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First Project Steering Committee Meeting of the Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Child Project 1.1

Meeting held by videoconference, 3 March 2021

Agenda Item 3: CP1.1 - Component 1: Chemicals and Waste

Agenda Item 4: CP1.1 - Component 2: International Waters

Agenda Item 5: CP1.1 - Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation and information dissemination

CP1.1: Progress report 2020

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2021

Note by the Secretariat

The Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security (GEF ID 9607) is a Global Environment Facility (GEF) regional Multi Focal Area Programmatic Approach, implemented in Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) is the leading executing Agency; the GEF Implementing Agencies are UNEP and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the executing partners are UNESCO/IHP, European Investment Bank (EIB), IUCN Med, GWP Med, WWF Med, Plan Bleu, PAP/RAC, SCP/RAC and SPA/RAC.

The MedProgramme aims to target coastal nutrient pollution hotspots, harmful chemical and wastes, critical coastal habitats and freshwater resources, climate resilience, marine protected areas, and monitoring of progress to impacts and coordination among Child Projects (CPs). It will be developed through four Components and eight Child Projects.

- a. Component 1: Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots and measuring progress to impacts.
- b. Component 2: Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone.
- c. Component 3: Protecting marine biodiversity.
- d. Component 4: Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination.

Component 1 of the MedProgramme consists of three Child Projects:

- a. CP 1.1 Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts (GEF ID 9684).
- b. CP 1.2 Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project (GEF ID 9717).
- c. CP 1.3 Financing Advanced Environmental Technologies in the Mediterranean Sea Region for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (EnviTeCC) (GEF ID 9691).

The current document presents work progress in 2020 regarding the implementation of the three components under MedProgramme CP1.1; namely, (i) Chemicals and Waste; (ii) International Waters; and (iii) Monitoring and evaluation and information dissemination. For each of these three components, the following information is presented:

- Outputs
- Logframe output indicators
- Activities as described in the project document
- Sub-activities
- Implementation status

Further to the approved workplan of 2020 during the Inception Meeting held in July 2020, work progress was achieved under the first component of CP1.1 – Phase I (Chemicals and Waste). Contacts have been made with the two target countries (Lebanon and Algeria). National counterparts were identified. Legal instruments for regulating cooperation between project executing agency and national partners are under preparation. Inventories of PCBs to be stored and exported for proper management and disposal have been confirmed. Prequalification of contractors to undertake the work in these two countries is in progress. Tendering documents for the contractors to transport the PCB waste are under preparation. Project technical and administrative staff are either recruited or in the final stage. This work progress is the basis for establishing the timetable for continuing the work in 2021 as provided in the Document UNEP/MED WG.494/3 (Work Plan 2021-2022). Furthermore, the MedProgramme's gender monitoring framework has been prepared, along with a draft gender action plan for Child Project 1.1 (Annexes I and II of the present document, respectively).

The current report is presented for the consideration of the Project Steering Committee in relation to implementation progress of CP1.1 in 2020.

CP 1.1: Progress report 2020

GEF -9684 MED CHILD PROJECT 1.1 (C&W)				
Reporting Period		2020		
Outputs	Logframe Output Indicators	ProDoc Activities	Sub-activities	Implementation Status
Component 1: Chemicals and Waste				
1.1 Management and disposal of POPs	5 national POPs inventories completed	1.1.1 Phase 1 POPs disposal	Prequalify international contractors for disposal of POPs in Algeria and/or Lebanon	Prequalification documents prepared and reviewed by UNON. Memo prepared. Work in progress to submit for advertisement.
	5 Environment Management Plans approved for stockpiles and contaminated sites		Conduct mission to Algeria to confirm national execution partners (selected in the ProDoc) to oversee/supervise the work to be undertaken by the international contractors and to proceed in signing SSFA with selected partner	Algeria has confirmed national partner and expressed interest to initiate work. Due diligence of national partner in progress in order to proceed with finalizing and signing SSFA.
	Minimum 2 tenders awarded for POPs management/ disposal		Conduct mission to Lebanon to confirm national execution partners (selected in the ProDoc) to oversee/supervise the work to be undertaken by the international contractors and to proceed in implementation with selected partner	Lebanon has expressed its interest in another modality for implementation of project to be officially requested in a letter to be sent from MoE to UNEP/MAP. Letter not received yet.

			Recruit international consultant (specializing in POPs) for preparation of tender documents and evaluation criteria for the international contractors	Work of international consultant currently covered by individual contractor.
			Finalize POPs inventories (scope of work/ ToRs for labs, evaluation of offers, design and maintenance of results database) in Algeria and confirm availability for disposal	Algeria confirmed informally that PCB inventory prepared in 2018 is fully available for disposal in Phase 1.
			Finalize POPs inventories (scope of work/ ToRs for labs, evaluation of offers, design and maintenance of results database) in Lebanon and confirm availability for disposal	Lebanon provided data and information on PCB quantities available for disposal in Phase 1.
			Finalize tender document and prepare evaluation criteria for international contractors	Tender document and evaluation criteria under preparation. Evaluation
		1.1.2 Phase 2 POPs inventory and prioritization	Sign SSFAs with five national partners (Morocco, Tunisia, Albania and B&H).	Template SSFAs are under preparation for presentation to SC meeting for preapproval by countries.
1.2 Management and safe storage of mercury	4 Environment Management Plans approved for stockpiles and contaminated sites and Assessment and management plan for Tunisia site	1.2.1 Confirmation of mercury stocks for disposal	Support/follow-up on ratification of Minamata Convention by Algeria and B&H	MED POL started discussion with Ministry in Algeria on need for ratification of Minamata Convention. UNITAR has a relevant project in Algeria. Agreed on need to coordinate activities once SSFA is signed.
1.3 Long term POPs reduction through pilot	3 new POPS alternatives demonstrated At least 30 trained staff	1.3.1 Pilot demonstration	Development of the project plans and communication to SC and SCP/RAC FP	Communication established with focal points (Tunisia and Lebanon)

activities on new POPs alternatives	individuals applying new POPs approaches	projects in three countries	Advertise post for the recruitment of 1 SCP/RAC project manager	Prepared ToR for position and shared with SCP RAC HR
			Preparation of ToR for international consultants and dissemination	Discussion held with SCP RAC legal Department
			Identification of laboratories for the new POPs sampling, preparation of agreements/ contract(s)	Identification of laboratories completed
			Technical and financial reporting to EA	In progress
1.4 Mercury reduction through pilot activities on new mercury alternatives	3 detailed national mercury stock-takes at hospitals and health centres 3 pilot project approaches developed to replace mercury in health care	1.4.1: Identification/ verification of national institutions and hospitals and detailed stock-take of mercury containing wastes	Inform SC and SCP/RAC FP of the start/progress of the project	Communication established with focal points (Tunisia and Lebanon).
			Launch recruitment of 1 SCP/RAC project manager	Prepared ToR for position and shared with SCP RAC Human Resources Department.
Component 2: International Waters				
2.1 Updated TDA including gender assessment			2.1.1: Establishment of TDA team, work plan and budget preparation	TDA consultant selected.
Component 3: M&E and information dissemination				
3.2 Regular monitoring and evaluation of project progress and results	Quarterly and annual PIR reports Mid-term review complete Terminal evaluation complete	3.2.1 Quarterly financial reports and annual progress reports monitoring status of project execution	A complete set of quarterly financial and progress reports	Prepared Q3 progress report and Q4 progress report for 2020.

**Annex I
Gender Monitoring Framework for the MedProgramme**

The MED Approach	PROGRAMME-LEVEL INDICATORS				
	MULTIDIMENSIONAL: GENDER ANALYSIS				
	Outcome 1: Enhanced understanding of gender issues in specific environmental sub-sectors	Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of Verification
Output 1.1: Gender assessments undertaken	Number and percentage of project gender/socio-economic assessments undertaken to identify gender-differentiated impacts as well as risks of the project	0	7 (100%)	Conduct gender/socio-economic assessments as part of 7 projects in 9 countries: identify gender gaps and design project activities to promote gender equality and women's empowerment	Evidence of using gender assessments findings to inform (programme/research) initiatives that promote gender equality and women's empowerment
Output 1.2: Gender-responsive stakeholder consultations carried out	Number and percentage of men and women inclusive, gender-responsive stakeholder consultations	0	100%	Conduct gender-responsive stakeholder consultations, workshops and committee meetings discussing project plans by inviting local women and women-led organizations Organize women-only meetings	EPs, project documents, national partners; Evidence of men and women actively participating in consultations and reporting increased willingness to promote gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE), such as meeting minutes from interventions by environmental and women's CSOs (as well as other actors) in the Mediterranean region supporting GEWE

	EMPOWERING: GENDER ACTIVITIES				
	Outcome 2: Factors contributing to women’s particular difficulties in redressing environmental imbalance addressed	Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of verification
Output 2: Project beneficiaries participate in and fully benefit from activities promoting gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE)	Number and percentage of men and women direct project beneficiaries	0	50%/50%	Review project documents/assessments and collect qualitative data Keep track of women and men participating in all project activities, including participation sheets and evaluation forms from trainings, workshops, consultations, interviews Collect, qualitative data of men and women's participation in discussions, processes and decision-making;	Executing Partners (EPs), project documents, national partners and project monitoring framework
	Number of CP activities to promote gender equality and women's empowerment	0	50	Create an activity tracker at CP-level to track: gender workshops, trainings, conferences, stakeholder engagement meetings, or gender sessions in other fora, publication of KM materials, gender reports, gender-specific outreach campaign for project stakeholders;	EPs Gender Focal Point - Gender Activity Tracker

	Outcome 3: MedProgramme implementation staff promote gender equality effectively	Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of verification
Output 3: Project implementation staff have greater GEWE capacity	Number of project implementation staff trained on gender in the chemicals and waste sector, disaggregated by sex, age and position	0	20	Design, organize and deliver gender-specific capacity-building activities/trainings for project management staff;	Training records; EPs, national partners, MedPCU
	Number of representatives from local women's organizations, NGOs working on women's rights, local gender equality lobbying groups, trade unions, workers' associations, local government bodies participating in and benefiting from gender capacity building activities	0	20	Undertake a country-level mapping of women-led NGOs etc focusing on GEWE Establish and maintain active partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders active in gender equality in the environmental sector to mutually achieve gender equality objectives and enhance mutual learning	Training records; EPs, national partners, MedPCU
	Number of partnerships to promote GEWE in environmental sub-sectors established	0	7		EPs, national partners, MedPCU
	Number of men and women actively participating in the MedProgramme Gender Community of Practice	0	20	Conduct monthly meetings to discuss progress on the implementation and monitoring of gender activities	Gender CoP meeting minutes

	Outcome 4: Gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) is a cornerstone of environmental management and governance	Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of verification
Output 4.1: Men and women beneficiaries opportunities expanded as a result of project activities	Number and percentage of women accessing and controlling natural resources	Baseline to be established	5% increase from baseline		EPs, project documents, national partners, and project monitoring framework
	Number and percentage of women participating in natural resource governance	Baseline to be established	5% increase from baseline		EPs, project documents, national partners and project monitoring framework
	Number of women in a leadership position with regards to land, water and other biological resources (entrepreneur, manager, lead farmer etc.)	Baseline to be established	5% increase from baseline		EPs, project documents, national partners and project monitoring framework
	Qualitative evidence of expansion of opportunities for on women and men (health and economic opportunities)	No	Yes		Project documents, communication materials, qualitative evidence

		Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of verification
Output 4.2: Advocacy strategies on addressing root causes of gender inequalities at the regional, national and local levels developed and implemented	Qualitative evidence of gender mainstreaming in awareness raising and communications campaigns	0	7	Develop outreach material on water, wastewater, chemicals and water, hygiene, sanitation, customer rights and water usage efficiency based on beneficiary needs, knowledge gaps, and gender sensitive needs assessment Train community members as public awareness advocates Roll out public awareness program	EPs, project documents, national partners, and project monitoring framework
	Outcome 5: Environmental policies, plans, strategies developed are gender-responsive	Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of verification
Output 5.1: Environmental policies, strategies and plans address gender inequalities	Number of UNEP/MAP and EPs contributions to environmental policies, plans, strategies and actions at the national and regional levels that identify gender as a key priority and integrate gender considerations	0	4		EPs, project documents, national partners, and project monitoring framework, MedPCU

	DURABLE: GENDER-RESPONSIVE M&E				
	Outcome 6: Collection of sex-disaggregated data and knowledge exchange contribute to the achievement of SDG5	Baseline	Target	Activities	Source of verification
Output 6.1: Gender-responsive monitoring framework established to measure progress on achievement of gender objectives	Number of projects with gender-results based framework (collection sex-disaggregated, gender-sensitive indicators) regularly reporting on progress	0	100%		EPs, national partners, project documents, MedPCU
Output 6.2: Best practice and lessons learned on integrating gender in environmental sector programmes disseminated and shared through peer-to-peer learning	Number of GEF/UNEP communication, knowledge management, publications materials on gender-transformative examples from the MedProgramme	0	20	Peer-to-peer intra-regional meeting Study tour activity Best practice/lessons learned gender session at an Annual Stocktaking Meeting (ASM) Feature in IW:LEARN activities Knowledge product on lessons learned/best practice on integrating gender in environmental projects	EPs, project documents, national partners, MedPCU

Annex II
Gender Action Plan for CP 1.1

Gender Action Plan for Child Project 1.1 (GEF ID 9684) “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”	
	<p>Impact: Improved human health and coastal habitats for both men and women, through reduction of wastes and harmful chemicals (POPs and mercury) in coastal hotspots and catchment areas</p> <p>Outcome 1: Gender issues in managing harmful chemicals and wastes in coastal hotspots are identified Outcome 2: Factors contributing to women’s particular difficulties in redressing environmental imbalance addressed Outcome 3: Project implementation staff promote gender equality effectively Outcome 4: Gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) is a cornerstone of environmental management and governance Outcome 5: Environmental policies, plans, strategies developed are gender-responsive Outcome 6: Collection of sex-disaggregated data and knowledge exchange contribute to the achievement of SDG5</p>
Executing Partner: MED POL, SCP/RAC and Plan Bleu	
Countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey	

Gender Actions	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Responsibility
1.1 As part of the TDA, undertake a gender/socio-economic assessment on the impact of climate change on socio-economic systems, impact of pollution of marine ecosystems, potential for blue economy development, looking also at future scenarios, as well as gender-specific risks in the use of chemicals, to identify how women and men are likely to be affected by and benefit from project activities, and use findings to inform project activities that will promote gender equality and women’s empowerment	Gender Assessment submitted and integrated in the TDA	0 (No)	1 (Yes)	By Year 2	MED POL and MedPCU

Gender Actions	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Responsibility
1.2 Conduct gender-responsive stakeholder consultations to discuss project plans by inviting local women to enhance women's participation in the process of developing, implementing and updating environmental policies, plans, strategies and actions, as appropriate, at all levels If possible, also conduct women-only meetings.	Percentage of stakeholder consultations that are inclusive gender-responsive	0	100%	By Year 2	MED POL, SCP/RAC, PlanBleu, national partner
2.1. Ensure that both men and women benefit from project activities	Number and percentage of men and women project beneficiaries	0	50%/50%	Annually	MED POL, SCP/RAC, PlanBleu, national partners
2.2. Undertake activities that promote GEWE, tracked under the gender tracker	Number of project activities to promote gender equality and women's empowerment	0	10	On a regular basis	MED POL, SCP/RAC, PlanBleu, national partners and MedPCU
3.1. Enhance the gender capacity of project implementation staff to mainstream gender in project activities, such as workshops, meetings, preparation of thematic assessments or thematic reports, other analytical work, MAP/Mediterranean and SDGs reporting for transformational change at the 2050 horizon, the development of gender-sensitive indicators to assess effects of climate change and monitor implementation of adaptation policies	Number of project implementation staff trained on gender in chemicals and waste sector, disaggregated by sex, age and position	0	4	By Year 3	MED POL and MedPCU
3.2. Enhance the gender capacity of community groups, women-led NGOs etc. to promote GEWE in the chemicals and waste sector	Number of representatives from local women's and environmental organizations, NGOs working on women's rights, local gender equality lobbying groups, trade unions, workers' associations, local government bodies participating in and benefiting from gender capacity building activities	0	15	By Year 3	MED POL and MedPCU

Gender Actions	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Responsibility
3.3. Create partnerships to promote GEWE in the chemicals and waste sector	Number of partnerships to promote GEWE in environmental sub-sectors established	0	3	By Year 3	MED POL and MedPCU
3.4. Invite Gender Focal Points to regularly participate in the MedPCU Gender Community of Practice	Number of men and women actively participating in the MedProgramme's Gender Community of Practice	0	3	On a regular basis	MED POL SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu, national partners and MedPCU
4.1.1. Enhance women and men's access to and control of natural resources	Number and percentage of women and men accessing and controlling natural resources	baseline	5% increase from baseline	By Year 5	MED POL, SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu, national partners and MedPCU
4.1.2. Enhance women and men's participation in natural resource governance	Number and percentage of women and men participating in natural resource governance	baseline	5% increase from baseline	By Year 5	MED POL SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu, national partners and MedPCU
4.1.3. Enhance women's representation in leadership roles	Number of women in a leadership position with regards to water resources	baseline	5% increase from baseline	By Year 5	MED POL and MedPCU
4.1.4. Undertake activities to contribute to improvements in women and men's health and economic opportunities	Qualitative evidence of expansion of opportunities for on women and men (health and economic opportunities)	No	Yes	By Year 5	MED POL, MED POL SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu, national partners and MedPCU
4.2.1. Undertake gender-sensitive awareness activities on mercury containing devices management and mercury waste in Lebanon and Tunisia	Qualitative evidence of gender mainstreaming in awareness raising and communications campaigns	No	Yes	By Year 4	MED POL, SCP/RAC and MedPCU
5.1. Identify gender as a key priority and integrate gender considerations in environmental policies, plans, strategies and actions developed at the national and regional levels as part of this project	Number of environmental policies, plans, strategies and actions at the local, national and regional levels identify gender as a key priority and integrate gender considerations, including EMPs	0	1	By Year 5	MED POL, national partners and MedPCU

Gender Actions	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Responsibility
6.1. Collect, monitor and share sex-disaggregated data with the MedPCU on a regular basis , to meet reporting requirements of the gender monitoring templates	Gender monitoring reports with sex-disaggregated data submitted on a quarterly basis	No	Yes	On a regular basis	MED POL, national partners and MedPCU
6.2. Develop and disseminate best practice and lessons learned on gender-transformative activities , including knowledge products, peer-to-peer exchange, study tour, conferences etc.	Number of GEF/UNEP communication, knowledge management, publications materials on gender-transformative examples from the MedProgramme	0	5	By Year 5	MED POL, national partners and MedPCU