



Strengthening the Sustainable and inclusive management of the marine protected area of Grand-Bereby, recognized as particularly important for the conservation of biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

11007

Project Type

MSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Strengthening the Sustainable and inclusive management of the marine protected area of Grand-Bereby, recognized as particularly important for the conservation of biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire

Countries

Cote d'Ivoire

Agency(ies)

UNEP

Other Executing Partner(s)

Ministry of Environment, Protection and Nature and Sustainable Development

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Biodiversity

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Biodiversity, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, International Waters, Marine Protected Area, Biomes, Coral Reefs, Mangrove, Extractive Industries, Mainstreaming, Tourism, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Protected

Areas and Landscapes, Productive Seascapes, Threatened Species, Species, Mangroves, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Private Sector, Large corporations, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Information Dissemination, Participation, Consultation, Local Communities, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Academia, Non-Governmental Organization, Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Education, Beneficiaries, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access to benefits and services, Access and control over natural resources, Capacity Development, Learning, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Theory of change, Innovation, Targeted Research, Knowledge Exchange, Knowledge Generation

Sector

Mixed & Others

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 0

Duration

36 In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

124,684.00

Submission Date

6/15/2022

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-2-7	GET	1,320,000.00	10,000,000.00
Total Project Cost (\$)		1,320,000.00	10,000,000.00

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

To increase the management effectiveness of the Grand-Barréby Marine Protected Area (MPA)

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
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Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 1: Improved Policy, Regulatory frameworks and capacity for the management of the Grand-Beriby	Technical Assistance	Outcome 1.1: The Grand-Beriby MPA landscape and seascapes Institutional , Regulatory Framework, and Technical capacity Established with due gender consideration	<p>1.1.1. Communities participation activities in the MPA management and a multi-sectoral Platform composed of men and women representatives of government agencies, the private sector, and civil society are established to address the loss of marine biodiversity and other issues of common concern that affect the ecological health, connectivity and productivity of Grand Beriby landscape/seascapes</p> <p>1.1.2. Grand Beriby Marine Protected Area (MPA), landscape and seascape climate-resilient management plans and related Business Plans developed (definition of the management and business plans of the landscape and seascape, assessment of technical and capacity policies and regulatory needs, human resources need, determination of the necessary boundaries, regulatory framework dissemination), the financial</p>	GET	400,000.00	3,000,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 2: Gender sensitive Alternative livelihood in support of MPA	Investment	Available for both men and women alternatives Livelihood options to reduce pressure on Grand Bereby MPA landscape and seascapes and increase revenue.	<p>2.1.1 Gender-sensitive Feasibility study on the valorization of the Grand Beriby Marine landscape and seascapes value chains in support of the PA, landscape, and seascapes. Management Plans implementation and communities livelihood conducted</p> <p>2.1.2. Climate Smart and gender-sensitive Alternative Income Generating Activity (AIGA) options identified, validated by stakeholders, and, implemented through Small-scale funding to CBO/Local NGO</p>	GET	650,000.00	4,550,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Component 3: Knowledge management and MPA and project monitoring	Technical Assistance	Outcome 3.1: Improved stakeholders including both men and women, capacities for the management and monitoring of the Grand-Bereby MPA and broader coastal zone through the use of knowledge platforms and adequate monitoring frameworks.	3.1.1. Developed and disseminated gender-sensitive knowledge products to facilitate scaling up and replication of conservation and sustainable management of the Grand-Bereby MPA and the broader Coastal zone, including collaboration with the WACA knowledge platform. 3.1.2. Grand Bereby MPA monitoring protocol established and key gender-sensitive monitoring indicators identified and monitored 3.1.3. A functional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System in place with due consideration for women and men	GET	150,000.00	1,500,000.00
Sub Total (\$)					1,200,000.00	9,050,000.00

Project Management Cost (PMC)

GET	120,000.00	950,000.00
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Project Management Cost (PMC)

Sub Total(\$)	120,000.00	950,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)	1,320,000.00	10,000,000.00

Please provide justification

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	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Grant	Investment mobilized	800,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ivorian Office of Parcs and Reserve (OIPR)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000.00
Donor Agency	Debt Swap Facility 3rd C2D3	Grant	Investment mobilized	3,000,000.00
Donor Agency	KfW-Germain Cooperation	Grant	Investment mobilized	5,000,000.00
GEF Agency	UNEP-Abidjan Convention Secretariat	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000.00
Donor Agency	UNDP- Cote d'Ivoire	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)				10,000,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

THE INVESTMENT MOBILIZED ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS AND WILL BE SUBSTANTIATED BY CONFIRMED COFINACING LETTER AS PART OF THE CEO ENDORSEMENT PACKAGE: - Cash from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development: The Ministry under the National Law related to PA, the Government mobilized from national budget resources invested in PA network Management. This investment is distributed to each PA to support the Management Plan implementation. It is estimated that during the life span of the project around \$800, 000 will be invested in the GB PA. - Cash from Debt Swap Facility 3rd C2D3: Under the debt swap scheme the OIPR is managing a project financed through French Development Agency. \$3 million from that project will be invested to support the Management Plan of the GB PA - KfW-Germain Cooperation is implementing a project with OIPR. Around \$5 million of the project funds are estimated to be invested in support of the GB PA, landscape, and Seascape management. - UNDP- Cote d'Ivoire Office is supporting the creation of the GD PA and has decided to invest \$500,000 during the life period of the project through Annual Work Plans.

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(\$)
UNEP	GET	Cote d'Ivoire	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,320,000	124,684	1,444,684.00
Total GEF Resources(\$)					1,320,000.00	124,684.00	1,444,684.00

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)

30,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

2,850

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNEP	GET	Cote d'Ivoire	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	30,000	2,850	32,850.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					30,000.00	2,850.00	32,850.00

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial 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)
13,571.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
13,571.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park GB PA	125689	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	13,571.00			

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDP ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	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)
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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)
246,207.00	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)
246,207.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDP ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Grand Bereby	125689	Select National Park	246,207.00			

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)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	W DP 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)
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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)
444029.00	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)
444,029.00			

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

Title	Submitted
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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	1,500			
Male	1,500			
Total	3000	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

This number represents the total landscape bordering the AMP where rubber and other agriculture productions are conducted with consequent pollution from chemicals and other agricultural pollutants. This area will be targeted by the project for awareness-raising and promotion of sustainable production. Indicator 11* This number includes at least 30% of the Grand Lahu population (around 900,000 people from the 2014 census published in 2021), artisanal and industrial fishing communities which include many migrant communities; the mining communities; the population at the national level who will benefit from legal framework related to coastal zones and MPA management. Details of each group of beneficiaries will be provided at CEO endorsement

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

The Coastal line of Cote d'Ivoire forms part of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME), which is one of the world's most productive marine and coastal areas, with relatively rich fishery resources of significant importance from a nutritional, employment and income perspective, oil and gas reserves, precious minerals, and high coastal tourism potential. The total economic value of the environmental goods and services provided by the GCLME's coastal and marine resources is estimated to be some US\$18 billion per year according to the GCLME Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA).

Cote d'Ivoire coastal line is home to five of the seven existing species of marine turtles: the leatherback, loggerhead, olive ridleys, green and hawksbill, and includes some of the most important nesting beaches for these species in the world. All of them are included in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, are listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and are protected by several other conventions in addition to CITES.

It also harbors other remarkable endangered species, such as mammals (dolphins, whales, and porpoises), coastal cetaceans, migratory birds, and the West African manatee.

(i) Project Site: The Grand-Bereby MPA

The Marine Protected Areas (MPA) which cover 2,600km² of pristine ocean off the coast of Grand-Bereby was created (see 1b. Project Map and Coordinates) in recognition of the high rates of globally significant biodiversity and densities of marine life present in the coastal zone. It stretches from Kablak? Wapo in the west to Petit Digbou? in the east of the region including the villages of Pitik?, Mani, Roc , Dawa, Ouro, Dosso, Takoro and M?no?, and protects marine biodiversity including threatened shark and turtle species. The MPA location includes important sea-bed habitats and reef ecosystems, as well as globally significant nesting and foraging grounds for the leatherback, green and olive ridleys turtles. It hosts more than 20 species of sharks and rays, including hammerheads, manta rays, and guitarfish ? a group of rays now considered the world's most threatened marine fish. The MPA include an integrally protected zone closed to all activities and an eco-development zone that will support sustainable fishing practices and ecotourism activities and is the first site in the series of Marine Protected Areas network to be created. This network includes four others: the cross-border site of the mouth of the Cavally river in Tabou (Ivory Coast ? Liberia), the site of the Dassioko classified forest, the site of the Azagny national park and the cross-border site of the Ehotil?s islands (Ivory Coast ? Ghana).

Within the Cote d'Ivoire coastal line, the Azagny National Park is the only protected site in the coastal zone and is located in the area of the Grand-Lahou lagoon, and its renowned for its elephants and

buffaloes, while the swamp and mangroves provide habitat for manatees and small numbers of crocodiles.

(ii) Threats and root causes:

Increasing population is recognized as one of the fundamental threats to natural habitats degradation, above all mangrove forest. More than 4 million people of Cote d'Ivoire live in the coastal cities of Abidjan, Grand-Bassam, Jacqueville, Grand-Lahou, Sassandra, San Pedro and Tabou. Increased demand and increased need for means of the populations have led to severe degradation of the mangrove forest. Artisanal fisheries offtake has also increased. Poverty and inequality among the coastal communities has led to an increased need for means of livelihood with consequent migration of the population towards the coastal zone and increased pressure on coastal resources such as mangrove. This pressure enhances several problems such as over exploitation of the mangrove, land property conflicts and the degradation of the environment. This situation is all the more permanent due to the ineffective regulation for the protection of the coastal zones.

Anthropogenic threats to coastal and marine biodiversity, including Endangered, threatened and protected species and ecosystem services include:

Coastal Habitat Loss and Degradation:

The coastline is the principal economic resource of Cote d'Ivoire. The diverse habitats that characterize the littoral constitute an ecological asset for the country due to its economic, cultural, and touristic value. The principal activities in this area include forestry, plantations, factories, tourism, and fishing. Degradation of critical habitats is a very significant issue on socio-economic grounds, as it leads to their reduced capacity to support the basic human needs of food, fuel and shelter. The most notable degraded habitats and/or ecosystems include mangroves and beaches. Mangroves for example, are heavily exploited for the traditional uses of poles for the building industry, for fuel wood and for the local market. Degradation of ecosystems have resulted into the loss of their aesthetic value a characteristic on which tourism depends. Based on the World Bank data from 2018, Cote d'Ivoire has reached a total population of around 25 million people, and nearly 7.5 million inhabitants, or 30% of the Ivorian population, live on the coastal area where nearly 80% of the country's economic are concentrated. The combine effect of increasing number of populations in the coastal area and the above mentioned activities has led to deforestation, industrial and domestic waste dumping, agricultural runoff, degradation of the ecological integrity, and unsustainable solid and liquid waste management, siltation and sedimentation. The uncontrolled urban development along the coast has outgrown the waste management systems that were implemented without consideration for the levels of growth that is now being witnessed on the coast. The poor management of solid waste and household refuse has put further pressure on coastal ecosystems and resulted in rapid degradation.

Poaching of marine wildlife species:

The growing demand for illegally traded wildlife products is devastating biological diversity across the coastal line of Cote d'Ivoire. In 2017, the USAID funded West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change (WA BiCC) Program conducted a "Scoping Study on Addressing Illegal Harvesting of Aquatic Endangered, Threatened or Protected (ETP) Species for Consumption and Trade" which reveals that

West Africa including Cote d'Ivoire is both a source point for illegally traded wildlife and wildlife products and a transit point from other African regions. This study noted that declining fisheries resources, increasing human populations and land-based developments have been displacing communities from their traditional food sources, driving new forms of meat consumption as well as, often, illegal local and international trade. Consequently, this aquatic harvest is now seriously impacting large aquatic mammal, reptile and avian biodiversity. Manatees, marine turtle, seven species of dolphin, at least one species of crocodile and several wetland bird species are regularly hunted. Although the harvests are predominantly for human consumption or for bait, some constitute bycatch from other fishing activities. Marine turtles, for instance, are captured by fishermen when they get entangled in nets, but there is increasing evidence that they are actively hunted, and that there are thriving local markets for smoked turtle meat or turtle eggs. Other threats to the survival of marine turtles also exist, such as the predation of nests by wild dogs and pigs and habitat degradation from economic development of the coastal area.

Unsustainable Fishing:

Fisheries are important for coastal livelihoods, especially for women who dominate the processing, retailing, and local trading of fish products. With regards to food security, fish is the primary source of animal protein, and the sector produces 30% of locally consumed fish (annual consumption is estimated at 275,000 tons). The fisheries and aquaculture sector contribute about 3.2% of the agricultural GDP, its contribution to the total GDP is 0.8%, providing employment especially among vulnerable groups. Industrial fishing uses about 38 ships and takes place on the continental shelf not far from the ports of Abidjan and San Pedro. The catch includes tuna (between 58,000 and 62,000 tonnes), crustaceans (trawling about 6,000 tonnes), sardines (between 28,000 and 30,000 tonnes), and shrimp (515 tons in 1999 and 1314 tons in 2000). Many fish stocks, however, are in a state of decline due to coastal degradation and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

Coastal area Water Pollution: The degradation of water resources on coastal zones is often due to human activities (e.g. poor water and sanitation service provision, mining, tourism, agriculture) and natural factors (e.g. sea level rise leading to salt water intrusion in groundwater). In Cote d'Ivoire, this degradation is the result of insufficient or inappropriate water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) which can affect human health (e.g. due to water-borne diseases) and the environment (e.g. due to discharge of untreated wastewater). A study conducted by the WB in 2019 found that the cost related to water-borne diseases was estimated in 2017 at US\$450 million in Cote d'Ivoire.

Untreated Waste water in the Coastal area: as a result of untreated domestic, agricultural and industrial wastewater, which pollutes the environment and affects the carrying capacity of the marine environment, notably lakes, lagoons and the sea. According to the 2019 WB study, the cost of untreated domestic wastewater in Cote d'Ivoire was estimated at US\$35 million in 2017. The total cost due to water degradation including Water-borne diseases, and untreated wastewater) was estimated for the same period at 1.2% of Cote d'Ivoire GDP, which is about US\$485 million.

Coastal Flooding and Erosion: It constitutes the main forms of degradation, accounting for more than 60 percent of the total cost. Cote d'Ivoire and West African countries are severely affected by floods. It is further exposed to erosion due to higher population growth and migration to coastal areas,

concentration of economic activity, and sea level rise. Flood frequency has increased in the past 50 years and are expected to increase in the future. The cost of erosion in Cote d'Ivoire due to Assets lost, Production lost, Land lost was estimated in 2017 by the WB study at US\$97 million, or 0.2% of GDP.

Climate Change:

Due to climate change, Cote d'Ivoire coastal line faces sea level rise, rainfall variability and increasing temperatures, which trigger several hazards, especially sea and riverine floods, coastal erosion, higher incidence of weather extremes since decades. A study conducted by the WB on the Cost of Environmental Degradation (COED) in the coastal areas of Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, and Togo demonstrates that flooding, erosion and pollution are major challenges facing the West Africa coastal areas in general, and the coastal line of Cote d'Ivoire in particular. They cause death, decrease the quality of life of citizens and lead to substantial economic damages amounting to over 4.9% of GDP in Cote d'Ivoire. Today, more than two-thirds of the Ivorian coastline is affected by coastal erosion. Loss of land to the sea has already had dramatic impacts. In many places the loss or degradation of mangroves that normally serve as a natural barrier between sea and land, are a major cause for increased erosion and subsequent flooding inland and underground salt-water intrusion. The former colonial town of Grand-Lahou has now completely disappeared under water and the historic town of Grand-Bassam, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, is also in danger. Loss of beaches, dunes, mangroves which provide natural flood protection, has exacerbated the impacts of floods from the sea that engulf towns and villages when strong storms strike. It also represents a threat to the country's economy in terms of the potential impact on major industrial facilities and infrastructures. By 2050, it is projected that the country will be confronted with the combined effect of the increase in temperatures (+2°C), variation in rainfall (-9% in May and +9% in October), and rising sea levels (30 cm). The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), for instance, estimates that climate change could reduce GDP by 2% to 4% across Africa by 2040 and by 10% to 25% by 2100. For Cote d'Ivoire, this would correspond to a loss of some CFAF 380 to 770 billion. These losses would be borne by the agricultural sector, human capital, and infrastructures. More critically, climate change could plunge 2% to 6% more households into extreme poverty by 2030. In Cote d'Ivoire, that would amount to nearly one million more people in a situation of extreme poverty (living on less than \$1.90 per day), in addition to the six million poor in the country today.

Root causes of identified threats to Coastal resources and ecological integrity

Lack of a master plan for Coastal resources management: Cote d'Ivoire adopted a land management policy in 1997, but the policy has as yet not been implemented. The lack of a national land management policy and regional land management plan stipulating land use has had a negative impact on the preservation of forestry assets, such as mangroves assets. In general, this is due to spatial planning practice lagging behind on-going growth, which results in hazard prone settlements, encroachment of natural assets, and pollution.

Population pressure and migration: The Ivorian coastline hosts most of the country's population and a significant part of its economy. There is a clear higher concentration in the main city, Abidjan, which exceeded 4 million inhabitants in 2010 making it the second most populous city in West Africa after

Lagos. Indeed, Abidjan is subject to accelerated urbanization giving it a cosmopolitan character. This exceptional demographic growth is due to strong natural growth as well as to significant immigration. The city not only welcomes migrants from other regions of the country, but also from its neighboring countries.

Land-based developments: Along the Cote d'Ivoire coast, the Autonomous port of Abidjan has been built. Other investment include dams on river, which block sediments from upstream, altering the formation of depositional features like river deltas, alluvial fans, braided rivers, and beaches. Regarding human settlements, land use changes and unplanned growth in coastal areas are damaging ecosystems. In fact, part of the development potential linked to coastal ecosystem services may be compromised as they deteriorate. For example, settlements on the coast are often located on lagoons' edges which usually alters water flow dynamics, generates deforestation, and pollutes the lagoons. Unsustainable farming techniques and a growing demand for fuelwood and commercial timber have decimated Cote d'Ivoire's natural forests, which have declined from approximately 13 million hectares when the country became independent in 1960 to 2.5 million hectares in the 1990s. Coastal wetlands are also rapidly disappearing. Soil degradation, water pollution and loss of biodiversity pose significant threats to future productivity and the wellbeing of rural communities. In 1998, with assistance from the World Bank, Cote d'Ivoire adopted the Rural Land Law, which aims to transform customary land rights into private property rights regulated by the state. Because of an extended period of political turmoil from 1999 to 2011, and lack of resources devoted to the effort, very little has been done to make the Rural Land Law a reality for most Ivoirians.

Poor forest governance: Forest resources in rural areas are managed by the Forestry Department (Ministry of Water and Forests). Forest governance has been singled out in multiple reports as being very poor. Several factors are at work here, including the failure to involve local communities in forest management, the poor institutional capacities of the Forestry Department, unfamiliarity with laws and regulations, and poor enforcement of these.

(iii) Barriers to be addressed:

Due to the above mentioned threats, the management effectiveness of the Grand-Bereby MPA in the Coastal area of Cote d'Ivoire needs to be strengthened with a vision for achieving integrated Coastal Management within the Cote d'Ivoire coastline with due consideration of biodiversity conservation. Impediments in achieving a well-managed MPA and Sustainability in the broader coastal are include:

Barrier 1: Inadequate policy and regulatory frameworks and capacities to support the effective conservation of coastal habitats and marine wildlife:

Although marine biodiversity conservation is addressed by legal instrument such as the adopted Law No. 2017 - 378 of June 2, 2017 on the Planning, Protection and Coastal line integrated Management, overfishing, destruction of marine habitats, poaching of marine wildlife species remain a serious concern, as it put at risks not only the marine resources but also the socio-economic well-being of coastal communities in coastal zones. Although, Cote d'Ivoire as well as other West African Countries have benefitted from projects strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable coastal communities

and areas against the climate change risks, significant progress has yet to be made in the establishment of regulatory frameworks, adequate institutional and technical capacities for the management of biodiversity resources and its habitats.

Apart from the Protected Area Regulation, there is no specific document that outlines the standards or provides guidance in identifying key Coastal and marine habitats for management or standardized monitoring protocols in place. There is therefore an urgent need to review and align policies and development planning across sectors, and to ensure integration of up-to-date information on sustainable marine resource use, Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), marine corridors, biodiversity conservation alongside economic development strategies. However, under GEF 6, the country benefited from a project titled "Sustainability and Scaling Up Approaches for Transformational Management, Restoration and Conservation of Forests Landscapes and Biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire (SSATMARC/FOLAB)" GEF ID 9366 . In the framework of the project output 3.1.3 : "Policy and regulatory frameworks for the conservation of specific threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services (mangroves, endemic species, etc.) are developed, validated, and piloted at pilot sites" it is envisage a policy review and recommendations captured to support policy reforms in the area of PA and biodiversity conservation. Policy and regulatory actions needed to be taken to reverse the trend of the most critically and unsustainably exploited of marine biodiversity stocks and to protect their most vulnerable habitats in Grand Bereby area will be considered..

Furthermore, technical and institutional capacities within government institutions to formulate and implement policies to establish and manage MPA remain a challenge. The capacity to develop and operationalize MPA management plan continues to be limited, largely due to insufficient staffing and lack of technical tools and systems to enhance different management models. There is little integration of scientific data and threats based information into policies and action plans, hampering the ability of informed decision-making to ensure marine wildlife biodiversity conservation in face of ongoing and future threats in the coastal zone. This is evident from the fact that, majority of legally protected areas in Cote d'Ivoire lack management plans, defacto converting most protected areas into "paper parks". For the Grand-Bereby MPA, investments are needed to build local capacities in MPA management, which includes strengthening collaboration among various governance levels, developing and implementing management plans and resource mobilization. It is also imperative to develop capacity of managers and councils on financial planning as well as on sustainable management of natural resources to ensure environmental sustainability of economic development in the coastal marine area. The institutional capacity will be based on the recommendations from the GEF 6 project which is planned to conduct assessment of costal areas including policies, institutional and legal reforms needed. During the PPG, the barrier 1 analysis will be refine to clearly separate and further specify the barriers related to policies from those related to institutions, and explore the barriers related to MPA sustainable financing

Barrier 2: Lack of awareness on socioeconomic opportunities and on technical and financial capacity to seize opportunities related to sustainable/nature-based livelihoods: Rural communities involved in the process of creating the MPA, the primary data collected reveal that 3/4 of the villages concerned in the project area do not benefit from basic socio-economic infrastructure and capacities to seize opportunities related to sustainable/nature-based livelihoods. This situation is not without consequences

on the standard of living of the populations. Despite a heavy reliance on natural resources for livelihoods as well as for a sustained economic development path, there is a general lack of awareness among the stakeholders about the importance of marine biodiversity and ecosystem services. Marine wildlife resource conservation is perceived by various stakeholders as a constraint to economic growth, rather than as an opportunity to improve sustainability. This is partly due to lack of practical examples on how sustainable marine resource uses can deliver economic outcomes that are sustainable, as well as the insufficient knowledge on the direct and indirect value of the marine environment, dependencies and opportunities. Thus, preparing, communicating robust communication strategy to provide stakeholders with knowledge on the value of marine biodiversity and its habitats, its ecosystem services and lessons on best practices are essential for improved management of environmental governance and upscaling of project results.

Barrier 3: Weak knowledge management and Poor understanding among stakeholders on the ecological interactions in the marine and coastal habitats; Lack of reliable data and insufficient information sharing remains an impediment to ensuring effective support for marine protected area and ecosystem management. There is need to get better knowledge about the biology, ecology and distribution of the biodiversity species occurring on the Grand Beriby continental shelf. Other issues related to the potential impacts of coastal pollution could also be addressed through the research program. Additionally there is a need to get long term trends of the species population and accurate identification of the feeding ground and abundance and life stages on the area to feed global database and conservation priority setting.

2) Baseline scenario or any associated baseline programme/projects

Legal and institutional baseline:

Several challenges drives water pollution, habitat degradation, fisheries depletion, loss of biological diversity, coastal erosion, impacting public health and sanitation along the Cote d'Ivoire Coastal area. Legislative frameworks exist to protect and conserve marine turtles, and Cote d'Ivoire is signatory of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the CMS and the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning Conservation Measures for Marine Turtles of the Atlantic Coast of Africa (Abidjan Memorandum), including laws prohibiting the fishing, take, use and trade of marine turtles as well as collection of their eggs, but enforcement of regulations and penalties remains weak.

Wildlife Protection Act (Law No 65-255 of 1965), which provides for the protection of wildlife, specifically hippopotamus, chimpanzees, guinea fowl, elephants, monkeys, tortoise and bats, and regulates hunting. In addition, the Environmental Code of 1996 (Law No. 96-766), establishes, among other things, the principles for safeguarding protected areas and guarding against degradation. Law No. 2002-202 of 2002 provides the specific framework law governing protected parks and reserves, regulating how they are established, financed and managed. It also provides the basis for police powers and sanctions for enforcing the law's provisions. Cote d'Ivoire has set up a network of protected areas on both the continent and in the fluvial environment and lagoons. However, the existing planning processes are too fragmented to promote the sustainable management of the coastal landscape. Until

recently, Cote d'Ivoire did not have a marine protected area, implying that current PAs network are not fully representative, and many important areas, marine biodiversity, marine corridors, and ecosystems still remain outside protected areas. It is clear that, under the current business as usual scenario, if current trends continue, marine and coastal zones will lose their ecological potential due to human pressures ? urbanization, coastal erosion, unsustainable tourism, oil exploitation ? and due to the harmful effects of climate change. C?te d'Ivoire is a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992, an agreement to preserve biological diversity and ensure the sustainable use of its components.

The 1996 Environmental Code, established by Law No. 96-766, lays out the legal framework for protection of the environment against pollution and degradation, and contains provisions related to water management.

In 2011, the GOCI created the Ministry of Water and Forests (Minist?re des Eaux et For?ts, or MINEF). The Directorate of Water Resources (Direction des Ressources en Eau, or DRE) within MINEF is responsible for implementing the Water Code. MINEF must also work with the ministries in charge of economic infrastructure, environment, agriculture, health and animal resources and fisheries to ensure integrated management of Cote d'Ivoire's water resources. Historically, the GOCI's water management system involved many different institutions. The multitude of actors and fragmented activities led to an uncoordinated approach to water management.

The 1998 Water Code (Code de l'Eau), established by Law No. 98-755, is the principal piece of legislation governing use of precipitation, surface water, groundwater and territorial seas in C?te d'Ivoire. Under the Water Code, the country's water resources are part of the common national heritage, and the state provides integrated management of all water resources, facilities and structures. The state's water priorities are: (1) providing drinking water; (2) protecting, conserving and managing water resources; and (3) satisfying other human water-related needs. The state's water management duties under the Water Code include: maintaining quality of water resources; preventing waste; ensuring availability; preventing waterborne disease; and developing and protecting water facilities and structures.

Concerning Forest Resources, the Constitution of the C?te d'Ivoire contains no provisions relating to the ownership of or right to control or use trees or forests. The Constitution permits the government to establish intergovernmental organizations with other states to conjointly protect the environment and manage natural resources. Forests are regulated under two main laws, the 1998 Rural Land Law and the 2019 Forestry Code. To address the declining state of forest resources, Decree No. 94-368 of 1994 banned logging above the eighth parallel, halted industrial logging around community forests and the Permanent Forest Domain, and created a database of those who could legally exploit timber. The decree also prescribes increased reforestation and improved forest management efforts, and its implementation from 1997 to 2004 led to an average 2400 to 2800 hectares of reforestation. These afforestation efforts, however, were outstripped by a deforestation rate of 250,000 hectares per year.

Under the current baseline scenario, the multitude of actors and fragmented activities leading an uncoordinated approach to water management, despite the creation of the High Commission on Water will continue. The country will miss the opportunity to provide a coordinated response and integrated

solutions at national level and regional level to create and establish and fully functional MPA interconnected with other MPA, marine corridors and EBSAs in the West Africa region. The country will miss expert knowledge, best practices sharing between the countries, which is critical for deepening transboundary collaboration, and which is deeply needed in the Guinean Current Large marine Ecosystem context in addressing shared management challenges that are regional in nature, such as illegal wildlife trafficking, Marine wildlife poaching, infrastructure development for transport, energy development and urbanization, industrial agriculture, among others. Under the current business as usual scenario, the country will miss a vision to address the issues of large scale processes, such as the MPA linkages/Marine corridors and the conservation of marine species, and it runs the risk of witnessing the continuing loss of biodiversity and large scale transformation of the Cote d'Ivoire Coastal resource.

Cote d'Ivoire as several other countries in West Africa, is both a source and transit region for the illegal trade in wildlife. Although marine species are comparatively less studied in wildlife trafficking assessments, there is substantive evidence of thriving local and regional markets for marine turtle products. All five marine turtle species found along the West African coast (green, hawksbill, leatherback, loggerhead and olive ridley) are targeted as a source of protein (turtle meat and eggs) as well as for traditional medicine, jewelry and other handicrafts. Poachers target marine turtles both at sea and on beaches, particularly nesting sites. In addition, fisheries are important for coastal livelihoods, especially for women who dominate the processing, retailing, and local trading of fish products. It is predicted that, under the current baseline scenario, West African Coastal fisheries stocks which are already in a state of decline due to coastal degradation and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and which is very important for country national economies, food security, and foreign revenue, could see a 26 percent reduction by 2050, with greater losses in Cote d'Ivoire, as well in Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Togo, and Sierra Leone.

Finally, under the business as usual scenario, characterized by weak collaboration among institutions, the rapid urbanization along the coast will increase the demands on land, water, and other natural resources, contributing significantly to coastal retreat, leading to floods, air and water pollution, losses of assets (houses, infrastructure), fragmented and isolated critical ecosystems (mangroves, marine habitat), thereby leading to a lost opportunity to preserve the ecological integrity and global environmental value of these ecosystems.

National and regional organizations have established several initiatives to conserve and protect marine wildlife in West Africa and Cote d'Ivoire in particular.

The Protected Area Network context: The protected areas network comprises 8 national parks and 8 reserves representing 2,160,744 ha. Within this park system, the Azagny National Park provides protection for coastal wetlands an ecosystem under increasing pressure throughout the Gulf of Guinea region because of growing coastal urbanization.

On September 2020, Cote d'Ivoire designated Grand-Bereby site as the country's first marine protected area, but the creation decree is in the adoption process. The Decree is not yet signed. The creation of

the MPA of Grand Bereby was communicated to the Council of Ministers in December 2020 and the political announcement made to create in Grand Bereby the first MPA of Ivory Coast. This decree integrate the governance/management bodies and their composition at the central/governmental and local level. At the local level, the local management committee of the MPA will include the different socio-professional actors in Grand Bereby, the representatives of the decentralized services, the administrative and traditional authorities of the riparian regions. The MPA will be under the responsibility of the OIPR, which allocates the personnel and the available resources according to the budget available. The inadequate investment in MPA management is seen as among the primary limitations of effective coastal resources management. For the newly MPA, investments are needed in designing and implementing management plans and resource mobilization, building capacities in MPA management, including strengthening collaboration among various governance levels, and linking the MPA with marine corridors and other critical ecosystems along the broader costal area. However, the absence of Coastal resource master plan for conserving marine biodiversity, marine corridors and supporting sustainable fisheries is yet to be established.

In 1995, the Council of Ministers adopted a modern National Strategy for Parks and Reserve. In 1999, it strengthened its long-term vision for the overall forest sector by adopting a Letter of Policy for Forest Conservation. In 2002, the Parliament adopted a new law for the Management and Financing of Parks and Reserves which sets the legal framework for a new autonomous parastatal, the Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR) entrusted to park and reserve management, and allowed for the creation of private sector foundations that can make use of trust-like instruments to finance the system of parks and reserves. The Foundation was created in 2002 to fulfil this function. The laws also make way for a greater involvement of communities in park management, through community contracts in form of Community Conservation Agreement (CCAs), paving the way for benefits from the park to begin to accrue to impoverished park fringe communities.

The project will utilize the Community Conservation Agreement (CCAs) to engage with communities. During the PPG, an analysis of the experiences of these communities? contracts and recommendations will be considered for effective use in the implementation of the GB MPA. CCAs are a provision of 2002 Law establishing the Foundation of Parks and Reserves and which are a form of direct incentives for conservation, in which conservation investors provide a negotiated benefit package in return for conservation actions by communities. CCAs link conservation funders (governments, bilateral agencies, private sector companies, foundations, individuals, etc.) to resource owners whose decisions influence conservation outcomes. Benefit packages typically include funding for social services like health and education, as well as investment in livelihoods, often in agricultural or fisheries sectors. Examples of conservation commitments in CCAs include forgoing forest clearing, adopting particular farming or fishing practices, and participating in patrolling and monitoring activities. Respecting customary decision-making mechanisms within communities ensures that CCAs are adapted to local realities. However, it is important to also remember that some customary decision-making mechanisms do not allow disadvantaged or marginalized groups to be heard. It is necessary to find culturally appropriate ways to ensure those voices are part of decision-making.

Although there has been significant legal progress, this has yet, due to a financing gap, to significantly impact the biodiversity in the parks. Prior to the crisis in 2000, Government funding for the parks had

fallen below critical levels. After the crisis, the government's budget was 513 million FCFA (US\$1.2M-2008 figures) per year for the operating costs of the park's offices and 167 staff. Instead, this amount pays mostly for staff and fixed costs and it is left to donor programming to fund park specific activities. The lack of dedicated financial funding continues and financial mechanism to have far-reaching negative consequences for the protected areas of Cote d'Ivoire.

Donors funded Baseline Projects:

The project: "Enhancing Marine Management in West Africa through Training and Application" (2016-2022): The project uses an integrated management approach to improve the environmental protection of marine and coastal ecosystems, biodiversity, the sustainable use of resources, and the long-term provision of ecosystem services in the member states of the Abidjan Convention. The project supports cross-border pilot projects in Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ghana to develop marine spatial planning concepts for improved environmental protection, to promote sustainable development based on ecosystem services, and produce reports on the condition of the marine environment. Budget: 73.763.305,00. In Cote d'Ivoire, the Integrated Management of the Marine and Coastal Area of Abidjan to Assinie (GIAMAA) is jointly implemented with the Centre Ivoirien Antipollution (CIAPOL). It covers 80 km of the coastline. It aims at promoting the sustainable use of resources and ensuring the long-term provision of ecosystem services to support economic development and well-being among coastal communities. In order to allocate the marine and coastal space from Abidjan in Assinie to a broad range of economic activities and to avoid conflict of use, the project is implementing operational marine spatial planning to identify Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSAs), to produce a State of the Marine Environment (SoME) report, developing a consensual Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) tool, Catalyzing stakeholder reflections around the promotion of the sustainable management of the Abidjan-Assinie coastal zone, Allocating artisanal and modern human activities to dedicated marine areas, Setting up of the monitoring and evaluation committee, etc. In addition to the Mami Wata implementing partners "GRID-Arendal and the Abidjan Convention Secretariat" several collaborative Institutions play a key role in the project implementation. These include:

Governmental bodies: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development; Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research; Ministry of Transports; Ministry of Fisheries; Ministry of Water and Forestry; Ministry of Interior; Mini Ministry of Planning and Development; Ministry of Economy and Finance; Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources; Ministry of Tourism; Local governments; Traditional Authorities in concerned areas; Navy.

Private organizations: Oil and mining companies, fishermen associations, business groups, maritime transport groups, tour operators, tourism and hotel industry; and Civil society organizations.

Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI)/ Child project 2 (2017-2021, Revised project end date: 10 May 2022): Delivering sustainable environmental, social, and economic benefits in West Africa (GCP/RAF/837/GFF), implemented by FAO in collaboration with UNEP: It is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), bringing together United Nations agencies and international conservation organizations at the forefront of efforts to strengthen fisheries management and conserve the marine biodiversity in coastal areas through better governance and strengthening of the seafood value chain.

The CFI aims to expand access to practices that ensure environmental, social, and economic sustainability through good governance and innovation in artisanal fisheries in three West African countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, and Cabo Verde. The CFI in Cote d'Ivoire is also introducing women to international systems such as the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAF), and the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines) so that they can enjoy greater autonomy. GEF Grant amount: USD 6 133 027.

The Project: "West Africa Coastal Areas (WACA) Resilience Investment" (2018-2023), financed by IDA Credit to Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and Togo: \$30.0 million equivalent each. It is a regional project aiming to build resilience of coastal communities in Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Togo. Interventions of the WACA Project, supports protection against coastal erosion through a range of activities, including fixing dunes, restoring wetlands and mangroves, replenishing beaches, and building seawalls and dikes. Interventions support reducing flooding by rehabilitating lagoons and drainage systems, and by improving watershed management. Finally, it also support pollution control through better treatment of marine litter, oil spills and industrial and municipal waste.

The GEF 7 Project: "Using Marine Spatial Planning in the Gulf of Guinea for the implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services and Coastal Nature-based Solutions?": The project objective of this council-approved project implemented by IUCN is to implement a regional mechanism for nature-based solution implementation for habitat restoration and maintenance using the payment for ecosystem services in the countries of Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana (Gulf of Guinea). Submission date: September 15, 2021. Duration: 36 Months. Budget (GEF Resources): 3,000,000.00

GEF ID 9911 - UNEP - Strengthening of the Enabling Environment, Ecosystem-based Management and Governance to Support Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem. Findings relevant to this new project will be capitalized and used in the development and implementation of the MPA management and business plans.

The project "Improved regional fisheries governance in western Africa (PESCAO)" (2018-2023): Funded by EU, the overall objective is to enhance the contribution of fisheries resources to sustainable development, food security and poverty alleviation in West Africa. The specific objective is to improve regional fisheries governance in the region through better coordination of national fisheries policies. The expected results are as follows: Result 1: A west African fisheries and aquaculture policy is developed and coordination of regional stakeholders is improved; Result 2: Prevention of and responses to IUU fishing are strengthened through improved monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) at national and regional levels; Result 3: Marine resources management at the regional level is improved, building resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems to perturbations. Budget: ? 15 million, implemented with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission.

The 3rd C2D debpt Swamp Program: The 15 billion CFA francs include 10 billion CFA francs in endowment funds for the Ehotil? Islands National Park and the nature reserves of Mabi-Yaya, Lamto, Haut Bandama and Mount Nimba and 5 billion CFA francs for the management, protection, development and enhancement of national parks

The KfW Support to Protected Areas Management in Cote d'Ivoire: the 19.5 million euro project aims at

- Increase in the endowment fund of the Como National Park to the tune of 9 million
- Increase in the endowment fund of the Ta National Park to the tune of 10.5 million euros
- Ta National Park Amortization Fund for an amount of 1.5 million

3) Proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

This proposed project will be complementary to the above initiatives and projects, and specifically addressing barriers to the protection of the Cote d'Ivoire Coastal zone marine Biodiversity, through the setting up of a fully functional MPA, promotion of sustainable management of coastal resources and its associated biodiversity, supported by a strengthened legal and institutional framework, improved skills of the Ivorian Office for National Parks and Reserves and other stakeholders to monitor and mitigate threats to Marine biodiversity, and promotion of a multi-sectoral approach to address the loss of marine biodiversity.

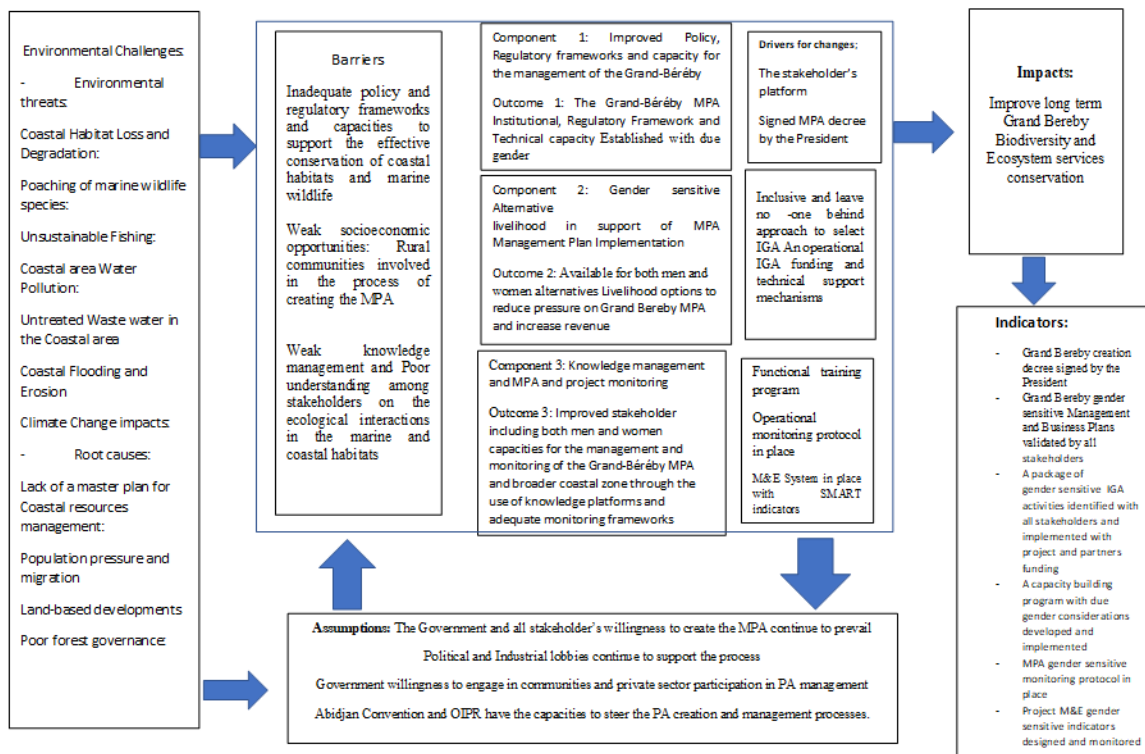
The planning efforts conducted by the Integrated Management of the Marine and Coastal Area of Abidjan to Assinie (GIAMAA) project to identify Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSAs), as well as the Marine Spatial Planning tool apply by IUCN as outlined above will be complemented and expanded by the current project. It will build on these efforts to facilitate connectivity of marine corridors, identified EBSAs such as: Canyon and Sous-Marine de Tabou (50 km of coastline), the road of turtles and sarines (over 300 km), the Tropical breeding ground for Cote d'Ivoire tuna, the Abidjan-Assinie (220 km long), the Aire Marine d'Assinie (80 km), etc. to address ecosystem functionality, and promote transformational changes in marine biodiversity conservation, and put in place the basis for long term fisheries management in pilot site along the Cote d'Ivoire Coastal line.

The project objective to increase the management effectiveness of the Grand-Bany Marine Protected Area (MPA). This will provide direct support for the finalization and adoption process of the creation decree and for the operationalization of the Grand-Bany MPA, and the conservation and management of biodiversity of international importance, EBSAs and marine corridors in the Cote d'Ivoire portion of the Guinean Current large marine Ecosystem.

The project Theory of Change: As presented in barriers analysis, three barriers constitute the major handicap to provide direct support for the finalisation and adoption process of the creation decree and for the operationalization of the Grand-Bany MPA, and the conservation and management of biodiversity of international importance, EBSAs and marine corridors in the Cote d'Ivoire portion of the Guinean Current large marine Ecosystem. These barriers include: (1) Inadequate policy and regulatory frameworks and capacities to support the effective conservation of coastal habitats and marine wildlife; (2) Lack of awareness on socioeconomic opportunities and on technical and financial capacity to seize opportunities related to sustainable/nature-based livelihoods; and (3) Weak knowledge management and Poor understanding among stakeholders on the ecological interactions in the marine

and coastal habitats. The root causes of these environment threats may be attributed to the ineffective regulation for the protection of the coastal zones which result to over exploitation of the mangrove, landed property conflicts and the degradation of the environment. The project long term vision is to set up a fully functional MPA, promotion of sustainable management of coastal resources and its associated biodiversity, supported by a strengthened legal and institutional framework, improved skills of the Ivorian Office for National Parks and Reserves and other stakeholders to monitor and mitigate threats to Marine biodiversity, and promotion of a multi-sectoral approach to address the loss of marine biodiversity. This vision will be achieved by the realization of the three project outcomes: (i) The Grand-Béréby MPA, landscape and seascapes Institutional, Regulatory Framework and Technical capacity Established with due gender consideration ; (ii) Available for both men and women alternatives Livelihood options to reduce pressure on Grand Bereby MPA, landscape and seascapes and increase revenue; and (iii) Improved stakeholder including both men and women, capacities for the management and monitoring of the Grand-Béréby MPA and broader coastal zone through the use of knowledge platforms and adequate monitoring frameworks. These anticipated changes will be driven by : a) The stakeholder's platform, b) Signed MPA decree by the President, c) Inclusive and leave no - one behind approach to select IGA An operational IGA funding and technical support mechanisms, c) Functional training program Operational and d) monitoring protocol M&E System in place with SMART indicators. However, these will be achieved under the assumption that the Government and all stakeholder will be willing to create the MPA, Political and Industrial lobbies continue to support the process, the Government will be willing to engage in communities and private sector participation in PA management, the Abidjan Convention and OIPR have the capacities to steer the PA creation and management processes. The ultimate impacts will be related to Improving long-term Grand Bereby Biodiversity and Ecosystem services conservation.

The ToC is summarized in the diagram below:



The project objective will be delivered through the following project components:

Component 1: Improved Policy, Regulatory frameworks and capacity for the management of the Grand-Béréby MPA, landscape and seascapes.

This component will aim to make the Grand-Béréby MPA fully functional and to adopt a long-term strategy, policies and associated institutional arrangements designed to conserve the broader coastal biodiversity. A strong attention will be given to the issues of connectivity, corridors or EBSAs, this project can be contributed to in the understanding and design of specific activities which will contribute the conservation of connectivity areas, corridors or EBSAs. The expected outcome will be "The Grand-Béréby MPA, landscape and seascapes, Institutional, Regulatory Framework and Technical capacity Established with due gender consideration". Key outputs will include: 1.1.1. Communities participation activities (e.g. Dissemination of MPA management principles, community surveillance, protection and conservation of costal zones through ecoguards, local ecotourist operators, communities leaders) to the MPA, landscape/seascapes management and multi sectoral gender sensitive Platform composed of representatives of government agencies, private sector and civil society is established to address the loss of marine biodiversity and other issues of common concern that effect the ecological health, connectivity and productivity of Grand Béréby MPA, landscape and seascapes. In addition, the recommendation from the output 3.1.3 : "Policy and regulatory frameworks for the conservation of specific threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services (mangroves, endemic species, etc.) are developed, validated, and piloted at pilot sites" envisaged in the GEF6 project ID 9366 . "Sustainability and Scaling Up Approaches for Transformational Management, Restoration and

Conservation of Forests Landscapes and Biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire (SSATMARC/FOLAB), will be used to support policy and regulatory reforms which will ensure long term management of MPA. As part of the creation decree, it will be necessary to set up the governance bodies at the central level and the local management committee at the site level. This will require an update of the analysis of the stakeholders in order to ensure that they are all targeted, the organization of consultation meetings, and the facilitation of the processes of appointment of social-professional representatives in a gender and gender approach. participatory, particularly at the community level.

1.1.2. Grand Beriby Marine Protected Area (MPA), landscape and seascape climate resilient and gender sensitive integrated management plan (using ICM procedures) and related Business Plan developed (definition of the management and business plans of the landscape and seascape, , assessment of technical and capacity policies and regulatory needs, human resources need, determination of the necessary boundaries, regulatory framework dissemination), the financial mechanism within the framework of FPRCI and governance structure established with due gender consideration. The Ivory Coast has been established in 2003 in line with the law 2002-102 related to the management and financing of national parks and nature reserves, the Parks and Reserves Foundation of Cote d'Ivoire (FPRCI). During the PPG, discussions will be conducted with the Foundation on the possible options of a sustainable financing model for the MPAs network which the project will support the establishment with GB is pilot;

1.1.3. Two to Three gender-sensitive Cooperation agreements between the OIPR managing the Grand-Beriby MPA, and municipalities, the fisheries, Oil and Gaz, Tourism, and maritime ports/transportation sectors negotiated to support the Grand-Beriby MPA, landscape and seascapes, Management Plan implementation. The agreements that will have to be signed with public institutions and private sector companies will promote ecosystem services, including, for example, controlled access rights and will involve the pooling of means and resources. They could cover, in order to compensate for the scarce resources, both participatory monitoring between the organizations of fishing communities and the fisheries department, the collection of data for research and the monitoring of the state of habitats and species. With the private sector, the agreements will define modalities of access and the potentialities of investment with the Department of Tourism.;

1.1.4. Gender sensitive Training sessions conducted, tools, guidelines and methodologies developed with due consideration of gender to increase the institutional, and technical capacity of OIPR, relevant public, municipal and private sector institutions to support Grand-Beriby MPA, landscape and seascapes Management Plans implementation; and

1.1.5. Gender-sensitive awareness and advocacy material were developed and activities implemented to support GB MPA, landscape and seascapes, Management Plan implementation.

Component 2: Gender sensitive alternative livelihood in support of Grand Bereby MPA Management Plan implementation. The expected outcome from the implementation of this component will be: Available alternatives for both men and women livelihood options to reduce pressure on Grand Bereby MPA, landscape and seascapes and increase revenue?. This will be achieved when the following outputs will be delivered:

2.1.1 Feasibility study with due gender consideration on valorization of the Grand Beriby Marine landscape and seascapes area value chains in support of the PA landscape and seascapes Management Plans implementation and communities livelihood conducted. This feasibility study will clarify all the concrete impactful activities within and outside the MPA landscape and seascapes including connectivity, corridors and EBSAs. At CEO endorsement details of these activities will be provided including the anticipated impacts in relation to the core indicators; and

2.1.2. Climate Smart and gender sensitive alternative Income Generating Activity (AIGA) options identified,

validated by stakeholders and, implemented through Small-scale funding to CBO/Local NGO. A study will be carried out to identify the sources of ecological pressure and the most appropriate sustainable alternatives. In correlation on profitability of AIGAs, their degree of integration into the local economy and the value chain and the ecosystem healthy, activities will be designed. Income-generating activities will also target activities with high added-value then through appropriate training and equipment can generate more earnings with sustainable withdrawal. The project will support individuals or groups through training programme on entrepreneurship, cooperative management, facilitation to market access to shifting from unsustainable activities towards more sustainable activities. A monitoring and evaluation system will measure the economic performance of the targeted activities and trends in biodiversity. The feasibility study of the viable INGA activities will include the identification and design of sustainability conditions to be put in place.

Component 3: Knowledge management

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 in building and strengthening core capacities needed for the effective management of the Grand-Bereby MPA. 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 the Grand-Bereby MPA management by recognizing and exemplifying EBSAs, marine corridors within the broader coastal zone 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, but not limited to the West Africa Coastal Areas Management Program (WACA) Platform which aim to facilitate and increase access to knowledge, expertise, global good practices, and technical assistance and to leverage and crowd-in financing for coastal resilience investments and to galvanize and provide a forum for dialogue and facilitate involvement of other key partners, including the private sector. Within this component, the project will develop gender sensitive indicators and monitoring protocol to monitor the performance of the MPA objective. The outputs to be generated from this component will include: 3.1.1. Developed and disseminated knowledge products which consider both women, men and vulnerable groups to facilitate scaling up and replication of conservation and sustainable management of the Grand-Bereby MPA and the broader Coastal zone, including collaboration with the WACA knowledge platform; 3.1.2. Grand Bereby MPA gender sensitive monitoring protocol established and key monitoring gender sensitive indicators identified and monitored; This monitoring protocol will consider the network includes four others biodiversity significant areas namely : the cross-border site of the mouth of the Cavally river in Tabou (Ivory Coast ? Liberia), the site of the Dassioko classified forest, the site of the Azagny national park and the cross-border site of the Ehotil's islands (Ivory Coast ? Ghana) and 3.1.3. A functional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System in place with due consideration of men and women.

4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies

This proposed project is fully consistent with the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area. The project will produce outputs relevant to GEF 7 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, the effective management of the Grand-Bereby MPA, the identification of EBSAs, marine corridors. By developing the Grand Bereby MPA management plan, the project will contribute also the GEF BD-1-1, objective: Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors. The project will work closely with indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in the Grand-Bereby MPA and the broader coastal zone in preserving indigenous knowledge and traditional systems and in building their capacity for MPA management. By doing so, the project will contribute to inclusive conservation of the GEF 7 BD 2.7 Objective.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing

Although the baseline scenario described above identifies numerous programs and projects for the conservation of marine biodiversity and their habitats, they do not effectively address the barriers that are causing the continuing decline of marine wildlife populations in Cote d'Ivoire, and without GEF funding, these barriers will persist and drive Endangered and threatened marine species to local extinction. Efforts for the conservation and sustainable use of Biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire have so far been focused on the terrestrial PAs; marine-coastal areas have received little attention. Without this project, it is unlikely that the newly created Grand Bereby MPA will be operational, and as a result key EBSAs and marine corridors already identified by partners in the coastal zone and beyond will not be connected. The country will miss the opportunity for a coordinated response and integrated solutions at national level and regional level to create and establish fully function MPA interconnected with other MPA in the West Africa region. The country will miss the opportunity to address ecosystem functionality and to contribute to reverting, the increasing risks of Coastal Habitat Loss and Degradation and climate change impact, the continued Poaching of marine wildlife species, the unsustainable fishing, the Coastal area Water Pollution, etc. which is driving coastal and marine biodiversity loss throughout the Cote d'Ivoire Coastal zone. Cote d'Ivoire will miss a vision to address the issues of large scale processes, and risk to witness the continuing loss of biodiversity of global, regional, national and local importance and large scale transformation of the Cote d'Ivoire Coastal resource.

With GEF support, direct support will be provided for the operationalization of the Grand-Bereby MPA, and the conservation and management of biodiversity of international importance in the Cote d'Ivoire portion of the Guinean Current large marine Ecosystem. By supporting the operationalization of the Grand Bereby MPA, the GEF investment will contribute to the protection and sustainable use of marine-coastal Biodiversity of global, national, and local importance. The contributions of the baseline projects, in particular GEF ID 10875 and 9911, as providing enabling conditions on specific PA management, the current project will be incremental in capitalizing the outcome to apply on MPA and coastal areas management. During the PPG, comprehensive analysis of the incrementality of this project compared to other initiatives and project will be conducted and comprehensive incremental cost analysis will be provided at CEO endorsement. The project will further contribute to the protection of

the Grand-Bereby MPA, as well as important areas for fish production, and large scale ecological processes. GEF support will contribute to protecting key areas that are significant for fisheries, therefore laying down the foundation of intact and contiguous marine biodiversity corridor, which will likely contribute to more resilient and productive ecosystems, in the current context of accelerated climate change impacts. The contributions from GEFTF and co-financing instruments will provide the needed resources in delivering the project objective. The GEF support will provide socio-economic benefits by the development of sustainable AIGA in the the project area for example by prioritising support to those whose access to resources within the MPA will be restricted by proposed management plan, by helping to identify and invest in alternative livelihood activities. In correlation on profitability of AIGAs, their degree of integration into the local economy and the value chain and the ecosystem healthy, activities will be designed. Income-generating activities will also target activities with high added-value then through appropriate training and equipment can generate more earnings with sustainable withdrawal. The project will support individuals or groups through training programme on entrepreneurship, cooperative management, facilitation to market access to shifting from unsustainable activities towards more sustainable activities. A monitoring and evaluation system will measure the economic performance of the targeted activities and trends in biodiversity.

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

The Cote d'Ivoire coastline forms part of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) which is one of the world's most productive marine and coastal areas, with relatively rich fishery resources of significant importance from a nutritional, employment and income perspective, oil and gas reserves, precious minerals, and high coastal tourism potential. The total economic value of the environmental goods and services provided by the GCLME's coastal and marine resources is estimated to be some US\$18 billion per year according to the GCLME TDA. The environmental goods and services of this shared resource support the livelihoods of approximately 40 percent of the region's 350 million people in proximity of, and dependent upon the fisheries and other resources provided by, the lagoons, tidal wetlands, mangroves, estuaries, river deltas, creeks, inshore and coastal waters of the GCLME for their sustenance, general well-being, and the socio-economic development of their societies. In Cote d'Ivoire, the fisheries and aquaculture sector contribute about 3.2% of the agricultural GDP, its contribution to the total GDP is 0.8%, providing employment especially among vulnerable groups. With regards to food security, fish is the primary source of animal protein, and the sector produces 30% of locally consumed fish (annual consumption is estimated at 275,000 tons).

An effectively managed Grand-Bereby MPA will contribute to the global sustainability through sustainable fisheries by enhancing fishing productivity and increasing connectivity among marine corridors and MPA. The project will 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 (the GCLME or parts thereof) specifically related to sustainable fisheries) increasing stakeholder participation, and f) addressing gender considerations in designing and implementing MPA management plan, marine corridors through implementation of IGA activities.

The project will support strengthening of the capacities of the public administration and institutions through the improvement of the living and working conditions of the actors (artisanal fishermen, merchants, retail sellers) and a start a process of deprecarization of rural communities through community projects with rapid impacts. The creation of the MPA would offer prospects and opportunities both in terms of tourism; cultural and economic from a micro and macro point of view (at local and national level).

More specifically the project will help to:

- ? Improved management of 1 protected areas (Grand Bereby) encompassing 260,000 ha, as measured by increases on METT scores of at least 20% over the baseline [to be defined during the PPG]
- ? The MPA (0.08% of national territory) will increased the national PA network from 6.5% to 6.58% of the national territory
- ? Increased revenues at one (1) PA sites from IGA activities (Grand Bereby), as measured by the PA Financial Scorecard
- ? 444,029 ha of landscape under sustainable management to improve sustainable production
- ? 3,000 direct beneficiaries which include at least 30% of the Grand Lahu population (around 900,000 people from 2014 census published in 2021), artisanal and industrial fishing communities which include many migrant communities; the mining communities; the population at national level who will benefit from legal framework related to coastal zones and MPA management. Details of each group of beneficiaries will be provided at CEO endorsement

7) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovation

The project will support marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries through the Grand-Bereby and broader coastal zone approach. This approach will increase connectivity between the MPA, EBSAs, and marine corridors providing a sound basis for long term management of coastal resources. Furthermore, another innovation of the approach is putting local producers, private sectors and CSO at the center of the delivery mechanism of the Income Generating Activities. This will be ensuring sustainability and efficient devolvement of the process

Sustainability

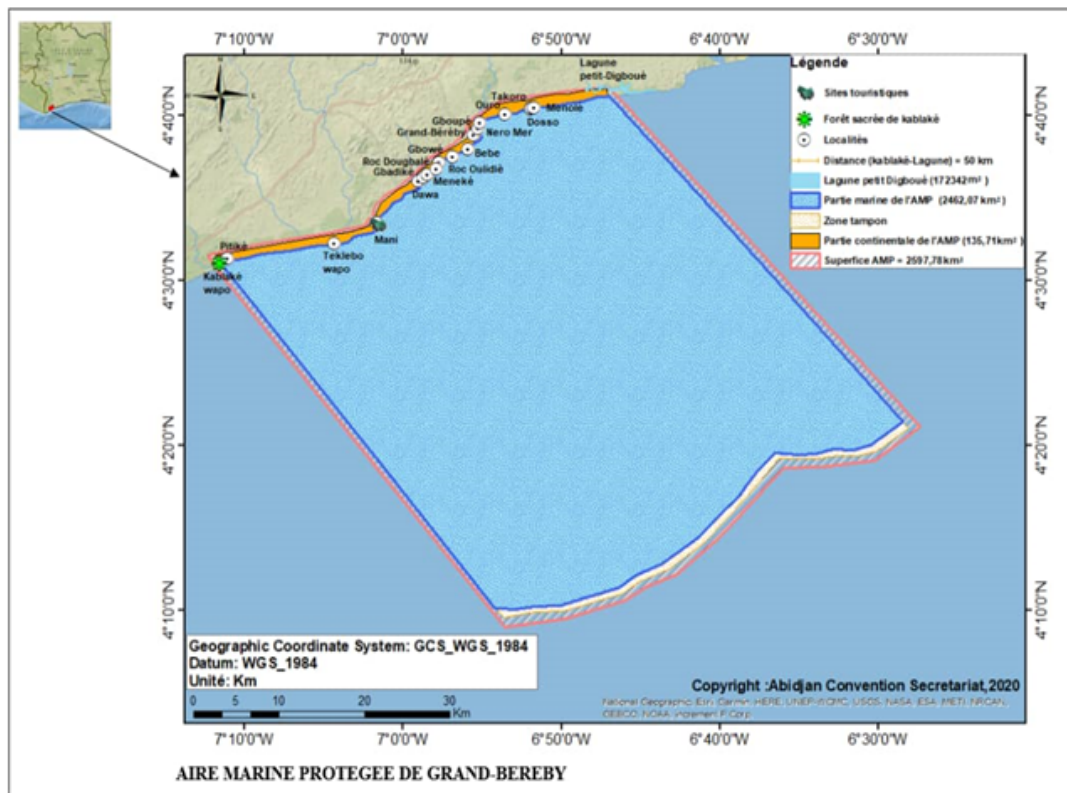
The project will develop mechanisms to ensure financial sustainability for the Grand-Bereby MPA. In line with its commitment to mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors, the project will engage governments and private sector stakeholders, including businesses in crafting financial mechanisms for long-term sustainability. Apart from the private sector, the project will develop measures to ensure that the communities whose livelihoods depend on natural resources are sustained, as well as other relevant stakeholders, including the government, to ensure long-term financial and ecological sustainability of the project initiatives. The stakeholders platform envisaged in the project will help to ensure long term sustainability of the project interventions. Another element of the project sustainability will be related to the advocacy (component 3) based on an economic valuation of ecosystem services which will mobilize the commitment of the Government to grant a more substantial budget.

Potential for Scaling Up

The project will specifically focus on supporting and strengthening the capacities of national and local governments, but also communities, and serve as a reference and knowledge platform for other west African countries, to replicate, up-scale and sustain concrete interventions and develop spatial and land use plans, including MPA management plan and ICM in other areas affected by coastal degradation. As a political will has been expressed to establish the MPA, it is likely that the following four areas will benefit from tools, processes, policies developed: the cross-border site of the mouth of the Cavally river in Tabou (Ivory Coast ? Liberia), the site of the Dassioko classified forest, the site of the Azagny national park and the cross-border site of the Ehotil's islands (Ivory Coast ? Ghana). Knowledge and best practices of how to design and implement MPA management plan and ICM will be structured and inspire the development of the MPA establishment guide and disseminated by the Abidjan Convention, which will share knowledge in the region as per their mandate, particularly with Benin and Togo which are keen to establish MPAs.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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



Coordinates:

7 degrees 10 W and 4 degrees 40N
 6 degrees 30 N and 4 degrees 20 W
 4 degrees 10 N and 7 degrees 0 W
 4 degrees 30N and 7 degrees 10 W
 6 degrees 50W and 4 degrees 40 N

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

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. The following stakeholders have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Stakeholders	Mandates	Role in the Project
The Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MINEDD)	It is responsible for the implementation and follow-up of government policy on the protection of the environment, improvement of the framework of life and sustainable development.	A key partner to engage for the preservation of natural resources in collaboration with sectoral ministries, and in implementing the international conventions ratified by the country in environmental matters.
The Ministry of Water and Forests	It is responsible for ensuring the preservation of the country's water resources through the implementation of Law No. 98-755 of 23 December 1998 on the water code, in conjunction with the ministries concerned.	It is a major player to engage with for the preservation of natural resources at the national level, including along the coastal zone

The Ministry of health, public hygiene and Universal Health Coverage	it is among others, responsible for developing and implementing incentive measures and of encouraging or coercive measures for the population and leaders of local authorities, in the achievement of public hygiene operations	A key partner to engage with to address Domestic waste dumping and the poor management of solid waste which put further pressure on coastal ecosystems resulting in rapid degradation
The Ministry of Hydraulics	It is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the Government's Hydraulics policy.	A Key partner to engage with in the monitoring and protection of water resources, and in the development and monitoring of regulations in the field of studies, construction and operation of hydraulic structures.
Ministry of Planning and Development	It has the responsibility for the Planning, programming and implementation of land use planning and regionalization actions, in particular through land use planning support funds;	A key partner to engage with in the development of the Grand Bereby MPA management plan and an ICM Master Plan
The Ministry for Animal and Fisheries Resources	It has the responsibility for Planning, promotion and development of animal production, aquaculture and fisheries.	A key partner to engage with in developing sector plans (e.g., sustainable multiple-species fisheries management plan.
The Ministry of Tourism and Leisure	It is responsible for implementing the government's tourism policy and for making Cote d'Ivoire one of the top-five leisure tourism destinations in Africa by 2025. In September 2018 the government launched its new tourism development strategy for the 2018-25 period. The policy, known as Sublime Cote d'Ivoire, aims to make tourism one of the top-three drivers of the economy through contributing 7-8% to GDP and directly employing some 600,000 people by 2025	In a move to unlock Cote d'Ivoire's considerable seaside potential, in early 2019 the government launched a project called "Beautiful Beaches for All", which aims to upgrade and modernize at least five popular beaches throughout Bassam, Mondoukou, Assinie, Port-Bou and Jacqueville.

<p>The Ministry of Mines, Petroleum Resources and Energy</p>	<p>It is the technical and administrative body tasked with the implementation of the Government's mining policy</p>	<p>An important partner who promotes, guides, regulates and coordinates and control research activities, extraction and production of minerals, crude oil, natural gas and other hydrocarbons ? Possible engagement the impacts of their activities on MPA, EBSAs, and marine corridors.</p>
<p>Forest Development Corporation (SODEFOR)</p>	<p>It is state structure attached to the Ministry of Water and Forests. Its mission is to reconstruct the plant cover. It is therefore responsible for the management and reforestation of gazetted forests and public lands entrusted to it by the forest administration under general or special conventions. It is also expected to design and implement management models to enable the implementation of the Ivorian Forest Master Plan, passed in 1988, to have all maintenance work carried out and to participate actively in restoration, reforestation, and forest estate monitoring.</p>	<p>A key partner to engage with in the Platform for Partnerships to be created alongside the Grand-B?rby MPA to support the activities in the Management Plan. It could provide important inputs and guidance on matters concerning reforestation, land tenure, and community relations with the project.</p>
<p>Ivorian Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR)</p>	<p>It is responsible for the management of parks and reserves in the national territory under the supervision of MINEDD.</p>	<p>Given the importance of the natural resources found within parks and reserves, the OIPR is a major player in the management of natural resources whose capacities will need to be strengthened to improve the protection and preservation of protected areas.</p>

The National Environment Agency (ANDE)	Its mission is the execution of the projects and environmental programs in Cote d'Ivoire	A Key partner to engage with to ensure MPA Management plan concerns, EBSAs, marine corridors are mainstreamed into its following responsibilities: (i) Ensure that environmental concerns are taken into account in development projects and programs, (ii) Ensure the establishment and management of a national environmental information system, (iii) Implement the impact assessment procedure and the assessment of the environmental impact of macroeconomic policies
The Ivorian Anti-Pollution Centre (CIAPOL)	It is the responsible authority for marine pollution. The Centre is under the jurisdiction of the Ministere de l'Environnement. Among the duties of CIAPOL is the implementation of the Plan POLLUMAR, the national contingency plan.	CIAPOL is implementing the Integrated Management of the Marine and Coastal Area of Abidjan to Assinie (GIAMAA) project. Engagement with CIAPOL has been established and will be strengthened in light of the operationalization of the Grand-Bereby MPA management plan, and ICM Master Plan
Local or Territorial Communities	Local governments play a vital role in environmental management. It is the Region and the Commune, endowed with legal personality and financial autonomy. In accordance with the law no. 2003-208 of July 07, 2003 on the transfer and distribution of competencies to the territorial collectivities, these communities are charged, each on its territory, with the elaboration, implementation, and follow-up of action plans for environment and natural resource management, creation, management of forests, parks, natural sites and protected areas, water management and fight against bushfires	A Key Institution to engage with in the context of developing the ICM Master Plan;

Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs)	IPLCs play a crucial role in protecting nature and biodiversity globally. They are effective custodians of biodiversity and ecosystem services.	Global biodiversity goals are unattainable without the full inclusion of PLCs. Therefore, they need to be integrated into any management framework for natural resources preservation.
The NGO-OPEIF Afrique (Organization for the Promotion of Women's Industrial Entrepreneurship in Africa)	It is an NGO created in 1999 that seeks to promote women's entrepreneurship.	<p>Could be engaged on training, awareness, awareness raising, management of Income Generating Activities, support for the creation of economic entities (SARL, cooperatives ...) as part of</p> <p>Output 2.2.6: Local communities and partners entrepreneurial skills enhanced for the sustainable management of the Grand-B?r?by MPA.</p>
The Cooperative des Mareyeuses et Transformatrices des Produits Halieutiques d'Abidjan (CMATPHA)	it is a group of women engaged in post-harvest fishing activities	<p>Could be be engaged on Fisheries value chain activities as part of</p> <p>Output 2.2.6: Local communities and partners entrepreneurial skills enhanced for the sustainable management of the Grand-B?r?by MPA.</p>
The Rural Land Agency (AFOR)	It is the main agency for the operational management of rural land. As such, it is responsible among other things to implement the actions of securing rural land, including the conclusion of conventions; mobilize resources for the implementation of actions to secure the rural land domain, and to advise the public authorities on all matters related to the management of rural land.	<p>A key Institution to engage with while designing Outcome 1.1. to establish institutional arrangements, policies and processes to coordinate the management of the broader coastal zone and its marine biodiversity.</p> <p>x</p>

The Rural Land Commission (CFR)	It is an inter-sectoral body for monitoring the rural land situation. This commission constitutes a permanent advisory body on rural land and its tasks (among others) is to monitor the implementation of law n ° 98-750 of 23 December 1998 relating to the rural land domain.	A key Institution to engage with while designing Outcome 1.1. to establish institutional arrangements, policies and processes to coordinate the management of the broader coastal zone and its marine biodiversity.
The Committee for the Management of Rural Land Tenure (CGFR)	It is Rural Land Management Committee: a rural land management body, which deliberates, in the form of an assent, on the validation of official investigations of customary land rights; objections or claims arising during the land registration procedures of the Domaine Foncier Rural concession. In addition, its deliberates, in the form of simple opinions, on the land implications of the various rural development projects.	A key Institution to engage with while designing Outcome 1.1. to establish institutional arrangements, policies and processes to coordinate the management of the broader coastal zone and its marine biodiversity.
The Land Management Committee	The Land Management Committee (CGFR) and the Village Rural Land Management Committee are bodies in charge of certifying the continued and peaceful existence of land rights and their approval during public inquiries.	A key Institution to engage with while designing Outcome 1.1. to establish institutional arrangements, policies and processes to coordinate the management of the broader coastal zone and its marine biodiversity.
The Order of Private Surveyors	They are in charge of the realization of the plans of delimitation of the parcels and constitution of the technical files of attachment of the plans to the geodetic network of the Ivorian cadaster constitutes a major actor in the procedure of land security.	A key Institution to engage with while designing Outcome 1.1. to establish institutional arrangements, policies and processes to coordinate the management of the broader coastal zone and its marine biodiversity.

The Traditional Chiefdom,	Although not an official rural land management body, is, they are however, actively involved in the process of certifying rural land rights as custodians of customary customs for the clarification of customary rights over rural plots and the settlement of land disputes.	A key institution to to engage with to implement Output 2.2.3 Cooperation mechanisms identified and agreed upon with neighboring countries for corridor management;
Abidjan Convention	It is the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region. The Secretariat is facilitating an additional protocol on MPA for adoption and ratification by its 22 members states hopefully in 2023. Also, a guide for the establishment of MPAs is being developed.	A key institution to to engage with to implement Output 2.2.3 Cooperation mechanisms identified and agreed upon with neighboring countries for corridor management;
Regional Institutions/International Institutions/Development Partners	<p>The following institutions have been consulted at the PIF stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GRID-Arendal and the Abidjan Convention Secretariat: Implementing partners of the Mami Wata Project ? Enhancing Marine Management in West Africa through Training and Application - FAO/CFI project funded by GEF - The WB WACA project: - IUCN with the GEF 7 project on marine spatial planning - EU with the PESCAO project - ECOWAS 	At the PPG phase, their inputs in developing a synergistic approach in project implementation will be pursued

Academic Institution: Université d'Abidjan	They have a strong track record on ecology and marine science.	The project will work closely with university experts in validating EBSAs, Marine corridors, and socio-economic studies that are essential in the formulation of management plans and ICM Master Plan
Private Sector: These include: Tourism tour operators, Oil and mining companies, fishing industries, etc.	Their activities potentially have impacts on coastal resources	At the PPG phase, representatives from these groups will be consulted to identify strategies that could lead to partnership-building activities.
Gender-related governmental agencies/CSO	Define and guide gender related policies development and implementation	They will have a role in the Project Steering Committee to oversee the implementation of the gender-related interventions and the achievement of gender-related results

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).

Côte d'Ivoire is a member of the African Union (AU), which has put gender equality on the agenda through its Agenda 2063, its strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE, 2019), its Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003), and the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA, 2004). The AU's Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) aims to ensure that member states implement the respective policies and strategies, and provides guidance to the country level in this respect. Environment or climate change related topics are integrated into GEWE under the pillar of economic justice and sustainable development, where the strategy document states that "Women are key managers of the environment; bear the brunt of natural disasters and climate change yet are not meaningfully engaged in climate justice initiatives."

In 2010 the AU declared the Decade for Women 2010-2020. Among its objectives is to 'identify Women's role in mitigating climate change, as custodians of the environment, making sure they benefit from the new global packages to fight climate change'. In addition, Cote d'Ivoire is a member of ECOWAS. The Supplementary Act on Equality of Rights between Women and Men for Sustainable Development in the ECOWAS Region from 2015 commits all ECOWAS Member states to the promotion of gender equality and equity in all sectors through appropriate policy and legislative formulation and reviews as well as strategy alignment. It includes Article 37 on Environmental Management and Article 38 on Protection against the Negative Impacts of Climate Change.

In an effort to align the above mentioned continental and regional frameworks on gender equality with national policies, to meet the goals of equal access of the sexes to opportunities of development, representation, and decision-making, a number of policy initiatives have been undertaken. In 2007, the President issued the Solemn Declaration of Cote d'Ivoire on Equality of Chances, Equity and Gender (*Déclaration solennelle de la Cote d'Ivoire sur l'égalité des chances, l'équité et le genre*), which manifested the intention to introduce a 30% quota for female candidates in elections, which was recommended by the conference in Beijing. In addition, in 2008, the government adopted the Action Plan to Implement the Resolution 1325 of the Security Council on Women, Peace and Security as well as the National Policy for Equalities for Chances, Equity and Gender (*Politique Nationale de l'Égalité des Chances, l'Équité et le Genre*) in 2009. This policy aims at assuring just and equitable development and permits both men and women equal chances in the development and decision-making processes. The government of Cote d'Ivoire adopted the National Policy for Equalities of Chances, Equity and Gender (*Politique Nationale de l'Égalité des chances, l'Équité et le Genre*) in 2009 to promote gender equality and subsequently implemented various activities. Nonetheless, according to some observers, the situation facing women in the country remain harsh. The National Development Plan (*Plan national de développement*) for 2012-2015 aims to transform Cote d'Ivoire into an emerging nation by 2020. In order to achieve this objective, the plan has 5 strategies. The third strategy includes gender as a component under 'gender and equity'.

The National Development Plan (PND 2016-2020), which is part of the 'Cote d'Ivoire 2040' vision, highlights the importance of education to the social wellbeing of the country. This plan included a new law that requires children from the ages of 6 to 16 to receive mandatory education furthering the skills of the country's overall job force. The

Plan would also enforce a greater incentive for female enrollment as they usually make up less than 10 percent of those enrolled in schools.

Ivory Coast's Education Sector Plan for 2016-2025 foresees quality education for all children by reducing inequalities in provided resources and opportunity based on gender. This new program promotes training in science and technology while especially increasing literacy rates for women.

Despite these efforts, Cote d'Ivoire remains one of the countries with the highest gender inequality rates in the world, a high rate of 36% of youth unemployment and unequal distributions of benefits across the region with low integration of women into the economy. Poverty rate is still high with more than 45% of the population living under the poverty threshold. In addition, climate change is also challenging the sustainable and equal development of Cote d'Ivoire by impacting more directly the vulnerable groups.

As of 2016, the "Rapport d'état sur le système éducatif national (RESEN). Cote d'Ivoire" produced by the Prime Minister Office showed that only 14 percent of girls reach secondary school compared with 30% of boys. 6 percent of girls are enrolled in higher education and 23% in secondary education. The adult literacy rate is 45%, with only 25% among women. Only 5% of women have access to land ownership in Cote d'Ivoire, while they are responsible for 75% of basic food production. Persisting gender inequality is influenced by the low enforcement of existing laws, insufficient integration of gender issues into policies, plans, development programs and budgets, the absence of a gender observatory to put in place indicators to measure the degree of gender equality in Cote d'Ivoire, and the generally low sensitivity of the population to gender discrimination and inequality

During GEF 6 Period, and as part of the project: "Sustainability and Scaling-up Approaches for Transformational Management, Restoration and Conservation of Forests Landscapes and Biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire (SSATMARC/FOLAB)", UNEP conducted a gender analysis which shows that there is a significant imbalance and inequality in Cote d'Ivoire's society, favoring the male gender and marginalizing the equitable participation of women in all sectors of society. One aspect in which gender inequality has been most starkly demonstrated is in the domain of natural resources access, management and decision-making. With regards to natural resources access and management, stereotypic challenges that women face include low rates of literacy and

unsupportive social norms. The inadequate education has been pointed out as one of the main reasons why women's participation in natural resources decision-making process has not advanced very far. The practice of agriculture, and access to land are important sectors affected by gender inequality. In addition, Coastal risks and hazards have a number of negative consequences for the population and especially women. They are amongst the most vulnerable to the impacts of coastal hazards due to cultural and social rules, norms, structures and other social arrangements that shape and regulate their status in society, and that affect their access to and control over resources and decision making. Through this proposed project, 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 UNEP Guidelines on Gender., and GEF's Policy on Gender Equality. UNEP aims to have a gender responsive and adaptable management approach in place which, when needed, allows adjustment based on learning from earlier decisions and interventions and received feedback.

The Project will encourage women's participation by recognizing and understanding their roles in the ICM Master Plan design, Grand-Bereby MPA management, and activities to be implemented in component 2. Local communitiel and partners entrepreneurial skills enhanced for the sustainable management of the Grand-B?r?by MPA. The project activities will ensure equal representation and full participation of women at each stage of the project design and implementation, involving women professionals, women's groups, women community leaders, and other relevant sectors that promote gender equity. As part of the Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) funded by GEF, members of C?te d'Ivoire's national technical committee have been reviewing progress in securing social inclusion across West African nations over the tumultuous period dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Recognizing the role that women plays in the post-harvest fisheries sector in C?te d'Ivoire. The CFI works with at least 12 professional artisanal fishing organizations; spread over two pilot sites of the project, Locodjro, in the commune of Att?coub?, a suburb of the capital Abidjan and Sassandra, a town in the south of the country. They have approximately 1 436 members, but although 75 percent are female, they are often left out of the decision-making process. To overcome structural barriers and building opportunities for women in fisheries to prosper, and scale up the many advantages of cooperatives in C?te d'Ivoire to create healthier working conditions for the countless women who spend most of their days in smoke-filled environments that have a detrimental impact on their health, CFI has been training women to gain basic accounting skills to run small businesses, in organizational planning and management, good hygiene practices and sanitary standards to access remunerative markets and boost their incomes. CFI has also been introducing women to international systems such as the

Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management (EAF), the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines) so that they can enjoy greater autonomy. This project will build on these efforts and expand it to exploring and strengthening other local value chains with special attention to activities that engage a large number of women, such as processing and marketing, and which value women's traditional knowledge. The project will incorporate gender responsiveness and will promote women empowerment by adopting the following strategic elements:

- Gender action Plan developed during the PPG
- Have women, youth and Gender experts participate in community assessment and planning processes, including monitoring;
- Include women and youth considerations / roles in designing Grand Bereby MPA Management plan and ICM strategies;
- Target and strengthen women organizations 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 cc resilient innovative agriculture, fishing, etc activities to be promoted as part of the project, (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;
- Support women's improved access, use, and control of resources, by contributing to shape policy and gender norms to improve women's access to and control over marine ecosystems goods and services, providing targeted support to raise awareness and assist women in exercising their legal rights; and enhancing women's decision-making capabilities regarding marine resources they use and most importantly, equipping them with entrepreneurial skills, capital and resources as described in component 2;
- Invest in women's skills and capacity by supporting capacity development of women's organizations

In order to mainstream gender equality during the project implementation, an in-depth gender analysis will be conducted at the PPG phase to identify opportunities and analyze the gender context from the concept phase to ensure to include gender indicators, targets and outputs in the logframe. Ways to support action to promote the participation of women in decision-making, planning and implementation will be explored. Additionally, to ensure that gender is properly mainstreamed, the project budget will allocate sufficient financial and human resources to the corresponding activities.

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 project will promote the participation of local communities, municipal authorities, and private sectors from design) throughout the implementation period (i.e., planning, execution, and monitoring and evaluation). The private sector will actively participate in the formulation of MPA management plan , the establishment of institutional arrangements designed to promote a multi-sectoral approach to addressing the loss of marine biodiversity and reduce land-based contamination in coastal zones, and the adoption of Biodiversity friendly practices. As identified in the preparation of this project: a major barrier to effective MPA management is the inadequate investment in MPA management and lack of financial instruments or mechanisms to reduce pressures on natural resources and for conservation of ecosystem services. The Grand-Bereby MPA is not yet created but the lack of fund will be an issue to struggle. PAs financing in Cote d'Ivoire relies largely on central government funding, which is limited and subject to recurring budget cuts. Private sector contribution to MPA management is non-existent, despite the benefits that they obtain from the multiple ecosystems goods and services that the marine environment provide. The Grand-Bereby MPA Management plan will be developed in a participatory manner so that the key local, regional, and national stakeholders of the marine-coastal zone (government and private and civil sectors including local communities) contribute to the development and implementation of these conservation strategies. Feasibility studies completed for the development and financing of priority conservation investment projects for the Grand-Bereby MPA to: a) contribute to the sustainable financing of MPAs; b) demonstrate the benefits accruing to local communities, the project will contribute to the financial sustainability of MPAs and encourage voluntary financial contributions from the private sector (e.g., Oil and Mining industries, agro-industry, maritime transportation, fisheries, and tourism) to MPA management. Representatives from the private sector will be further engaged during the PPG phase particularly under Component 2 which covers the

development of conservation enterprises and sustainable financing schemes, as well as on component 1 & 3.

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)

Risk	Rating	Risk Mitigation Strategy
<u>Risk of non-equal participation of all groups: inclusion, women and/or vulnerable groups:</u>	Medium	Detailed stakeholder mapping, including women and the most vulnerable people in the area of intervention will be realized, and recommendations mainstreamed in the public participation strategy to be designed by the Project
Project Coordination: Adequate Coordination between the WACA, GIAMAA, PESCAO, CFI projects, as well as the GEF 7 Project led by IUCN described in the Baseline is the sine qua non condition for the success of this project.	Low	Adequate complementarity and synergy with these projects will be identified and negotiated during the PPG phase.
<u>Insufficient inter-institutional Collaboration/Lack of cross sectorial cooperation</u>	Medium	Through Component1, the project will aim to make the Grand-B?r?by MPA fully functional and to establish institutional arrangements designed to promote a multi-sectoral approach to addressing the loss of marine biodiversity. Though this activity, the project will fostered a close institutional collaboration between the relevant stakeholders

<u>Climate Change:</u>	Medium	<p>According to OECD[1], Climate change is rapidly impacting species and ecosystems that are already under stress from other pressures. Climate change impacts to marine ecosystems have already resulted in either loss or degradation of 50% of salt marshes, 35% of mangroves, 30% of coral reefs and 20% of seagrass worldwide (Doney et al., 2012).</p> <p>Through the establishment of the Grand-Bereby MPA, consolidation of EBSAs and Marine corridors into an ICM Master Plan, connectivity between marine-coastal ecosystems will be established, providing movement of species between different habitats and thereby serving as temporary refuge in the face of potential CC events.</p>
Stakeholder buy-in and conflicts with enforcement of new restrictions	M	The component 2 and component 3 activities related to Alternative livelihood and value chains will be use to create incentive and communities buy-in and engagement in the project
Political risks: Changes in political circumstances and government priorities	L	The already drafted degree of the creation is a strong political will. However, to maintain that momentum the advocacy will continue and the social benefit of the creation of the MPA will be promoted to justify its contribution to national economy in addition to contribution to Sustainable Development Goals
Policies/activities / development in the surrounding landscapes/seascapes that are incompatible with the MPA`s objectives	L	As recommended by the Safeguard Unit, the impact assessment of the creation of the MPA will be conducted and mitigation measures will be considered for the final project design
Climate change risks	M	The Climate Risk Profile of Cote d'Ivoire (https://www.pik-potsdam.de/en/institute/departments/climate-resilience/projects/project-pages/agrica/giz_climate-risk-profile-cote-d2019ivoire_en_final_2) published by GIZ/KfW provide comprehensive analysis of the situation and projections and provided possible impacts on sectors. This publication, together with other resources will be used during PPG to provide a comprehensive climate change screening and measures discussed and agree upon with key stakeholders.

<p><u>COVID 19 pandemic</u></p>	<p>The project will take the following actions to mitigate negative results arising from natural disaster, such as COVID-19 pandemic related risk: a) Consider legal and financial implications of the COVID-19 and develop a mitigation plan at the inception stage, b) Communicate any disruptions due to COVID-19 pandemic, to all stakeholders, including staff and UNEP, c) Identify critical stakeholders the absence of whom can lead to unplanned delays, d) Conduct scenario analysis and consider alternative delivery methods, such as virtual or online meetings, radio programmes, recorded messages and guidelines, personal protective equipment or any other steps that will allow the project to be completed on time and on budget.</p> <p>During the PPG phase an update on COVID will be done and provide with clear indication with potential risks</p>
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[1] <https://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/Marine-Protected-Areas-Policy-Highlights.pdf>

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.

Coordination and cooperation with other GEF projects and programs will be developed and animated by the various coordinating teams of the project. UNEP as the GEF Agency for this project will make sure that this coordination is effective. The GEF National Commission coordinated by the Permanent Secretariat headed by the operational Focal Point coordinates the various GEF initiatives in C?te d'Ivoire. More specifically, collaboration will be developed and maintained with projects as follows:

UNEP/GEF MFA Integrated Management of Protected Areas in C?te d'Ivoire, West Africa, a project addressing the country's effective management of PA system using Banco National Park as a pilot site. The proposed project will learn from the finding of the Banco project in the area of PA management with particular focus on the involvement of local communities and private sector.

UNEP/GEF LD project on ?Assessment of Land Degradation Dynamic in Coffee-Cocoa production and Northern C?te d'Ivoire to promote SLM practices and Carbon Stock Conservation ? ALDD ? LM/CSC.? The proposed project will benefit from the findings of this project in the area of understanding land degradation dynamic in the country. The two projects will be mutually benefiting from SLM activities in support of increased productivity.

UNDP/GEF multi-focal area (MFA) project on "Strengthened Environmental Management Information System for Coastal Development to Meet Rio Convention Objectives." This project's goal has been to strengthen the capacity of national and local decision-makers to use a national environmental management information system as a means to apply lessons learned and best practices to meet global environmental objectives within the setting of coastal development. It addresses issues of mangrove ecosystems as the current project, and lessons learned will be mutually beneficial.

Community Management of the Natural Resources around Ehotil Islands National Park project. Initiated in 2001, this project (total budget ~\$4.204 million) works to improve the living conditions of local communities and the preservation of the park's biodiversity. The project benefits from technical inputs from MINESUDD, OIPR, and the Ministry of Tourism and receives funding from GEF and the United Kingdom Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire. This project addresses two issues that are also important to the proposed project: (i) preserving and managing natural resources around the park and (ii) enhancing local initiatives to conserve natural resources of sacred forests, of which there are about 2,000 in Cote d'Ivoire.

GEF ID 10875 - IUCN - "Using Marine Spatial Planning in the Gulf of Guinea for the implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services and Coastal Nature-based Solutions"

GEF ID 9911 - UNEP - Strengthening of the Enabling Environment, Ecosystem-based Management, and Governance to Support Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem

The proposed UNEP/GEF project will take stock of the project achievements, and lessons learned which guide project execution and will provide suggested approaches for collaboration.

Program of Protected Areas Management - PCGAP's objectives are to 1) improve the capacity to manage Cote d'Ivoire's parks and reserves sustainably; 2) increase modern managerial practices and community participation; and 3) strengthen the capacity of NGOs, local communities, and the private sector. PCGAP's key technical partners are MINESUDD, OIPR, and the Ministry of Tourism. The funding partners are the World Bank and the government of Cote d'Ivoire. Collaboration with and lessons from this project will feed in the UNEP/GEF proposed project execution.

The project will be Executed by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Cote d'Ivoire. A detailed institutional arrangement including an organigram will be developed during the PPG. However, existing institutions like the Abidjan Convention which received a mandate from the Ministry to support creation of the MPA network in the country, the OIPR and coastal management department will play key role in executing the project activities in relation their mandate. A project Steering Committee will be established under the Ministry of environment and key sectors departments relevant to the project will be part of the Steering Committee. A very light Project Management Unit will be put in place in under the EA and it will rely on OIPR, coastal management department and other partners to execute activities on the ground.

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

- National Bio Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP)
- CBD National Report
- UNFCCC National Communications (NC)
- UNFCCC Biennial Update Report (BUR)
- UNFCCC National Determined Contribution

National Adaptation Programme of Action Update

- Others

The project will work to addressing several of the most relevant national challenges identified in several plans/strategies and MAE developed or signed by Cote d'Ivoire.

The proposed MSP is fully consistent with:

- The provisions of the Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention) and will provide catalytic funding for the implementation of the provisions of the Abidjan Convention at the level of the MPA and the broader Coastal zone. CoP decision 9/12 "urge the Contracting Parties, if necessary, to establish marine protected areas or to extend or strengthen those existing in the relevant areas of their jurisdiction, in order to safeguard the natural resources of the region, and to take all necessary measures to protect these areas". Grand-Bereby MPA one of the concrete implementation of this CoP9/12 decision.

- The draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework (post-2020 GBF) which include new goals and targets, building on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011- 2020 and its associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets. 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".

- The National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD: and its Strategic Direction No 1 outlined as follows: Preservation of natural habitats, their function and services; and o will suggest alternative livelihood for producers to compensate for production reduction. By so doing the project will contribute to the Strategic Axe 1 and Objective 1 of the new NBSAP. The project will suggest alternative livelihood for local communities. By so doing the project will contribute to the Strategic Axe 1 and Objective 1 of the new NBSAP.
- The Forestry policy adopted and revised in 2011 which recognized the strategic role of restoring vegetation cover through a national reforestation program. The project will contribute to this program as it may support agroforestry practices to boost productivity as part of the ICM Master Plan.
- The National Development Plan 2016-2020/2021-2025 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025: The program aims at reinforcing governance and institutions capacities, preserve environment and natural resources to attenuate climate change, and promote regional integration. It is also consistent with NDP 2021- 2025 especially on the need to strengthening social inclusion, and promoting Regional development and support to infrastructure;
- The 2011 Strat?gie nationale de developpement durable : which aims at (i) establishing harmony between environment, economy and social while ensuring a quality of life throughout the territory and in all sectors of activity, (ii) integrating the principles of sustainable development in the management of territorial collectivities, and (iii) integrating sustainable development into spatial planning;
- The 2006 Territorial Development Policy Framework: A framework defining the allocation of competences and the empowerment of cities and regions and establishing the principle of concerted development land use plans and local development plans;
- the 1996 Code de l'Environnement: which governs all actions related to environmental management, and with a focus on sustainable development issues, coastal erosion, climate change impacts;
- The 2019 Code Forestier: which articulates national forest management to fight against climate change and prioritize vulnerable areas and marine ecosystems such as mangrove reforestation;
- The 1995 Code de l'eau: which call for preserving marine ecosystems and wetlands, protecting against all forms of pollution and floods, restoring water surface, protecting against inundation, sustainably managing Fisheries and agriculture;
- The Programme National Changement Climatique 2015-2020: which is a program which calls establishing by 2020 a framework for sustainable socio-economic development that integrates the challenges of climate change in all sectors in C?te d'Ivoire and that contributes to improving resilience. It also include vulnerable sectors including coastal resources, with promotion of adaptation actions;
- The 2017 Cadre National des Services Climatiques (CNSC): which call for optimizing the management of risks related to climate change and promoting adaptation to climate change by

producing scientifically-based information and forecasts on climate and taking them into account in planning processes, policies development,

- The 2011 Stratégie Nationale de Gestion des Risques de Catastrophes (SNGRC) & Plan d'Action : which call for managing of risks and disasters in the face of growing risks, strengthening disaster preparedness to respond effectively and to "rebuild better" during the recovery, and rehabilitating and reconstruction phase;
- The 2016 First intended nationally determined contribution (INDC): which call for strengthening country's resilience to climate change, aligning sectoral policies and strengthening its mechanism and implementation tools to facilitate the achievement of these objectives and focus on the following priority vulnerable sectors: coastal areas, agriculture, aquaculture, water resources, forests, gender, health
- The 2012 National du Développement durable en Côte d'Ivoire dans la perspective de Rio+20: which aims at revising the success and gaps at the achievement of SDGs, and providing proposals related to green growth and Sustainable development framework
- The Rural Land Tenure Bill adopted in December 1998 (and its amendments) which clarifies and secures the population's property rights in rural areas and allows for the creation of a transparent and efficient land market.

The project will be implemented by the Abidjan Convention Secretariat in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. A project Management Unit will be established with limited staff as to encourage local capacity building subcontracting with CSO and CBO for on the ground activities will be strongly consider. The PMU will include relevant staff with capacity on PA management, gender and stakeholders engagement issues and monitoring and evaluation. A steering committee will be established by the Ministry with members coming from various sectors including, fisheries, agriculture, livestock production and management, gender, CSO, local development, Oil sector, private sector and UNEP among others. A comprehensive project Institutional arrangement will be discussed and presented in CEO endorsement request during the PPG.

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.

Component 3 is dedicated to KM with the objectives to sustain long-term impact of the project interventions. While it provides the cornerstone for capturing and disseminating lessons learned, as well as plans to learn from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations, other project components directly contribute to this as well at the local, national, regional and Global levels. At the community level, a participatory approach (involving communities and local authorities in planning and

implementation the Grand-Bereby Management Plan activities) will lead to increased local knowledge on biodiversity importance, marine corridors/connectivity, sustainable fisheries, mangrove protection, and impact of climate change, and linking this to local coastal protection, livelihood improvement through income generating options, and a healthier environment. Feasibility studies to be completed for the development and financing of priority conservation investment projects including connectivity, corridors or EBSAs to demonstrate the benefits accruing to local communities, as well as local communities and partners entrepreneurial skills development for the sustainable management of the Grand-Bereby MPA and marine resources, will contribute, to sharing lessons and training. Community level trainings will be held on identified needs and to support project interventions. The project will incorporate gender responsiveness and promote women empowerment in community assessment and planning processes, including monitoring. In order to achieve this, a women quota for participation will be applied for each training.

The project will also use a participatory monitoring process, which will enable the beneficiary communities to work directly with the project's M & E officer, to highlight issues arising from the implementation and to strengthen biodiversity and ecosystem services benefits, including in replication and sustaining the project's gains.

At the national level, the government personnel will be trained on the scientific approach of how an effective management of the Grand-Bereby MPA and the broader coastal zone will contribute to the global sustainability through sustainable fisheries. It will also receive training on how the approach for increase connectivity between the MPA, EBSAs, and marine corridors combined with improved Policy and Regulatory frameworks for the management of the Grand-Bereby MPA and the broader coastal zone will provide a sound basis for long term management of coastal resource in Cote d'Ivoire. Lessons derived from these training and project implementation activities, will be consolidated in knowledge products, Policy briefs, Technical guides, and disseminated through existing platforms such as the WACA Platform which aim to facilitate and increase access to knowledge, expertise, best practices, to leverage and crowd-in financing for coastal resilience investments and to galvanize and provide a forum for dialogue and facilitate involvement of other key partners, including the private sector.

The above mentioned framework and many other ones will be assessed during the PPG phase and their linkage to gender mainstreaming and gender equity and how it can support the project will be conducted.

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/Approva I	MTR	TE
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Medium/Moderate

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.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title

Submitted

SRIF-Cote d'Ivoire MSP GEF 7 Grand Bereby MPA

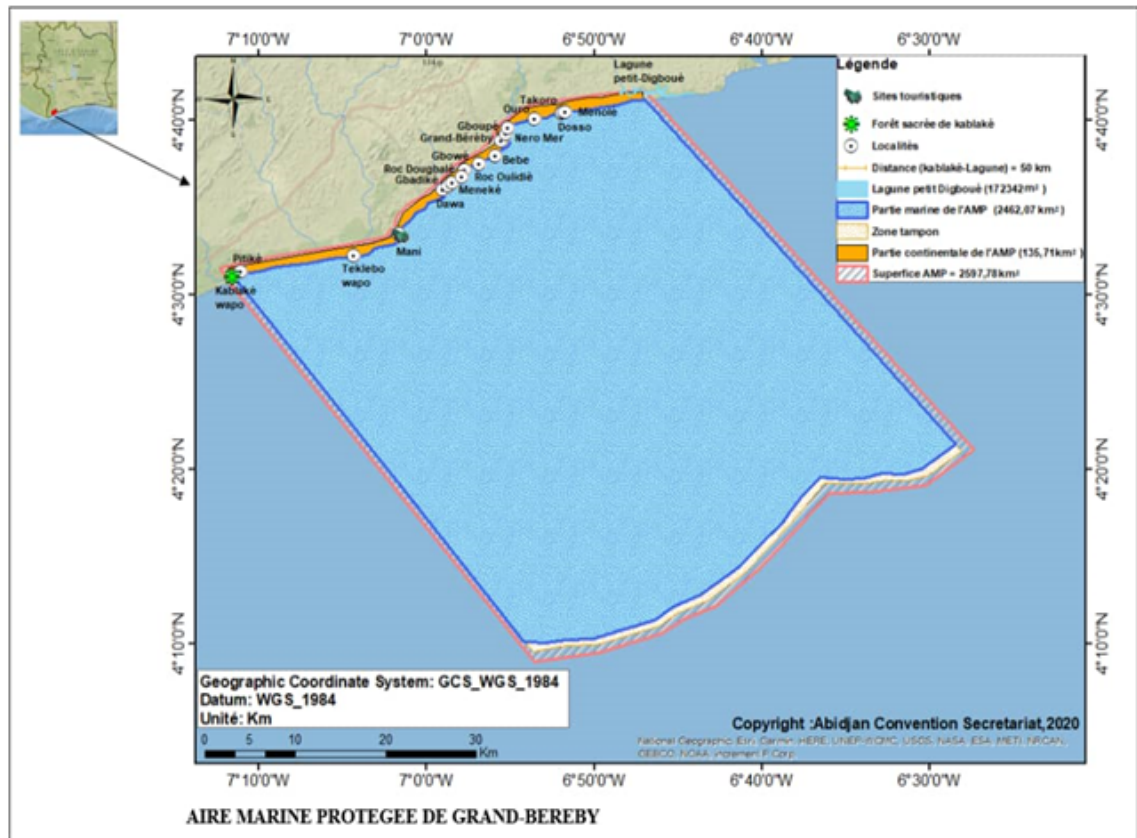
Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And GEF Agency(ies)

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
Kone Bakayako Alimata	Permanent Secretary GEF OFP	MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY	12/8/2021

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

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



Coordinates:

- 7 degrees 10 W and 4 degrees 40N
- 6 degrees 30 N and 4 degrees 20 W
- 4 degrees 10 N and 7 degrees 0 W
- 4 degrees 30N and 7 degree10 W
- 6 degrees 50W and 4 degrees 40 N