validation of project documents by the GEF Operational Focal Points.
24. The Secretariat then presented the tentative timeline for submission of the project documents to the GEF Secretariat (Table 4).

Table 4 Targets for submission of project documents for review and endorsement

Project	Target for submission of project document to GEF for CEO endorsement
Child Project 1.1	July 2018
Child Project 1.2	August 2018
Child Project 1.3	July 2018
Child Project 2.1	June 2018
Child Project 2.2	August 2018
Child Project 3.1	October 2018
Child Project 4.1	June 2018
SCCF Project	June 2018

25. The Secretariat recalled that each country would need to indicate clearly the different co-financing contributions for each of the relevant Child Projects, and that these contributions would be monitored on an annual basis. Furthermore, the modality for the preparation of co-financing letters in the context of a programmatic approach needs to be discussed with the GEF Secretariat, considering that normally one co-financing letter would be required per project per country (the MedProgramme would require more than 50 co-financing letters under this arrangement). There is clearly a need to simplify this process for the MedProgramme. The UN Environment IW Task Manager agreed to liaise with the GEF Secretariat to clarify this issue and propose an acceptable solution.

Day 1 Agenda Item 4: Child Project 1.1

26. Child Project 1.1 will be executed by UN Environment/MAP, in coordination between MED POL and two of UN Environment/MAP's Regional Activities Centres – SCP/RAC and Plan Bleu. The project is expected to deliver the following main outcomes:

- In coastal hot spots, measurable reduction of wastes and hazardous chemicals (POPs, mercury) impacting human health and coastal habitats is achieved;
- Update of the baseline situation (TDA), harmonization of monitoring protocols, methodologies and procedures in compliance with Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) of the Barcelona Convention, including design of offshore reference network and gender assessment.

27. The discussion ensuing the project's presentation by the representatives of MED POL and SCP/RAC touched upon various aspects, including requests for clarifications on the selection of countries, sites and options prioritized in the preliminary proposal for disposal (POPs/PCBs and mercury) activities. Another important question raised by the participating countries was about coordination between various implementing/ executing agencies within MedProgramme as well as with other implementing agencies of related (GEF-funded or not) projects.

28. The representative from Montenegro highlighted the need for cooperation and coordination between Child Projects 1.1 and 1.3 to address national priorities, including contaminated sediments at the former shipyard Bijela (categorized as the hot spot B in the Barcelona Convention National Action Plan – NAP) and provision of incentives to phase out in use PCBs in the aluminum plant in Podgorica. Furthermore, country missions were called for in order to discuss matters in greater detail. The need for coordination with the GEF-UNDP project for safe removal of PCBs was also highlighted.

29. The Secretariat explained that a partner coordination meeting would follow the two-day country consultations to address, among other things, specific issues raised by Montenegro. Missions to countries would be planned based on the partners' meeting discussions. The Secretariat emphasized the need for cooperation within the MedProgramme and with sister agencies, while avoiding double-counting and overlapping between different activities. The representative of UN Environment/MAP - MED POL reminded that endorsement letters for the PCBs management were issued by Montenegrin authorities to both UN Environment/MAP and UNDP. Missions to countries (possibly joint for Child Projects 1.1 and 1.3) could take place in April 2018, to be facilitated by national authorities.

30. The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina informed of the progress with preparation of the mercury initial assessment (MIA) and pointed out two locations where pronounced mercury contamination problems were identified. A plea was made to include Bosnia and

Herzegovina in the MedProgramme mercury removal activities. The representative of UN Environment/MAP - MED POL explained the reasons for not including Tuzla site in the preliminary plan for mercury disposal under Child Project 1.1, including its location (far outside the Mediterranean watershed) and the fact it was not addressed in the country's NAP, as well as MED POL Focal Point's confirmation of these facts. The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina was invited to provide the MED POL with the MIA report.

31. The Secretariat considered that the feasibility of inclusion of the sites outside the Mediterranean watershed should be checked with the GEF Secretariat. The UN Environment GEF Task Manager for CW emphasized the importance of the national priorities (as identified in the relevant plans prepared under the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions) for the development of the MedProgramme interventions and welcomed more detailed proposals by the countries. A reference was made to Child Project 1.1 presentation on new POPs prevention opportunities and a recommendation was made to ascertain that calculations of any quantities to be offset through project interventions were acceptable to GEF Secretariat.
32. The representative of Lebanon expressed an agreement with presented criteria for preliminary selection of countries and sites for Child Project 1.1 disposal interventions and enquired about inclusion of specific locations and disposal options for Lebanon. As regards new POPs and mercury prevention, ideas were exchanged on how to validate the baseline data; working with lamps containing mercury was singled out as a viable prevention (and disposal) option.
33. The representative of Tunisia endorsed in principle the national activities included in the preliminary plan/ presentation for Child 1.1 (as well as for Child Project 1.2), emphasizing at the same time the need for assistance with remediation of POPs/ PCBs contaminated sites in the country.
34. The representative of Morocco pointed out the use of the PCBs management platform located in Casablanca could lower disposal costs for the proposed activities (compared to exports to the EU).

Day 1 Agenda Item 5: Child Project 1.2

35. European Investment Bank (EIB) is the main executing agency for the Child 1.2 project, with a contribution from UN Environment/MAP for the regional level activities (development of standards). The following main results are planned to be achieved through the project's components that will be executed by the EIB:
 - Reduction of organic pollution reaching the Mediterranean Sea causing coastal ecosystem degradation;
 - Depollution and water resources management at the level of catchments which are draining into the Mediterranean, in order to improve the human, environmental and health situation and reduce the contaminants loads entering the Mediterranean Sea;
 - Reduction and control of chemical and organic pollution from past and present industrial activities in coastal areas impacting human health and livelihoods, and coastal ecosystems, thereby reducing pollution discharges to the Mediterranean Sea;
 - Preparation of pre-investment studies for mercury decontamination and conversion of industrial processes.

36. Under Child Project 1.2 project, a 7 million USD GEF grant¹ will be utilized to support preparation of investments and strengthen capacities needed to reduce pollution in the Mediterranean hot spots. In the course of the preparation of the programme framework document (PFD), Child Project 1.2 was projected to mobilize up to 500 million USD in co-financing. The representative of EIB presented specific sites and type of interventions considered for technical assistance under the GEF grant, including three projects in Egypt (wastewater treatment plants - WWTPs - and drains depollution), upgrade of a wastewater collection and treatment system (for the city of Tripoli) in Lebanon, upgrade of 10 WWTPs in Tunisia, and mercury depollution projects in Morocco and Tunisia. Following the EIB's presentation, the Secretariat asked whether the initially identified co-financing amount was still applicable.
37. The representative of EIB explained the background to the selection of areas of work presented at the meeting, including linkages to the Horizon 2020 goal of depolluting the Mediterranean and the pipeline of projects identified through the EU-funded Mediterranean Hot Spots Investment Programme (MeHSIP), the latter serving as the starting point for identification of specific projects to be developed through Child Project 1.2. The Barcelona Convention NAPs were also used as references, in particular for identification of hot spots (and in some instances for consideration/ cross-checking of specific projects). The representative of EIB reported that the co-financing is currently assessed at the level of 510 – 550 million USD, depending on bankability of the projects to be developed and willingness of the countries/ project promoters to borrow to implement specific interventions. Without the bankability of the selected projects, and the willingness of the countries to borrow, the co-financing would be not possible.
38. The representative of Lebanon raised a question on the possibility to add Saida WWTP and other projects (referring to reuse of treated wastewater and aquifer recharge) identified by national stakeholders to the MedProgramme/Child Project 1.2 selection process. The representative of EIB explained the selection started from the MeHSIP approved list of 24 projects and that there were delays in signing the cooperation agreement with Lebanon. Nevertheless, the Bank remains open for proposals of other projects for Lebanon (including Saida WWTP) provided that eligibility criteria are met.
39. The representative of Tunisia asked for clarification on the GEF grant funding for the MedProgramme Component 1 projects versus loans planned for specific projects implementation. UN Environment/MAP clarified the loan component (shown in the approved PFD as the Child Project 1.2 co-financing) referred to hard loans/ EIB funding to be approved for mature projects while as the in-kind portion of the total Child Project 1.2 co-financing referred to the share of the EC funds extended for the same purpose. The representative of Tunisia confirmed that the national projects (upgrade of 10 WWTPs in different regions, mercury depollution at SNCPA plant in Kasserine) considered under the Child Project 1.2 were in line with the national priorities, as outlined in the country's NAP and mercury initial assessment/ action plan.
40. The UN Environment/MAP - MED POL presented its work on Child Project 1.2 related to the outcome on standards, i.e. development of common environmental standards for desalination, aquaculture and wastewater treatment. The intent is to develop, in the course of Child Project 1.1 implementation, a set of regional standards to enable better regulation (including eventual adoption of the new/updated Regional Plans) of activities and sectors where the gaps in the Barcelona Convention's regional measures to achieve Good Environmental Status (GES) in the Mediterranean have been identified.

¹ Five million USD from International Waters Focal Area and 2 million USD from Chemicals and Waste.

41. The interventions of the representatives from Lebanon and Egypt emphasized the existence of strong national standards in some of the areas that will be subject to standards development and the sensitivities/ difficulties with adoption of regional ones (including the need for regional standards to be tuned with national ones). For wastewater and sludge management, preparation of guidelines was seen as more pertinent than the development of standards. The need to mobilize and use all the existing technical knowledge in the region in the course of implementing this set of regional activities was recommended.
42. The representative of UN Environment/MAP - MED POL reiterated the development of standards was planned for the areas where the existing regional/ Barcelona Convention measures were assessed as insufficient to reach the GES. The outputs of the Child Project 1.2 activities will feed into the process of updating the existing and/or developing new Barcelona Convention Regional Plans, whereas the decision making process will be fully conducted in line with standard procedures of the Convention and its governing bodies. The work on the development of standards and new/updated Regional Plan is integrated in the UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work for the current biennium.
43. The representative of WWF pointed out the new INTERREG project implemented by WWF France (including work on aquaculture) should be consulted in the course of development of aquaculture standards.

Day 1 Agenda Item 6: Child Project 1.3

44. As the GEF Implementing Agency, the EBRD is leading on the preparation of Child Project 1.3 which will produce the following outcomes:
 - Public/ private investments enable pollution reduction in priority coastal and catchment areas through the improvement of water and waste water management systems and the introduction of modern and efficient technologies and practices;
 - Prevention or elimination of POPs.
45. Compared to Child Projects 1.1 and 1.2, preparation and implementation of the Child Project 1.3 has certain specificities due to the EBRD's different work approaches. The focus will be on municipalities and on private sector, with a dynamic project pipeline identified based on project selection criteria. The IW component of the project will focus primarily at municipal wastewater treatment projects. The areas of interest for the CW component (POPs elimination) will be electricity distribution companies, industries (where POPs/ PCBs disposal and prevention activities are likely to be linked to larger modernization loans/ packages) and potentially agri-business (for possible substitution and disposal of POPs pesticides that are still in use). Due to the dynamic nature of developing the project pipeline, sites and companies (potential beneficiaries of the project), will not be known at this stage, and the Bank's internal rules limit options for their disclosure to third parties.
46. The representative of Montenegro pointed out that no information on the Child Project 1.3 development activities had been received by the country so far and expressed interest/need to hold consultations and learn more about the scope of work of the consultants conducting pertinent assessments for the EBRD. A similar intervention was made by the representative of Albania, emphasizing the need to meet the consultants and discuss priorities with them. The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina highlighted the need for more detailed discussion as regards prevention of new POPs, and suggested the Child Project 1.1 and Child Project 1.3 activities should be combined. In addressing these interventions, the representative of EBRD explained the work conducted so far was aiming to generate a

snapshot of the countries' situation and that the National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Convention have been analyzed. Based on these analyses, project selection criteria would be defined and project pipeline built.

47. The representative of EBRD explained the GEF funding would be used for technical assistance (including project preparation) and potentially for grants to overcome specific market barriers associated with the implementation of environmental technologies. Another potential use of the GEF funds is provision of technical assistance (including project preparation). For the time being, EBRD is not considering use of intermediary banks in the projects' implementation phase.
48. The representative of Montenegro pointed out the links between Child Projects 1.1. and 1.3 and expressed interest to explore possibilities to address two priority sites (Aluminum plant and former shipyard Bijela) through the MedProgramme and in coordination with the ongoing UNDP and the World Bank projects (the former funded by the GEF, the latter through the World Bank loan). The representative of EBRD took note of the interventions, flagged the two sites as potential Child Project 1.3 project sites, and emphasized the Bank could provide loans for the larger investment interventions while using GEF funds for technical assistance and grants. Further discussions and coordination are necessary to define possible interventions.
49. The representative of Lebanon raised the question about potential overlap concerning what Child Projects 1.1 and 1.3 are aiming to deliver. The Secretariat pointed out the differences in the targets of the two projects while the representative of EBRD highlighted the difference in the funding approaches: for example, potential disposal of PCBs supported through Child Project 1.3 funding would be coupled with the Bank's loan for new investments leading to improved management of chemicals and wastes.
50. The question of expected submission date of the Child Project 1.3 to the GEF Secretariat was raised. The representative of EBRD explained the process was challenging nevertheless the completion of project preparation phase was planned for mid-summer.
51. The representative of Albania asked for clarification on potential beneficiaries of the projects to be funded through Child Project 1.3. The representative of EBRD explained sovereign lending was not considered for the time being, while as municipal and private sectors were identified as the key potential recipients (municipalities in particular for the IW component and waste water management improvements).
52. Regarding the regional level activities, the representative of EBRD explained the strategy was to ensure that experiences with successful national interventions would be disseminated across the region and potentially replicated in partnership with participating and other companies.
53. The representative of Tunisia emphasized the necessity for coordination between different executing Agencies, since some activities concern three child projects (1.1, 1.2 and 1.3).

Day 2 Agenda Item 2: Child Project 2.1 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection"

54. Child Project 2.1 will be executed jointly by UN Environment/MAP and two of its RACs (PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu) and by UNESCO-IHP and GWP-Med. The Child Project will achieve the following outcomes:
 - Coastal zone sustainability enhanced through the adoption of comprehensive ICZM strategies, coastal plans and instruments (MedProgramme Outcome 4).

- Increased resilience to climate variability and change, and enhanced water security of coastal populations through improved sustainability of services provided by coastal aquifers and by groundwater related coastal habitats (MedProgramme Outcome 5).
55. The representative of Algeria expressed interest in discussing the possibility of Algeria benefitting from national level activities in the context of Child Project 2.1. The Secretariat responded that Algeria had endorsed the MedProgramme in December 2017, when the preparation of Child Project 2.1 was already well advanced. Algeria will benefit from the regional activities foreseen in this Child Project (e.g., training and capacity building including on submarine groundwater discharges, gender and conjunctive management of water resources; awareness raising; support to ICZM Protocol ratification; etc.). The executing partners agreed to evaluate the possibility of accommodating Algeria's request. However, the representative of UNESCO-IHP expressed concerns about the constraint of the budget available for the MedProgramme Outcome 5 and the risk of jeopardizing the successful implementation of initially foreseen activities by increasing the number of national activities.
56. The representative of Egypt observed that the execution of a project with four partners would be challenging and also pointed out the need to consolidate the monitoring framework for Child Project 2.1. In response, the executing partners first recalled their successful joint execution of activities for the MedPartnership, including the development of the [Integrative Methodological Framework](#) (IMF), a practical tool to integrate considerations of integrated coastal zone management, integrated water resources management and groundwater management. This tool will guide the partners in the integration of their individual and joint activities for Child Project 2.1. Next, with respect to monitoring, the executing partners recalled that the project would benefit from an existing monitoring framework established for the Barcelona Convention, including the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) for the achievement of good environmental status in the Mediterranean, and indicators related to implementation of the ICZM Protocol, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, and the ecosystem approach, amongst others. Finally, the Secretariat reminded the participants that one of the objectives of Child Project 4.1 was to ensure the effective coordination among all projects and partners, including through the organization of yearly stocktaking meetings, communication tools such as the MedProgramme website and the establishment of a Programme-wide results monitoring framework.
57. The representative of Montenegro took the opportunity to request assistance on transboundary cooperation with Albania related to Child Project 2.1 and to draw attention to some additional priorities regarding the focus of groundwater activities. First, the representative of Montenegro reminded the participants that the Buna/Bojana area had been officially confirmed as Montenegro's priority area for Child Project 2.1 and that an integrated resource management plan had been developed for this area in the context of the MedPartnership. A framework agreement between Montenegro and Albania for the sustainable development of Skadar Lake and Buna/Bojana was subsequently drafted and is currently awaiting signature by the two countries. The plan includes the establishment of a joint commission between Montenegro and Albania to support its implementation. In view of this, the representative of Montenegro requested that efforts be made under Child Project 2.1 to support the establishment of the joint commission with Montenegro and Albania, once the agreement has been officially adopted. On a related note, the representative of Montenegro also stated that the integrated resource management plan for the Buna/Bojana area called for the preparation of vulnerability maps for the area's aquifer as well as monitoring of groundwater parameters. The representative of UNESCO-IHP congratulated the representatives of Montenegro and Albania on their cooperation and confirmed UNESCO's willingness to work with both countries on the joint commission, and to address the requested

aquifer vulnerability mapping within its activities for Child Project 2.1. UNESCO-IHP highlighted at the same time its concerns about the limitation of available funds.

58. The representative of Morocco recalled the country's request to monitor hydrographic indicators in the context of Child Project 2.1 and to ensure effective coordination between the activities of Child Project 2.1 on ICZM and those of the SCCF Project on climate change adaptation in the coastal zone. The representative of Morocco also thanked the executing partners for integrating its expressed priorities into the design of the activities for Child Project 2.1.
59. The representative of Tunisia indicated that an official letter documenting the country's priorities for Child Project 2.1 would soon be transmitted to UN Environment/MAP, and also confirmed that the priorities of Tunisia for this Child Project are: for the aquifer, it is the Ras Jebel coastal aquifer, and for ICZM, the region of coastal area of the Gulf of Monastir and the Kerkennah Archipelago.
60. As at 7 March 2018, official letters expressing priorities for activities under Child Project 2.1 have been received from the GEF Operational Focal Points of Egypt, Morocco and Lebanon.

Day 2 Agenda Item 3: Child Project 2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus"

61. Child Project 2.2 will be executed jointly by UN Environment/MAP and GWP-Med, and will achieve the following outcomes:
 - Enhanced water, food, energy and ecosystems integrated governance, security and sharing of benefits;
 - Reduced trade-offs among sectors and more balanced competing water uses;
 - Sustainability of basin/aquifers and coastal and marine zones as well as supported economic activities and biodiversity.
62. Following an overview of the Child Project, the representative of GWP-Med informed the participants that two sub-regional consultations would be organized in the coming months: one in the Adriatic and one in the MENA region. These consultations will provide ample opportunities for the countries to express their priorities with respect to the planned activities, which include assessments and plans based on the nexus approach.
63. The representative of Albania expressed interest in participating in the activities of this Child Project, provided that the outputs are action-oriented and do not simply involve the elaboration of strategies. The representative of GWP-Med confirmed that the outputs include action plans, but reminded the participants that it was ultimately the country's responsibility to ensure their implementation.
64. The representative of Lebanon inquired about the possibility of undertaking national level activities of this Child Project in Lebanon. The representative of GWP-Med indicated that this was a possibility, especially in view of the strong synergies that could be achieved with the activities foreseen in Lebanon for Child Project 2.1, including sustainable management of the Damour aquifer and the preparation of the National ICZM Strategy.
65. The representative of Morocco expressed interest in exploring the possibility of taking part in the activities of this Child Project, recalling that Morocco has many strategies for water, energy, food and ecosystems and that opportunities existed for improved integration among these domains. Furthermore, Morocco's National Sustainable Development Strategy recognizes each of these domains as priority area, and the activities of Child Project 2.2 could

assist the country in meeting the relevant commitments under this strategy. The representative of Morocco informed the participants that the relevant institutions would be consulted about the country's potential participation in national level activities for this Child Project.

Day 2 Agenda Item 4: Child Project 3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”

66. Child Project 3.1 will be executed jointly by UN Environment/MAP, SPA/RAC, IUCN, and WWF-Med, and will achieve the following outcome:
- Expansion of seascapes under protection in Libya, and improved protected area management through the implementation of the Libyan Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) National Strategy, mapping of marine key habitats, monitoring of marine megafauna (mammals, seabirds, turtles and cartilaginous fish), capacity support mechanisms and adoption of permanent solutions.
67. Following a presentation of the activities of Child Project 3.1, the representative of SPA/RAC explained that development of the project document would soon begin in earnest, with the recruitment of a national expert and the organization of an inception meeting with the relevant stakeholders in Libya. UN Environment/MAP explained that the development of this Child Project had been placed on hold for a specific reason, namely to conduct discussions with other donors about the possibility of expanding activities to countries other than Libya. Finally, however, it was decided in February 2018 to proceed with the development of the project for Libya as originally planned. UN Environment/MAP indicated that the development of the project document would proceed swiftly, in view of the fact that the project involves only one country, and that executing partners have already gathered substantial information for the baseline situation.
68. In terms of the identification of the 24 sites of conservation interest that will comprise the Libyan network of MPAs to be established under Child Project 3.1, the representative of SPA/RAC indicated that the executing partners have made a preliminary assessment based on existing data from SPA/RAC and WWF in Libya as well as through desk studies. The next step will be to conduct a rapid assessment of Libya's coast to identify additional candidate areas and to agree upon a final list of sites to be included in the national network of MPAs.
69. The representative of Egypt cited the country's extensive experience in the management of MPAs and invited the executing partners to consider the organization of capacity building workshops for Libyan experts at MPAs in Egypt. The representative of SPA/RAC thanked the representative of Egypt for this suggestion and explained that capacity building within Child Project 3.1 would focus on the 'train the trainer' approach and would provide opportunities for trainees to apply MPA management strategies in small-scale projects conducted outside of the scope of the MedProgramme. The representative of SPA/RAC observed that the design of training activities – including the possibility of travel – was subject to the available budget.
70. In view of potential synergies between Child Project 3.1 and Child Project 2.1, the representative of UNESCO-IHP recalled to the participants that UNESCO will undertake activities related to submarine groundwater discharge with Libya, in the form of regional trainings and capacity building in collaboration with the General Water Authority.

Day 2 Agenda Item 5: Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project”

71. Child Project 4.1 will be executed by UN Environment/MAP, and will achieve the following outcomes:
- Increased uptake of lessons and of cutting-edge knowledge generated across the portfolio of interventions, and the active participation in IW LEARN activities, Communities of Practice, and events; improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders and of the global IW community to build climate resilience, maintain coastal resources, protect biodiversity and restore coastal ecosystems.
 - The effective coordination and learning among all Child Projects, consistency with the Programme objectives, and synergies among projects and partners, ensured.
72. The Secretariat informed the participants that a key element of Child Project 4.1 is the Knowledge Management Strategy and associated tools that will facilitate information sharing and promotion of the Programme's results among the partners, the region's stakeholders and beyond. He added that a Knowledge Management Specialist would be recruited in April 2018 to provide guidance on this aspect of the Child Project, including on the requirements for the creation of an appropriate knowledge platform and for populating this platform with appropriate data from the countries and partners. A successful example of an effective knowledge platform was cited: the case of the platform for the GEF's Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (GEF-CREW) (<http://www.gefcrew.org/>).
73. With respect to the Knowledge Management Strategy and the related platform, the UN Environment GEF Task Manager for CW requested that the Knowledge Management Specialist reflect all indicators of all child projects in the establishment of the relevant tools and frameworks. It was furthermore explained that the GEF's Chemical and Waste Focal Area has created a proof-of-concept platform to assist countries in meeting the reporting requirements of the Stockholm and Basel Conventions (<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BMyc6alVeh0>).
74. The representative of Egypt asked that special attention be given to designing data collection and management tools that support policy development, while at the same time responding to the needs of the GEF Secretariat and the Programme partners. The Secretariat confirmed that one of the aims of the Child Project 4.1 was to strengthen the science-policy interface, and that a great deal of relevant data has already been generated by the countries. Furthermore, the knowledge platform proposed under Child Project 4.1 could be used to aggregate and promote these data, with the clear understanding that no data would be disseminated without the permission of its owner. The Secretariat noted that this knowledge platform could one day become a tool of the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention.
75. The representative of Albania noted that many countries lacked data and asked whether the Programme would support generation of data for the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP). The Secretariat confirmed that certain data generated from the MedProgramme could indeed assist countries in meeting the IMAP reporting requirements.
76. In response to the representative of Albania's suggestion to employ social media tools to promote the Programme, the Secretariat confirmed that the use of modern communication tools – including social media, YouTube and thematic videos – would be fully integrated in the Programme's communication and outreach strategy.

Day 2 Agenda Item 6: GEF Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) Project

77. The SCCF Project will be executed by UN Environment/MAP and GWP-Med and will achieve the following outcomes:

- Stakeholder engagement on climate change adaptation is strengthened and partnerships are enhanced.
- Adaptation mainstreamed into IZCM strategies and coastal plans.
- Public spending relative to climate change adaptation in the coastal zone prioritized and national resources mobilized.
- Facilitated access to international climate change adaptation financing.
- Strengthened science-policy interface, accessibility of related knowledge and enhanced regional climate information.

78. The Secretariat recalled that the SCCF Project is a medium-sized project that will mainstream climate change adaptation into coastal planning using a proven approach that was successfully implemented in a past GEF intervention in the region. New funding opportunities under the GEF-7 Replenishment may provide opportunities for replication of this approach in the region.
79. Regarding the geographic scope of the national level activities foreseen in Morocco for the SCCF Project, the representative of Morocco reiterated her wish to maintain the same scope as Child Project 2.1, namely the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima region. The representative of Morocco recalled that it would be most efficient to work in this manner, as the same stakeholders would be engaged for both projects. The representative of PAP/RAC (the executing agency that will lead the ICZM activities in Child Project 2.1 and the integration of climate change adaptation in coastal plans for the SCCF Project) concurred that it would be best to work at the regional level.
80. During the discussion of execution modalities for activities foreseen at the national level in the SCCF Project, the representatives of Montenegro and Morocco reiterated their wishes to have PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu execute the planned activities in their respective countries on the preparation of recommendations for integrating climate change adaptation in local coastal planning processes.
81. The representative of Egypt recalled that his country was among the countries most vulnerable to climate change and inquired about why the country was not participating in the SCCF Project. The Secretariat recalled that Egypt had been invited to contribute to and endorse the Project Identification Form (PIF) of the GEF SCCF Project but that unfortunately this did not occur. The Secretariat recalled that an official letter was transmitted to the GEF Operational Focal Points of all GEF eligible countries on 9 September 2016 to inform about the opportunity to participate in the SCCF Project and to request inputs and advice from the countries on the development of the PIF. This communication was followed by a second letter on 30 September 2016 to formally request the endorsement of the PIF by the countries prior to the submission to the GEF Secretariat. Six countries issued letters of endorsement for the SCCF Project, namely Albania, Algeria, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia.
82. The representative of PAP/RAC recalled that a large project entitled “Enhancing climate change adaptation in the North coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt” had recently been approved by the Green Climate Fund for execution by UNDP Egypt and the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation. The PAP/RAC National Focal Point for Egypt has already undertaken a consultation with the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation and with UNDP Egypt and they agreed to build synergies with the GEF MedProgramme CP 2.1.

Day 2 Agenda Item 7: Discussion on timeline for completion of the development phase

83. Following discussions, the GEF Operational Focal Points, the nominated representatives and the implementing and executing partners agreed on the tentative timelines proposed for the completion of the project documents and their submission to the GEF Secretariat for endorsement, as set forth in Table 4 of the present report.

Day 2 Agenda Item 8: Conclusions of the first regional consultation

84. In the closing of the consultation, the GEF Operational Focal Points, the nominated representatives and the implementing and executing partners agreed on a set of conclusions and next steps, which have been reformulated for clarity and are set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the present report.

Annex 1
Agenda of the First Regional Consultation of the MedProgramme

Day 1: 7 March 2018	
9:00 – 9:30	<i>Registration</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Welcoming remarks: UN Environment
9:45 – 10:30	1. Setting the scene and objectives of the consultation: UN Environment/MAP
10:30 – 11:00	2. Report on progress for preparation of the MedProgramme documents: UN Environment/MAP
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	3. Next steps and timeline for submission of documents to the GEF Secretariat: UN Environment/MAP
12:00 – 13:00	4. Update on Child Project 1.1: Project partners (MED POL, SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu)
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:30	5. Update on Child Project 1.2: Project partners (EIB and MED POL)
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:45 – 16:45	6. Update on Child Project 1.3: Project partner (EBRD)
16:45 – 17:00	7. Conclusions of Day 1
17:00	<i>End of Day 1</i>

Day 2: 8 March 2018	
9:30 – 9:45	1. Opening remarks: UN Environment/MAP
9:45 – 10:45	2. Update on Child Project 2.1: Project partners (PAP/RAC, UNESCO-IHP, GWP-Med and Plan Bleu)
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:15 – 12:15	3. Update on Child Project 2.2: Project partner (GWP-Med)
12:15 – 13:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45 – 14:45	4. Update on Child Project 3.1: Project partners (SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN)
14:45 – 15:15	5. Update on Child Project 4.1: UN Environment/MAP
15:15 – 15:45	6. Update on the GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project
15:45 – 16:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	7. Discussion: Timeline for completion of the development phase
17:15 – 17:30	8. Conclusions of the first regional consultation
17:30	<i>Closing of the consultation</i>

Annex 2
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Annex 3
List of consultations organized to date in the context of the MedProgramme

Project/programme	Type of consultation/activity	Location	Dates
Child Project 1.1	Regional Workshop on "Improved and Harmonized POPs Inventories and Action Plan" organized by the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for North Africa	Rabat, Morocco	30 October to 3 November 2017
Child Project 1.1	Technical mission to Lebanon to identify potential interventions and sites for PCBs disposal/remediation	Beirut, Tripoli, Lebanon	17 - 21 December 2017
Child Project 1.1	Technical mission to Tunisia to identify potential interventions and sites for PCBs and mercury disposal/remediation	Tunis, Tunisia	31 January - 2 February 2018
Child Project 1.1	Technical mission to Algeria to identify potential interventions and sites for PCBs and mercury disposal/remediation	Algiers, Tizi Ouzu, Algeria	12 - 15 February 2018
Child Project 1.2	Meeting mission with promotor and GEF focal point in relation to upgrading and extension of 10 WWTP	Tunis, Tunisia	23-24 March 2017
Child Project 1.2	Technical mission to meet the promotor and GEF focal point in relation to COELMA project	Tetouan, Morocco	24-26 July 2017
Child Project 1.2	Meeting with promoter, GEF focal point and project consultants to kick off technical assistance for project preparation	Rabat, Morocco	5 February 2018
Child Project 1.2	Meeting with promoter, GEF focal point and stakeholders to present COELMA project	Tétouan, Morocco	6 February 2018
Child Project 1.2	Stakeholder consultation and pre-appraisal of the project by EIB	Tripoli, Lebanon	On going
Child Project 1.2	Feasibility studies are on-going for the three projects. A baseline data have been collected and available information on the institutional/policy framework has been prepared for Alexandria West WWTP.	Egypt	On going
Child Project 2.1	Sub-regional consultation with the Adriatic countries	Tivat, Montenegro	26 September 2017
Child Project 2.1	Sub-regional consultation with the Southern Mediterranean countries	Rabat, Morocco	12 - 13 December 2017
SCCF Project	First Regional Consultation	Rabat, Morocco	13 - 14 December 2017
SCCF Project	National consultation with Morocco	Rabat, Morocco	8 - 9 February 2018

Annex 3

List of consultations organized to date in the context of the MedProgramme

Project/programme	Type of consultation/activity	Location	Dates
SCCF Project	National consultation with Montenegro	Podgorica, Montenegro	12 – 13 February 2018
MedProgramme	First Regional Consultation	Athens, Greece	7 – 8 March 2018

Annex 4
Overview of the national and regional interventions planned for all countries in the MedProgramme

(ATTACHED)

Annex 5
Matrix of responsibilities of the executing partners for the MedProgramme

MedProgramme – Overview of responsibilities for execution

Partner countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, State of Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, and Tunisia

Lead GEF Agency: UN Environment

Other GEF Agency: EBRD

Executing Partners: UN Environment/MAP, EIB, UNESCO-IHP, GWP-Med, WWFMedPO, IUCN

Component 1: Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

Type of activity	Plan Bleu	SCP/RAC	MED POL	UN Environment MAP
Disposal		✓	✓	
Remediation			✓	
Prevention		✓		
Other		✓	✓	
Measuring progress to impacts	✓		✓	
Programme-wide communication and knowledge management				✓

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

Type of activity	EIB	MED POL	UN Environment MAP
WWTP extension and upgrade (incl. reuse)	✓		
Depollution of catchment areas	✓		
Reduction and control of industrial pollution	✓		
Reduction of mercury releases	✓		
Other activities	✓		
Environmental standards		✓	
Programme-wide communication and knowledge management			✓

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Type of activity	EBRD	UN Environment MAP
Water management systems upgrades	✓	
Reduction and prevention of POPs	✓	
Other activities	✓	
Dissemination/ replication	✓	
Programme-wide communication and knowledge management		✓

Annex 5
Matrix of responsibilities of the executing partners for the MedProgramme

Component 2: Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

Type of activity	GWP-Med	Plan Bleu	PAP/RAC	UNESCO IHP	UN Environment MAP
Coastal zone management	✓	✓	✓		
Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems				✓	
Programme-wide communication and knowledge management					✓

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

Type of activity	GWP-Med	UN Environment MAP
Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support	✓	
Identification of bankable nexus interventions	✓	
Communication and outreach	✓	✓
Programme-wide communication and knowledge management		✓

Component 3: Protecting Marine Biodiversity

Child Project 3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”

Type of activity	IUCN	SPA/RAC	WWF MedPO	UN Environment MAP
Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya	✓	✓		
Strengthening the governance of marine protected areas		✓		
Reduction and control of industrial pollution				
Effective management of MPAs	✓	✓	✓	
Civil society engagement	✓	✓	✓	
Capacity building	✓	✓	✓	
Awareness raising and communication	✓	✓	✓	✓
Programme-wide communication and knowledge management				✓

Annex 5
Matrix of responsibilities of the executing partners for the MedProgramme

Component 4: Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project”

Type of activity	UN Environment MAP	All partners
Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results	✓	✓
Coordination and synergies	✓	

GEF Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) Project²

SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”

Partner countries: Albania, Algeria, State of Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia

GEF Agency: UN Environment

Executing partners : UN Environment/MAP, PAP/RAC, Plan Bleu, GWP-Med

Type of activity	GWP-Med	PAP/RAC	Plan Bleu	UN Environment MAP
Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation	✓	✓	✓	
Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in coastal planning		✓	✓	
Access to financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation	✓			
Knowledge management, communication and dissemination				✓

² The SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas” was approved after the adoption of the MedProgramme as an external intervention. However, it was agreed with the GEF Secretariat and the participating countries that the project, would be executed as part of the Programme to maximize synergies and efficient use of resources.

ALBANIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for PCBs disposal considered (for later phase of project implementation)
<i>Remediation</i>	None
<i>Prevention</i>	None
<i>Other activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for the PCBs inventory considered (pending confirmation of the need) • Capacity building for ESM of PCBs
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDA update • Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge, for consideration in the Barcelona Convention framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

ALBANIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection"

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National assessment to support implementation of the ICZM Protocol • Coast Day central celebration dedicated to coastal aquifers
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Buna - Bojana Transboundary Coastal Aquifer (in cooperation with Montenegro): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-depth assessment and characterization of the aquifer through the application of a multi-disciplinary indicator-based methodology ○ Identification and evaluation of coastal aquifer and ecosystems services ○ Analyses of saline intrusion processes ○ National Dialogues identifying potential conjunctive management solutions ○ Preparation of coastal aquifer management plan ○ Aquifer monitoring multi-purpose networks and protocols designed and field tested, and responsible personnel trained
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation • Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast • Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis • Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional Assessment of Submarine Groundwater Discharges ○ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) • Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management • Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

ALBANIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

National activities	(specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
Communication and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries’ capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

ALBANIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project (SCCF Project)

SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”

Regional activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on climate change adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based solutions, for technical experts and decision makers • Sub-regional workshops for international finance institutions, and the banking, insurance and private sectors to enhance the use of coastal climate risk and vulnerability in investment decisions
<i>Access to financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of methodological guidelines on preparation of financing plans for climate change adaptation in coastal areas including domestic, international and private sector investments • Countries invited to participate in the development of a full-fledged project proposal to access international financing support for climate change adaptation in coastal zones
<i>Knowledge management, communication and coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional meeting to share knowledge and lessons learned, and to discuss opportunities for replication at the national level in additional countries • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

ALGERIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCBs disposal (sites and quantities to be determined) • Disposal of POPs others than PCBs (sites and quantities to be determined)
<i>Remediation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small-scale interventions considered for priority sites contaminated with POPs/ PCBs
<i>Prevention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options for prevention of new POPs assessed
<i>Other activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for PCBs dynamic inventory considered (pending confirmation of the need) • Capacity building for ESM of POPs/ PCBs
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDA update • Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge, for consideration in the Barcelona Convention framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

ALGERIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National assessment to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • Stakeholder consultation to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • Coast Day central celebration
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation • Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast • Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis • Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) • Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management • Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

National activities (specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
<i>Communication and outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	

ALGERIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries' capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 "Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project"

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project (SCCF Project)

SCCF Project "Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas"

Regional activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement,</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on climate change adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based solutions, for technical experts and decision makers

ALGERIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>capacity building and cooperation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sub-regional workshops for international finance institutions, and the banking, insurance and private sectors to enhance the use of coastal climate risk and vulnerability in investment decisions
<i>Access to financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of methodological guidelines on preparation of financing plans for climate change adaptation in coastal areas including domestic, international and private sector investments• Countries invited to participate in the development of a full-fledged project proposal to access international financing support for climate change adaptation in coastal zones
<i>Knowledge management, communication and coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional meeting to share knowledge and lessons learned, and to discuss opportunities for replication at the national level in additional countries• Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy• Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform• Participation in IW LEARN events

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	None
<i>Remediation</i>	None
<i>Prevention</i>	None
<i>Other activities</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDA update • Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge, for consideration in the Barcelona Convention framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection"

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National assessment to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • Stakeholder consultation to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • National consultation to support the launch of an Inter-Ministerial Committee
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation • Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast • Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis • Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) • Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management • Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Child Project 2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus"

National activities (specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
Communication and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries' capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 "Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project"

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

EGYPT - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	None
<i>Remediation</i>	None
<i>Prevention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercury prevention options considered (pending confirmation of eligibility) • Options for prevention of new POPs considered (pending country’s confirmation of interest)
<i>Other activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for PCBs inventory considered (pending confirmation of the need)
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDA update • Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

National activities	
<i>WWTP extension and upgrade (incl. reuse)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension in the capacity and upgrade treatment level for Alexandria West Wastewater Treatment Plant, including sludge treatment • Assessment of demand and definition of the technical options to achieve the required level of wastewater and sludge treatment in WWTPs to meet the requirements for reuse as well as minimize the operation costs • Rehabilitation and extension of existing WWTPs and rehabilitation of drains’ structures – Bahr Al Baqar drain • Rehabilitation and possibly extension of several wastewater treatment plants currently inefficient - Nile catchment area
<i>Depollution of catchment areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of technical options for investment in depollution infrastructure (WWTP, solid waste landfills etc.) • Identification of point and diffuse sources of pollution at the catchment level to prioritise the environmental and health risks • Construction of new WWTPs and solid waste landfills – Bahr Al Baqar drain
<i>Reduction and control of industrial pollution</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of industrial pollution sources discharging in sewer network - Alexandria West Wastewater Treatment Plant, in Bahr Al Baqar drain and in the Nile catchment area

EGYPT - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

National activities	
<i>Reduction of mercury releases</i>	None
<i>Other activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building
Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge management, for consideration in the Barcelona Convention framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of Egypt’s National ICZM Strategy, relying on the implementation of <i>Climagine</i> participatory approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scoping to assess existing state and to agree on key issues and priorities ○ Establishing governance mechanism for planning ○ Engaging stakeholders through Climagine ○ Diagnostic analysis to deeply understand the root causes of the key issues and to build argumentation for policy solutions ○ Validation and developing indicators with Climagine ○ Future scenarios and the agreement on the vision ○ Designing the future strategy ○ Validating proposed measures and finalizing Climagine and the National ICZM Strategy • National assessment to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • Stakeholder consultation to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the North West Coast Aquifer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-depth assessment and characterization of the aquifer through the application of a multi-disciplinary indicator-based methodology ○ Identification and evaluation of coastal aquifer and ecosystems services

EGYPT - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Analyses of saline intrusion processes ○ National Dialogues identifying potential conjunctive management solutions ○ Preparation of coastal aquifer management plan ○ Aquifer monitoring multi-purpose networks and protocols designed and field tested, and responsible personnel trained
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation ● Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast ● Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis ● Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional Assessment of Submarine Groundwater Discharges (Activities under Output 2.4) ○ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) ● Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface and groundwater management (Activity 2.2.3) ● Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection (Activity 2.2.4)
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy ● Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform ● Participation in IW LEARN events

Child Project 2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus"

National activities	(specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nexus assessments conducted ● Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout ● Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) ● Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders ● Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
<i>Communication and outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas

EGYPT - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries' capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 "Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project"

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

LEBANON - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCBs disposal (up to 140 tonnes stocks, 90 tonnes dichlorination and 360 tonnes in use equipment; sites to be specified)
<i>Remediation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remediation interventions considered for priority sites (PCBs contamination) – Bauchrieh, Qadisha and on contaminated sites by PFOS-PFAS (survey and sampling)
<i>Prevention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options for prevention of mercury assessed (1. “Hospitals Free of Mercury” – Proposed Target: 1 tonne mercury prevented. 2. “Dentists Free of Mercury” – No target yet.) Options for prevention of new POPs assessed (1. “PFOS-PFAS Free Fire-Fighting” and/or 2. “HBCD Free EPS/XPS” (pending confirmation of Ministry’s agreement, eligibility and further assessment)).
<i>Other activities</i>	
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TDA update Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

National activities	
<i>WWTP extension and upgrade (incl. reuse)</i>	None
<i>Depollution of catchment areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical assistance for wastewater system operation Definition of water resources management options with all stakeholders at the watershed level to guarantee sustainable use of resources
<i>Reduction and control of industrial pollution</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of industrial pollution sources, data-base and GIS
<i>Reduction of mercury releases</i>	None
<i>Other activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve environmental control & monitoring capacity by setting up a monitoring unit
Regional activities	

LEBANON - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge management, for consideration in the BC framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of Lebanon’s National ICZM Strategy, relying on the implementation of <i>Climagine</i> participatory approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scoping to assess existing state and to agree on key issues and priorities ○ Establishing governance mechanism for planning ○ Engaging stakeholders through <i>Climagine</i> ○ Diagnostic analysis to deeply understand the root causes of the key issues and to build argumentation for policy solutions ○ Validation and developing indicators with <i>Climagine</i> ○ Future scenarios and the agreement on the vision ○ Designing the future strategy ○ Validating proposed measures and finalizing <i>Climagine</i> and the National ICZM Strategy • Preparation of the Integrated Resources Management Plan for the Damour Region, applying the Integrative Methodological Framework developed under the MedPartnership, and the <i>Climagine</i> participatory approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scoping report to describe the generally understood conditions of the plan area and to agree on priorities ○ Establishing governance mechanism for planning ○ Engaging stakeholders through <i>Climagine</i> ○ Diagnostic analysis to deeply understand the root causes of the key issues and to build argumentation for policy solutions ○ Validation and developing indicators with <i>Climagine</i> ○ Future scenarios and the agreement on the vision ○ Designing the future plan

LEBANON - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Validating proposed measures and finalizing Climagine and the IRM Plan ● National assessment to support implementation of the ICZM Protocol ● Stakeholder consultation to support implementation of the ICZM Protocol ● National consultation to support the launch of an Inter-Ministerial Committee
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For the Damour Coastal Aquifer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-depth assessment and characterization of the aquifer through the application of a multi-disciplinary indicator-based methodology ○ Identification and evaluation of coastal aquifer and ecosystems services ○ Analyses of saline intrusion processes ○ National Dialogues identifying potential conjunctive management solutions ○ Preparation of coastal aquifer management plan ○ Aquifer monitoring multi-purpose networks and protocols designed and field tested, and responsible personnel trained
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation ● Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast ● Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis ● Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional Assessment of Submarine Groundwater Discharges (Activities under Output 2.4) ○ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) ● Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management ● Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy ● Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform ● Participation in IW LEARN events

LEBANON - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

National activities (specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
Communication and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries’ capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice

LEBANON - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Coordination and synergies

- Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

LIBYA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National assessment to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation • Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast • Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis • Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) • Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management • Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

LIBYA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

National activities (specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
Communication and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries’ capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

Component 3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity

Child Project 3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”

National activities	
<i>Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one field survey conducted to identify and characterize marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya, and submitted for approval • Marine megafauna monitoring performed in at least two sites 	
<i>Strengthening the governance of marine protected areas</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libya’s Strategy on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) is developed and submitted for approval • A draft law on MPAs is development and submitted for approval • A governance structure for MPAs in Libya is designed and made operational in at least one MPA 	

LIBYA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>Effective management of MPAs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA management unit established in at least one on-site • MPA management plan elaborated for at least one site
<i>Civil society engagement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One CSO participatory platform established to encourage CSO participation in the management of MPAs • At least five CSOs involved in MPA establishment and management participatory processes
<i>Capacity building</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least four training events on MPA governance, sustainable management, stakeholder engagement and Marine megafauna monitoring organized for conservation groups, representatives of fisheries and tourism, and government stakeholders
<i>Awareness raising and communication</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least four awareness raising campaigns designed and launched, targeting the general public, fisheries, tourism, coastal management and/or urban planners • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Strategy, including sharing of lessons learned, providing data to feed the Knowledge Management platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW communities of practice

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

LIBYA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project (SCCF Project)

SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”

Regional activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on climate change adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based solutions, for technical experts and decision makers • Sub-regional workshops for international finance institutions, and the banking, insurance and private sectors to enhance the use of coastal climate risk and vulnerability in investment decisions
<i>Access to financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of methodological guidelines on preparation of financing plans for climate change adaptation in coastal areas including domestic, international and private sector investments • Countries invited to participate in the development of a full-fledged project proposal to access international financing support for climate change adaptation in coastal zones
<i>Knowledge management, communication and coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional meeting to share knowledge and lessons learned, and to discuss opportunities for replication at the national level in additional countries • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

MONTENEGRO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for PCBs disposal considered (coordination with GEF/ UNDP) • Assessment study for Bijela Shipyard
<i>Remediation</i>	None
<i>Prevention</i>	None
<i>Other activities</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDA update • Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge, for consideration in the Barcelona Convention framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

MONTENEGRO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	None (synergy with SCCF Project, where climate change adaptation will be mainstreamed into local coastal planning processes for the Kotor Bay area)
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Buna - Bojana Transboundary Coastal Aquifer (in cooperation with Albania): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-depth assessment and characterization of the aquifer through the application of a multi-disciplinary indicator-based methodology (Activity 2.1.1) ○ Identification and evaluation of coastal aquifer and ecosystems services (Activity 2.1.2) ○ Analyses of saline intrusion processes (Activity 2.1.3) ○ National Dialogues identifying potential conjunctive management solutions (Activities under Output 2.4) ○ Preparation of coastal aquifer management plan (Activities under Output 2.5) ○ Aquifer monitoring multi-purpose networks and protocols designed and field tested, and responsible personnel trained (Activities under Output 2.6)
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation • Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast • Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis • Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional Assessment of Submarine Groundwater Discharges ○ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) • Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management • Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

MONTENEGRO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

National activities	(specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
Communication and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries’ capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

MONTENEGRO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project (SCCF Project)

SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”

National activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<p>In the Kotor Bay area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A gender-sensitive climate risk assessment undertaken through a stakeholder-led process to provide sufficient basis for building coastal resilience to climate change and sustainability • Solutions identified for building coastal resilience and sustainability through stakeholder involvement, using the participatory approach methodology Climagine
<i>Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in coastal planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of guidelines on mainstreaming climate change adaptation in the appropriate local coastal planning processes in the Kotor Bay area (synergy with CP 2.1 of the MedProgramme) • Evaluation of the legal, policy and institutional barriers for implementing solutions to mitigate climate risks
Regional activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on climate change adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based solutions, for technical experts and decision makers • Sub-regional workshops for international finance institutions, and the banking, insurance and private sectors to enhance the use of coastal climate risk and vulnerability in investment decisions
<i>Access to financing mechanisms for</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of methodological guidelines on preparation of financing plans for climate change adaptation in coastal areas including domestic, international and private sector investments

MONTENEGRO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>climate change adaptation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Countries invited to participate in the development of a full-fledged project proposal to access international financing support for climate change adaptation in coastal zones
<i>Knowledge management, communication and coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional meeting to share knowledge and lessons learned, and to discuss opportunities for replication at the national level in additional countries• Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy• Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform• Participation in IW LEARN events

MOROCCO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mercury disposal options considered – COELMA, Tétouan (in coordination with EIB/ Child 1.2)
<i>Remediation</i>	None
<i>Prevention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options for prevention of mercury assessed (1. “Hospitals Free of Mercury” – Possible target: 1 tonne mercury prevented. 2. “Dentists Free of Mercury” – No target yet (pending confirmation of Ministry’s agreement on pilot). Options for prevention of new POPs assessed (1. “PFOS-PFAS Free Fire-Fighting”. 2. “HBCD Free EPS/XPS” and/or 3. “SCCP Free PVC” or “SCCP Free Lubricants” (pending confirmation of Ministry’s agreement, eligibility and further assessment.
<i>Other activities</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TDA update Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

National activities	
<i>WWTP extension and upgrade (incl. reuse)</i>	None
<i>Depollution of catchment areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decommissioning of COELMA chlor-alkali plant in Tétouan, removal of mercury stocks (in conjunction with Child 1.1), soil and sediment decontamination in valley where applicable
<i>Reduction and control of industrial pollution</i>	None
<i>Reduction of mercury releases</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decommissioning of COELMA chlor-alkali plant and potential process conversion to membrane process
<i>Other activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building

MOROCCO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge management, for consideration in the BC framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of the ICZM Plan for the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hociema Region, relying on the implementation of <i>Climagine</i> participatory approach (synergy with SCCF Project, where climate change adaptation will be mainstreamed into this plan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping report to describe the generally understood conditions of the plan area and to agree on priorities Establishing governance mechanism for planning Engaging stakeholders through <i>Climagine</i> Diagnostic analysis to deeply understand the root causes of the key issues and to build argumentation for policy solutions Validation and developing indicators with <i>Climagine</i> Future scenarios and the agreement on the vision Designing the future plan Validating proposed measures and finalizing <i>Climagine</i> and the ICZM Plan National assessment to support implementation of the ICZM Protocol Stakeholder consultation to support implementation of the ICZM Protocol Coast Day central celebration dedicated to coastal resilience
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the Rhiss Nekkour Coastal Aquifer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-depth assessment and characterization of the aquifer through the application of a multi-disciplinary indicator-based methodology Identification and evaluation of coastal aquifer and ecosystems services Analyses of saline intrusion processes

MOROCCO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Dialogues identifying potential conjunctive management solutions ○ Preparation of coastal aquifer management plan ○ Aquifer monitoring multi-purpose networks and protocols designed and field tested, and responsible personnel trained
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation ● Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast ● Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis ● Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional Assessment of Submarine Groundwater Discharges ○ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) ● Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management ● Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy ● Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform ● Participation in IW LEARN events

Child Project 2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus”

National activities	(specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nexus assessments conducted ● Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout ● Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) ● Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders ● Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
<i>Communication and outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	

MOROCCO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries' capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.

Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 "Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project"

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

MOROCCO - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project (SCCF Project)

SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”

National activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<p>In the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hociema region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A gender-sensitive climate risk assessment undertaken through a stakeholder-led process to provide sufficient basis for building coastal resilience to climate change and sustainability • Solutions identified for building coastal resilience and sustainability through stakeholder involvement, using the participatory approach methodology Climagine
<i>Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in coastal planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of guidelines on mainstreaming climate change adaptation in the coastal plan for the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hociema region (synergy with CP 2.1 of the MedProgramme) • Evaluation of the legal, policy and institutional barriers for implementing solutions to mitigate climate risks
Regional activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on climate change adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based solutions, for technical experts and decision makers • Sub-regional workshops for international finance institutions, and the banking, insurance and private sectors to enhance the use of coastal climate risk and vulnerability in investment decisions
<i>Access to financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of methodological guidelines on preparation of financing plans for climate change adaptation in coastal areas including domestic, international and private sector investments • Countries invited to participate in the development of a full-fledged project proposal to access international financing support for climate change adaptation in coastal zones
<i>Knowledge management, communication and coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional meeting to share knowledge and lessons learned, and to discuss opportunities for replication at the national level in additional countries • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

TUNISIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

Component 1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and Measuring Progress to Impacts

Child Project 1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”

National activities	
<i>Disposal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCBs disposal (sites and quantities to be determined) • Disposal of POPs others than PCBs (sites and quantities to be determined) • Mercury disposal options assessed – SNCPA, Kasserine (in coordination with EIB/ Child 1.2)
<i>Remediation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small-scale interventions considered for priority sites contaminated with POPs/ PCBs
<i>Prevention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercury prevention options assessed (1. “Hospital Free of Mercury” – Possible target: 1 tonne mercury prevented. 2. “Dentists Free of Mercury” – no target yet (pending confirmation of Ministry’s agreement on pilot). • Options for prevention of new POPs assessed (1. “PFOS-PFAS Free Fire-Fighting”. 2. “HBCB Free EPS/XPS” and/or 3. “SCCP Free Lubricants” (pending confirmation of Ministry’s agreement, eligibility and further assessment).
<i>Other activities</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Measuring progress to impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDA update • Improved integration and sharing of the existing research and monitoring data
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hotspots Investment Project”

National activities	
<i>WWTP extension and upgrade (incl. reuse)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension and upgrade of 10 wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) in different cities nationwide including feasibility studies •
<i>Depollution of catchment areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site mercury depollution – SNCPA Kasserine • Preparation of wastewater management masterplans in regions concerned by the 10 WWTP
<i>Reduction and control of industrial pollution</i>	None
<i>Reduction of mercury releases</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercury disposal options assessed – SNCPA, Kasserine (in coordination with EIB/ Child 1.1) • Site mercury depollution – SNCPA Kasserine

TUNISIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

National activities	
<i>Other activities</i>	None
Regional activities	
<i>Environmental standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of regional standards on desalination, aquaculture and wastewater and sludge management, for consideration in the BC framework
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events, IW and CW communities of practice

Child Project 1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”

Due to the dynamic nature of the potential project pipeline for this Child Project, it is not possible at this stage to identify specific sites for EBRD’s interventions. Activities will be agreed upon with the countries in due course, based on EBRD’s investment criteria and the expected results set forth in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme.

Component 2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone

Child Project 2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection”

National activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National assessment to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • Stakeholder consultation to support ratification of the ICZM Protocol • National consultation to support the launch of an Inter-Ministerial Committee
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Ras Jebel Coastal Aquifer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-depth assessment and characterization of the aquifer through the application of a multi-disciplinary indicator-based methodology ○ Identification and evaluation of coastal aquifer and ecosystems services ○ Analyses of saline intrusion processes ○ National Dialogues identifying potential conjunctive management solutions ○ Preparation of coastal aquifer management plan ○ Aquifer monitoring multi-purpose networks and protocols designed and field tested, and responsible personnel trained
Regional activities	
<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the sub-regional training in support of ICZM Protocol implementation • Identification of national capacities, strengths and gaps regarding coastal observation, to feed into a conceptual framework and structure for a coastal observation system to support the implementation of

TUNISIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

	<p>ICZM processes at national and local levels and to monitor progress towards achievement of good environmental status of the coast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to and support for the MedOpen online training modules on ICZM, adaptation to climate change, building coastal resilience, marine spatial planning, and land use change analysis • Participation in annual Coast Day events
<i>Management of Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater submarine discharge-related activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Regional Assessment of Submarine Groundwater Discharges ◦ Two regional workshops for training and capacity-building on submarine groundwater discharge (English and French speaking countries) • Joint regional training modules on conjunctive surface water and groundwater management • Gender training on sex-disaggregated water data collection
<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events

Child Project 2.2 "Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem Nexus"

National activities (specific countries to be identified during the 2018 consultations)	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<p>In three priority coastal areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus assessments conducted • Nexus strategies or action plans developed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with gender mainstreamed throughout • Establishment of nexus committees (building on new or existing interministerial or cross-sectoral committees) • Training events on the nexus approach delivered to national and local administrations and other key stakeholders • Nexus demonstration activities designed and implemented to reduce tension among the competing water uses identified in the nexus assessment
Communication and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the national Information Communication and Outreach Strategy in the three priority coastal areas
Regional activities	
<i>Nexus assessments, related capacity building and institutional support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three nexus regional dialogue meetings and one partnership conference organized to build countries' capacity on the nexus approach and foster relationships with potential financiers
<i>Identification of bankable nexus interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three project fiches prepared for priority nexus interventions and/or investments in collaboration with interested countries and submitted for consideration to governments and international financing institutions

TUNISIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

<i>Programme-wide communication and knowledge management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in the Regional Information Communication and Outreach Strategy for CP 2.2 • Engagement in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy and replication activities • Participation in IW LEARN events, communities of practice, etc.
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Component 4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination

Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Basin Environmental and Climate Regional Support Project”

Regional activities	
<i>Knowledge sharing and dissemination of results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation in the identification and sharing of lessons learned and successful policies and practices (in support of the preparation of GEF Experience Notes, scientific publications, ...) • Contribution of thematic content for communications on MedProgramme results, designed for modern dissemination tools (programme website, videos, social media campaigns, international media coverage, YouTube, etc.) • Regular use of the MedProgramme Bulletin (published every six months) to remain informed of the results of all Child Projects • Contribution to IW LEARN website and events, as well as global IW and CW communities of practice
<i>Coordination and synergies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in yearly stocktaking meetings with all Child Projects and countries, implementing and execution agencies, GEF, and other regional stakeholders, in view of generating synergies among the Child Projects

TUNISIA - Summary of national and regional activities in the MedProgramme

GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project (SCCF Project)

SCCF Project “Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”

Regional activities	
<i>Stakeholder engagement, capacity building and cooperation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on climate change adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based solutions, for technical experts and decision makers • Sub-regional workshops for international finance institutions, and the banking, insurance and private sectors to enhance the use of coastal climate risk and vulnerability in investment decisions
<i>Access to financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of methodological guidelines on preparation of financing plans for climate change adaptation in coastal areas including domestic, international and private sector investments • Countries invited to participate in the development of a full-fledged project proposal to access international financing support for climate change adaptation in coastal zones
<i>Knowledge management, communication and coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional meeting to share knowledge and lessons learned, and to discuss opportunities for replication at the national level in additional countries • Sharing of best practices as contribution to MedProgramme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy • Contribution of data and active use of the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Platform • Participation in IW LEARN events



The Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security

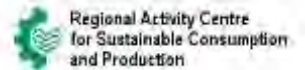
Report of the Second Regional Consultation

Paris, France
20 and 21 September 2018



Photo credit : Chloé Meyer (UNESCO IHP) and Lucilla Minelli (UN Environment/MAP)

Final version 25 October 2018



MedProgramme Report of the Second Regional Consultation (Paris, France – 20 and 21 September 2018)

Conclusions

1. The GEF Operational Focal Points (or their representatives) of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro and Tunisia confirmed the importance of the MedProgramme for their countries and for the region, and endorsed the proposals of UN Environment/MAP on (i) the timeline for finalization of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme and their submission to the GEF Secretariat for endorsement; (ii) the development of the overarching strategies for Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming; and (iii) the arrangements for execution of the MedProgramme through the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU).
2. Following final comments from the GEF Operational Focal Points and the UN Environment Project Review Committee (PRC), Child Project 2.1 and the SCCF Project will be submitted to the GEF for endorsement in October 2018.
3. Child Projects 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 3.1 and 4.1 will be submitted to the GEF for endorsement between October and December 2018.

Next steps

	Action item	Responsibility	Deadline
1.	Circulate links to project documents and substantive annexes for Child Project 2.1 and the SCCF Project via DropBox	UN Environment/MAP	21/09/2018
2.	Circulate link to presentations via DropBox	UN Environment/MAP	21/09/2018
3.	Provide deadlines for comments on Child Project 2.1 and the SCCF Project	UN Environment/MAP	24/09/2018
4.	Initiate discussions with the GEF Operational Focal Points on co-financing for Child Projects 1.1, 2.2 and 3.1	UN Environment/MAP	24/09/2018
5.	Prepare and circulate draft report of the 2 nd Regional Consultation	UN Environment/MAP	28/09/2018
6.	Provide the list of national focal points for the UN Environment/MAP Regional Activity Centres to GEF Operational Focal Points	UN Environment/MAP	28/09/2018
7.	Provide Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming Strategies to GEF Operational Focal Points and all partners for comments	UN Environment/MAP	08/10/2018
8.	Provide advanced draft of Child Project 4.1 to GEF Operational Focal Points and all partners for comments	UN Environment/MAP	15/10/2018
9.	Submit co-financing letters for Child Projects 1.1, 2.2 and 3.1	GEF Operational Focal Points	31/10/2018

Background information

1. The Second Regional Consultation was organized by the Coordinating Unit of the UN Environment Mediterranean Action Plan (UN Environment/MAP) and the implementing and executing agencies of the MedProgramme to update the GEF Operational Focal Points about progress on the preparation of the Child Projects, to present the main features of the MedProgramme's overarching strategies for Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming, and to agree on the next steps for the finalization of all project documents prior to their submission to the GEF for endorsement. The agenda of the Second Regional Consultation is provided in Annex 1.
2. The objective of the MedProgramme is to accelerate the implementation of agreed upon priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The MedProgramme was endorsed by the GEF Council in October 2016 with seven Child Projects contributing to the GEF's focal areas of International Waters (IW), Chemicals and Waste (CW), and Biodiversity (BD) (Table 1). An additional project financed by the GEF's Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) was subsequently developed and is now also considered one of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme, in support of the GEF focal area on Climate Change (CC). Hence, there is a total of eight Child Projects in the MedProgramme.
3. Nine countries have endorsed the MedProgramme: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, and Tunisia. It will be executed over a period of five years starting in 2019.

Table 1 Overview of the MedProgramme components, Child Projects, Executing Agencies and GEF Focal Areas

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)			
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	Indicative lists of executing Agencies	GEF Focal Areas
1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution In Priority Coastal Hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts	1.1 Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts.	UN Environment/MAP	IW and CW
	1.2 Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project.	EIB, UN Environment/MAP	IW and CW
	1.3 Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC).	EBRD, UN Environment/MAP	IW and CW
2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone	2.1 Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection.	UN Environment/MAP, PAP/RAC, Plan Bleu, UNESCO-IHP, GWP Med	IW
	2.2 Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem NEXUS.	GWP Med, UN Environment/MAP	IW
	SCCF Project: Enhancing Regional Adaptation to Climate Change in	UN Environment/MAP, PAP/RAC, Plan Bleu, GWP Med	CC

	Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas.		
3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity	3.1 Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya.	UN Environment/MAP IUCN, SPA/RAC WWF Med	BD
4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination	4.1 Mediterranean Sea LME Environment and Climate Regional Support Project.	UN Environment/MAP	IW and CW

Attendance

- The Second Regional Consultation brought together 50 participants, including representatives from eight of the nine countries that endorsed the MedProgramme and all 11 of the implementing and executing agencies. Also in attendance were representatives of the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO of Albania, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro and Tunisia. The complete list of participants is set forth in Annex 2.
- The names, titles and affiliations of the GEF Operational Focal Points of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro and Tunisia (or their nominated representatives) that participated in the regional consultation are provided in Table 2.

Table 2 Names, titles and affiliations of the GEF Operational Focal Points and the nominated representatives that participated in the Second Regional Consultation for the MedProgramme

Country	Representative(s)	Title and affiliation
Albania	Ms. Jula Selmani	Chief of Projects Unit, National Agency of Protected Areas, Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Algeria	Ms. Samira Hamidi*	Inspectrice Centrale de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable, Ministère des Ressources en Eau et de l'Environnement, Direction Générale de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Senad Oprašić*	Head of Environmental Protection Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations
Egypt	Mrs. Abir Abu Zeid	Undersecretary for International Cooperation and Technical Assistance at EEAA, Ministry of International Cooperation
Lebanon	Ms. Olfat Hamdan	Head of Protection of Urban Environment Department, Ministry of Environment
Libya	Mr. Mustafa Soliman*	Management Committee Member, Environment General Authority
Montenegro	Ms. Ivana Stojanovic	Advisor, Department for Mediterranean Affairs, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism
Tunisia	Mr. Karim Sahnoun	Directeur du suivi des conventions et des projets de coopération avec les partenaires étrangers, Direction Générale des Relations Extérieures, Ministère des Affaires Locales et de l'Environnement

* GEF Operational Focal Point

Presentations

6. Presentations were delivered for the eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme, as well as a progress report on the preparation of all projects and interventions on the development of the MedProgramme's overarching strategies for Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming. The present report does not attempt to summarize these presentations, but focuses rather on the discussions they prompted.
7. All of the presentations delivered during the Second Regional Consultation are available at: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/544agsnimsbag3m/AAB9dRSpwR9Ur5qRkTzNpPO_a?dl=0.

Welcoming remarks and initial discussions

8. Ms. Alice Aureli, Chief of the Section on Groundwater Systems and Settlements at UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP), welcomed participants on behalf of UNESCO and declared that the preparation of the MedProgramme was an excellent example of effective collaboration between countries, UN organizations, nongovernmental organizations and associations. Ms. Aureli recalled that implementing solutions to the complex environmental challenges in the Mediterranean will require a multi-sector, multi-disciplinary strategy, consistent with the programmatic approach used in the design of the MedProgramme.
9. Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator of the UN Environment/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat, welcomed participants and thanked UNESCO for hosting the event. Mr. Leone observed that the decision to prepare a multi-focal area programme with the GEF had been a risk, but one that was carefully considered and necessary to amplify the positive impacts of the work of the many stakeholders in the region that had joined forces in 2016 to realize a collective vision: "A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse contributing to sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations". Mr. Leone recalled that the MedProgramme builds on the work undertaken in the region by the Contracting Parties, the UN Environment/MAP Regional Activity Centres and other partners, as well as on the foundations of an important set of tools developed in the framework of the Barcelona Convention, including its Protocols, the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, and regional and national action plans, amongst others. Mr. Leone recognized the GEF for its twenty years of investments in the region, many of which directly supported these activities. In closing, Mr. Leone informed participants that significant progress had been made since the First Regional Consultation in March 2018, noting that two Child Projects of the MedProgramme are ready for submission to the GEF, that two additional Child Projects are nearing finalization, and that the remaining four Child Projects will be completed by the close of 2018.
10. Mr. Yegor Volovic, the UN Environment GEF Portfolio Manager for International Waters (IW), declared that the MedProgramme was one of UN Environment's flagship initiatives due to its wide-reaching activities, its innovative programmatic approach, and its ability to convene a diverse set of stakeholders to design interventions on the ground, including international finance institutions, development banks, the MAP system with its Regional Activity Centres, and technical experts. He recalled that the implementation of actions on the ground represents one of the key comparative advantages of UN Environment and the Regional Seas Programme (RSP) that it administers. Mr. Volovic noted that the Barcelona Convention and the Mediterranean Action Plan, which form the legal and policy framework for the MedProgramme, were developed in the context of the RSP for the Mediterranean, one of the first that was established.

11. Ms. Eloise Touni, the UN Environment GEF Task Manager for Chemicals and Waste (CW), recalled that the MedProgramme’s activities on CW would support countries in efforts to meet their commitments on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and mercury under the Stockholm, Basel and Minamata Conventions and announced the corresponding targets for the MedProgramme: removal of 50 tons of mercury and 3,250 tons of POPs. In terms of progress with the development of the MedProgramme’s CW activities, Ms. Touni informed participants that quantities of wastes had been confirmed in the participating countries and that life cycle analyses had been undertaken to identify strategies for the prevention of new wastes, especially the new POPs recently added to the Stockholm Convention. Ms. Touni also highlighted a challenge concerning the mercury removal activities intended to assist countries meet obligations under the Minamata Convention: since the Convention only recently entered into force, many countries have still not ratified it, thereby affecting their ability to take part in the mercury removal activities foreseen under the MedProgramme. Ms. Touni asked the representatives of the participating countries to indicate any assistance they may require to ratify the Minamata Convention, and offered the full support of UN Environment in this regard.

Day 1 Agenda Item 1: GEF and the Mediterranean – 20 years of support, and expectations under GEF-7

12. Mr. Steffen Hansen, Environmental Specialist on International Waters for the Europe and Central Asia regional team at the GEF Secretariat (hereafter the representative of the GEF Secretariat), reconfirmed that the MedProgramme is a flagship for the GEF in the region and outlined the interventions leading up to its development that the GEF had financed in the Mediterranean over the past 20 years. These have included the preparation of the previous Transboundary Diagnostic Analyses (TDAs) and of the Strategic Action Programmes on pollution (SAP MED) and biodiversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean. He noted that several factors were creating momentum that will increase the MedProgramme’s chances for success, including the update by countries of their National Action Plans (NAPs) for the prevention of land-based pollution; the scaling up of these action plans; and capacity building for institutional reforms. Responding to an earlier statement about the risk involved in developing an ambitious multi-focal area programme, the representative of the GEF Secretariat recalled that the GEF is committed to doing “what is difficult, what might fail” but to ensure that this process leads to positive results for countries.
13. In 2018, countries pledged US\$ 4.1 billion for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) trust fund. This new four-year investment cycle (GEF-7) will provide funds to protect the planet and human wellbeing through activities in the GEF focal areas of Biodiversity, Chemicals and Waste, Climate Change, International Waters, Land Degradation, and through other programs.
14. The GEF has set three strategic objectives for the International Waters focal area under GEF-7: (i) strengthening the Blue Economy opportunities, (ii) improving management in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, and (iii) enhancing water security in freshwater ecosystems. Enhancing water security is one of the primary objectives of the MedProgramme, and is reflected in the Child Projects of Component 2 and the activities to promote the sustainable management of coastal aquifers, integrated water resources management, adaptation to climate change, and the nexus approach for evaluating competing demands for water, energy, food and ecosystem goods and services.
15. Further information about the GEF-7 programming framework and the associated global environmental benefits can be found in the GEF Council Document GEF/R.7/19 [GEF-7 Replenishment Programming Directions](#).

Day 1 Agenda Item 2: Remarks from the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

16. The representative of UNESCO IHP opened the floor to interventions from the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, recalling that one of the assets of UNESCO's participation in the MedProgramme was its direct voice with the representatives of the countries, who will be able to support implementation of the programme by providing information and facilitating contacts with institutions, scientist and technicians.
17. H. E. Mr. Ferit Hoxha, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of Albania to UNESCO, thanked the partners of the MedProgramme for their work to protect the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas, and confirmed that the activities of the MedProgramme would assist Albania in its efforts to achieve progress through sustainable development and protection of the environment. The Ambassador recalled that Albania was facing increasing risks associated with climate change and natural hazards and that the country's coastal zone was most vulnerable to these risks, which were affecting water supplies, agriculture and tourism in these areas. The Ambassador also cited a number of expectations for the MedProgramme, including strong coordination, effective exchange of information and opportunities for capacity building, increased resilience to climate change in coastal communities, assistance with the management of groundwater resources, and the protection of biodiversity.
18. H. E. Ms. Dragica Ponorac, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Montenegro to France, Permanent Delegate of Montenegro to UNESCO, also thanked the partners and expressed Montenegro's satisfaction with participating in the MedProgramme. The Ambassador underlined the importance of the MedProgramme to Montenegro, which is currently working to meet its obligations under Chapter 27 (Environment) for its accession to the European Union (EU), which will require more than US\$ 1.7 billion in investments. The Ambassador reminded participants that Montenegro is defined as an ecological state in its Constitution, and reiterated the country's commitment to meet the objectives of the MedProgramme especially through the activities foreseen in the hotspot areas of the Kotor Bay and the Bijela shipyard.
19. H.E. Mr. Ghazi Gherairi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of Tunisia to UNESCO, thanked the partners for their collaboration to implement the MedProgramme, and expressed appreciation for the fact that the programme will address the role of the environment in ensuring security. The Ambassador noted that the overarching challenge for the region is to transmit a healthy Mediterranean to the next generation, and that Tunisia is aware of the stakes at hand and has placed environmental values at the heart of its strategy of growth for the future. The Ambassador also took the opportunity to recognize the IHP for its work with the Government of Tunisia. In closing, the Ambassador pledged the willingness of the Government of Tunisia to provide the tools necessary for the success of the MedProgramme.
20. The Coordinator of the UN Environment/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat thanked the ambassadors for their remarks and recalled that the MedProgramme is being prepared under the leadership of the participating countries and that their guidance is important to move the programme towards success. The Coordinator highlighted that all participating countries of the MedProgramme are Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention, and many are participating in the Bureau including Egypt, Montenegro and Tunisia as well as Albania which currently holds the presidency. In closing, the Coordinator expressed gratitude to all countries present and contributing to the MedProgramme.

Day 1 Agenda Item 3: Setting the scene and objectives of the consultation

21. Mr. Lorenzo Galbiati, Project Pool Manager at the UN Environment/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat (hereafter the Secretariat), reviewed the agenda of the consultation with participants and outlined the main objectives of the two-day event: (i) update the GEF Operational Focal Points on the status of the development of all Child Projects; (ii) request their feedback on outstanding issues; (iii) agree on the next steps for finalization of the preparation phase of the MedProgramme; and (iv) present the main features of the Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming Strategies that will be applied to all Child Projects.
22. The Secretariat recalled that the MedProgramme builds on the strong foundations established in the region from more than US\$ 70 million in investments from the GEF over 20 years for activities supporting the implementation of the Barcelona Convention. These investments have led to the development of the initial Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (TDA-MED) as well as its 2005 update and 2015 supplement on coastal aquifers; Strategic Action Programmes to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities (SAP-MED) and for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP-BIO), as well as their associated National Action Plans (NAPs); and the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).
23. The Secretariat also informed the participants about the delays encountered in the development of the Child Projects and explained that the period for submission to the GEF would be extended to December 2018. However, this should not affect the anticipated initiation of execution of the MedProgramme, which is foreseen in the first or second quarter of 2019.

Day 1 Agenda Item 4: Progress report on preparation of the MedProgramme Child Projects and their submission to the GEF

24. The Secretariat provided the milestones of the MedProgramme (Figure 1), an update on the status of action items from the First Regional Consultation in March 2018 (Table 3), the status of the development of each of the Child Projects (Table 4), the national and regional consultations foreseen between October and December 2018 (Table 5), the schedule for the completion of the preparation phase of the MedProgramme (Table 6) and the tentative timeline for the initiation of activities (Table 7).

Figure 1 Milestones of the MedProgramme (2016 – 2019)



Table 3 Status of action items from First Regional Consultation for the MedProgramme

Action item	Responsibility	Status
1. An overview of national and regional activities in each country	UN Environment/MAP	Complete
2. A responsibility matrix for the executing structure of each Child Project	UN Environment/MAP	Complete
3. Contact information for all implementing and executing partners	UN Environment/MAP	Complete
4. Instructions on the preparation of co-financing letters	UN Environment/MAP	Complete
5. An overview of national stakeholders engaged during project preparation	UN Environment/MAP	Ongoing
6. A list of national thematic experts for CW and IW that will review project documents	GEF Operational Focal Points	Complete
7. Letters of co-financing for Child Projects 1.2, 2.1 and 4.1	GEF Operational Focal Points	7 of 9 received
8. Support the GEF Operational Focal Points in the identification of initiatives that can constitute co-financing contributions to the Child Projects	Executing partners	Complete
9. Provide letters of co-financing for Child Projects 1.2, 2.1 and 4.1	Executing partners	Complete

Table 4 Status of the development of the Child Projects (CP) of the MedProgramme

Project	Draft application package complete? (Yes/No)	Final application package complete? (Yes/No)	Anticipated timeframe for PRC ¹	Anticipated timeframe for submission to GEF
CP 1.1	Yes	No	November 2018	December 2018
CP 1.2	Yes	No	November 2018	November 2018
CP 1.3	Yes	No	(Not applicable)	December 2018
CP 2.1	Yes	Yes	October 2018	October 2018
SCCF	Yes	Yes	October 2018	October 2018
CP 2.2	Yes	No	December 2018	December 2018
CP 3.1	Yes	No	December 2018	December 2018
CP 4.1	Yes	No	November 2018	November 2018

Table 5 National and regional consultations foreseen between October and December 2018

Project	Type of consultation	Timeframe
CP 1.1	Virtual (comments gathered via email)	November 2018
CP 1.2	Virtual (comments gathered via email)	October 2018
CP 1.3	Virtual (comments gathered via email)	December 2018
CP 2.2	Regional meeting for all countries	November 2018
CP 2.2	Virtual (comments gathered via email)	December 2018
CP 3.1	National meeting	October 2018
CP 4.1	Virtual (comments gathered via email)	October 2018

Table 6 Schedule for the completion of the preparation phase of the MedProgramme

Timeframe	Actions
September – December 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize all application packages • Complete all PRCs • Submit all application packages to GEF for review • Obtain GEF CEO endorsement • Prepare all final reports and expenditure statements for PPG
January – March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close all legal agreements for PPG phase with implementing and executing partners • Formal closure of the PPG phase

¹ PRC: UN Environment's Project Review Committee, the internal review undertaken for all GEF projects prior to their submission to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement. EBRD, as an implementing agency for the GEF, is not subject to this review.

Table 7 Tentative timeline for the initiation of activities of the MedProgramme

Timeframe	Actions
November – December 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the legal and procedural frameworks for the Programme execution • Evaluate needs for the new legal agreements that will be established with implementing and executing partners, national institutions, etc. • Prepare terms of reference for staff that will be involved in the Programme
January – March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish new legal agreements • Set an operative budget in the UN Environment Enterprise Resource Planning System (Umoja) • Allocate funds for each Child Project
April – June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate preparation of the inception report and workshop • Arrange consultations with the countries • Staff the Child Projects

25. Ms. Olfat Hamdan, the representative of the GEF Operational Focal Point of Lebanon (hereafter the representative of Lebanon), inquired about one of the action items from the First National Consultation, namely the nomination by the GEF Operational Focal Points of national CW and IW focal points, indicating that Lebanon had not provided this information. The Secretariat informed that the selection of national focal points for CW and IW for the purposes of the MedProgramme was an internal matter for each country, and that all communications from the Secretariat regarding project development would continue to be directed to the GEF Operational Focal Point. As agreed at the First Regional Consultation, the GEF Operational Focal Point will coordinate the review of project documents with their national experts and provide a single set of comments to the executing agency that is responsible for the preparation of the Child Project.

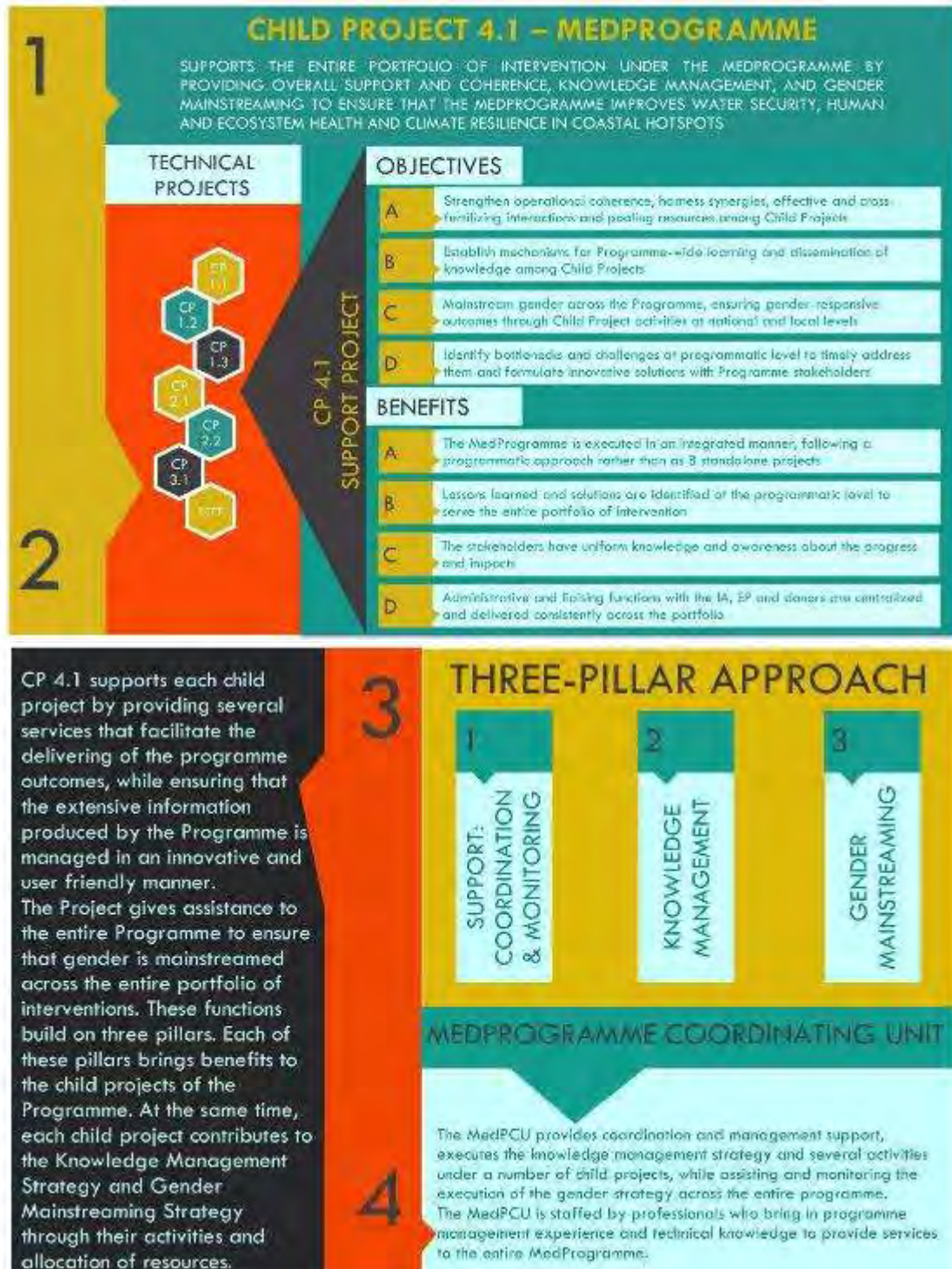
26. Mr. Karim Sahnoun, the representative of the GEF Operational Focal Point of Tunisia (hereafter the representative of Tunisia), asked for clarification about the national activities for Child Project 2.2 presented in the overview of national and regional activities of the Child Projects for each country. Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator of GWP Med, the leading executing agency for this Child Project, explained that a nexus assessment for the North West Sahara aquifer was foreseen in the context of a project funded by Sida, and that this assessment would contribute to the overall results of Child Project 2.2, but that no GEF funds would be used to finance national level activities in Tunisia for this Child Project.

Day 1 Agenda Item 5: Update on Child Project 4.1

27. Child Project 4.1 will play a key role in the MedProgramme, as it will: (i) monitor the progress of the entire portfolio of projects towards the programme's overarching goal of enhancing environmental security, and (ii) provide essential support functions to all Child Projects of the MedProgramme through three main lines of action: coordination and monitoring; knowledge management; and gender mainstreaming. In addition, Child Project 4.1 will produce technical activities, including the development of databases, the implementation of the Knowledge Management Strategy, as well as preparation of communication materials and the Annual Stocktaking Meetings. A conceptual overview of the objectives, benefits and structure of Child Project 4.1 is provided in Figure 2.

28. The project document and substantive annexes for Child Project 4.1 will be provided to the GEF Operational Focal Points and the partners for comments by 15 October.

Figure 2 Infographic on the objectives, benefits and structure of Child Project 4.1 (Credit: Debasmitta Boral)



29. The Secretariat emphasized that the development of programme-level strategies for knowledge management and gender mainstreaming has not been attempted before in the context of a GEF programmatic approach, and therefore represents an important innovation

for the GEF portfolio. These strategies for the MedProgramme will be provided to the GEF Operational Focal Points and the partners by 8 October for comments.

30. The representative of Lebanon confirmed that Child Project 4.1 has an important role in the MedProgramme, especially for overall coordination and to identify synergies with other initiatives and projects at the regional and international level. The representative of Lebanon then asked for clarification about the link between the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU) and the implementation of activities at the national level. The Secretariat explained that the national activities will be developed by the executing partners of the corresponding Child Projects and that the MedPCU – in the framework of Child Project 4.1 – will monitor progress on all Child Projects and help them to promote their knowledge tools at the level of the programme, in addition to providing other services. The specific modalities for execution of national level activities will be discussed during the inception phase of each Child Project. The Secretariat emphasized that the execution of activities with the relevant national and sub-national institutions for all countries will be coordinated by the executing partners (the approach successfully used in the MedPartnership) and that there was no expectation for the governments of the participating countries to create a national coordination structure for the MedProgramme.
31. Ms. Ivana Stojanovic, the representative of the GEF Operational Focal Point of Montenegro (hereafter the representative of Montenegro), expressed support for the cross-cutting approach proposed for the design of Child Project 4.1 and thanked the partners for reflecting the national priorities of Montenegro in the design of Child Project 2.1 and the SCCF Project. Making reference to the activities of Child Project 2.1 on coastal observation, the representative of Montenegro expressed her point of view about how these activities could be linked to Child Project 4.1. Given that the Child Project 2.1 could not address Montenegro's priority related to the development of a coastal database and observatory with the aim of connecting relevant stakeholders and managers of coastal data, Child Project 4.1 is therefore seen as an opportunity to assist the country with this request (in the context of the execution of the Knowledge Management Strategy and its development of knowledge tools).
32. The Coordinator of the UN Environment/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat declared that a centralized approach to knowledge management for the MedProgramme would be more effective and yield more positive impacts than the decentralized approach employed for the MedPartnership, and stated that the knowledge management platform foreseen under Child Project 4.1 would be important to the MAP system during and after the lifespan of the MedProgramme.
33. Mr. Mohamad Kayyal, MED POL Programme Management Officer, observed that the management function of the MedPCU in Child Project 4.1 had been underemphasized with respect to coordination services, and that this management function would require significant efforts across the various Child Projects. The Secretariat explained that this was provided for in the design of the MedPCU, which would ensure traditional management functions for the Child Projects (such as establishment of legal agreements, financial management and procurement), as well as monitoring functions to measure progress to impacts and to prepare the Project Implementation Reports (PIR) of each Child Project for the GEF. The Project Management Cost (PMC) of each Child Project will support the overall management, coordination and monitoring functions delivered by the MedPCU. It was also noted that the MedPCU will execute technical activities under the Child Projects 2.1, 2.2, 3.1 and 4.1 as well as the SCCF Project. This is not the case for the Child Projects 1.1 and 1.2 where dedicated and specific technical assistance will be identified and supported by the project grants for the execution of the activities.

34. Prof. Michael Scoullou, the Chair of GWP Med, recognized the important step taken by the designers of the MedProgramme to coordinate knowledge in the region, and noted the challenge of harnessing all the knowledge generated by activities on the ground in many countries and with many partners. Prof. Scoullou asked what could be done to facilitate the understanding of the countries about the locations of activities and the potential for synergies. The Secretariat indicated that relevant information on this point would be provided during the presentation on the MedProgramme's Knowledge Management Strategy.

Day 1 Agenda Item 6 – Knowledge Management in the MedProgramme

35. Ms. Lucilla Minelli, the Knowledge Management Expert for the preparatory phase of the MedProgramme, recalled that the overall objective for the Knowledge Management Strategy (KM Strategy) is to "provide a structured and centralized approach to leverage and share knowledge assets generated by the Child Projects of the MedProgramme with the intended beneficiaries and audiences." The KM Strategy was developed through analysis of the Programme Framework Document and background documentation, surveys, exchanges with project designers, desk studies, and contact with relevant technical counterparts regarding performance and functionality of information technologies.
36. The representative of Lebanon recognized that a diverse set of ideas and activities must be accounted for under the KM Strategy and that it will be important to develop indicators to track the progress towards operational objectives and targets associated with specific knowledge management activities. The Secretariat explained that objectives and activities had been established for knowledge management and that an appropriate number of indicators for these would be reflected in the design of Child Project 4.1. The Secretariat reminded the participants, however, that the decision to implement a KM Strategy represents an additional task that goes above and beyond what is required by the Programme Framework Document approved by the GEF for the MedProgramme.
37. The Chair of GWP Med urged the Secretariat to ensure that the knowledge management tools of the MedProgramme are tailored to the needs of policy makers in particular, and not only to those of the coordinating and/or executing agencies. This sentiment was reiterated by Ms. Daria Povh Skugor, Senior Programme Officer at the Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC), who also inquired about the source of the human and financial resources that would be necessary to implement the KM Strategy. The Secretariat confirmed that governments and policy makers are the primary client for the knowledge tools of the MedProgramme, and that the MedProgramme will dedicate sufficient resources to operationalize the strategy, including through the recruitment of a knowledge management expert for the MedPCU and through trainings for partners on how to generate and package data. The Secretariat reminded participants that the KM Strategy is modular in nature, and will start with simple tools and expand to meet the needs of the programme.
38. The representative of the GEF Secretariat noted that the KM Strategy represents an effective tool for the GEF to distill results from the MedProgramme, and asked if the knowledge products of the MedPartnership could be further disseminated via the Knowledge Management Platform, especially to private sector stakeholders. The Knowledge Management Expert confirmed that the results of the MedPartnership would be promoted on the platform, and that the private sector was a targeted audience and beneficiary of the KM Strategy, as well as a potential provider of knowledge. The Secretariat indicated that efforts could be made under the MedProgramme to create partnerships with the private sector.
39. The Chair of GWP Med added that the private sector holds a great amount of data (sometimes of higher quality than that of governments) and recommended that efforts be taken from the

onset of the MedProgramme to clearly define the requirements for data gathering, to determine with countries what data can be shared, and with whom. The representative of UNESCO IHP recalled that in the context of the Barcelona Convention stakeholders have rights to seek data from the private sector, and that the MedProgramme could support these efforts by creating awareness and encouraging the private sector to communicate more.

40. The Secretariat informed participants that the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) of the Barcelona Convention would be considered in the design of the Knowledge Management Platform, and that relevant data from the MedProgramme would be integrated in the IMAP platform.
41. Ms. Abir Abu Zeid, the representative of the GEF Operational Focal Point of Egypt (hereafter the representative of Egypt), expressed satisfaction with the KM Strategy and its goal to integrate all projects and share lessons across the programme, adding that this will be important for all countries. In response to her question about how data would be collected at the national level, the Secretariat explained that the executing partner of each Child Project will have resources to develop activities with the countries and to support national institutions, and that each Child Project will have a dedicated budget for knowledge management activities to produce and manage harmonized data specific to the focus of each Child Project. This includes if appropriate, the use of raw data on specific issues provided by national institutions to contribute to the MedProgramme KM Strategy. The Secretariat reassured participants that data could be shared in an aggregated manner, but that raw data belonging to the countries would not be made available unless the owners of the data agreed to this.

Day 1 Agenda Item 7: Coordination with IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN

42. Mr. Mish Hamid, Project Manager for the GEF International Waters Learning Exchange and Resources Network (IW:LEARN), recalled that the IW:LEARN platform was created to provide knowledge management services to the GEF's International Waters project managers, since International Waters is the only GEF focal area for which an overarching convention or agreement does not exist. LME:LEARN is a cousin initiative of IW:LEARN, providing services to GEF IW projects in coastal and marine areas, with the goal of strengthening global governance of Large Marine Ecosystems (LME). Mr. Hamid outlined the main services of these initiatives, including knowledge sharing and partnership building, information management, programmatic support, and training (biennial International Waters Conferences, GEF project twinnings, ...). Further information on both initiatives is available at <https://iwlearn.net/>.
43. The Secretariat confirmed that the outputs of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme will feed into the IW:LEARN platform, and that information exchanges with IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN are foreseen in the KM Strategy.

Day 1 Agenda Item 8: Gender Mainstreaming in the MedProgramme

44. Ms. Debasmita Boral, the Gender Expert for the preparatory phase of the MedProgramme, provided a brief history of the evolution of gender considerations in development policies and described the benefits of gender mainstreaming before presenting the MedProgramme's Gender Mainstreaming (GM) Strategy. The GM Strategy comprises three lines of action: (i) address gender-blind hurdles with gender-differentiated consequences; (ii) mitigate gender-specific barriers and discriminatory norms; and (iii) scale up gender-sensitive policies and deliver gender-responsive outcomes. The MedProgramme is operationalizing the GM Strategy in the preparatory phase by conducting tailored gender assessments and preparing

costed gender action plans for each Child Project. Specific activities on gender will be defined and approved during the inception phase with all stakeholders.

45. The Secretariat recalled that Child Project 4.1 will ensure overall monitoring of the implementation of the GM Strategy and that executing partners will receive training on how to mainstream gender in project activities.
46. The Chair of GWP Med suggested that in some cases, project activities should also be designed to consider the specific needs of marginalized groups, in addition to considerations for gender.

Day 1 Agenda Item 9: Update on Child Project 2.1

47. Child Project 2.1 encompasses activities on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), protection of coastal aquifers and groundwater-related ecosystems, as well as integrated management of water resources management, including conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater resources. A joint presentation on the development of the project and its activities was made by representatives of the four executing partners: PAP/RAC (Ms. Daria Povh), Plan Bleu (Mr. Antoine Lafitte), GWP Med (Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos) and UNESCO IHP (Mr. Youssef Filali-Meknassi).
48. Mr. Amr Abdallah Morsy, First Secretary of the Permanent Delegation of the Arabic Republic of Egypt to UNESCO, informed the Secretariat that the Government of Egypt will provide written comments to IHP to be reflected in the final version of the project document for Child Project 2.1.
49. The representative of Lebanon also indicated that Lebanon would provide comments on the project document and furthermore asked for clarification on the activities foreseen in the Damour area of Lebanon, including on the management approach that would be employed for the Damour area and on responsibilities for the implementation of the management that will be produced for this area. The executing partners confirmed that a river basin management approach will be used in the design of an integrated resources management plan for the Damour area (taking into account upstream activities that affect the coast) and that the implementation of the plan will be the responsibility of the country.
50. The representative of Montenegro raised a concern about one of the activities of Child Project 2.1 foreseen in Montenegro, "Preparation of the Management Plan for the Buna-Bojana Transboundary Aquifer", noting that the title of this plan was similar to the existing plan for the Buna-Bojana area prepared under the MedPartnership. The Secretariat promised to address this concern in the final project document, based on the comments that the representative of Montenegro will provide.
51. Ms. Samira Hamidi, the GEF Operational Focal Point of Algeria (hereafter the representative of Algeria) expressed a wish to see more reference in the project document to the activities on ICZM already undertaken in Algeria (preparation of a coastal strategy and a coastal plan for the Reghaia area) and to discuss the possibility of having activities on ICZM in Algeria that were more concrete than those described in the project document (support for ratification of the ICZM Protocol). The representative of PAP/RAC recalled that the adoption of the ICZM tools already developed in Algeria would support the adoption of the ICZM Protocol, and that efforts would be made to seek additional investments to support Algeria in this work. The Secretariat clarified that no promises could be made however at this stage about the development of bankable projects and access to loans under the activities of Child Project 2.1.

Day 1 Agenda Item 10: Update on the GEF Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) Project

52. Mr. Matthew Lagod, Consultant for UN Environment/MAP, outlined the progress achieved on the preparation of the SCCF Project and its activities. The SCCF Project will enhance regional adaptation to climate change in Mediterranean marine and coastal areas through four lines of action: (i) stakeholder engagement and capacity building; (ii) application of best practices for climate resilience in the coastal zone; (iii) access to climate financing mechanisms; and (iv) knowledge management and project coordination. The project document for the SCCF Project is complete and will be submitted to UN Environment's Project Review Committee in October 2018.

Day 2 Agenda Item 1: Update on Child Project 1.1

53. A joint presentation on the development the Child Project 1.1 and its activities was made by representatives of the implementing and executing agencies – Ms. Eloise Touni of the Chemicals and Health Branch/ GEF Team at UN Environment and Ms. Marina Markovic of the UN Environment/ MAP – MED POL. Project activities under the CW component are designed to remove existing stockpiles of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and mercury, and to prevent the generation of new wastes containing these pollutants. Disposal activities will be carried out in two phases. Phase 1 will target stockpiles verified during the current preparation phase of the project as being ready for immediate disposal, and Phase 2 will entail further inventories and data gathering to identify the remaining stockpiles that can be eliminated to meet the project's disposal targets. Prevention activities will focus on strategies for avoiding further generation of wastes containing mercury and two types of new POPs (PFOS and HBCD). An additional set of activities will be undertaken under the IW project component to produce an updated TDA for the Mediterranean (including gender assessment), a report on progress to impacts, a data sharing policy and an offshore monitoring strategy. The project document for Child Project 1.1 will be submitted to the GEF for endorsement in December 2018.

54. The representative of Lebanon inquired about the modalities for implementation of the activities, whether the new POPs targeted under the project could be expanded to include other chemicals (such as SCCP, a priority chemical for Lebanon), and also about how countries had been consulted about the International Waters (IW) activities. In terms of implementation modalities, Ms. Touni explained for each Phase 1 disposal site an environmental management plan (EMP) would be developed to establish responsibilities, identify national capacities and determine the need to bring in outside assistance. Regarding the possibility of considering additional new POPs for prevention activities, Ms. Touni indicated that it could be discussed, but recalled the existing proposals for Lebanon were designed to address the POPs identified in the country's NIP. Regarding the consultations on the IW activities, Ms. Markovic explained the meetings organized within the MAP system were used to consult the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention (on, for example, national needs for IMAP – Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme – implementation, indicators and other relevant topics); proceedings of such meetings were used as a starting point in developing relevant sections of the project document. The Secretariat reconfirmed that the countries would have ample opportunity to review and comment on the project document prior to its submission to the GEF.

55. The representative of Egypt recalled that Egypt had expressed interest in participating in the national project activities, and had recently provided UN Environment with its NIP, the list of relevant national institutions and an indication of candidate companies for the development of prevention pilots. The representative of Egypt inquired about how the country could catch

up to the others in the project, about the possibility of reinforcing national capacities, and about the criteria for allocation of funds to the countries. She also expressed interest to receive more information on the forums used to consult the countries on the needs for the development of IW activities, in particular proceedings of the meeting held in July 2018 in Rome on the IMAP implementation. Ms. Touni, taking the questions in turn, explained that Egypt could not participate in Phase 1 for disposal but that this may be possible for Phase 2. In terms of enhancing national capacities, the EMP process for each disposal site will include an assessment of national capacities, and national experts will gain expertise by participating in execution of the EMP and inspection activities under the supervision of UN Environment consultants. Criteria for allocation of resources to priority sites is based on the presence of verified stockpiles that are ready for immediate disposal and also on the co-financing contribution that countries may bring to dispose additional quantities of waste. Priorities for disposal sites will be reviewed each year during the project's steering committee. Finally, Ms. Markovic assured that the requested information on the Rome meeting deliberations will be shared with the Government of Egypt.

56. The representative of Algeria underlined the importance of the project to the Government of Algeria, its wish to participate in the activities on mercury disposal and its need for capacity building with respect to mercury elimination and implementation of its NAP (National Action Plan). The representative of Algeria also informed participants that experts from UN Environment were currently being hosted in Algeria for a technical mission for the project and that all necessary information would be provided.
57. The representative of Montenegro confirmed that Montenegro's priorities for the project were well represented in the activities considered for the project, while inquiring whether the priorities for Phase 2 had been confirmed and expressing interest for hearing about possible synergies with Child Project 1.3. Ms. Touni responded that the project document would not make reference to sites for Phase 2. The first step of Phase 2 will be to confirm the presence of the chemicals reported in the national inventories/ accounted for in the project document, followed by decisions about site selection during the second or third steering committee meetings.
58. Mr. Roland Weber, Associated Expert of SCP/RAC, called on the GEF to consider activities on POPs that were not in NIPs but that were particularly dangerous, difficult and expensive to remove, and which are seriously affecting drinking water supplies.

Day 2 Agenda Item 2: Update on Child Project 1.2

59. Mr. Mark Pevsner, Senior Advisor – Strategy and Coordination Division Advisory Services Department/Projects Directorate of the European Investment Bank (EIB), explained that the primary objective of Child Project 1.2 is to prepare investments for physical infrastructure projects to reduce the discharges of untreated or partially treated wastewater that impact the sea. The target countries for Child Project 1.2 are Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia, and the project document is nearly complete. The representative of UN Environment/ MAP – MED POL, Ms. Markovic, presented a component of the project that will support development of regional standards (wastewater management, sludge management, desalinization and aquaculture) for consideration and adoption by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention.
60. The representative of Tunisia recalled the country's strong involvement in the project. He asked about developments related to his recommendation (expressed at the First Consultation meeting from March 2018) for a coordinated approach in the implementation of the activities on mercury in Child Projects 1.1 and 1.2, including how Tunisia would benefit from these. Ms. Touni explained that analysis was ongoing about whether mercury activities

originally foreseen under Child Project 1.2 would be taken up by Child Project 1.1, whereas Child Project 1.1 is not aiming to facilitate access to investments for decontamination, but rather focuses on removal of mercury from those countries that had ratified the Minamata Convention. Child Project 1.1 activities in Tunisia will thus be limited to removal of mercury stockpiles. The representative of EIB added that EIB would consider granting a loan for any well-prepared project on mercury decontamination that a country was prepared to undertake. The Secretariat recalled that the priorities of the Child Projects are set in the Programme Framework Document for the MedProgramme approved by the GEF in 2016, and that the first priority is to meet the targets set forth therein for disposal/removal and co-financing.

61. The representative of Lebanon indicated that the country has an important need for wastewater projects and capacity building in this domain, and asked for capacity building activities to be included in the project. Regarding the regional standards to be developed under the project, the representative of Lebanon emphasized the high relevance of regional wastewater and sludge management standards for her country. As regards desalination, the advice was to also take into account/address small and medium sized enterprises in Lebanon and their small-scale desalination capacities.
62. The Chair of GWP Med stated that the Mediterranean region needed active encouragement to shift towards non-conventional water resources, and considered that the regional standards to be developed under the project could contribute to this shift. Ms. Maria Diamanti, Environmental Expert of EIB, agreed that water reuse is important but noted that society's perception of this was poor. EIB works to raise awareness about the quality of treated wastewater, but ultimately it is a country's choice to encourage acceptance for the use of treated wastewater. As water becomes more scarce, the public's opinion about the use of treated wastewater may change. The Chair of GWP Med noted that there has been a rapid shift in the mentality of people regarding non-conventional water resources – including through efforts of religious leaders that have expressed support for the use of these kinds of water resources – and that the partners and countries of the MedProgramme should collectively step up efforts to encourage the use of these resources.

Day 2 Agenda Item 3: Update on Child Project 1.3

63. Two representatives of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) – Ms. Astrid Motta, Principal, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change, and Ms. Claudia Neuschulz, Analyst – presented the progress on the development of activities for Child Project 1.3, which is designed to reduce land-based sources of pollution in hotspots through a combination of technical assistance and investment grants to rehabilitate wastewater treatment plants and increase the volume of wastewater treated in the region. Under the CW component of the project, activities are being developed aiming to reduce and prevent 1,250 t of POPs. Like UN Environment, EBRD is an accredited GEF agency and has its own modalities for project preparation. EBRD intends to submit the project document for Child Project 1.3 to the GEF by December 2018.
64. Two examples of existing on-the-ground support from EBRB were presented. The first is a technology transfer platform designed to assist countries adopt best technologies; EBRD provides a loan to the countries to finance the implementation of the technology and countries later recover up to 25% of the loan from grants. The second example is an infrastructure project preparation facility.
65. The representative of Egypt inquired about the business model for the implementation of Child Project 1.3. Ms. Motta indicated that the project will be implemented through a combination of technical assistance and investment grants. EBRD assists companies to

identify the best technologies for their needs and proposes loans to enable companies to finance implementation of these technologies (for example to shift to PBC-free production methods, to promote water efficiency, ...). Following successful implementation of the technologies, EBRD will reimburse a portion of the implementation cost. Countries are eligible for this assistance only if they are bankable (i.e., able to borrow money).

66. The representative of Lebanon asked for clarification about the specific activities foreseen in the project. The Secretariat responded that a portfolio of potential investments will be developed during the project preparation phase, but that it was not possible to commit to specific investments at present. The Secretariat also recalled that EBRD is an implementing agency of the GEF and as a development bank, has different working modalities than UN Environment regarding budgeting, reporting and execution of activities. In the MedProgramme, EBRD will also have its own project management budget which is separate from that of UN Environment. The management of projects in the UN Environment portfolio will be ensured through Child Project 4.1.
67. In response to a question from the representative of Egypt, the Secretariat clarified that the GEF funds provided for Child Project 1.3 are not for loans but rather for pre-investment studies to prepare investments. The representative of the GEF confirmed that the GEF provides seed money to institutions that can scale-up investments to deliver global environmental benefits.
68. The representative of Montenegro inquired about the consultations with countries for Child Project 1.3 that were announced during the First Regional Consultation, and indicated that the Government needed more details about activities (including on possible synergies between Child Projects 1.1 and 1.3) before preparing its letter of co-financing. The representative of EBRD explained that the consultations will take place in the coming weeks to inform the countries about the potential activities and the opportunities for investments/loans in the context of this project.
69. The representative of Tunisia asked whether the technical assistance activities of the project included pilot projects for the private sector to demonstrate the effectiveness of new technologies. The representative of EBRD confirmed that demonstration of new technologies is one of the key objectives for this work and that pilot projects could be financed.

Day 2 Agenda Item 4: Update on Child Project 3.1

70. Mr. Atef Limam, MedMPAnet Project Officer at SPA/RAC, described the main lines of action for Child Project 3.1, a project devoted to enhancing the management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Libya. These include capacity building for managers of MPAs in Libya, the revision of Libya's National Strategy on MPAs and its draft law on protected areas, and an inventory of marine and coastal sites of ecological importance. A consultation with Libyan stakeholders is planned for October 2018, and the project document will be submitted to the GEF in December 2018.
71. Mr. Mustafa Soliman, the GEF Operational Focal Point for Libya (hereafter the representative of Libya), indicated satisfaction with the proposed intervention in Libya and positive anticipation about the implementation of activities on the ground. Regarding the consultation with Libyan stakeholders, the representative of Libya indicated that his presence will be beneficial and that he will also extend the invitation to the Environment General Authority.
72. In response to a question raised about the possibility of MPAs imposing on navigation rights in the high seas, the representative of SPA/RAC confirmed that none of the MPAs in Libya are beyond national jurisdiction. However, efforts are underway in the context of the Barcelona

Convention to create a framework for the creation of MPAs that are beyond national jurisdiction.

Day 2 Agenda Item 5: Update on Child Project 2.2

73. Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator of GWP Med, provided an overview of the design of activities for Child Project 2.2 and recalled its overarching objective: fostering water-food-energy security and the reduction of land based nutrient pollution and other pressures, through the adoption of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus approach. The project activities will follow four main lines of action: strengthening the capacities of institutions on the nexus approach; addressing nexus issues affecting the Mediterranean Sea LME; testing and upscaling nexus solutions; and engaging stakeholders in these processes. A consultation with the participating countries to confirm interest and priorities in the project will be organized in Beirut, Lebanon on the sidelines of the First MENA Nexus Roundtable that will take place from 26-28 November 2018.

Day 2 Agenda Item 6: Discussion

74. In summary, the representatives of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro and Tunisia confirmed the importance of the MedProgramme for their countries and for the region, and endorsed the proposals of UN Environment/MAP on (i) the timeline for finalization of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme and their submission to the GEF Secretariat for endorsement; (ii) the development of the overarching strategies for Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming; and (iii) the arrangements for execution of the MedProgramme through the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (Med PCU).

75. Ms. Jula Selmani, the representative of the GEF Operational Focal Point of Albania (hereafter the representative of Albania), congratulated the partners and acknowledged the excellent quality of the workshop. She also indicated that although she had not been involved in the previous meetings and the development of the MedProgramme, she now had a clear vision of the process, thanks to the organization of the consultation. In closing, the representative of Albania declared that the strategy for the implementation of the MedProgramme appeared to be effective and would serve the needs of the countries.

76. The representative of Algeria asserted that the MedProgramme is an important opportunity for the region and predicted that it would result in success for countries and partners alike. She emphasized that the effective coordination among the countries and project partners during the preparation phase of the MedProgramme represented a positive start to the process. The representative of Algeria also announced that a coordination mechanism at the national level in Algeria will be implemented to ensure effective interaction with the regional coordination mechanism of the MedProgramme. In closing, the representative of Algeria confirmed that the country is committed to involving government institutions, the private sector and the media in the MedProgramme, and thanked the partners and the GEF for their assistance in depolluting the Mediterranean Sea.

77. Mr. Senad Oprašić, the GEF Operational Focal Point of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereafter the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina) thanked the partners for the excellent presentations and asserted that the two regional consultations had provided a solid foundation for the effective implementation of the projects of the MedProgramme. He furthermore recalled the priority that the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina places on the alignment of all activities and results of the MedProgramme with national legislation, EU Directives and the requirements of EU acquis, as well as the SDGs. In closing, the

representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina wished success to all partners for the implementation of activities, and thanked UNESCO for hosting the meeting.

78. The representative of Egypt thanked the partners for the meeting and confirmed that the presentations had provided a clear indication of the links between the projects and how the MedProgramme is being implemented in a holistic manner. She promised to work to ensure effective communication among national partners involved in the activities, and expressed satisfaction with the fact that the countries sharing the Mediterranean were sitting around the same table and working together for the common good of the Sea. In closing, the representative of Egypt indicated her interest in the implementation of the Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming Strategies and indicated her belief that these will assist countries in dealing with environmental challenges.
79. The representative of Lebanon thanked the partners for a fruitful meeting and reconfirmed the country's commitment to contribute to the MedProgramme and to share the necessary knowledge and information to support its successful execution. She underlined the importance of involving national stakeholders, of ensuring effective coordination and management, and of seeking synergies in the MedProgramme. In closing, the representative of Lebanon expressed her satisfaction with the progress achieved to date, and her positive anticipation for the initiation of the activities of the MedProgramme.
80. The representative of Libya recognized the partners for the progress achieved on the preparation of the MedProgramme, and confirmed that the consultation had been extremely useful for gaining a deeper understanding of the activities and how they will be carried out. He furthermore expressed appreciation for the chance to cooperate with the other countries in the region on the protection of the Mediterranean Sea. At the same time, the representative of Libya shared his concern about the MedProgramme's integrated approach to environmental challenges spanning several GEF focal areas, indicating that this can complicate activities on the ground. In closing, the representative of Libya wished all the partners success in the execution of their activities.
81. The representative of Montenegro thanked the partners for the all the work completed to date, and recalled that one of the benefits of a regional programme is the opportunity for activities covering many thematic areas at both the national and regional levels, which has great value for the countries. She recalled that Montenegro is in the stage of pre-accession to the EU and does not have the resources to finance all the corresponding obligations, and that for this reason it is important to identify additional sources of assistance. Besides the MedProgramme, the Government of Montenegro is also participating in the GEF Adriatic Project and the UN Environment Vienna biodiversity assessment in coastal and marine areas, which will lead to the establishment of three new MPAs in Montenegro. The representative of Montenegro also highlighted the synergies that were identified during the design of the MedProgramme, and notably the integration of activities between Child Project 2.1 and the SCCF Project in Montenegro, maintaining that without a programmatic approach this kind of synergy and integration would not have occurred. In closing, the representative of Montenegro acknowledged the effectiveness of the programmatic approach in terms of communication with partners on the design of activities, and her interest in the future implementation of the Knowledge Management and the Gender Mainstreaming Strategies.
82. The representative of Tunisia thanked the MedProgramme team for the progress achieved on the preparation of the projects and recalled the contributions of Tunisia throughout the process. He also underlined the importance of initiating efforts to establish the implementing modalities at the national level with the relevant institutions to avoid delays and to ensure that the objectives of the MedProgramme are achieved. In closing, the representative of Tunisia

stressed the need to identify synergies and complementarities among the activities of the MedProgramme, and more importantly, with other ongoing and future initiative in the region, such as Horizon 2020 and post-Horizon 2020 activities.

Day 2 Agenda Item 7: Conclusions and closing of the meeting

83. The Secretariat presented the conclusions and next steps recorded during the proceedings of the Second Regional Consultation and asked the GEF Operational Focal Points (or their representatives) for their comments and approval. The GEF Operational Focal Points (or their representatives) endorsed these conclusions and approved the next steps, which appear on page 1 of the present report.
84. The Coordinator of the UN Environment/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat declared that the presentations and discussions had been illuminating and had helped to clarify for everyone once again the importance of the MedProgramme and the complex challenges that would be tackled by this ambitious and innovative joint initiative. He asserted that the overall level of buy-in and interest are high for the MedProgramme and assured that all the concerns raised by the Contracting Parties would be duly addressed in the final project documents, prior to their submission to the GEF Secretariat. The Coordinator thanked all participants for their continued commitment of energy, time and resources and expressed positive anticipation for the continued collaboration. In closing, the Coordinator recognized the contributions of the countries, the partners, the UN Environment team, the GEF and UNESCO, a gracious host for the event and an important partner of the programme.
85. The representative of UNESCO IHP expressed UNESCO's pleasure in hosting the participants of the consultation. Recalling that 21 September is the International Day of Peace, the representative of UNESCO IHP explained that people of all cultures and beliefs were present at UNESCO on this day to discuss peace, and declared that peace can also be built on science and environmental sustainability.
86. The Second Regional Consultation for the MedProgramme was closed at 17.00 on 21 September 2018.

Annex 1
Agenda of the Second Regional Consultation of the MedProgramme

Day 1: 20 September 2018	
9:00 – 9:30	<i>Registration</i>
9:30 – 10:00	Welcoming remarks: UNESCO-IHP, UN Environment/MAP and UN Environment/GEF
10:00 – 10:15	1. GEF and the Mediterranean Sea: 20 years of support and expectations under GEF-7
10:15 – 11:00	2. Remarks from the Permanent Delegations of UNESCO
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	3. Setting the scene and objectives of the consultation: UN Environment/MAP
12:00 – 12:30	4. Progress report on preparation of the MedProgramme Child Projects and on their submission to the GEF: UN Environment/MAP
12:30 – 13:00	5. Update on Child Project 4.1: UN Environment/MAP
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:00	6. Knowledge Management in the MedProgramme: UN Environment/MAP
15:00 – 15:30	7. Coordination with the GEF's established knowledge management platforms: IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN
15:30 – 16:00	8. Gender Mainstreaming in the MedProgramme: UN Environment/MAP
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:15 – 17:00	9. Update on Child Project 2.1: GWP-Med, PAP/RAC, Plan Bleu and UNESCO-IHP
17:00 – 17:30	10. Update on the GEF Special Climate Change Fund Project: UN Environment/MAP
17:30 – 17:45	11. Conclusions of Day 1
17:45	<i>End of Day 1</i>

Day 2: 21 September 2018	
9:00 – 9:15	Opening remarks: UN Environment/MAP
9:15 – 10:00	1. Update on Child Project 1.1: UN Environment/Chemicals and Waste, MED POL, SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu
10:00 – 10:45	2. Update on Child Project 1.2: EIB and MED POL
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:15 – 12:00	3. Update on Child Project 1.3: EBRD
12:00 – 12:30	4. Update on Child Project 3.1: SPA/RAC, WWF and IUCN
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 14:30	5. Update on Child Project 2.2: GWP-Med
14:30 – 16:00	6. Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added-value of GEF programmatic approach; • Complementarities among the Child Projects; • Feedback from the GEF Operational Focal Points.
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:30 – 17:00	7. Conclusions and closing of the meeting – UN Environment/MAP, UN Environment/GEF and UNESCO-IHP
17:00	<i>End of the consultation</i>

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The survey was open for participation between 15 November and 4 December 2018. Thirty nine responses received from diverse participants. The following is breakdown to participant responses according to the survey questions.

1. Current occupation and town residency:

Respondents came from diverse backgrounds, based on their current occupations, they were classified in to the following categories (Figure 1):

- A. 41% (n=15) were University professors and lecturers from the following Universities:
 1. University of Tripoli, 7 participants.
 2. University of Omar Almokhtar, Al-Bayda, 5 participants
 3. University of Zawia, Zawia , 2 participants
 4. University of Al-Mergeb, Khoms, 1 participant
- B. 19% (n=7) were members of Libyan civil society organizations (NGOs).
- C. 14 % (n=5) were government employees
- D. 8% (n=3) were PhD students, from Tripoli, Sebha and Albayda.
- E. 8 % (n=3) were researchers at a Libyan research institute.
- F. 5% (n= 2) were masters students from Tripoli and Tobruk.
- G. 5% (n=2) preferred to state (Others) for their jobs.

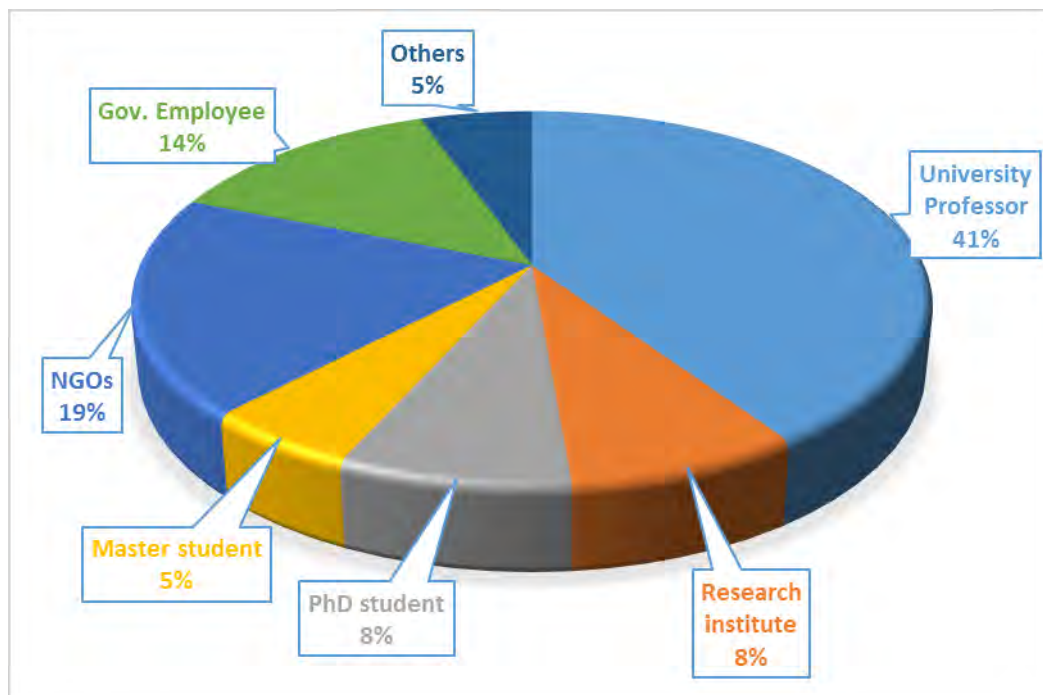


Figure 1. Current occupation of participants in national consultation survey.

Participants were residences of 14 different Libyan cities, largest responses were from Tripoli (n=19), followed by Al-Bayda (n=4), Tobruk and Zawia (n=2 each), then the remaining towns were represented by single participant (Figure 2).

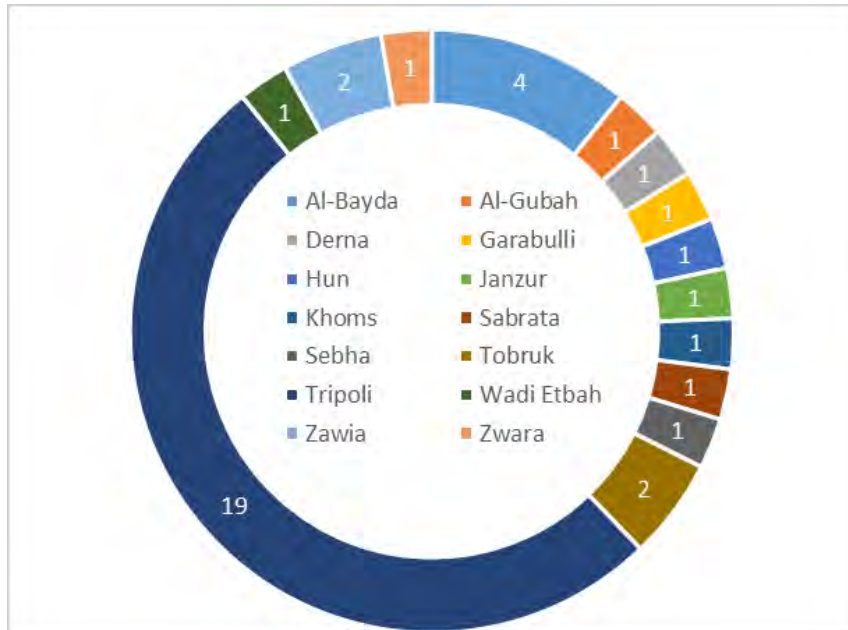


Figure 2. Residence town of participants in national consultation survey.

2. Age distribution of respondents:

Almost half (49%) of the participants were of middle age group (35-50 years old), while younger participants made 13%, and 38% of participants age were above 50 years old (Figure 3).

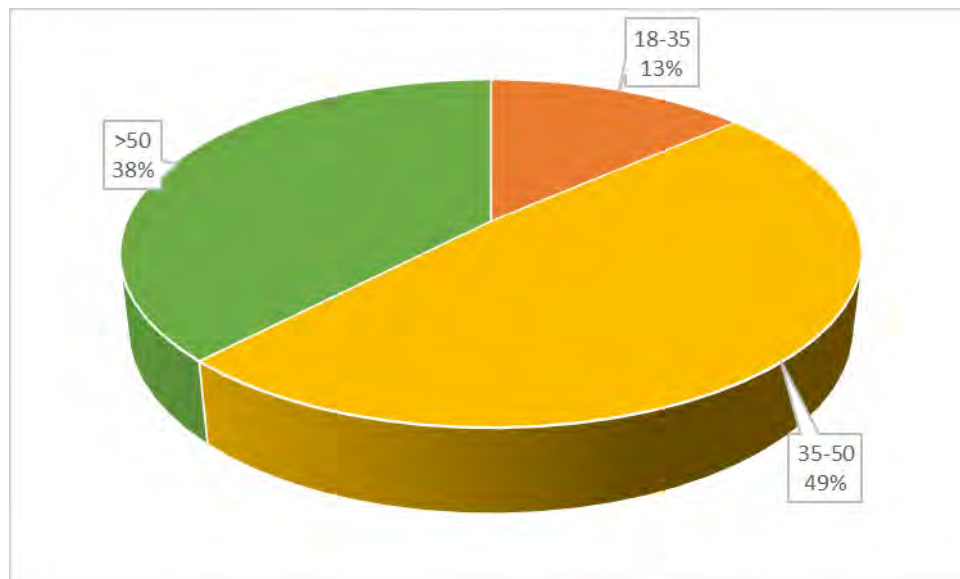


Figure 3. Age distribution of respondents in national consultation survey.

3. Gender distribution:

16% (6) were females, while 84% (31) were males (Figure 4).

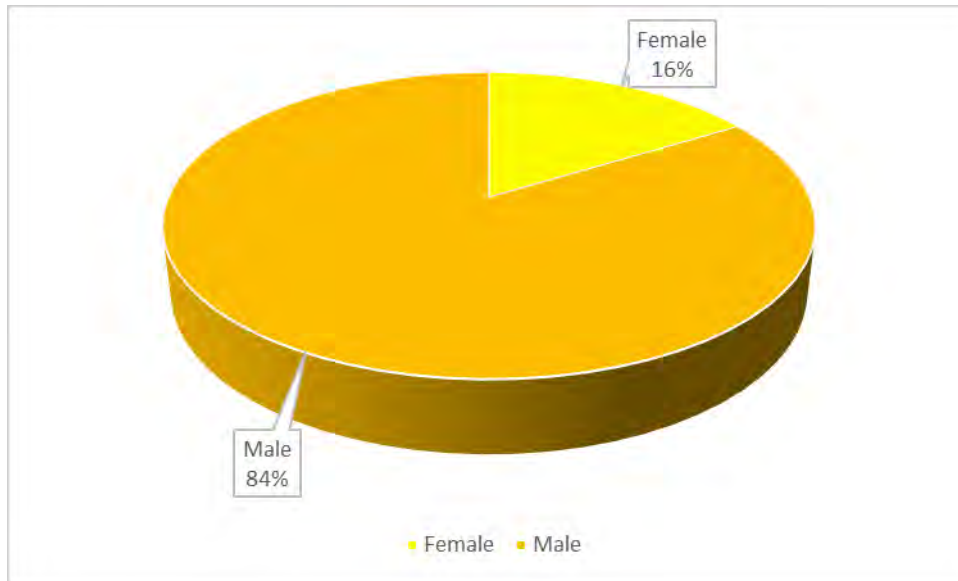


Figure 4. Gender distribution of respondents in national consultation survey

4. Do you know that Libya have declared two marine protected areas?

84% (31) were aware of the recent declaration of two MPAs in Libya, while 16% (6) were not aware (Figure 5).

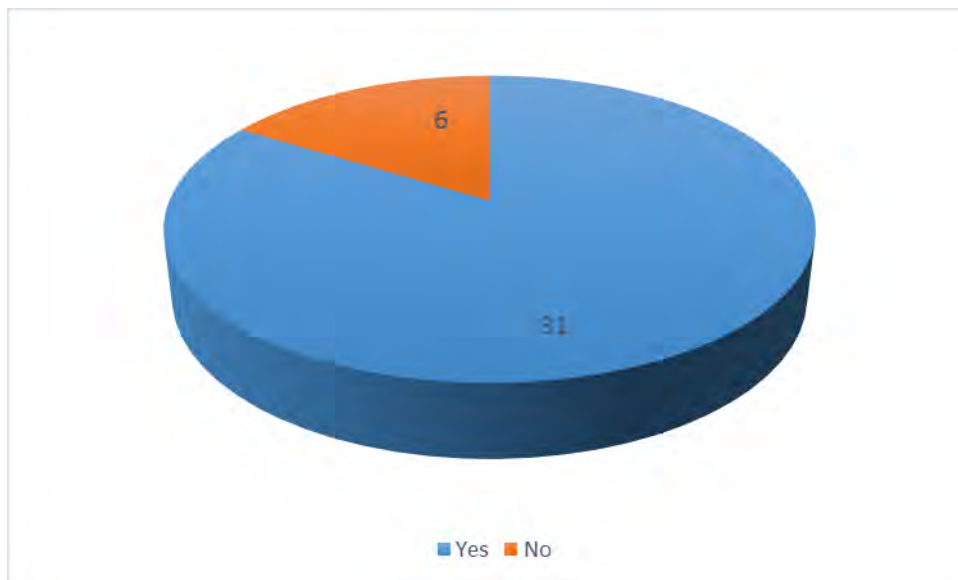


Figure 5. Awareness of respondents on two MPAs declared in Libya in recent years.

5. Are there any other important sites should be considered as MPA's?

Respondents listed 29 sites, some were included in 2011 study of IUCN med, while others are not. The areas proposed are:

Coastal area between Lebda and Zliti	Derna to Ras Hilal area
Hisha PA coastal area	Abulfraes beach
Ras Hilal and lathron	Tamimi
Gulf of Bumba	Naggaza area
El Kumus	Wadi Kaam Dam beach
Gara Island	Burdi
Elgbeba coast Sirt	Ain Zayanah
Garabulli coastal area	Joddaim beach
Bishr beach	Islat Qaber, Kamput
Zwara	Karkura salt marsh beach
Wadi Sahel	Wadi Lahmesa
Tolmitha coastal area	Bardaa island
West Tobruk to Egyptian boarder	Appolonia
Wadi Khabtah	Zulton
West and East Sirte	

6. In your opinion what is the importance of MPA's establishment?

Respondents gave development of coastal human communities, sustaining natural resources, conservation of endangered species and academic research sites the highest scores as major benefits of MPA's establishment (Figure 6).

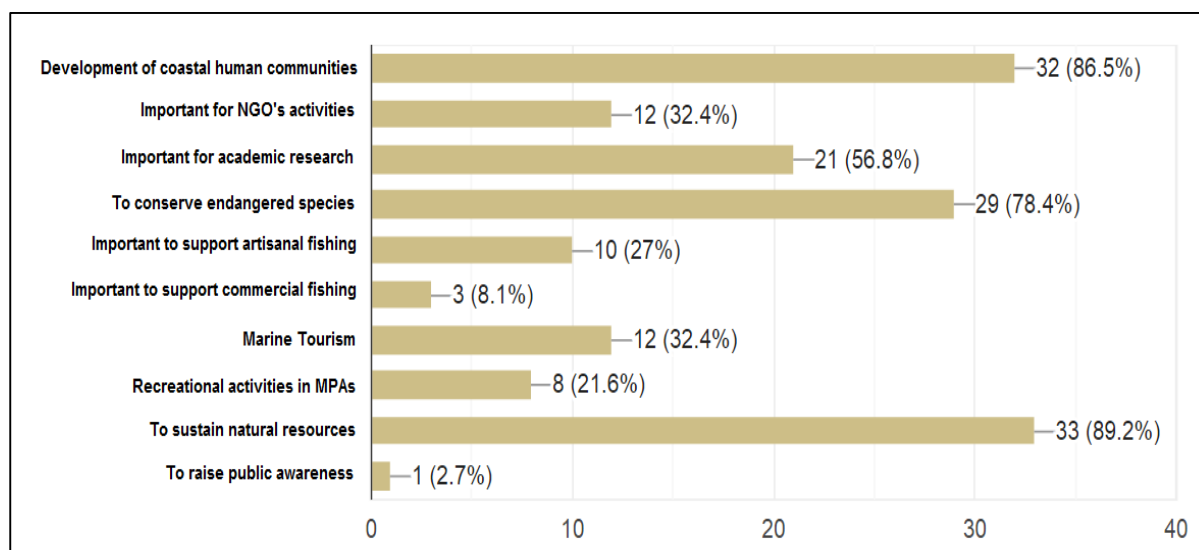


Figure 6. Benefits of MPA's establishment.

7. In your opinion what threats are the most impacting coastal and marine areas of Libya?

Lack of monitoring and enforcement with Illegal blast and poison fishing both recognised as the highest threats to marine environment in Libya, with indications of overfishing, political stagnant situation and foreign illegal intrusion to fish in Libyan waters. Details are shown below (Figure 7).

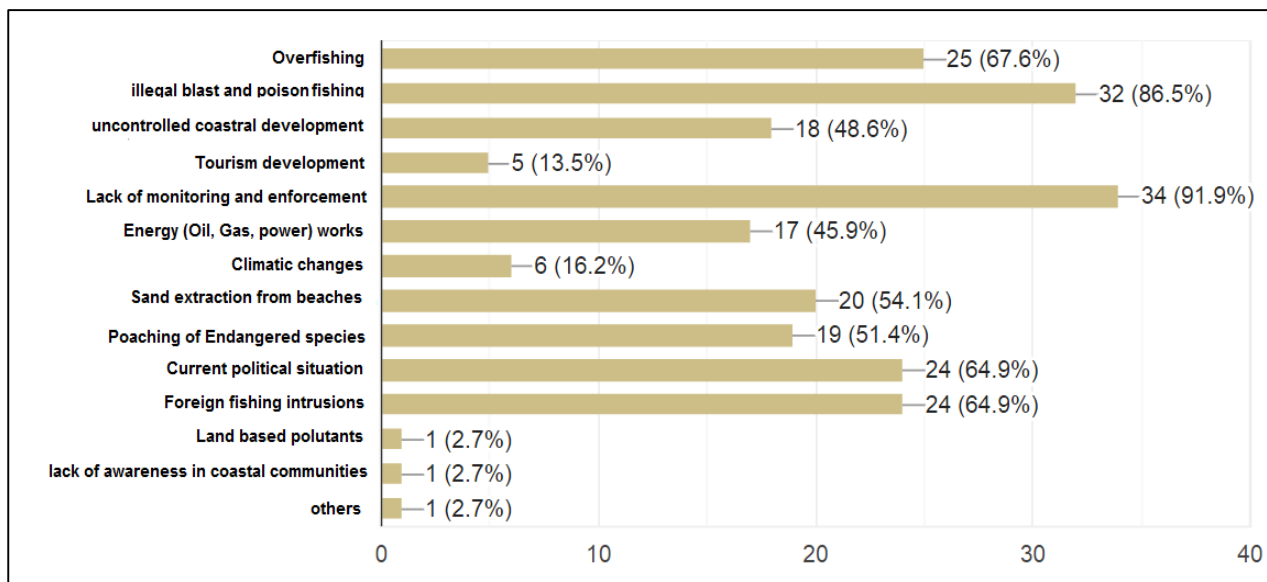


Figure 7. Opinions of respondents on important threats to marine environment in Libya.

8. Are you aware of existing national regulations of protected areas in Libya?

70.3 % (26) were aware of the national regulations on protected areas in Libya, while 29.7% (11) were not aware (Figure 8).

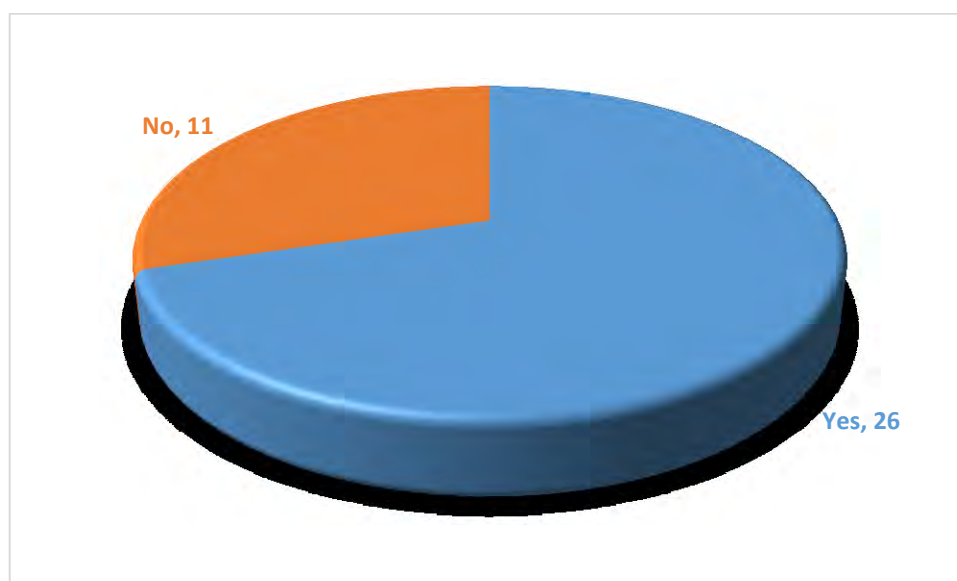


Figure 8. Awareness of respondents on existing national regulations on protected areas in Libya

9. If you answered the last question with YES, do you agree that those regulations in need of update?

86.5 % (32) were in agreement that the national regulations on protected areas in Libya need revision and update, while 13.5% (5) does think existing laws are good enough (Figure 9).

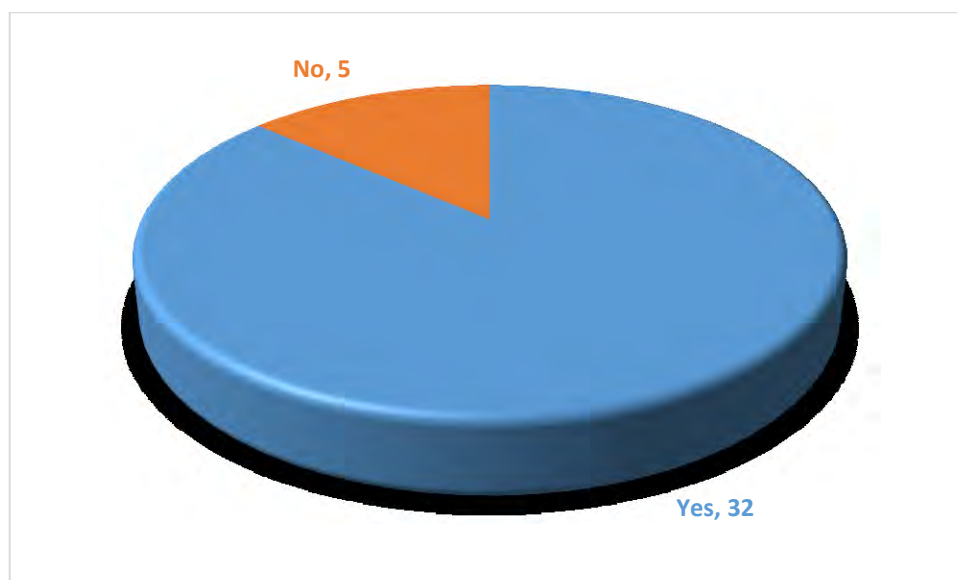


Figure 9. Opinions of respondents on the need to update existing national regulations on protected areas in Libya

10. If you agree with the need of updating existing laws on protected area, can you give reasons?

The respondents gave the following opinions as reasons for the update of existing PA's regulations in Libya.

1. It is crucial to consult with specialists when putting new laws
2. The past political system created a mess of regulations.
3. new laws should focus on local communities employment in MPAs
4. Laws do not follow changes happened in the country
5. Laws should include restrictions on foreign illegal fishing
6. Existing laws focus more on terrestrial habitats more than marine habitats
7. New laws should tackle both marine and terrestrial Pas
8. Law enforcement legal status to Environmental officers should be included
9. New laws should show more strict fines
10. New laws should be harmonised with international conventions
11. Existing Law 15/2003 is not effective enough
12. Lack of local consultations with stakeholders when developing new laws
13. Most current laws are general no species mentioned
14. Conflicts in duties among related governmental agencies
15. Current MPA regulations are scattered within several laws
16. Importance of involving NGOs in new laws development process

- 17. Lack of cooperation spirit among government agencies and NGOs
- 18. Current security and political situation led to several encroachments on existing Pas
- 19. It's important to build on previous efforts of EGA and RAC/SPA to establish new law on PA of Libya.

11. Are you aware of a new national strategy on protected areas prepared in 2013?

70.3 % (26) were not aware of the new draft national strategy on protected areas, while 29.7 % (11) knew about it (Figure 10).

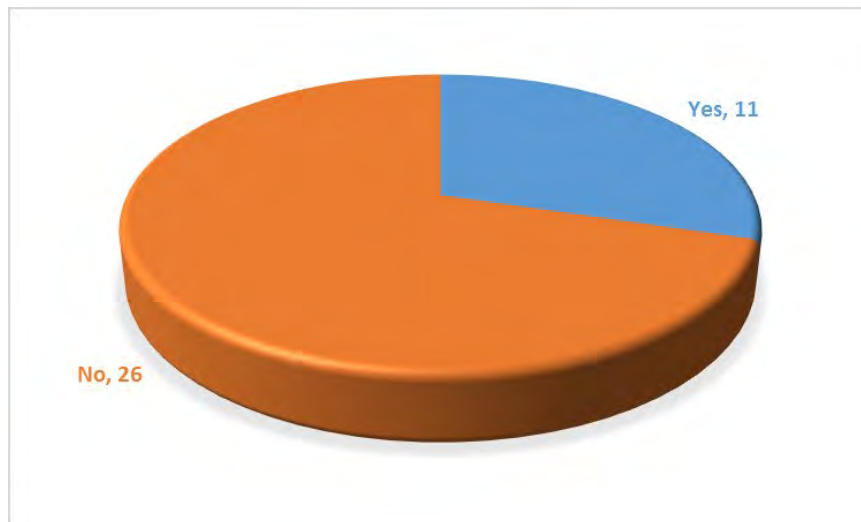


Figure 10. Opinions of respondents on the draft national strategy on protected areas in Libya

12. If you answered on the last question with YES, did you or your organisation were involved in developing that strategy?

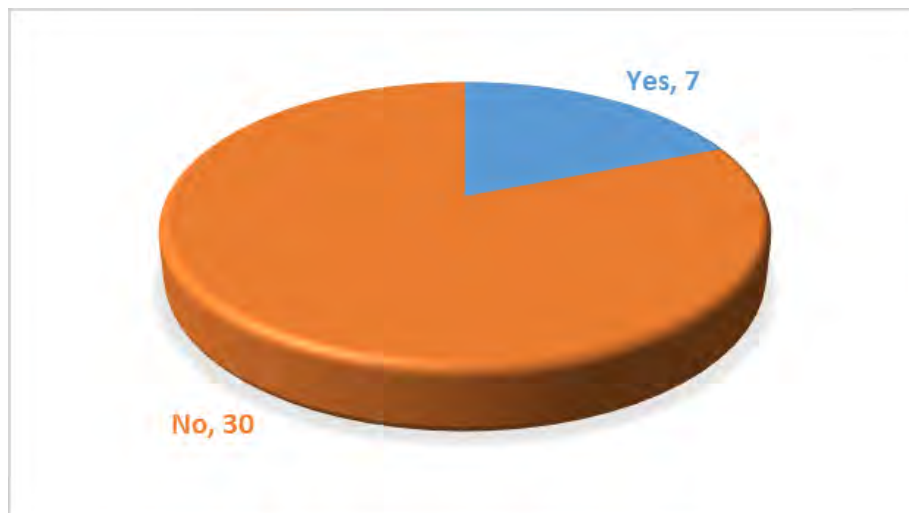


Figure 10. Opinions of respondents on whether their organisation were involved in developing new draft national PA strategy in 2013

13. There is a new draft for a national law on Libyan protected areas, were you or your organisation been involved in developing this law?

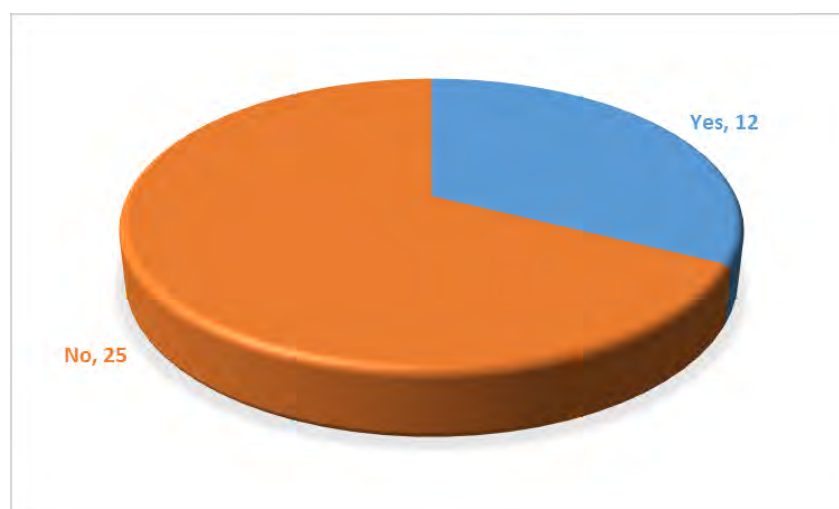


Figure 11. Opinions of respondents on whether their organisation were involved in developing new draft Law on Libya PA's.

14. In your opinion, what are the most important requirements for good management of marine protected areas in Libya?

The respondents gave the following opinions as requirements for good management of protected areas in Libya.

1. Develop new laws and work to enforce them
2. managing PA by qualified staff
3. sustainable financing mechanism
4. Involve locals in management
5. Involve local NGOs
6. Amend current laws
7. provide necessary equipment to PA
8. support EGA and Universities to carry research and conservation
9. select qualified staff
10. Establishment of a national authority for protected areas
11. Training and capacity building
12. Control corruption
13. Public awareness campaigns
14. Involvement of all stakeholders
15. benefit from other countries experiences
16. provide infrastructure to protected area, materials and HRs
17. Political improvement
18. MBRC is the responsible authority according to old laws 14/1989, but lack of capacities prevented the work
19. PA's should be integrated with national planning scheme

15. Which of the following governance options is the best option for establishing a framework for the management of nature reserves in Libya?

Respondents given six choices to decide, most (37.8%) choose sharing governance mode while 32.4% choose establishment of national council of protected areas, where NGOs act as observers (Figure 12).

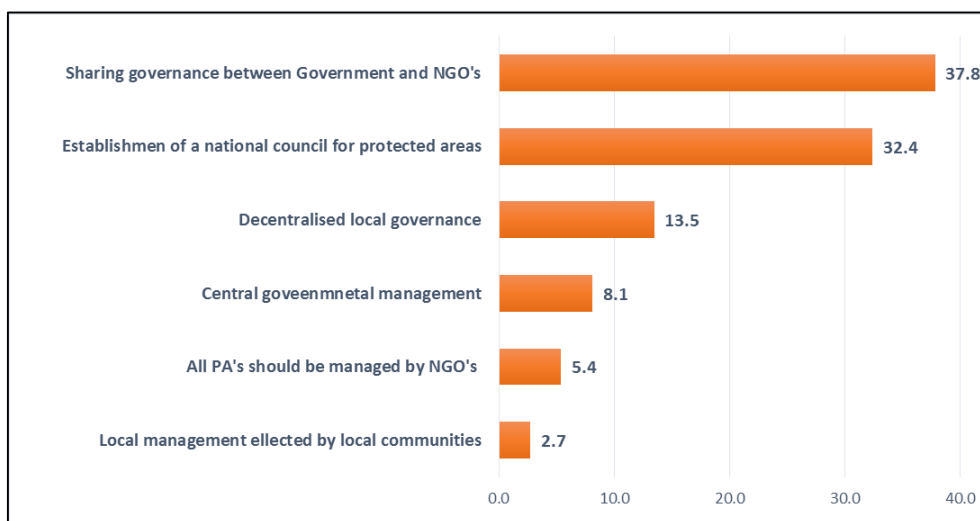


Figure 12. Respondent opinions on the best mode of protected areas governance in Libya.

16. Do you think that gender participation may enhance or hinder the management of marine protected areas in Libya?

Majority (28) of respondents (75.5%) believe that gender participation is crucial for success of marine protected areas, while 9 (24.3%) preferred to say no for gender equality in MPA's (Figure 13).

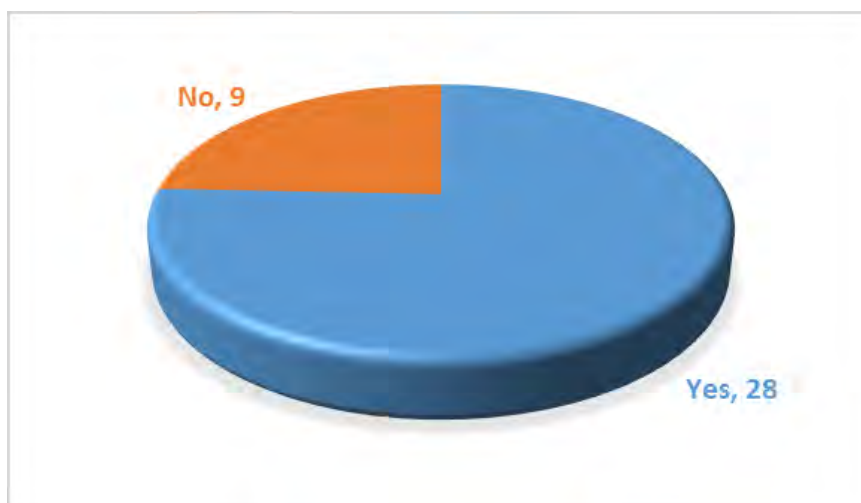


Figure 13. Respondent opinions on gender equality in protected areas governance in Libya.

17. How do you think that the new protected areas system that will be established in Libya will be able to ensure a balanced representation of the two sexes and the economic and social conditions of the citizens near these protected areas? Explain your answer?

Answers on this section sent to gender equality expert.

18. Which of the following guidelines is important for the protected area governance system in Libya?

Public participation and access to information was the most important guidelines, followed by marine heritage of Libya and precautionary approach in management of marine protected areas in Libya. Some 40% of respondents believe that all provided options are equally important (Figure 14).

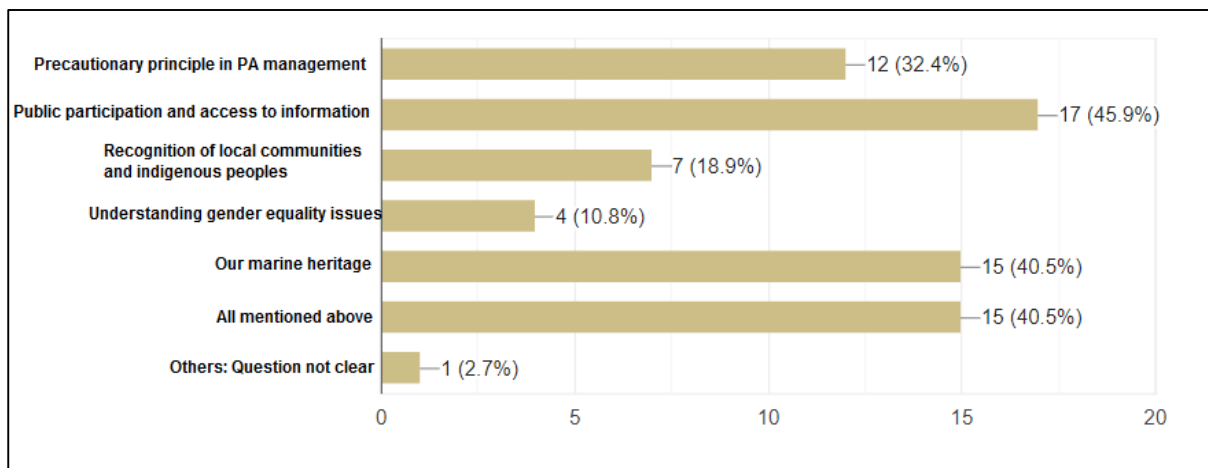


Figure 14. Respondent opinions on the most important guidelines of protected areas governance in Libya.

19. How do you see your contribution (as a government or research institution or university) in the management of protected areas in Libya in the future?

Policy advocacy and being a partner in MPA management, with willingness to be trainers for trainees were the most roles chosen by the respondents. Details in Figure 15.

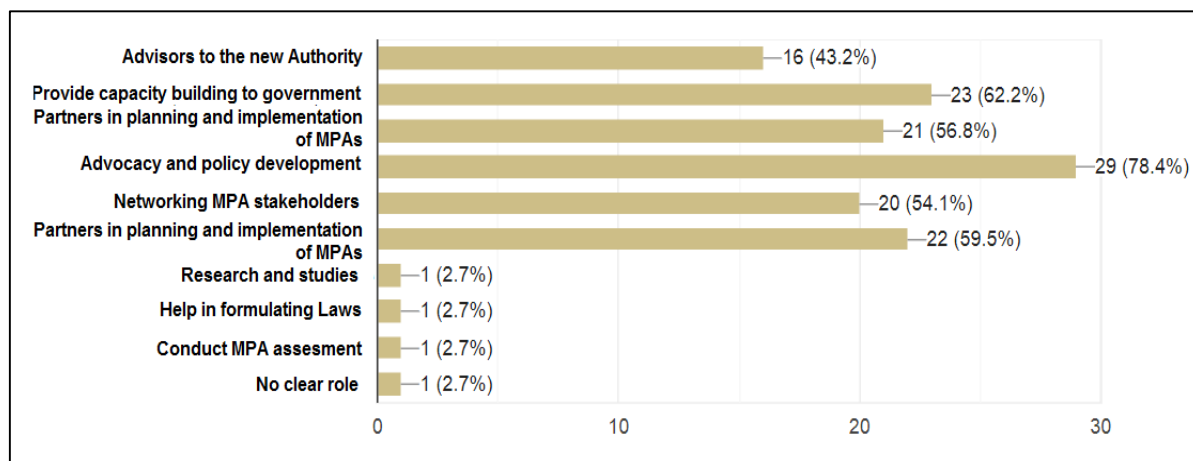


Figure 15. Respondent opinions on their anticipated roles in the future of protected areas governance in Libya.

20. What type of training do you need (or your organization needs) to play your role in managing protected areas?

The respondents gave the following training needs:

1. Training in marine species survey protocols
2. Training on law/policy formulation and implementation
3. Management of protected areas training
4. Training on design and execution of awareness campaigns
5. Setting up of PA's management plans
6. Establishment national database on protected areas
7. MPA socioeconomic studies training
8. Involving partners and stakeholders in MPA management
9. Include MPA management in University curricula
10. National and international obligations under conventions
11. Institutional training on setting up management units

21. How do you describe the current level of management of marine protected areas in Libya?

None of the respondents have indicated satisfaction on the current level of management of protected areas in Libya. 11 of them think it is insufficient and 26 believes it is poor management (figure 17).

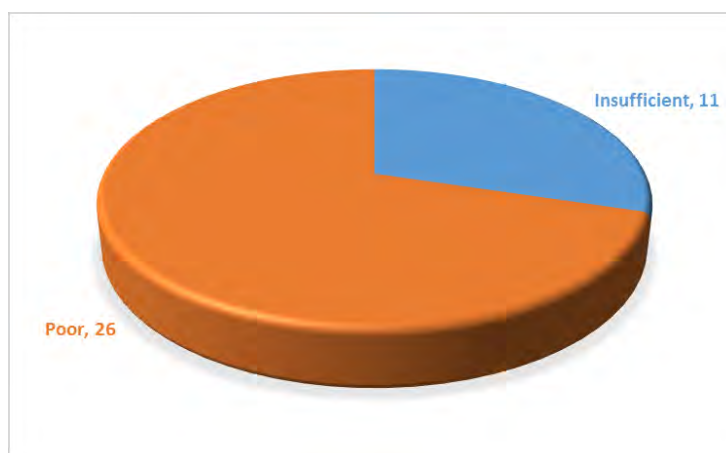


Figure 16. Respondent opinions on current management of protected areas in Libya.

22. How do you assess public awareness about marine protected areas?

Only two respondents believe that there is a wide-spread (5.4%), while nine respondents think that there were some enough efforts but inadequate means (24.3%) and the majority, 26 respondents (70,3%) indicated that the current state of awareness is very poor due to a combination of factors (Figure 17).

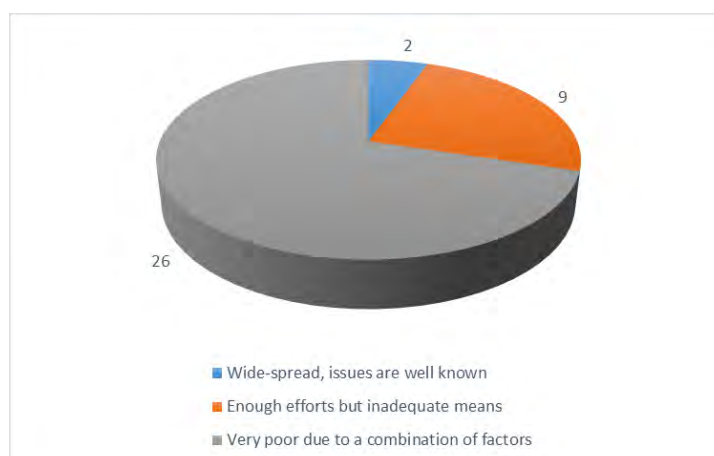


Figure 17. Respondent assessments on public awareness about marine protected areas in Libya.

23. If you answer the second or third option in the previous question, what are the obstacles to sharing appropriate information and knowledge with stakeholders of the MPA and the public at the national level?

Participants' feedback on this question are listed below:

1. Information do not reach the public from experts
2. Although there are several social media pages against illegal fishing and hunting, but public response is weak and we need more enforcement of regulations.
3. Ignorance about environmental policies
4. Political and security situation
5. No enough efforts made so far
6. No precise plans of strategies in place regarding MPA's
7. New establishment of NGOs, with little experiences. Some getting better through EGA partnership projects with IUCN and WWF.
8. Lack of self-initiative
9. Most Libyan media focus on negative news
10. Political and economic independence can contribute to civilized nation.
11. Lack of direct contact with stakeholders on the ground.
12. Lack of coordination among government agencies, who need further training on such aspects as well.
13. Tribal land claims
14. Lack of local communities involvements in MPA awareness campaigns
15. Lack of funding for mass media campaigns
16. There is some anxiety from local fishers and communities due to misunderstanding of protected area benefits.

24. In order to inform, stimulate ownership and inspire responsible management of MPAs what are effective means to engage the large public?

Face to face communication via conferences with the public received the highest preference with 94.6% of respondents. Other means preferred were social media campaigns (91.9%), then articles on mainstream media (86.5%) and the least was TV and Radio (78%.4). A combination of these four means can provide successful outcomes (Figure 18)

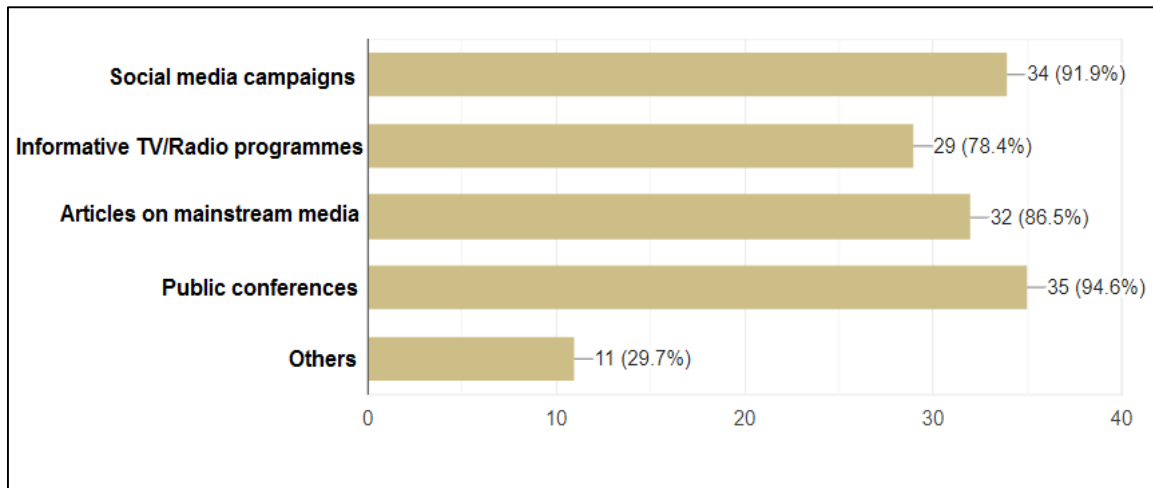


Figure 18. Respondent assessments on effective means to engage the large public in Libya.

25. Do you have any suggestions or recommendations you would like to share with us?

Participants' feedback on this question are listed below:

1. Focus on school children
2. Get partners who works really on the ground
3. Decision maker awareness is also important
4. Employment in MPA should include locals nearby those sites.
5. EGA should play larger role in selecting and managing MPAs as it is the focal point to most related international conventions.
6. Work hard to convince locals with benefits of MPAs
7. You can send your conservation messages through Friday sermons in masjids
8. Please start where other projects stopped, do not repeat the same activities in this project
9. Capacity building
10. Survey the proposed sites as new potential MPAs

National consultation survey on management of Marine Protected Areas in Libya (CP3.1)

Project identification:

Child Project: 3: Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya.

This project aims at dealing with the capacity barriers that hinder the sustainability and effectiveness of the MPAs network in a country of the Southern Mediterranean (i.e. Libya).

The CP3.1 under this component will aim at the establishment of MPA management support mechanisms in priority MPAs in Libya. This will include:

- (i) the assessment of the legal and institutional mechanisms for MPAs;
- (ii) the collection centralization of data on marine biodiversity and ecosystems (national platform);
- (iii) communication and awareness about MPAs and marine biodiversity and ecosystems; and
- (iv) the testing and adoption of permanent solutions including Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) to strengthen the sustainability and effectiveness of the MPAs.

In particular, the specific work in Libya will be focused on advancing Ain-El-Ghazelah, Elkouf and Farwa Lagoon MPAs towards a phase of operational sufficiency by building the capacity of MPA practitioners, developing the management plan through a step-by-step participatory planning process to ensure the effective protection of ecological and socioeconomic values of the areas.

Expansion of seascapes under protection in Libya, and improved protected area management through the implementation of the Libyan Marine Protected Areas (MPA) National Strategy, mapping of marine key habitats, monitoring of marine megafauna (mammals, seabirds, turtles and cartilaginous fishes), capacity support mechanisms and adoption of permanent solutions.(GEF 6 BD 1 Program1)

Output 7.1: An adequate governance structure for MPAs in Libya

Output 7.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya

Output 7.3: On-site MPA management units and management plans

Output 7.4: Civil society organisations (CSO) participatory platform

Output 7.5: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management with trainings on MPA planning, management, stakeholder engagement, etc.

Output 7.6: Awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision makers and investors

The project will be financed through Global Environment Facility. The Implementing partners of this project are:

- Regional Activities Centre for Specially Protected Areas
- World Wide Fund for Nature- North Africa Programme
- International Union for Conservation of Nature – Mediterranean Centre
- The Environment General Authority
- The Marine Biology Research Centre

National consultation survey on management of Marine Protected Areas in Libya (CP3.1)

In addition to selected set of marine conservation related Libyan Civil Society Organizations, and national experts from other institutions and universities.

The present situation is that this project is still in preparation stage, and final decision will be made in 2019 by GEF to approve it.

The procedure for designating and establishing Marine Protected Areas (MPA) has changed profoundly since the 1990s, as a consequence of global changes to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. Protection is not targeting single or set of species, such as marine turtles and large marine mammals, the goal is now to conserve and even increase the services associated with coastal ecosystems to the benefit of all stakeholders

That's why this survey is designed to consult with wide array of stakeholders (decision-makers, managers, users, private and public operators, NGOs, scientists, *etc*) to be part of the initiation process for a new project that aims at enhancing protection of Libyan marine resources, for the sake of biodiversity and the wise use of it by different Libyan stakeholders.

Please answer the following questions, and if you have difficulties in answering them, please contact Dr. A Hamza, the project consultant (abdhamza@gmail.com), or contact him using skype, his skype account name is: **Hamza_ly**

DRAFT Survey for national consultation	
<p>General information about you: Age:years Gender (-Male -Female), Place of residence in Libya:, Type of work (Government, University, NGO, Expert, Public, fisherman, others.....), Occupation:</p>	
1.	<p>Are you aware of the fact that TWO Marine Protected Areas was established in Libya recently? Yes (), No ().</p>
2.	<p>In your opinion, what is the most important effect of the MPAs on the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community..... - NGO..... - Universities..... - Seabird Conservation - Sea Turtle Conservation..... - Sea grass meadows.....

**National consultation survey on management of Marine Protected Areas
in Libya (CP3.1)**

- Artisanal fisheries
- Industrial fisheries

3. In your opinion, how and by how much do you think these factors have influenced the conditions of the Libyan coastline and marine waters?

Factor	Type of impact (Positive, Negative, Irrelevant)	Intensity of impact (High, Medium, Low)
● Overfishing		
● Dynamite /Poison Fishing		
● Tourism development,		
● unregulated coastal development		
● Use of pesticides in agriculture		
● Lack of supervision and monitoring		
● Industrial activities (Oil & Gas, Power stations)		
● Climate changes		
● Sand mining		
● Establishment of MPA's		
● Increased number of Environmental NGOs in Libya		
● Illegal poaching of marine endangered species		
● Political divisions		
● National Security situation		
● Illegal intruding in Libyan waters by foreign vessels		
● Weakness of fishing licensing system		

4. Are you aware of Libyan legislations related to MPA's selection and its management?

Yes (), No (), I don't know ()

If you answered Q2 with YES, Do you think these laws in need to be revised and developed?

Yes (), No (), I don't know ()

If you answered with YES, please briefly explain why?

.....

**National consultation survey on management of Marine Protected Areas
in Libya (CP3.1)**

	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
5.	<p>Are you aware of a Libyan national strategy on marine protected area establishment? Yes (), No (), I don't know () If you answered Q3 with YES, Have you been consulted about this new strategy? Yes (), No (), I don't know ()</p>
6.	<p>A draft new Law on Libyan protected areas (2013), was discussed and submitted to the authorities. Have you (personal, or your society, University or ministry) been involved in consultations regarding this law? Yes (), No (), Never heard of it ().</p>
7.	<p>In your opinion, What are the most important aspects to reach a better MPAs governance in Libya?</p> <p>1.....</p> <p>2.....</p> <p>3.....</p>
8.	<p>Which of the following are the best options for reestablishing the new Libyan framework for the MPA system?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralized approach where the protected area is entirely publicly 'state' owned property and managed by government at national level; • Decentralized approach where management of public land may be delegated to provincial/state or local government units; • Public/private partnership through a co-management arrangement between the government and other stakeholder(s), including communities and NGOs; • NGO/ Civil society management: protected areas are owned and voluntarily managed both for non-profit and for-profit modes; • Management by the local communities residing near the MPA. <p>Your answer is:</p>
9.	<p>Which of the following principals (choose as appropriate) are important to be incorporated in the Libyan MPA system?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precautionary Principle • Public participation and access to information. • Recognition of local communities and indigenous peoples • Cultural values. • All of the above
10.	<p>If you answered the above question with YES, How you see the <i>NGO's / Universities/</i></p>

**National consultation survey on management of Marine Protected Areas
in Libya (CP3.1)**

	<p><i>individual experts'</i> involvement type in future with this new Authority? (you can choose more than one):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advisors to the new Authority 2. Partners in planning and implementation of MPAs 3. Provide capacity building to government. 4. Continue awareness role with locals 5. Advocacy and policy development 6. Networking MPA stakeholders 7.No clear role 8. Others 						
11.	<p>Do you think there are enough training opportunities for you in the field of MPA selection and management?</p> <p>Yes () Why.....</p> <p>No () Why?.....</p>						
12.	<p>In your opinion, how you assess governance, knowledge and management concerning the marine protection for current and future generations</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">Level of current public awareness</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High - High but inadequate - Medium - </td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low - Ni awareness available </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">What is the best means to raise public awareness</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social media, - web pages, - TV, - Radio, </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - newspapers, - meetings, - Workshops - others..... </td> </tr> </table>	Level of current public awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High - High but inadequate - Medium - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low - Ni awareness available 	What is the best means to raise public awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social media, - web pages, - TV, - Radio, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - newspapers, - meetings, - Workshops - others.....
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Thank you for your cooperation in helping with this survey.