

# GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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## General Project Information

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Project Title   |                             |
| Beyond 30x30: Securing resilience in the Eastern Tropical Pacific through enhanced transboundary cooperation  |                             |
| Region  | GEF Project ID              |
| Regional  | 11267                       |
| Country(ies)  | Type of Project             |
| Regional  | FSP                         |
| Colombia  |                             |
| Costa Rica  |                             |
| Ecuador   |                             |
| Panama  |                             |
| GEF Agency(ies):  | GEF Agency ID               |
| CI  |                             |
| Executing Partner   | Executing Partner Type      |
| Corredor Marino del Pacifico Este Tropical (CMAR) as lead executing Entity and other delivery partners to be determined at PPG phase  | Others                      |
| GEF Focal Area (s)  | Submission Date             |
| International Waters  | 4/12/2023                   |
| Project Sector (CCM Only)   |                             |
| Taxonomy  |                             |
| Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Theory of change, Knowledge Exchange, Capacity Development, Innovation, Biodiversity, Mainstreaming, Fisheries, Tourism, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Focal Areas, Biomes, Species, Threatened Species, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, International Waters, Marine Protected Area, Coastal, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Demonstrate innovative approach, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Partnership, Communications, Behavior change, Private Sector, Civil Society, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Beneficiaries, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Awareness Raising, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access to benefits and services |                             |
| Type of Trust Fund  | Project Duration (Months)   |
| GET   | 60                          |
| GEF Project Grant: (a)  | GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)  |
| 14,378,899.00   | 0.00                        |
| Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)  | Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d) |
| 1,294,101.00  | 0.00                        |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)<br>15,673,000.00         | Total Co-financing<br>53,383,037.00                 |
| PPG Amount: (e)<br>300,000.00                           | PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)<br>27,000.00                 |
| PPG total amount: (e+f)<br>327,000.00                   | Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)<br>16,000,000.00 |
| Project Tags<br>CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No |   |

## Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? (iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B “project description”. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

## Project Summary

With its 2.1 billion hectares spanning 11 countries from Mexico to Peru, the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP) is one of the most biodiverse and productive ocean areas on Earth. A critical subsection of 200,000,000 hectares is located in the Pacific waters of Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama is known as the Central ETP<sup>[1]</sup>, including the Eastern Tropical Marine Corridor and the world’s densest cluster of marine World Heritage Sites.<sup>[2]</sup> Uncontrolled development, habitat destruction and illegal and unsustainable fishing are threatening this vast area, compromising livelihoods, ecosystem resilience, and fisheries production. While the Central ETP continues to attract sustainability investment, the scale of solutions being advanced does not match the current magnitude of threats at hand.

This project will ensure the long-term sustainability of at least 31,250,000 ha (i.e., at least half of the 62,500,00 hectares comprised by 11 large marine protected areas) in the Central ETP by strengthening the CMAR regional governance platform agreed by the four countries, coordinating blue economy investments and securing conservation efforts that will fortify the core marine protected areas that are part of the Central ETP, through safeguarded regional connectivity and improved management. This project is transformative in that it represents and leads the first regional ocean governance and sustainability effort in the western hemisphere and will provide a model for other regions to follow. Project components will focus on strengthening regional governance, improving regional corridor management, promoting blue economy initiatives as means to sustain CMAR conservation efforts, and strengthening regional M&E, communications, knowledge management, and learning.

This project will contribute to the following Global Environment Benefits:

- Strengthening the connectivity, protection, and management of at least 31,250,000 in the ETP (CI2)
- A shared water ecosystem under improved cooperative management (CI7).
- Improvement in sustainability levels of over-exploited marine fisheries (CI8) metric tons to be defined at PPG stage.
- 200,000 people benefited from GEF-financed investment with at least 30% women (CI11).

Additionally, the project is expected to address other relevant issues for the region regarding:

- **Climate:** This project will undertake one of the first efforts to create an ocean-focused regional climate action plan spanning 31,250,000 ha that will include tailored plans for each MPA and allow for progress on these plans to be monitored and documented at both the MPA and the regional level.

- **Governance:** This project will support the establishment of a capable, inclusive, and transparent multi-national decision-making and collaborative governance entity and serve as a model for the ETP region as well as other multi-national ocean sustainability initiatives. GEF investment in this project will ensure that there is a focus and links between ocean connectivity and blue economy investments. Few donors invest in both of these initiatives and this project can act as a clearinghouse to ensure linkages and complementarity among projects with differing objectives.
- **Finance:** In addition to facilitating access to financial opportunities for more sustainable business practices, this project will generate enabling conditions and capacity that will allow the region to promote its actions with existing and attract long-term financing opportunities. This project, with its focus on strengthening regional governance, will help establish the enabling conditions for such an investment.

<sup>[1]</sup> The Central ETP is used hereafter to refer to the geographic area of the Exclusive Economic Zones in the ETP region of Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia and Panama. This area includes the ETP Marine Corridor, CMAR. The Central ETP includes the CMAR MPAs – 11 marine protected areas that total around 62,500,000 ha (See Table 2 below). CMAR is used to refer to the collaboration platform between the four countries in Central ETP.

<sup>[2]</sup> NOAA; [https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/international/mpa\\_epacific.html](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/international/mpa_epacific.html)

## Indicative Project Overview

### Project Objective

Ensure the long-term resilience and conservation of at least 31,250,000 ha of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor area – Central ETP - by strengthening regional governance, coordinating blue economy investments and conservation efforts and securing regional connectivity and improved management.

### Project Components

#### Component 1: Strengthening CMAR governance and sustainability.

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Component Type             | Trust Fund        |
| Technical Assistance       | GET               |
| GEF Project Financing (\$) | Co-financing (\$) |
| 3,012,700.00               | 10,600,000.00     |

Outcome:

**Outcome 1.1:** Regional governance of CMAR is strengthened and sustained in the long term.

**Indicator 1.1:** # documents agreed and signed by the 4 governments approving a well-defined regional CMAR governance mandate.

**Target 1.1:** 1 document

**Outcome 1.2** Long term regional financial sustainability ensured and aligned for CMAR and its regional action plan.

**Indicator 1.2:** Aligned regional investments increases for CMAR and its regional action plan by project end.

**Target 1.2:** At least \$50M of additional regional funding and technical cooperation is secured for CMAR and its regional action plan.

Output:

**Output 1.1.1:** CMAR governance frameworks, by- laws and procedures revised, new ones developed if needed.

**Indicator 1.1.1:** # of governance frameworks/bylaws/procedures revised/developed

**Target 1.1.1:** At least 3 regional framework/bylaws/procedures.

**Output 1.1.2.** National commissions and/or regional working groups established/strengthened and regulated.

**Indicator 1.1.2:** # existing or new national commissions and/or regional working groups established, strengthened, and regulated

**Target 1.1.2:** At least 4 national commissions and regional working groups.

**Output 1.1.3.** Capacity building delivered on regional marine management for CMAR national commissions and regional technical working groups, and MPA managers.

**Indicator 1.1.3.** # of people trained.

**Target 1.1.3.** at least 200 people.

**Output 1.2.1:** Financial sustainability strategy aligning existing and new donors for CMAR designed and implemented

**Indicator 1.2.1:** Number of financial sustainability strategies for CMAR designed and implemented.

**Target 1.2.1:** One strategy.

**Output 1.2.2:** New donors invest in the ETP Marine Corridor.

**Indicator 1.2.2:** # of new donors mobilized to invest in the region.

**Target 1.2.2:** At least 3 new donors.

## Component 2: Improving regional corridor management

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Component Type             | Trust Fund        |
| Technical Assistance       | GET               |
| GEF Project Financing (\$) | Co-financing (\$) |
| 5,066,850.00               | 31,824,377.00     |

Outcome:

**Outcome 2.1:** Increased climate resilience of the Central ETP MPAs.

**Indicator 2.1:** # of Central ETP MPAs implementing climate resilience actions.

**Target 2.1:** 11 MPAs

**Outcome 2.2:** Improved regional MPA connectivity and management.

**Target 2.2:** At least 5 Central ETP MPAs.

**Indicator 2.2.b** # of hectares under improved management effectiveness for regional connectivity.

**Target 2.2.b:** TBD hectares of the Central ETP.

**Indicator 2.2.a** # of MPAs under improved management effectiveness.

Output:

**Output 2.1.1:** A climate action plan developed based on the CMAR regional action plan with key regional climate actions for the MPAs implemented.

**Indicator 2.1.1:** # of climate action plans developed and implemented.

**Target 2.1.1:** 1 climate action plan.

**Output 2.2.2:** Key interventions from the MPAs management plans aligned with the CMAR regional action plan implemented.

**Indicator 2.2.2:** # of MPAs with key interventions implemented.

**Target 2.2.2:** At least 11 key interventions implemented.

## Component 3: Promoting a regional blue economy.

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Component Type             | Trust Fund        |
| Technical Assistance       | GET               |
| GEF Project Financing (\$) | Co-financing (\$) |
| 4,245,200.00               | 5,952,648.00      |

Outcome:

**Outcome 3.1:** A regional 5-year blue economy plan is developed and integrated into the CMAR Regional Action Plan.

**Indicator 3.1:** # of regional blue economy plans developed.

**Target 3.1:** 1 plan.

**Outcome 3.2:** Financial sustainability of blue economy actions is ensured.

**Indicator 3.2:** Funding for blue economy initiatives increases.

**Target 3.2:** \$20M funding available.

Output:

**Output 3.1.1:** Timebound blue business plans are developed based on the regional plan and implemented in the fisheries and tourism sectors operating in project MPAs and aligned with their respective country regulations.

**Indicator 3.1.1:** # of blue business plans for the fisheries and tourism sectors developed and implemented.

**Target 3.1.1:** At least 8 plans implemented in Central ETP MPAs.

**Output 3.1.2:** Users (business owners and direct beneficiaries) from key sectors benefit from blue economy investments.

**Indicator 3.1.2:**

# of users (disaggregated by gender) implementing sustainable tourism and/or market-driven improved fishing practices.

**Target 3.1.2:** TBD during the PPG phase.

**Output 3.2.1:** Investments in regional blue economy initiatives increases.

**Indicator 3.2.1:** # of new investments in regional blue economy initiatives.

**Target 3.2.1:** At least 3 new investments.

## Component 4: Strengthening Regional M&E, Communications, Knowledge Management, and Learning.

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Component Type             | Trust Fund        |
| Technical Assistance       | GET               |
| GEF Project Financing (\$) | Co-financing (\$) |
| 1,087,510.00               | 882,000.00        |

Outcome:

**Outcome 4.1:** Knowledge management capacity is improved.

**Indicator 4.1.a:** # of knowledge management strategies developed and implemented.

**Target 4.1.a:** 1 strategy.

**Outcome 4.2:** Regional communication and information exchange strengthened.

**Indicator 4.2a:** # of regional exchanges.

**Target 4.2a:** At least 5 regional exchanges.

**Indicator 4.2b:** # of participants.

**Target 4.2b:** TBD during the PPG phase.

Output:

**Output 4.1.1:** MPA policy briefs are developed, shared with IW:Learn, and posted on relevant websites.

**Indicator 4.1.1:** # of policy briefs published and shared.

**Target 4.1.1:** At least 10 policy briefs.

**Output 4.1.2:** MPA policy briefs are developed, shared with IW:Learn, and posted on relevant websites.

**Indicator 4.1.2:** # of policy briefs published and shared.

**Target 4.1.2:** At least 10 policy briefs.

**Output 4.2.1:** A communication strategy is updated, incorporated into the CMAR 2025-2030 strategic plan and implemented.

**Indicator 4.2.1:** # of communications strategies updated and implemented.

**Target 4.2.1:** 1 CMAR communication strategy.

## M&E

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Component Type             | Trust Fund        |
| Technical Assistance       | GET               |
| GEF Project Financing (\$) | Co-financing (\$) |
| 281,930.00                 | 1,581,963.00      |

Outcome:

### Outcome 5.1

Project monitoring and reporting system is efficient and utilized.

**Indicator 5.1.a:** # of M&E plans developed and implemented.

**Target 5.1.a:** 1 M&E plan.

Output:

**Output 5.1.1:** Progress on annual regional workplans is measured according to M&E protocols.

**Indicator 5.1.1:** # of annual progress reports published.

**Target 5.1.1:** At least 5 progress reports.

### Output 5.1.2:

Project evaluations conducted

**Indicator 5.1.2:** Midterm and terminal evaluation reports submitted

**Target 5.1.2:** Two project evaluation reports

## Component Balances

| Project Components   | GEF Project Financing (\$) | Co-financing (\$) |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Component 1: Strengthening CMAR governance and sustainability. | 3,012,700.00               | 10,600,000.00     |
| Component 2: Improving regional corridor management            | 5,066,850.00               | 31,824,377.00     |
| Component 3: Promoting a regional blue economy.                | 4,245,200.00               | 5,952,648.00      |



|  |                      |                      |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Component 4: Strengthening Regional M&E, Communications, Knowledge Management, and Learning. | 1,087,510.00         | 882,000.00           |
| M&E  | 281,930.00           | 1,581,963.00         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  | <b>13,694,190.00</b> | <b>50,840,988.00</b> |
| Project Management Cost  | 684,709.00           | 2,542,049.00         |
| <b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>   | <b>14,378,899.00</b> | <b>53,383,037.00</b> |

Please provide justification

## PROJECT OUTLINE

### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Briefly describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

#### **Global Significance**

The Central ETP includes coastal parts of the 200,000,000 ha Pacific Central-American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) that extends along the Pacific Coast from Mexico to Ecuador. Approximately 1.42% of this LME is protected<sup>[1]</sup>, and includes 0.22% of the world's coral reefs and 0.78% of the world's seamounts. Much of the Pacific Central-American Coastal LME is influenced by the seasonal movements of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone.<sup>[2]</sup> Extreme ocean depths are reached very close to the coast due to a narrow and steep continental shelf. The area contains six marine ecoregions: Nicoya, with its wide continental shelf includes an extensive coral area that serves as a fish breeding area; the Panama Bight known for its extensive reefs, high productivity and an annual arrival of humpback whales; Cocos Island harbors the most diverse coral reef ecosystems of the ETP and is a popular diving destination; and the Northern, Eastern Galapagos, and Western Galapagos ecoregions which are differentiated by their various water temperatures and habitats caused by ocean currents that circulate through the area.<sup>[3]</sup>

The broader ETP region includes vast oceanic areas and is interconnected by a series of currents that provide a diverse and changing set of oceanographic conditions throughout the region that create high levels of productivity and biodiversity. As a subset of this area, the Central ETP (see footnote 1) plays an important role in climate change mitigation and global biodiversity protection. The ocean currents pumping through the region attract enormous shark aggregations, the world's largest biomass of reef fish, as well as iconic animals and highly migratory ocean life— e.g., tuna, turtles, sharks, rays and whales-- that travel within this area. With its rich marine biodiversity, these waters provide livelihoods for coastal residents across the region through tourism and fishing, while providing a source of recreation and food for millions worldwide.

#### **Key system drivers and potential future trends**

##### **Drivers of Change and Associated Environmental Problems**

The primary drivers threatening the integrity and sustainability of the Central ETP include:

- Impacts of global climate change—including ocean temperature changes, increased frequency of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon, ocean acidification, sea level rise, and an increased incidence of storms and other weather phenomena--that negatively impact the health and resilience of ocean habitats and species.
- Unsustainable and illegal fishing is depleting fish stocks, stymying fish reproduction, and threatening endangered species through higher catch and bycatch levels.
- Population growth, that leads to pollution including municipal waste (untreated wastewater and garbage) and agriculture run-off as well as increases in discharges from fishing and tourism vessels and port operations. Human population growth also generates an increase in the demand for goods and services from the ocean, which is also linked to fisheries sustainability and impaired by climate change.

These drivers have created three interrelated environmental problems: regional climate change, biodiversity loss, and poor ocean health. Across the region, national initiatives are attempting to address these issues, but are not necessarily coordinated with neighboring countries or sufficient to address the gravity of the environmental threats given the transboundary nature of the impacts.

- **Climate Change:** The Central ETP is vulnerable to the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon, which affects productive activities, infrastructure, natural resources, and the marine and terrestrial environment across the region. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has identified large coastal cities of the Central ETP area as being particularly vulnerable to climate change. Changes in ocean temperature will impact the ocean ecosystem and the ability of some species to reproduce and thrive and negatively impact the fishing and possibly the tourism industry. Meanwhile, sea level rise over the next century is expected to impact

the river systems. For example impacts to the Guayas River system, including associated coastal urban areas of Guayaquil, could result in the relocation of over 300,000 people, losses of US\$1.3 billion, decreases in urban and recreation areas, and negative impacts on the drinking water supply.

- **Biodiversity Loss:** According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the conservation status of approximately 50% of highly migratory species in the Central ETP area has deteriorated over the last century, including the Critically Endangered scalloped hammerhead shark, the eastern Pacific leatherback turtle, and the regionally endemic waved albatross. IUCN has determined that approximately 20% of all sharks and rays and all five sea turtle species found in the Central ETP area are subject to decline through by-catch and unsustainable fishing practices. Even more, recent studies estimate that 70% of the global abundance of oceanic sharks and rays has declined in the past 50 years, in relation to an 18-fold increase in fishing pressure during the same period.<sup>[4]</sup> The conservation status of some of the most biodiverse and productive ecosystems distributed across the region, such as coral reefs and mangroves, is also being impacted by the expansion of human development (e.g., urban, agriculture, and aquaculture) causing both on-site impacts and downstream effects.
- **Poor Ocean Health:** With its important tuna and squid fisheries, the Central ETP provides tangible examples of the persistent threat of Distant Water Fishing Nations whose large capacity and fishing methods are deteriorating ocean health and negatively impacting fishers and tourism operators who rely on these waters for their livelihoods. Global Fishing Watch estimates that the presence of these fleets has grown by approximately 400% in the past decade. Meanwhile, population growth both in cities and in regional tourism is leading to the more untreated wastewater being deposited in the ocean and creating more agricultural runoff.

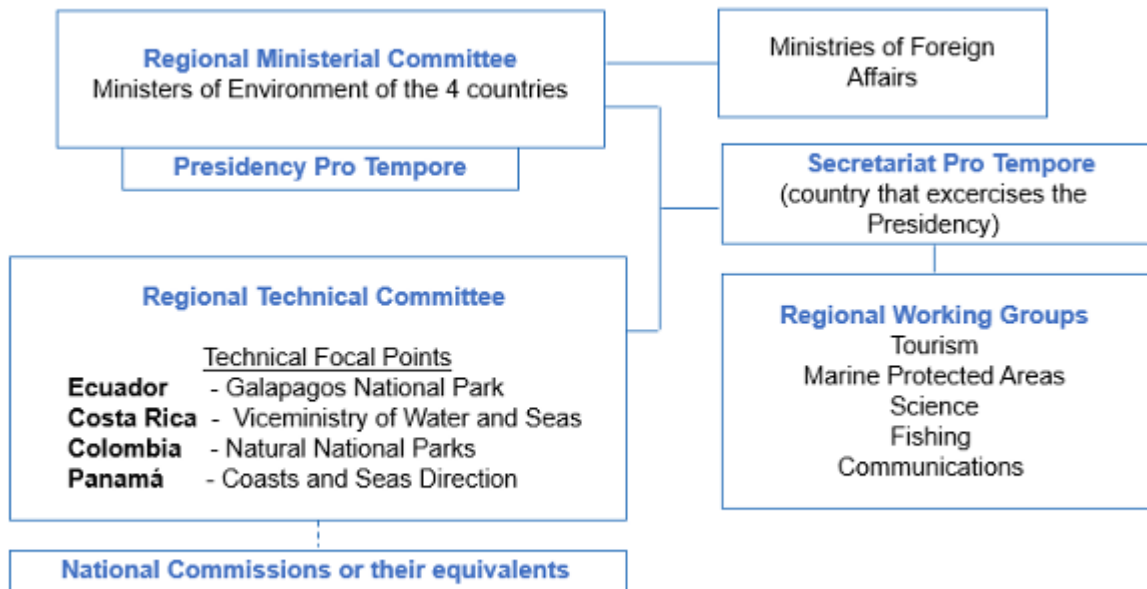
As in other ocean geographies, the capacity within Central ETP countries to respond to these mammoth issues needs to be vastly improved and better coordinated. Insufficient response to these threats<sup>[5]</sup> is exacerbated by:

- underlying socio-political factors, including limited capacity of national decision-makers to address issues beyond their geographic and/or thematic jurisdiction;
- a limited capacity for local or national authorities to address large-scale, transboundary threats to the ocean and its biodiversity;
- few effective regionally articulated policies and frameworks;
- lack of a coordination mechanism between key actors and activities across the region aiming control, surveillance and enforcement; and
- lack of financial sustainability and capacities that limits the CMAR collaborative's ability to take action in joint monitoring and surveillance activity.

### Baseline in the Absence of this Project

In response to this situation, the governments of Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama established [CMAR<sup>\[6\]</sup>](#) in 2004 as a collaborative initiative to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the marine biodiversity of the Central ETP. CMAR includes a ministerial committee, a regional technical committee and thematic technical working groups that largely focus on marine science and research (see Figure 1 below), and discuss ways to jointly address action towards the pillars of the CMAR objectives. In 2021 at the twenty sixth Convention of Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), the four CMAR country presidents announced enhanced protection and management efforts and the intent to establish regional measures to secure the protection and sustainable use of marine resources, including the potential creation of a transboundary biosphere reserve across the Central ETP MPAs which are part of CMAR. While these efforts are to be enthusiastically commended, the region currently lacks a legally-constituted regional coordination entity, capable of attracting regional investment and providing a formal multi-national and coordinated approach and guidance for blue economy investments.

### Figure 1: Current CMAR Operating Structure



Source: Adapted from <https://cmarpacifico.org/quienes-somos/estructura-organizacional/estructura-organizacional>

At the Our Oceans conference in Panama in March 2023, the Ministries of Environment of the four governments noted their willingness to work with CMAR to develop an ambitious transboundary agreement. While countries have been instructed to assess options, it is a decision of the governments that would involve institutions beyond the institutions. The project will facilitate the discussions to ensure CMAR reaches consensus on a legally binding mechanism.

### Country baseline: National Ocean Sustainability Initiatives

In addition to CMAR, ongoing projects in each country are addressing and improving the ocean environment through the implementation of actions on MPA connectivity and management and blue economy initiatives. However, few of these initiatives are focusing on marine protected areas exclusively or the integration of blue economy into marine connectivity.

In 2021, **Ecuador** announced a 6,000,000 ha expansion of the Galapagos Marine Reserve that now covers 18,697,000 ha. Other initiatives include a [Climate Smart Shrimp initiative](#) led by Conservation International (CI) that is securing commitments from shrimp aquaculture retailers to improve production and restore mangroves. The project is in its pilot phase and seeking ways to incentivize shrimp farmers to implement restoration actions. The country's [Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network strategic plan](#) is conserving at least 679,295ha of coastal and marine protected areas in mainland Ecuador, most of which are of global significance, and/or are recognized as Ramsar sites and important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. The project is working with enforcement authorities to collaborate and coordinate MPA surveillance and prosecute offenders. Meanwhile, the Dove Forest Conservation and Restoration Initiative is working with CI to develop a global portfolio of high-impact climate and nature investments for the company. This project will serve as a model for other companies as they seek to develop more sustainable supply chains. Climate change mitigation initiatives include a [Global Mangrove Alliance project](#) which is working directly with communities and other stakeholders to restore degraded mangroves while ensuring that communities benefit from restoration and are committed to maintaining mangrove health. Activities include compiling best practices from the global mangrove community to lower restoration costs and apply these efforts at scale.

**Costa Rica** has long been a world leader in terrestrial and ocean conservation and in 2021, expanded its Cocos Island National Park to 5,484,400 ha and created the 10,444,600 ha Bicentenario Marine Management Area. Ongoing initiatives include “*El Fondo Azul por Siempre*” (The Blue Fund Forever), and [Forever Costa Rica](#), a private non-governmental organization created in 2010 as a public-private partnership to help the country meet its Convention on

Biological Diversity (CBD) goals. IKI TRANSFORMA-INNOVA is a 5-year (2021-2026) German-government-funded project which is being implemented with the Costa Rican government authorities, CI, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and CATIE university to transform marine and terrestrial production systems in the country, including marine spatial planning and mangrove restoration. Costa Rica’s efforts to achieve their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) commitments are positioning mangroves and blue carbon in national and international policies, and a new Blue Carbon national policy was launched in February 2023. Other national ocean sustainability efforts include the development of management tools for the Bicentenario Marine Management Area and updating the National Maritime Control and Surveillance Strategy which will provide an interinstitutional execution framework for control and surveillance in the country’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). In terms of climate initiatives, there are several mangrove restoration projects, the most significant of which are led by the National Wetlands Program and CI, including in the Gulf of Nicoya and associated areas.

In 2022, **Colombia** expanded the Malpelo Fauna and Flora Sanctuary, placing 4,825,114ha of ocean under full protection, expanded the Yurupari-Malpelo Integrated management District to 12,370,958 ha and created the 2,761,116 ha National Integrated Management District of “*Colinas y Lomas del Pacífico Submarinos del la Cuenca Pacífico Norte*”, an IUCN category VI protected area . [EcoGourmet](#) is providing a sustainable and equitable business model for the small-scale fishing value chain, building grassroots capacity and increasing revenue and the visibility and availability of sustainable products. The project is attracting commercial buyers for sustainably-caught fish while helping to formalize small-scale fisheries and ensure that they meet their financial and administrative responsibilities. Meanwhile, sustainable eco-tourism is progressing in both La Plata and La Sierpe protected areas. Colombia has also undertaken great efforts to protect its marine resources through the establishment of endowments for MPA networks in the Pacific and has worked with a wide range of stakeholders to develop and implement management plans. The Colombian government is also working to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fisheries and promote more sustainable fishing through the consolidation of the national vessel registry and providing courses for judges and prosecutors on environmental law.

**Panama** is one of three carbon negative countries in the world and with recent announcements at the Our Ocean Conference in 2023, Panama has expanded the Banco Volcán MPA in the Caribbean, the country is now protecting 54% of its national ocean. Panama is one of the few countries in the region to have a National Policy for Oceans, a framework that articulates and guides regulations related to the oceans with a comprehensive and sustainable approach. The government’s “Mission Panama” includes a “[Boldly Sustainable](#)” initiative that outlines the country’s ambitious sustainability goals. Through its MPA network, Panama has reinforced legal and environmental protections to sea grasses and coral reefs, thereby safeguarding coastal carbon sinks. While there are ongoing blue economy initiatives including the regional “Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus: Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus’,” working across the Caribbean, there are no recent large-scale blue economy projects underway in Panama’s Pacific waters.

### Regional and Large Scale National Ocean Sustainability Initiatives

The rich biodiversity of the Central ETP, its importance to global fisheries, and the threats it now faces has attracted considerable investment in the region. A multitude of regional and national projects have been carried out or are in progress across the region, and this proposed project is designed in line with the priorities of the four countries and to build on these ongoing projects.

**Table 1: Current Investments in the region, how this project differs and will consult with them.**

| Project Name  | Brief Description of other Projects and How this Project differs and will consult with them   |
|---|---|
| <b>Relevant ETP Regional Projects</b>   |   |
| <a href="#">Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (PACA)</a> (GEF ID 10076) | Implemented by UNDP in Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, and Peru, this project promotes ecosystem-based management by strengthening regional governance and expediting the advancement towards Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) in the ETP. The project is developing a regional cooperation framework to address key problems within this LME and adjacent areas. This proposed project will work closely with PACA and provide information requested for the development of the TDA and once the SAP is endorsed by the countries, by supporting its implementation of the SAP in the Central ETP given that CMAR most likely is one of the governance options proposed to be strengthen in the Central ETP. Also, this |

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|   | project will consult with the PACA project team in the regional dialogues and collaboration enhanced between the countries that are part of the two projects.  |
| <a href="#">Blue Nature Alliance</a> (GEF ID 10375)   | The Blue Nature Alliance (BNA) is a global effort and GEF 7 project implemented by CI to help ensure countries attain their 30x30 ocean conservation goals and catalyze the conservation of 18Mkm <sup>2</sup> of ocean over five years. This proposed project will consult with BNA to learn of other regional marine conservation initiatives and see how they are structuring any governance and regulatory mechanisms. This proposed project goes well beyond BNA's objectives and includes a large focus on blue economy initiatives that includes technical assistance and access to sustainable financing for sustainable tourism, coastal fisheries, and alternative livelihood enterprises. Also, it complements the BNA because it seeks to strengthen the regional governance of CMAR, but direct collaboration can happen if BNA decides to support the Central ETP area to support its existing or newly created/expanded MPAs.   |
| <a href="#">Improving Mangrove Conservation across the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape (ETPS)</a> (GEF ID 5771) (2016-2018) | This 2-year IW GEF-5 medium-size project was executed by CI country programs and implemented by WWF in Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama to raised awareness of the importance of mangroves with communities and local and national governments. In some cases, national governments integrated mangroves into their national conservation strategies. The project also collaborated with local communities and fishery associations to reinforce the importance of mangroves for coastal protection, securing fish stocks, and climate sequestration. Lessons learned from this will be adapted to this proposed project.   |
| <a href="#">Conservation International</a>  | CI has been working in the ETP since 2004, partnering with the governments of Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, and Ecuador to protect and expand their separate marine protected areas into a unified seascape. The seascape now includes over 100 partners, working together to manage more than 77 separate MPAs. CI is currently expanding its seascape approach to include the full Eastern Tropical Pacific to create a continuous, well-managed marine corridor across the entire ETP.  |
| <a href="#">Enduring Earth/Connect to Protect</a>   | At the 2023 Our Oceans conference, Enduring Earth, through the coalition Connect to Protect, announced a \$100M investment in the central ETP--\$74.2M will be dedicated to projects to support new and existing MPAs, \$17.9M to support financial stability in the region; \$9M for institutional strengthening; and \$17.4M for regional ocean conservation and climate resilience efforts. This builds on the Connect to Protect 2022 announcement for CMAR countries support to strengthen marine protections; strengthen and implementation of the CMAR Action Plan and regional collaboration, and promote regional ocean conservation and climate resilience efforts. The project is funded by Bezos Earth Fund, Blue Nature Alliance, Development Bank of Latin America, Enduring Earth, KfW, the Moore Foundation, Green Climate Fund, among others. This project will work closely with Connect to Protect to ensure that activities are coordinated and designed to maximize impact. |
| The US Government   | While the US Government (USG) is supporting marine conservation initiatives in each of the four countries, there are also several regional programs underway. The most relevant of these for this project include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership for Sustainably Managed Fisheries (USAID and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)) is training port authorities to address IUU). NOAA is also working with other US federal agencies to strengthen sustainable marine protected area management as well as conservation and restoration of blue carbon habitats.</li> <li>• The USG has provided CMAR countries with access to SeaVision, a Department of Transportation-led program that enables countries to access and share US maritime domain awareness information and collaborate with maritime partners.</li> </ul> Both of these initiatives will contribute to efforts to strengthen connectivity between project MPAs.              |
| The United Kingdom  | In January 2022, the UK government announced an initial £2M (US\$2.4M) investment to protect the Eastern Pacific, including key migratory routes for sea turtles, whales, sharks, and rays through the World Bank's PROBLUE fund. CI is discussing with the UK government to better aligned the interventions. During the PPG phase further alignment is expected, including but not limited to the UK <a href="#">Blue Planet Fund</a> .  |
| <a href="#">Save the Blue Five</a>  | Project approval from IKI, pending but in its final phase. This 5-year project is to be implemented by a coalition led by GIZ, with core partners like CI and MarViva and seeks to improve the conservation and long term survival of marine megafauna species along their main migratory routes in the South-East Pacific Region (SEPR). Learnings from this project will be used for the implementation of marine species conservation efforts outlined in this proposed GEF project, in relation to the enhancement of regional connectivity among the CMAR MPAs.   |
| Fifth phase of the <a href="#">Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project</a> (ETPS).  | This \$1.5M project implemented by CI in Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, and Ecuador with financial support from the Walton Family Foundation provides direct support to specific MPAs and the nomination of World Heritage sites. It also promotes regional collaboration on key marine conservation issues and the increased application of relevant international conventions and environmental laws through capacity building. Lessons learned from this project include the need  |

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|---|---|
|   | for a strong regional coordination entity. This proposed GEF project will support this need while strengthening regional coordination across the ETP.   |
| <a href="#">CAF, the Development Bank of Latin America</a>  | At the 2023 Our Oceans Conference, CAF announced a \$1.25B commitment over the next 5 years to advance blue economy, blue carbon, renewable marine energy, sustainable fisheries, and aquaculture, integrated coastal management, nature-based solutions, payment for ecosystem services, ecotourism and improved MPA management. One of the first projects will be a \$1M ocean sustainability project in the central ETP, and this project will work with CAF to ensure complementarity of programming.   |
| <a href="#">Coastal Fisheries Initiative – Latin America</a> (GEF ID 9060) (2018-2022)  | Implemented by UNDP in Ecuador and Peru, this project is part of the GEF global Coastal Fisheries Initiative program headed by the United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). This project is in its final stages and some lessons learned from CFI may be applied to the CMAR fisheries initiatives. While the CFI project focused almost exclusively on coastal fisheries, this project focuses on strengthening regional governance, improving connectivity between and among MPAs, and promoting blue economy initiatives.  |
| <a href="#">WildAid</a>   | At the 2023 Our Oceans Conference, WildAid committed \$1M million as part of a jointly funded project to strengthen marine enforcement capacity and coordination in the ETP Corridor. This work will contribute to Component 2 which is promoting connectivity among and between MPAs.  |
| <a href="#">Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS)</a>   | Regional Maritime Convention was established by the governments of Chile, Ecuador and, Peru in 1952, and later joined by Colombia. It is a strategic southeast Pacific alliance and an ocean management coordination platform and linkages with Pacific Basin countries.  |
| Fundación PACÍFICO/ KfW Central ETP project   | This project has long been slated for the ETP and could be implemented as of mid or late 2023. A project proposal and feasibility analysis were prepared in 2015. Should this project start up, this project will seek to coordinate closely with PACIFICO to ensure that there is minimal duplicity of effort or conflicting programming. While this proposed project will have a wider geographic reach and will include blue economy initiatives including access to sustainable financing, the KfW project could provide an excellent opportunity to scale project impact beyond the CMAR MPAs.   |
| “Valuing, Protecting and Enhancing Coastal Natural Capital”<br>IADB   | The objective of this project is to elevate the importance of Panama’s coastal natural capital (mangrove ecosystems and related wetlands), the carbon they sequester, and the biodiversity they support by shifting perceptions on their value and importance through a multi-pronged approach: 1) Delivering robust science that establishes a blue carbon baseline; 2) Establishing economic valuation of the ecosystem services provided by mangroves and related wetlands; 3) Building knowledge, awareness and engagement with key stakeholders to drive action that increases protection of these ecosystems; and 4) Supporting and strengthening policies that will promote mangrove conservation and reforestation. |
| <b>Large-Scale National Level Projects</b>  |   |
| <b>Costa Rica:</b> <a href="#">Forever Costa Rica</a> (FCR)   | This is a national public – private partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, National Natural Parks, Natural Heritage, the Moore Foundation, Walton Family Foundation and The Nature Conservancy. The program is based on a trust fund and the project funds and includes actions for the conservation of coastal and marine habitats and strengthening MPA management. This project has improved management effectiveness across all national parks and tripled the country’s MPA area. This project will look at tools used by FCR when developing regional management effectiveness and evaluation tools across the Central ETP.  |
| <b>Colombia:</b> <a href="#">Heritage Colombia or HECO</a> ,  | HECO is a project finance for permanence which includes the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the National Natural Parks authority, the <i>Fondo Patrimonio Natural</i> trust fund, the Moore Foundation, CI, WCS, WWF and supported by the GEF Corazón de la Amazonia project, and the World Bank, aimed at supporting Colombia’s goals to conserve and increase its protected areas and guarantee their integration into landscapes and sectors through the design and subsequent implementation of a long term financing model for the National System of Protected Areas - SINAP. This project may provide lessons learned on financial mechanisms that CMAR may consider.                           |
| <b>Ecuador:</b> <a href="#">Implementation of the Strategic Plan of Ecuador Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network</a> (GEF ID 9369) (2018-2022) | Implemented by CI, the project focuses on strengthening MPA network management providing tools, building capacities, and equipment to improve control & surveillance, governance mechanisms and financial sustainability for the MPAs. Lessons learned from this project with regards to creating a regional MPA network will be reviewed and extrapolated for use within this proposed project. While lessons learned from the governance and connectivity pilots will be used to guide blue economy work with the fisheries and tourism sectors.  |

Learning is a project cornerstone, and the project will build on lessons learned from other regional marine collaborations including the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF), the CPPS, and the GEF 5 “Improving Mangrove Conservation across the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape (ETPS) through Coordinated Regional and National Strategy Development and Implementation” project, particularly in the development of blue business plans

with the fisheries and tourism sectors. Meanwhile, the GEF Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (PACA) project will be developing a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis/Strategic Action Programme (TDA/SAP) that will include all ETP countries with the exception of Colombia and Nicaragua (though per UNDP (the Implementing Agency for PACA) there are informal conversations with Colombia regarding the TDA/SAP development). As the central ETP corridor comprises a subset of the PACA countries and to avoid a duplication of resources and effort, this CMAR project will not undertake a TDA/SAP. It will, however, benefit from the learning process and information gathered through the PACA TDA/SAP. Importantly, this project will also create a new world model for regional ocean sustainability, one that embraces an integrated approach that seeks to sustain ocean systems while securing livelihoods. Primary stakeholders will include representatives from the four governments, MPA managers, and representatives from the fisheries and tourism sectors and ensure that women are well-represented in each stakeholder group.

**Table 2: National laws and their relevance to this project.**

| Law & Description   | Relevance to this Project   |
|---|---|
| <b>Ecuador</b>  |   |
| <b>National Environmental Code–(COA)</b> Issued in 2017, this Code aims to guarantee the right of people to live in a healthy and ecologically balanced environment, as well as to protect the rights of nature.  | While this project will focus largely on uninhabited areas of the Central ETP (with the exception of the Galapagos Islands), the initiatives to be undertaken are designed to ensure and sustain a healthy environment for both people and ocean species.   |
| <b>Galapagos Governance- LOREG</b> Issued in 2015, this law regulates the Special Regime of the province of Galapagos and establishes the administrative legal regime as well as all natural and legal persons who are within or who conduct activities in the province of Galapagos.   | The project will abide by these principles when working in the Galapagos area. While the Galapagos constitutes the only permanently inhabited MPA in the project area. These guidelines will also provide guidance for the development of management plans and regulations for human activity for other project MPAs. |
| <b>Tourism and Fishing Regulations</b> in the protected areas of Galapagos.   | This project will work in the Galapagos and the tourism and fishing regulations under this law will be used to guide the development of Blue Business Plans for the tourism and fisheries sector. The development of these plans may inform updates or revisions to this national law.                                |
| Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3 Contribution as of April 2023   | 19% of Ecuador’s ocean area is designated as MPAs, while another 60% is proposed/committed.   |
| <b>Costa Rica</b>   |   |
| <b>Wildlife Conservation Law N°7317</b> establishes regulations for wildlife—including terrestrial and marine species   | The MPAs of this project include numerous migratory and endangered species. This law will be used as reference for the development of a regional management effectiveness tool that will include ensuring conditions to protect endangered and migratory species across the region.                                   |
| <b>Fisheries and Aquaculture Law N°8436</b> promotes and regulates fishing and aquaculture capture, extraction, processing, transport, marketing, and sustainable use and establishes a mandate that guarantees the conservation, protection, and sustainable development of aquatic species.   | This legislation’s focus on the full fisheries supply chain will help guide the development of the project’s blue economy initiatives as well as the development of management plans to help ensure MPA connectivity—including migratory ocean species protection.  |
| <b>Biodiversity Law N°7788</b> conserves biodiversity and the sustainable use of resources and is designed to fairly distribute the benefits and costs derived.   | This law will guide the development of MPA management plans. The law’s focus on the fair distribution of benefits and costs will help the project ensure that the needs and concerns of all project stakeholders—including marginalized group and women—are considered in the development of these plans.             |
| Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3 Contribution as of April 2023   | 29% of Costa Rica’s ocean area is designated as MPAs, while another 65% is proposed or committed. This project will assist with the development of revised management plans for the country’s recently created or expanded MPAs.  |
| <b>Colombia</b>   |   |
| <b>National Policy for the Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services</b> of Colombia promotes the Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services so that the resilience of socio-ecological systems is maintained and improved, at national, regional, local, and transboundary scales. This policy constitutes the CBD NBSAP. | This law is one of the first national-level laws in the region to include a transboundary scope. The project’s blue economy focus on tourism and fisheries will support the resilience and sustainability of the vast Central ETP area.   |
| <b>Policy for the Consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas - SINAP of Colombia (CONPES 4050)</b> is in line with Target 3  | This policy is in line with the project’s work on transboundary planning, effective management, and governance Component 1 and with blue  |



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| contemplated in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and (1) engages the productive sector in the conservation of protected areas where they work and (2) supports vulnerable populations that are engaged in their activities.  | economy initiatives for fisheries and tourism outlined in Component 3. The project will work with both of these sectors to instill sustainable business practices that will ensure the integrity of the multiuse MPAs.   |
| Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3 Contribution as of April 2023  | 32,42% of Colombia's ocean area is designated as MPAs.   |
| <b>Panama</b>  |  |
| <b>2020 Sustainable Ocean Policy (CONPES 3990) - Colombia Potencia Bioceánica</b> places ocean sustainability in the national agenda and underlines the government's rights to exercise its sovereignty and geopolitical position to support marine ecosystems and biodiversity and conduct sustainable and competitive maritime activities. | This policy supports the project's goal of seeking ocean sustainability through economic activities. It also highlights the role that each of the individual governments in governing the MPAs in its territory, and the importance of including the Ministries of Environment of each the countries in the dialogue through CMAR. |
| <b>The Coiba National Park and other provisions are issued (July 2004)</b>   | Coiba is one of the 11 project MPAs. The project's focus on management effectiveness through the development and implementation of both climate action and management plans will help further fortify and sustain this protected area.   |
| <b>General Environmental Law of the Republic of Panama (July 1998)</b> establishes the principles and basic rules for the protection, conservation, and recovery of the environment, promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.   | This project will work in two Panamanian MPAs. The MPA management plans (under Component 2) will be developed in accordance with this law. This law will also provide conservation and sustainability guidelines that may be replicated in other project MPA management plans.   |
| <b>Executive Decree for National Ocean Policy (March 2022)</b> provides the national framework to promote laws and regulations that guarantee the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, consistent with the sustainable development goals.  | This law supports the project's focus on blue economy initiatives and investment. Specifics of this legislation may be incorporated into the development of project Blue Business plans.   |
| The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (January 1989)   | The central ETP corridor includes several migratory marine species including sharks, giant manta, tuna, and sea turtles. The project's focus on improving connectivity among the 11 MPAs will help sustain these populations.  |
| <b>Fisheries and Aquaculture Law (March 2021)</b> regulates and intensifies activities such as aquaculture, sport fishing, industrial and artisanal according to international standards and the latest technologies.  | The project will look to this law for guidance for the development of Blue Business plans for fisheries outline in Component 3. Aspects of these plans may be used to update or fortify the regulations included under this law.   |
| Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3 Contribution as of April 2023  | 50% of Panama's ocean area is implemented or designated as MPAs, while another 35% is proposed or committed. <sup>1</sup>  |

## Baseline Futures: Potential Narratives

### Baseline Futures: Potential Narratives

Based on the existing baseline conditions and ongoing projects in the Central ETP area and the drivers identified, several narratives that could play out.

- **Narrative 1:** Despite statements to the contrary, the four countries maintain CMAR as a coordination body. The scope and decision-making are limited, and regional programming must be undertaken by non-government organizations (NGOs) with limited input from country governments as there is no regional entity capable of overseeing large-scale regional investment or programming. Any regional MPA connectivity efforts will have limited impact while blue economy promotion and investment would not be prioritized. Central ETP ocean health--including fish stocks and endangered migratory species--would continue to decline, and there could be duplications among projects. **Proposed Project Outcome:** A regional ocean coordinating entity capable of coordinating regional ocean sustainability programming, providing financial and technical assistance for ocean connectivity and blue economy initiatives. **Anticipated Change:** More ocean sustainability focused donors and investment in the region; Better coordination and less duplication of effort among projects; A regional approach to addressing climate change, MPA connectivity, and blue economy. **Barriers:** Lack of regional governance models worldwide for international waters/LME management. **Enablers:** Expressed interest to create such an entity from Ministerial level of the four governments at the Our Oceans Panama conference.
- **Narrative 2:** Marine connectivity and blue economy are not linked in regional programming. This scenario will be a siloed approach to ocean sustainability where conservation activities and more-environmentally friendly business investment are implemented in isolation with no programmatic requirement to coordinate efforts or

embrace a more wholistic approach to regional ocean sustainability. **Proposed Project Outcome:** A project coordinating entity that integrates both marine connectivity and blue economy initiatives to ensure regional ocean sustainability. **Anticipated Change:** Better integration of marine connectivity and blue economy activities in the region. A replication of this integration at the country level. A healthier ocean environment that protects biodiversity and livelihoods. **Barriers:** Few examples of integrated marine connectivity/ blue economy projects enhanced at a regional level. **Enablers:** Expressed interest from each of the four countries to promote regional connectivity and blue economy initiatives as means to enhance conservation/management of the Central ETP.

- **Narrative 3:** Two or three of the countries opt to form a stronger regional entity capable of overseeing large-scale investment and programming. Given the Central ETP geography, efforts to increase MPA connectivity—including measures to protect migratory (and endangered) ocean species in the Central ETP area would be limited. An unlevelled playing field would be created among the four countries that will impair regional ocean sustainability planning and implementation. **Proposed Project Outcome:** A concerted and enduring four-country Central ETP approach to securing ocean sustainability in the marine corridor. **Anticipated Change:** A stronger regional governance entity that has a mandate to coordinate programming and manage regional investment supported by the 4 countries. **Barriers:** Potential that the four governments will not agree on the scope/mandate of a regional ocean entity. **Enablers:** Expressed interest to create such an entity from the four governments. Expressed interest from other donors on the need for a stronger regional entity.

This project seeks to strengthen CMAR regional governance as a means to support longterm resilience and conservation of the Central ETP and responds to the baseline futures as it strengthen the CMAR regional body and them expand collaboration for transboundary management of the Central ETP. Achieving connectivity between CMAR MPAs and promoting blue economy investments as viable economic alternatives for the Central ETP users that benefit from the area while helping to conserve and sustainably manage the Central ETP are core aspects of the project’s objective.

The key barriers preventing the project objective to be achieved are:

- Insufficient legal and institutional /capacities frameworks to support transboundary coordination to protect the central ETP;
- Insufficient regional tools and systems to effectively monitor and improve the Corridor’s management and assess connectivity;
- Lack of effective economic alternatives to promote the sustainable use of marine biodiversity; and
- Insufficient knowledge and sharing of ocean conservation tools and information within and beyond the region.

## Project

## Stakeholders

There are a wide range of stakeholders who are engaged in the Central ETP. While the role of each of these groups and their project role is outlined in detail in the Project Description section, they include:

- **Government officials** including staff and Ministers from the four ministries of environment, country-level GEF focal points, and CMAR associated collaborators (e.g., national liaisons, MPA managers, regional working group members, others as appropriate).
- **Scientists**, including marine biologists, oceanographers, fisheries experts, social and climate scientists.
- **Private/Productive Sector** including representatives from the fishing and tourism industries. It also includes potential investors that will be mobilized from the financial sector to support blue economy investments.
- **Local Actors/Users** such as representatives of fisher and tourism associations.
- **Donors**, those organizations already investing or that have pledged funds to CMAR and this project will engage with to collaborate closely.

CI has been working closely with the CMAR Secretariat during the Concept Paper and PIF development phases of this project, and the governments of the four countries have been actively engaged in shaping this project to ensure alignment with their national priorities and regional objectives for the CMAR and Central ETP management. The CMAR regional technical committee has been actively involved throughout the design process, providing comprehensive feedback, securing alignment of national priorities with the project proposal, and owning the design process while CI has been a facilitator, working in close collaboration with the CMAR Secretariat as the convener of the process and the countries’ discussions. As a result, the four countries support this project, and the OFPs have endorsed the

proposal. A table detailing the dates and themes of workshops and consultations held with CMAR representatives during the development of the PIF can be found in the Project Description section.

The stakeholder engagement process will continue during the PPG phase, and a full Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be structured, engaging the four country governments, as well as other key stakeholders that benefit from Central ETP to ensure that the stakeholder engagement plan is well aligned with the national priorities of each country while contributing to CMAR transboundary efforts of CMAR and is aligned with existing and new investments in the Central ETP.

## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Project description

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

### THEORY OF CHANGE

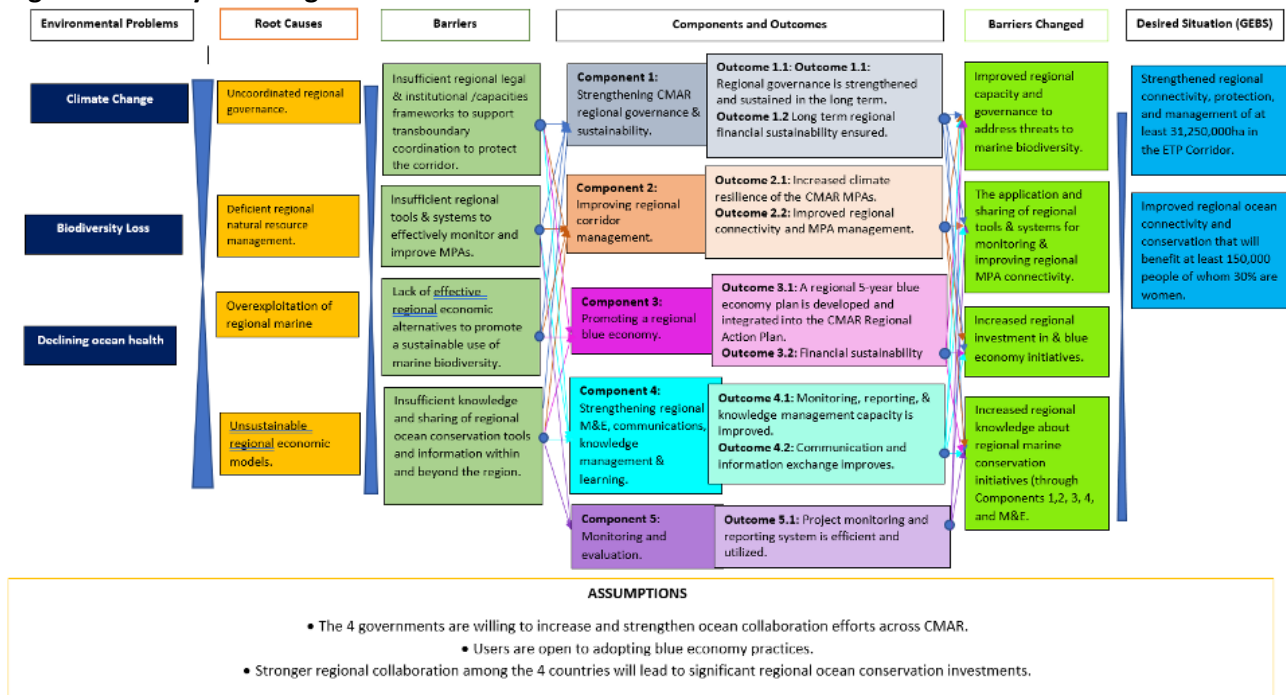
The theory of change for this project is built upon the current regional scenario that also sustains and complements the work of other efforts in the Central ETP outlined above.

- There are three underlying environmental problems in the Central ETP: climate change, biodiversity loss, and declining ocean health. All three problems are *shared* by definition, i.e., no single country can resolve them or mitigate them alone. The Central ETP, as an interconnected oceanic region, offers the chance to collaborate in order to implement solutions to the effects of these problems.
- There are four root causes that exacerbate the impact of these problems across the region: uncoordinated regional governance; deficient regional natural resource management; the overexploitation of the region's natural resources; and unsustainable economic models. All root causes are societal and can be improved or solved through increased international collaboration.
- There are four barriers that the project will address are:
  - 1) Insufficient regional legal & institutional/capacities frameworks to support transboundary coordination to protect the central ETP;
  - 2) Insufficient regional tools & systems to effectively monitor and improve the Corridor's management and assess connectivity;
  - 3) A lack of effective regional economic alternatives to promote a sustainable use of marine biodiversity; and
  - 4) Insufficient regional knowledge and sharing of ocean conservation tools and information within and beyond the region.
- This project has four components and a monitoring and evaluation component to address these barriers. While each of the components addresses each of the barriers, the most direct relations between barrier and component are noted.
  - 1) Strengthening CMAR governance & sustainability (Addresses barriers 1, 2, 3, and 4)
  - 2) Improving regional corridor management (Addresses barriers 1, 2, and 4)
  - 3) Promoting a regional blue economy; (Addresses barriers 2, 3, and 4); and
  - 4) Strengthening regional M&E, communications, learning, & knowledge management (Addresses barriers 1, 2 and 4)
  - 5) Implementing a functional regional monitoring and evaluation system.
- The sum of these components will result in an improved CMAR capacity to address threats to marine biodiversity through:
  - Improved regional capacity and governance to address shared threats to marine biodiversity (through Components 1, 2, 3, 4, and M&E);

- The application and sharing of regional tools & systems for monitoring & improving regional MPA connectivity (directly through Components 1,2, 4, and M&E);
  - Increased regional investment in & blue economy initiatives (directly through Components 1, 2, and 3); and
  - Increased regional knowledge about regional marine conservation initiatives (through Components 1,2,3,4 and M&E).
- Through these investments, the project will contribute to Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) by:
    - Strengthening the connectivity, protection, and management of at least 31,250,000ha in the Central ETP area; and
    - Improving ocean connectivity and conservation that will benefit at least 150,000 people of whom 30% are women.
  - The following assumptions have been made in the Theory of Change:
    - The four governments are willing to increase and strengthen ocean collaboration efforts across CMAR, and that willingness will be maintained through the project implementation phase.
    - Users are open to adopting blue economy practices that recognize the region’s interconnectivity.
    - Strong regional collaboration among the four countries will lead to significant regional ocean conservation investments.

See Theory of change schematic in the figure below.

**Figure 2: Theory of Change**



### Project objective

The objective of this project is to “Ensure the long-term resilience and conservation of at least 31,250,000 ha of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor area – Central ETP - by strengthening regional governance, coordinating blue economy investments and conservation efforts, and securing regional connectivity and improved management.” This project has been designed in response to the scenario (narrative 1) whereby the four countries formalize CMAR as a primarily coordination body with its two main committees (Ministerial and Technical); five current working groups: tourism, MPAs, science, fishing, and communications; and four national commissions. With the support of the GEF, the project will assess different governance schemes to increase the scope and decision-making authority of this entity while guaranteeing it is functional and operational to achieve the CMAR mission.

The Central ETP area includes CMAR MPAs. This project focuses on the CMAR MPAs areas spanning 11 MPAs—five no take areas and six multiple-use areas.

**Table 3: Project MPAs, conservation status & area.**

| Fully Protected MPAs | Name  | Country    | Area (ha)         | WPDA ID   | IUCN Category |
|----------------------|---|------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
|                      | Galapagos National Park   | Ecuador    | 788,000           | 187       | II            |
|                      | Isla del Coco National Park   | Costa Rica | 5,484,400         | 170       | II            |
|                      | Gorgona National Natural Park   | Colombia   | 60,504            | 10754     | II            |
|                      | Malpelo Fauna and Flora Marine Sanctuary  | Colombia   | 4,825,114         | 902899    | IV            |
|                      | Coiba National Park   | Panama     | 270,125           | 902479    | II            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>     |   |            | <b>11,428,143</b> |           |               |
| Multiple Use Areas   | La Hermandad Marine Reserve   | Ecuador    | 6,000,000         | 555745151 | V             |
|                      | Galapagos Marine Reserve  | Ecuador    | 12,697,209        | 11753     | V             |
|                      | Bicentenario Marine Management Area   | Costa Rica | 10,444,600        | 555744944 | VI            |
|                      | Yurupari — Malpelo Integrated Management District   | Colombia   | 12,370,958        | 555636046 | Not Reported  |
|                      | Colinas y Lomas Submarinas de la cuenca del Pacífico Norte Integrated Management District | Colombia   | 2,761,116         | TBD       | VI            |
|                      | Cordillera de Coiba MPA   | Panama     | 6,790,898         | 555705293 | VI            |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>     |   |            | <b>51,064,781</b> |           |               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         |   |            | <b>62,492,924</b> |           |               |

The vast area of the MPAs that make up the Central ETP is beyond the scope of any one project. This project proposes to directly impact the long-term resilience and conservation of at least 31,250,000 ha (50%) of the CMAR MPAs generating lessons learned and knowledge that can be replicated within the broader ETP and in other geographies. It intends to do this, through the following project components, associated outcomes and outputs.

## Project Components and Associated Outcomes and Outputs

### Component 1: Strengthening CMAR governance and sustainability

With their shared ocean geographies and highly migratory biodiversity, there is growing need for broader and regular government collaboration to address today's ocean sustainability challenges. Improved transboundary coordination among Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama will result in a more resilient and sustainable regional ocean environment and attract more investment in the region and at scale. This component represents the project's primary contributions to Subindicator 7.2 Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation and Subindicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees.

This component will strengthen regional capacity and coordination mechanisms and create enabling conditions leading to a stronger CMAR. While the CMAR governments have all endorsed a stronger CMAR organization, specifics on the new organization will be defined during the PPG phase. A nationally endorsed and strengthened regional CMAR will help ensure donors and governments that their investments will be well-spent and will not duplicate other investments in the region.

**Outcome 1.1: Regional governance of CMAR is strengthened and sustained in the long term.**

**Indicator 1.1: # documents agreed to and signed by the 4 governments approving a well-defined regional CMAR governance mandate.**

**Target 1.1: 1 document.**

**Outcome 1.1 strengthens CMAR and creates a stronger and more robust regional collaboration organization. While CMAR already has a set of guiding documents, these will be revised and broadened to reflect the organization's evolution into a more formal regional entity while new bylaws and procedures will need to be developed and approved by the four governments (output 1.1.1). The development of a new CMAR framework will include a review of experiences from other established regional marine governance initiatives such as the CTI-CFF and the CPPS among others and will reflect CMAR's intention to expand its scope and build expertise in blue economy initiatives. Ultimately, this framework will ensure the rapid implementation of management tools (e.g., climate action plans and MPA management effectiveness tools outlined in component 2) and blue economy initiatives (component 3) while addressing the accelerating impacts of climate change.**

**The project will strengthen existing or new CMAR National Commissions and regional technical working groups to ensure they are operational and regulated by the CMAR mandate (output 1.1.2). It will also provide training to the CMAR commissions/working groups (including MPA managers) to improve and expand their technical capacity while ensuring that these commissions/working groups are operational and regulated by the four national governments (output 1.1.3).**

**Outcome 1.2 Long term regional financial sustainability ensured and aligned for CMAR and its regional action plan.**

**Indicator 1.2: Aligned regional investments increases for CMAR and its regional action plan by project end.**

**Target 1.2: At least \$50M of additional regional funding and technical cooperation is secured for CMAR and its regional action plan.**

**Outcome 1.2 ensures CMAR's longterm financial sustainability. Work will include the cultivation of relationships with new and existing donors to align new investments of at least \$50M to the CMAR regional action plan and evolved CMAR. To achieve this, CMAR will develop and implement a financial sustainability strategy (output 1.2.1) that will identify and mobilize the investment of at least three new regional donors and \$50M of additional regional funding and technical cooperation for CMAR and its regional action plan (output 1.2.2). This outcome will ensure that other funding complements this project's efforts and will use GEF funding to strengthen CMAR Secretariat as a convener and facilitator of the process, guiding where and how to use the funds to avoid duplication of effort and ensure complementarity and long-term impact.**

## **Component 2: Improving regional corridor management**

**The four countries have all committed to the 30x30 ocean conservation quantitative target signaling the region's commitment to invest in area-based conservation to protect the shared value of its ocean waters. Climate change is threatening these waters and ensuring the connectivity among the CMAR MPAs and their linkages to the Central ETP, the broader ETP, and other coastal and oceanic ecosystems is essential to the survival and health of highly migratory species and ocean health. This component seeks to improve the regional corridor management with two outcomes.**

**Outcome 2.1: Increased climate resilience of the Central ETP MPAs.**

**Indicator 2.1: # of Central ETP MPAs implementing climate resilience actions.**

**Target 2.1: 11 MPAs.**

**Outcome 2.1 focuses on increasing the climate resilience of the Central ETP MPAs. (A list of these MPAs, their size, and IUCN Conservation Status is noted in Table 3 above). A CMAR regional action plan has already been developed, and this document will be used as a guide for the development of a regional climate action plan that will establish actions, metrics, and goals that will be implemented and measured across the CMAR MPAs (output 2.1.1). While possible actions will be further defined during the PPG phase, they could include:**

- **efforts to decarbonize marine transport and enabling frameworks for zero-emission fuels;**
- **establishing green corridors that recognize climate-saving transport; and**
- **the promotion of ocean-based renewable energy in multiuse MPAs for private sector investment.**

**Many of these actions may require the support of businesses operating in the central ETP and especially in and around the multiuse MPAs. The project will ensure that some of these actions are adopted and implemented by these businesses and incorporated into the blue business plans outlined in Component 3. During the PPG phase, the project will identify appropriate methodologies and metrics to measure increased climate resilience in MPAs, and additional outputs may be added to this component.**

**Outcome 2.2: Improved regional MPA connectivity and management.**

**Indicator 2.2a: # of MPAs under improved management effectiveness.**

**Target 2.2.a: At least 5 Central ETP MPAs.**

**Indicator 2.2.b: # of hectares under improved management effectiveness for regional connectivity.**

**Target 2.2.b: TBD hectares of the Central ETP.**

**Outcome 2.2. focuses on improved regional MPA connectivity and management. Currently, each country uses a different methodology to assess MPA management effectiveness. To better assess ocean health at scale, a region-scale MPA management effectiveness tool will be developed and implemented in the CMAR MPAs. IW:LEARN will serve as a significant resource for the development of this tool, which will be based on experiences from other regional efforts. Once developed, the tool, lessons learned during the development of the tool, and results will be shared with IW:Learn. The development of this tool may include visits and consultations with other regional ocean management entities (such as CTI-CFF or possibly CPPS). The resulting tool will measure progress at a regional scale and include metrics for increased connectivity, assessing collaboration between CMAR countries, and protecting migratory/endangered species as well as a financial plan and timeline (output 2.2.1).**

**The results from each MPA assessment will be combined to ascertain regional management effectiveness. Further discussions on how to apply the regional assessment will occur during the PPG phase. By project end, at least 11 key interventions aligned with the CMAR regional action plan will have been implemented (output 2.2.2). While the scope of possible interventions will be determined during the PPG phase, interventions could focus on the development and enforcement of ocean mining policies and clean energy production in specific multiuse MPAs, among others.**

**Component 3: Promoting a regional blue economy.**

**To further sustain ocean habitat in the region while supporting economic, this component will support regional blue economy investment by promoting the adoption and implementation of blue economy actions and securing blue economy investment that will enhance sustainability in both fisheries and tourism sectors. The project will focus on fishing businesses that are operating in the 6 multiuse MPAs and tourism businesses that operate in both the 6 multiuse MPAs and the 5 no-take MPAs. Importantly, this component along with Component 4, has a strong gender focus and will work with male and female business owners providing blue economy focused technical expertise.**

**Outcome 3.1: A regional 5-year blue economy plan is developed and integrated into the CMAR Regional Action Plan.**

**Indicator 3.1: # of regional blue economy plans developed.**

**Target 3.1: 1 plan.**

**While CMAR currently has both a tourism and a fisheries technical committee, there is limited in depth knowledge of blue economy concepts and programming. Using IW:Learn as a resource, the project will develop a more comprehensive CMAR blue economy working group under Component 1 (output 1.1.2). Under Outcome 3.1, this group will build on experience from the four countries and IW: Learn to develop and implement a comprehensive and integrated regional blue business plan that will focus on bringing regional business—especially those operating in the six multiuse MPAs and 5 no-take MPAs--into blue economy action. The plan will include a baseline census of fishers and tourism operators to determine the number of people working in each of these sectors and disaggregated by gender, assessing, and making recommendations for best practices for ensuring women's participation in the project by sector. Once completed, this plan will be integrated into the CMAR regional action plan. CMAR will oversee the development of this plan while representatives from regional business sectors (fisheries, tourism, and possibly other sectors TBD) will play an active role in determining feasible but viable blue business strategies and actions.**

**Using the regional blue business plan as a guide, specific fisheries and tourism businesses will develop and implement timebound blue business plans. All of these plans will be developed and aligned with respective country regulations. At least eight blue business plans focusing on Central ETP MPAs will be developed and implemented for both the tourism and fisheries industries (output 3.1.1). The number of users (business owners) benefiting from blue economy investment will be documented by business sector and by gender (Output 3.1.2).**

**Outcome 3.2: Financial sustainability of blue economy actions is ensured.**

**Indicator 3.2: Funding for blue economy support/initiatives increases.**

**Target 3.2: \$20M funding available.**

Outcome 3.2 addresses the need to ensure the financial sustainability of blue economy investments over time. While there are ongoing country-level blue economy initiatives, this project will seek to attract at least three new regional blue economy investors (from the private sector, investment funds, multilateral banks, foundations, etc) in either the fisheries or tourism sectors while also working with the four governments to scale national blue economy initiatives into regional interventions that support CMAR objectives (output 3.2.1).

**Component 4: Strengthening regional M&E, communications, knowledge management, and learning**

Readily available and transparent reports documenting progress toward programmatic and specific project goals will help attract additional regional investment. As a GEF International Waters (IW) project, all work will comply with IW focal area and IW:LEARN requirements. This Component also represents the project's primary contribution to IW SubIndicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IW: LEARN through participation and delivery of key products contribution 4.

**Outcome 4.1: Monitoring, reporting, and knowledge management capacity is improved.**

**Indicator 4.1.a: # of M&E plans developed and implemented.**

**Target 4.1.a: 1 M&E plan.**

**Indicator 4.1.b: # of knowledge management strategies developed and implemented.**

**Target 4.1.b: 1 strategy.**

Outcome 4.1 addresses the need for standardized monitoring protocols and procedures to better measure progress in and difficulties of regional marine conservation initiatives. An M&E plan and a knowledge management strategy will be developed and implemented to measure progress on CMAR regional commitments (output 4.1.1). (Note that this output is separate and in addition to the GEF specific M&E project requirements.) Annual progress reports will be published on relevant websites including IW:LEARN. As part of the evolution into a globally recognized ocean sustainability initiative, at least 10 policy briefs will be developed on topics such as effective management policies, tools for measuring MPA connectivity, and regional government strategies for attracting regional investment in blue economy initiatives (output 4.1.2).

**Outcome 4.2: Regional communication and information exchange strengthened.**

**Indicator 4.2a: # of regional exchanges.**

**Target 4.2a: At least 5 regional exchanges.**

**Indicator 4.2b: # of participants.**

**Target 4.2b: TBD during the PPG phase. (# of men, # of women)**

Coordinated communications are key to establishing regional identity and will help attract donors and investment in the region. CMAR already has a communication working group, and this project will expand the capacity of that group to organize and publicize regional events and exchanges while outlining ways to promote the project's innovation and transformational aspects and highlighting country support for regional collaboration. A regional communication strategy will be developed that outlines principles and protocols for working with MPA management authorities, local government, national governments, private sector (fisheries and tourism), and the media (output 4.2.1). The strategy will include guidance and strategies for community engagement and women and marginalized group inclusion to ensure better buy-in and adoption of sustainability practices.

## **Stakeholder engagement**

There are a wide range of stakeholders who are and will be engaged in the design, development, and implementation of this project through virtual or in-person meetings and project organized exchanges.

Government stakeholders include:

- Ministries of Environment from the four countries that will be responsible for defining and implementing an optimal regional CMAR coordination mechanism. They will be involved in project decision making through the steering



committee. Their participation will result in increased donor confidence and investment in the region due to the institution of a widely recognized, strengthened, and nimble regional governance mechanism.

- MPA Management Authorities will provide input and feedback for the development of a MPA management effectiveness tool that can be applied across project MPA. They will implement the tool, analyze results and guide the development of management plans. They will be involved in project decision making through the steering committee. This project will increase their MPA management capacity and result in improved knowledge and regional coordination for MPA Management.
- Tourism Authorities will assist with the development of blue economy initiatives and guidelines for the tourism industry. Their knowledge of these initiatives and best practices will increase through participation in the project.
- Biologists, oceanographers, and other scientists will assist with the development of indicators to measure MPA connectivity across the 11 MPAs and increase their understanding of ocean systems and species.
- Fisheries Authorities will assist with the development of blue economy initiatives and guidelines for fisheries. Increased knowledge about blue economy fisheries initiatives and best practices.
- The Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) will provide linkages to other ocean authorities and initiatives and their learning/lessons learned. They will also provide additional resources for regional learning and knowledge sharing across the Pacific.

IW:LEARN will provide a learning resource for the project as it develops annual workplans and activities and act as a recipient and promoter of project generated learning and M&E. The project will provide additional resources for IW learning and knowledge sharing.

Private Sector Stakeholders include:

- The tourism sector (which will assist with the development of blue economy initiatives and guidelines for tourism who will benefit from increased knowledge about blue economy tourism initiatives and best practices.
- Fishing enterprises, industrial fishing and/or fishing associations and/or sport fishing, (the precise sectors that the project will engage with TBD during the PPG phase) will assist with the development of blue economy initiatives and guidelines for fisheries. They will benefit from increased knowledge about blue economy initiatives and best practices.
- Small scale tourism operators and fishers operating in the project area (especially in the 6 multiuse MPAs) will provide input and feedback on sustainable practices that the project will promote for both of these sectors. Through the project, these stakeholders will gain an increased understanding of ocean systems and connectivity as well as an understanding of viable blue economy practices through lessons learned and best practices within and beyond the project area.
- Other donors and investors will support both CMAR MPAs management and blue economy initiatives.

Other stakeholders include researchers and MPA Managers who will assist the development of a regional management effectiveness tool and the development of indicators to measure MPA connectivity across the 11 MPAs. The project will also ensure to promote equity, diversity and inclusion among its stakeholder groups, by promoting a meaningful participation and enhancing benefits for women, afro-Colombians/Ecuadorians, and youth, especially in the component connected to supporting blue economy initiatives. In addition to this, during the PPG Phase the country will gather data to identify and quantify women's participation in various regional blue economy initiatives, to inform the development of programming that guarantees equal access and benefit sharing for them. Through all this work the project will support the increase of knowledge about ocean systems, marine species, blue economy, and gender issues across the region.

### **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

Most of the project's gender focus is concentrated in Components 3 and 4. In Component 3, women are involved in fisheries supply chains and in tourism and will be included in the promotion of blue economy initiatives. Component 4 includes the organization of regional exchanges, meetings, and workshops to further regional learning and build alliances. The project will seek equal participation of men and women at these events.

As there is limited data available on the number of women involved in blue economy activities (fishing and tourism) in the project area. Early in the project (and perhaps during the PPG phase) a census, disaggregated by gender, will be undertaken to determine the number of people working in fisheries and tourism enterprises in the Central ETP area

of each country. The study will also assess and provide recommendations for best practices for ensuring women's participation in the project by job sector. This work will be part of the Gender Analysis section of the Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP) that the project will develop during PPG phase. The GMP will also include a Gender Action Plan, where actions to ensure that women are included and opportunities to advance women's economic empowerment will be designed and budgeted for project implementation. Project annual workplans will include targets for women's participation, and this data will be analyzed every 6 months to determine if programming accommodations or changes need to be made to better ensure women's active participation in the project.

### **Knowledge Management**

Knowledge management and knowledge sharing are cornerstones of this project and are essential for improving the health of this ocean corridor at scale. Component 4 focuses exclusively on strengthening regional M&E, Communications, Knowledge Management, and learning. The project will look to the experiences of other regional management initiatives (CTI-CFF and PACA, for example) to understand lessons learned and difficulties encountered as they embraced regional management. IW:LEARN will play an important role both as a resource for information as well as a recipient of project documents and products. The project will organize exchanges, meetings, and conferences—and ensure women's participation in these events—to share ocean sustainability information across the Central ETP and with the broader ETP. While some of these events will be virtual, others will be in-person to further understanding of concepts and build relationships and alliances. Lessons learned—on the development of a regional MPA management effectiveness tool, a regional climate action plan, in promoting and securing funding for blue economy initiatives will be captured in annual reports that will be available on relevant websites in the region (CMAR and the four Ministries of Environment websites, as well as IW:LEARN).

### **Transformative and Innovative Project Attributes of the project**

The project's innovation centers on its work to strengthen ocean sustainability at a coordinated regional scale. Strengthening a regional entity capable of attracting and managing large sum and multi-year investment is essential to Central ETP sustainability, and this project will work with the four governments to strengthen regional governance by broadening CMAR's mandate and increasing the institution's capacity and global profile. CMAR's expanded mandate will include the ability to receive and manage funding and reflects the four country governments' conviction that while national ocean sustainability efforts are important, the longterm sustainability of their Pacific waters can only be achieved through strong and concerted regional collaboration. In addition to providing regional technical resources for MPA connectivity and blue economy initiatives, the resulting CMAR will also be a regional investment entity able to attract and disperse funding for their own operations but also to fund technical work to further regional MPA connectivity and blue economy investment. The outcomes of this project can be scaled across the ETP, and serve as a model to other regions as they move beyond their 30x30 national targets.

The GEF Independent Evaluation Office has defined transformation as “deep, systemic, and sustainable change with large-scale impact in an area of global environmental concern.” This project is transformative in that the four governments are empowering a regional entity with the authority to resource and design and implement programming to ensure transboundary ocean sustainability, and it is the first effort of its kind in the Western Hemisphere. In embracing stronger regional governance, these four countries are acknowledging that the magnitude of the threats their oceans currently face are beyond the ability of any one government to resolve. Attaining ocean sustainability requires dialogue, data sharing, and standardized monitoring and reporting protocols across nations. CMAR represents a new approach to governing natural resource use—one that can be applied to other ocean geographies and other biomes around the world.

### **Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.**

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing

| Project Name  | Brief Description of other Projects and How this Project differs and will liaise with them  |
|---|---|
| <b>Relevant ETP Regional Projects</b>   |   |
| <a href="#">Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (PACA)</a> (GEF ID 10076)                                 | <p>Implemented by UNDP in Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, and Peru, this project promotes ecosystem-based management by strengthening regional governance and expediting the advancement towards Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) in the ETP. The project is developing a regional cooperation framework to address key problems within this LME and adjacent areas. This proposed project will work closely with PACA and provide information requested for the development of the TDA and once the SAP is endorsed by the countries, by supporting its implementation of the SAP in the Central ETP given that CMAR most likely is one of the governance options proposed to be strengthened in the Central ETP. Also, this project will liaise with the PACA project team in the regional dialogues and collaboration enhanced between the countries that are part of the two projects.</p>           |
| <a href="#">Blue Nature Alliance</a> (GEF ID 10375)   | <p>The Blue Nature Alliance (BNA) is a global effort and GEF 7 project implemented by CI to help ensure countries attain their 30x30 ocean conservation goals and catalyze the conservation of 18Mkm<sup>2</sup> of ocean over five years. This proposed project will liaise with BNA to learn of other regional marine conservation initiatives and see how they are structuring any governance and regulatory mechanisms. This proposed project goes well beyond BNA's objectives and includes a large focus on blue economy initiatives that includes technical assistance and access to sustainable financing for sustainable tourism, coastal fisheries and alternative livelihood enterprises. Also, it complements the BNA because it seeks to strengthen the regional governance of CMAR but direct collaboration can happen if BNA decides to support the Central ETP area to support its existing or newly created/expanded MPAs.</p> |
| <a href="#">Improving Mangrove Conservation across the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape (ETPS)</a> (GEF ID 5771) (2016-2018) | <p>This 2-year IW GEF-5 medium-size project was executed by CI country programs and implemented by WWF in Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama to raise awareness of the importance of mangroves with communities and local and national governments. In some cases, national governments integrated mangroves into their national conservation strategies. The project also worked with local communities and fishery associations to reinforce the importance of mangroves for coastal protection, securing fish stocks, and climate sequestration. Lessons learned from this will be adapted to this proposed project.</p>  |
| <a href="#">Conservation International</a>  | <p>CI has been working in the ETP since 2004, partnering with the governments of Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador to protect and expand their separate marine protected areas into a unified seascape. The seascape now includes over 100 partners, working together to manage more than 77 separate MPAs. CI is currently expanding its seascape approach to include the full Eastern Tropical Pacific to create a continuous, well-managed marine corridor across the entire ETP.</p>   |
| <a href="#">Connect to Protect Eastern Tropical Pacific Coalition</a>   | <p>In 2022, the Connect to Protect Eastern Tropical Pacific coalition is supporting of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Panama efforts to strengthen marine protections--new and existing MPAs, strengthening and implementing the CMAR Action Plan and regional collaboration, and regional ocean conservation and climate resilience efforts--for the ETP Corridor. The project is funded by Bezos Earth Fund, Blue Nature Alliance, Development Bank of Latin America, Enduring Earth, KfW, the Moore Foundation, Green Climate Fund, among others. This project aims to join the Coalition efforts and complement the support as well as help CMAR Secretariat to align the pledges and existing investments to the region in a financial sustainability strategy that can provide coordinated guidance to all potential and existing donors.</p>   |
| The United Kingdom  | <p>In January 2022 the UK government announced an initial £2M (US\$2.4M) investment to protect the Eastern Pacific, including key migratory routes for sea turtles, whales, sharks, and rays through the World Bank's PROBLUE fund. CI is discussing with the UK government to better align the interventions. During the PPG phase further alignment is expected, including but not limited to the UK <a href="#">Blue Planet Fund</a>.</p>  |
| <a href="#">Save the Blue Five</a>  | <p>Project approval from IKI, pending but in its final phase. This 5-year project is to be implemented by a coalition led by GIZ, with core partners like CI and MarViva and seeks to improve the conservation and long term survival of marine megafauna species along their main migratory routes in the South-East Pacific Region (SEPR). Learnings from this project will be used for the implementation of marine species conservation efforts outlined in this proposed GEF project, in relation to the enhancement of regional connectivity among the CMAR MPAs.</p>   |
| Fifth phase of the <a href="#">Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project</a> (ETPS).  | <p>This \$1.5M project implemented by CI in Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, and Ecuador with financial support from the Walton Family Foundation provides direct support to specific MPAs and the nomination of World Heritage sites. It also promotes regional collaboration on key marine conservation issues and the increased application of relevant international conventions and environmental laws through capacity building. Lessons learned from this project include the need</p>  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | for a strong regional coordination entity. This proposed GEF project will support this need while strengthening regional coordination across the ETP.   |
| <a href="#">Coastal Fisheries Initiative – Latin America</a> (GEF ID 9060) (2018-2022)  | Implemented by UNDP in Ecuador and Peru, this project is part of the GEF global Coastal Fisheries Initiative program headed by the United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). This project is in its final stages and some lessons learned from CFI may be applied to the CMAR fisheries initiatives. While the CFI project focused almost exclusively on coastal fisheries, this project focuses on strengthening regional governance, improving connectivity between and among MPAs, and promoting blue economy initiatives.  |
| <a href="#">Enduring Earth</a>  | Enduring Earth is exploring the potential for a project in the ETP, but the lack of a regional entity that can serve as an implementing regional partner is of concern. This proposed GEF project can provide a regional coordination entity that could help establish enabling conditions for a sustainable finance mechanism.   |
| <a href="#">Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS)</a>   | Regional Maritime Convention was established by the governments of Chile, Ecuador and, Peru in 1952, and later joined by Colombia. It is a strategic southeast Pacific alliance and an ocean management coordination platform and linkages with Pacific Basin countries.  |
| Fundación PACÍFICO/ KfW Central ETP project   | This project has long been slated for the ETP and could be implemented as of mid or late 2023. A project proposal and feasibility analysis were prepared in 2015. Should this project start up, this project will seek to coordinate closely with PACIFICO to ensure that there is minimal duplicity of effort or conflicting programming. While this proposed project will have a wider geographic reach and will include blue economy initiatives including access to sustainable financing, the KfW project could provide an excellent opportunity to scale project impact beyond the CMAR MPAs.   |
| <b>Large-Scale National Level Projects</b>  |   |
| <b>Costa Rica:</b> <a href="#">Forever Costa Rica</a> (FCR)   | This is a national public – private partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, National Natural Parks, Natural Heritage, the Moore Foundation, Walton Family Foundation and The Nature Conservancy. The program is based on a trust fund and the project funds and includes actions for the conservation of coastal and marine habitats and strengthening MPA management. This project has improved management effectiveness across all national parks and tripled the country’s MPA area. This project will look at tools used by FCR when developing regional management effectiveness and evaluation tools across the Central ETP.                      |
| <b>Colombia:</b> <a href="#">Heritage Colombia or HECO</a> ,  | HECO is a project finance for permanence which includes the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the National Natural Parks authority, the Fondo Patrimonio Natural trustfund, the Moore Foundation, CI, WCS, WWF and supported by the GEF Corazón de la Amazonia project, and the World Bank, aimed at supporting Colombia’s goals to conserve and increase its protected areas and guarantee their integration into landscapes and sectors through the design and subsequent implementation of a long term financing model for the National System of Protected Areas - SINAP. This project may provide lessons learned on financial mechanisms that CMAR may consider. |
| <b>Ecuador:</b> <a href="#">Implementation of the Strategic Plan of Ecuador Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network</a> (GEF ID 9369) (2018-2022) | Implemented by CI, the project focuses on strengthening MPA network management providing tools, building capacities, and equipment to improve control & surveillance, governance mechanisms and financial sustainability for the MPAs. Lessons learned from this project with regards to creating a regional MPA network will be reviewed and extrapolated for use within this proposed project. Also, lessons learned from the pilots related to governance and connectivity can be used to work with the fisheries and tourism sector for this project.   |

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

| Ha (Expected at PIF) | Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Ha (Achieved at MTR) | Ha (Achieved at TE) |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 62492924             | 0                                | 0                    | 0                   |

### 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) |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0                          | 0                                      | 0                          | 0                         |

| Name of the Protected Area | WDPA ID | IUCN Category | Total Ha (Expected at PIF) | Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Total Ha (Achieved at MTR) | Total Ha (Achieved at TE) |
|----------------------------|---------|---------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|----------------------------|---------|---------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|

### 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) |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 62492924                   | 0                                      | 0                          | 0                         |

| Name of the Protected Area  | WDPA ID   | IUCN Category  | Total Ha (Expected at PIF) | Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Total Ha (Achieved at MTR) | Total Ha (Achieved at TE) | METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement) | METT score (Achieved at MTR) | METT score (Achieved at TE) |
|---|-----------|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bicentenario Marine Management Area   | 555744944 | Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources | 10,444,600.00              |  |                            |                           |  |                              |                             |
| Coiba National Park   | 902479    |  | 270,125.00                 |  |                            |                           |  |                              |                             |
| Colinas y Lomas Submarinas de la cuenca del Pacífico Norte Integrated Management District |           | Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources | 2,761,116.00               |  |                            |                           |  |                              |                             |
| Cordillera de Coiba MPA   | 555705293 | Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources | 6,790,898.00               |  |                            |                           |  |                              |                             |
| Galapagos Marine Reserve  | 11753     | Protected Landscape/Seascape                             | 12,697,209.00              |  |                            |                           |  |                              |                             |
| Galapagos   | 187       | National Park  | 788,000.00                 |  |                            |                           |  |                              |                             |

|   |           |                              |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|-----------|------------------------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| National Park                                     |           |                              |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gorgona National Natural Park                     | 10754     | National Park                | 60,504.00     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isla del Coco National Park                       | 170       | National Park                | 5,484,400.00  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| La Hermandad Marine Reserve                       | 555745151 | Protected Landscape/Seascape | 6,000,000.00  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Malpelo Fauna and Flora Marine Sanctuary          | 902899    |                              | 4,825,114.00  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yurupari — Malpelo Integrated Management District | 555636046 |                              | 12,370,958.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Indicator 7 Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management**

|                              | Number (Expected at PIF) | Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Number (Achieved at MTR) | Number (Achieved at TE) |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Shared water Ecosystem Count | 1                        | 0                                    | 0                        | 0                       |

**Indicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)**

| Shared Water Ecosystem | Rating (Expected at PIF) | Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Rating (Achieved at MTR) | Rating (Achieved at TE) |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|                        | 1                        |                                      |                          |                         |

**Indicator 7.2 Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional management institution(s) (RMI) to support its implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)**

| Shared Water Ecosystem | Rating (Expected at PIF) | Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Rating (Achieved at MTR) | Rating (Achieved at TE) |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|                        |                          |                                      |                          |                         |

|  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
|  | 2 |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|

**Indicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministeral Committees (IMC; scale 1 to 4; See Guidance)**

| Shared Water Ecosystem | Rating (Expected at PIF) | Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Rating (Achieved at MTR) | Rating (Achieved at TE) |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|                        | 2                        |                                      |                          |                         |

**Indicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products(scale 1 to 4; see Guidance)**

| Shared Water Ecosystem | Rating (Expected at PIF) | Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Rating (Achieved at MTR) | Rating (Achieved at TE) |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|                        | 1                        |                                      |                          |                         |

**Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments**

|               | Number (Expected at PIF) | Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement) | Number (Achieved at MTR) | Number (Achieved at TE) |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Female</b> | 45,000                   |                                      |                          |                         |
| <b>Male</b>   | 105,000                  |                                      |                          |                         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>150,000</b>           | <b>0</b>                             | <b>0</b>                 | <b>0</b>                |

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

Core Indicator 2 contribution: 31,250,000 ha of MPAs through improved regional management, improved connectivity, and M&E and learning. (Components 1, 2, and 4).

This project will work in 11 marine protected areas in the Pacific waters of Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama encompassing a total area of 62,492,924ha and seeking to improve sustainability in at least half (31,250,000ha) of the total area. (This number may be refined during the PPG phase.) No new MPAs are anticipated in the area during this project. Five core MPAs are fully protected with no-take zones while six are multiuse areas. While the core MPAs have management plans in place, other MPAs are either lacking plans or have plans that need to be updated due to their recent expansion. This project will assist with the updating, development, and implementation of these plans.

Core Indicator 7 contribution: Number of shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management. The contribution to this indicator at PIF is "0" while by project end, this number will be "1".

While the project will not develop a TDA/SAP (Indicator 7.1), it will assist with the implementation of the instrument being developed by the PACA project. Other subindicator contributions to this indicator include:

Subindicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation. The rating for this subindicator at the PIF stage and for the duration of the project is "1" (No TDA/SAP developed). As the PACA project is developing a TDA/SAP for the ETP, this project will coordinate with PACA as it develops these instruments.

Subindicator 7.2: Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation. The rating for this subindicator at the PIF stage is "2" (Regional legal agreement under development) while by project end, this contribution will be "4" (Regional legal agreement ratified and Regional Management Institutions functional). (Component 1)

Subindicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees. The rating for this subindicator at the PIF stage is “2” (National/local reforms and inter-ministerial committees (IMCs) in place) while by project end, this contribution will be “4” (National/local reforms/policies implemented, supported by IMCs). (Component 1)

Subindicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IW: LEARN through participation and delivery of key products. The rating for this subindicator at the PIF stage is “1” (No participation) while by project end, this contribution will be “4” (Website in line with IW:LEARN guidance active; strong participation in training/twinning events and production of at least one experience note and one results note; active participation of project staff and country representatives at International Waters conferences and the provision of spatial data and other data points via project website). (Component 4)

Core Indicator 8 Contribution: While this project will work with fisheries, at this PIF stage, there is no definite contribution to Indicator 8: Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels. Contributions to this indicator will be discussed and refined during the PPG phase.

Core Indicator 11 contribution: at least 150,000 beneficiaries (at least 30% of whom are women) through engagement with MPA managers (Component 2) and blue economy initiatives (Component 3), and workshops and exchanges organized (Component 4).

## Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation

Summarize risks that might affect the project preparation and implementation phases and what are the mitigation strategies the project preparation process will undertake to address these (e.g. what alternatives may be considered during project preparation—such as in terms of consultations, role and choice of counterparts, delivery mechanisms, locations in country, flexible design elements, etc.). Identify any of the risks listed below that would call in question the viability of the project during its implementation. Please describe any possible mitigation measures needed. (The risks associated with project design and Theory of Change should be described in the “Project description” section above). The risk rating should reflect the overall risk to project outcomes considering the country setting and ambition of the project. The rating scale is: High, Substantial, Moderate, Low.

| Risk Categories | Rating   | Comments   |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| Climate         | Moderate | While previous research forecasted increased ocean temperature across the region resulting in stronger and more frequent El Niño occurrences, ocean surface temperatures are currently dropping across the region and confounding scientists. Increases in ocean temperature and ocean acidification may impact fish and other marine species (including endangered marine species) reproduction and life cycles and may influence the project’s work on blue economy fisheries investment. The project will continue to monitor climate trends across the region as it refines its fisheries focus during the PPG phase. Changes in ocean |



|                          |     |   |
|--------------------------|-----|---|
|                          |     | <p>currents associated with predicted increases in the frequency of El Niño events in the ETP corridor can also impact fish and other marine species (including endangered marine species) reproduction and life cycles. Regional climate trends and impacts are proving difficult to predict. The project will continue to monitor these trends as they could influence activities undertaken in climate action plans and MPA management effectiveness in Component 2 and blue economy fisheries work in Component 3.</p>  |
| Environment and Social   | Low | <p>With the exception of the Galapagos Marine Reserve, the project area is largely uninhabited by humans. Afro-Colombian communities do have right of access to Gorgona National Natural Park for their fishing expeditions. The project will help ensure that their rights to this area continues and is protected. Initial gender analyses have found that while women play a key role in tourism, they do not play a key role in non-coastal fisheries. The project will further analyze women's roles in project fisheries and tourism activities and ensure that they participate in and benefit from the project and that no additional workload is imposed through project activities.</p> |
| Political and Governance | Low | <p>In April 2004, the Environment Ministers of the four countries signed the "Declaration of San José" which created CMAR as a regional initiative for marine conservation and sustainable use. CMAR continues today as a widely recognized regional forum and a much-needed collaboration for addressing the conservation challenges in the ETP.</p>   |

|  |             |  |
|--|-------------|--|
| Macro-economic   | Substantial | A global recession could reduce investment in project activities (CMAR institutional building (Component 1 ) and blue economy initiatives (Component 3). Specific project activities including fundraising goals for CMAR institution-building and blue economy investment will be defined in annual workplans and will reflect economic trends.   |
| Strategies and Policies                                      | Low         | CMAR was created in recognition of the shared responsibility to govern and sustain the ocean shared by the four countries, and since its inception, CMAR has developed regional action plans. CMAR representatives have been intrinsically involved in the development of this project and its components. We have every confidence that the four governments will recognize the value of applying standard metrics across the 11 MPAs, and the development of these tools will not preclude country-specific metrics. |
| Technical design of project or program                       | Low         | Meetings have been held with CMAR representatives and the corresponding Ministry of Environment liaisons and GEF Focal Points. Representatives at each of these levels have been actively involved in the development of the PIF and ProDoc.   |
| Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability | Moderate    | CI will undertake an in depth feasibility study during the PPG phase to ensure that CMAR has the capacity in place to execute this project.  |
| Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement              | Low         | CI will conduct financial due diligence of the selected EA to ensure they have adequate capacity and procedures and policies in place to be in compliance with CI  |

|                                  |          |  |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|
|                                  |          | requirements and GEF minimum fiduciary standards.  |
| Stakeholder Engagement           | Moderate | CI developed and implemented stakeholder engagement safety protocols that were rigorously applied during the COVID-19 outbreak. Strategies included moving to virtual encounters where possible and adoption of interaction protocols that limited exposure and disease transmission. Should another pandemic occur, CI will immediately reimplement these procedures and will share them with other organizations as requested. |
| Other                            |          |  |
| Financial Risks for NGI projects |          |  |
| Overall Risk Rating              | Low      |  |

### C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Describe how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

This project is strongly aligned with the GEF’s International Waters Focal Area Strategy (IW) and will directly support the “Sustaining health coastal and marine ecosystems” area of strategic action within the first IW objective “Accelerate joint action to support Sustainable Blue Economic Development.” CMAR and the IW strategy both acknowledge the critical importance of key coastal and marine habitats for national economic development and for local and global ocean health. Both have identified the key threats to these habitats—climate change, acidification, habitat loss, coastal fisheries—and have identified MPAs as a critical tool to help protect and restore coastal and marine ecosystems and further connectivity.

This project is also founded on regional cooperation and transboundary governance frameworks and will strengthen regional identity and information sharing to improve the management of at least 31 million hectares of existing MPAs in the Central ETP. Importantly, this project will provide input to build off of and incorporate elements of the PACA project TDA/SAP into its engagement strategies.

The project will also innovate and mainstream ocean area-based management tools into communities of practice. Work at the MPA (site) and regional level will stimulate blue economy investment and engagement in sustainable ocean resources management including tourism and fisheries. The project will also work with IW staff in the development of its GEF project M&E plan to ensure that all relevant IW metrics are included in this plan.

Learning is a cornerstone of this project, and the project will learn from and contribute to learning on regional ocean governance, ocean connectivity, and blue economy investment. The project welcomes the opportunity to be an active participant in the IW:LEARN and LME:LEARN learning communities to learn, exchange knowledge, and ensure integration of this project with other GEF investments.

This project has been designed in line with Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama’s national policies and legislation supporting wildlife protection, sustainable fisheries and tourism, national environmental codes, biodiversity protection, ocean and MPA policies of each of the four countries. The most relevant of these and a detailed description of these laws and their relation to the project are noted in Table 2 above. Many of the national laws have been designed in line with and to help ensure the achievement of multilateral environmental, biodiversity, and climate agreements that this project also supports. Examples include the Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3, the CBD 30x30 ocean conservation goal, and Nationally Determined Contributions linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

Several meetings and workshops were held with government officials during the development of this PIF, and there has been no indication that any country-level policy conflicts with any of the proposed project outcomes. As the success of this project is based on country collaboration, should a potential conflict with national policies occur during the PPG phase or during project implementation, the project will work with government officials to determine a mutually agreeable way forward.

A description of the most relevant laws by country is described below along with a description of their relevance to the project.

Table 5: National laws relevant to this project.

| Law & Description  | Relevance to this Project   |
|--|---|
| <b>National Environmental Code—(COA)</b> Issued in 2017, this Code aims to guarantee the right of people to live in a healthy and ecologically balanced environment, as well as to protect the rights of nature.   | While this project will focus largely on uninhabited areas of the Central ETP (with the exception of the Galapagos Islands), the initiatives to be undertaken are designed to ensure and sustain a healthy environment for both people and ocean species.   |
| <b>Galapagos Governance- LOREG</b> Issued in 2015, this law regulates the Special Regime of the province of Galapagos and establishes the administrative legal regime as well as all natural and legal persons who are within or who carry out activities in the province of Galapagos.  | The project will abide by these principles when working in the Galapagos area. While the Galapagos constitutes the only permanently inhabited MPA in the project area. These guidelines will also provide guidance for the development of management plans and regulations for human activity for other project MPAs.   |
| <b>Tourism and Fishing Regulations</b> in the protected areas of Galapagos.  | This project will work in the Galapagos and the tourism and fishing regulations under this law will be used to guide the development of Blue Business Plans for the tourism and fisheries sector. The development of these plans may inform updates or revisions to this national law.  |
| <b>Wildlife Conservation Law N°7317</b> establishes regulations for wildlife—including terrestrial and marine species  | The MPAs of this project include numerous migratory and endangered species. This law will be used as reference for the development of a regional management effectiveness tool that will include ensuring conditions to protect endangered and migratory species across the region.   |
| <b>Fisheries and Aquaculture Law N°8436</b> promotes and regulates fishing and aquaculture capture, extraction, processing, transport, marketing and sustainable use and establishes a mandate that guarantees the conservation, protection, and sustainable development of aquatic species.   | This legislation’s focus on the full fisheries supply chain will help guide the development of the project’s blue economy initiatives as well as the development of management plans to help ensure MPA connectivity—including migratory ocean species protection.  |
| <b>Biodiversity Law N°7788</b> conserves biodiversity and the sustainable use of resources and is designed to fairly distribute the benefits and costs derived.  | This law will guide the development of MPA management plans. The law’s focus on the fair distribution of benefits and costs will help the project ensure that the needs and concerns of all project stakeholders—including marginalized group and women—are considered in the development of these plans.   |
| <b>National Policy for the Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services</b> of Colombia promotes the Integrated Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services so that the resilience of socio-ecological systems is maintained and improved, at national, regional, local and transboundary scales. This policy constitutes the CBD NBSAP.                 | This law is one of the first national-level laws in the region to include a transboundary scope. The project’s blue economy focus on tourism and fisheries will support the resilience and sustainability of the vast Central ETP area.   |
| <b>Policy for the Consolidation of the National System of Protected Areas - SINAP of Colombia (CONPES 4050)</b> is in line with Target 3 contemplated in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and (1) engages the productive sector in the conservation of protected areas where they work and (2) supports vulnerable populations that are engaged in their activities. | This policy is in line with the project’s work on transboundary planning, effective management and governance Component 1 and with blue economy initiatives for fisheries and tourism outlined in Component 3. The project will work with both of these sectors to instill sustainable business practices that will ensure the integrity of the multi-use MPAs. |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>2020 Sustainable Ocean Policy (CONPES 3990) - Colombia Potencia Bioceánica</b> places ocean sustainability in the national agenda and underlines the government's rights to exercise its sovereignty and geopolitical position to support marine ecosystems and biodiversity and carry out sustainable and competitive maritime activities.</p> | <p>This policy supports the project's goal of seeking ocean sustainability through economic activities. It also highlights the role that each of the individual governments in governing the MPAs in its territory, and the importance of including the Ministries of Environment of each the countries in the dialogue through CMAR.</p> |
| <p><b>The Coiba National Park and other provisions are issued (July 2004)</b></p>   | <p>Coiba is one of the 11 project MPAs. The project's focus on management effectiveness through the development and implementation of both climate action and management plans will help further fortify and sustain this protected area.</p>   |
| <p><b>General Environmental Law of the Republic of Panama (July 1998)</b> establishes the principles and basic rules for the protection, conservation and recovery of the environment, promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.</p>  | <p>This project will work in two Panamanian MPAs. The MPA management plans (under Component 2) will be developed in accordance with this law. This law will also provide conservation and sustainability guidelines that may be replicated in other project MPA management plans.</p>   |
| <p><b>Executive Decree for National Ocean Policy (March 2022)</b> provides the national framework to promote laws and regulations that guarantee the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, consistent with the sustainable development goals.</p>  | <p>This law supports the project's focus on blue economy initiatives and investment. Specifics of this legislation may be incorporated into the development of project Blue Business plans.</p>   |
| <p>The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (January 1989)</p>   | <p>The central ETP corridor includes several migratory marine species including sharks, giant manta, tuna, and sea turtles. The project's focus on improving connectivity among the 11 MPAs will help sustain these populations.</p>  |
| <p><b>Fisheries and Aquaculture Law (March 2021)</b> regulates and intensifies activities such as aquaculture, sport fishing, industrial and artisanal according to international standards and the latest technologies.</p>  | <p>The project will look to this law for guidance for the development of Blue Business plans for fisheries outline in Component 3. Aspects of these plans may be used to update or fortify the regulations included under this law.</p>   |

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

### Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

### Stakeholder Engagement

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during PIF development as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes and plan to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan before CEO endorsement has been clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

### Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities:

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector:

### Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

While CI has extensive and longstanding relationships with and a wide array of stakeholder contacts on the ground in each of the countries, the short timeline for the development of this PIF limited specific engagement with the identified stakeholder groups during PIF development. Engagement during the concept paper and PIF development

has been primarily with government institutions and the CMAR Secretariat and technical group, and we are confident of their support for this project. Broader engagement including with the fisheries and tourism sectors will occur during the PPG phase. A summary of these meetings is included in the table below.

**Table 7: Summary of stakeholder meetings leading to PIF submission.**

| Date                               | Meeting Attendees  | Purpose   | Outcomes   | Venue  |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| June 28 <sup>th</sup><br>2022      | Ministers of Environment of Panama, Colombia, Costa Rica. Viceminister of Environment of Ecuador. President of Colombia. CI, Bezos Earth Fund, NGO reps, authorities.  | Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between CMAR and CI.   | MoU signed.  | UN Ocean Conference; Lisbon, Portugal                            |
| July 12-13 <sup>th</sup><br>2022   | UK Embassy reps, CMAR reps, multiple national NGOs, government organizations. organized.   | Discuss UKs approach and design its CMAR engagement plan  | presented its regional strategy for ETP in the context of CMAR.  | Hilton Hotel, in San José, Costa Rica. UK-Gov organized workshop |
| August 31 <sup>st</sup> ,<br>2022  | Enduring Earth, CI   | EE planning workshop  | Collaboration and aligned efforts in GEF project design  | In person meeting, San José, Costa Rica.                         |
| August 31 <sup>st</sup><br>2022    | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.  | Discuss initial ideas for a regional IW GEF project   | CMAR provided recommendations on project direction.  | Zoom call  |
| October 21 <sup>st</sup> ,<br>2022 | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.  | Present first draft of IWGEF concept note to Technical Committee and prepare presentation to ministerial committee.     | CMAR Tech Committee validated the presentation prior to the Ministerial committee session  | San José, Costa Rica.  |
| October 21 <sup>st</sup> ,<br>2022 | CMAR ministerial committee. Ministers of Env of Costa Rica, Panama. Viceministers of Env of Ecuador, Colombia. Minister of Fisheries CR. Head of fisheries agency Panama. Viceminister of Fisheries Ecuador. CI. | Present first draft of IWGEF concept note to Ministries of Env of four countries.                                       | CMAR Ministerial Committee validated content and direction of first draft.   | San José, Costa Rica   |
| October 31 <sup>st</sup> ,<br>2022 | Enduring Earth, CI   | Coordination call   | Discussion of GEF project design   | Teams call   |
| December 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2022   | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.  | Present second draft of IWGEF concept paper after inputs from countries. Propose a timeline for preparation of the PIF. | Second draft of the concept paper validated. Approval given to move forward with the preparation of a PIF. Timeline for preparation of the PIF approved. | Teams Call   |
| January 20 <sup>th</sup><br>2023   | Enduring Earth, CI   | Coordination call   | CMAR agreement to align efforts in GEF project design  | Teams call   |
| February 9 <sup>th</sup><br>2023   | ReWild, CI   | Coordination call   | CMAR agreement to collaborate in GEF project design  | Zoom call  |
| February 9 <sup>th</sup><br>2023   | UNDP PACA rep  | Understand the PACA TDA/SAP process   | Agreement with UNDP that CMAR will contribute information and support SAP activities should it be  | Microsoft Teams  |

| Date                           | Meeting Attendees                              | Purpose  | Outcomes  | Venue  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
|                                |  |  | approved by countries within the CMAR project timeframe.          |  |
| February 27 <sup>th</sup> 2023 | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.                  | Discuss PIF content, validate Results Framework, revise timeline, process, and information needs | Commitments from countries to provide requested input.            | In person in Panama, Central Hotel, and Zoom |
| February 28 <sup>th</sup> 2023 | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.                  | Review workplan between CI and CMAR.   | Concrete draft of joint actions discussed and reviewed.           | In person in Panama, Central Hotel.          |
| March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2023   | CMAR Technical and Ministerial Committees, CI. | PIF Development progress, timeline.  | CMAR approval to move forward with a 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft PIF    | In person in Panama, Central Hotel.          |
| March 30, 2023                 | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.                  | Review & Comments on CMAR PIF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft  | Comments from countries on the PIF 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft.         | Zoom   |
| April 4 <sup>th</sup> 2023     | CMAR Technical Committee, CI.                  | Final Review & Comments on CMAR PIF Final Draft  | Approval to submit a final draft with CMAR comments incorporated. | Zoom   |

Stakeholder engagement and consultation will be a key factor in determining the optimal CMAR governance structure, and the project will undertake extensive stakeholder engagement during the PPG phase of the project to receive further feedback and continue to structure the project.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

## Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in the section B project description?

Yes

## Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

## Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

| PIF | CEO<br>Endorsement/Approval | MTR | TE |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|----|
| Low |                             |     |    |

## E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

| GEF Agency                      | Trust Fund | Country/<br>Regional/<br>Global | Focal Area              | Programming<br>of Funds       | Grant /<br>Non-<br>Grant | GEF Project<br>Grant(\$) | Agency<br>Fee(\$)   | Total GEF<br>Financing (\$) |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| CI                              | GET        | Regional                        | International<br>Waters | International<br>Waters: IW-1 | Grant                    | 14,378,899.00            | 1,294,101.00        | 15,673,000.00               |
| <b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b> |            |                                 |                         |                               |                          | <b>14,378,899.00</b>     | <b>1,294,101.00</b> | <b>15,673,000.00</b>        |

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

300000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

27000

| GEF Agency                   | Trust Fund | Country/<br>Regional/<br>Global | Focal Area              | Programming<br>of Funds       | Grant / Non-<br>Grant | PPG(\$)           | Agency<br>Fee(\$) | Total PPG<br>Funding(\$) |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| CI                           | GET        | Regional                        | International<br>Waters | International<br>Waters: IW-1 | Grant                 | 300,000.00        | 27,000.00         | 327,000.00               |
| <b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b> |            |                                 |                         |                               |                       | <b>300,000.00</b> | <b>27,000.00</b>  | <b>327,000.00</b>        |

Please provide justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation



| GEF Agency                 | Trust Fund | Country/<br>Regional/ Global | Focal Area | Sources of Funds | Total(\$)   |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------|
| <b>Total GEF Resources</b> |            |                              |            |                  | <b>0.00</b> |

### Indicative Focal Area Elements

| Programming Directions    | Trust Fund | GEF Project Financing(\$) | Co-financing(\$)     |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| IW-1-1                    | GET        | 14,378,899.00             | 53383037             |
| <b>Total Project Cost</b> |            | <b>14,378,899.00</b>      | <b>53,383,037.00</b> |

### Indicative Co-financing

| Sources of Co-financing      | Name of Co-financier           | Type of Co-financing | Investment Mobilized   | Amount(\$)           |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| GEF Agency                   | CI                             | Grant                | Investment mobilized   | 17281877             |
| GEF Agency                   | CI                             | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures | 2718123              |
| Recipient Country Government | Government of Colombia         | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures | 181592               |
| Private Sector               | Bezos Earth Fund               | Grant                | Investment mobilized   | 10000000             |
| Civil Society Organization   | Pew/Enduring Earth             | Grant                | Investment mobilized   | 20000000             |
| Recipient Country Government | Government of Ecuador          | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures | 169750               |
| Recipient Country Government | Government of Panama           | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures | 731695               |
| GEF Agency                   | Interamerican Development Bank | Grant                | Investment mobilized   | 2300000              |
| <b>Total Co-financing</b>    |                                |                      |                        | <b>53,383,037.00</b> |

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Additional co-financing will be identified at PPG phase. CI is already in discussions with multiple bilateral donors contributing to the region to align their pledges or contributions to this project.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

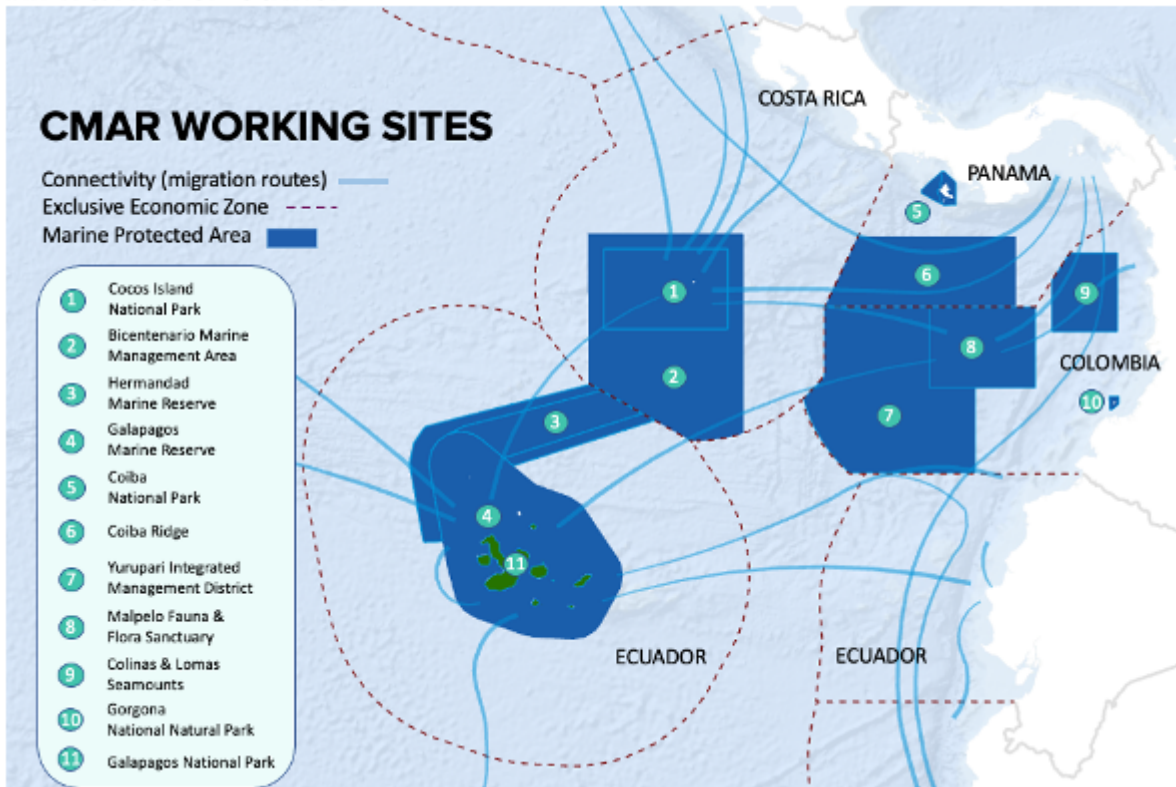
| GEF Agency Type        | Name            | Date     | Project Contact Person | Phone | Email                     |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------|------------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| GEF Agency Coordinator | Daniela Carrion | 4/6/2023 | Daniela Carrion        |       | dcarrion@conservation.org |

**Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):**

| Name                         | Position   | Ministry  | Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |
|------------------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| Raul Pinedo                  | GEF Operational Point  | Ministry of Environment, Panama                                   | 4/10/2023         |
| Enid Chaverri-Tapia          | GEF Operational Focal Point/Director of International Cooperation    | Ministry of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica                    | 4/10/2023         |
| Jose Luis Naula              | Director of International Cooperation/ GEF Operational Focal Point   | Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition, Ecuador | 4/10/2023         |
| Maria Teresa Becerra Ramirez | Head of the International Affairs Office/GEF Operational Focal Point | Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia   | 3/30/2023         |

**ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION**

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



This project concentrates actions in one of the most diverse and productive portions of the central ETP: the MPA areas of the countries that constitute the Pacific waters of Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama.

This area covers approximately 200Mha of ocean that supports a high concentration of endemic species, populations of migratory pelagic species, highly productive waters sustaining abundant fisheries, and extensive coastal mangrove forests. The geographic scope of the project is proposed for at 31,250,000 ha of ocean area in the four countries including five fully-protected MPAs (with no-take zones) and 6 multiuse areas.

| Fully Protected MPAs | Name                                     | Country    | Area (ha)         | WPDA ID   | IUCN Category | Georeferenced Coordinates   |  |
|----------------------|--|------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|---|--|
|                      |  |            |                   |           |               | LAT   | LONG   |
|                      | Galapagos National Park                  | Ecuador    | 788,000           | 187       | II            | No coordinates available.   |  |
|                      | Isla del Coco National Park              | Costa Rica | 5,484,400         | 170       | II            | 6.237<br>6.237<br>4.529<br>4.529  | -88.987<br>-86.367<br>-86.367<br>-88.987   |
|                      | Gorgona National Natural Park            | Colombia   | 60,504            | 10754     | II            | 3.098<br>3.098<br>2.931<br>2.815<br>2.815   | -78.295<br>-78.095<br>-78.095<br>-78.228<br>-78.295  |
|                      | Malpelo Fauna and Flora Marine Sanctuary | Colombia   | 4,825,114         | 902899    | IV            | 5.000<br>5.000<br>3.277<br>3.277  | -82.103<br>-79.867<br>-79.867<br>-82.103   |
|                      | Coiba National Park                      | Panama     | 270,125           | 902479    | II            | 7.887<br>7.887<br>7.659<br>7.168<br>7.180<br>7.167<br>7.427<br>7.504  | -81.859<br>-81.783<br>-81.549<br>-81.547<br>-81.590<br>-81.782<br>-82.271<br>-82.272   |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>     |  |            | <b>11,428,143</b> |           |               |   |  |
| Multiple Use Areas   | La Hermandad Marine Reserve              | Ecuador    | 6,000,000         | 555745151 | V             | 0.000<br>1.702<br>2.461<br>3.350<br>2.583<br>1.623<br>2.277<br>1.532<br>0.000   | -92.809<br>-93.082<br>-92.751<br>-89.270<br>-87.911<br>-90.894<br>-92.312<br>-92.659<br>-92.395  |
|                      | Galapagos Marine Reserve                 | Ecuador    | 12,697,209        | 11753     | V             | 1.564<br>2.260<br>2.199<br>1.231<br>0.977<br>0.871<br>0.709<br>-0.330<br>-0.680<br>-1.050<br>-1.725<br>-1.979<br>-2.081<br>-2.031<br>-2.017<br>-1.981 | -92.665<br>-92.343<br>-91.579<br>-90.427<br>-89.725<br>-89.535<br>-89.386<br>-88.694<br>-88.577<br>-88.661<br>-89.036<br>-89.277<br>-89.676<br>-90.470<br>-90.589<br>-90.709 |

|                  |   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
|------------------|---|------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|---------|
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | -1.642 | -91.647 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | -1.389 | -91.986 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | -1.088 | -92.153 |
|                  | Bicentenario Marine Management Area   | Costa Rica | 10,444,600        | 555744944 | VI           | 6.571  | -89.322 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 6.571  | -86.032 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.317  | -86.034 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.313  | -86.045 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.293  | -86.108 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.275  | -86.170 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.258  | -86.234 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.242  | -86.297 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.227  | -86.361 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.214  | -86.425 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.202  | -86.489 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.191  | -86.553 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.181  | -86.618 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.173  | -86.683 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.166  | -86.748 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.160  | -86.813 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 2.156  | -86.878 |
| 2.152            | -86.943   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
| 2.151            | -87.145   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
| 3.376            | -89.315   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
|                  | Yurupari — Malpelo Integrated Management District   | Colombia   | 12,370,958        | 555636046 | Not Reported | 5.000  | -84.317 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 5.000  | -82.103 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 3.278  | -82.103 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 3.278  | -81.133 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 1.469  | -81.133 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 1.469  | -83.791 |
| 3.050            | -84.767   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
| 3.533            | -84.317   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
|                  | Colinas y Lomas Submarinas de la cuenca del Pacífico Norte Integrated Management District | Colombia   | 2,761,116         | TBD       | VI           | 6.153  | -79.128 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 6.153  | -78.119 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 4.472  | -78.119 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 4.472  | -79.515 |
| 5.556            | -79.515   |            |                   |           |              |        |         |
|                  | Cordillera de Coiba MPA   | Panama     | 6,790,898         | 555705293 | VI           | 6.502  | -83.615 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 6.502  | -80.270 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 5.001  | -80.270 |
|                  |   |            |                   |           |              | 5.001  | -84.317 |
| <b>Sub-Total</b> |   |            | <b>51,064,781</b> |           |              |        |         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>     |   |            | <b>62,492,924</b> |           |              |        |         |

#### ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

Title

ESS Annex

#### ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

| Climate Change Mitigation | Climate Change Adaptation | Biodiversity            | Land Degradation  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Significant Objective 1   | Significant Objective 1   | Significant Objective 1 | No Contribution 0 |

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ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Please see attached worksheet