

Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10873

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)

Countries

Regional, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand

Agency(ies)

UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

Executing Partner Type

Others

GEF Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Biodiversity, Mainstreaming, Fisheries, Biomes, Wetlands, Coral Reefs, Mangroves, Sea Grasses, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Seascapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, International Waters, Coastal, SIDS : Small Island Dev States, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, Marine Protected Area, Large Marine Ecosystems, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approach, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Academia, Non-Governmental Organization, Private Sector, Non-Grant Pilot, Large corporations, Indigenous Peoples, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Partnership, Participation, Information Dissemination, Local Communities, Communications, Education, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Public Campaigns, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access to benefits and services, Participation and leadership, Access and control over natural resources, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Adaptive management, Targeted Research, Innovation, Knowledge Exchange

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Duration

60 In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

1,129,397.00

Submission Date

9/15/2021

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1-1	GET	1,818,127.00	12,351,566.00
BD-2-7	GET	4,000,000.00	18,527,350.00
IW-1-1	GET	3,500,000.00	20,501,025.00
IW-1-2	GET	3,230,734.00	13,667,350.00
Total Project Cost (\$)		12,548,861.00	65,047,291.00

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

To develop and improve the management of networks of marine protected areas and marine corridors within selected Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) in the ASEAN region for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and support for sustainable fisheries and other ecosystem goods and services.

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 1: Science-based approach to supporting and expanding networks of marine protected areas (MPAs)	Technical Assistance	1.1. Building on results of LME TDAs/SAPs, reference derived on: a) ecological, social, economic and other linkages across MPAs within LMEs or parts thereof; b) marine corridors defined by the linkages that will guide activities in Component 2; c) additional MPAs to strengthen the network	1.1.1. Conducted supplementary scientific studies and analyses and validated applications of current MPA science (including connectivity research, information on disruptions and threats to connectivity, economic, social and institutional linkages) to inform functional connectivities and fisheries potentials within LMEs; identified potential new MPAs essential for the network	GET	1,500,000.00	9,300,000.00
Component 2: Enhanced management of the network of MPAs in selected LMEs	Investment	2.1. Improved management of a select set of MPAs, taking into account linkages, marine key biodiversity areas (mKBAs) and other national priorities for conservation 2.2. Initiated management of the networks of MPAs including the associated marine corridors to support biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries management	2.1.1. Enhanced management plans recognizing the ecological, socio-economic, and institutional linkages and strategies to address threats that disrupt connectivity and marine ecosystem functionalities; implementation of the priority elements of the enhanced management plans 2.1.2. Adopted and implemented integrated coastal management (ICM) strategies, in at least one site per country, that include marine	GET	8,000,000.00	41,000,000.00

spatial planning approaches,
ecosystem-based conservation
strategies and other related
approaches

2.1.3 Feasibility studies completed
for the development and financing of
priority conservation investment
projects, at least one for each
participating country, within MPA
networks to: a) contribute to the
sustainable financing of MPAs; b)
demonstrate the benefits accruing to
local communities as well as to the
global community from investments
in MPA management

2.1.4. At least one investment
project per country developed, pilot
tested, monitored, and evaluated,
proceeding from the feasibility
studies in Output 2.1.3

2.1.5. Created or enhanced
entrepreneurial skills of local
communities and partners to help
them sustainably manage MPAs.

2.2.1 Marine corridor management
interventions at two geographic
levels (multi-country and national)
agreed upon by countries
individually and collectively

2.2.2 Cooperation mechanisms
collaboratively identified and agreed
upon by country partners in the

GET	597,500.00	3,300,000.00
Sub Total(\$)	597,500.00	3,300,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)	12,548,861.00	65,047,291.00

C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Indonesia: Ministry of Environment and Forestry; other Government Agencies	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	28,258,650.00
Recipient Country Government	Philippines: Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,338,537.00
Recipient Country Government	Philippines: Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,687,500.00
Recipient Country Government	Thailand: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,966,890.00
Civil Society Organization	Conservation International-Indonesia	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	185,000.00
Civil Society Organization	Saguda Palawan, Inc.	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	690,153.00
Civil Society Organization	WWF - Philippines	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	136,828.00
Donor Agency	European Union	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,000,000.00
Donor Agency	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Grant	Investment mobilized	4,000,000.00
Donor Agency	KfW (German Development Bank)	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000.00
Donor Agency	GIZ (SOMACORE)	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000.00

Private Sector	Metro Pacific Investment Corporation - Philippines	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000.00
Private Sector	Digichive Philippines Corporation (for Tubbataha Reef National Park)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,208,333.00
Other	ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,685,000.00
Other	ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)	Grant	Investment mobilized	9,190,400.00
Other	Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) Resource Facility	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000.00

Total Project Cost(\$) 65,047,291.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment Mobilized from the Philippine government is the amount earmarked for the construction of the Tubbataha Reef National Park (TRNP) Ranger Station. Investment Mobilized from the CSO, Saguda Palawan, Inc. covers funds from various non-government sources (i.e. philanthropic organizations, grant mechanisms of international organizations and private companies, and other donors) that are downloaded to and managed by Saguda to support activities in the TRNP. These funds are allocated for specific activities, implemented and monitored by the TRNP Management Office. Investment Mobilized from Donor Agencies (EU, USAID, KfW, GIZ) are relevant portions of donor funding that will support the implementation of the complementary or parallel project approaches (i.e., MPA management, ICM implementation, sustainable fisheries, knowledge management) in the same candidate sites, seascape, or LMEs of concern as the ASEAN ENMAPS. Initial consultations were undertaken by ACB with representatives of the donor agencies and the implementers/coordinators of the projects to discuss co-financing support and to seek their 'in-principle' agreements for co-financing. Investment Mobilized from ACB comes from various donors of biodiversity conservation projects in the participating countries with parallel components as the ASEAN ENMAPS, of which project funds are being managed by the ACB under a Grant Agreement instrument. These projects will run during the duration of this GEF-supported project. Further consultations will be conducted with partners and additional co-financing will be identified during the PPG.

D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Indonesia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,801,296	162,117	1,963,413.00
UNDP	GET	Philippines	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,126,037	281,343	3,407,380.00
UNDP	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	890,794	80,171	970,965.00
UNDP	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	6,730,734	605,766	7,336,500.00
Total GEF Resources(\$)					12,548,861.00	1,129,397.00	13,678,258.00

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)
PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)				PPG Agency Fee (\$)			
289,100				26,019			
Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Indonesia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	33,566	3,021	36,587.00
UNDP	GET	Philippines	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	84,972	7,647	92,619.00
UNDP	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	20,562	1,851	22,413.00
UNDP	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	150,000	13,500	163,500.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					289,100.00	26,019.00	315,119.00


Core Indicators



Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
4,873,572.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created


Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
60,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00





Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
MPA 1 (New) - Indonesia			20,000.00			






MPA 2 (New) - Philippines	20,000.00	
MPA 3 (New) - Thailand	20,000.00	






Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
4,813,572.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
*Tubbataha Reef Natural Park (ASEAN Heritage Park)	555715065		451,601.00						

Agoo - Damortis Protected Landscape and Seascape	5208	10,775.00	
BBBIDA Marine Protected Area Network: Bani- Bolinao- Burgos- Infanta- Dasol-Agno		254,920.00	
Biosphere Reserves Ranong Thailand	145594	11,707.00	
Con Dao National Park	10111	5,830.00	

Kepulauan Togean National Park	20429	362,605.00	
Kepulauan Wakatobi National Park (ASEAN Heritage Park)	198427	1,390,000.00	
Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape	101392	7,558.00	
Mu Ko Similan National Park	555705578	13,836.00	
Mu Ko Surin National Park	4673	11,688.00	

Nha Trang Bay Protected Area	303035	10,500.00	
Tarutao National Park (ASEAN Heritage Park)	928	171,850.00	
Teluk Cenderawasih National Park	8102	1,453,500.00	
Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape	555715057	414,244.00	
Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary	198475	242,958.00	

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted
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Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 5.1 Number of fisheries that meet national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)

Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Number of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollutions and hypoxia

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (achieved at MTR)	Number (achieved at TE)
4	0	0	0

LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE
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Bay of Bengual
Indonesian Sea
South China Sea
Sulu-Celebes Sea



Indicator 5.3 Amount of Marine Litter Avoided

Metric Tons (expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 8 Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Fishery Details

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	600,000			
Male	400,000			
Total	1000000	0	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1a. *Project Description.* Briefly describe:

i) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description);

A third of the world's coastal and marine habitats that include coral reefs, mangroves, estuaries, sandy and rocky beaches, seagrass and seaweed beds, and other soft bottom communities are in Southeast Asia which provide significant ecosystem services. They provide breeding, nursing, and feeding grounds for marine plants and animals, food (fish, invertebrates, and seaweeds) for coastal people who depend on them and for migratory shorebirds, particularly those that traverse the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. The region supplies 43 percent of ornamental marine fish to the world market. Barbier et al (2011) estimates ecosystem services value for coastal protection and maintenance of fisheries to be some USD 62,400 per square kilometer per year. A study of Burke et al (Burke et al., 2002) estimates that the total potential sustainable annual economic net benefits per square kilometer of healthy coral reefs in ASEAN ranges from USD 23,100 to USD 270,000 arising from fisheries, shoreline protection, tourism, recreation, and aesthetic values (ACB, 2017).

Environmental Problems

The Transboundary Water Assessment on Large Marine Ecosystems (IOC-UNESCO and UNEP, 2016) reports these specific situations in these shared waters of ASEAN:

South China Sea. The South China Sea accounted for 12% of the global fish catch in 2015. Annual fish catch showed a steady increase from 490,000 tons in 1950 to over 6 million tons in 2010. Human activities have likewise contributed to nutrient loading in the LME. Contemporary conditions (2000) indicate nitrogen load is very high and will remain so in 2030 if not acted upon. The LME is subject to threats such as overfishing, destructive fishing, pollution and environmental degradation. Reefs at risk are recorded at 12% and 17% of coral cover under very high and high threat, respectively. In terms of governance, transboundary arrangements are present for fisheries, with existing regional networks within the LME for pollution and biodiversity. The SAP implementation phase of the project is ongoing and the transboundary environmental concerns are expected to be revisited.

Sulu-Celebes Sea. Socio-economic activities and climate change are among the associated risks in Sulu-Celebes Sea. Total fish catch in the LME had a steady increase from 2001 – 2010, recording an average of one million tons in the recent decade. Heightened demand both at the local and international market have also led to increased fishing effort from both the artisanal and industrial fishers. Climate change is also a recognized driver of ecosystem

degradation in Sulu-Celebes Sea. Global warming has caused coral bleaching thus affecting marine biodiversity.

Indonesian Sea. Pressures from human activities are the main drivers in putting the LME at a very high risk. The increasing demand for fish from the industrial and artisanal fisheries put pressure on its fish stocks. In terms of its ecosystems, 15% and 27% of its coral reefs are under very high threat and high threat, respectively. With increasing thermal stress in the oceans, it is estimated that 34% of the coral reefs will be at a very high to critical level of threat by 2030. In terms of governance, there are existing transboundary arrangements for fisheries catering to tuna and tuna-like fisheries. There is also an existing collaboration within the Indonesian Sea, although measures integrating or coordinating it with transboundary fisheries is not yet in place. The Coral Triangle Initiative is among the active projects in the region engaging in transboundary cooperation among the concerned countries.

Bay of Bengal. The Bay of Bengal LME has a very high overall risk factor combining the measures from the Human Development Index, fisheries, pollution and ecosystem health indicators. Annual fish catch in the Bay of Bengal has shown an increasing trend from 1950 – 2010, with the latest recorded data at approximately four million tons per year. Paired with a decreasing trend in primary productivity, fishing efforts have also drastically increased. Being home to more than 81 million coastal inhabitants, pressures from human activities have also put the LME under very high risks of pollution, ecosystem degradation, and vulnerability. Transboundary integration still needs to be addressed, despite efforts from projects on convening concerned government agencies to collaborate.

The ecosystems, paired with anthropogenic interventions, have identified reefs at risk. It is expected that up to 90 percent of coral will suffer severe degradation by 2050, including the most managed reefs (IPBES, 2019). They are expected to experience increasing frequency of disease, bleaching and death under the combined effects of habitat loss, overfishing, pollution, sediments and nutrients from land run-off, sea level rise, ocean warming and ocean acidification.

Risk for environmental degradation is recognized as very high in the Sulu-Celebes Sea, high risks in the Gulf of Thailand and Indonesian Seas, and medium risk in the South China Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Integrating these drivers, human-environment interactions and vulnerability is very high in the region and have to be addressed accordingly. Highly urbanised areas in the LMEs also show very high risks of nutrient loading, especially in the South China Sea, and the Bay of Bengal (IOC-UNESCO and UNEP, 2016).

Root Causes

The rich coastal and marine environment of the ASEAN region is vulnerable to high risks of human impact, pollution, and degradation as reported in the ASEAN Biodiversity Outlook (ACB, 2017) and the Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (IOC-UNESCO and UNEP, 2016) (Figure 1). As shown in both reports, the increase in population is also associated with the increased use of resources. A geometrically growing human population in ASEAN region that is concentrated on the coastal zone, is dependent on coastal resources and fisheries for food and livelihood, is expected to reach about 500 million in 2050. The Indonesian Seas, Bay of Bengal, and Sulu-Celebes Seas have shown increased fishing effort, thereby threatening food supplies if kept unchecked. The Reefs at

Risk Revisited in the Coral Triangle Report (WRI,2012) identified overfishing and destructive fishing as the most widespread local threats to marine resources in the region. If unsustainable fishing practices continue in the Southeast Asian Region, it is projected that there could be no exploitable fish stocks left by as early as 2048 (IPBES, 2019).

During the period of 2005-2018, there was a decline in poverty incidence as indicated by the decrease in the proportion of population living below national poverty lines (ASEAN Key Figures 2020). Good progress was recorded in Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia and generally in the developing ASEAN Member States. In Thailand, poverty incidence went down by 16.9%, in Indonesia by 16.0% and in the Philippines by 26%. While there is no available information of poverty incidence by sector, it could be conjectured that in communities that largely depend on open-access resources like fisheries and other goods and services from the coasts, poverty would still be high. This follows from the tragedy of the commons as the enforcement of regulations is generally considered weak.

Impacts of climate change in the ASEAN region is also visually evident through mass bleaching of corals which is attributed to increasing sea temperatures (Hoegh-Guldberg, 1999 in Ainsworth et al., 2008). These events are meticulously recorded by the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network. Increasing sea temperatures influence changes in both primary and secondary productivity, the structure of marine communities, water column stratification, and the timing of coastal upwelling with resulting impacts on fish distribution, recruitment, migration patterns, predator-prey relationships, and growth (McIlgorm et al., 2010 in ABO 2, 2017).

These drivers of coastal and marine biodiversity loss remain unabated, and have instead increased in complexity (ACB, 2017), leading towards marginalized marine biodiversity resources of the region, and reducing their capacity to continuously provide for the livelihoods, health and food security of its people.

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Barriers

While conservation investments on integrated coastal management (ICM) and marine spatial planning (MSP) in the region are getting traction in the policy and plan and management development, not all of these conservation investments have resulted in the identification and establishment of marine protected areas nor the scaling up of these MPAs in terms of area and networks. Impediments in achieving a well-managed ecological networks of MPA include the lack of adequate understanding of the stakeholders on the ecological interactions in the marine and coastal environment, such as on their vital functions and consequences of their loss; inadequate investment in MPA management to upkeep and scale up coverage, build local capacities in MPA management; and financial and governance impediments towards a successful implementation of area-based management approaches. Although the national/local initiatives have shown advancement particularly on ecosystem-based resources management and community-based coastal management, the ASEAN-wide strategies on conserving biologically connected MPAs and sustainable fishing have yet to be established. Support is further needed to strengthen capacities of the countries to align conservation provisions with the national development plans and legislative frameworks, catalyse blue growth within countries and among the shared waters of ASEAN, and support the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the LMEs.

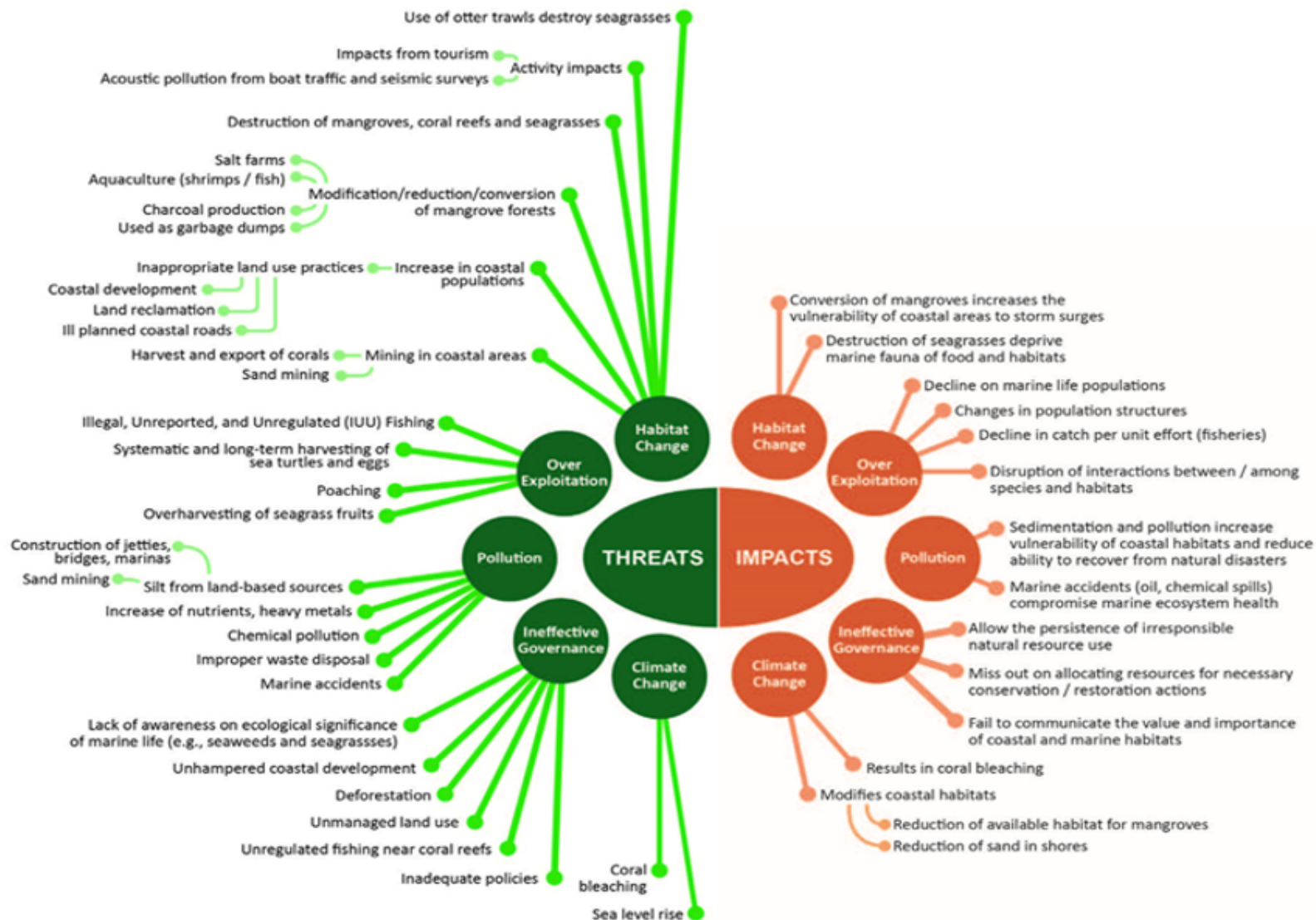


Figure 1. Mind map of threats and impacts of threats to coastal and marine ecosystems in ASEAN (ACB, 2017)

ii) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects,

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICM) and Marine Spatial Planning

Most marine conservation initiatives in the ASEAN region have evolved through the ICM route and have achieved significant progress following ICM principles that include the adoption of marine spatial planning (MSP). As indicated in several published materials, coastal and marine management efforts in the ASEAN region have, in the past four decades or more, been mobilized through various interpretations of ICM, and driven forward based on results and recommendations of socio-economic and bio-physical studies. Coastal management initiatives, notably ICMs have demonstrated gains in coastal conservation, and to a certain extent, have addressed issues including habitat change, over exploitation, pollution and to some extent issues related to gaps in fisheries production. These initiatives have developed mechanisms to facilitate coordination across communities, involving several sectors, local and national governments, well-designed legislation, and incentive systems. However, ICM and other area-based management approaches continued to be challenged by financial, management capacity and governance impediments. Hence, support is further needed to strengthen capacities of the countries to align conservation provisions with national development plans and legislative frameworks, catalyse blue growth within countries and among the shared waters of ASEAN, and support the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the LMEs.

All of the countries involved in this proposed project have established ICM initiatives at the national level. This project intends to further enhance, sustain, and scale up existing regional and national ICM programs to catalyse coordination mechanisms on a broader scale. PEMSEA has also made significant contributions and produce tangible benefits for coastal and ocean ecosystems and coastal communities in East Asian region, including ASEAN member states by developing an ICM system and building on practical experience gained in the application of this system.

Indonesia: In 2014, the Global Maritime Fulcrum (GMF) was launched, which envisions Indonesia as a force between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean and to become the center of the world's maritime axis. In support of the GMF, Indonesia passed the Presidential Decree no. 16 of 2017: Indonesian Sea Policy, which includes marine resource management and environmental protection and ocean space management as some of its pillars. Indonesia has met its target of conserving 20 million hectares of marine areas two years ahead of the target (PEMSEA Annual Report 2018) owing to its years of active implementation of marine protection programmes, which includes, among others, the adoption of ICM zoning plan by 18 out of Indonesia's 34 coastal provinces, and their local governments' environmental programmes. In 2014, Indonesia adopted the national Law on the Sea which establishes marine spatial planning as the tool to manage spatial use of coasts and oceans. As of date, the country has almost 18.2 million hectares of declared MPAs. <https://www.protectedplanet.net/country/IDN>.

The Philippines, through a national policy (EO 533), has adopted ICM as a national strategy to ensure the sustainable development of the country's coastal and marine environment and resources. It serves as a policy framework for the development and implementation of ICM programmes in the Philippines. One of the direct program interventions identified in the Philippine Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan for 2015-2028 is the restoration of ecosystem functions which include the establishment of marine sanctuaries and no-take zones; and active restoration through coral transplantation and mangrove and seagrass rehabilitation efforts. To date, the country has declared 1.74% of its total coastal and marine area as marine protected areas according to the latest data of WDPA (World Database on Protected Area. 2021).

Thailand has adopted the Law on Promotion of Marine and Coastal Resources Management (BE 2558/2015) for the integrated management of the country's 3,148 km coastline. The Law mandated the establishment of interagency and multi-sectoral coordinating mechanisms and development of strategic plans for marine and coastal resources management at the national and provincial levels. Thailand's Marine and Coastal Resources Promotion Act (2015) facilitated the early stages of MSP in the country. In 2019, Thailand approved its National Marine Interest Act, which promotes marine spatial planning for all coastal provinces.

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MPAs and MPA Networks

While the implementation of ICM and in recent years, MSP are getting traction in the development of policies and programs on the management and conservation of coastal, marine and fisheries resources, not all of these conservation investments have resulted in the identification and establishment of marine protected areas or the scaling up of MPAs in terms of area and networks. The ASEAN region is reported to have a steady increase in the proportion of MPAs within the territorial waters but the region remains challenged with achieving "10 percent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, representative and well connected system of protected areas..." as indicated by UN CBD Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. Such challenges include the lack of adequate understanding of the stakeholders on the ecological interactions in the marine and coastal environment, such as on their vital functions and consequences of their loss. There is also a gap in the efficiency of governance, which allows the persistence of unsustainable natural resource use, and thus, undermines the natural capacities of the coastal and marine environment to maintain their ecological functions.

The inadequate investment in MPA management is seen as among the primary limitations in MPA upkeep and in scaling up the area coverage of MPAs as increase in area of MPA may also mean additional resources (i.e. fuel for patrol and staffing). The ACB (2017) also reported that investments are also needed to build local capacities in MPA management, which includes strengthening collaboration among various governance levels, developing and implementing management plans and resource mobilization. National/local initiatives though have shown some advances particularly on ecosystem-based resources management and community-based coastal management. However, ASEAN-wide strategies on conserving biologically connected MPAs and sustainable fishing have yet to be established. So far, ASEAN marine protected areas cover a total of 3.88 percent of the total area of ASEAN waters. Using the 10 percent target of the SDG 14 and Aichi 11, the ASEAN still needs about 6.12 percent. There will be a steeper challenge when targets are to be recalibrated to the post 2020 marine ambition of 30 percent.

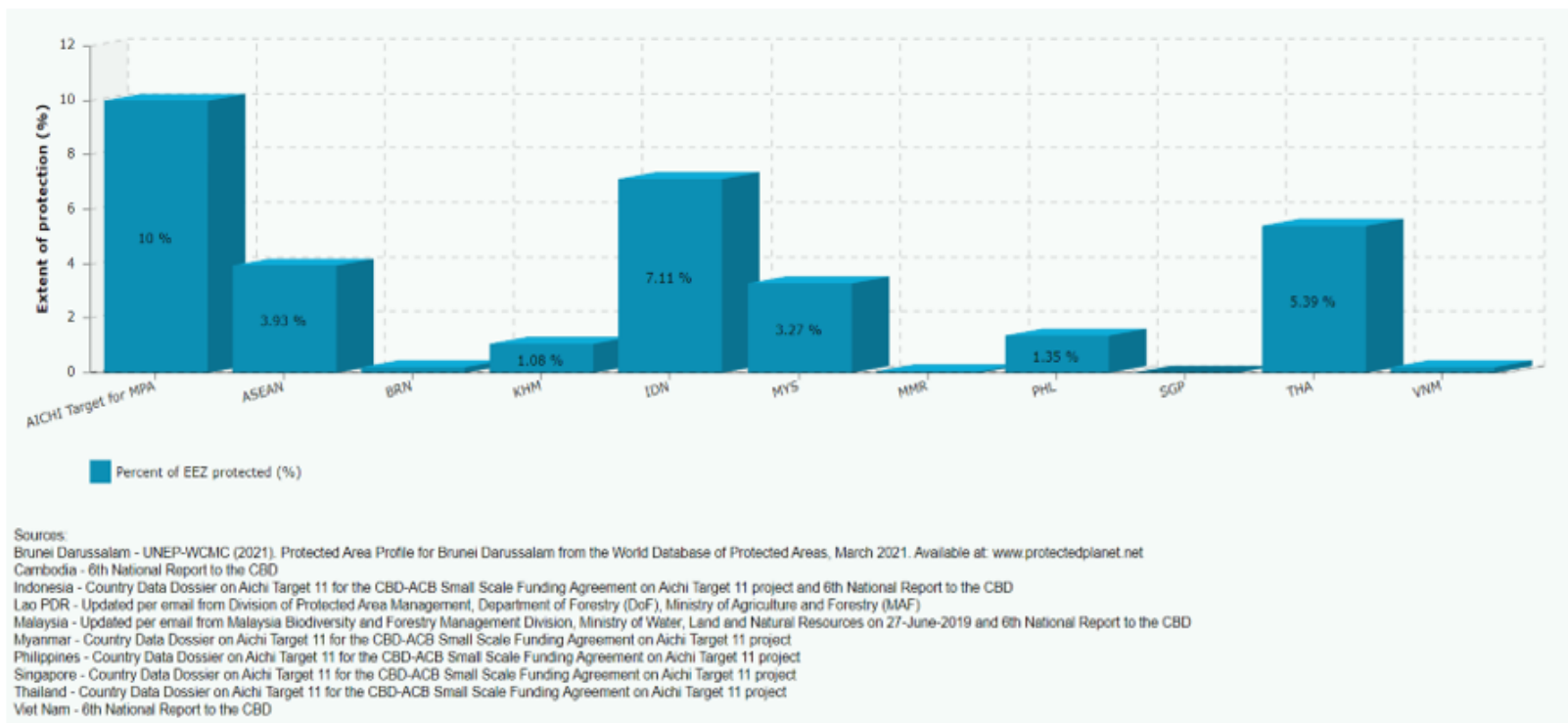


Figure 2. Percentage of MPAs established per country vis-a-vis the Aichi Target 11

KBAs, EEZ and ABNJs

The ACB maintains collaboration with the Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Community in the ASEAN region where ACB has been provided access to marine KBA data from the World Database on Marine Key Biodiversity Areas. This partnership has allowed ACB to improve the integrity of the data in the region which will contribute to expediting conservation of marine areas critical to the conservation of marine biodiversity in the ASEAN region. However, there is still a need to identify marine KBAs among ASEAN Member States and updating of KBA information where data sources are found dated. Meanwhile, only 2.5% of the total EEZ of the ASEAN Member States are protected, or about 25 million hectares due to offshore protected areas (World EEZ version 10; WDPA). Going beyond the EEZ and including the areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) are seen by experts as also crucial in reaching the 30 percent marine ambition (ACB-Pew Webinar, 2020). The ABNJ within the coverage area of the proposed project is about 33 million hectares and in the South China Sea/West Philippine Sea.

Associated Baseline Projects

The proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project could leverage other regional conservation investments of similar mandates in the ASEAN to scale-up MPA management and sustainable fisheries in the region in a more coherent and collaborative manner.

National Projects

Indonesia - Indonesia is implementing a national program for 201 MPAs that legally protect more than 200,000 square km of marine areas, with controlled use and fishing zones and a small percent of no-take zones (NTZ). Indonesia is also part of The Meloy Fund: A fund for sustainable small-scale fisheries in SE Asia GEF, Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (Eastern Indonesia) which both promote sustainable fisheries; and the marine conservation projects, such as the EU programme through KfW to support Marine biodiversity and support of Coastal Fisheries in the Coral Triangle, and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Coral Reef Insurance in Asia and the Pacific (ADB). The Indonesian government also works with Conservation International on various projects on establishing and strengthening MPAs across the country. The ASEAN ENMAPS could also build on recent national efforts of the World Bank-supported Indonesia Sustainable Oceans Programme (ISOP) in promoting sustainable and equitable management of coastal and marine areas for economic development, coastal livelihoods, and ecosystem health.

Philippines - The ASEAN ENMAPS could contribute and complement with the Philippines' Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program (CMEMP). The CMEMP aims to achieve the effective management of the country's coastal and marine ecosystems thereby increasing their ability to provide ecological goods and services to improve the quality of life of the coastal population particularly ensuring food security, climate change resiliency and disaster risk reduction. The Philippines is also implementing the USAID projects, Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes (SIBOL) and the Fish Right Program. SIBOL is a five-year project launched in 2020 to introduce and scale up high-impact environmental interventions that support the sustainable management and governance of key natural resources and reduce environmental crimes and unsustainable practices. SIBOL covers one of the ASEAN ENMAPS candidate sites, the Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape. The Fish Right is designed to meet both the need for improved management of fisheries and biodiversity conservation by working with fishing communities within various municipalities of the marine key biodiversity areas (MKBA) in the Philippines. The ASEAN ENMAPS could also build on the outcomes of the GEF UNDP national project on Strengthening the Marine Protected Area System to Conserve Marine Key Biodiversity Areas which aims to strengthen the conservation, protection, and management of key biodiversity areas in the Philippines.

Thailand - The Thailand government is working with different stakeholders in implementing their workplan for MPA establishment (2016-2025) under the National Strategy of Thailand (2018-2037), led by the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR), and consistent also with their Marine and Coastal Resources Management Act of 2015. Thailand is aiming to establish a total of 3,851,004 hectares of MPAs at the end of the workplan. The DMCR also recently collaborated with the Dow Thailand and the (IUCN) for the "Dow & Thailand Mangrove Alliance". The collaboration aims to advance the conservation of mangroves along the coast of five provinces in Thailand to reduce the impact of global warming and marine debris sustainably.

Regional Projects

Partnerships for Coral Reef Finance and Insurance in Asia and the Pacific. The project focuses on enabling large-scale financing to increase the climate resilience of coastal businesses, communities and livelihoods in selected countries in the Asia Pacific region which includes the Philippines and Indonesia, through the public-private partnership (PPP) model for coral reef insurance. Although this is under the Climate Change focal area of GEF, the project aligns with Component 2 of the ASEAN ENMAPS.

Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture is a GEF project that will serve the Philippines. The project specifically aims to create new sustainable seaweed value chains that will deliver ecosystem services and provide socioeconomic benefits. This is aligned with the capacity-building initiatives for implementing investment and livelihood projects of the ASEAN ENMAPS stakeholders under the Project Component 2, as well as in upscaling replicable models on conservation enterprises in the region.

Implementing the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand - This GEF-UNEP project on seeks to support the implementation of the National Action Plans in support of the SAP as well as in consensus building on arrangements for strengthened regional cooperation in the management of the marine and coastal environment of the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, which covers 860,000 ha of mangroves, 153,000 ha of coral reef at 82 priority sites and 783,900 ha of coastal wetland at 19 sites.

Sustainable Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Programme. This project of GEF-FAO on Bay of Bengal aims to contribute to sustainable management of fisheries, marine living resources and their habitats in the Bay of Bengal region for the benefit of coastal states and communities.

Improving Biodiversity Conservation of Wetlands and Migratory Waterbirds in the ASEAN Region - This project facilitated the establishment of the ASEAN Flyway Network (AFN) and supported waterbird census and wetland assessments of 37 inland and coastal wetland areas in the region. This contributed to the conservation of migratory birds as well as the protection and sustainable management of the selected coastal and marine ecosystems. The project's next phase will focus on strengthening the AFN, implement capacity building for managers and stakeholders of the coastal wetlands and networks of flyway sites in the region, and promote awareness on the importance of protecting the coastal habitats in species conservation.

PEMSEA's ICM programme implementation has notably covered about 40.4 percent of the region's coastline as of 2020, creating an important impact to more than 86,000 km of coastline and over 146 million people living in coastal and watershed areas. The ICM programme of PEMSEA has brought over 10 percent improvement in the rating of the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) recorded in national and locally managed MPAs in selected sites in Indonesia, and Philippines.

EU - Ocean Governance Project (EuropeAid/139855/DH/SER/MULTI) - The project aims to protect and restore marine ecosystems and serves as a catalyst for building peace and security and fostering sustainable economies in Southeast Asia and the Atlantic Ocean basin. Among the approaches of the project is to enhance cooperation of MPAs, contribute to effective MPA management, facilitate broader regional cooperation on marine and coastal resilience with a view to underpin regional stability, and support the implementation of marine and coastal ecosystem restoration activity.

SOMACORE - The Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle (SOMACORE) is a regional project with support from the GIZ and covering areas in the Coral Triangle region including two participating countries of the ASEAN ENMAPS, such as Indonesia and Philippines. The project aims to strengthen the resilience of ecosystems and communities in transboundary seascapes of the Coral Triangle by fostering good governance and protection of

coastal and marine biodiversity.

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) - mobilized both commitments from member countries and actions on the ground which have allowed for the establishment and management of larger areas of MPAs in the region, particularly in the South China Sea and Sulu Celebes Sea LMEs. The CTI's CTMPAS Framework and Action Plan was endorsed by the six Coral Triangle (CT) countries including its targets.

Bird Life International maintains a *GIS Dataset of Important Bird Areas (IBAs)* on behalf of BirdLife Partnership, which have mapped more than 3,000 marine Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas that have also so far been recognized as the largest network of sites of importance for marine biodiversity. BirdLife International is one of the world's largest nature conservation partnerships from governments, regional fisheries management organizations, international conventions and fishing fleets around the world. ACB has an existing partnership with Birdlife International in maintaining the ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism and its protected area and species databases.

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) also conducts research and development activities in AMS under interdisciplinary approaches covering responsible fisheries and aquaculture technologies and practices, post-harvest technology and practices, fisheries management concepts and approaches, and policy and advisory services. These contribute to designing strategies for sustainable resource use.

iii) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project;

The analysis for the Theory of Change (TOC) for the project uses the program level analysis of the causal pathways as guided by the GEF TOC primer (GEF STAP C.57 Inf. 4). The project envisions transformative changes in the management of networks of MPAs in the LMEs, building upon national initiatives to develop and manage MPAs and use of ICM and MSPs and increasing coverage of management and protection of marine corridors. This upscaling of conservation areas aspires to attain improved support and sustainability to fisheries and other ecosystem goods and services. To accomplish this, the proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project will leverage regional conservation investments of similar mandates in the ASEAN, through a three-pronged approach (See **Annex D** for the TOC diagram).

The science-based approaches, which is the focus of Component 1 will define MPA networks in specific LMEs or across LMEs, identify new MPAs, support necessary management decisions to determine the scale of connectivity in the LMEs, and identify biological and spatial boundaries in conservation corridors between and among MPAs. Results thereof will also serve as a basis for plans and decision-making on incorporating marine connectivity in spatial planning and in establishing coordination mechanisms across local governments, including transboundary arrangements across the littoral countries. Once the bases for scaling up of MPAs and connectivities are established in Component 1, the Component 2 will focus on improving the management of individual MPAs and the network of MPAs through a range of interventions such as capacity-building on ICM and adaptive management approaches, which will also be streamlined

in the development or refining of management plans. Development and implementation of investment projects that will promote the benefits of ecosystem management, restoration and responsible governance at the core of the social and economic development of communities will also be supported. To sustain these gains, partnerships among various sectors, including the private sectors, will be established. Partnerships are also envisaged to gain sustainable financing, increase investments, and strengthen local (within countries) and multi-country cooperation (across countries and LMEs) to address priority concerns in the MPA governance. The results and lessons of the project will be packaged and disseminated into knowledge products to ensure that the learnings and best practices are documented and shared with relevant stakeholders, which will be the outcomes of Component 3. Knowledge management, learning and networking will utilise existing knowledge sharing platforms in the region to engage the relevant project stakeholders in further learning and building of core capacities in MPA management and other management tools needed in successfully implementing the project. As a source for potential replication and scaling up of best practices, the project will incorporate all the learning through knowledge management mechanisms in the region, such as the Southeast Asia Knowledge Base (SeaKB), the ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism, ASEAN Biodiversity Dashboard, and IW LEARN, among others.

This project follows the NOAA the delineation of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) which has been guiding GEF programming in the International Waters focal area since the beginning. LMEs are *regions of ocean space of 200,000 km² or greater, that encompass coastal areas from river basins and estuaries to the outer margins of a continental shelf or the seaward extent of a predominant coastal current. LMEs are defined by ecological criteria, including bathymetry, hydrography, productivity, and trophically linked populations. The LME concept for ecosystem-based management includes a 5-module approach focused on productivity, fish and fisheries, pollution and ecosystem health, socioeconomics, and governance.* Foundational projects in the LMEs have supported the formulation of Transboundary Diagnostics Analysis (TDAs) and Strategic Action Programs (SAPs). The TDAs have identified transboundary concerns that include, among others, fisheries and ecosystems health and biodiversity which are two important aspects that this project proposes to build on.

With three ASEAN countries participating and in consideration of available resources, it is not possible to support activities that will span the entire LME. In the Sulu Celebes Seas, only two (Indonesia and the Philippines) of the three littoral countries are participating; in South China Sea, two (Indonesia, Philippines) of 6 littoral countries; in the Gulf of Thailand, one (Thailand) of 4 littoral countries; in Sulu Celebes Seas, two (Indonesia and Philippines) of 3 littoral countries; Indonesian Seas, one (Indonesia) of two littoral countries; in Bay of Bengal, one (Thailand) of 8 littoral countries and only on the side of the Andaman Sea. During the national consultations, countries listed their priority MPA sites as embodied in the NBSAPs and other national documents. These are listed as candidate sites (see Table 1) and plotted in the LME maps (Figure 3) with the final sites to be determined during the PPG. How this project will address this issue is discussed in Component 1 below.

Component 1: Science-based approach to supporting and expanding networks of marine protected areas (MPAs)

Outcome 1.1. Building on results of LME TDAs, references derived on: a) ecological, socioeconomic and institutional linkages across MPAs within LMEs or parts thereof; b) marine corridors defined by the linkages that will guide the activities in Component 2; and c) additional MPAs to strengthen the network

This first component of the project will establish science-based approaches that will determine the extent of ecological, socioeconomic and institutional connectivities within the identified LMEs. The results from this component will define MPA networks in each LME, identify new specifically the MPAs within each network and propose options in support of necessary management actions for MPAs and MPA networks including the corridors connecting MPAs within the network. **During the PPG**, the connectivities will be assessed using secondary information, the primary purpose of which is to identify the MPAs that will comprise the network. The first category of MPAs to be considered will be the candidate sites proposed by the countries during the PIF consultations which are listed in Table 1. The second category will be other MPAs within the LME that are supported by other projects. Other MPA sites with funding from government and other development partners will be looked at in the context of connectivity. Further, sites that may be crucial to the network that are not in the first two categories would be flagged for future projects (refer to next paragraph on additional sites within the network). It is emphasized that this project will only support those in the first category of MPAs.

During project implementation, supplementary analyses using primary data on species assemblages combined with information on larval exchange and habitat health validated or augmented with data on fishing pressure will be employed within the LMEs. Socioeconomic and institutional connectivities will also be assessed at this stage. Stemming from the evidence collected from the analyses, knowledge about the conservation corridors between and among MPAs within each MPA network will be identified and define their biological and spatial boundaries. The scientific studies will contribute to the existing pool of information for each of the LMEs. At country and regional levels, it will provide further guidance on enhancing management in MPAs and MPA networks, respectively. The identification of new MPAs crucial to the network will be finalized at this stage and will thus refine the analysis done during the PPG. The studies to be conducted will provide the basis for plans and decision-making on incorporating marine connectivity in spatial planning. It will inform the establishment of coordination mechanisms across local governments, including transboundary arrangements across the littoral countries, as may be deemed necessary to successfully implement the project. The outcomes from this component will feed into Component 2.

Output 1.1.1: Conducted supplementary scientific studies and analyses and validated applications of current MPA science (including connectivity research, information on disruptions and threats to connectivity, economic, social and institutional linkages) to inform functional connectivities and fisheries potentials within LMEs; identified potential new MPAs essential for the network

Indicative Activities:

Engage biophysical and social scientists who will conduct supplementary scientific analyses, collect primary data to assess all dimensions of ecological, socio-economic and institutional connectivities in the MPA network within each LME; Refine the assessment of connectivity based on existing models and best available data conducted during the PPG with the collection and analysis of primary data; Define biological and spatial boundaries of the MPA network combined with the socio-economic and institutional analyses; Identify possible gaps in the MPA network in consultation with government and relevant stakeholders; Provide recommendations on the appropriate and effective cooperation mechanism based on the linkages within each MPA network (to be supported in Outcome 2.2)

Component 2: Enhanced management of the network of MPAs in selected LMEs

Component 2 of the project will improve the management of individual MPAs and the networks of MPAs by taking into account the results from Component 1. This component through the first Outcome will improve the management of individual MPAs within each network and as mentioned previously, will focus only on the first category of MPAs mentioned in Component 1. The range of MPA interventions will include the preparation of management plans or refining where these already exist to enhance the connectivities and the implementation of the priority elements in these plans. Pre-identified interventions that will be supported include integrated coastal management (ICM), formulation and implementation of concrete investment strategies that will include sustainable financing. Outcome 2 will address priority concerns at the MPA network level, including multi-country cooperation in the management of marine corridors.

Outcome 2.1: Improved management of identified MPAs, taking into account network linkages, marine key biodiversity areas (mKBAs) and other national priorities for conservation

Output 2.1.1. Enhanced management plans recognizing the ecological, socio-economic, and institutional linkages and strategies to address threats that disrupt connectivity and marine ecosystem functionalities; implementation of the priority elements of the enhanced management plans.

Indicative Activities

Engage biophysical and social scientists to lead the development or enhancement of existing management plans; Participatory multi-stakeholder consultations involving major coastal community associations, women's groups, indigenous peoples and other key groups at various levels (i.e. component MPA, among MPA networks, fisheries management areas) in the development/enhancement of the management plans; Present the enhanced management plans to stakeholders for review and adoption; Prioritize interventions that will be supported by the project; Implement the identified priority interventions.

It is noted that the succeeding Outputs 2.1.3, 2.1.4 and 2.1.5 will be implemented in the context of the MPA management plans and ICM plans (Output 2.1.2) to be prepared.

Output 2.1.2. Adopted and implemented integrated coastal management (ICM) strategies, in at least one site per country, that include marine spatial planning approaches, ecosystem-based conservation strategies and other related approaches

Indicative Activities:

Formulate or update ICM management plans, as complemented by activities in Output 2.1.1, to include strategy and implementation plan on ICM; Support implementation of priority ICM activities, as indicated in the ICM strategy and implementation plan of the sites in alignment with the management plans of the MPAs.

It is noted that more than one site may be supported per country depending on the scope of work required. This will be assessed during the PPG.

Output 2.1.3. Feasibility studies completed for the development and financing of priority conservation investment projects, at least one for each participating country, within MPA networks to: a) contribute to the sustainable financing of MPAs; b) demonstrate the benefits accruing to local communities as well as to the global community from investments in MPA management

Indicative Activities

Identify priority areas for further investments proceeding from the enhanced management plans and the ICM plans from Outputs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2, through local and national consultations with guidance from the project; Prepare feasibility studies by engaging specialists; Present the feasibility studies to local and national stakeholders for validation

The project will identify a portfolio of investments such as in ecotourism and other conservation enterprises, blue carbon offsets, among others. Feasibility studies will be conducted on the priority investment areas to be identified through local and national consultations. The target is for at least one feasibility study conducted for each country, however, for countries providing higher BD STAR resources, additional studies may be covered. This will be assessed during the PPG.

Output 2.1.4. At least one investment project per country developed, pilot tested, monitored and evaluated, proceeding from the feasibility studies in Output 2.1.3

Indicative Activities

Informed by the feasibility studies in Output 2.1.3, develop an implementation plan for the pilot sites that will start with convening a meeting with the donors and potential partners (bilaterals, multilaterals, development banks, private sector) to raise funds to implement the investment projects; Negotiate partnership agreements on behalf of the stakeholders; Establish public-private partnerships to leverage investments; Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to distill gains, lessons learned, and outcomes of these investment partnerships.

Output 2.1.5. Created or enhanced entrepreneurial skills of local communities and partners to help them sustainably manage MPAs

Indicative Activities

Undertake participatory planning with affected stakeholders to identify and prioritize the range of conservation enterprises and appropriate alternative livelihoods; Conduct capacity-building activities to ensure that a conservation enterprise development plan is integrated in the MPA and ICM management plan and their importance to conservation and sustainable fisheries are fully understood by the stakeholders; Support investments on diversified skills training and material support on the priority conservation enterprises; Track the progress and evaluate the impacts of the conservation enterprises.

The project recognizes that MPA management (and ICM) could entail restrictions on access to those traditionally dependent on the goods and services in and around the MPAs and in the marine corridors. There are short to medium term costs to be made to achieve long-term benefits. Of special concern are the indigenous peoples, fishers/gleaners, marginalized groups and others who may be affected. While their perspectives and inputs will be sought in the formulation of MPA management plans and ICM plans, the project needs to soften the impacts through the above-mentioned activities.

Outcome 2.2. Initiated management of the networks of MPAs including the associated marine corridors to support biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries management

The marine corridors will be identified from Component 1. While Outcome 2.1 will focus mainly on actions at the MPA level, this Outcome will cover a wider geographic scale which are the marine corridors. The corridors could be within national boundaries or across adjacent countries and therefore entail interventions at the national and multi-country levels. It is recognized that there will be necessary actions at the MPA level but these will be captured in Output 2.1.1 as mentioned. For this Outcome, the activities to be supported are at the MPA network level.

Output 2.2.1 Marine corridor management interventions at two geographic levels (multi-country and national) agreed upon by countries individually and collectively

Indicative Activities

Proceeding from the outcomes of Component 1 and the completed LME Transboundary Diagnostics Analyses in foundational IW projects, finalize the delineation of the marine corridor areas and identify the critical ecological, socioeconomic and institutional linkages for biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries management; Formulate corridor management interventions that are necessary at the national (in between MPAs within the country) and regional (in between MPAs located in two countries) levels; Agree on priority interventions that will be supported by the project.

Output 2.2.2 Cooperation mechanisms collaboratively identified and agreed upon by country partners in the LMEs for corridor management at appropriate governance levels

For the marine corridors encompassing more than one country, regional cooperation is necessary to achieve coherence in the formulation and implementation of management actions. The project will not put in place a new cooperation mechanism. It will build on existing mechanisms in managing marine corridors such as through the LME-wide governance mechanisms, the ASEAN Working Groups (Nature Conservation and Biodiversity and Coastal and Marine Environment) and others identified in the organogram. UNDP and ACB are well-placed to undertake these activities.

Indicative Activities

Modalities for engagement and cooperation agreed through consultations nationally and between countries through existing national and regional organizations, including LME-wide governing mechanisms; Implement and institutionalize agreed mechanisms; Monitor and evaluate outcomes as inputs to refine cooperation mechanisms.

Component 3: Learning, knowledge management and networking

The project will involve training, capacity development, knowledge management, learning exchanges and networking as part of this component. The project will engage the relevant capacity development experts and networks such as the AHP Network of MPA Managers, the national focal points of the AWGCME and AWGNCB, the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers and Regional Centers of Excellence in building and strengthening core capacities in MPA management and other management tools to be utilized in the project. The results and lessons of the project will be packaged and disseminated into knowledge products and shared in national, regional and international fora for information exchange to ensure that the learnings and best practices are documented and shared with policy makers and other relevant stakeholders. This will ensure and advance LME management by recognizing and exemplifying

conservation corridors and transboundary areas as key to biodiversity conservation, food security and sustainability. As a source for potential replication, the project will incorporate all the learnings through knowledge management platforms such as the Southeast Asia Knowledge Base (SeaKB), the ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism, and International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW LEARN), among others.

Outcome 3.1: . Improved stakeholder capacities in the integrated management of MPAs and marine corridors through the use of knowledge platforms to bring about behavioral change towards biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries management

Output 3.1.1: Strengthened core capacities and skills in integrated management of MPAs, network of MPAs and marine corridors through the application of tools such as ICM, MSP, nature-based solutions, investment planning and biodiversity-sensitive sustainable fisheries management schemes

Indicative Activities

Undertake training needs assessments of project partners and relevant stakeholders on the various tools and approaches employed in the project; Build on existing modules in formulating applicable training programs for local, national and regional audiences; Conduct training and capacity building with the participants representing gender balance and prioritizing marginalized decisionmakers; Conduct internships or secondment programmes with PEMSEA and ACB as part of capacity-building; Conduct consultancies with the direct involvement of partner agencies thereby building capacities; Mentor national project staff by the regional project staff; Support to participation of project partners and relevant stakeholders to capacity- and knowledge-building ASEAN conferences and programmes, i.e. ASEAN Conference on Biodiversity, ASEAN Heritage Parks Conference, Experiential Learning Programme for Protected Areas in the ASEAN, and the Youth Internships for Protected Areas under the ASEAN Youth Biodiversity Programme. IWLEARN is mentioned in Output 3.1.3.

Output 3.1.2. Developed and disseminated knowledge products to facilitate scaling up and replication of conservation and sustainable management of MPAs, MPA networks and marine corridors, including collaborative and innovative development through ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism (CHM), ASEAN Biodiversity Dashboard, PEMSEA's Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank (SEAKB), other LME knowledge platforms and online national platforms

Indicative Activities

Process and organize the scientific and other data into a format that is accessible to users and upload to electronic data platforms; Encourage academic and other partners to publish articles in scientific journals pertaining the scientific data collected by the project; Develop a project website for uploading training materials and all project-related documents and for information sharing with partners and the public; Document the lessons learned from all aspects of the project that also highlight the roles and contributions of women, indigenous groups and other marginalized sectors; Discuss and agree with other LME platforms on collaboration on knowledge management; Link the project website with the existing regional knowledge sharing platform of the ACB, PEMSEA and other partners for wider reach and to improve the collection of these databases.

Output 3.1.3. Allocated 1% of IW resources for IW LEARN and IW portfolio-wide activities, particularly on cross LME learning exchanges, IW Conference, workshops, webinars, and training, among others.

Indicative Activities

Contribute to the IW LEARN portfolio to exchange learnings focusing on science and management of MPAs, MPA networks and marine corridors; Participate at the IW Conferences, webinars and other relevant knowledge exchange activities as convenor, co-convenor or participant; Include publication materials and experience notes in the IW LEARN platform; Conduct twinning activities and training and other learning exchange opportunities with other GEF IW projects; Participate in other activities as may be required by IW LEARN

iv) alignment with GEF focal areas

The proposed regional project is multi-focal; it is aligned with the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area and the International Waters Focal Area strategies. The activities supported contribute to the objectives of the two focal areas in a mutually reinforcing manner taking on the synergies between the two focal areas. Alignment is described below.

Alignment with Biodiversity Focal Area Strategies

BD-1-1: Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors. GEF-7 provides nine entry points for countries to mainstream biodiversity across sectors and within production landscapes and seascapes, this project is aligned specifically with: a) Biodiversity Mainstreaming in Priority Sectors; and b) Inclusive Conservation; c) International Waters Focal Area/Sustainable Fisheries.

With respect to biodiversity mainstreaming, the project will implement ICM and MSP in the priority MPAs identified by the countries. MSP will ensure that marine resource use is appropriately situated without undermining biodiversity which follows from the review of GEF experience that such investments is a critical first step that sets up the stage for future more comprehensive mainstreaming investments in production seascapes. The priority sectors would be fisheries (further discussed below) and tourism. Tourism in or near MPAs has flourished in the ASEAN countries and while it has taken a lull during the pandemic, it is expected to recover strongly which require further impetus for continuing work on biodiversity mainstreaming in this sector to protect the resources therein. Refer to activities in Outcome 2.1.

On inclusive conservation, the project areas mirror the global situation whereby indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) manage most if not all of the MPAs in the three countries – Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand. A number of the candidate sites are considered home to several indigenous peoples. These include Sama-Bajao of Kepulauan Wakatobi National Park in Indonesia; the Chao Lay, or sea nomads in the islands surrounding Muko Sirin and Muko Similan Islands in the Andaman Seas and the Tausug and Jama Mapun communities of Turtle Islands in the Philippines. The project will work closely with IPLCs in the site-based conservation work in preserving indigenous knowledge and traditional systems and in building their capacity for MPA management in Outcome 2.1)

The biodiversity work in this project is fully aligned with Sustainable Fisheries/International Waters Focal Area Strategy as it will promote sustainable fishing practices and strengthen ecosystem governance both at national and regional level to maintain productivity while sustaining biodiversity within fisheries in and around MPAs and in marine corridors. The activities in Outcomes 2.1 and 1.1 will address national and shared fisheries by working closely with the LME governance mechanisms. The project will address anthropogenic pressures on vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, and associated ecosystems, including pollution, overfishing and destructive fishing, and unregulated coastal development, are reduced, thus contributing to ecosystem integrity and resilience

BD-2-7 Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and improve financial sustainability, effective management and ecosystem coverage of the global protected area estate. Among the major drivers of coastal and marine biodiversity loss in the ASEAN region are resource overexploitation, pollution, coastal development, and unsustainable fishing practices to meet the increasing demand from a fast-growing population in and around the region. The activities on integrating and mainstreaming biodiversity in various sectors are discussed above. In terms of addressing the direct drivers to protect the diversity of habitats and species, this will be done through the development and implementation of enhanced management plans (activities in Outcome 2.1). Activities in Outputs 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 are expected to contribute to the financial sustainability of MPAs. These are expected to improve management effectiveness of MPAs. On the other hand, the establishment of MPA networks and corridors within LMEs will increase the ecosystem coverage of the global protected area system in a way that is more resilient to the impacts of climate change as more areas are protected.

Alignment with International Waters Focal Area Strategies

Under the International Waters Focal Area, the proposal is in line with the strategic objective on strengthening blue economy opportunities. Particularly, this will contribute to sustaining healthy coastal and marine ecosystems and catalyze sustainable fishing.

IW-1-1 - Strengthening Blue Economy Opportunities - Sustaining healthy coastal and marine ecosystems.

Under sustaining healthy coastal and marine ecosystems, the following types of investments will be supported by the project: Establish and support existing marine protected areas in key biodiversity hotspots and coastal habitats; Rehabilitate degraded key habitats; Mainstream marine area-based management and spatial tools by working with the countries, LME governance mechanisms and with the ASEAN working groups; Work with the mentioned multi-state

cooperation frameworks in transboundary network of MPAs and marine corridors; Stimulate private sector engagement through the conduct of feasibility studies and formulation of investment strategies.

IW-1-2 - Strengthening Blue Economy Opportunities - Catalyze sustainable fisheries management

Activities related to sustainable fisheries management will be specified during the PPG hence Core Indicator 8 is worded accordingly. The proposal recognizes the vital role fisheries and fisheries practices play in impacting ecosystems integrity, eliminating hunger, promoting health, and reducing poverty, supporting investments targeting sustainable fishing practice and policy processes both on national and regional level. To catalyze sustainable fisheries management, the following types of investments are likely to be supported by the project: Address overfishing to move the fisheries in the marine corridors and the fishing zones within MPAs to sustainable levels; and where applicable, the project will implement market mechanisms to support sustainable fisheries value chains.

v) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing; include value-added of corridors

This project will build on existing frameworks, expand conservation corridors, connect existing marine protected areas to address ecosystem functionality, and promote transformational changes in biodiversity conservation and management of international waters. Through expanding conservation coverage, the project will anticipate an increased number of conservation areas, coupled with improved management practices on the ground. In doing so, the project will contribute to reverting, if not mitigating, the increasing risks of pollution, habitat degradation, human impacts, and vulnerabilities, which have been identified as the major drivers of coastal and marine biodiversity loss in the ASEAN region (ABO 2, 2017). The contributions from GEFTF and co-financing instruments will provide the needed measures in delivering the project objectives.

In expanding conservation areas through identified biodiversity corridors, important areas for fish production, ecological processes will be safeguarded. These conservation corridors will contribute to the LME's fish stocks by protecting key areas that are significant for the economically important fishes. Moreover, an intact and contiguous biodiversity corridor will likely contribute to more resilient and productive ecosystems. Continuity of protected areas may be able to further mitigate environmental degradation as accentuated by climate change.

Part of the project's linking of MPAs is the engagement of the local communities and other sectors in conservation. Where most of the coastal areas of the LMEs are inhabited, the project will empower local communities through participatory management. The local communities and other sectors will be further engaged through innovative financing and enterprise that is congruent with the management of conservation corridors. This initiative will contribute to reducing the impacts of human activities to the environment.

The project will contribute to improved governance of LMEs and the alignment of this project to existing Strategic Action Programmes is discussed in a separate section (Part II.1a.vi). In international waters, the project will facilitate transboundary cooperation among countries who have shared conservation corridors. Enhanced governance in transboundary areas is further supplemented by the executing partners, who already have existing cooperation in the region. The collaboration among MPA networks will foster enhanced management and environmental protection to secure the ecosystem services of LMEs through development of coordinating mechanisms to address site-specific concerns.

vi) global environmental benefits (GEFTF)

The participating countries are acknowledged mega-diverse countries, both in terms of marine and terrestrial biodiversity. The Southeast and East Asian regions, which host an immensely rich marine environment, including 30% of the world's coral reefs, 35% of mangroves, about 18% of seagrass meadows. These ecosystems support the highest coastal marine biodiversity in the world along 234,000 km of coastline, and provide the resource base and natural infrastructure, which sustains a life support system for at least two billion people. The three of the 17 megadiverse countries include Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. These countries comprise the most diverse coral reefs in the world (von Rintelen et al, 2017). ASEAN Member States acknowledge their roles in global biodiversity as reflected in their commitments and participation to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The participating countries Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand who are all parties to the CBD, have continued their implementation of the Convention's obligations through the development of national policies, programmes and action plans for a more sustainable utilization of their biological resources. These are all highlighted in their respective National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans or NBSAP.

The importance of effectively managed coastal and marine areas to food security, biodiversity conservation, community health, climate change resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and economic growth, is increasingly being acknowledged globally. Studies on connectivity based on larval migration patterns clearly indicate that certain areas are sources or sinks of fish and invertebrate larvae, and, in some circumstances, some areas may be self-seeding. The MPA networks and their connectivities contribute to the improved management of biodiversity at the seascape or LME scale. Establishing these will also lay down the foundations for the need for the protection status of these linked ecosystems in the future. This will also contribute to the development and adoption of policies that will protect existing MPAs and will establish the basis for protection of the ecologically, socioeconomically and institutionally connected areas. This will address the anthropogenic and other pressures on marine habitats. In 2010, 50% to 90% of coral reefs located both in and outside of Thailand's MPAs of the Andaman Sea experienced massive coral bleaching. This led to a new approach understanding terrestrial and marine ecosystem connectivities and their collective benefits to combat global climate change impacts and protect national biodiversity assets (Manopawitr, 2019). This has led to the establishment of more than 20 protected area complexes covering both marine and terrestrial protected areas with potential connections through conservation corridors that include both private and public lands. These studies have recommended policies and programmes to expand protected areas thereby increasing their ecosystem benefits to stakeholders and communities residing along and whose livelihood depends on natural resources. These linkages also provide various opportunities for closer collaboration and cooperation in order to adapt to the impacts of climate change thus improving rural development and community resilience (Suksawang, 2018).

An effectively managed MPA networks will contribute to the global sustainability through sustainable fisheries by enhancing/improving biodiversity of the MPA networks and ecologically connected marine ecosystems. The identification and recognition of key marine biodiversity areas and marine corridors will lead to their conservation, and when subsequently paired with sustainable fishing practices in the region, is expected to contribute to improved fisheries production.

Also contributory to the global environmental benefits is the integration of the associated ecosystems in the LMEs. Considerations of the various perspectives of key stakeholders will lead to a better understanding of biodiversity conservation, fisheries, and other relevant sectors in the coastal and marine environment.

These findings emphasize the need to protect pairs, groups, and networks of MPAs in ecological units within LMEs to ensure the survival of fish and invertebrate larvae to adulthood, and thus ensure the productivity of coastal and marine ecosystems. The project will respond to these need by implementing or improving systematic approaches (i.e. integrated coastal management, ecosystem-based management, marine spatial planning, and other area-based management systems) towards strengthening the management effectiveness of ecological networks of MPAs and their component MPAs under a variety of political, social, economic and environmental conditions. This project will contribute to achieving global targets related to food production from the aquatic environment, address issues related to habitat fragmentation, species extinctions and will increase areas placed under various forms of conservation.

Specifically, the project will also contribute to the following GEF global environmental targets: a) increasing coverage and improving management effectiveness of existing MPAs; b) identify MPA networks and the range of their contributions to fisheries management; c) improving conservation and management practices and their effectiveness in marine habitats; d) improving cooperative management of shared waters (LMEs or parts thereof) specifically related to sustainable fisheries; e) increasing stakeholder participation, including the vulnerable and marginalized groups of society, in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development process; and f) addressing gender considerations in designing and implementing MPAs, MPA networks, and marine corridors.

The ASEAN ENMAPS project will help steer a more aggressive conservation action at a larger scale (i.e. regional and transboundary in scope) that will address all drivers of marine biodiversity loss in the region and help build sustainable ecosystems.

Contribution to Strategic Action Program (SAP) for LMEs. At the core of the proposed project is to maximise the ecosystem services of the LMEs through linking MPAs, and in some cases address transboundary management of shared water bodies. The proposal, in pursuant of the Strategic Action Programmes (SAP) for LMEs as it will provide the needed support for governance and management of LMEs. The proposed project will involve management strategies for maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services through marine and coastal connectivity. The proposal will make use of existing MPAs and identify its appropriate linkages based on migratory routes, and biogeochemical processes in the LMEs. It will also provide LME management support and capacity

development through the use of management tools such as adaptive management, ICM, GIS, MSP, and EBM, among others. The proposal will also contribute to the sustainability of LME management and support SAP implementation through the development of innovative financial mechanisms. Part of the sustainability strategy is the involvement of the relevant stakeholders in the management of identified MPA networks and transboundary areas.

Regional Strategic Action Program for the Sulu-Celebes Sea (SCS) Large Marine Ecosystem. The objectives of the proposal will contribute to the thematic area of the SAP on: (i) science-based, social, and management interventions; (ii) information, education and communication; (iii) livelihood development; and (iv) capacity building. The proposal will dwell on the applications of the existing studies on ecologically-linked water bodies in the SCS. As such, this will contribute to science-based interventions through utilising the appropriate management tools to address management challenges. The project will also include investments in conservation that will contribute in the development of sustainable livelihoods to coastal communities, especially those who rely on fisheries. Finally, the knowledge management component of the project will provide numerous capacity building opportunities to management staff, local communities to acquire relevant skills and knowledge for conservation and livelihoods. Under the same component, the project will contribute to enhance strategies on information, education and communication, especially on updating pertinent information, success stories, and articulating management tools through different knowledge-sharing platforms and products.

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Strategic Action Programme. The objectives of the proposal align well to the thematic areas of: (i) marine living resources; (ii) critical habitats; and (iii) social and economic considerations, as stipulated in the BOBLME SAP. The project's thrust on establishing ecologically-linked key conservation areas will contribute to the restoration or maintenance of biodiversity, and potentially expand protection status on identified marine ecosystems. Moreover, the project will also entail investments for conservation and sustainable consumption that will provide sustainable livelihood opportunities to local coastal and marine communities. In line with business engagements, the project will influence sustainable business operations especially in the fisheries sector. The project will also further support Indonesia and Thailand in enhancing their national initiatives pursuant to the BOBLME SAP.

Taking into consideration the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and global ambition. The ASEAN member states have undertaken various types of campaigns to promote awareness and understanding of biodiversity, its values, and the actions that people can take to conserve it. The implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 in the ASEAN region has resulted in positive changes, i.e. designated MPAs, etc. and in many cases, the integration of biodiversity and environment protection into socio-economic development programmes. However, these have proved inadequate given the magnitude, urgency, and necessary governance scale by which evident positive impacts on biodiversity are observed and experienced. Much remains to be done. In the first draft of the new Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) released by the CBD Secretariat in July 2021, the proposed Target 3 stated: Ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes." The proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project is anticipated to take into consideration and contribute as well to this global ambition as well as achieving the indicators for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The knowledge and actions that will be generated through the project will help support the development of a comprehensive regional marine biodiversity conservation agenda that is aligned with the Post-2020 GBF.

Contribution to the ASEAN Socio-cultural Community Blueprint 2025 and ASEAN Strategic Plan on Environment (2016–2025). The project will contribute to regional objectives of the ASEAN Region, through the ASEAN Socio-cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint 2025, and the ASEAN Strategic Plan on Environment (ASPEN) 2016–2025. The project shall enhance existing conservation measures through an intensive network of MPAs. The ASCC envisions a sustainable environment in the midst of social changes, and economic development. The project addresses its strategic measures on environmental protection, restoration, and sustainable use of the environment, and supports policies addressing coastal and international waters. Through scaling up MPAs, the project will contribute to ASPEN's targets on its strategic programme on Key Coastal and Marine Area Conservation, where it will increase the coverage of protected areas, and will contribute to enhance management of key coastal and marine areas.

vii) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovation

The project will integrate the elements of the biodiversity and international waters focal areas where synergies are identified and put to work. The project will support marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries through the MPA Network approach. This will further establish the connectivities among protected areas that will provide a sound basis for conservation. The ecological, socioeconomic and institutional links may further provide insights on the developing sustainable fishing practices in the fisheries sector. Moreover, by focusing on the linkages of important marine areas with fisheries and biodiversity conservation in the concerned sectors could lead to policies that are coherent and consistent between these two sectors.

The project will demonstrate the use of ICM and MSP to support and strengthen actions identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs). On-the-ground conservation actions will not only factor in the capacities and priorities of local communities in MPA and MPA network management, but also consider critical issues, such as climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, food security, alternative livelihoods and pollution reduction and incorporate these into the development plans of local governments. A stepwise and iterative approach will be adopted to facilitate systematic and integrated policy making, planning, and management decision-making.

As the proposed project will be implemented in LMEs, which generally transcend national political boundaries, and encompass the coastal ocean domains of two or more countries, the application of the ecosystem-based management (EBM) of LME goods and services, in particular fisheries that move across national boundaries will support the needed transboundary management. The EBM will be complemented by integrated coastal management mechanisms, including area-based tools, such as marine spatial planning, and various biodiversity conservation actions at the regional, national and local levels.

Sustainability

Mainstreaming biodiversity intends to integrate biodiversity conservation considerations in the planning and implementation of various undertakings across the sector. In this case, the project will integrate sustainable practices and policies in the fisheries sector that are responsive to biodiversity issues. This may potentially sustain long-term benefits in the two focal areas.

The project will develop mechanisms to ensure financial sustainability in MPAs and MPA networks. In line with its thrust on mainstreaming biodiversity, the project will engage governments and private sector stakeholders, including businesses in crafting financial mechanisms for long-term sustainability. Aside from the private sector, the project will develop measures to ensure that the communities whose livelihoods that depend on natural resources are sustained, as well as all the relevant stakeholders, including the government, to ensure long-term financial and ecological sustainability of the project initiatives.

Potential for Scaling Up

The project has the potential for scaling up and replicability. The methodologies and approaches for implementation and management arrangements of MPA networks may be scaled up or replicated to tailor fit the context of a particular LME or MPA network. The project may develop the basis or standard on such mechanisms for MPA network management. Moreover, the integration of biodiversity in the fisheries sector and *vice versa* may elucidate on the scalability and replicability of such mainstreaming measures in other areas.

The proposed project will be implemented in support of the relevant LME Strategic Action Programs, the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA), the upcoming new Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 6, 13, 14, 15 and 17. Such an integrated approach will be process-oriented, holistic, science and ecosystem-based, and a driver for strengthening public and private sector commitments and investments in marine biodiversity conservation. This, in turn, could facilitate scaling up conservation and responsible governance coverage of identified marine protected areas, and a collaborative and sustainable management of networks of MPAs.

It is envisaged that through innovative area-based management using the ICM and MSP as primary approaches, the project will also result in strengthened collaborative planning and governance capacities among participating countries and stakeholders. The improved access to innovative knowledge products and services, as well as scientific and technical support networks, which will be facilitated by the project could result in a stronger science-informed decision making and planning process by the governments involved. This will not only scale-up the spatial coverage of MPAs, MPA networks, established conservation corridors, and fisheries management areas but also improve the management effectiveness of these areas.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

Refer to Annex A for geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place based on the candidate sites. This will be finalized during the PPG.

Proposed Sites and Indicative Criteria for Selection

Initial sites have been identified within the Large Marine Ecosystems in the region and are subject to change upon the advice of the results of Component 1 of this project, the preference of participating ASEAN member states and overlaps with other project implementers.

This proposal will make use of the best available information related to the design criteria, taking off from the recommendations on establishing marine protected areas (MPAs) of WCPA / IUCN that suggests representativeness, replication, viability, precautionary design, permanence, maximum connectivity, resilience, size and shape and benefits derived.^[1] Throughout the course of implementation, best practices on MPA identification, network design, and ICM implementation among other types of strategies will continuously be collected to inform decision making, taking note of the multi-dimensionality of processes involved. Site selection will likewise explore the best configuration of the **MPA networks**^[2] based on the purpose by which the component MPAs were selected, for example if the purpose of MPA establishment was for fisheries production, there may be a need to augment information on fish migration patterns with information on land based sources of freshwater, coastal habitat components, social perceptions, interactions and management capacities and local and national policies, among others.^[3]

Migration patterns of charismatic megafauna in the region such as sea turtles, marine mammals and migratory seabirds are known from various research observations. Component sites that host these fauna were found to support certain segments of their life cycles or provided them with basic support such as food, shelter and nesting and thus were critical to their persistence and subsequently identified as components of a network of areas in need of conservation. The same principle may be applied to threatened species that rely on the conservation of a network of sites important to their feeding, nesting, rearing, etc. habits. Studies on the migration patterns of fish and invertebrate larvae that are planktonic at certain segments of their life cycles allude to a source and sink relationship between and / or among sites where some are identified as 'source sites' and others as 'destination sites' and the conservation strategy warrants that both sites and functions be conserved to be effective. Notwithstanding, there are some sites that could actually self-seed. The ASEAN region is part of the **East Asian - Australasian Flyway** and this partnership has identified a network of sites critical to the survival of migratory shorebirds in the region. These sites may occur within a country or among several countries in the region.

Large Marine Ecosystems

South China Sea (NOAA LME ID 36): The South China Sea LME is bordered by China, Indonesia, Malaysia Philippines and Vietnam and other countries. It covers an area of 3.2 million km², of which 0.31% is protected, and contains 7.04% and 0.93% of the world's coral reefs and sea mounts, respectively. Waters from the LME may flow seasonally into the Sulu Sea and Java Sea, contributing to the Indonesian Throughflow. The project will cover the selected sites within the territorial waters of the Philippines (West Philippines Sea).

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Sulu-Celebes Sea (NOAA LME ID 37): The Sulu-Celebes Sea LME comprises the Sulu and Celebes Seas, which are separated from each other by a deep trough and a chain of islands known as the Sulu Archipelago. The LME is bounded by northern Borneo (Malaysia), the southwest coast of the Philippines and Sulawesi Island (northern coast of Indonesia), but most of the LME falls within the archipelagic waters of either the Philippines or Indonesia. The LME covers an area of about one million km², of which 1.03% is protected, and contains 6.17% and 0.22% of the world's coral reefs and sea mounts, respectively. The project will cover the archipelagic waters of the Philippines (Sulu archipelago and southwest coast).

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Indonesian Sea (NOAA LME ID 38): The Indonesian Sea LME (ISLME) is situated at the confluence of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and is bordered by Indonesia and Timor Leste. It covers an area of 2.13 million km², with 98% within Indonesia's territorial waters, and approximately 2% located within the territorial waters of Timor Leste. The project will cover only the territorial waters of Indonesia.

Bay of Bengal (NOAA LME ID 34): The Bay of Bengal is bordered by Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The project will cover only the sites in Thailand within the Andaman Sea. Note that Myanmar and Malaysia are not participating in this regional project.

Table 1. Candidate Sites for the ASEAN ENMAPS Project Based from Priorities Expressed by the Participating Countries (to be finalized during the PPG)

Country	LME	Candidate MPAs/Sites	WDPA ID	IUCN Cat.	Total Area (hectares)
Indonesia	Indonesian Sea	Kepulauan Togean National Park	20429	II	362,605
		Kepulauan Wakatobi National Park (ASEAN Heritage Park)	198427	II	1,390,000
		Teluk Cenderawasih National Park	8102	II	1,453,500
Philippines	Sulu-Celebes Sea	*Tubbataha Reef Natural Park (ASEAN Heritage Park)	555715065	II	451,601
		Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape	555715057	V	414,244
		Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary	198475	IV	242,958
	South China Sea	Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape	101392	V	7,558
		Agoo - Damortis Protected Landscape and Seascape	5208	V	1,0775
		BBBIDA Marine Protected Area Network: Bani-Bolinao-Burgos-Infanta-Dasol-Agno	N/A	N/A	254,920
Thailand	Bay of Bengal	Tarutao National Park (ASEAN Heritage Park)	928	II	171,850
		Biosphere Reserves Ranong Thailand	145594	N/A	11,707
		Muko Surin National Park	4673	II	11,688
		Muko Similan National Park	555705578	II	13,836

[1] WCPA/IUCN. 2007. Establishing networks of marine protected areas: A guide for developing national and regional capacity for building MPA networks. Non-technical summary report.

[2] Marine protected area networks are defined by WCPA/IUCN (2007) as “a collection of individual marine protected areas operating cooperatively and synergistically, at various spatial scales, and with a range of protection levels, in order to fulfil ecological aims more effectively and comprehensively than individual sites could alone. The network will also display social and economic benefits, though the latter may only become fully developed over long time frames as ecosystems recover.”

[3] Silvestri, S. Kershaw, F. (eds). 2010. Framing the flow: Innovative Approaches to Understand, Protect and Value Ecosystem Services across Linked Habitats. UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK.

Project	MPA Sites	GEF Agency	GEF Cycle/GEF Project ID
Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in Eastern Indonesia (Fisheries Management Area (FMA) – 715, 717 & 718)	FMA 715 Tomini Bay, Maluku Sea, Halmahera Sea, Seram Sea and Berau Bay FMA 717 Cendrawasih Bay and Pacific Ocean	WWF-US	GEF 6 / 9129
(NGI) The Meloy Fund: A fund for sustainable small-scale fisheries in SE Asia	The sites in Indonesia and the Philippines have yet to be determined but these are mostly under the Fish Forever Program Sites of Rare	Conservation International	GEF 6 / 9370
Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture	Target sites include: PH: Balabac in southern Palawan, Malampaya and Taytay in Northeastern Palawan VNM: Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, Haiphong, Binh Dinh, Ca Mau.	WWF-US	GEF 7 / 10573
Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Coral Reef Insurance in Asia and the Pacific	Candidate sites are located in IND: Lombok West Nusa Tenggara, Nusa Lembongan in Bali, 1000 islands in Jakarta, West Nusa Tenggara and Tanjung Puting in Banten (coastal). PH: Bicol, Surigao del Norte, Eastern Visayas	ADB	GEF 7 / 10431
Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in the Philippines	PH: Siargao Island Protected Landscapes Seascapes and Calamian Islands)	UNDP	GEF 7 / 6254
Coral Reef Rescue: Resilient C	Not yet specified	WWF-US	GEF 7 / 10575

oral Reefs, Resilient Communit ies			
Strengthening and Sustaining t he Coastal Resource and Fishe ries Management in the Leyte Gulf	Leyte Gulf, Philippines	Conservation Int ernational	GEF 7 / 10738

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement

During the drafting of the PIF, consultations that were undertaken are described below. These will be further engaged during the PPG phase.

1. Regional Organizations and National Governments.

- *ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB)*- The development of the concept and proposal of this project is primarily coordinated with the national focal points of ACB in the ASEAN Member States. The AWGNCB has been consulted in the preparation of the PIF and will continue to be during the PPG and project implementation, particularly in the facilitation of proposal and project endorsement, coordination with local stakeholders, and national consultations, as may be deemed necessary. The AWGNCB membership consists of government ministries in charge of biodiversity conservation and protection of the country. During the PPG, the inputs of the Working Group will be sought. During implementation, the Working Group will be apprised of the project progress.
- *ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME)*. The development of the ASEAN ENMAPS was also consulted with the AWGCME, another working group, of which ACB has a mandate to support specifically in achieving targets of its program areas on marine biodiversity conservation. This working group comprises government ministries in charge of the fisheries and marine related initiatives of the member states, hence the focus of discussions has been on the sustainable fisheries aspects of the project. During the PPG, the inputs of the Working Group will be sought. During implementation, the Working Group will be apprised of the project progress.

2. *LME Governance Mechanisms*. The relevant LMEs covered by this project include the South China Sea (Indonesia, Philippines, Sulu Celebes Seas (Indonesia and Philippines), Bay of Bengal (Andaman Sea area of Thailand) and Indonesian Seas (Indonesia). Initial communications have been sent to the organizations supporting these LMEs - FAO, UNEP and CTI-CFF Secretariat. During the PPG, further consultations will be done with these organizations and in particular, the LME governance mechanisms where these exist, to identify synergies and areas of collaboration and coordination during implementation that may be relevant for the participating countries in this project.

3. *National Government Agencies*. Key agencies from the national governments have been closely consulted in the PIF development. They will be convened again during the PPG phase to discuss specific project activities and finalize the list of priority sites. They will be regularly coordinated and consulted throughout the project duration until the post-project monitoring and evaluation phase. They will be further engaged through planning workshops,

consultation meetings (face-to-face and online) and regularly updated using appropriate available communication channels and information materials to support decision-making processes and project activities. Below is the list of major agencies in each of the participating countries who will be consulted throughout the project implementation

- Indonesia: Ministry of Environment and Forestry through the Director General of Natural Resources and Ecosystem Conservation (KSDAE) in coordination with the Director General of Pollution and Environmental Degradation Control); Ministry of Marine Affairs & Fisheries - Directorate General of Capture Fisheries;
- Philippines: Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture
- Thailand: Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

4. *Local Government Units* - At the PPG stage, the local government units at the regional, provincial and municipal levels will be consulted to determine the project interventions and identify the project sites. The project will seek inputs from the LGUs in the design of the project activities that will ultimately guide in policy-making processes. These project activities include establishment, expansion and management of MPAs, institutional framework formulation, sustainable finance mechanisms, marine law enforcement procedure and many more.

5. *Civil Society*

- Communities and their associations - The PPG phase will include consultations with local communities such as the fisherfolk organizations, to seek their inputs on project activities and opportunities for community engagement and participation. As the main beneficiaries of the project, their perspectives in the local context will be well taken into consideration in planning, implementing and monitoring. The prospective engagement activities and potential roles of the women's groups are further discussed in the next section. The project will seek the official endorsement from the respective local government authority or its equivalent when initiating partnership with the identified groups or organizations.
- Women and Youth Sectors - During the PPG phase, participation of the women's and youth groups and their affiliations will be ensured taking into considerations their strengths, innovative ideas as well as challenges in implementing the project activities. The project intends to optimize their role in the decision-making processes such as resource management planning and monitoring and more particularly in benefit-sharing identification such as the development of sustainable livelihood opportunities.

6. *Indigenous Peoples* - The project will gather more information on the status and other pertinent information on Indigenous Peoples in the project sites through consultations which will be carried out with the appropriate local, national and regional government bodies. Detailed information from the local indigenous communities will be sought through consultations at the PPG Phase. Initial assessment of benefit-sharing arrangement and project activities' potential impacts to the indigenous communities will be determined such as the need for Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in any of the project activities.

7. *Private Sector* - These will include private corporations, tourism service operators, local and national tourism associations, fishing companies, cooperatives and other business-oriented groups. At the PPG phase, representatives from key associations from these groups will be consulted to identify strategies that could lead to partnership-building activities. Their potential role and other engagement activities in the project are further described in Section 4 (Private Sector Engagement) of this PIF. The project will build on existing private sector partnerships of the ACB, such as with the Metro Pacific Investment Corporation in the Philippines and other private and business sector groups in other AMS.

8. *Academe and Research Institutions* - The guidance from the academic and research institutions is a key component in identifying the connectivities. At the PIF stage, the project has consulted with some of the findings conducted by the researchers in the proposed LME sites. The project will work closely with scientists and researchers in connectivity, biophysical resources and other socio-economic studies that are essential in the formulation of management plans and conservation policies.

9. *International and Local NGOs and other development-oriented groups* - A number of international NGOs and project management teams have been consulted during the PIF stage of the project. At the PPG phase, their inputs in developing a synergistic approach in project implementation will be pursued especially in the project sites where there is an overlapping presence of the NGOs (e.g. Conservation International, WWF). Potential partnership activities could be explored such as capacity-building and training exercises, biophysical resource monitoring and co-financing opportunities.

The list of key stakeholder groups and their corresponding roles and level of engagement in the project is summarized in the table below.

Table 3. Role of key stakeholder groups and their engagement in the project.

Stakeholders	Role	Engagement in the Project
Regional Geopolitical Organizations: AWGCME and the AWGNC B	Advisory board on policy and programming	The concerned key members of the regional working groups are consulted from the initial stages of project development. They will be regularly consulted all throughout the project implementation.
National government agencies in participating countries	Legal and institutional support providers	National government agencies provide institutional support and set the direction for the alignment of the project interventions vis-a-vis the policy-related measures at the national level
LME-wide coordination mechanisms (Sulu Celebes Seas; South China Sea; BOBLME/Andaman Sea; Indonesian Seas)	Technical assistance and regional coordinating bodies	They will be consulted for areas of collaboration such as technical assistance, data-sharing and policy-making at the regional level, beginning at the PPG phase until the monitoring and evaluation stages.

Local, provincial government agencies	Primary stakeholders, representatives of beneficiaries	Local government will be the main source of support for institutional, legal, and other policy-related concerns for marine protected area and fishery management initiatives
Fishing Communities and their associations	Primary Beneficiaries	They will take an active role in most of the project activities such as sources of baseline information, management planning, resource monitoring, investment identification and project evaluation.
Women's Groups	Primary Beneficiaries	Women and youth will be given opportunities to contribute to the project activities from planning to monitoring and evaluation
Indigenous Peoples	Primary Beneficiaries	Their indigenous knowledge will be considered as part of the planning and implementation process.
Private sector (tourism operators and associations, fishing business groups, cooperatives, private foundations with corporate social responsibilities, etc)	Investment partners	They will be tapped for the following: Opportunities for skills enhancement related to conservation enterprises for the coastal communities; Potential investment opportunities for their new and existing businesses; Responsible business operations.
Academic and Research Institutions	Technical assistance and science providers	They will provide expertise based on research and other studies that will be key components in the planning and other decision-making process of the project
International and Local NGOs and other development-oriented groups	Technical assistance providers; Co-financing partners	Information-sharing and capacity-building strategies among these groups will be planned out, and co-financing opportunities will be explored

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recognizes the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and affirms the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policy-making and implementation.

Women's contributions in the coastal and marine resources management and fisheries have often been overlooked. Oftentimes their activities are not given equal attention as that of their men counterparts, such as gleaning, aquaculture, and other onshore fishing are not counted as "fishing", or their efforts in conservation, i.e, taking on the tasks of taking care mangrove nurseries, MPA management related activities, etc. Therefore, when it comes to organizing fishers' groups and conservation groups to address issues on the coastal and marine resources, we often see less women in the membership, or none at all. Although women belong to more vulnerable sector, it has also been recognised that men and women have unique roles and different capacities in terms of protecting and harnessing the coastal and marine resources.

The ASEAN ENMAPS project will ensure that: (i) gender-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches are considered in designing management and governance approaches for the conservation and sustainable management of the coastal and marine ecosystem; (ii) the needs, concerns, and experiences of women and girls, as well as of men, are recognized as an integral dimension in designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the project; and (iii) ensure representation of women in planning and decision-making, and their efforts recognized in policy, management and research.

Gender mainstreaming and responsiveness will be taken into consideration throughout the project cycle, including the development of gender-sensitive indicators, through the use of frameworks and guidelines developed by CBD and UNDP, and GEF's Policy on Gender Equality. The nature of the activities will promote inclusivity and provide equal opportunities to women and men in terms of participation throughout the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of project activities. The Project will encourage women's participation by recognizing and understanding their roles in ICM development, MPA management, and other relevant aspects of the project. The project activities will ensure equal representation and full participation of women at every step of the project process, involving women professionals, women's groups, women community leaders, and other relevant sectors that promote gender equity.

The project will incorporate gender responsiveness and will promote women empowerment by adopting the following strategic elements:

- (a) Support women's improved access, use, and control of resources, including land, water, coasts and fisheries by (i) contributing to shape policy and gender norms to improve women's access to and control over marine ecosystems goods and services (ii) providing targeted support to raise awareness and assist women in exercising their legal rights; and (iii); enhancing women's decision-making capabilities regarding marine resources they use and most importantly, equipping them with entrepreneurial skills, capital and resources (see d).

- (b) Enhance women's participation and role in project decision-making processes, with women as agents of change at all levels by (i) promoting women's equal engagement in community/coastal planning processes; (ii) promoting women's voice in decision-making and policy in community, and national planning and decision-making bodies; (iii) supporting women's engagement in producer organizations, cooperatives, labor unions, fisheries cooperatives etc.; (iv) promoting women's voice (including indigenous peoples and local community groups) in partnerships and alliances with local, national and regional networks; and (v) providing policy level training opportunities to help women participate in decision-making forums.
- (c) Target women as specific beneficiaries by (i) increasing awareness of the roles of women and men in the sustainable management and use of natural resources; (ii) creating opportunities from (alternative) sustainable livelihoods and income-generation opportunities such as conservation and rehabilitation actions for women; (iii) engaging women in processes for making fisheries/ marine resources commodities and supply chains more sustainable; and (v) supporting women entrepreneurs, and activities that offer women access to credit and finance.
- (d) Invest in women's skills and capacity by supporting capacity development of different groups, including communities, women's organizations, and government officials at the national and subnational levels to capitalize on the complementary roles of women and men and mobilize people for collective action in ICM implementation, MPA creation and development, marine biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration, and providing full and timely access and exchange of knowledge and information. These could also include provision of training and tools on gender and biodiversity mainstreaming, including the use of the GEF Gender Strategy, UNDP Social and Environmental Safeguards and Gender Mainstreaming Strategies, CBD Gender Plan of Action, once adopted, and the Gender and Biodiversity in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Training Materials. They should also include practical skills development such as fish net repair, fish gleaning, processing and drying, alternative livelihood, micro financing) Strengthening of women's involvement in planning and decision making at national and subnational level (e.g. equal participation, access of environmental and natural resources, strengthening women's empowerment)
- (e) Seek targeted collaboration around knowledge and analytical efforts with other LMEs, IW LEARN to share knowledge and data gaps, as well as strengthen gender responsive approaches and multi-stakeholder platforms linked to relevant GEF-7 programs and projects.

Further, the project will conduct baseline socio-economic assessment on existing gender-related programs, studies and other policies related to gender differences, gender differentiated impacts and risks, and opportunities for empowerment and livelihood. In addition, gender mainstreaming will be integrated in the project activities building on available toolkits. The results of the baseline socio-economic study and mainstreaming of gender related activities will be reviewed during the mid term review and at the end of the project to determine gender responsiveness outcomes and impacts.

Information and reports generated from the project will have gender disaggregated data and incorporate gender perspectives. In addition, capacity development and outreach events, training, and activities that encourage gender participation and leadership will be promoted and supported by the project. Proposed actions include also communication of gender related information to staff and partners, training and skill development on gender related issues, monitoring and reporting on mainstreaming within the project and supporting knowledge development activities by training and capacity-building.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes

closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or Yes

generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes

Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

The private sector will be affected positively and negatively in MPA management, in ICM and in sustainable fisheries management. Their support will therefore be essential in ensuring project progress. Consultations about their engagement will be done during the PPG when the candidate sites would have been finalized to identify the private sector groups working in the project sites. These will include, among others, tourism-related establishments, fishing industry, and companies implementing corporate social responsibility initiatives. Once identified, the project design team together with the project partners will conduct discussions about potential collaboration.

Representatives from the private sector will be involved during the PPG phase particularly under Component 2 which covers the development of conservation enterprises and sustainable financing schemes. The private sector could be a strong partner in ensuring sustainability of project initiatives. Thus, the project will support efforts to design and implement sustainable financing mechanisms with the private sector at the local, national and potentially at the corridor and regional levels. The project will also seek their participation in Component 3 such as in the promotion of communication and awareness campaign programs. For instance, associations of tourism operators will also be tapped not just for awareness-raising through their membership but also to encourage private sector's replication of project approaches and tools that are deemed appropriate in their business operations. They will also be included in other key activities such as in MPA management planning, research and monitoring. The project will build on existing private sector partnerships of the ACB (e.g., with the Metro Pacific Investment Corporation) and explore other potential partnerships and counterpart support from tourism operators, fishing companies and other CSR foundations, that may include establishment of supplementary livelihood activities in coastal communities, payment for ecosystem services and other relevant market-based instruments.

The outcomes of such are expected to bring good practices, and hence support and inform decision-making and planning processes in terms of seeking more sustainable financing mechanisms. Among the supported decision-making processes are identifying and qualifying investment priorities, mapping of potential sources of finance, and identifying and assessing successful models/ best practices. In this way, measures to generate additional income can be clearly laid out, including leveraging the participation of the private sectors (e.g. corporate social responsibility, investments and equity financing), and mapping of potential sources of financing based on investment priorities (i.e. ecotourism, green infrastructure, conservation enterprises, etc.). This work will build upon years of lessons in promoting and testing sustainable finance mechanisms from various GEF/UNDP and other projects.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Project design (table format acceptable)

Environmental risks and mitigating measures. Impacts of pollution, land development, conflicting uses and climate change can all undermine the objectives of the project. To mitigate these environmental risks, which vary in scope and severity across the sites, substantial project resources are devoted to assessing these conditions, and development of appropriate management responses in scaling-up and developing MPA networks. The increased knowledge, capabilities, experience and support networks will facilitate improvements in governance, management and proven practices for scaling up and replicating to other MPA networks facing similar challenges.

Political risks and mitigating measures. The participation of the national government is essential in implementing this regional cooperation project. As such, collaboration with the government partners has to be secured, and mitigate unwanted risks of losing their support. To help overcome this risk, the selection of MPAs, MPA networks and OECMs must involve national and local governments, local stakeholders, NGOs and scientific institutions in each country. This will establish ownership of the project at the local and national levels of government and key stakeholders. During project development and implementation, the project will work from the bottom-up, working closely with local Chief Executives and decision-makers at the selected sites. One critical criterion to be used in selecting the areas is evidence of political will and commitment to invest in the project through the allocation of the necessary local human and financial resources. Sites located within transboundary areas will require the commitment of participating countries in the conservation of transboundary conservation corridors. In selecting such areas, proper linkages from the executing agencies, and between the participating countries has to be considered in the selection process.

Global crisis, such as COVID 19 pandemic and mitigating measures. The COVID-19 pandemic is still evolving globally. Towards the end of October 2021, the pandemic appears to be waning in the 3 participating countries with the number of new infections having drastically gone down from their peaks in the preceding months. Travel restrictions are gradually being lifted subject to certain conditions. It is expected that by 2022 with the increased coverage of vaccinations resulting in even smaller number of cases, the international borders of the 3 countries will be further opened. In-country travel is also expected to ease up and that has already happened in Thailand and Indonesia. PPG and project implementation activities will take into account the COVID 19 pandemic, both current and projected

With the PPG starting in 2022, project design activities will adapt to the prevailing conditions. Project design will be primarily undertaken by national consultants who will work closely with a lean team of two international consultants (biodiversity/fisheries specialist and socioeconomics/institutional specialist) complemented by a safeguards/gender/social inclusion expert. Should travel restrictions continue to persist, the international consultants will remotely guide the national consultants in undertaking the activities. The national consultants, will in turn, coordinate closely with those working in the selected MPAs. During the PPG, the implementation arrangements for the project will be designed taking into account the lessons learned during the PPG and

the projected COVID 19 situation at that time. It is likely that this regional project will rely more heavily on national rather than regional consultants in undertaking national and on-the-ground activities. This is possible as the three countries have a deep pool of experts who could provide the crucial human presence in the project sites. The objective is for the project to adaptively manage the situation to deliver on the project objectives.

The COVID 19 pandemic is presenting both opportunities and challenges in delivering GEBs in environment-related projects. As there is limited formal studies undertaken so far on the impacts of the pandemic on conservation activities (biodiversity and fisheries), the opportunity analysis will primarily rely on anecdotal references, except for a report from a report done by ACB. With respect to this project, the aspects of the pandemic that would have impacts are the following: lockdown or travel restrictions; waste management; changing priorities in the use of government resources. Brief preliminary analysis is provided below while a more extensive and site-specific analysis will be done during the PPG with the results to be included in the project document.

- The lockdown would have reduced stresses on MPAs with practically non-existent tourism allowing natural ecosystems to recover. At the same time, the lockdown has also affected tourism revenues which is a serious concern in areas where it is a primary source of conservation finance. This is confirmed in a survey in 27 ASEAN Heritage Parks conducted by ACB between 29 April to 16 June 2020. The impacts of the lockdown include the following: a) significant drop of illegal activities in most protected areas (PAs); b) enforcement activities within the PAs were reduced as mobility of field personnel was also restricted; c) tourism declined considerably resulting in revenue losses; d) wildlife have been observed to be more visible with the reduction in anthropogenic activities like trekking and climbing. Similar impacts may be observed in fisheries. With restaurants and tourism establishments closed, the level of fishing activity would have gone down and reduced the incomes of fishers. The project, however, will include activities on sustainable financing and alternative livelihoods hence, these aspects will be looked into.
- The increased use of face masks, face shields and PPEs has exacerbated waste management problems in the three countries that are considered the primary sources of plastic pollution in the ASEAN region. These wastes have been found in coastal waters and likely in and around MPAs. These issues will be tackled in ICM-related activities of the project where the levels and sources of pollution will be assessed and mitigating measures recommended.
- Responding to public health emergencies required massive budgetary allocations from the government. This could put into question the certainty of cofinancing from governments. The implementation of this project could start by the middle of 2023 at which time, the countries would have been in a recovery phase. With the post-pandemic focus on green recovery to address the virus with a likely zoonotic origin, the commitments by the countries to conserve biodiversity and natural ecosystems could be much stronger. This could translate to higher allocations for projects on environmental and natural resource sustainability.

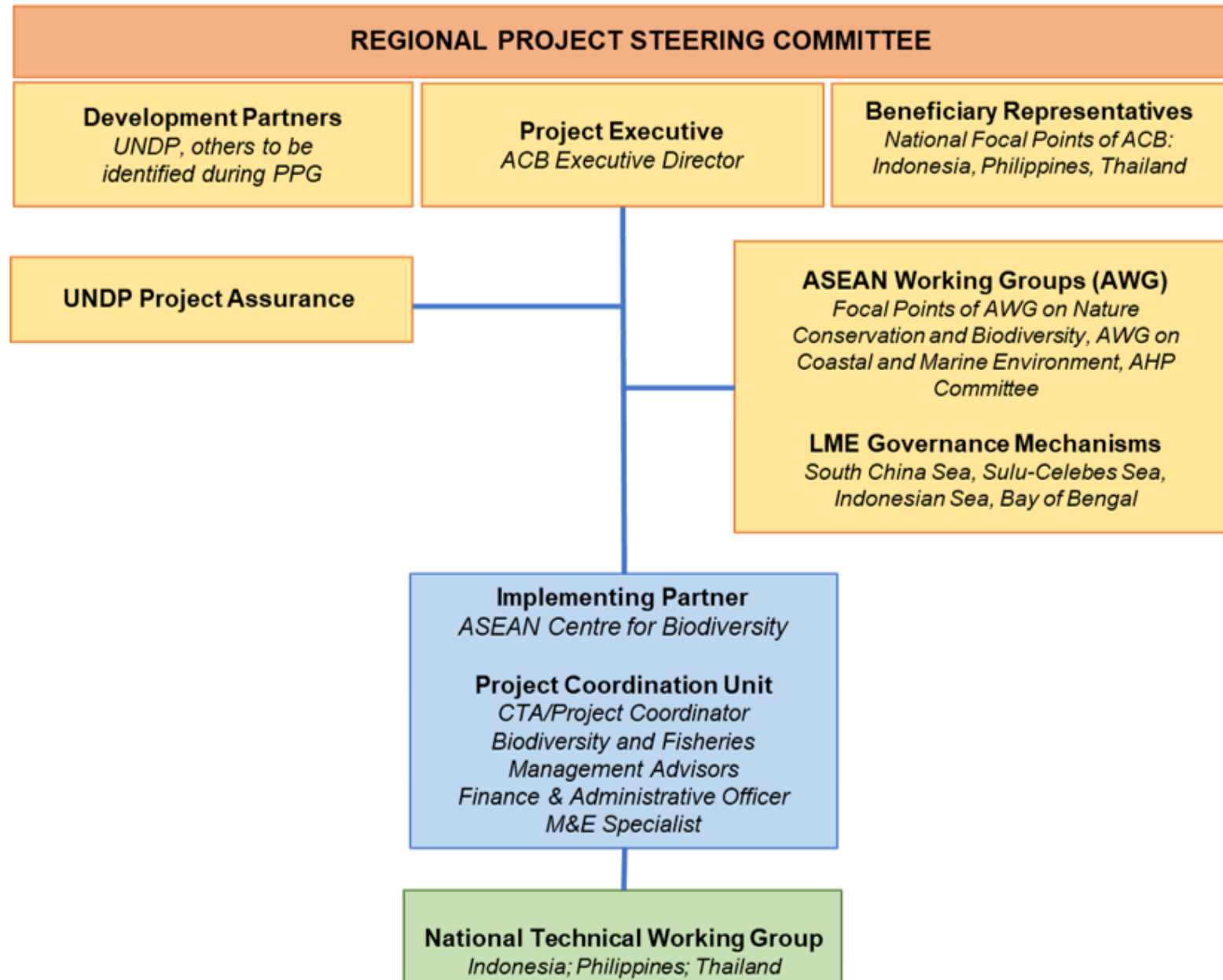
Climate change risks. Climate change in the form of increased sea-surface temperature, acidification, more intense typhoons, among others has significantly impacted on the coastal and marine ecosystems. Coral bleaching, coastal erosion and the movement of fish stocks have been observed. CC impacts will be addressed by the project by improving the resilience of these ecosystems through management of ecological networks of MPAs and fisheries. It is recognized that CC, in particular more frequent and more intense typhoons, would affect the implementation of the project but will be addressed through adaptive implementation of project activities.

Following the STAP guidance on Climate Risk Screening, the following may apply to the project. The screening will be refined during the PPG at which time the final sites would have been selected and appropriate risks could be identified and risk mitigating/adaptation measures could be designed for inclusion in the project document.

Focal Area	Risk Rating	Risks
International Waters	Moderate	Warmer waters impose direct metabolic costs on reef fish, reducing swimming capacity and increasing mortality rates
Biodiversity	Moderate	Extreme weather events, such as flooding, drought and fire, will accelerate the degradation of already vulnerable habitats.

6. Coordination

Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.



National Coordination Unit
Indonesia; Philippines; Thailand

Figure 4. Project Organization Structure for ASEAN ENMAPS

Institutional Arrangements

The implementing agency for this proposed project is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The executing agency will be the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB). The ACB will coordinate the project through the national focal points of its various ASEAN Working Groups - AWG (AWGCME – Coastal and Marine Environment, AWGNCB – Nature Conservation and Biodiversity) and through the ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHP) network. The project will also be coordinated with the relevant LME-wide governance mechanisms in Sulu-Celebes Seas, South China Sea, Indonesian Seas, BOBLME and others that may be identified during the PPG.

UNDP will provide its 3-tier oversight to be delivered by the Bangkok Regional Hub, the Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific and the Nature, Climate and Energy of the Bureau for Policy and Program Support.

The project management will be at two-tiers: regional and national levels.

Regional coordination. A Regional Project Steering Committee (RPSC) will be formed to provide management decision support on the project implementation. The regional project steering committee will be composed of the UNDP, ACB and the representatives of ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN) or the ACB Governing Board (GB). Other members of the RPSC will be identified during project design. The RPSC will provide strategic direction and policy guidance that will ensure the achievement of the desired results of the project. The RPSC will also ensure that any legal instruments/agreements created between and among partners are adhered to by the ACB and other partners of the project. The RPSC will also conduct progress review and approval of the technical and financial reports and approve changes thereof to ensure that the project achieves its results and impact at scale. The Regional Project Coordination Unit will serve as the Secretariat of the RPSC.

National Coordination. A national coordination mechanism in the form of a National Technical Working Group (NTWG) will be established, led by the national executing agencies of the project and will be composed of the lead environment ministry implementing the project, country offices of the UNDP and other agencies as may be identified by the national executing agency, such as other cooperating national ministries/agencies, and local agencies that coordinate and lead the site-based implementation. National implementation will be through the National Coordination Units. The potential national agencies in each country are listed below.

Indonesia	<p>The project will be coordinated through the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MOEF), specifically through its focal point: Director General of Natural Resources and Ecosystem Conservation (KSD AE) in coordination with the Director General of Pollution and Environmental Degradation Control.</p> <p>Implementation will be coordinated between the Director of Area Conservation and Director of Marine and Coastal Pollution and Degradation Control.</p>
Philippines	<p>The project will be coordinated through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) with the Coastal and Marine Division (CMD) as the focal implementing division. The DENR-BMB through the CMD will coordinate the project with the regional offices of the BMB that are in-charge of implementing the projects at the local level. In particular for the selected candidate sites, the BMB will coordinate with regional offices and concerned LGUs; Palawan Council for Sustainable Development for the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park; and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) for the Turtle Island Wildlife Sanctuary A), Philippines sites.</p> <p>The BMB-CMD will also coordinate the project implementation with other relevant bureaus of the DENR, including civil society organizations. The BMB-CMD will closely work with the National Parks Division for the protected area management at both the national and site levels.</p>
Thailand	<p>The project will be coordinated through the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The ONEP will be in charge of the coordination with other relevant agencies of the Ministry.</p>

Monitoring and Evaluation (ME)

The project will be using the results-based monitoring and evaluation framework required from GEF and UNDP projects which will be detailed and budgeted for during the PPG. The project results will also contribute to the results-based framework of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Results-based Framework, which is linked with the higher outcome system level of the ASEAN Vision 2025. The ACB is also mandated to facilitate the ASEAN's efforts in achieving the

goals of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). In anticipation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the ACB will ensure that results-based monitoring and evaluation framework is calibrated with these new global targets for biodiversity conservation and will measure the milestones building towards the proposed 30 percent global ambition of protected oceans.

The technical and financial monitoring of the project implementation will be a continuous process to be delivered by the ACB, as the overall executing agency, in accordance with the policies and procedures of UNDP as the GEF implementing agency. To enable this, an internal technical and financial monitoring system at ACB for the project will be established with functions to include preparation of periodic operational and financial reports from consolidated national reports required of UNDP-GEF projects. National reporting will be done by the national level project management team and will also be consolidated as inputs for the overall project reporting.

Synergy with Other Projects

This project will build on coastal and marine biodiversity conservation programmes and interventions of the ASEAN that are being facilitated and implemented by the ACB and partners both at regional and national levels. These interventions can further complement and reinforce the proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project. The synergy that will be built between and among the proposed GEF project and the current portfolios of the ACB and partners can help in resource synchronization, knowledge-building, and in utilizing more diverse and interdisciplinary approaches, thereby increasing the impact at scale of the proposed project. Among these initiatives are:

- ***ACB/EU Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN project (BCAMP).*** The BCAMP is a five-year project begun in 2017, which is being implemented by the ACB in partnership with the European Union. The BCAMP aims to enhance biodiversity conservation and effective management of protected areas in the ASEAN to halt or significantly reduce the biodiversity loss in the region through a three-tier delivery structure, i.e. regional, national, and site levels. The BCAMP project focuses on improving effectiveness of biodiversity conservation and **protected area management in ASEAN**, including building the knowledge and scientific basis for biodiversity conservation, mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation in development plans and education systems management, and improving the capacity of ACB and the AMS to support regional agenda in biodiversity conservation and protected area management. The regional level implementation of the project includes all of the ten ASEAN Member States, while the national level implementations are piloted in Cambodia, Philippines, and Thailand. The BCAMP project includes the **Tarutao Marine National Park in the Bay of Bengal** as site for implementing the site-based project components, i.e. enhancing management plans for an improved and more integrated MPA governance, resource valuation that can support livelihood development and natural accounting, among others. Moreover, the project facilitates transboundary management cooperation that aspires to serve as a model of transboundary protected area management in the region. The learnings from the project shall provide bases on such management schemes, and its applicability in the coastal and marine areas.

- ***ACB/KfW Small Grants Programme (SGP) of the ACB in partnership with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.*** The Programme involves developing and implementing a range of adequate financial and technical solutions and interventions for different local partners and project types; improving implementation capacities of the target groups at local level; and improving their livelihoods. The SGP has two components: Implementation of Small Grants and Regional Coordination. The Small Grants consists of ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHP) site-based planning and implementation and regional and national project coordination of the Small Grants. The SGP involve, as project participants, international, national and local non-government organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations in local communities in the project sites, and AHPs. Approximately 60 percent of the SGP funds will be used for livelihood improvement, and 40 percent for biodiversity conservation. Interventions, investments and activities supported by the AGP include conservation planning, core conservation activities, conservation management, sustainable livelihood and community development, and campaigns and education on biodiversity and sustainability. The first phase of the SGP is implemented in the AHPs of Indonesia.
- ***Institutional Strengthening of the Biodiversity Sector in the ASEAN- Phase II (ISB II).*** The ISB II is a cooperation project between ACB and GIZ that aims to support the region in enacting the elements of the biodiversity strategic frameworks of the ASEAN Member States. Specifically, the project will dwell in organizational development, the ASEAN Heritage Parks, facilitation of ASEAN joint statements in international processes, and mainstreaming biodiversity. Under the framework of mainstreaming biodiversity, the fisheries and tourism sectors were among the identified priority sectors for the project. As such, the outcomes from these undertakings will complement the proposed ASEAN ENMAPS project by providing ways forward at the regional level on measures to integrate biodiversity conservation in fisheries and tourism. Moreover, the dimensions of connectivity in the proposed project will provide a deeper understanding in articulating biodiversity conservation in other sectors that rely heavily on natural resources.
- ***GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA)***

The UNDP/GEF/PEMSEA Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) is a multi-year project which started in 2014 and will end in 2020. The SDS-SEA project aims to catalyze actions and investments at the regional, national and local levels to rehabilitate and sustain coastal and marine ecosystem services and build a sustainable coastal and ocean-based economy in the East Asian region. The SDS-SEA project affirms that Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) is an effective, multi-stakeholder approach in addressing multi-variate threats to coastal habitats and marine ecosystems and forms the basis for laying out a roadmap for sustainable development across the region, i.e., *Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia*. The Project is being implemented in 8 countries bordering the EAS region - Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam. The ENMAP project will build on the SDS- SEA project and provide excellent opportunities for introducing integrated management to a much larger scale and context beyond the **coastal governance activities** of SDS-SEA towards large marine ecosystems. By focusing on biodiversity and socio-economic challenges that connect several MPAs and OECMs, the project can also enhance dialogue and expand integrated management and pursue investment opportunities at a larger scale with greater impact at the sub-region and regional seas contexts. Besides building upon the SDS-SEA project, ENMAPS project can provide more learnings and innovative solutions on co-management and investment in networks of MPAs and OECMs as well as contribute to knowledge gaps on ecological connectivities, values and functions.

- ***Reducing Pollution and Preserving Environmental Flows in the East Asian Seas through the Implementation of Integrated River Basin Management in ASEAN Countries***

This IRBM project will build on lessons learned from years of ICM planning and implementation at sites located in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam, as a means of leveraging structured and sustainable stakeholder buy-in to development and conservation priorities. Different management approaches, such as Integrated River Basin Management and Integrated Coastal Management are often implemented jointly in what is known as 'source to sea' (S2S) approach. The experience gained from these various S2S initiatives has confirmed the long-term commitment that is required to understand and begin to address source-to-sea system degradation. This is primarily a consequence of the complexity and scope of source-to-sea systems. It takes long periods of sustained effort and investment to achieve changes and then to mainstream practices that operationalize a source-to-sea approach through changed behavior. The IRBM project will be implemented starting in 2020 for a period of five years. The one-two year head start could be valuable in crafting the feasibility study and implementing the investment sub-component of the proposed ENMAP project, especially in developing public private partnerships on biodiversity conservation, management and restoration. There will also be valuable lessons- sharing, for example, in working with ASEAN bodies as governance mechanisms to steer the work of the projects.

- ***Other GEF-funded projects on LMEs***

The project will also explore collaborations with other GEF-funded projects for supplementary information and potential partnership in complementing each other's activities. The project will coordinate with the management teams of other GEF-funded projects in the region.

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Table 4. Other GEF Projects that are aligned with the ASEAN ENMAPS

Project	Description
The Blue Nature Alliance to expand and improve conservation of 1.25 billion hectares of ocean ecosystems (GEF ID 10375)	The ASEAN ENMAPS project aligns with most of the priorities of this project, i.e. biodiversity mainstreaming, coastal and marine protected areas, productive landscapes, Strategic Action Plan implementation, improved management effectiveness of protected areas, knowledge generation and sharing, capacity development, and adaptive management, among others. While the Blue Nature Alliance project similarly focuses also on Large Marine Ecosystems supported by GEF to catalyse conservation of 1.25 billion hectares of ocean, its coverage however does not include the targeted areas of the ASEAN ENMAPS project. The ASEAN ENMAPS, which focuses on the LMEs that are shared by the ASEAN, could complement the goals and efforts of the Blue Alliance project in terms of expanding the ocean conservation areas and strengthening transboundary collaboration, and cover its gaps in the Southeast A

	sia region, including the Coral Triangle Region, which is beyond the coverage of the Blue Alliance project.
Sustainable Management of Bay of Bengal LME (ID No. 9 909, GEF 6)	The project will contribute to fisheries and environmental protection through improving management practices of MPAs in Thailand.
Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea (GEF ID 553 8)	The ASEAN ENMAPS will complement this project in terms of assisting the Philippines (in the SCS LME) in implementing the National Action Plans towards meeting the targets of the SCS LME Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the marine and coastal environment. Both have parallel objectives in terms of strengthening regional co-ordination for SCS SAP implementation.
Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in the Philippines (GEF ID 10123, GEF 7)	This project in the Philippines include the Calamian Islands in Northern Palawan, a seascape in the Eastern Seaboard of the Philippines - (1) Catubig Watershed Samar Island, (2) Aurora Province in the Sierra Madre, (3) Siargao Island Protected Landscape/Seascape - and along the West Philippine Sea - (4) - through community-based activities for global environmental benefits and sustainable development.
Partnerships for Coral Reef Finance and Insurance in Asia and the Pacific (GEF ID 1043 1, GEF-7)	This project focuses on enabling large-scale financing to increase the climate resilience of coastal businesses, communities and livelihoods in selected countries in the Asia Pacific region which includes the Philippines and Indonesia, through the public-private partnership (PPP) model for coral reef insurance. Although this is under the Climate Change focal area of GEF, the project aligns with Component 2, specifically
Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in Eastern Indonesia (Fisheries Management Area (FMA) – 715, 717 & 718) (GEF ID 9129)	One of the overlapping sites between ASEAN ENMAPS and this project is the Cendrawasi Bay. The ASEAN ENMAPS Project will complement the efforts on fisheries governance and incentives not just in the Cendrawasi Bay but in the other parts of the Indonesian Seas as well..
(NGI) The Meloy Fund: A fund for sustainable small-scale fisheries in SE Asia (GEF ID 9 370)	The project aims to improve the conservation of targeted coral reef ecosystems by providing financial incentives to fishing communities in Indonesia and the Philippines to adopt sustainable fishing behaviors and rights-based management regimes through capital investments in commercially viable enterprises.
Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture	The project will serve the Philippines which are also among the identified stakeholders of the ASEAN ENMAPS. The project specifically aims to create new sustainable

e (GEF ID 10573)	e seaweed value chains that will deliver ecosystem services and provide socioeconomic benefits. This is aligned with the capacity-building initiatives for implementing investment and livelihood projects of the ASEAN ENMAPS stakeholders under the Project Component 2, as well as in upscaling replicable models on conservation enterprises in the region.
Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Coral Reef Insurance in Asia and the Pacific (GEF ID 10431)	The project sites include Indonesia and the Philippines which intends to enable large-scale financing to increase the climate resilience of coastal businesses, communities and livelihoods through innovative public-private partnership model for coral reef insurance. The projects will complement several interventions such as connectivity, sustainable livelihood development and multi-stakeholder governance.
Coral Reef Rescue: Resilient Coral Reefs, Resilient Communities (GEF ID 10575)	The project will complement the knowledge management efforts and network building for coral reefs and resilient communities in Indonesia and the Philippines, which include capacity-building towards strengthened monitoring of marine protected areas and national/sub-national planning and management.
Strengthening and Sustaining the Coastal Resource and Fisheries Management in the Leyte Gulf (FEG ID 10738)	The overall objective of the project is to improve the management of coastal fisheries and conserve globally significant biodiversity in the Leyte Gulf, through marine spatial planning, community mobilization, policy reform, and capacity development. As their project site is close to Ticao-Burias, one of the ENMAPS candidate sites in the Philippines, the projects will complement each other on these interventions.
All GEF projects in the region	These are GEF projects in GEF6 and GEF7 which are located in the target LME sites which could form part of the network of MPAs being supported by the ASEAN ENM

All GEF-funded projects listed in Table 2 (list will be finalized during the PPG)	APS project.
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7. Consistency with National Priorities

Is the Project consistent with the National Strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?

Yes

If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc

Contributions to the proposed post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (post-2020 GBF)

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework (post-2020 GBF) is a new suite of goals and targets, which builds on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets. It will guide the implementation of broad-based actions, with milestones onto the next decade, towards the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature is fulfilled. The target 3 of the post-2020 GBF proposes to “Ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.” By the end of implementing the Aichi targets, the ASEAN member states have collectively established protection for only 3.88 per cent of coastal and marine areas, a much lower figure as opposed to the 10 per cent of Target 11 for the coastal and marine environment. Based on this progress, the 30 per cent target in the post-2020 GBF is seemingly a steeper challenge for the ASEaN region. While the ASEAN member states are yet to determine the workable targets as well as the effective actions to reach these targets vis-à-vis the 30 per cent ambition, the need to grow from the regional baseline of 3.88 per cent is certain. The ASEAN ENMAPS employs a three-pronged approach (i.e. science-based decision support, capacity building, knowledge management) that could support the ASEAN member states to:

- develop scientifically-sound bases for the 30 per cent ambition from a multidimensional point of view (i.e. ecological information in tandem with political, economic, institutional and social circumstances, best practices, and outcomes of ASEAN's efforts in managing marine protected areas) to inform the countries in setting targets and corresponding realistic indicators to monitor and measure the fulfilment of these targets;
- explore the ecological connectivity to determine potential high seas areas within the LMEs that could benefit from conservation management, and for the importance of large MPAs to gain traction among the ASEAN member states;
- provide the necessary expertise, capacity and resources to implement actions that will achieve the new targets, and enable their integration in the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans as well as in the LME Strategic Action Programmes; and
- enhance the implementation and adoption by the countries of adaptive management approaches to effectively and equitably manage well-connected systems of marine protected areas, including other effective area-based conservation measures.

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD

During the conceptualization of this proposed project, the priorities of the countries were brought forward and guided the selection of candidate sites and the project framework. The priorities were drawn mainly from the NBSAPs and the ICM Strategies mentioned in earlier sections. The project will contribute to:

- enhancing marine protected areas, MPA networks of NBSAPs, and mobilize processes related to the implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA);
- scaling up the coverage and resilience of habitat building species, namely, mangroves, seagrasses and coral reefs in areas of globally significant biodiversity and ecosystem services);
- improving the ability of ecosystems to retain their services, fisheries production in particular and adapt to climate changes that in turn will sustain natural marine resource-based livelihoods and eco-businesses.
- improving plans and measures to ensure sustainable use and management of fisheries and marine resources
- developing new investment paradigms for MPAs, MPA networks and OECMs
- enhance intra-regional cooperation in MPA-related information exchange and in the implementation of assessment and planning mechanisms like Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) and tools including marine and spatial planning

National Priorities that are aligned with the ASEAN ENMAPS based on the NBSAPs

Philippines: The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP 2015-2028) includes Target 3: By 2028, there will be no net loss in presence and area distribution of live coral cover, mangroves, and seagrasses; Target 8: By 2028, fish stocks of economically important species will be maintained; Target 10: By 2028, the key threats to biodiversity will be reduced, controlled or managed; Target 20: By 2028, there will be a 20% increase from 2015 levels in the coverage of established MPAs/sanctuaries across various aquatic habitats. Among the relevant key strategies and programmes being implemented to achieve these targets include: Integrated approach in the management of major biodiversity corridors in the Philippines; Implementation of Sulu Celebes Seas Large Marine Ecosystems Regional and National Strategic Action Plans; Enabling Investments in Natural Capital: Strengthening Fisheries Value Chains, Financial Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity in the Coral Triangle. The PBSAP also includes the restoration of at least 15 percent of degraded ecosystems and to prevent extinctions of globally and nationally threatened species.

Indonesia: Indonesia has progressively identified limits and improved their NBSAPs in 2015-2020 to incorporate stronger strategies. These include Action Plan 1: to update information and data on biodiversity and natural resources, understanding on the value of biodiversity; Action Plan 2: to develop funding for biodiversity conservation; and Action Plan 3: mainstreaming IBSAPs to national action plan (NBSAP 2015-2020). One of the key components of IBSAP was an improved biodiversity database (Action Plan 1) and increasing access of information to relevant stakeholders, policymakers and scientists (Action Plan 2). Understanding the need for a sustainable financing mechanism to meet the ambitious goals of enhancing ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation, Action Plan 4 aims to identify areas, sectors, institutions in need of support and data to improve ecological habitat and biodiversity conservation. This also includes developing biodiversity accessibility to relevant sectors, stakeholders and policy makers.

Thailand: Thailand's NBSAP Strategies 1 to 3 are strongly aligned with project objectives and activities. Thailand's Strategy 1 aims to integrate biodiversity knowledge at all levels which shows strong consistencies with activities aligned with Objective 1 of the project on knowledge management and networking. Strategy 2 and 3 aims to restore, conserve and protect biodiversity and key biodiversity areas. These aim to minimize threat to biological diversity by minimizing loss of ecosystem and natural habitat as impacts of developmental projects .

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under UNFCCC

Protected areas are among the most effective measures to ensure that essential ecosystem services are maintained. Countries recognise that a healthy and balanced ecosystem and its services can increase resilience and reduce vulnerabilities of communities and their livelihoods from adverse impacts of climate change. The ASEAN ENMAPS countries have all committed to the Paris Agreement through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The full implementation of the NDCs include climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies that are premised on the various approaches of restoring, improving, and protecting key ecosystems including the coastal and marine ecosystems.

Indonesia: The climate change adaptation and mitigation constitute an integrated and cross-cutting priority of Indonesia's National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN). The strategic approach of Indonesia is founded on the principle of integrated, multisectoral approach that span across terrestrial, coastal and marine environments; mainstreaming of climate agenda into spatial planning and budgeting; and promoting climate resilience by protecting and restoring key ecosystems including the coastal and marine ecosystems. Indonesia's adaptation efforts are strongly linked with increasing conservation areas under CBD commitment, particularly in ecosystem resilience.^[1]

Philippines: Under the Philippine National REDD Plus Strategy and the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan the crucial role and potential of the country's marine ecosystems on blue carbon is recognised. The Philippines plans to legislate 97 protected areas as national parks under the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas Systems, which could contribute to increasing resilience against climate change.^[2]

Thailand: The country is among those under the "extreme risk" category that are most vulnerable to the future climate change impacts over the next thirty years. Therefore adaptation is a top priority in Thailand's national response to climate change. Under the guidance of the Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy, bestowed by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Thailand's prioritised adaptation efforts include the development of participatory, integrated marine conservation and coastal rehabilitation plan to protect marine ecosystem and enhance climate proofing infrastructure to strengthen coastal protection against erosion^[3]

[1] Updated Nationally Determined Contribution of Indonesia, 2021

(<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Indonesia%20First/Updated%20NDC%20Indonesia%202021%20-%20corrected%20version.pdf>)

[2]Nationally Determined Contribution of the Philippines, April 2021

(<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Philippines%20First/Philippines%20-%20NDC.pdf>)

[3]Updated Nationally Determined Contribution of Thailand, 2020

(<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Thailand%20First/Thailand%20Updated%20NDC.pdf>)

8. Knowledge Management

Outline the knowledge management approach for the Project, including, if any, plans for the Project to learn from other relevant Projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

The proposal has a dedicated component (Component 3) pertaining to knowledge management. It will develop and implement a comprehensive strategy that will be supported with a KM platform. Materials will be shared in the platform in the agreed structure and delivery design as may be discussed by the Regional Project Steering Committee. The content of the platform will be derived from the results of Component 1 (Science-based approach to supporting and expanding ecological networks of MPAs) and will be directed at enhancing the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) of local and national government bodies charged with developing and implementing coastal management and fisheries policies and programs; of coastal and marine protected area management staff; and the protected area constituencies that participate in and will benefit from MPA and MPA networks management. It will also link with, be informed by and contribute to existing platforms such as PEMSEA's Southeast Asia Knowledge Base (SeaKB), the ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism and the GEF IW LEARN to maximize outreach to various targets and networks,

The component on Knowledge Management will be advised by the Regional Project Steering Committee that will provide guidance on key management decisions. It will also support initiatives that will strengthen the core capacities and skills of key project stakeholders in marine spatial planning, ecosystem and ICM-based applications towards conservation and sustainable management of MPAs and MPA networks. The project will also develop various knowledge products in articulating the scaling-up of conservation and sustainable management of MPAs and its networks through policy briefs, case studies, technical guides, and socio-economic and institutional assessments and sustainable financing and innovative investment approaches using the blue economy concept.

Finally, the KM platform will be utilized to advance the discussion of project principles through project communication plans, deliver online and in-person training courses, workshops, conferences, twinning programmes, and dialogues, social media, local radio and other locally appropriate communication projects, among others.

9. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF

CEO Endorsement/Approval MTR

TE

High or Substantial

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Provide preliminary information on the types and levels of risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and describe measures to address these risks during the project design.

Project Information

<i>Project Information</i>	
1. Project Title	Effectively Managing Ecological Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	PIMS 6375
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Regional (Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam)
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	PIF Design: pre-SESP
5. Date	4 Aug 2021

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
<i>Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach</i>
The importance of effectively-managed coastal and marine areas to food security, biodiversity conservation, community health, climate change resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and economic growth, is especially true of the South East and East Asian regions, which host an immensely rich marine environment. These ecosystems support the highest coastal marine biodiversity in the world along 234,000 km of coastline, and provide the resource base and natural infrastructure, which sustains a life support system for at least two billion people. This project will contribute to achieving global targets rel

ated to food production from the aquatic environment, address issues related to habitat fragmentation, species extinctions and will increase areas placed under various forms of conservation.

Food security is vital to the life support system and is a basic human right. In this regard, this project will conserve an area which sustains a life support system of at least two billion people. Moreover, a community-based management aspect of this project is highlighted as a means of implementing a human-rights based approach to adapting to climate change.

Furthermore, in terms of job creation potential, the project will contribute to the potential creation of job opportunities and possibly enhance the employability of selected community members through various capacity-building initiatives.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

The project will contribute to addressing gender considerations in designing and implementing marine protected areas (MPAs), MPA networks, and marine biodiversity conservation corridors.

The project will incorporate the dimensions of gender equality and women empowerment. Gender mainstreaming will be taken into consideration throughout the project cycle - design and implementation - including the development of the appropriate indicators, aligned with various frameworks and guidelines developed by GEF and UNDP.

The nature of the activities will promote inclusivity and empowerment to women by recognizing and understanding their roles in MPA management, and other relevant aspects of the project. The project activities will have the active participation of women at every step of the project process, involving women professionals, women's groups, and other relevant sectors that promote gender equity.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

The project will contribute to regional objectives of the ASEAN Region, through the ASEAN Socio-cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint 2025, and the ASEAN Strategic Plan on Environment (ASPEN) 2016–2025. The project shall enhance existing conservation measures through an intensive network of MPAs. The ASSC envisions a sustainable environment in the midst of social changes, and economic development. Relevant national policies are aligned with the ASSC and therefore the project is responsive at the national level.

The MPA networks and its ecological connectivity contribute to the improved management of biodiversity in ecologically connected seascapes. Establishing these will also lay down the foundations for the need for the protection status of these linked ecosystems in the future. This will also contribute to the development and adoption of policies that will protect existing MPAs, and will establish the basis for protection of the ecologically connected areas. This will address further degradation and pollution of marine habitats especially anthropogenic pressures which contributes to environmental sustainability and resilience.

Moreover, elements of sustainability contribute to the global environmental benefits through sustainable fisheries without compromising the biodiversity of the MPA networks and ecologically connected marine ecosystems. It is envisaged that the identification and recognition of key marine biodiversity areas will lead to their conservation and when subsequently paired with sustainable fishing practices in the region is expected to contribute to improved fisheries production.

Also contributory to the global environmental benefits is the integration of the associated ecosystems in the LMEs. Considerations of the various perspectives in the stakeholder will lead to a better understanding of biodiversity conservation, fisheries, and other relevant sectors in the coastal and marine environment.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

Energy activities in the space below, then, the project will engage stakeholders to ensure that

The project will contribute to increasing stakeholder participation, including the vulnerable and marginalized groups of society, in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development process. To provide the social and economic baselines for the project, there will be consultations with indigenous peoples and local communities, organized local groups, local governments, the academe and the private sector.

The project will involve capacity development, knowledge management, learning and networking. The project will engage the relevant personnel in building and strengthening core capacities in MPA management and other management tools to be utilized in the project. Apart from the managers and staff, the project will also engage local communities through the development of entrepreneurial skills and facilitating access to markets and sustainable finance to recognize their role in the sustainability of the MPAs. The results and lessons of the project will be packaged and disseminated into knowledge products and shared in national, regional and international fora for information exchange to ensure that the learnings and best practices are documented and shared with relevant stakeholders. This will ensure and advance LME management through recognizing and exemplifying conservation corridors and transboundary areas as key to biodiversity conservation, food security and sustainability. As a source for potential replication, the project will incorporate all the learning through knowledge management platforms such as the Southeast Asia Knowledge Base (SeaKB), the ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism, and IWLEARN, among others.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks?	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?			QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High.
<i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>	<i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6.</i>			
<i>Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)</i>	<i>Impact and Likelihood (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)</i>	<i>Comments (optional)</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High</i>
Risk 1: CAUSE: Indigenous people identified as engaging in IUU fishing, unsustainable exploitation of marine life, or pollution in new or existing protected areas	I = 4 L = 3	Substantial	~18% of the population of the 6 project countries is indigenous. ^[1] Indigenous people in these 6 countries primarily live in highlands away from coastal areas, but there are also coastal	The interaction between indigenous people and the project activities can only be established once project sites are agreed with partners, in consultation with the indigenous peoples themselves (and with FPIC if determined necessary for SES compliance). Draft sites are indicated in the DIF but these are both conditional and non-excl

<p>as.</p> <p>EVENT: Offenders prevented from proscribed activities by enforcement bodies.</p> <p>IMPACT: Changes in livelihoods and ability to exploit marine life.</p>			<p>areas, but there are also coastal tribes such as the Chao Ley in Thailand.</p>	<p>d in the PIF but these are both conditional and non-exclusive.</p> <p>UNDP will prepare a ESMF during the PPG to guide implementation and identify if and when assessments are required. An IPPF will be prepared during the PPG as part of the ESMF if determined necessary for SES compliance.</p>
<p>Risk 2:</p> <p>CAUSE: Front-line bureaucrats involved in the implementation of policies influenced by the project are not accountable to stakeholders in affected communities.</p> <p>EVENT. Bureaucrats refuse to entertain stakeholder input and could respond negatively.</p> <p>IMPACT: Local stakeholder inputs are discouraged.</p>	<p>I = 2</p> <p>L = 4</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>A regional policy project is unlikely to be able to influence culture or incentives for front-line bureaucrats.</p> <p>If realized, the project would miss out on potentially valuable stakeholder input, including from stakeholders who might be affected by the project.</p>	<p>A comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be prepared during the PPG, and a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be outlined in the ESMF. The GRM will be established at the start of project implementation.</p>
<p>Risk 3:</p> <p>CAUSE: Lack of care in the planning and management of tourism in or near MPAs.</p> <p>EVENT: Increased tourism infrastructure (such as hotels, boats, roads) or activities damage critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas within or without the MPAs through physical destruction or pollution.</p> <p>IMPACT: Reduced marine life and biodiversity.</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L = 2</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>The likelihood of this risk is highly dependent on the local tourism cultures of ASEAN states, and the quality of governance. This risk stems from project outcome 2.1.</p>	<p>UNDP will prepare a ESMF during the PPG to guide implementation and identify if and when assessments are required.</p> <p>The project will be designed with a specific focus on biodiversity, though the ESMF will also serve to ensure any negative impacts of tourism on marine life and biodiversity are mitigated. Assessments of impacts on biodiversity shall be conducted as and when project sites are identified.</p>
<p>Risk 4:</p>	<p>I = 3</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>As per risk 3.</p>	<p>As per risk 3.</p>

<p>CAUSE: Increased MPA-related tourism increases local demand for marine life (such as Seafood, Shells, Coral, etc.) near MPAS.</p> <p>EVENT: Local people/entrepreneurs increase unsustainable or destructive extraction of marine life around or in MPAs.</p> <p>IMPACT: Reduced marine life and biodiversity.</p>	L =2			
<p>Risk 5:</p> <p>CAUSE: Insensitive planning or implementation of park development activities linked to project policy outcomes. EVENT: Development activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site are not undertaken with care.</p> <p>IMPACT: Degrade cultural heritage sites.</p>	<p>I = 4</p> <p>L =2</p>	Moderate	Realization of this risk is highly dependent on the quality of governance in the partner countries.	This risk will be managed through project site selection, and through the ESMF prepared during the PPG.
<p>Risk 6: Potential unforeseen negative on-the-ground impacts from the strategies (output 2.1.3) and management plans (output 2.1.2) supported by the project, if not designed or implemented well.</p>	<p>I = 4</p> <p>L = 2</p>	Moderate		The PPG team will integrate the SESA approach into the design of the relevant project elements.
<p>Risk 7:</p> <p>CAUSE: People including women and minorities engaging in value chains linked to IUU fishing, <i>unsustainable</i> exploitation of marine life, or pollution in new or existing protected areas.</p> <p>EVENT: Enforcement protects marine life from IUU, exploitation, destruction and pollution.</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L =3</p>	Moderate	<p>This risk should not be realized if people including women and minorities engage in sustainable practices.</p> <p>If realized this risk may have unintended consequences.</p>	<p>The PPG team will prepare an ESMF that will cover this risk and all others. The need for Process Framework(s) and/or Livelihood Action Plan(s) will be explored – and ideally confirmed – during the preparation of the ESMF.</p> <p>A Gender Action Plan will be prepared during the PPG.</p>

n, and pollution.				
IMPACT: Unintended negative changes in livelihoods and incomes.				
Risk 8: A range of potential risks from the priority conservation investment sub-projects to be supported by the project, which have not yet been designed (outputs 2.1.4 and 2.1.5), if appropriate measures are not integrated into (or prepared for) the selection, design and implementation of those sub-projects.	I = 4 L = 4	Substantial		The project will be designed such that the feasibility study to be prepared under this output (2.1.4) will include a appropriately scoped Environmental and Social Impact Assessment(s) (ESIAs) and ESMPs. The scoped ESMP(s) will be reflected in the design output 2.1.5, and in the ESMF prepared during the PPG.
Risks related to the impacts of climate change.	I = 4 L = 3	Substantial	Risks could be brought about by more intense and more frequent typhoons in the project sites that will delay project implementation. Moreover, other climate variables such as global warming may result in coral bleaching weakening the impact of the conservation measures.	To be addressed by the project's design and ESMF prepared during the PPG. Mitigation measures will include scheduling weather-sensitive field activities particularly in Components 1 and 2 to reduce the impacts of the typhoon 'season'. The measures could also include an Emergency Preparedness Plan for those activities. Global warming will be addressed by supporting an ecological network of MPAs which is expected to improve the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems, including biodiversity.
	QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?			
	<i>Note: Project categorization is determined by the highest level of significance of identified risks across all potential risk areas (as rated in Question 3).</i>			
	Low Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Moderate Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Substantial Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	High Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (ch			

eck all that apply)				
Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects.				
<i>Is assessment required? (check if "yes")</i>	x			<i>Status? (completed, planned)</i>
<i>if yes, indicate overall type and status</i>		x	Targeted assessment(s)	Planned for PPG: stakeholder analysis, gender analysis
		x	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	Planned for implementation
		x	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	Planned for implementation
<i>Are management plans required? (check if "yes")</i>	x			
<i>If yes, indicate overall type</i>		x	Targeted management plans (e.g. Indigenous Peoples Plan, Resettlement Action Plan, others)	Planned for PPG: comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Gender Action Plan
		x	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan)	Planned for implementation
		x	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	Planned for PPG (with IPPF if determined necessary for SES compliance)
<i>Based on identified risks,</i>				

<i>which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?</i>		Comments (not required)
<i>Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind</i>	---	
<i>Human Rights</i>	x	
<i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>	x	
<i>Accountability</i>	x	
<i>1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management</i>	x	
<i>2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks</i>	x	
<i>3. Community Health, Safety and Security</i>	x	
<i>4. Cultural Heritage</i>	x	
<i>5. Displacement and Resettlement</i>	x	
<i>6. Indigenous Peoples</i>	x	
<i>7. Labour and Working Conditions</i>	x	
<i>8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>	x	

[1] The Indigenous World 2021, <https://iwgia.org/doclink/iwgia-book-the-indigenous-world-2021-eng/eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWUiOiJpd2dpYS1ib29rLXRoZS1pbmRpZ2Vub3VzLXdvcmxkLTlwMjEtZW5nliwiaWF0IjoxNjE4OTE0NDcyLCJleHAiOiJlE2MTkwMDA4NzJ9.16jl03Uv-9UUBvrf4xV5yXkXCPIT46vbfKaGwvYvbvA>

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Submitted
6375_Pre-SESP_for Submission_13Sept21_cleared	

Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And GEF Agency(ies)

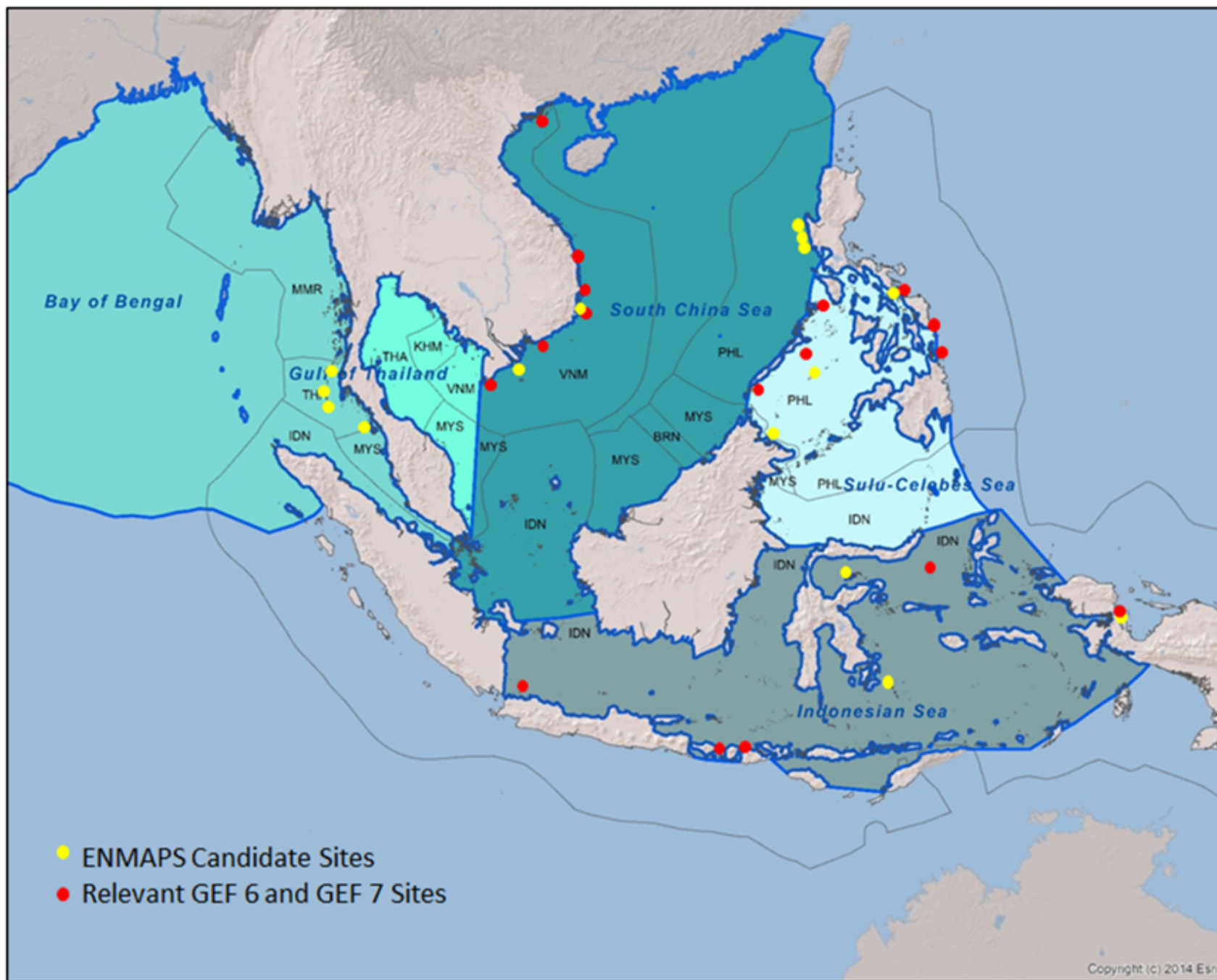
A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

Name	Position	Ministry	Date
Ms. Ibu Laksmi Dhewanti	Senior Advisor	Ministry of Environment and Forestry INDONESIA	7/15/2021
Ms. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh	Undersecretary	Department of Environment and Natural Resources PHILIPPINES	3/30/2021
Mr. Jatuporn Buruspat	Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment THAILAND	11/9/2020

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

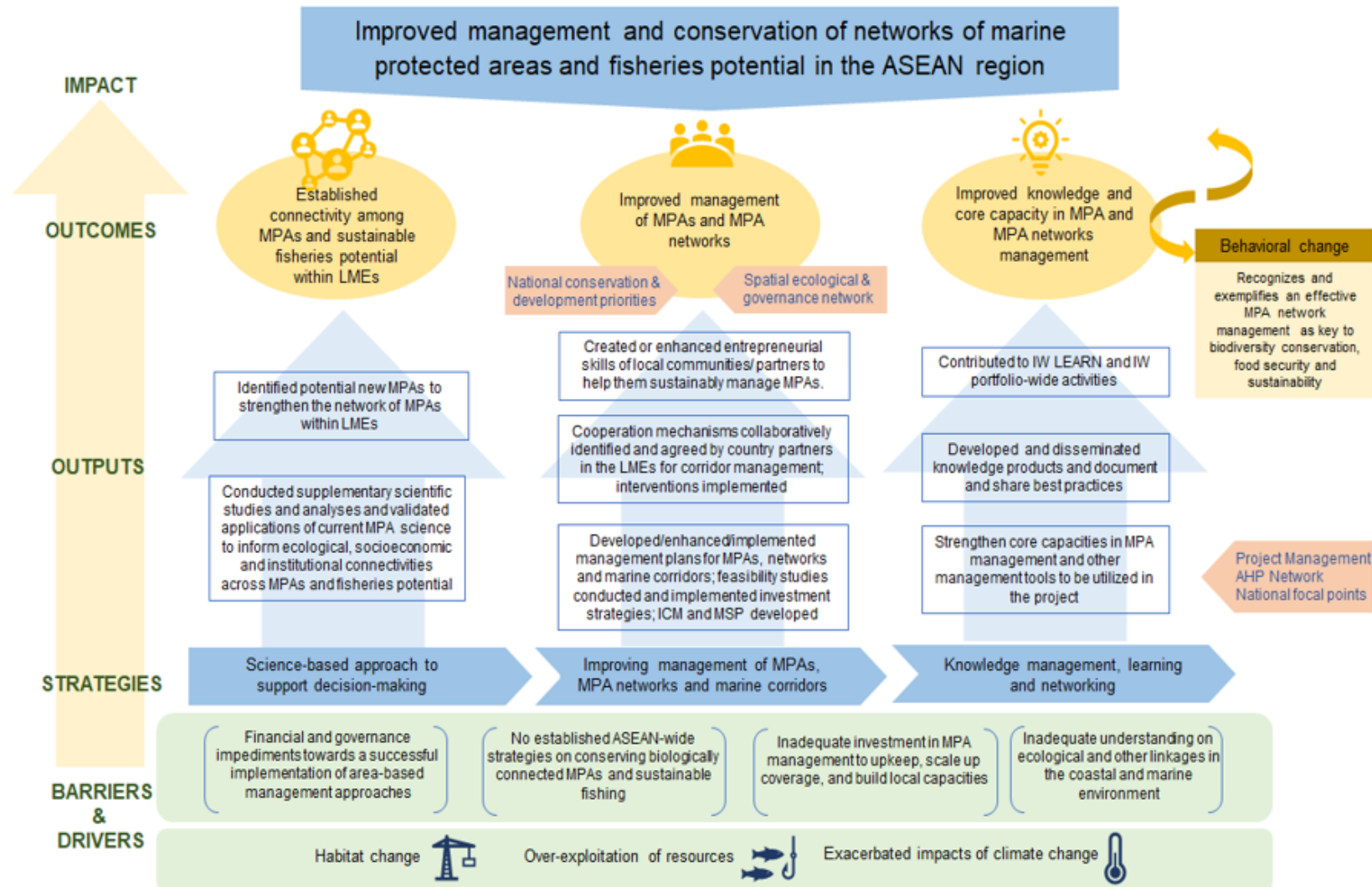
MPA maps will be prepared during PPG after final sites have been selected from the candidate sites. In the meantime, the LME map is provided below.



Annex B: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Annex C: Project taxonomy

Annex D: ASEAN ENMAPS Theory of Change



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