



UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2023

1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

1- Identification

1.1 Project details

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| GEF ID | 9762 | SMA IPMR ID | 34937 |
| Project Short Title | C/MPA | Grant ID | |
| | | Umoja WBS | S1-32GFL-000618, SB-008599 |
| Project Title | Promoting Protected Areas Management through Integrated Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Protection in Coastal Area of Montenegro | | |
| Project Type | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium Sized Project (MSP) | Duration months | <i>Planned</i> 36 |
| Parent Programme if child project | | Completion Date | <i>Age</i> <i>Planned -original PCA</i> 31-Mar-21 <i>Revised - Current PCA</i> 31-Mar-24 |
| GEF Focal Area(s) | Biodiversity | | |
| Project Scope | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National | | |
| Region | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe | Date of CEO Endorsement/ <i>Approval</i> | 20-Aug-17 |
| Countries | Montenegro | <i>UNEP Project Approval Date (on Decision Sheet)</i> | 23-Oct-17 |
| GEF financing amount | 1,602,940 USD | Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force) | |
| Co-financing amount | 12,453,675 USD | Date of First Disbursement | 1-Jan-18 |
| | | <i>Date of Inception Workshop, if available</i> | 1-Nov-18 |
| Total disbursement as of 30 June | USD1,557,940 | <i>Midterm undertaken?</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| Total expenditure as of 30 June | USD1,410,362.93 | <i>Actual Mid-term Date, if taken</i> | 1-Jun-21 |
| | | Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken | |
| | | Expected Terminal Evaluation Date | 30-Sep-23 |
| | | Expected Financial Closure Date | 31-Mar-24 |

1.2 EA: Project description

The GEF project “Promoting Protected Areas Management through Integrated Marine and Coastal Ecosystems” is a national project which aims to improve the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity through effective management of the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (hereinafter referred to as C/MPAs) subsystem by addressing institutional and financial sustainability.

The total project’s value is USD 14,056,615, out of which, USD 1,602,940 from Global Environment Facility (hereinafter GEF) grant, USD 12,453,675 of in kind contribution from Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism (hereinafter MSDT) and USD 250,000 of in kind contribution from United Nations Environment Programme (hereinafter UNEP).

The objectives of the Project is to improve the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity through effective management of the C/MPAs subsystem by addressing institutional and financial sustainability with activities implemented within the following two components:

Component 1: Protection of valuable coastal and marine biodiversity assets and establishment of the subsystem of integrated C/MPAs and

Component 2: Management effectiveness is ensured in the C/MPAs in Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj critical land/seascapes.

The first component has been aiming to establishment of three first ever priority C/MPAs as a foundation for the C/MPA network that will provide effective protection of the key coastal and marine ecosystems in Montenegro. The establishment of the C/MPAs requires implementation of national legal requirements (Law on Nature Protection, 2016). In order to do so, a comprehensive assessment of the entire coastal area of Montenegro needs to be taken to cover an area of 93,243.48 hectares with the aim of filling in knowledge gaps on the status of biodiversity assets in the entire coastal zone. The assessment has to be compliant with national and international standards and requirements, including UN CBD/Aichi targets and others . This component anticipates results in four outcomes:

- Representative C/MPAs identified to protect key coastal and marine ecosystems and biodiversity of global importance,
- Management framework in place involving all relevant stakeholders for (i) network of C/MPAs in Montenegro; (ii) expansion of C/MPAs; (iii) compatibility of land/sea/natural resources usage with overall biodiversity management goal,
- Status of protection for existing coastal Protected Areas covering 13,012.19 ha revised and plans for expansion of the PA network for 2,301.2 ha in the coastal – marine area of Montenegro defined,
- Three priority integrated C/MPAs established, namely Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj covering at least 2,301.2 ha.

The second component aims to ensure the effectiveness of the management in the C/MPAs in the Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj critical land/seascapes. This component has two outcomes:

- Improved C/MPAs management effectiveness in three newly established C/MPAs Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj,
- Lessons learned for establishment of C/MPAs collected to guide future efforts on expansion of PAs.

1.3 Project Contact

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Division(s) Implementing the project | UN Environment Programme Ecosystems Division GEF Biodiversity and Land Degradation Unit Biodiversity and Land Branch | Executing Agency(ies) | UNEP Europe Office |
| Name of co-implementing Agency | | Names of Other Project Partners | Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism |
| TM: UNEP Portfolio Manager(s) | | EA: Manager/Representative | Harald Egerer |
| TM: UNEP Task Manager(s) | Ersin Esen | EA: Project Manager | Sonja Gebert |
| TM: UNEP Budget/Finance Officer | George Saddimbah | EA: Finance Manager | Obinna Okafor |
| TM: UNEP Support/Assistant | Aska Ochiei | EA: Communications lead, if relevant | |

2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--|---|---|--|
| 2.1 UNEP PoW & UN | <p>TM: UNEP Current Subprogramme(s)</p> | <p>UNEP Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 2022 - 2023 (PoW)</p> <p>The project contributes to following PoW sub programmes: Nature action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Productive land and seascapes and fresh water are sustainably managed. - Nature is integrated into national and international public-health decision-making. - Natural assets are valued, monitored and sustainably managed | <p>TM: UNEP previous Subprogramme(s)</p> | <p>UNEP Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 2018 - 2019 (PoW)</p> <p>The project contributes to following PoW sub programmes and indicators of achievement:</p> <p>Sub-programme 3: Healthy and productive ecosystems</p> <p>Indicators of the achievement: (i)</p> <p>Increase the number of public sector institutions that test the incorporation of the health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems in economic decision-making</p> |
| | <p>TM: PoW Indicator(s)</p> | <p>Increase in territory of land and seascapes that is under improved ecosystem conservation and restoration</p> | | |
| | <p>EA: UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages</p> | <p>Project is in relation to UNSDCF 2023-2028 Strategic Priority # 1: Inclusive Economic Development and Environmental Sustainability and Output 1.3 Policies, legislative frameworks, financial mechanisms and institutional capacities are developed to protect, value and sustainably manage infrastructure, cultural and natural resources that are accessible to all.</p> | | |

EA: Link to relevant SDG Goals

The project is directly linked to SDG 14, but also to SDG 3, SDG 12, SDG 13

EA: Link to relevant SDG Targets

14.5
By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.

TM: GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

| Indicators | Targets - Expected value | | | Materialised to date |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| | Mid-term | End-of-project | Total Target | |
| <p>1.2: Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness</p> | <p>Data Set for the entire coastal and marine ecosystems covering 93,243.48 ha of coastal area of Montenegro Request for revision of the status of 13,012.19 ha existing coastal PAs prepared</p> | <p>Data Set for all coastal and marine ecosystems covering 93,243.48 ha of coastal area of Montenegro, which enables developing criteria for prospective C / MPAs prioritization developed and agreed upon with decision makers, and aligned to create an updated sub-regional database on important marine areas</p> <p>Request for revision in 13,012.19 ha submitted to the government 2,301.2 ha planned for expansion of the C / MPAs network</p> | <p>Total effective area covered in the Survey Campaign amount >72,613 ha in total and include (a) terrestrial part = 66,725 ha, and (b) marine part = >5,888 ha. Other components of the Assessment (Desk Analyses, Data Gap Assessment, GIS mapping, Database etc.) have been applied in the Project Research Area (hereinafter PRA) and covering 106,822 hectares.</p> | <p>Completed</p> <p>Total effective area covered in the Survey Campaign amount >72,613 ha in total and include (a) terrestrial part = 66,725 ha, and (b) marine part = >5,888 ha. Other components of the Assessment (Desk Analyses, Data Gap Assessment, GIS mapping, Database etc.) have been applied in the Project Research Area (hereinafter PRA) and covering 106,822 hectares.</p> <p>Revision activities are ongoing and conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency</p> |

2.2. GEF Core or Sub Indicators

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>2.1: Marine protected areas newly created</p> | <p>Study on nature protection and other required documentation for establishing 3 new C / MPAs prepared, including zoning applicable for integration in spatial planning documentation.</p> | <p>Increased number of national Coastal and Marine PAs (C / M Pas) by 3 new C / MPAs covering 2,301.2 ha Annual increase for 1.5 % in habitat distribution range of Posidonia oceanica as a habitat important for conservation and an endangered species to the Mediterranean Sea</p> | <p>Total area of 3 C/MPAs is 4,764.7 ha, twice larger than the initially planned (2,301.2 ha)</p> | <p>Completed</p> <p>Nature Protection (Valorisation) Studies accompanied with required legal documents for establishing 3 new C / MPAs prepared, including zoning applicable for integration in spatial planning documentation. Government of Montenegro proclaimed 3 C/MPAs: (i) Nature Park "Platamuni" (proclaimed on 22/04/2021), (ii) Nature Park "Katič" (proclaimed on 16/09/2021) and (iii) Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (proclaimed on 30/12/2021).</p> <p>Total area of 3 C/MPAs is 4,764.7 ha, twice larger than the initially planned (2,301.2 ha)</p> |
|--|---|---|---|--|

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>2.2: Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness</p> | <p>Capacity Development Scorecard: 20 Capacity and governance needs including technical needs, human resources and legislation needs for successful management of C / MPAs identified and their roles clarified</p> <p>Awareness of decision-makers on the economic benefits of a well-managed network of coastal and marine PA system raised and increased, including sustainable use of coastal and marine habitats</p> <p>Potential socio-economic impacts of the project on local population identified</p> <p>Financial Sustainability Scorecard: 75</p> <p>Management plans for three new C/MPAs drafted and submitted to government for consultations</p> <p>Financial strategies developed for the three new C/MPAs</p> <p>Tourism development area plans defined for three new C/MPAs and submitted for adoption</p> <p>Management and staff for the three new C/MPAs identified and trained</p> <p>Monitoring and enforcement system developed</p> | <p>Capacity Development Scorecard: 23</p> <p>National planning framework for the network of C / MPAs is prepared and submitted for consultation with government</p> <p>List of actions to mitigate negative effects of the project on local population submitted for consultation with government</p> <p>Financial Sustainability Scorecard: 115</p> <p>Effective and sustainable management plans in place for the three new C/MPAs</p> | <p>Capacity Development Scorecard: 23</p> <p>National planning framework for the network of C / MPAs is prepared and submitted for consultation with government</p> <p>List of actions to mitigate negative effects of the project on local population submitted for consultation with government</p> <p>Financial Sustainability Scorecard: 115</p> <p>Effective and sustainable management plans in place for the three new C/MPAs</p> | <p>According to the Capacity Development Scorecard, the present status is 26</p> <p>National planning framework for the network of C / MPAs is prepared and consulted with government</p> <p>Management Plans for 3 MPA-s are adopted</p> <p>Financial Strategy for 2 MPAs is prepared</p> |
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Implementation Status

2023

Final PIR

| | PIR # | Rating towards outcomes (DO) (section 3.1) | Rating towards outputs (IP) (section 3.2) | Risk rating (section 4.2) |
|---------|-----------|--|---|---------------------------|
| FY 2023 | Final PIR | HS | HS | L |
| FY 2022 | 4th PIR | HS | HS | L |
| FY 2021 | 3rd PIR | S | S | L |
| FY 2020 | 2nd PIR | S | S | M |
| FY 2019 | 1st PIR | S | S | L |
| FY 2018 | | | | |

FY 2017
 FY 2016
 FY 2015

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
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| | | | |

Main achievement in the current reporting period: adoption of the Management Plan for Nature Park "Platamuni" (December 2022), Nature Park "Katič" and Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (April 2023). Draft versions of the Revision studies of existing coastal PAs covering 13,012.19 hectares are prepared and delivered to the Ministry on final comments. New Lessons Learned identified in the process of developing Management plans for MPAs, including needs for standardizing content of Management plans, Annual operational programs and Reports on the implementations of Management plans. Trainings on sustainable tourism development for MPA Manager - PE "Morsko Dobro" including building up partnerships with affected local communities was conducted.

Component 1

Output 1.1.1 The biodiversity and ecosystem services of coastal and marine ecosystems assessed and nationally and globally significant sites for biodiversity conservation identified as per national and international standards and requirements, and

Output 1.1.2 Comprehensive database on the status of coastal and marine ecosystems is established as to support science policy interface for protection of biodiversity assets and harmonization of development plans with the value of biodiversity assets and aligned with work towards creating an updated sub-regional data base on important marine areas Both outputs have been fully completed in the previous reporting periods (end of 2020).

Output 1.2.1. Capacity and governance needs, including technical needs, human resources (including gender consideration) and legislation needs for successful management of C/MPAs identified,

Output 1.2.3. National planning framework for the network of C/MPAs is prepared, including the roles and responsibilities of State, private sector, and communities (diversified by gender) for C/MPAs management clarified

Output 2.1.1. Assessments for setting up management of integrated C/MPAs, including rights-based and co-management agreements for long term financial sustainability in line with the national framework developed

All three outputs have been completed.

Output 1.2.4. 10-Year Business Plan developed and implemented for the expansion and effective management of the network of C/MPAs, including activities on promotion of C/MPAs in the context of sustainable tourism development

Output 1.2.5. Awareness of decision-makers on the economic benefits of a well-managed network of C/MPAs, including the sustainable use of coastal and marine habitats is increased has been completed in accordance with the initial workplan (end of March 2020).

Output 1.2.6. Development of the communication strategy to ensure outreach on the activities and benefits of the project for the local, national and international community

Output 1.2.7 Development of an assessment of socio-economic impacts on local population by establishing new C/MPAs,

Output 1.4.2 Consultation process ensuring gender balance provided prior to adoption acts on establishing three new integrated C / M Pas

Aligned with the progress reported in (next) section 3.2 - the outputs are completed.

Output 1.3.1 Necessary documents for revision of existing coastal PAs covering 13,012.19 hectares prepared and submitted for review and adoption - Draft Revision Studies are developed and shared with the Ministry on final comments.

Output 1.3.2 Plans for expansion of the PA network in the coastal area of Montenegro prepared and submitted for adoption

Output 1.4.1 Study on nature protection and other required documentation for establishing three priority C/MPAs prepared, including zoning applicable for spatial planning documentation,

Output 1.4.2 Consultation process ensuring gender balance provided before adoption acts on establishing three new integrated C / M Pas.

Output 1.4.3 Legal instruments for establishing the new PAs are prepared and the adoption requests for the three new C/MPAs are submitted

EA: Summary of status
 (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Aligned with the progress reported in (next) section 3.2 - the outputs are completed.

Component 2

Output 2.1.1. Assessments for setting up management of integrated C/MPAs, including rights-based and co-management agreements for long term financial sustainability in line with the national framework developed

Aligned with the progress reported in (next) section 3.2 - the output is completed.

Output 2.1.2. Management Plans for three new C/MPAs developed with integrated Financial strategy to reduce financing gaps

Aligned with the progress reported in (next) section 3.2 - the output is in finalization.

3. 2. Rating towards outcomes:

Outcome 1.1:

Following activities/outputs are completed:

- (i) Output 1. 1. 1. - Representative C/MPAs identified to protect key coastal and marine ecosystems and biodiversity of global importance - fully implemented by the end of 2020,
- (ii) Output 1. 1. 1. - Assessment of the biodiversity and ecosystem services against national and international standards - fully implemented by the end of 2020,
- (iii) Output 1. 1. 1. - Identification of the nationally and globally significant sites for biodiversity conservation - fully implemented by the end of 2020,
- (iv) Output 1. 1. 2. - Establishment of comprehensive data sets and GIS mapping for the entire coastal area of Montenegro - fully implemented by the end of 2020,

Outcome 1.2:

The following activities/outputs are completed:

- (i) Output 1. 2. 1. - Review of human and technical capacities and governance and legislative framework for the management of C / M PAs - fully implemented,
- (ii) Output 1. 2. 1. - Analysis of the collected data with view of successful management of C/MPAs - fully implemented,
- (iii) Output 1. 2. 2. - Identification of members of the C / MPAs working group - fully implemented,
- (iv) Output 1. 2. 2. - Identification of the scope of work for the working group - fully implemented,
- (v) Output 1. 2. 2. - Organization of the first work group meeting - fully implemented,
- (vi) Output 1. 2. 3. - Review of the current PAs planning framework - fully implemented,
- (vii) Output 1. 2. 3. - Identification of gaps and opportunities - fully implemented,
- (viii) Output 1. 2. 3. - Design of the national planning framework for the network of C/MPAs to be consulted with the relevant government authorities - fully implemented,
- (ix) Output 1. 2. 3. - Clarification of the roles and responsibilities of different relevant actors - fully implemented,
- (x) Output 1. 2. 4. - Drafting of the 10-Year Business Plan – draft has been produced, ongoing consultations for finalization,
- (xi) Outputs 1. 2. 3, 1. 2. 5 and 1. 2. 6. - Design of activities on promotion of C/MPAs in the context of sustainable tourism development in consultation with relevant cross-sectoral actors - fully implemented
- (xii) Organization of a national conference on sustainable use of coastal and marine habitats- fully implemented
- (xiii) Output 1. 2. 6. - Design of the communication strategy - fully implemented
- (xiv) Output 1. 2. 6. - Implementation of the strategy through organizing workshops with local communities - fully implemented
- (xv) Outputs 1. 2. 6. and 1. 2. 7. Development of a public campaign to be implemented on national level – in progress,
- (xvi) Output 1. 2. 5. - Participation of the relevant government representatives to at least three international conferences in order to share information about best practices in C / MPA management – in progress,
- (xvii) Output 1. 2. 6 and 1. 2. 7. Consultations with local population on socio-economic impacts - fully implemented

(xvii) Outputs 1. 2. 6 and 1. 2. 7. - Consultations with local population on socio-economic impacts - fully implemented,
(xviii) Output 1. 2. 3. - Development of the assessment in coordination with the national laws and regulations - fully implemented,
(xix) Output 1. 2. 3. - Submission of the assessment to the government for consultations - fully implemented,
(xx) Outputs 1. 2. 3 and 1. 2. 7. - Undertake any other relevant activity deemed necessary by the assessment - No request for any other activity received, therefore this activity can be considered as completed.

Outcome 1.3:

(i) Output 1. 3. 1. - Development of the studies for revision of the existing coastal PAs to be submitted for consultation with the government – partly completed, finalization is ongoing
(ii) Output 1. 3. 1. - Preparation of the legal instruments for the revision of the status of the existing coastal PAs – partly completed, finalization is ongoing,
(iii) Output 1. 3. 2. - Development of the plans for expansion of the PA network to be submitted for consultation with the government - fully implemented.

Outcome 1.4: The following activities/outputs are completed:

(i) Output 1. 4. 1. - Development of three studies for establishing the new C/MPAs - fully implemented,
(ii) Output 1. 4. 1. - Design of the zoning plans for the three new C/MPAs - fully implemented,
(iii) Output 1. 4. 1. - Preparation of the legal instruments for proclamation of the three new C/MPAs - fully implemented,
(iv) Output 1. 4. 2. - Consultations with relevant stakeholder groups on the proclamation of the three new C/MPAs - fully implemented,
(v) Output 1. 4. 2 - Participation of at least 50% of women - fully implemented,
(vi) Output 1. 4. 3 - Preparation of the adoption requests for establishment of the three new C / MPAs - fully implemented.

Outcome 2.1: The following activities/outputs are completed:

(i) Output 2. 1. 1. - Development of best possible models for C / MPAs management - fully implemented,
(ii) Output 2. 1. 1. - Development of the rights-based and co-management agreements for long term financial sustainability – fully implemented,
(iii) Output 2. 1. 2. - Design the Management Plans for the three new C / MPAs - fully implemented
(iv) Output 2. 1. 2. - Development of the Financial Strategy to be integrated in the Management Plan for the three new C / MPAs - fully implemented
(v) Output 2. 1. 3. - Design of the tourism development area plans in accordance with sustainable management of C / MPAs – fully implemented,
(vi) Output 2. 1. 3. - Development of documents (zoning maps) for tourism development zones in/around C/MPAs - fully implemented
(vii) Output 2.1.4 (including 1. 4. 1., 1. 2. 3.) - Development of the proposal for new management structure to employ new staff and submission to the government - fully implemented,
(viii) Output 2.1.4 (including 1. 4. 1., 1. 2. 3.) - Preparation of necessary documents for employment of staff - fully implemented,
(ix) Output 2. 1. 4. - Training of management staff and officials in PA management approaches – ongoing,
(x) Output 2.1.5 - Development of the plan for monitoring and enforcement system - fully implemented

Outcome 2.2:

The following activities/outputs are completed:

(i) Output 2. 2. 1. - Collection of the main lessons learned from the project – fully implemented,
(ii) Output 2. 2. 1. - Development of the guidelines – fully implemented,
(iii) Output 2. 2. 1. - Submission of the guidelines for endorsement by relevant institutions – fully implemented

The project has been considered as a Low-risk project as most outputs have been delivered timely.

2.4 Co-finance

EA: Planned Co-finance

12,453,675 USD

EA: Actual to date:

12,198,675

EA: Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.

Continous cooperation with the relevant Ministry, PE "Morsko Dobro" and other key stakeholders

2.5. Stakeholder

EA: Date of project steering committee meeting

27/5/2022

EA: Stakeholder engagement
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Numerous meetings have been organized during the reporting period:
- UNEP and Ministry of Ecology, Urbanism and Spatial Planning ,
- UNEP and Ministry of Ecology, Urbanism and Spatial Planning, PE "Morsko dobro",
- UNEP and CEED,
- UNEP and Environmental Protection Agency,
- Training on the Development of Annual operational programs held in "Budva" Hotel Budva, 28-29.11.2022.
- Training on the Development of Sustainable Tourism in MPAs, held in Petrovac, Budva, 04-05.04.2023. with participation of local tourism community
- Study visit to MPAs in Sardinia, Italy: National Park Asinara and Nature Park Tavolara 03-05th May 2023 10 participants from MNE (PE Coastal Zone management Agency, Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and urbanism and Project team) had direct meetings and talks with MPA managers, rangers, professional / conservation services and financial departments, in the offices and at the sites.

TM: Does the project have a gender action plan?



No

2.6. Gender

EA: Gender mainstreaming
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Gender responsive measures resulted in following gender related statistics:

ActivityMenWomen

Inception meeting19(m)21(w)

Steering Committee 8(m)9(w)

Advisory Working Group meeting12(m)6(w)

Expert team for realization of the activities 20(m)20(w)

Meetings with institutional stakeholders6(m)13(w)

Study visits27(m)13(w)

Public hearings53(m)25(w)

Workshops43(m)45(w)

Total188(m)152(w)

It can be concluded that appropriate ratio of women/men has been applied in the project activities (with an average participation of 56.36% for men and 43.63% for women).

During the public hearings, mainly men were involved since most of the fisheries are men.

TM: Was the project classified as moderate/high risk at CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?



Yes

TM: Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?



No

TM: If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?

The management of protected areas brings numerous challenges, especially on socio-economic issues of the affected communities, their sources of livelihood, dynamics of different economic or social groups, including gender as early as possible.

Ecosystem-related policies and capacity building should build on the latest science. Scientific knowledge on the proposed designated areas is mentioned to be weak and critical for the conservation efforts. Therefore, the project should take the precautionary approach toward the conservation zoning and management of the protected areas while applying the latest scientific understanding. Science here includes social science and impacts of climate change, as well.

Based on the above assessment, this project is categorized as a moderate risk project. Please carry out consultations with local community leaders, government officials of related ministries and business community of diverse socio-economic background together with the government officials to identify impacts to their livelihood and get buy-in for the integrated and sustainable conservation of the protected areas.

Please i) engage relevant stakeholders, ii) monitor the above issues throughout the project implementation and iii) report regularly on the challenges and related management approaches taken.

TM: If yes, please describe the new risks, or changes

TM & EA: Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?

No

TM & EA: If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including

2.8. KM/Learning

EA: Environmental and social safeguards management
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

As stated in the project document, no negative impacts were expected from the project in relation to the environmental issues since the main objective of the project is establishment of three new integrated C/MPAs that enabled further expansion of Coastal and Marine Protected Areas. The establishment of the three new integrated coastal and marine PAs restricted or limited access to marine resources not in formal ownership by local population, but still in use. The project has therefore undertaken an assessment of socio-economic impacts caused by the project to local population, which proposed adequate measures to minimize any negative impacts to the local population. In addition, during Public hearing discussions for the establishment of 3 MPAs, consensus were made with local fisheries on the protection and they were invited to participate in the development of the management plans for 3 MPAs.

EA: Knowledge activities and products
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Knowledge Management plans prepared and adopted for 3 MPAs (Nature Parks "Platamuni", "Katic" and "Stari Ulcinj") Guidelines for the Development of Management Plans and Annual Programs of Work for Protected Areas in Montenegro have been produced.

Please attach a copy of any products: Management plans are available at following links:

EA: Main learning during the period

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/czczjld9c5n8m7k/Plan%20upravljnja%20za%20Park%20priode%20Kati%C4%8D%202023-2027.%20god.%20%28F%29.pdf?dl=0>,
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gybe6rw51y4gqpn/Plan%20upravljnja%20za%20Park%20priode%20Platamuni%202023-2027.pdf?dl=0>,
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/1itdl4292ki2ejd/Plan%20upravljnja%20za%20Park%20priode%20Stari%20Ulcinj%202023-2027.%20god.%20%28F%29.pdf?dl=0>

2.9. Stories

EA: Stories to be shared
(section to be shared with communication division/
GEF communication)

Stories on proclamation first 3 MPAs in Montenegro have been previously shared to UNEP communication division. Meanwhile, there are no o new stories relevant for sharing with communication divisions.

3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes (Development Objectives)

| Project objective and Outcomes | Indicator | Baseline level | Mid-Term Target or Milestones | End of Project Target | Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only) | EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June | TM: Progress rating |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|---------------------|
| Objective | | | | | | | |
| To improve the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity through effective management of the coastal and marine protected areas (C/MPAs) subsystem by addressing institutional and financial sustainability | N/A | EA to fill | EA to fill | EA to fill | EA to fill | EA to fill | |
| | N/A | | | | | | |
| | N/A | | | | | | |
| Outcome 1 | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 1.1: Representative C / MPAs identified to protect key coastal and marine ecosystems and biodiversity of global importance | 1. At least one data set on biodiversity assets for the all coastal and marine ecosystems covering 93,243.48 ha of coastal area of Montenegro | No data set on biodiversity in the country and particularly in the Coastal (terrestrial and marine) area (no comprehensive data sets) Scientific research are rarely implemented, and generally on a limited scale and as part of individual projects supported with funds from international sources | 1 Data Set for the all coastal and marine ecosystems covering 93,243.48 ha of coastal area of Montenegro | 1 Data Set for the all coastal and marine ecosystems covering 93,243.48 ha of coastal area of Montenegro, which enables developing criteria for prospective C / MPAs prioritization developed and agreed upon with decision makers, and aligned to create an updated sub-regional data base on important marine areas | 100% | Completed The surface is a bit lower since the calculation of the project targeted area was not properly calculated in the ProDoc - Part of Kotor Risan Bay is outside of the Project area etc. (2) Completed As explained in Q1, total effective area for Survey Campaign now amount >72,613 ha in total that include (a) terrestrial part = 66,725 ha, and (b) marine part = >5,888 ha. Other components of the Assessment (Desk Analyses, Data Gap Assessment, GIS mapping, database etc.) have been applied in the Project Research Area covering 106,822 ha. | 5 |

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| <p>Outcome 1.2: Management framework in place involving all relevant stakeholders for (i) network of C / MPAs in Montenegro; (ii) expansion of C / MPAs; (iii) compatibility of land/sea/natural resources usage with overall biodiversity management goal</p> | <p>1. 7 points increase in the Capacity Development Scorecard for the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism</p> | <p>Capacity Development Scorecard: 16 The existing management framework for the subsystem of C / MPAs is not operational Lack of capacities for effective management of the C / MPA subsystem No effective monitoring system for the C / MPAs subsystem in place Lack of awareness on the benefits of well-managed network of C / MPAs</p> | <p>Capacity Development Scorecard: 20 Capacity and governance needs including technical needs, human resources and legislation needs for successful management of C / MPAs identified and their roles clarified Awareness of decision-makers on the economic benefits of a well-managed network of coastal and marine PA system raised and increased, including sustainable use of coastal and marine habitats Potential socio-economic impacts of the project on local population identified</p> | <p>Capacity Development Scorecard: 23 National planning framework for the network of C / MPAs is prepared and submitted for consultation with government List of actions to mitigate negative effects of the project on local population submitted for consultation with government</p> | <p>100%</p> | <p>Explanations are given in the Annex X Capacity Development Scorecard of the Mid-term report</p> | <p>HS</p> |
| <p>Outcome 1.3. Status of protection for existing coastal PAs covering 13,012.19 ha revised and plans for expansion of the PA network covering 2,301.2 ha in the coastal area of Montenegro defined</p> | <p>1. Ha of areas proposed for revision of protection status (Protection status of up to 13,012.19 ha of existing coastal PAs revised) 2. Ha of new areas identified and planned for protection (2,301.2 ha planned for protection in the coastal area of Montenegro)</p> | <p>0 Insufficient network of national PAs (12,75% of the country is protected or 176,117 ha), 0 no MPA, i.e. C / MPAs</p> | <p>Request for revision of the status of 13,012.19 ha existing coastal PAs prepared</p> | <p>Request for revision 13,012.19 ha submitted to the government ET: 2,301.2 ha planned for expansion of the C / MPAs network</p> | <p>90%</p> | <p>Partly completed, finalization is ongoing. Updated Draft versions of the Revision studies for existing coastal PAs are prepared and delivered to the Ministry on review and comments. Plans for the expansion of existing PA network, including MPAs have been prepared in two documents: (i) National planning framework for the network of C / MPAs and (ii) Review of potential Protected Areas in Montenegro. Consultations on both documents provided prior their submission to the Ministry.</p> | <p>S</p> |

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| <p>Outcome 1.4. Priority integrated C / MPAs established, namely Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj covering at least 2,301.2 ha</p> | <p>1. Number and ha of new integrated C / MPAs proposed for protection of representative coastal and marine ecosystems (covering up to 2,301.2 ha)</p> <p>2. % increase per annum in habitat distributional range of Posidonia oceanica as an endangered species and important habitat endemic to the Mediterranean Sea (1.5% increase)</p> | <p>No MPA, 1 CPA (Tivat Salina) 0</p> | <p>MT: Study on nature protection and other required documentation for establishing 3 new C / MPAs prepared, including zoning applicable for spatial planning documentation.</p> | <p>ET: Increased number of national coastal PAs to 4 by 3 new C / MPAs covering 2,301.2 ha</p> <p>1.5 % increase per annum in habitat distributional range of Posidonia oceanica as an endangered species and important habitat endemic to the Mediterranean Sea</p> | <p>100%</p> | <p>Nature Protection/Valorisation Studies for 3 new C/MPAs Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj have been prepared along with the Acts on Proclamation, as planned. Supported development of necessary documentation</p> <p>Activities resulted in proclamation of 3 C/MPAs: (i) Nature Park "Platamuni" (April 22, 2021), (ii) Nature Park "Katič" (September 16, 2021) and (iii) Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (December 29, 2021). Thus, total cover of the Protected Areas in the Country has been increased for additional 4,764.7 ha. Distribution range of Posidonia oceanica as an important habitat is present and mapped in all 3 C/MPA.</p> | <p>HS</p> |
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Outcome 2

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| <p>Outcome 2.1. Improved C / MPA management effectiveness in three newly established C / MPAs Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj</p> | <p>Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) scores 89</p> | <p>Financial Sustainability Scorecard: 43</p> | <p>Scorecard: 75 Management plans for three new C / MPAs drafted and submitted to government for consultations Financial strategies developed for the three new C / MPAs Tourism development area plans defined for three new C / MPAs and submitted for adoption Management and staff for the three new C / MPAs identified and trained Monitoring and enforcement system developed</p> | <p>115 Effective and sustainable management plans in place for the three new C / MPAs</p> | <p>100%</p> | <p>Management Plans for 3 MPAs: Nature Park "Platamuni", Nature Park "Katič" and Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" are adopted. Financial Strategy is developed and updated. Management and staff for the three new C / MPAs is trained by number of trainings in reporting period, particularly in following trainings: (i) Training on the Development of Annual operational programs held in hotel "Budva", in Budva, 28-29. 11. 2022., (ii) Training on the Development of Sustainable Tourism in MPAs, held in Petrovac, Budva, 04-05.04.2023. with participation of local tourism community, (iii) Study visit to MPAs in Sardinia: National Park Asinara and Nature Park Tavolara 03-05th May 2023 10 participants from MNE (PE Coastal Zone management Agency, Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and urbanism and Project team) had direct meetings and talks with MPA managers, rangers, professional / conservation services and financial departments, in the offices and at the sites. Monitoring and enforcement system is developed.</p> | <p>S</p> |
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| <p>Outcome 2.2. Lessons learned platform for establishment and effective management of C / MPAs guiding future efforts on expansion of PAs</p> | <p>1. At least 2 guidelines containing lessons learned published</p> | <p>0 C / MPAs have no adequate management option for possible rights-based and co-management agreements for long term financial sustainability of C / MPAs</p> | <p>Recommendations for necessary amendments in the national legislation collected</p> | <p>At least 2 publications on lessons learned published Guidelines containing recommendations drafted in consultation with relevant stakeholders and published</p> | <p>100%</p> | <p>3 Guidelines on Lessons learned are developed: LESSONS LEARNED (1) - Technical procedure of zoning and determining boundaries of Protected Areas applied in the frame of preparing Nature Protection Studies for 3 (Integrated) Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (Platamuni, Katić i Stari Ulcinj) available at https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/rebnketkravms50zdau2/LESSONS-LEARNED-1-Vasilije-Busklovic-ZONING-OF-MPAA.pptx?dl=0&rkey=rx3m51c5tzlyv78zwd1k9mu53</p> <p>LESSONS LEARNED (2) - Identification of capacity building needs related to MPA management available at https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ei85hm4jqujqxpallc889/LESSONS-LEARNED-2-Buskovic-and-Malovrazic-Identification-capacity-building-needs.pptx?dl=0&rkey=pn27h1rhiucfq2dxok3477d LESSONS LEARNED (3) - Guidelines for the Development of Management Plans and Annual Program of Work for protected areas in Montenegro</p> | <p>S</p> |
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For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

| Output | Expected completion date | Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%) (Towards overall project targets) | Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%) (Towards overall project targets) | EA: Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay | TM: Progress rating |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------|
| Under Comp 1 | | | | | |
| <p>Output 1.1.1 The biodiversity and ecosystem services of coastal and marine ecosystems are assessed and nationally and globally significant sites for biodiversity conservation are identified as per national and international standards and requirements (UN CBD /Aichi targets and other, including EcAp, GES, Natura and Emerald network, etc.)</p> | <p>End of December 2020</p> | <p>100%</p> | <p>100%</p> | <p>Completed</p> <p>Surface is slightly less since the project area calculation was not correct in the ProDoc — Part of Kotor Risan Bay is outside of the Project area etc.</p> <p>As explained, total effective area for Survey Campaign is >72,613 ha in total that includes (a) terrestrial part = 66,725 ha, and (b) marine part = >5,888 ha. Other components of the Assessment (Desk Analyses, Data Gap Assessment, GIS mapping, Data base etc.) have been applied in the Project Research Area covering 106,822 ha.</p> | <p>S</p> |

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| 1.1.1.1 Prepare and undertake a survey campaign in the coastal area of Montenegro covering 70,544 hectares | End of December 2020 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under 1.1.1.1 | S |
| 1.1.1.2 Assess the biodiversity and ecosystem services against national and international standards | End of December 2020 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under 1.1.1.1 | S |
| 1.1.1.3 Identify the nationally and globally significant sites for biodiversity conservation | End of December 2020 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under 1.1.1.1 | S |
| Output 1.1.2 Comprehensive database on the status of coastal and marine ecosystems is established as to support science policy interface for protection of biodiversity assets and harmonization of development plans with the value of biodiversity assets and aligned with work towards creating an updated sub-regional data base on important marine areas | End of December 2020 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under 1.1.1.1 See justification details given for Output 1.1.1. This high quality and resolution data base is now operational, and can be used for other project purposes, particularly for preparing zoning plans for the new C/MPAs. See current status of the GIS Database | S |
| 1.1.2.1 Establish comprehensive data sets and GIS mapping for the entire coastal area of Montenegro | End of December 2020 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under 1.1.1.1 | S |
| Output 1.2.1. Capacity and governance needs, including technical needs, human resources (including gender consideration) and legislation needs for successful management of C/MPAs identified | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Capacity and governance needs, including technical needs, human resources (including gender consideration) and legislation needs for successful management C/MPAs are identified and presented in the National Planning Framework (hereinafter NPF). The development of the NPF is finalized. NPF is available and contains all information on human and technical capacities and governance and legislative framework for the management of C / MPAs. | S |
| 1.2.1.1 Review of human and technical capacities and governance and legislative framework for the management of C / M PAs | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1 | S |
| 1.2.1.2 Undertake an analysis of the collected data with view of successful management of C / M PAs | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1 | S |
| Output 1.2.2. Joint multi-stakeholder C/MPAs WG established to form a coordination mechanism for project implementation | End of May 2019 | 100% | 100% | C/MPAs WG established C/MPAs WG scope of work determined C/MPAs WG SoW prepared and the First meeting organized | S |
| 1.2.2.3 Identify members of the C/MPAs working group | End of May 2019 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.2 | S |
| 1.2.2.2 Determine the scope of work for the working group | End of May 2019 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.2 | S |
| 1.2.2.3 Organize the first work group meeting | End of May 2019 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.2 | S |

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| Output 1.2.3. National planning framework for the network of C/MPAs is prepared, including the roles and responsibilities of State, private sector, and communities (diversified by gender) for C/MPAs management clarified | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1. | S |
| 1.2.3.1 Review of the current PAs planning framework | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1. | S |
| 1.2.3.2 Identify gaps and opportunities | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1. | S |
| 1.2.3.3 Design the national planning framework for the network of C/MPAs to be consulted with the relevant government authorities | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1. | S |
| 1.2.3.4 Clarify the roles and responsibilities of different relevant actors | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.1. | S |
| Output 1.2.4. 10-Year Business Plan developed and implemented for the expansion and effective management of the network of C/MPAs, including activities on promotion of C / M PAs in the context of sustainable tourism development | End of March 2023 | 60% | 100% | The Financial Strategy and Business plans completed. Document available at: https://www.dropbox.com/scl/ft/dimysrnwe3zfdw76e2xt9/Finansijska-strategija-sa-Finansijskim-planovima-za-3-morska-zasticena-podrucja.docx?rlkey=fo2iz0d8celte1sz8o50t4c13&dl=0 | S |
| 1.2.4.1 Drafting of the 10-Year Business Plan | End of February 2023 | 60% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.4. | S |
| 1.2.4.2 Design of activities on promotion of C/MPAs in the context of sustainable tourism development in consultation with relevant cross-sectoral actors | End of March 2023 | 80% | 100% | Numerous project activities related to awareness rising of decision makers have been implemented so far. In the reporting period Workshop on promotion of C/MPAs on sustainable tourism potentials was held with local touristic agencies and workers in tourism sector. | S |
| Output 1.2.5. Awareness of decision-makers on the economic benefits of a well-managed network of C/MPAs, including sustainable use of coastal and marine habitats is increased | End of March 2020 | 100% | 100% | AdriBioPro Conference (7-10 April 2019) has been supported by the project. | S |
| 1.2.5.1 Organize a national conference on sustainable use of coastal and marine habitats | End of March 2020 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarification under Output 1.2.5. | S |
| Output 1.2.6. Development of the communication strategy to ensure outreach on the activities and benefits of the project for the local, national and international community | End of March 2023 | 40% | 100% | Communication strategy is developed. | S |

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| 1.2.6.1 Design the communication strategy | End of December 2020 | 100% | 100% | Communication strategy is developed. | S |
| 1.2.6.2 Implement the strategy through organizing workshops with local communities | End of March 2023 | 80% | 100% | Many activities are already implemented. In the reporting period Workshop on promotion of C/MPAs on sustainable tourism potentials was held with local touristic workers and Agencies. | S |
| 1.2.6.3 Develop a public campaign to be implemented on national level | End of March 2023 | 80% | 100% | Please see previous comment (1.2.6.2) | S |
| 1.2.6.4 Assure participation of the relevant government representatives to at least two international conferences in order to share information about best practices in C / MPA management | End of December 2022 | 33% | 100% | Participation of the country to the 22nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 22) that took place on 7-10 December 2021 in Antalya, Turkey. The Project also assured participation of relevant government representatives (the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial planning and Urbanism and PE "Morsko Dobro") in 2 international conferences (namely EUSAR Regional Conference held in Zabljak 04-06.08.2022 and MEDPAN Conference held in Petrovac, Budva from 24.10-28.10.2022) in order to share information about best practices in C / MPA management and insure international outreach of the project. It was an important opportunity to promote newly established 3 MPAs and to consider further donor support to the management of MPAs and to network with other MPA managers in the Mediterranean. | S |
| Output 1.2.7 Development of an assessment of socio-economic impacts on local population by establishing new C/MPAs | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Due to COVID19, the consultations on the Nature Protection Studies with the local population on socio-economic impacts were conducted online and through phone questionnaires with fishermen. Results of the survey and analyses of social- economic impacts were then included in the Nature Protection Study. A public hearing procedure was conducted for the Study on Nature Protection of Platamuni Area and the draft Proclamation Act (17 December 2020). Three online consultation meetings were also conducted in November and December 2020. The comments received during the public hearing were addressed in the Public Hearing Report developed by the Environmental Protection Agency and Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism and supported by the Project Management Team. Nature Protection Study for Platamuni area, Draft Act on Proclamation and Public hearing Report was sent to the relevant institutions for the final opinion and on 22 April 2020 the Government of Montenegro at its 21st government session designated Nature Park "Platamuni" as the first MPA in Montenegro. Public hearing procedure had been also conducted for Study of Nature Protection and Act on proclamation for Nature Park "Katić" in the period 11. 05. 2021 - 20. 06. 2021. During that period tree consultation meeting – events have been organized: (i) general consultations at 17th May 2021 in Petrovac, (ii) thematic consultation meeting on fishery at 31st June 2021 in Petrovac and (iii) general consultations at 14th June 2021 in Bar. Number of comments received during whole Public Hearing procedure and all of them have been addressed in the Public Hearing Report prepared by EPA and the Ministry that also supported Project Team. The Public Hearing procedure was conducted on the Study of Nature Protection and Act on proclamation for C/MPA "Stari Ulcinj" during the period 27 September - 6 November 2021. Two consultation meetings – events have been organized: (i) general consultations at 15 October 2021 and (ii) thematic consultation meeting on fishery at 2. November 2021. The received comments were addressed in the Public Hearing Report. A common understanding and the agreement on acceptable zoning plan (zone II and zone III) of the Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" has been reached with the fishermen community in the consultation process. | S |
| 1.2.7.1 Undertake consultations with local population on socio-economic impacts | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 1.2.7 | S |

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| 1.2.7.2 Develop the assessment in coordination with the national laws and regulations (Public hearing report) | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | The assessment was developed and submitted to the Government as a part of Nature Protection Studies and Public hearing reports and resulted in proclamation of three marine protected areas: Nature Park "Platamuni" (April 22, 2021), Nature Park "Katič" (September 16, 2021) and Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (December 30, 2021). | S |
| 1.2.7.3 Submit the assessment to the government for consultations | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Please see previous comment (1.2.7.2) | S |
| 1.2.7.4 Undertake any other relevant activity deemed necessary by the assessment | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Same | S |
| Output 1.3.1 Necessary documents for revision of existing coastal PAs covering 13,012.19 ha prepared and submitted for adoption | End of March 2023 | 50% | 90% | Updated versions of the Revision studies of existing coastal PAs are prepared and submitted to the Ministry on review and comments. | S |
| 1.3.1.1 Develop the studies for revision of the existing coastal PAs to be submitted for consultation with the government | End of February 2023 | 50% | | Please check clarifications under 1.3.1 | S |
| 1.3.1.2 Prepare the legal instruments for the revision of the status of the existing coastal PAs | End of March 2023 | 50% | | Please check clarifications under 1.3.1 | S |
| Output 1.3.2 Plans for expansion of the PA network in the coastal area of Montenegro prepared and submitted for adoption | End of March 2022 | 100% | | New data related to plans for expansion of the PA network was presented in the Draft National Planning Framework that is completed. | S |
| 1.3.2.1 Develop the plans for expansion of the PA network to be submitted for consultation with the government | End of March 2022 | 100% | | Please check clarifications under 1.3.2 | S |
| Output 1.4.1 Study on nature protection and other required documentation for establishing three priority C/MPAs prepared, including zoning applicable for spatial planning documentation | End of August 2021 | 100% | | Nature Protection/Valorisation Studies for 3 new C/MPAs Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj have been prepared along with the Acts on Proclamation, as planned. Public hearing process on the Act on Proclamation and the Nature Protection Studies for C/MPAs Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj has been completed. Details from the Public Hearing are presented in Public Hearing Reports. | S |
| 1.4.1.1 Develop three studies for establishing the new C/MPAs | End of December 2020 | 100% | | Please check clarifications under 1.4.1 | S |
| 1.4.1.2 Design the zoning plans for the three new C/MPAs | End of December 2020 | 100% | | As mentioned above in the outputs 1.1.1., and 1.1.2., results of the survey and GIS database have been used for defining development and protection zones (zoning) in the Nature Protection Studies and Acts of Proclamations for new C/MPAs that are applicable and ready for integration in the spatial planning documentation. | S |
| 1.4.1.3 Prepare the legal instruments for proclamation of the three new C/MPAs | End of August 2021 | 100% | | Please check clarifications under 1.4.1 | S |

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| Output 1.4.2 Consultation process ensuring gender balance provided prior to adoption acts on establishing three new integrated C / M PAs | End of December 2020 | 100% | | | <p>The consultation process was organized through meetings with the relevant Ministries, namely the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (now the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management) (e.g. regarding fisheries issues in future MPA Platamuni and Katič). A public hearing procedure was conducted for the Platamuni Nature Protection Study and the Draft Proclamation Act from 17 November to 17 December 2020. During this period, three online meetings were held - 30 November, 14 December and 8 December 2020 (thematic consultation meeting on fishery). Comments from the public hearing procedure were addressed in the Public Hearing Report. Public hearing procedure had been conducted for Study on Nature Protection of Katič area as well as on Act of Proclamation from 11.05.2021-20.06.2021. During that period three consultation meeting were conducted (17 May in Petrovac, 31. June in Petrovac–thematic consultation meeting on fishery and 14 June in Bar).</p> <p>During the public consultation process for C/MPA Platamuni, 14 women and 34 men were present on the online events. In the frame of an online survey on socio-economic impacts of C/MPAs on fishery, mainly men were involved since most of the fisheries are men.</p> <p>The Public Hearing process for C/MPA Katič has been attended by 9 women and 14 men, while for C/MPA "Stari Ulcinj" 11 women and 19 men participated at the consultation events.</p> | S |
| 1.4.2.1 Organize consultations with relevant stakeholder groups on the proclamation of the three new C/MPAs | End of December 2020 | 100% | | | Please check clarifications under 1.4.2 | S |
| 1.4.2.2 Ensure participation of at least 50% of women | End of December 2020 | 100% | | | Please check clarifications under 1.4.2 | S |
| Output 1.4.3 Legal instruments for establishing the new PAs are prepared and the adoption requests for the three new C/MPAs are submitted | End of November 2021 | 100% | | | Supported development of necessary documentation Activities resulted in proclamation of 3 C/MPAs: (i) Nature Park "Platamuni" (April 22, 2021), (ii) Nature Park "Katič" (September 16, 2021) and (iii) Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (December 29, 2021). Thus, total cover of the Protected Areas in the Country has been increased for additional 4,764.7 ha. | S |
| 1.4.3.1 Prepare the legal instruments for adoption for the three new C/MPAs | End of November 2021 | 100% | | | Please check clarifications under 1.4.3 | S |
| 1.4.3.2 Prepare the adoption requests for establishment of the three new C/MPAs | End of November 2021 | 100% | | | Please check clarifications under 1.4.3 | S |
| U: Component 2: Management effectiveness is ensured in the C / MPAs in Platamuni, Katič and Stari Ulcinj critical land/seascapes | | | | | | |
| Output 2.1.1. Assessments for setting up management of integrated C/MPAs, including rights-based and co-management agreements for long term financial sustainability in line with the national framework developed | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | | As noted above in the Output 1.2.3., National Planning Framework (NPF) is completed and management models are part of it. | S |
| 2.1.1.1 Develop best possible models for C/MPAs management | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | | As noted above in the Output 1.2.3., National Planning Framework (NPF) is completed and management models are part of it. | S |
| 2.1.1.2 Develop the rights-based and co-management agreements for long term financial sustainability | End of March 2022 | 100% | 100% | | As noted above in the Output 1.2.3., National Planning Framework (NPF) is completed and management models are part of it. | S |
| Output 2.1.2. Management Plans for three new C/MPAs developed with integrated Financial strategy to reduce financing gaps | End of February 2023 | 70% | 100% | | In the reporting period the Management Plans for MPA Nature Park "Platamuni", Nature Park "Katič" and Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" are adopted. Financial Strategy is developed. | S |
| 2.1.2.1 Design the Management Plans for the three new C/MPAs | End of February 2023 | 70% | 100% | | Please check clarifications under 2.1.2 | S |

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| 2.1.2.2 Develop the Financial Strategy to be integrated in the Management Plan for the three new C/MPAs | End of February 2023 | 60% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.1.2 | S |
| Output 2.1.3. Tourism development area zones developed for three new C/MPAs | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Zoning maps for tourism development zones in/around C/MPAs are part of the Nature Protection Studies. Tourism development area zones are developed for three new C/MPAs. | S |
| 2.1.3.1 Design the tourism development area plans in accordance with sustainable management of C/MPAs | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.1.3 | S |
| 2.1.3.2 Develop documents (zoning maps) for tourism development zones in/around C/MPAs | End of September 2021 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.1.3 | S |
| Output 2.1.4. Employment of management and staff for the three new C/MPAs facilitated and their capacities raised for effective PA management | End of June 2023 | 60% | 100% | Proposals for new management structure of C/MPA Manager for the employment of new staff has been primarily elaborated in the Studies of Nature Protection for all 3 C/MPAs. These proposals were additionally considered and updated while preparing NPF. Since Manager of C / M PAs (PE "Morsko dobro" – Coastal Zone Management Agency) directly responsible for staff employment, it has used these proposals for preparing renewed Act on organization and systematization of working places. | S |
| 2.1.4.1 Development of the proposal for new management structure to employ new staff and submission to the government | End of December 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.1.4 | S |
| 2.1.4.2 Preparation of guidelines for necessary minimum of employment of staff | End of December 2022 | 100% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.1.4 | S |
| 2.1.4.3 Training of management staff and officials in PA management approaches | End of June 2023 | 60% | 90% | <p>Many activities regarding trainings of management staff and officials have been implemented in previous reporting periods. During this reporting period following capacity building activities were conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Training on the Development of Annual operational programs held in "Budva" Hotel Budva, 28-29.11.2022. The Training on the Development of Sustainable Tourism in MPAs, held in Petrovac, Budva, 04-05.04.2023. with participation of local tourism community Study visit to MPAs in Sardinia: National Park Asinara and Nature Park Tavolara 03-05th May 2023 10 participants from MNE (PE Coastal Zone management Agency, Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and urbanism and Project team) had direct meetings and talks with MPA managers, rangers, professional / conservation services and financial departments, in the offices and at | S |

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| Output 2.1.5. A monitoring and enforcement system developed and implemented to reduce threats to biodiversity in C/MPAs and their buffer areas and ensure effective PA management | End of October 2023 | 60% | 90% | <p>A monitoring and enforcement system aimed at reduce threats to biodiversity in C/M PAs and their buffer areas including effective management of C/M PAs have been integrated in (a) training activities provided so far and (b) Management plans for 3 new C/M PAs. Enforcement aspects will be additionally completed by forthcoming Training of wardens / ranger on performing control of the activities in C/M PAs.</p> <p>The project is supporting procedure for procurement of a patrolling boat for day-to-day control of the activities in the C/M PAs. Procurement is based on (pre)determined technical characteristics of the boat and boat builder selected in December 2022, while boat delivery is expected to be done by the end of August 2023. The delivery of the boat shall be done together with a trailer (for road transport), over a shipment agent, while its hand over will include a 4-day testing (to prove warranty) and training of end user(s) for a proper and safe use. Therefore, the entire process is expected to be completed by the end of September 2023.</p> <p>The procurement of the boat is not specifically listed in the project document as such, but it falls under approved Budget line 4204 for technical equipment. The procurement is performed in coordination with the national authorities.</p> | S |
| 2.1.5.1 Development of the plan for monitoring and enforcement system | End of October 2023 | 0% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.1.5 | S |
| Output 2.2.1 Guidelines with lessons learned developed and endorsed by the relevant institutions, including recommendations on changes to national legislation. | End of October 2023 | 30% | 100% | <p>3 Guidelines on Lessons learned are developed: LESSONS LEARNED (1) - Technical procedure of zoning and determining boundaries of Protected Areas applied in the frame of preparing Nature Protection Studies for 3 (Integrated) Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (Platamuni, Katič i Stari Ulcinj) available at https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/rerbnetkravms50zdau2/LESSONS-LEARNED-1-Vasilije-Busklovic-ZONING-OF-MPAa.pptx?dl=0&rkey=rx3m51c5tzlyv78zwd1k9mu53</p> <p>LESSONS LEARNED (2) - Identification of capacity building needs related to MPA management available at https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ei85hm4jqjxpc889/LESSONS-LEARNED-2-Buskovic-and-Malovrazic-Identification-capacity-building-needs.pptx?dl=0&rkey=pn27h1rhiucqr2dxek3477d LESSONS LEARNED (3) - Guidelines for the Development of Management Plans and Annual Program of Work for protected areas in Montenegro</p> | S |
| 2.2.1.1 Collection of the main lessons learned from the project | End of October 2023 | 30% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.2.1 | S |
| 2.2.1.2 Development of the guidelines | End of October 2023 | 30% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.2.1 | S |
| 2.2.1.3 Submission of the guidelines for endorsement by relevant institutions | End of October 2023 | 30% | 100% | Please check clarifications under 2.2.1 | S |

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

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| <p>Risk 1 Lack of community support for local-level interventions Community support is critical for proclamation of the C / MPAs and efficient C / MPA management</p> | | M | M | M | M | L | L | | | <p>Following the restrictive measures, the consultations on the Nature Protection Studies with the local population on socio-economic impacts were conducted online and through phone questionnaires with fishermen. Results of the survey and analyses of social-economic impacts were then included in the Nature Protection Study. A public hearing procedure had been conducted for the Study on Nature Protection of Platamuni Area and the draft Proclamation Act (17 December 2020). Three online consultation meetings were also conducted in November and December 2020. Comments received during the public hearing procedure were addressed in the Public Hearing Report. Nature Protection Study for Platamuni area. Draft Act on Proclamation and Public Hearing Report was sent to the relevant institutions for the final opinion and on 22 April 2020, the Government of Montenegro at its 21st government session designated Nature Park "Platamuni" as the first MPA in Montenegro. Public hearing procedure had been also conducted for Study of Nature Protection and Act on proclamation for Nature Park "Katić" in the period 11. 05. 2021 - 20. 06. 2021. During that period three consultation meetings – events have been organized: (i) general consultations at 17th May 2021 in Petrovac, (ii) thematic consultation meeting on fishery at 31st June 2021 in Petrovac and (iii) general consultations at 14th June 2021 in Bar. The received comments were addressed in the Public Hearing Report. The Public Hearing procedure was conducted on the Study of Nature Protection and Act on proclamation for C/MPA "Stari Ulcinj" in the period 27 September - 6 November 2021. During that period two consultation meetings – events have been organized: (i) general consultations at 15 October 2021 and (ii) thematic consultation meeting on fishery at 2. November 2021. A common understanding and the agreement on acceptable zoning plan (zone II and zone III) of the Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" has been reached with fishermen society in the consultation process. Workshops with local communities on the development of Management plans for 3 MPA were held in Kotor (12 April), Ulcinj (28 April) and Petrovac (29 April). Around 30 participants for each MPAs (90 in total) joined PE "Morsko Dobro", Project team and Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism and Consultants to discuss in details all components of the Management plans with specific attention to vision of MPAs, activities that are of main interest of local communities in each MPA. The meetings contributed to raising awareness on zoning rules, benefits and other important issues in regards of 3 new MPAs. The local community of Stari Ulcinj actively participated in the development of the video "Returning to sea" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcCOqZPmC&3s in generally local communities has positive attitude towards the proclamation of MPAs due to the intensive consultation process during development of Nature Protection/Valorisation Studies, as well as during development of Management plans.</p> |
| <p>Risk 2 Negative impact on livelihoods of local communities. The proclamation of the new C / MPAs may restrict access to source of income for local communities (fishing, tourism activities, etc.)</p> | Outcome 1.2-1.4 | | | | | | | | = | |
| <p>Risk 3 National decision-makers lack responsiveness to designation of new C / MPAs and revision of the current PAs</p> | Outcome 1.4. | M | M | M | M | L | L | | = | Please check justification under Risk 1. |
| <p>Risk 4 Lack of institutional capacities to mainstream integrated PA management into relevant sectoral policies</p> | Outcome 1.4. | H | M | M | M | L | L | | = | <p>The Project Team supported EPA in preparing the documents, as well as Ministry in conducting the consultation process. These and previous activities resulted in proclamation of 3 C/MPAs: (i) Nature Park "Platamuni" (April 22, 2021), (ii) Nature Park "Katić" (September 16, 2021) and (iii) Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (December 30, 2021). Thus, total cover of the Protected Areas in the Country has been increased for additional 4,764.7 ha.</p> |
| <p>Risk 5 Lack of sufficient political support and willingness to enable expansion of PA coverage, especially C / MPAs</p> | Outcome 1.4. | M | M | M | H | M | L | | ↓ | <p>Institutional capacities has been improved with number of trainings and good documentation for the planning of new protected areas - National Planning Framework.</p> |
| <p>Risk 5 Lack of sufficient political support and willingness to enable expansion of PA coverage, especially C / MPAs</p> | Outcome 1.4. | M | M | M | H | M | L | | ↓ | <p>Project Team have received request from the Ministry / Government to enlarge effective area for performing Survey Campaign in the marine zone of new priority C / MPA Katić, for additional 2,069 ha. Request for enlarging effective Survey area has been originally raised from the side of Prime Minister who accepted request of NGOs to enlarge zone of new priority C / M PA Katić. Finally, the marine part of the effective area for Survey increased to >5,888 ha, thus the effective area of the Survey Campaign amounted >72,613 ha in total. With the proclamation of the 3 C/MPAs, the total cover of the Protected Areas in the Country has been increased for additional 4,764.7 ha.</p> |

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| <p>Risk 6: National planning procedures not open for amendments and/ or revisions</p> | Outcome 1.2. | H | M | M | M | M | M | L | | | Development of New Spatial plan for Montenegro is ongoing and proposal of new protected areas recognized within National Planning Framework has been submitted as well as proposals for the ongoing development of the new Law on Nature Protection. |
| <p>Risk 7: Lack of local businesses and fishery community support to establish and effective manage new C/ M PAs Local business and fishery community may witness short-term negative changes in the daily operations, especially from financial aspects, as they may have been exploiting the areas proposed for protection.</p> | Outcome 2.1. | H | M | M | M | M | M | L | | ↓ | Please check justification under Risk 1. Additionally, workshops with local communities and businesses on the development of Management plans for 3 MPA were held in Kotor (12 April), Ulcinj (28 April) and Petrovac (29 April). Around 30 participants for each MPAs (around 90 in total) joined PE "Morsko Dobro", Project team and Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism and Consultants to discuss in details all components of the Management plans with specific attention to vision of MPAs, activities that are of main interest of local communities in each MPA. Purpose of the meeting was also to raise awareness on zoning rules, benefits and other important issues in regards of 3 new MPAs. Also, local community of Stari Ulcinj actively participated in the development of the video "Returning to sea" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=unCoXjZPMQ&t=3s Generally local communities has positive attitude towards the proclamation of MPAs. |
| <p>Risk 8: Long consultation process Many stakeholders with different (sometimes opposing) attitudes towards proclamation of PA</p> | Outcome 1.4. | M | L | L | M | M | M | L | | ↓ | Studies of nature protection and Acts on proclamation for 3 C/MPAs "Platamuni", "Kališ" and "Stari Ulcinj" have been prepared by EPA, while consultation with relevant stakeholders, including Public hearing meetings, were conducted by the Ministry for the C/MPA "Stari Ulcinj". Project Team supported EPA in preparing the documents, as well as Ministry in conducting consultation process. In final, all these and previous activities resulted in proclamation of 3 C/MPAs: (i) Nature Park "Platamuni" (April 22, 2021), (ii) Nature Park "Kališ" (September 16, 2021) and (iii) Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (December 30, 2021). Thus, total cover of the Protected Areas in the Country has been increased for additional 4,764.7 ha. |
| <p>Consolidated project risk</p> | | M | M | M | M | M | L | L | | = | All risks have been significantly decreased from M to L during project implementation, particularly in this reporting period. This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3. |

4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

List here only risks from Table A and B above that have a risk rating of M or higher in the current PIR

| Risk | Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIR-1, MTR, etc.) | Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period | Additional mitigation measures for the next periods | | |
|------|---|--|---|------|---------|
| | | | What | When | By whom |
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High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate.

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

| Minor amendments | Changes | Minor amendments |
|---|---------------------------|------------------|
| Results framework | No | |
| Components and cost | No | |
| Institutional and implementation arrangements | No | |
| Financial management | No | |
| Implementation schedule | Explain in table B | |
| Executing Entity | No | |
| Executing Entity Category | No | |
| Minor project objective change | No | |
| Safeguards | No | |
| Risk analysis | No | |
| Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% | No | |
| Co-financing | No | |
| Location of project activity | No | |
| Other | No | |

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

| Version | Type | Signed/Approved by UNEP | Entry Into Force (last signature Date) | Agreement Expiry Date | Main changes introduced in this revision |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| Original Legal Instrument | | | | | |
| Amendment 1 | Revision | | | | |
| Extension 1 | Extension | | | | |

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](https://www.openstreetmap.org/imap-4/21.84/92.79) (<https://www.openstreetmap.org/imap-4/21.84/92.79>) or GeoNames(<http://www.geonames.org/>) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](https://gefportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx)(<https://gefportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx>)

| Location Name <small>Required field</small> | Latitude <small>Required field</small> | Longitude <small>Required field</small> | Geo Name ID <small>Required field if the location is not an exact site</small> | Location Description <small>Optional text field</small> | Activity Description <small>Optional text field</small> |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| Nature Park „Platamuni“ | 42.2675 | 18.78 | Rt Platamuni | Integrated Coastal and Marine Protected Area (C / M PA) dedicated to protection of habitats and species important for conservation | The First C/MPA in the Country proclaimed at April 22, 2021. |
| Nature Park „Katić“ | 42.195 | 18.935833 | Gornji Katić | Integrated C / M PA dedicated to protection of habitats and species important for conservation | One of 3 new priority C/MPA in the Country proclaimed at September 16, 2021 |
| Nature Park „Stari Ulcinj“ | 41.9925 | 19.139722 | Stari Ulcinj | Integrated C / M PA dedicated to protection of habitats and species important for conservation | One of 3 new priority C/MPA in the Country proclaimed at December 30, 2021 |

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. *

SHP files with C / M PAs boundaries and protection zones enclosed to the Report. Names of the files are self-explanatory

(Annex any linked geospatial file)