Part I: Project Information

GEF ID
10703

Project Type
FSP

Type of Trust Fund
GET

CBIT/NGI
CBIT **No**
NGI **No**

Project Title
Promoting the blue economy and strengthening fisheries governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (GoTFish)

Countries
Regional

Agency(ies)
FAO

Other Executing Partner(s)
SouthEast Asian Fishery Development Center (SEAFDEC) Sustainable Fishery Partnership (SFP) University of Queensland (UQ)

Executing Partner Type
Others

GEF Focal Area
Multi Focal Area

Sector

Taxonomy

Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Fisheries, Mainstreaming, Sea Grasses, Biomes, Coral Reefs, Productive Seascapes, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Large Marine Ecosystems, International Waters, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, Seagrasses, Mangrove, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Communications, Stakeholders, Awareness Raising, Strategic Communications, Community Based Organization, Civil Society, Local Communities, Private Sector, SMEs, Beneficiaries, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Equality, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, South-South, Knowledge Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Field Visit, Capacity Development, Workshop, Knowledge Generation, Training, Seminar, Professional Development, Theory of change, Learning, Indicators to measure change, Adaptive management

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

No Contribution 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Principal Objective 2

Biodiversity

Significant Objective 1

Land Degradation

No Contribution 0

Submission Date

6/2/2022

Expected Implementation Start

1/1/2023

Expected Completion Date

12/31/2027

Duration

60In Months

Agency Fee($)

681,502.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
IW-1-2	Strengthen blue economy opportunities through catalysing sustainable fisheries management	GET	6,231,109.00	115,279,815.00
BD-1-1	Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes	GET	1,089,685.00	6,429,080.00
		Total Project Cost($)	**7,320,794.00**	**121,708,895.00**

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Improved natural resource governance in the Gulf of Thailand through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) contributing to the fisheries objectives of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme (SCS-SAP).

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 1: Regional transboundary fisheries governance and management strengthened.	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 1.1:** Fisheries resources and marine biodiversity ecosystem services are restored through strengthened regional transboundary governance and cooperation of GoT fisheries, building their resilience through improved habitat and fisheries management (SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective).	**Output 1.1.1:** Updated and regionally coherent fisheries policies across the GoT countries and strengthened national legal frameworks. **Output 1.1.2:** Established regional stakeholder working groups for improved trans-boundary fisheries management and addressing key regional issues. **Output 1.1.3:** Sub-regional implementation of existing regional action plans that address fisheries issues that are common to GoT countries. **Output 1.1.4:** Prioritization of regional, sub-regional and national transboundary related issues for fisheries management	GET	800,000.00	29,719,627.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
			and related biodiversity and environmental issues. **<u>Output 1.1.5:</u>** Agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the Gulf of Thailand.			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 1	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 1.2**: Development and implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management plans in the Gulf of Thailand enhances the resilience against climate change and manages fishing effort of fisheries stakeholders (women and men) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1).	**Output 1.2.1:** Stakeholder capacity to develop EAFM plans is strengthened, taking into consideration the different needs of women and men. **Output 1.2.2:** Strengthened national fisheries management plans are implemented through the EAF approach. *Note: National EAFM plans are called Fisheries Management plans locally, but because they are based on EAF, they can be considered as EAFM plans.* **Output 1.2.3:** EAFM plans developed, addressing priority risks and opportunities to human well-being, ecosystem integrity and	GET	2,284,259.00	61,785,797.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
			governance (including the components 2 and 3) including the implications of climate change on GoT countries? fisheries.			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 2: Alignment of incentive mechanisms.	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 2.1:** Establishment of a market and behaviour incentive mechanism which reduces ecosystem stress from fishing, enhances the uptake of good practices supporting fisheries management and supports the transition to climate-resilient fisheries (integrating gender considerations and the different needs of women and men along the fishery value chain) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 3).	**Output 2.1.1:** Identification of mechanisms and stakeholder platforms to support incentives for sustainable and well managed GoT fisheries value chains, including those linked to fishmeal for feeds. **Output 2.1.2:** Market and other innovative incentive mechanisms implemented to enhance sustainable fisheries value chains aimed to promote sustainable sourcing of fish and aquatic products, as well as to transition to low impact fishing practices.	GET	1,710,000.00	11,999,227.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia) established.	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 3.1:** Improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations, and fishery socioeconomic considerations in the management of fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand through deeper understanding of the ecological transboundary corridors existing in the Gulf of Thailand, leading to enhanced resilience of vulnerable aquatic species and those important for regional food security and sovereignty, (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1).	**Output 3.1.1:** Mapping of aquatic ecological corridors and fishery socioeconomic profiles in the GoT. **Output 3.1.2:** Development of recommendations / guidelines for the alignment of key biodiversity considerations into national, transboundary and/or regional fisheries management plans and action plans. **Output 3.1.3:** Creation of an interim GoT sub-regional technical discussion platform to address integration of fisheries and aquatic biodiversity and fishery socioeconomic considerations.	GET	500,000.00	1,745,563.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 3:	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 3.2:** Reduced threats to vulnerable species and critical/ important habitats for food security and sovereignty with strengthened national and transboundary protection and management of aquatic resources in East Coast Peninsular Malaysia.	**Output 3.2.1:** Identification of ecological corridors of critical and important habitat for aquatic resources in the East Coast of peninsular Malaysia with spatial maps and information available for EAF planning and identification of management and protection measures including PAs. **Output 3.2.2:** Identification and establishment of management measures in four conservation areas to ensure they provide the highest potential return for achieving biodiversity conservation (following the METT) and fisheries management targets.	GET	589,725.00	2,337,847.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
3	Investment	**Outcome 3.3:** Enhanced resilience of ecosystems and associated biodiversity in East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia.	**Output 3.3.1:** Participatory monitoring system established to monitor the effects of fishing and other pressures on marine biodiversity in conservation areas. **Output 3.3.2:** Map priority areas to improve resilience of ecosystem components including identification of existing threats and vulnerabilities (including climate change and other natural and human hazards). **Output 3.3.3:** Development of participatory ecosystem resilience plans within and beyond Marine Protected Areas, that address the needs of the ecological corridors.	GET	427,520.00	3,214,540.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing ($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation.	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 4.1:** Efficient knowledge management and targeted communication, improves the understanding among stakeholders of ecosystem and fishery linkages in the Gulf of Thailand (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 2).	**Output 4.1.1:** GoT project monitoring system established and implemented. (including mid-term and final evaluations). **Output 4.1.2:** GoT knowledge management strategy and communication strategy established and implemented. **Output 4.1.3:** Participation in the activities of the IW Learn Project (1% IW funding).	GET	430,550.00	2,220,183.00
4	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 4.2:** Enhanced stakeholder involvement and gender equity.	**Output 4.2.1:** GoTFish gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented.	GET	230,132.00	2,220,184.00
				Sub Total ($)	**6,972,186.00**	**115,242,968.00**

Project Management Cost (PMC)		
GET	348,608.00	6,465,927.00
Sub Total($)	**348,608.00**	**6,465,927.00**
Total Project Cost($)	**7,320,794.00**	**121,708,895.00**

Please provide justification

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery Cambodia	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,700,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Malaysia Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,578,450.00
Recipient Country Government	Malaysia Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	3,557,500.00
Recipient Country Government	Thailand Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (DOF)	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	13,573,550.00
Recipient Country Government	Directorate of Fisheries Viet Nam	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	75,850,000.00
Other	SEAFDEC	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000.00
Other	Sustainable Fisheries Partnership	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000.00
Other	University of Queensland	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,349,395.00
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	6,000,000.00
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,100,000.00
Other	IUCN	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000.00
			Total Co-Financing($)	**121,708,895.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Kindly note that for both FAO and Malaysia's investments mobilized the PMC co-financing is already entirely allocated for the management of the cofinancing portion of the project and there is no room for cost-sharing arrangements of the PMU's staff. FAO's investment mobilized is based on the following information: 1)FAO Fisheries Division HQ Regular Programme under the FAO Strategic Framework (BP2 PPA Blue Transformation programme) implementation and relevant projects (non GEF) over 5 years USD 500,000; 2) FAO HQ Operations and OCBD GEF unit (Blue Transformation implementation, relevant projects (non-GEF) over 5 years USD 200,000; 3) FAO Global project EAF-Nansen and related work on stock assessment in GOT countries (5 years) and relevant global actions USD 400,000; 4) FAO Global Project PSMA implementation and combatting IUU in GOT countries over 5 years USD 300,000; 5) FAO Global project on voluntary guidelines in support to small-scale fisheries (VGSSF) implementation in GOT countries over 5 years USD 200,000; 6) Global projects on reduction on marine litter and management of Abandoned Lost and otherwise Discarded Gear (ghost fishing and marine plastic) activities on reduced gear loss on GOT countries USD 100,000; 7) FAO Asia Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC), Secretariat and relevant regional fishery programme (stock assessment, fishery policy, regional cooperation) over 5 years USD 100,000; 8) FAO Complementary Support to the Cambodia Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Fisheries Sector: Capture component (CAPFISH Capture fishery) marine fishery management components over five years USD 4,000,000; and 9) FAO Country Programme Framework support to GOT countries CPF in countries (relevant food security, fisheries and blue transformation elements, non-GEF) countries USD 200,000. TOTAL FAO USD 6,000,000. Malaysia?s investment mobilized refers to the budget received by the Department from the Economic Planning Unit and budget allocated under the Marine Park and Marine Reserve Trust Fund to conduct approved projects and programmes.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
FAO	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	6,231,109	577,982	6,809,091.00
FAO	GET	Malaysia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,089,685	103,520	1,193,205.00
			Total Grant Resources($)		**7,320,794.00**	**681,502.00**	**8,002,296.00**

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount ($)

196,465

PPG Agency Fee ($)

2,804

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
FAO	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	155,556		**155,556.00**
FAO	GET	Malaysia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	40,909	2,804	**43,713.00**
				Total Project Costs($)	**196,465.00**	**2,804.00**	**199,269.00**

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)
14,900.00	240,604.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
14,900.00	14,900.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
Pulau Berhala.			400.00	400.00		
Pulau Lima.			14,500.00	14,500.00		

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	225,704.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Perhentian Group of Islands Marine Park.	19647, 10028, 198401.	National Park		17,890.00			77.00		
Rantau Abang Turtle Sanctuary/ Rantau Abang Fisheries Prohibited Area.	555705705, 555705714.	Habitat/ Species Management Area		51,176.00			49.00		

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Redang Group of Islands Marine Park.	198402, 9786, 19648, 198406, 198407, 555629251, 555629252, 555635838, 555705833, 198399.	National Park		41,247.00			75.00		
Tinggi Group of Islands Marine Park.	18307, 198413, 555635839, 555705823, 555705836, 555705837, 555705838, 555705839, 555705840.	National Park		61,180.00			75.00		

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Tioman Group of Islands Marine Park.	18307, 198413, 555635839, 555705823, 555705836, 555705837, 555705838, 555705839, 555705840.	National Park		54,211.00			77.00		

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

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

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

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

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

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

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

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

Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
4,000,000.00	4,240,604.00		

Indicator 5.1 Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
5	2		

Type/name of the third-party certification

Fisheries Improver Programs (FIPs): 1 Marin-Trust FIP (related to fishmeal): 1

Indicator 5.2 Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia

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

LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE

Indicator 5.3 Marine OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)

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	Gulf of Thailand	Gulf of Thailand		
Count	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Indicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagonostic 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)

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)
Gulf of Thailand	1	1		

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)
Gulf of Thailand	4	4		

Indicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IWLEARN throgh 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)
Gulf of Thailand	4	4		

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

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
547,393.00	315,000.00		

Fishery Details

Gulf of Thailand cumulative catch (multispecies). The target of this core indicator (315,000 tonnes) has been revised based on updated data published by the Sea Around Us Project (SAUP). The updated SAUP catch-status plots estimated that 41% of the stocks and 23% of the GoT catch was over-exploited in 2018= 420,000 tonnes. Rebuilding 75% of this amount = 315,000 tonnes. The total catch of the GoT is estimated to be around 1.83 million tonnes in 2019, based on the data gathered during the PPG phase.

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)
Female	60,000	60,000		
Male	60,000	60,000		
Total	120000	120000	0	0

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

- Core Indicator 2: The 240,604 ha target was estimated by Malaysia DoF based on scope area of the project ? it includes the estimate of the MPAs that will be under improved management effectiveness (225,704 ha), and estimated new protected areas (14,900 ha) ? the specific detail of the MPA area considered is provided under Annex F. The value has been slightly modified to account for the overlapping area between MPAs. The METT Scores have been re-organized under a cluster of MPAs that are under the same management authority. - Core Indicator 5: The area (4 million ha) was estimated at PIF stage, based on the area resulting on improved practices based on the project and under EAFM plans ? the consultation with the countries during the PPG phase indicates that this

area is realistic in terms of goals, based on a regional EAFM and also looking at the national EAFM that will be developed by the countries. Since the total area to be covered by the EAFM planning is of at least 12 million ha, it is expected that the project will achieve the target at least one third of the area ? therefore the estimated value is 4 million ha ? which will be selected based on high level priority from the perspective of biodiversity (though not areas covered under MPA, since they will be under Core Indicator 2) and cross border management. - Core Indicator 7: The project will be working in the one LME, the GoTFish LME, discussing and agreeing on options for new and improved cooperative management among the four GoT countries. - Core Indicator 8: The target of this core indicator (315,000 tonnes) has been revised based on updated data published by the Sea Around Us Project (SAUP). The updated SAUP catch-status plots estimated that 41% of the stocks and 23% of the GoT catch was over-exploited in 2018= 420,000 tonnes. Rebuilding 75% of this amount = 315,000 tonnes. The total catch of the GoT is estimated to be around 1.83 million tonnes in 2019, based on the data gathered during the PPG phase. - Core Indicator 11: The target beneficiaries, 120,000 fish-workers (50 % women) is an estimate based on the data provided by the countries during the PPG phase (Table 1 in the main ProDoc text below). The targets assumes that the project activities will be able to reach up to almost 15 % of the fisher-folk population directly employed by, or benefiting from, the fisheries sector.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

a) Global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)

1. **The Gulf of Thailand Large Marine Ecosystem (GoT LME)** covers an area of 391,665 km2 and is bounded by Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam . The GoT LME is well recognized for its important habitats and abundance of aquatic resources, being a highly productive marine ecosystem and a global centre of shallow water marine biological diversity, with abundance of coral reefs, seagrass and mangroves areas. However, only about 1% of the area is protected.

2. Geographically, the GoT LME can be separated into inner Gulf (influenced by river outflow, especially from the watersheds of the Chao Phraya, Bang Pakong, Tachin, and Mae Klong rivers), and the outer Gulf (influenced by seawater intrusion from the South China Sea). The productivity of the GoT LME is high (>300 gCm-2yr-1), due to high nutrient input through the rivers, agricultural fertilizers, household sewage, and shrimp farms. Nutrient content and dissolved oxygen levels change seasonally, with phytoplankton densities peaking during the rainy season. The increase of nutrient inputs during this period can lead to the occurrence of phytoplankton blooms (including Harmful Algal Blooms).

3. The GoT LME provides a wide variety of marine-based cultural and provisioning ecosystem services, such as food security, nutrition and livelihoods, critical to the GoT?s coastal populations as well as the export economies of its neighbouring countries. The number of people dependent on marine fisheries in the GoT is about 838,000 , comprising 214,000 people for Cambodia, 78,000 people for Malaysia, 321,000 for Thailand and 225,000 for Viet Nam. The total fishery catch of the GoT is over 1.8 million tonnes, with an estimated value of 2.2 billion USD/year , contributing to almost 1% of the national GDP in each country.

4. The catch composition is tropical multi-species, including fish, squid and cuttlefish, shrimp, shellfish and crab. Before the 1960s, the fishery was artisanal focused on small pelagics (mainly Indian mackerels, Rastrelliger spp. and anchovies, Stolephorus spp.) directed to local markets. The introduction of trawl gear in the 1960s led to the development of demersal trawl fisheries, which catch threadfin bream (Nemipterus spp.), big-eye (Priacanthus spp), lizardfish (Saurida spp), croaker (Sciaenidae.), shrimps (Penaeidae), scads (Carangidae), flatfish and squid. The main gears are otter board trawl, pair trawl, seines and gill net, together with a range of artisanal gears.

5. Because of the relatively small area of the GoT LME, most stocks in the GoT can probably be considered as transboundary as a result of larval advection, as well as juvenile and adult fish migrations i.e. most of the fish, shrimp, crabs and squid are transboundary. For some of the key species in the GoT fishery, genetic studies indicate that there are sub-stocks and ecological corridors. For example the

Indo-Pacific Mackerel, Rastrelliger brachysoma, has different, but related, genetic populations in the GoT. Other studies on spotted sardinella, Amblygaster sirm in Andaman Sea and South China Sea conclude that the stocks are separate genetic units and this species was not be found in the Strait of Malacca. Studies on highly migratory, longtail tuna showed no significant structure, which suggests it forms one stock throughout the South China Sea, Andaman Sea, and Sulu Sea.

Figure 1. The Gulf of Thailand Large Marine Ecosystem (LME)

Source: Gulf of Thailand LME follows the definition of the Gulf of Thailand in International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)1953. Limits of oceans and seas. 3rd edition. IHO Special Publication, 23. Monaco. 38 pp.

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6. Three of the four GoT countries, Viet Nam (place 8), Thailand (place 14), and Malaysia (place 16) rank among the top 25 for global marine capture fisheries production in 2018, contributing total of 8 % of the world?s marine capture fisheries.

7. **Cambodia?s** fisheries and sector provides full-time, part-time and seasonal employment for up to 6 million people, though mostly in the Tonle Sap and other inland fisheries. The livelihoods? contribution from marine capture fisheries is relatively small but significant. Cambodian marine fish landings from the Gulf of Thailand is approximately 120,000 tonnes per year, contributing about 20% of the total capture fisheries landings in the country An estimated 214,000 people are dependent on fisheries in the coastal area (about 20% of the coastal population). The fisheries sector provides over 81.5% of the animal protein in the national diet and forms a critical source of essential vitamins and micronutrients. The contribution of the fisheries sector (including processing and trade) to the GDP is around 6-8%. The value of total fisheries exports has been estimated to be as high as US$100 million per year.

8. **Malaysia?s** fisheries sector contributes 0.9% to the national GDP, with marine capture fisheries being the main contributor. The sector provides direct employment to 154,074 people, and fish production is estimated at 2 million tonnes per year, with a value of US$ 3.4 billion, particularly due to marine capture fisheries (1.5 tonnes, with a value of US$ 2.7 billion and provision of employment to 130,645 fishers), and inland capture fisheries (5,177 tonnes valued at US$ 0.02 million). The East Coast Peninsular Malaysia is the area facing the Gulf of Thailand with a total coastline length of 724 km. Located within the Coral Triangle Initiative , this area is recognized by scientists as having the greatest marine biodiversity. Coral reefs, together with related ecosystems (seagrass beds and mangroves), provide a vital link in the life cycle of numerous valuable marine species. They provide a food source for millions of people and provide jobs for many millions more in tourism. This area has a number of marine protected areas (MPAs) but in terms of size, total marine park area in East coast peninsular Malaysia is dwarfed by the large size of large marine protected areas in Sabah and Sarawak. There are currently 13 marine parks in the state of Terengganu, 9 in Pahang and 13 in the state of Johor. These marine parks stretch along the east coast coastline and are currently managed by the Department of Fisheries Malaysia. These areas only make up 0.4% of Malaysia?s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) but are estimated to generate a value of 2.09 billion USD a year through a myriad of ecosystem services they provide.

9. **Thailand** has a coastline of about 3,151 km, with 1,660 km located in the Gulf of Thailand. The marine fishing grounds in the Gulf of Thailand area is of 202,676 km2. Total fisheries production (capture fishery and aquaculture) in Thailand in 2020 was 2.62 million tonnes of which 79% (2.08 million tonnes) came from marine fisheries and 21% (0.54 million tonnes) came from freshwater fisheries. Total marine capture fisheries production was 1.52 million tonnes (2020), of which GoT represents 69% (1.04 million tonnes) and 31% from the Andaman Sea (0.48 million tonnes). The total value of marine capture fisheries was US$ 1,924 million in 2018, with the GoT accounting for 77.6% of this (US$ 1,560 million). This catch supports the livelihoods, incomes and employment for about 172,430 fishers (82% migrants) and about 515,000 people are employed in supporting industries, e.g. fish processing industries that have very high percentages of women employed (including processed,

canned and frozen fisheries product factories and SME?s, fish meal factories; as well as support industries such as fishing gear construction, ship building and repair.

10. **Viet Nam?s** fishery sector plays an important role in the national economy, contributing to food security, job creation, income generation and poverty reduction. There are four main fishing areas: South-western Viet Nam (part of Gulf of Thailand), South-eastern Viet Nam (EEZ boundaries with Cambodia and Thailand); the Gulf of Tonkin (EEZ boundary with China) and Central Viet Nam. The Government of Viet Nam regulates the fishing zones including coastal, inshore and offshore areas. In 2017, fishery production contributed 0.17% to the national GDP and 3.88% of the country's total exports, creating jobs for 4.5 million labourers. The value of fishery exports reached USD 3.2 billion in 2019, accounting for 22% of total export value of the agriculture-forestry-fishery sector. The marine fishery landings have been estimated to be as high as 4.36 million tonnes of which 683,000 tonnes of demersal fish; 2,650,000 tonnes of small pelagics; and 1.031 million tonnes of oceanographic pelagic fish. The estimated landings in 2019 was 3.58 million tonnes. In the South-western Viet Nam (part of GoT), a recent study observed about 270 species of coral reefs, 9 species of seagrass, over 400 species of phytoplankton, over 200 species of zooplankton, 134 species of demersal fish, 73 species of pelagic fish, 246 species of coral reef fish, 43 crustacean species (mainly shrimps and crabs) and 21 species of octopus, squids and cuttlefish.

11. **Summary fisheries data for the GoT** catch and employment and contribution to the economy is presented in Table 1 below

Table 1: Summary fisheries data based on GoT Workshop, 1-2 of August 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand (as provided by Department of Fisheries in the 4 GoT countries and updated during the PPG phase)

	Cambodia	Malaysia	Thailand	Viet Nam
Employment fisheries sector (number of people)	6,000,000	130,645	515,000	4,500,000
GoT (number of people)	214,000	78,000	321,000	225,000
Fish production marine capture fisheries (tonnes)	122,250	1,461,015	1,542,465	3,429030
GoT (tonnes)	122,250	241,330	1,040,060	427,045[1][1]
Total fisheries GDP contributions (%)	6	0.9	0.76	0.17
Marine Fisheries Value (1000 USD)	120,000	2,770,000	2,130,000	3,211,000[2][2]
GoT (1000 USD)	120,000	630,604	1,207,000	459,000

[1] Updated based on DOF data provided by Got countries during the PPG and corrected for the proportion of the EEZ % in the GoT LME (see footnote 6)

[2] Updates figures from SEASOFIA 2022 (https://repository.seafdec.org/handle/20.500.12066/6752) and for marine captured exports from WorldBank: https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/961181628512592411/pdf/A-Trade-Based-Analysis-of-the-Economic-Impact-of-Non-Compliance-with-Illegal-Unreported-and-Unregulated-Fishing-Regulations-The-Case-of-Viet Nam.pdf

Global environmental problems and root causes:

12. The key environmental problem that this project seeks to address is unsustainable fishing pressure in the GoT LME: The sustainability of use of the GoT fisheries resources and their associated livelihoods is challenged by weak governance leading to overexploitation of GoT fisheries, unregulated fishing vessels, widespread use of non-selective fishing gears, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities and the lack of coherent and practical measures to limit fishing effort. Some progress has been made over the past decade to manage fisheries resources in each of the GoT countries, but much remains to be done to strengthen the capacity for regional, transboundary management. SEAFDEC has made some initial regional assessments of the stock status and distribution of three indicative, economically important species in the Gulf of Thailand, namely: anchovy, Indo-Pacific mackerel, and blue swimming crab. This was done through compilation of regional and national research studies, marine research surveys, sea-surface and fishery population structure assessments, otolith microstructure techniques and other techniques.

13. Based on the above studies, it has been agreed that the stocks of anchovy and Indo-pacific mackerel and blue swimming crab in the GoT showed decreasing trends due to overfishing, and more attention is required to assess the effectiveness of existing management measures, both nationally and at regional levels.

14. Experts have agreed on the need for a model/approach that can determine the transboundary stocks of the GoT countries previous to developing joint management plans for the conservation of the resources. Neritic Tuna, species such as longtail tuna (Thunnus tonggol) and Kawakawa (Euthynnus affinis), are also common in the Gulf of Thailand, and have important economic value due to export revenues as well as for domestic consumption. Neritic tuna species are increasingly gaining economic importance (due partly to the decline of oceanic tuna) and are also the target of commercial and local fisheries. However, uncertainties remain about the distribution and migration patterns of neritic tuna stocks, and this lack of information can also lead to unsustainable management measures.

15. Countries lack capacity to manage multispecies fisheries and are only recently starting to address the data needs required for multispecies fisheries management and develop management approaches that are suitable for application in tropical multispecies fisheries. Trawl fisheries supply about 40% of the total production in Asia, capturing large range of species, including shrimps, squids, small pelagic and demersal species16. For many years trawl fisheries have operated without controls over number of vessels or gears used, leading to rapid decline on stock abundance , but without reaching collapse, perhaps due to the "predator release phenomenon".

16. Managing complex multispecies/multigear fisheries in the tropics requires a different approach to that used in single species fisheries in the temperate zones of more developed countries. Recent studies have shown that for multispecies/multigear fisheries, such as the GoT, the traditional dichotomy of considering ?target? and ?non-target? species cannot be realistically applied and is not useful in setting management goals. It has also been recognized that it is not possible, or in fact desirable, to have all the stocks in a multispecies/multigear fishery maintained at the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) level and that the sum of the individual stock MSY is significantly greater the aggregate multispecies MSY (MMSY). In fisheries with hundreds of species, attempting to conduct a traditional stock-by-stock assessment approach is not feasible; the number of assessments required is excessive and the approach does not consider the ecological interactions between species, creating considerable uncertainty in application of the assessment results in management.

17. Although maintaining integrity, structure and function of ecosystems is a key goal of the international norms and guidance for fisheries, there is little practical guidance on how best to do this in such fisheries. There are very few (and mostly poor) indicators of ecosystem integrity, structure and function.

18. GoTFish will be a leader in seeking practical solutions for the challenge of managing multispecies fisheries. The GoTFish project plans to incorporate the following sustainability guidelines that balances sustainable utilization of the fishery resources with biodiversity concerns, viz: fishery management units composed of a group of species are sustained at a level consistent with the MMSY; high-risk species within the group are sustained above a level where reproduction becomes seriously threatened (known as the point of recruitment impairment (PRI)); critical habitats (e.g. mangroves, seagrasses and coral reefs) are conserved and protected; and endangered, protected and threatened species are also conserved and protected.

19. The GoTFish project will introduce innovative assessment methods, such as multispecies MMSY assessments and ecosystem modelling in an attempt to inform fisheries EAFM planning, both at the national and sub-regional level in applying this approach.

20. In adopting the sustainability guidelines outlined above, simple indicators and targets such as ?over-exploited fisheries moved to more than sustainable levels (metric tonnes)? need to be interpreted in the context of multispecies/multigear fisheries. For example, the ?overexploited? stocks in the GoT are mainly high-risk vulnerable species (such as grouper, some sharks and rays, emperors etc) that are usually caught in relatively low numbers and quantity compared with the more highly productive less vulnerable species (pony fish, shrimp and crabs). Moving the high-risk species to more sustainable levels (e.g. levels above their PRIs) will not contribute significantly to the metric tonnages of the catch, but will have significant benefits in terms of strengthening ecosystem resilience and increasing biodiversity. Managing multispecies fisheries is largely unchartered ground and the new approaches used by the GoTFish project will also need more innovative approaches in using and applying indicators that are based on single species fisheries.

21. Continuing with ?business as usual? management measures can have very negative impacts for the Gulf of Thailand. The scenario foreseen for the neighbouring South China Sea over the next 30 years predicts a decline in fish and invertebrate groups of 9 to 59%, with groupers and sharks the worst

affected, and a total decline of 60% of the catch if fisheries are not well managed , which will have serious food security implications and will lead to significant economic loss.

22. The current stock situation for the GoT LME is unknown, a previous estimate (based on the information gathered as part of the GoTFish Workshop that took place in Bangkok, 1st and 2nd of August 2019). has now been updated during the PPG phase based on new updated stock-status-plots provided by the Sea Around Us Project (SAUP) for the GoT LME (Table 2).

Table 2: Stock values for the GoT LME (calculated during the PPG phase)

Total estimated catch of all stocks for the GoT LME	1,830,700 tonnes
Considering 41% of stocks and 23% of catch overexploited[1]	~ 420,000 tonnes
Estimated GEF Core Indicator 8 (modified) - About 75 % of overexploited fisheries return to sustainable levels	~ 315,000 tonnes

[1]https://www.seaaroundus.org/data/#/lme/35/stock-status

Root causes of unsustainable fishing

23. **A fundamental root cause** of the issues is the lack of appropriate regional fisheries governance and management, with limited law enforcement, both in coastal and offshore fisheries, due to insufficient budget, unregistered vessels, equipment, and limited cooperation among authorities/institutions to improve enforcement measures.

24. There are also conflicting goals among States that share transboundary stocks (e.g. resource management goals) and limited scope of cooperation in management of these resources. There is also lack of sufficient/adequate scientific data and reliable sharing mechanisms among countries; lack of reliable data and resources via efficient monitoring programs (including self-regulatory mechanisms) in some countries, and an overall lack of fish stock assessments, especially multi-species assessments. However, such lack of information/data should not be used as a pretext for inaction.

25. Another root cause is the rising price of fishmeal and limits on supply. Growing regional demand, driven by livestock sector and the expansion and intensification of aquaculture drive demand for low value and small sized fish not otherwise targeted for human consumption. Most of this raw fish material comes from "reduction" fisheries, which target small pelagic species that are not directly used for human consumption in many parts of the world, but in Asia, a notable portion comes from low value catch, also known as "trash fish?, obtained from unselective gears such as trawl. This demand remains high, despite attempts to reduce reliance on fishmeal in the feed-sector with suitable alternatives.

26. With regards to socioeconomic issues, another root cause is the low socio-economic status of artisanal fishers and communities, the lack of alternative livelihoods available to fishers, and the limited opportunities to develop new skills and techniques in line with ?sustainable blue jobs.? The persistence of biases and discrimination against women?s participation in decision-making--who represent a large proportion of the both the harvest and post-harvest sector--is an important additional social criterion to be addressed.

27. At the institutional level, countries lack experience in collaboratively managing transboundary resources, resulting in a lack of trust. There are also difficulties obtaining high-level backing from the line ministries that would be involved in regional fisheries management (such as Department of Fisheries, Foreign Affairs, Trade, etc.). The complexity of tropical multispecies trawl and purse seine fisheries in the region can complicate setting up management regimes that can balance the interests of diverse user groups while satisfying societal expectations for sustainable use and biodiversity protection.

28. **The second environmental problem** that this project seeks to address is - Degradation of marine ecosystems: In addition to overfishing, other issues impacting fisheries resources include the destruction of habitat that is critical for various life stages of fish and shellfish, such as mangroves, seagrass and coral reef areas. In Cambodia, coral reef habitats are of generally poor health and mangrove forests are estimated to have declined by approximately 50% from their 1970s values, heavily impacted by local charcoal production as well as coastal infrastructure development. In Viet Nam, hard corals declined notably from 34.6% in 1994 to 25.6% in 2006 and 21.1% in 2012. Reefs that are improving between 1994 and 2012 averaged 10.8% whereas reefs that are declining or remained unchanged were 55.4% and 30.0% respectively. In both countries the distribution and density of seagrass has declined rapidly due to coastal development, local over-fishing (including destructive fishing) and natural factors. While increased efforts in recent years to protect critical habitats for biodiversity conservation and management of key fish stocks - primarily through establishment of MPAs and related initiatives such as fisheries refugia - have yielded notable enabling policy, legal reform and stakeholder awareness outcomes, these have yet to translate into significant application of such area-based strategies for sustainable fisheries management (e.g. local fisheries replenishment).

29. Impacts on key habitat are also caused by the decline of marine water quality in some coastal areas, and the increase of plastic waste in the sea. Climate change will pose an even greater threat to marine tropical ecosystems, with ocean acidification, higher water temperature causing migration of fisheries species to cooler waters and the bleaching of coral reefs and an increase in extreme weather events, etc.

30. **In the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia**, although marine parks have been established since 1994, they have not been able to address dwindling fisheries stocks and degrading marine habitats. The data of the Department of Fisheries show demersal fisheries stock on the verge of collapsing, where the biomass of coastal demersal fisheries for East Coast of Peninsula Malaysia has dramatically dropped to approximately 3% from the initial biomass in 1970s. Although 50% exploited level was reached in early 1980?s (i.e. much later than the West Coast of Peninsular Malaysia), demersal fish resources in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia are presently recorded as the lowest in

the country. The lowest prawn density value (0.72 kg.km-2) was in the coastal waters of Terengganu, even though it has among the most extensive coverage of seagrass meadows (>106 ha), mangroves (2,500 ha) and corals (11 Marine Parks), as well as the highest number of concrete artificial reef sites installed in the country. In contrast, the highest prawn density (64.97 kg.km-2) was obtained in the vast extent of shallow coastal waters, < 20m off Pahang, which is supported by substantial mangrove forests (about 3,000 ha) together with nine (9) established Marine Parks (since 1994), providing a good habitat for prawns and other invertebrates. These studies reveal conflicting results, which require **further investigation on the connectivity between the protected areas and replenishment of different commercial fish stocks**. Fish stock surveys have also identified two areas with high densities of small pelagic fish that form major fishing grounds off Terengganu and Pahang.16 This is important for transboundary species management in the Gulf of Thailand because species like the Indo-Pacific Mackerel, Rastrelliger brachysoma appear to utilize this area as an ecological corridor and this connects across international maritime boundaries.

31. Besides overexploitation, other anthropogenic threats that affect marine and coastal resources include habitat degradation and destruction due to coastal development and land use change for agriculture and aquaculture; water/ecosystem quality reduction (pollution from land and marine), biodiversity loss (including genetic alterations), and disasters-related (e.g. typhoon, floods, Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) and disease outbreaks), which will all be exacerbated with the impacts of climate change.

Root Causes of marine ecosystem degradation

32. **The main root causes for marine habitat degradation** are unsustainable fishing practices (including overfishing and/or destructive fishing practices) in coral reef, mangrove and seagrass areas, as well as competition with other uses of the coast and the sea, such as tourism, aquaculture, gas and oil exploitation, etc. The lack of a strong legal system and accountability can lead to encroachment for coastal development (e.g. Cambodia). Some of the above issues can also be caused by pollution from household and factory waste.

33. Due to the high dependency on natural resources and the high sensitivity to environmental variables, climate change is expected to have disturbing impacts on the fisheries sector in Asia, particularly on those systems that are already stressed by overexploitation and pollution , and this is the case for the Gulf of Thailand. Drivers such as sea surface water temperature can lead to impacts on the abundance and species composition of fish stocks, while rising sea levels will impact the nursery grounds or reduce the recruitment of coastal fisheries. Other drivers include ocean acidification and consequent impacts on marine ecosystem services, changes in precipitation and water availability, and sea temperature warming which among other effects will lead to coral bleaching. These threats will require strengthening the resilience of coastal communities, the ecosystems that they depend on, and their livelihoods.

34. A further driver is the lack of an integrated planning and management approach for coastal areas ? one that applies tools such as Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) to allow for a better understanding of trade-offs, enhancing vital ecosystem

services and adaptation to climate change. While there has been some recent progress for improved coastal planning, these have not yet been significantly applied at the site level to protect key fish stocks, conserve vital ecosystems, or enhance social resilience. The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries provides a planning framework that can integrate with ICM planning and incorporate more effectively fishery management considerations.

35. All these anthropogenic and environmental drivers of ecosystem change are degrading the GoT LME, diminishing the ecosystem services upon which the GoT communities depend on and leading to environmental and socioeconomic losses. The Transboundary Water Assessment Programme carried out by the Global Environment Facility identified coastal communities bordering the GoT LME (and the larger South China Sea) as being among the most at risk from coastal and marine environmental degradation.

Barriers

36. To reverse the environmental degradation of the GoT LME and its loss of resilience and sustainability, the following key barriers must be addressed:

37. **Institutional, legal and administrative barriers**: A key barrier to effective transboundary fisheries management is the lack of an appropriate ?platform? or ?forum? for region-wide multi-stakeholder dialogue to serve as decision-making bodies for the development, implementation and monitoring of regional fisheries management planning, regional action plans and EAFM plans based on key issues. There are currently several regional organizations that have mandates, which allow them to coordinate activities within the GoT LME, covering fisheries (SouthEast Asian Fishery Development Center; Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission), environment (PEMSEA, COBSEA) and conservation (Dugong MoU , IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU). However, as noted by the Transboundary Water Assessment Programme (TWAP) , there is a limited integration between these organizations in arrangements addressing particular transboundary issues in the LMEs. This is partly due to differing sectoral focus, but also the broader geographic mandates and country membership of these organizations. None of them have a specific geographic focus or mandate limited to the GoT LME. The GoT countries have many benefits to gain by addressing transboundary issues through coordinated action at the regional level, establishing the institutional and legal foundations for transboundary coordination and planning across fisheries and environment-related issues. An agreement and the institutional arrangements for a mechanism that will facilitate such collaboration will require consultations and must take into account existing processes that can be built upon, as well as aligning with national governance processes. This would take into account the division of mandates among different governmental bodies in each country and their relationship to the various regional organizations. Agreement on the type of regional mechanism will be addressed within ***Project Outcome 1.1.***

38. **Socio-economic and capacity barriers:** Important social drivers are population and economic growth and the increased population density and in-migration to coastal areas. This is also driving rapid coastal development with ports, urban areas, tourism, roads, etc. at the same time, coastal fishing communities are seeing increasing pressure on fishery resources and declining incomes for their

livelihoods. The high prevalence of poverty and lack of livelihood options for many poor fishing coastal communities, including the persistent gender inequalities, limits opportunities to improve living standards and fishery dependent livelihoods. This high reliance on natural resources makes fisheries communities highly vulnerable due to a limited capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events. In commercially significant small-scale fisheries the sheer number of fishers, combined with their economic vulnerability, makes it difficult to monitor and enforce regulatory changes, and fishers need to cooperate for these improvements to take hold. In these situations, successfully addressing the fishery?s ecological problems requires confronting these social and economic challenges, through an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) that takes into consideration the human, ecological and governance dimension of fisheries, focusing on enhancing resilience and the capacity to implement measures and changes by different actors (community, private sector, government, etc.) at different levels (local, national, regional, global). The approach used will also need to account for other pressures on fisheries resources that are derived from the increased use of the coasts and the marine areas, such as tourism and aquaculture expansion, and gas and oil exploitation. This also provides a means for the fishery sector to advocate and integrate their concerns and considerations into broader planning frameworks including ICM. All these barriers will be addressed as part of ***Project Outcome 1.2.***

39. **Market and traceability barriers:** There is a lack of collaboration among key players or cross border trade regulation, and an insufficient capacity to enhance marketing and traceability systems. The increase of commercialization of seafood products due to higher demand domestically and abroad, has led to unsustainable fishing pressures without suitable incentives to promote sustainable fisheries at different levels. These range from the fishery, to the consumer. There is also a lack of awareness or demand for sustainably certified fish products for the domestic consumers. The typical approach used to address illegal fishing using sanctions so far has been the ?deterrence model?, through intensive monitoring and enforcement programs ? this approach has been found often not enough for those fisheries lacking robust and consistent monitoring and enforcement measures, particularly in small-scale fisheries. Much work remains to be done to understand what drives illegal fishing practices by fishers from a behavioural science perspective, and the role that social and community-based incentives can play to shift that behaviour towards a sustainable use of the fisheries resources. This will be addressed as part of ***Project Outcome 2.1.***

40. **Integrated MPA and ecosystem connectivity barriers:** Despite progress in legal establishment and policy and management underpinnings, MPAs in the GoT countries region have underachieved in delivering a full range of biological and socio-economic outcomes, including fisheries-related benefits. Sites are managed individually, with little thought to the connectivity among them. In Malaysia for example, areas of coral reef outside existing Marine Parks have no protection and in many cases the ecosystems that are ecologically linked to coral reefs (seagrass beds, mangroves) are not in marine parks, often leaving them open for exploitation and creating the potential for disruption of important life cycle connections between these ecosystems. This has resulted in insufficient protection of important, vulnerable areas and threatened migratory species such as dugongs, sea turtles, whales and whale sharks and other species. Management of fisheries is not well integrated with management of the important ecosystems on which fisheries depend, i.e., reefs, seagrass beds and mangroves. This is a problem because recent evidence suggests that healthy

mangroves can help mitigate losses of reef fisheries productivity if the habitat on nearby coral reefs degrades ; thus, ecosystem health needs to be managed across connected corridors. Migratory routes, larval dispersal and foraging areas are not considered in the design of a connected network of MPAs. Moreover, within individual MPAs, fisheries-related benefits (e.g. improving local recruitment of commercially important fish stocks) are not significantly applied in MPA design and zoning plans. There is also a lack of alignment and reciprocity of fisheries-related objectives of MPAs with national, transboundary and/or regional fisheries management plans. Current management also does not consider cross-jurisdictional issues (e.g. marine transport) and emerging environmental issues (e.g. marine debris and development). These barriers will be addressed as part of ***Project Component 3.***

b) Baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

41. Countries in the South China Sea and the GoT recognize that urgent action is needed to halt the degradation of the marine environment. To improve understanding of the issues, problems and root causes of marine degradation, the UN Environment and GEF provided support for the preparation of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA). This TDA facilitated discussions that led to agreement by the seven countries on the Strategic Action Programme of the South China Sea (SCS-SAP), which was approved in 2008. The SCS-SAP is built around eight areas identified in consultation with the South China Sea countries:

1. Strategic, priority actions for mangroves in the South China Sea
2. Strategic, priority actions for coral reefs in the South China Sea
3. Strategic, priority actions for seagrass in the South China Sea
4. Strategic priority actions for coastal wetlands bordering the South China Sea
5. Managing fish habitat and fish stocks in the South China Sea
6. Regional actions to support management of land-based pollution loadings in the South China Sea marine basin
7. Regional economic values and cost/benefit analysis of SCS-SAP actions
8. Regional co-operation

SCS-SAP Priority 8: Regional Cooperation

42. **The Asia Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)** is one of the longest standing regional fishery bodies and has the mandate to support and encourage sustainable fisheries management within the Asia-Pacific region. The Secretariat of the Commission is provided and supported by the FAO Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand. All GoT countries are APFIC member countries. APFIC plays a role as a policy forum (organizing regular sessions, meetings and workshops) aimed to enhance the sustainability of the fisheries sector in the Asia-Pacific. Through linkages with FAO, APFIC is facilitating support to countries to combat Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported (IUU) Fishing and the accession to, or implementation of, the FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA). Capacity to undertake planning using Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management has also been developed through regional partner organizations (e.g. SEAFDEC), GoT countries and previous and ongoing GEF projects (BOBLME, BOBLME II, REBYC II, ISLME). A future focus on stock assessment training

will also strengthen regional capacity to develop fishery management plans. These initiatives will serve as platforms to catalyze and share knowledge generated from GoTFish across LME projects.

43. **The Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)** oversees the implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas Region (the East Asian Seas Action Plan), which was adopted in April 1981 and revised in 1994. UN Environment Program (UNEP) established the Regional Coordinating Unit for the East Asian Seas Action Plan in 1993, functioning as a Secretariat for COBSEA. COBSEA is one of 18 Regional Seas programmes for the sustainable management and use of the marine and coastal environment. Individual Regional Seas programmes reflect a similar approach, tailored to address regional context and environmental challenges while supporting delivery of global environmental and development goals. The East Asian Seas Action Plan brings together nine countries (Cambodia, People?s Republic of China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Viet Nam) in the development and protection of the marine environment and coastal areas of the region, for the health and wellbeing of present and future generations. Specifically, efforts are focused on addressing land-based marine pollution; strengthening marine and coastal planning and management; and sharing marine environmental management experiences and policies towards strengthened regional governance. GoTFish will be implemented in coordination with the other two GEF/UNEP/COBSEA projects (SCS-SAP Implementation Project and the Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand Project (hereafter referred to as the Fisheries Refugia Project), described in ?Coordination,? Section 6 below), to ensure national lessons learned are captured and applied at the regional level for improved transboundary fisheries management.

44. **Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)** is the regional coordinating mechanism for the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA), a shared marine strategy among 14 countries in the region. PEMSEA works with national and local governments, companies, research and science institutions, communities, international agencies, regional programs, investors and donors towards implementation of the SDS-SEA. Crucial networks such as learning centers also contribute their expertise and coastal management skills to the shared goals of the SDS-SEA. The aim of PEMSEA is to proactively build effective intergovernmental and inter-sectoral partnerships and expand the capacities of countries and other stakeholders with innovative, cross-cutting policies, tools and services for integrated coastal and ocean management. PEMSEA applies integrated coastal management (ICM) as the primary approach for generating and sustaining healthy oceans, people and economies. GoTFish will work with PEMSEA to promote tools and approaches of integrated coastal management, particularly with regards to the use of marine (and coastal) spatial planning and the integration of transboundary fisheries considerations.

45. **USAID Oceans** is an activity of USAID?s Regional Development Mission for Asia and is implemented by TetraTech ARD, in partnership with SEAFDEC, and other partners. The recent USAID Oceans Partnership Project designed and implemented an electronic catch documentation and traceability system to ensure that traceability solutions align with national requirements and industry bottom lines in both Thailand and Malaysia. The project also promoted the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in ASEAN and Coral Triangle initiative (CTI) countries, including

Viet Nam, Cambodia, Thailand and developed sustainable fisheries management plans that advance marine biodiversity conservation and fisheries management capacity and in participating counties, especially the Philippines. By incorporating human welfare and gender equity considerations throughout all program strategies and activities it created more gender equitable supply chains that empower women and men. It was also instrumental in developing and leveraging Public-Private Partnerships at global, regional, and local levels to support cross-cutting program objectives. The experiences and lessons learned promoting the EAF in the region are very valuable for GoTFish.

SCS-SAP Priority 5: Managing fish habitats and fish stocks

46. **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** has a significant portfolio of relevant normative work with the GoT countries through its Strategic Plan 2022-31 and associated priority programme areas of work (particularly Blue Transformation in fisheries, Biodiversity and ecosystem services for food and agriculture; Small-scale producers? equitable access to resources; Gender equality and rural women?s empowerment and Climate change mitigating and adapted agri-food systems). FAO?s Committee on Fisheries (COFI), of which all GoTFish participating countries are members, implements a broad range of binding and voluntary instruments such as the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and International Plans of Action (IPOAs). In addition, FAO also has a range of ongoing, just completed and pipeline projects which are relevant to fisheries in the GoT LME, including:

- a) Support to countries to address Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (TCP/RAS/3621). Currently fourteen countries in the South and South East Asia region, including Cambodia, Thailand and Viet Nam, have requested support from FAO for assistance in addressing IUU fishing. Through this project, countries were supported in the identification of priority actions to strengthen regional governance and coordination mechanisms to address IUU fishing. The project worked with existing regional bodies and countries to review the current status of existing regional plans and governance and identify gaps and priority actions. GoTFish will support the development of the regional partnership programme to mobilize resources at the regional level and address priority issues identified during the consultations.
- b) The FAO has funded the project ?Practical approaches to assessment and scientific management advice for multi-species, multi-gear fisheries? which aims to develop a toolbox for national governments seeking to manage multispecies fisheries. The toolbox is being developed with information and collaboration of country government participation from Thailand and Viet Nam. It utilizes existing tools such as aggregate yield models, Ecosim with Ecopath (EwE) and new ecosystem modelling tools (developed by FAO) coupled with management approaches suited for multispecies fisheries such as indicator species harvest strategy approach.
- c) A full capacity building training course for Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management, developed in partnership with US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and IMA International aims to build capacity for fisheries planning across regional, national and local scales. This has been rolled out through SEAFDEC with all GoT countries.
- d) FAO activities are complemented by several global projects and programmes which will be supporting the GoTFish components, e.g. the FAO capacity development programme to support the implementation of the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing PSMA) and complementary instruments, the Global

Umbrella Programme for the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, among other projects to share knowledge with, such as the GEF-funded Coastal Fisheries Initiative, and the EAF Nansen project.

GoTFish will facilitate the integration of these tools into fisheries planning and management measures among the GoT countries. All these projects will provide guidance to GoTFish on how to address IUU fishing and other transboundary fisheries management issues. In return, GoTFish will provide lessons learned based on experience of putting those instruments into practice.

47. **The Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia (NACA)** is an intergovernmental organization that promotes rural development through sustainable aquaculture. NACA seeks to improve rural income, increase food production and foreign exchange earnings and to diversify farm production. All the 4 GoT countries are members of NACA that conducts development assistance projects throughout the region in partnership with governments, donor foundations, development agencies, universities and a range of non-government organizations and farmers. NACA supports institutional strengthening, technical exchange and the development of policies for sustainable aquaculture and aquatic resource management. Major efforts have been devoted to nurturing an enabling institutional environment, information sharing and capacity building, technological extension among member governments, development and dissemination of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and inclusion and empowerment of small-scale farmers. NACA's partners include organizations such as FAO, UNDP, ADB, World Bank, SEAFDEC, ASEAN, a wide range of bilateral cooperation partners, the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), MacArthur Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. NACA?s current work plan has a focus on livelihoods and food security for rural communities.

NACA will be fundamental at sharing the knowledge generated by GoTFish related to utilization of fishmeal in aquaculture feeds).

48. **Secretariat of the RPOA-IUU.** The Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region (RPOA-IUU) was agreed on 4 May 2007 in Bali, Indonesia by 11 Participating Countries (Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapura, Thailand, Timor Leste, Viet Nam). The aim of the RPOA is to sustain marine environment and Fisheries resources and to optimize the benefits of adopting responsible fishing practices.The recent focus on controlling IUU fishing in the GoT countries has resulted in significant investments in national vessel monitoring and enforcement capabilities, with early work suggesting that this is having real progress in terms of restoration of the integrity of ecosystem structure and function. All this progress has been guided by agreements such as Regional and National Plans of Action, guidance documents such as the Asia Pacific Fisheries Commission Guidelines for Tropical Trawl Fisheries, the Regionalized Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and commitments under the umbrella of ASEAN and SEAFDEC.

49. **The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)** is an inter-governmental organization that has the mandate to develop and manage the potential of fisheries in the

Southeast Asia region (also considered the fisheries technical arm of ASEAN). SEAFDEC has 11 Member Countries, which comprise 10 ASEAN Member States and Japan, and include the 4 GoT countries. SEAFDEC?s work is coordinated by the Secretariat, which channels guidance from Member Countries to address fisheries issues in the region and 4 Technical Departments.

- a) SEAFDEC regionalized Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, which translated the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to focuses more attention on the cultural needs of the region, the tropical multispecies nature of fisheries and the need for management that reflects regional needs. This included regional requirements for full utilization of catches as a mechanism for resolving discards and bycatch whilst supplying marine protein to coastal communities and creating jobs, as well as controlling fishing effort to maintain catches at a level commensurate with the fish productivity.
- b) SEAFDEC is implementing regional initiatives on combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in Southeast Asia and optimizing energy use in fisheries in the Southeast Asian region through fishing vessels energy audits. The project on the Promotion of Sustainable Fisheries and IUU Fishing-related Countermeasures in Southeast Asia, which is being implemented by SEAFDEC with funding support from the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF), includes the Promotion of Regional Database for Fishing Vessels Records, and Port State Measures implementation in Southeast Asia. An EAFM training program is also being sustained through SEAFDEC in collaboration with other partners. GoTFish will build on the process initiated by relevant SEAFDEC JTF projects to address the issue to combat IUU fishing.
- c) SEAFDEC?s Gulf of Thailand sub-regional platform, which was facilitated by the SEAFDEC-Sweden project, initiated the first attempts to regional fisheries collaboration in key species in the Gulf of Thailand, The Project helped raise awareness and facilitated the sharing of information related to regional and international conventions, agreements and guidelines through the ?Gulf of Thailand Meeting? platform. These meetings provided opportunities for the countries to identify common priority areas and report on the progress of sub-regional cooperation. The major issues raised included the management of transboundary species (anchovy, Indo-Pacific mackerel, blue swimming crab and neritic tuna), IUU and destructive fishing and the ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU). Measures were agreed that enable the implementation, jointly or by each country.
- d) As a result of the project, SEAFDEC also facilitated the formation of a sub-regional GoT monitoring, control and surveillance network (ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU) that aimed to strengthen the enforcement of MCS practices and combating illegal (IUU) fishing through a coordination of existing national mechanisms. The development of a sub-regional MCS network was planned as a major force to keep track of the implementation of fisheries management plans that could positively reduce long term damages on fish stocks and the marine ecosystems. Bilateral dialogues were also arranged for countries bordering the GoT (i.e. Malaysia-Thailand and Cambodia-Viet Nam). Other bilateral dialogues were facilitated on the request of the countries (Cambodia-Thailand and Thailand-Viet Nam). During these bilateral events, countries shared knowledge and experiences on the current fisheries status and existing legal frameworks and designed action plans on fisheries and habitat management, particularly for critical habitats, transboundary stocks and the economically important species (blue swimming crab, Indo-Pacific mackerel and neritic tunas), and protected areas around transboundary waters. GoTFish will build on the process initiated by SEAFDEC-Sweden project.

50. **Gulf of Thailand countries.** There has been considerable progress in recent years in the Gulf of Thailand countries to address fisheries issues:

- **a) Cambodia** is currently revising the Law on Fisheries, passed by the Royal Government and signed by HM the King in 2006, and this project will aim to inform and strengthen the key fishery resource management the new Law aims to support. In addition, the Fisheries Administration of Cambodia, with the support of other partners (including FAO and UNIDO) is implementing the EU-funded ?Cambodia Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Fisheries Sector? (CAPFISH) that has the overall objective to achieve a more sustainable, climate-resilient and inclusive development of Cambodia freshwater and marine fisheries. It will contribute to achieving the objectives of the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), the Strategic Planning Framework of Fisheries (SPF 2015-2024), and the fisheries programme of the 5-year Agriculture Sector Development Plan (ASDP), as well as improvement in areas relevant to the fight against IUU fishing. The CAPFISH program is highly relevant to GoTFish objectives as it will work on improving conservation, management and compliance with fisheries laws and regulations in the marine and inland fisheries domain; developing post-harvest fisheries and improving the resilience of the fishing communities of the coastal area and around the Tonle Sap. With regards to international commitments, Cambodia has endorsed a NPOA to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate IUU Fishing, and NPCI-National Plan of Control and Inspection, which are implemented to ensure proper management of fisheries resources. In combating IUU fishing, Cambodia actively cooperates at regional and international levels through information sharing, especially under the IUU Regional Plan of Action and new mechanism supported by EU. Cambodia will also engage through the proposed ASEAN-EU IUU network and feasibility study on ASEAN General Fisheries Policy in ASEAN. Moreover, Cambodia also develops capacity pertaining to the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) and participates in training sessions provided by other international organizations to make sure it is prepared to properly implement PSMA after accession to the agreement and also accessing the United Nations fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA).

  Cambodia has recently achieved some qualified progress in advancing marine habitat and species protection. The Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries 2015-2024 sets a national target of 142,135 hectares of fisheries conservation area under effective management by 2020 (compared to a 2014 baseline of 26,674 hectares). In 2016 the Koh Rong Archipelago Marine Fisheries Management Area (MFMA) was established, covering 40,500 ha off the coast of Sihanoukville. More recently, in 2018, the Cambodian government announced the establishment of the Koh Kong National Marine Park (NMP) ? the country?s first NMP ? with a total area of 52,498 ha under formal protection. Moreover, the Fisheries Administration (FiA) of MAFF plans to establish a MFMA covering 8,150 ha in Kampot Province in 2019-2020. The enhanced political support for MPA establishment provides an ideal foundation for advancing an ecosystem-based approach to sustainable fisheries production. There is also a clear opportunity to enhance cooperation and coordination between the two main state agencies ? MoE and MAFF ? as well as expand upon previous outcomes for transboundary cooperation for establishing MPAs that effectively conserve habitats and support replenishment of local fisheries resources.

GoTFish will build upon these project?s fisheries and resilience targets, aiming to link with adaptation knowledge for fisheries, promoting fisheries management experiences with other Gulf of Thailand countries, and implementing effective, co-managed MPAs that contribute to the protection of critical marine habitats and key fish stocks.

Of direct relevance to GoTFish, Cambodia is developing a marine fisheries management plan based on the ecosystem approach to fisheries that should be ready to implement in 2023. This will form a key commitment from Cambodia to the GoTFish project.

•**b) Malaysia** has been implementing various programmes and activities aimed at improving fisheries management as well as reducing ecosystem impacts to ensure sustainability. One of the important initiatives includes implementation of the EAFM in five Malaysian states, namely Sabah, Sarawak, Perak, Selangor and Kedah. Besides establishing pilot sites, Malaysia also continues to provide training and awareness on EAFM to stakeholders. A pilot testing of fisheries refugia has occurred on the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak under the UNEP/GEF South China Sea Project. Promising early results in terms of strengthening partnerships between environment and the fisheries sector have fostered a desire to scale up such activities. In particular, it is desirable to expand fisheries refugia to take account of larval dispersal patterns and maximise the ability of refugia to sustain key fishing grounds. Techniques to accomplish are now available from the World Bank/GEF Capturing Coral Reef Ecosystem Services project and will be invoked here under Component 3. Importantly, fisheries refugia are consistent with the Department of Fisheries? move to use species area-specific Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) that include seven fisheries management areas. Malaysia has introduced a no-take conservation zone of 1 nautical mile from the shore (8,640 km2) in support of Target 5 of SDG14 to conserve at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas.
Protected and well-managed areas in Malaysia have healthier and viable marine resources than other marine spaces. Live coral cover within marine parks are higher than national average and areas without protection. Local communities living in marine parks have also reduced dependency on direct extraction of marine resources (fishing) as their main source of income. Most local communities in marine parks are now directly or indirectly involved in the ecotourism sector as service providers, but there are weaknesses in the approach that need to be addressed. Such areas need to be increased to sustain Malaysia?s marine resources, particularly those in the GoT LME.

Malaysia already adopts a number of best-practice fisheries regulations that include the licensing and monitoring of all fishing vessels (Malaysian Fishing Vessel Record) and gears; ban on destructive gears; use of Turtle Excluding Devices (TED); use of closed seasons on certain areas/ species; mandatory Automatic Identification System (AIS) and Mobile Tracking Unit (MTU) to prevent Malaysian vessels fishing illegally outside national waters. Malaysia has formulated several National Plans of Action (NPOAs) including fishing capacity, the conservation and management of sharks, dugong, turtles, sea cucumber, invasive alien species, and the prevention, deterrence and elimination of IUU Fishing. Malaysia actively cooperates at regional and international levels through information sharing especially the Regional Fishing Vessel Record (RFVR). The Department of Fisheries Malaysia has on-going efforts to identify the migratory routes, spawning, breeding and feeding areas especially for the endangered and heavily exploited

species including the anadromous, catadromous, amphidromous, potamodromous, and oceanic species as part of vulnerable ecosystems.

Malaysia?s national level fisheries activities will contribute to GoTFish transboundary objectives, strengthening action at the national and regional levels with work on Components 1 and 2. GoTFish Component 3, will be using Malaysia GEF-Biodiversity (BD) funds to enhance the governance and management of marine protected areas and ensure sustainability of aquatic living resources, with benefits overflowing and to be shared with the greater GoT and South China Sea LMEs.

Malaysia is also developing a fisheries management plan based on the ecosystem approach to fisheries to be ready Q2 2023, which will include the east coast peninsular Malaysia. This plan will be an integral part of the GotFish project.

•**c) Thailand** adopted a new policy for marine fisheries management, the Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015) and amendment in B.E. 2560 (2017) concerning sustainable marine fisheries, with its key principles and objectives relating to good governance, combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, improving monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) as well as traceability, and improving labour conditions in fisheries. To achieve these, the Government has implemented the Marine Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) from 2015 to 2019, which outlines the key principles (including Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management) and policy priorities designed to tackle overfishing and overcapacity of the Thai fishing fleet, approved the National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (NPOA-IUU), and National Plan on Control and Inspection (NPCI) and established the Command Center for Combating Illegal Fishing (CCCIF) in May 2015.
Thailand has already developed the FMP 2015-20 and a revised plan for 2020-2022. It is currently developing a new FMP, based on the ecosystem approach to fisheries for 2023-2027. All these EAFM plans include separate goals and objectives for Thailand waters in the GoT LME area.

GoTFish will build upon these efforts to provide a regional approach to transboundary issues on specific transboundary fisheries and share Thailand?s recent achievements and lessons learned (e.g. with the lifting of the yellow card by EU) among the other GoT countries.

The Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF) is a non-governmental organization working to secure sustainable futures for resource-dependent communities and vulnerable natural ecosystems across Thailand. SDF promotes and supports the participation of resource-dependent communities in natural resource management, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation. Key themes for the organization include community rights, women's empowerment, inclusive development, and good governance. At the grassroots level, SDF works to implement co-management approaches and ecosystem-based approaches, building local capacity, and improving information management. At the national level, the organization promotes constructive policy engagement through a combination of targeted research, knowledge management, coordination, and networking. SDF has a strong track record in defending community rights and promoting environmental justice, winning the National Human Rights Commission's Outstanding Achievement Award: Civil Society Organization Category in 2017. The organization also has a

prominent women's empowerment program and has made especially notable contributions towards networking women small-scale fishers and promoting gender-sensitive approaches to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

GoTFish will work with SDF to continue to promote these approaches in Thailand and the other GoT countries, sharing experiences and lessons learned, particularly with regards to women?s empowerment.

•**d) Viet Nam?s** commitment to the development of sustainable fisheries is indicated in the Master Plan on Fisheries Development of Viet Nam to 2020 and vision to 2030, recognizing the important role fisheries play in the country?s economy as it becomes a global leading seafood exporter. The Five-Year socioeconomic Development Plan (2016-2020), ocean?s strategy calls for strengthening research and international cooperation for the effective and sustainable exploitation of marine resources. Aquaculture development will continue to be a key area of focus for the country (of the 7 million tonnes of fisheries output expected in the Master Plan on Fisheries Development, 65% is expected to come from aquaculture), which will see an increase in the demand for fish feeds for the sector.
In 2018, new legal and regulatory measures aimed at deterring and reducing IUU fishing were enacted. These include revisions to the Fisheries Law and issuance of new legal circulars that strengthen regulations on fishing activities, establish stronger disincentives and trigger new mandatory responsibilities for local fishing authorities.

Further illustrating Viet Nam?s commitment to sustainable development, a network of MPAs has been established under a national MPA strategy. The 2010 MPA Master Plan targets 0.24% MPA coverage of Viet Nam?s sea surface area with 30% of each MPA under strict protection. Currently 10 MPAs are functioning under a management plan. To date, the total area of designated MPAs only accounts for 0.15% of the Viet Nam?s sea surface, with less than 10% of these areas under strict protection. Revisions to the Fisheries Law includes several new Articles related to fisheries co-management. These Articles are important as their associated legal guidance will pave the way for implementation of more effectively governed MPAs (i.e. incorporating community fishing rights and local monitoring). In addition, the Government of Viet Nam has recently demonstrated strong interest and support to enhance the strategic application of multi-zoned MPAs for fisheries-related objectives, including for the recruitment and replenishment of local fish stocks and to support sustainable local fisheries production.

Viet Nam developed a trawl management plan for the Province of Kien Giang (in the GoT LME) in 2016 that could form the basis for a revised fisheries management plan, based more on the ecosystem approach to fisheries, during the GoTFish project.

The Centre for Marine life Conservation and Community Development (MCD) is a Vietnamese National NGO, established in 2003 with the license granted by the Ministry of Science and Technology of Viet Nam (License A-088). MCD recognizes the interdependency of coastal communities and marine ecosystems. MCD has worked since its establishment in 2003 building partnerships with coastal provinces and communities for effective governance of marine ecosystems and coastal resilience. They have experience managing the first locally managed

marine reserve in Viet Nam and facilitating the enhancement of Marine Protected Areas Network throughout the country. They work with small-scale fisheries, building capacity, especially of women, enhancing their position along the value chain. They also have experience promoting the FAO Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines to grassroots organizations, and introducing the EAFM concept to key managers and practitioners.

GoTFish will build on the work done by MCD, particularly focusing in Southwest Viet Nam (part of the GoT LME area).

51. Despite the national progress in all GoT countries, much remains to be done, particularly in finding a pragmatic approach to lasting sustainability of these highly diverse multispecies fisheries, something classic fisheries management approaches have not serviced well (see Paragraph 12). Despite the existence of fisheries related data (particularly in Thailand and Malaysia), there are still gaps transforming these data into effective decision-making to tackle the complexity of management of multispecies and transboundary fisheries. GoTFish will be able to provide guidance among the linkages between fisheries and aquaculture, especially in relation to feeds and the use of low-value fish from capture fisheries. The project will also support on-the-ground outcomes that further mainstream fisheries co-management as well as integrated MPA and fisheries planning and management, enhancing the governance and management of MPAs, with benefits overflowing and to be shared with the greater GoT and South China Sea LMEs.

52. **Regional Plans of Actions**. GoTFish will build on and strengthen the following regional plans of action relating to transboundary fisheries:

- **a) RPOA-Neritic Tuna**: While oceanic tunas management recommendations are covered by Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (e.g. the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), neritic tunas rely have their own Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region (RPOA-Neritic Tunas), which was endorsed during the 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting in April 2015, and subsequently endorsed by the 17th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries in June 2015. The RPOA-Neritic Tuna has the aim of strengthening regional cooperation to promote conservation and management for sustainable neritic tuna fisheries in Southeast Asian Waters. One of the main objectives of the RPOA-Neritic Tuna is to develop the action plans for sustainable management of Neritic Tuna in sub-regional waters in Southeast Asian region, including Sulu-Sulawesi Seas, Gulf of Thailand, South China Sea, and Andaman Sea.
- **b) RPOA-Capacity**: The ASEAN Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity was developed through dialogue with ASEAN SEAFDEC Member Countries and it is aimed to serve as a basis in formulating relevant policies and provide an enabling environment for clear direction and understanding of the need to effectively manage fishing capacity at national levels, and it is also intended to respond to the need for ASEAN member countries to strengthen regional cooperation in managing fishing capacity in sub-regional areas such as the Gulf of Thailand. The specific objectives of the RPOA-Capacity are to a) enhance the effective, efficient, equitable and transparent management of fishing capacity for long-term sustainability; b) ensure that fishery managers should endeavour to initially limit fishing capacity at the present level and progressively reduce the fishing effort applied to affected fisheries; c) avoid growth in fishing

capacity that undermines the long-term sustainability objectives; and d) enhance sub-regional cooperation in managing fishing capacity, specifically with regards to trans boundary species or shared species. GOTFish will provide support for sharing information about the transboundary species and capacity reduction needs in the GoT.

- **c) RPOA-IUU:** The Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in the Region was endorsed in 2007 and has the objectives of enhancing and strengthening the overall level of fisheries management in the region, in order to sustain fisheries resources and the marine environment, also to optimize the benefit of adopting responsible fishing practices. The actions cover conservation of fisheries resources and their environment, managing fishing capacity, and combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in sub-regional areas.
- **d) RAP-Indo-Pacific Mackerel**: Indo-Pacific mackerel or short mackerel (Rastrelliger brachysoma) is a commercially important pelagic fish found throughout the Southeast Asian region. Indo-Pacific mackerel production has declined in the GoT LME, prompting a study gain the information and understand the stock status of these resources and make a proper scientific-based management decision for its sustainable use. Under the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project during 2013-2019, capacity of the GoT countries on data collection has been enhanced and DNA study of Indo-Pacific mackerel was conducted to understand stock structure of the short mackerel in the GOT LME. Under the Fisheries Refugia Project, Thailand and Cambodia created fisheries refugia sites in Trat and Koh Kong, respectively. Data analysis from DNA samples showed the mixed stock structure of the short mackerel in the EEZ of the GoT countries. The results implied that the short mackerel migrates throughout the areas in the GoT. It was concluded that there is a need for the GoT countries to work collaboratively toward development of a policy framework for long-term sustainable utilization of the transboundary of the short mackerel fisheries resources.The SEAFDEC-Sweden Project in collaboration with the Fisheries Refugia Project jointly developed a draft ?Regional Action Plan (RAP) for Management of Transboundary Species: Indo-pacific Mackerel in the Gulf of Thailand Sub-region? in 2019. The final draft was endorsed at the 43rd Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (43 AMAF) in October 2021. GoTFish will promote lessons learned and guidance of the RAPs/RPOAs among Gulf of Thailand countries, and facilitate better uptake, where appropriate.

Market actors and incentives for fisheries

53. **The Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP)** is an international NGO that engages seafood supply chains to restore depleted fisheries and reduce the environmental impact of fishing and fish farming. They have formal partnerships with 40 leading global retailers, food service, and seafood companies, including Walmart, McDonald?s, US Foods, and Nestle. More than 14 years ago, SFP pioneered the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) concept, a multi-stakeholder effort that uses the power of the private sector to leverage lasting policy changes that address environmental challenges in a fishery. Today, FIPs are widely recognized by buyers and seafood supply chains as part of their sustainability commitments and procurement policies. Since 2009, SFP has been involved in efforts to improve fisheries management in the GoT LME and other areas of SE Asia:

- **a) The Global Marine Ingredients Supply Chain Roundtable.** Launched in late 2021, it is a sector wide, multi-stakeholder initiative working to drive environmental and social improvements in key fisheries that supply raw product to the global markets of marine ingredients. Resulting from the merging of three former regional roundtables run by SFP, the Global Marine Ingredients SR is a collaborative effort coordinated by Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP) and IFFO The Marine Ingredients Organisation, and participated by The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP), Global Seafood Alliance (GSA), Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC), BioMar, Cargill, Skretting, OLVEA, Nestle and MarinTrust.
- b) In Thailand, SFP has an MOU with the **Thai Sustainable Fisheries Roundtable (TSFR)**, a group of eight seafood-related Thai trade associations?to support the development of FIPs in the GoT and Andaman Sea.
- c) In Viet Nam, SFP has also been working with industry stakeholders to promote similar improvement efforts in multispecies fisheries in Kien Giang, Ben Tre, and Vung Tau provinces. Many of these projects will seek the **Global Standard for Responsible Supply** (Marin-Trust, formerly known as IFFO RS) certification and engage in a Marin-Trust pilot program geared toward developing and testing a multispecies component for the standard.
- d) SFP is working with Fish Matter Pty Ltd., the FAO, and scientists and managers in Thailand and Viet Nam to develop a tool kit for assessment and scientific advice for managing multispecies, multi-gear fisheries.
- e) SFP will work with GoTFish on Component 2, providing support and coordinating supply chain roundtables (SRs) and other platforms that provide information and support for market actors and engage them in fisheries improvements and efforts to achieve certification. SFP has mobilized significant co-funding for support to organization of these roundtables and associated workshops and consultations.
- f) GoTFish can help expand market engagement in these and similar projects, and create new opportunities for market actors to engage with governments to support policy change and create fit-for-purpose standards and improvement models.

54. **WorldWide Fund for Nature (WWF)** is a world leading conservation organization with experience working in more than 100 countries. WWF is structured to work across six themes; one being the Ocean Strategy. In partnership with DoF in Thailand, WWF has launched a ?Longtail tuna purse-seine Fishery Improvement Project (FIP)? targeting free swimming fish schools of Longtail tuna (Thunnus tonggol) in the Gulf of Thailand with the aim of improving fishery performance to better meet international market requirements.

- a) A recent (2017) pre-assessment against the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Standard has been completed for Longtail tuna caught by purse seiners, operating on both the east (Gulf of Thailand) and west (Andaman Sea) coasts of Thailand, however the FIP is focused on the GoT. Neritic tuna purse seiners, are the largest purse seine vessels in Thailand, usually over 100 GT and account for ~92% of all longtail tuna catches in the GoT. The results of the pre-assessment have been used to develop an ?Action Plan? of activities designed to aid the fishery in meeting accepted sustainability criteria . This Longtail tuna FIP aims to: increase knowledge about and application of international sustainability standards, improve cross-sector collaboration and enhance fishery traceability. This FIP will also advance the implementation of both national and regional conservation and management of Longtail tuna, acknowledging catches of Tonggol occurs in

EEZs of other countries (i.e. Malaysia, Viet Nam and Indonesia), where multi-jurisdictional activities are being proposed to manage Tonggol stocks regionally.

- b) WWF (Thailand) is an implementing partner in several other fishery (FIP) projects, including Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) in Surat Thani Province and prospectively Sardine in Chumphon Province, both within the GoT LME. On BSC, WWF Thailand works alongside WWF Viet Nam who likewise have a BSC FIP in Kien Giang province, which is within the GoT LME. Funding for the fishery improvement work comes from a mixture of fishing industry, buyers, philanthropic sources and other WWF offices in Europe, Oceania and North America. In relation to its FIP program, WWF Thailand has actively partnered with industry associations including the Thai Frozen Food Association and the Thai Tuna Industry Association.
- c) WWF (Viet Nam) is implementing a comprehensive FIP for yellowfin tuna, together with the Viet Nam Tuna Association (VinaTuna), international seafood companies and domestic processors. Launched in 2014, the yellowfin tuna FIP action plan was adjusted in 2019 to include only handline vessels, given the recent conversion of almost all longline vessels to handline gear. The FIP is demonstrating steady progress across performance indicators, including management systems, bycatch mitigation, governance and traceability. GoTFish will share the lessons learned of WWF carrying out FIPs in the region including, particularly good practices, stakeholder engagement and process information for other countries attempting to carry out FIPs.

Certification schemes

55. Certification schemes such as the **Marine Stewardship Council** have had difficulty penetrating developing countries and small-scale fisheries. This could be due to poor data available, the large costs associated with carrying out the assessments and fulfilment of environmental and traceability standards, lack of government support, lack of awareness of the MSC, and relative lack of demand for certified products outside of North American and European markets. Throughout the GoT countries, there is only one MSC certified fishery (Viet Nam Ben Tre clam hand-gathered). Fisheries Improvement Projects (FIPs) can support fisheries attain their certification aims, but they are also a valuable tool on their own to show progress of a fishery towards sustainability, without needing to fulfil all the tighter environmental standards. In this sense, FIPs have been defined as "multi-stakeholder effort to address environmental challenges in a fishery. These projects utilize the power of the private sector to incentivize positive changes toward sustainability in the fishery and seek to make these changes endure through policy change?. In the GoT LME there are currently three recognized active FIPs, with several more projects in development : Thailand: blue swimming crab; Viet Nam: swordfish ? handline; Viet Nam: yellowfin tuna - handline.

56. **Marin-Trust (formerly The International Fishmeal and Fishoil Organisation Responsible Sourcing ?IFFO RS?)** standard has an Improver Program that encourages Fishery Improvement Projects (FIP) and has a specific project looking at the management of multispecies fisheries with a view to encouraging the implementation of management plans for fisheries for multispecies fisheries where the reduction component used to manufacture fishmeal. The most advanced of the projects covers the mixed trawl fishery of the Thai waters of the Gulf of Thailand. There are projects in Viet Nam being developed both inside and adjacent to the GoT LME. Those

operating outside the LME (e.g. Vung Tau, which is furthest along) are certainly part of the same ecosystem.

57. The **Marine Ingredients Trade Association** (previously known by its acronym ? IFFO?, which also differs from the standard ?IFFO RS? now known as ?Marin-Trust?), is an international trade organization that represents and promotes member companies in the fishmeal and fish oil industry worldwide, representing members at relevant international forums, including holding observer status at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the EU Commission and Parliament and work with leading NGOs in responsible management of fisheries. IFFO has supported research on GoT and related fisheries (as well as other parts of the world) with the goal of spurring improvements and will be working with members to be more proactive about supporting improvements and improving the industry?s image.

58. The Market actors and incentives for fisheries has developed an entry level FIP process with the participation of stakeholders from Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia and other countries that incorporates both environmental and social elements. It draws on the Regional Fisheries Livelihoods Program funded Good Fish Code. ASIC does not have FIPs in the Gulf of Thailand but is engaged with fisheries in Viet Nam. This is not a certification scheme but is an interface between market-based systems and fisheries based on the co-management approach.

Private sector actors

GoTFish will engage and communicate with CP, Thai Union and other private sector actors (see section above on certification on certification, particularly related to IFFO and MarinTrust) to share information related to the development of sustainable fisheries activities in the GoT LME, particularly in relation to Component 2. Under this component the project will promote sustainable environmental and socially responsible practices along the value chain.

59. **Charoen Pokphand Group Co., Ltd. (CP)** operates across many industries ranging from industrial to service sectors, covering 13 Business Groups including Agro-Food, Retail & Distribution, Telecommunication & Media, E-Commerce & Digital, Property Development, etc. Currently, the Group has investments in 21 countries and economies. Of primary relevance to GoTFish are the feed, processing and fish value chain enterprises. CP considers that a business must be based on social and environmental responsibility in order to operate in a sustainable manner. As a result, CP has set a Sustainability Framework, and strives to achieve its sustainability goals, following the Group?s vision: ?to provide food for both body and mind, to create shared values, and to bring health and well-being for all?. To accomplish this vision, the Group express its commitment to giving back to the country and community, supporting CP?s ?Three-Benefit Principle,? under its Sufficiency Economy Philosophy. The Group has also set 12 sustainability goals that comply with the UN SDGs.

60. **Thai Union (TU)** is a producer of seafood-based products, operating globally with headquarters in Thailand. Today, TU is regarded as the world?s largest producer of shelf-stable tuna products with annual sales exceeding THB 135 billion (US$ 4.03 billion) and a global workforce of over 49,000 people. The company?s global brand portfolio includes market-leading international

brands in Asia, Europe and United States. To meet its overarching sustainability objectives, Thai Union developed its ?Seachange? strategy. It encompasses ?safe and legal labour? to support freely chosen employment, ?responsible sourcing? to improve transparency and operational practices of the entire seafood supply chain, ?responsible operations? to improve environmental and social performance of its own activities and ?people and communities? to enhance living conditions and working opportunities in the regions in which it operates.

- a) The company has been working together with WWF since 2014 and has arrived at an agreement with Greenpeace in 2017 to deliver full sustainability and to drive positive change across the global seafood industry.
- b) In 2016, TU has welcomed a new project in Thailand launched jointly by the Ministry of Labour, International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Delegation of the European Union to Thailand on ?Combatting Unacceptable Forms of Work in the Thai Fishing and Seafood Industry?. The project is working to tackle unacceptable forms of work, especially forced labour and child labour in the fishing and seafood processing industry.
- c) TU has also previously worked, and is working with NGOs such as the Migrant Workers Rights Network, the Labour Rights Promotion Network (LPN) and the Issara Institute to look for ways to effectively tackle the human-rights related issues in the industry.
- d) In 2016, TU launched its tuna commitment for all tuna to be sustainably sourced, with an aim to achieve a minimum of 75% of tuna coming from fisheries that are MSC certified or engaged in a FIP by the end of 2020, and in 2018, TU supported new regulation from the Thai government requiring vessel owners operating outside of national waters to provide a satellite communication system and device onboard for workers at sea.
- e) TU is also a member of the Seafood Taskforce in Thailand to face issues related to forced labour as well as marine conservation problems and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (IUU).
- f) In 2018, TU joined the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) to reduce marine plastic pollution throughout its entire supply chain. GGGI has recognized TU progress and as a result TU is the only company ranked in GGGI?s top tier for policy and commitment. The partnership includes a project specific on the Gulf of Thailand that was identified as hotspot for Abandoned, Lost or otherwise discarded Fishing Gears (ALDFG).

SCS-SAP Priority 1, 2, 3 and 4: Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Seagrass and Coastal Wetlands bordering/in the South China Sea

61. **The University of Queensland (UQ)** is one of Australia?s leading research and teaching institutions. UQ consistently ranks among the world?s top 100 universities, as measured by several key international rankings. UQ has over 52,000 students and 7,000 staff. The Federal Government?s 2018 Excellence in Research for Australia exercise confirmed UQ as one of the nation?s most comprehensive, research-intensive universities. UQ?s outstanding critical mass offers researchers significant interdisciplinary capability. The assessment rated 100 per cent of UQ?s research above or well above world standard, across 22 broad disciplines. UQ has strong, long-term collaborative agreements in place with many universities, multilateral agencies and national governments globally. GoTFish will be supported by researchers with experience assessing marine and coastal resource management in the region and identifying best practices, of particular use under Component 3 of the

project. Specifically, UQ managed the World Bank/GEF Capturing Coral Reef Ecosystem Services (CCRES) project that provides a resource of technical tools to help countries design marine protection to improve both fishery and biodiversity benefits. The tool kit also includes approaches to help communities diversify their livelihoods. UQ is one of the Executing Agencies of the project, for Component 3, and members of the previous CCRES team will directly support and guide GoTFish execution. Through the linkage to UQ execution, GoTFish will build on the lessons learned from the CCRES project.

62. **The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** Programme for 2017?2020 consists of three Programme Areas: Valuing and conserving nature; Promoting and supporting effective and equitable governance of natural resources; Deploying nature-based solutions to address societal challenges including climate change, food security and economic and social development. The Mangroves for the Future (MFF) initiative (which run from 2007 to 2019 and was hosted by IUCN) supported and promoted integrated governance for fisheries and coastal resources management from the national policy level to the local level in several countries in Asia including in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Thailand with Malaysia acting as an outreach country for exchange of knowledge. IUCN has been supporting countries through integrated coastal management and MPA management effectiveness in five national MPA sites in Viet Nam, the development of national policy and delivery of national fisheries and MPA management in Cambodia, and an EU funded project on Building Coastal Resilience project in Thailand, among other work related to mangrove conservation, address small-scale fisheries management issues, and tackling the most recent priority issue of marine pollution.
GoTFish will build on the work and lessons learned of IUCN (and MFF) managing marine and coastal resources in the region and promoting the IUCN Green List global standard.

c) Proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project and the project?s Theory of Change

63. Countries in the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand recognize that urgent action is needed to halt the degradation of the marine environment. To improve understanding of the issues, problems and root causes of marine degradation, the UN Environment and GEF provided support for the preparation of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA). This TDA facilitated discussions that led to agreement by the seven countries on the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme (SCS-SAP), which was approved in 2008.

64. The SCS-SAP recognizes, under the section on Regional Cooperation (Section 8), the ?necessity of regional cooperation on the exploitation, management and conservation of the marine resources of the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand? and calls upon the countries ?to enter into sub-regional and bi-lateral agreements to address issues relating to the implementation of the SAP?. This links strongly with objective of the GoTFish project: Improved natural resource governance in the Gulf of Thailand through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) contributing to the fisheries objectives of the SCS-SAP.

65. GoTFish, alongside other SCS-SAP implementation projects (more information in Section 6 ? Coordination below), will help to address the priority transboundary environmental problems identified by the South China Sea TDA and the resulting SCS-SAP. The project is a targeted proposal aimed to work alongside SCS-SAP related projects implemented by UNEP (more information in Section 6 below), by reducing stress in the GoT through improved practices and fisheries management and with a strong focus on transboundary governance and management, releasing the role incentives (both market and changes on fishers? behaviour), and a greater understanding of the existing ecological corridors important for aquatic biodiversity (Component 3 of GoTFish), including fisheries (already being explored locally by the Fisheries Refugia project). GoTFish is designed to remove the key barriers to sustainable transboundary fisheries management of the Gulf of Thailand related to institutional, legal and administrative issues at regional and national levels, including lack of an appropriate forum for a GoT LME-wide multi-national dialogue, planning, monitoring and reporting, socio-economic constraints, such as lack of, or inadequate incentives, as well as lack of integration of climate resilience and gender considerations into planning and management of the GoT LME fisheries. It would likewise address current unsustainable practices in fisheries resource use and management and conservation of aquatic biodiversity. The objective is to enhance the Blue Economy potential of the GoT by improving the governance of transboundary fishery resources, supporting innovative action for the use of incentives (both markets, and fishers? behaviour change), mobilizing the role of the private sector, and enhancing the capacity to implement ecosystem approach to fisheries management plans, both at the national and regional levels, addressing both fisheries and biodiversity objectives. This will be achieved through four interlinked components supporting the SCS-SAP objectives; building on the SCS-SAP implementation baseline and is expected to leverage significant amounts of investments from the GoT countries, development partners and the private sector.

66. The **longer-term objectives, targets, and outcomes** of the Fisheries component (Section 5) of the SCS-SAP are presented below.

SCS-SAP Fisheries Objectives	a) Build the resilience of Southeast Asian fisheries to the effects of high and increasing levels of fishing effort, b) Improve the understanding amongst stakeholders, including fisher folk, scientists, policy- makers, and fisheries managers, of ecosystem and fishery linkages, as a basis for integrated fisheries and ecosystem/habitat management, c) Build the capacity of fisheries departments/ministries to engage in meaningful dialogue with the environment sector regarding the improvement of fisheries and management of interactions between fisheries and critical marine habitats.
SCS-SAP Fisheries Targets (updated by the Fisheries Refugia project[1])	a) By 2020, to have established a regional system of a minimum of fourteen refugia for the management of priority transboundary, fish stocks and endangered species; b) By 2020, to have prepared and implemented fisheries management systems in the identified priority refugia based on and consistent with, the ASEAN SEAFDEC Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia

SCS-SAP Fisheries Outcomes	a) Improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations in the management of fisheries in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand; b) Improved national management of the effects of fishing on critical habitats within fisheries refugia; and, c) Enhanced uptake of good practices in integrating fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in the design and implementation of regional and national fisheries management systems, and marine protected areas.

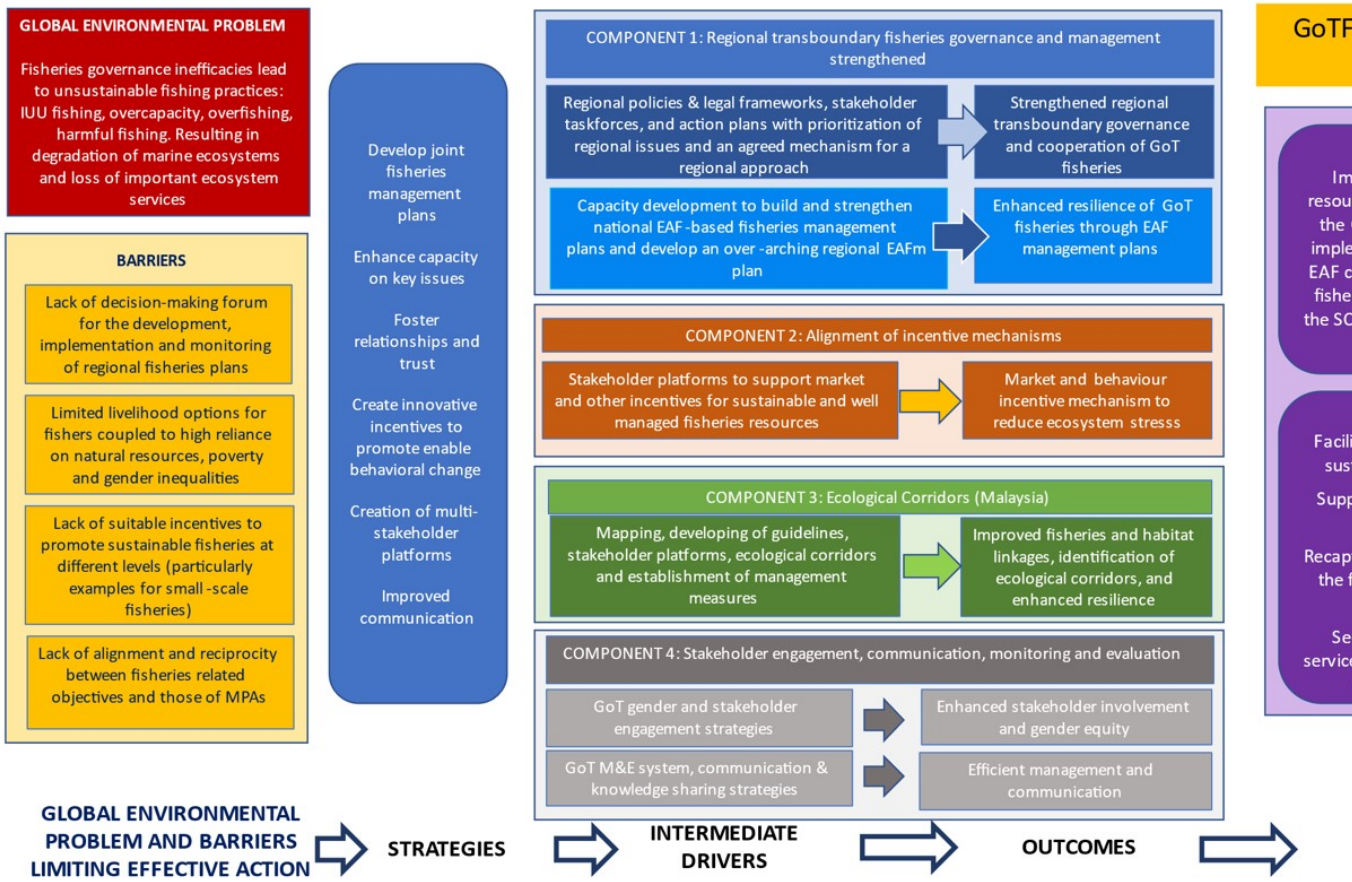
[1] Section 6 has more information about the Fisheries Refugia project

GoTFish Theory of Change

69. The project?s Theory of Change (ToC) illustrated in Figure 2, defines a holistic approach for addressing the drivers sustaining inefficiencies in fisheries governance (leading to IUU fishing, overcapacity, overfishing, etc.) and fisheries threats to marine biodiversity and the loss of ecosystem services.

70. The project?s ToC identifies key environmental issues and barriers to address notably: the lack of sub-regional decision-making forums, limited livelihood options for fishers and their reliance on fisheries resources, the lack of incentive mechanisms to promote sustainable fisheries (particularly in small-scale fisheries), and the lack of alignment between fisheries and biodiversity objectives. The ToC proposes that to facilitate the transition to sustainable fisheries in the GoT to realize its blue economy potential and associated ecosystem benefits, requires the combination of strategies, actions and impacts to challenge the current conditions and which will a) address negative impacts of fisheries through regional fisheries governance and management (including coordination mechanisms and the development of joint fisheries management plans); b) strengthen trust and relationships through partnerships and better communication channels, c) use incentives (market and others to enable behaviour changes that enhance fishery sustainability, d) enhance and share knowledge through targeted capacity building on key issues (e.g. fisheries issues and a better understanding of aquatic ecological corridors), and strong and reliable communication channels. The outcomes will a) contribute to efforts for the elimination IUU fishing; b) recapture benefits from fisheries and their value chains, and; c) sustain biodiversity and aquatic resources through the use of an ecosystem approach to fisheries.

Figure 2: GoTFish project Theory of Change



Project Description

71. The Objective of the project is: Improved natural resource governance in the Gulf of Thailand through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) contributing to the fisheries objectives of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme (SCS-SAP).

Component 1: Regional transboundary fisheries governance and management strengthened.

Executing Agency: SEAFDEC

72. This component will focus on institutionalizing transboundary fisheries governance and management issues for more effective decision-making in the GoT. This will be achieved by supporting the creation of a regional mechanism that can set the protocols for information sharing related to shared stocks of priority species and/or fisheries, as well as setting up the governance structure and enhanced capacity for developing the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries regional and national plans.

Outcome 1.1: Fisheries resources and marine biodiversity ecosystem services are restored through strengthened regional transboundary governance and cooperation of GoT fisheries, building their resilience through improved habitat and fisheries management (SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 11)

73. The project will work with the four GoT countries to support a transition from national focus on management of fisheries and fish stocks, towards a GoT regional approach which emphasizes transboundary governance and cooperation on management issues. The development of a regional fisheries mechanism will require an assessment of GoT fisheries policies and legal frameworks with the aim of enhancing consistency across GoT countries and to enable more effective regional collaboration, building the case that will describe the underlying biological, economic and social justifications for a regional approach as well as clarifying the current opportunities and constraints to a transboundary and cooperative fisheries approach in the GoT.

The establishment of regional transboundary fisheries management multi-stakeholder working groups will support the governance of GoT Transboundary Fisheries, by providing the means for stakeholders with common concerns to come together and develop targeted and time-bound activities to address priority fisheries issues in the GoT (including assessment of transboundary stocks, estimates of appropriate level of fishing capacity and effort and practices to improve sustainable use of GoT fishery resources). These working groups may be private or public sector led to allow for issues champions to lead initiatives. They may cover issues that overlap with the specific national transboundary fisheries management plans as well as cut across the Gulf?s fisheries. The issues covered by the working groups will support the implementation of existing regional action plans to address common fisheries issues for some transboundary species (e.g. overfishing, overcapacity, IUU (illegal, unreported and unregulated) fishing, by-catch, lack of adequate fisheries information systems, fisheries livelihoods, poverty, gender, labour and other social issues.

- a) Regional capacity development workshops will enable stakeholders to address at least 3 priority sub-regional transboundary fisheries (identified during the PPG phase to be: demersal trawl fishery, pelagic purse seine fishery, small-scale artisanal coastal fishery) and 3 to 4 priority cross-cutting issues (to be decided by the working groups, potential topics may be related to climate change, IUU fishing, by-catch management, marine-based litter and ghost gear, livelihoods, poverty, gender, market inefficiencies including harmful subsidies, post-harvest losses, etc.), that will help develop and implement EAFM plans (under Component 1.2). This will also be linked to the integration of the connectivity and biodiversity considerations revealed under Component 3.
- b) Ultimately, a key output will be the development of a regional mechanism for transboundary fisheries management in the GoT. An analysis of options for collaborative mechanisms and a direct sharing of experiences from other regional bodies/entities will support the definition of a formal, cooperative fisheries mechanism among the GoT countries as well as a cost-benefit analysis.

74. The outcome will be achieved through activities related to the achievement of the following outputs:

Output 1.1.1: Output: Updated and regionally coherent fisheries policies across the GoT countries and strengthened national legal frameworks.

75. This output will be achieved through a review of the fisheries legislation of the four GoT countries, key regional policies (e.g. the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030 (RES & POA-2030)) and selected national (and provincial) policies and strategic plans for fisheries and related topics.

Based on an analysis of similarities and differences across the four GoTFish countries, an appropriate working group (formed under 1.1.2) will need to build the case for a sub-regional GoT approach to fisheries policy based on underlying biological, economic and social justifications to identify areas that could be considered in the formulation of future policies and subsidiary laws resulting out of GotFish, including any later revisions of legal frameworks (e.g. consistent definitions and policy goals).

Tentative Activities

- Activity 1.1.1a Review of the current legal frameworks and policies across the four GoTFish countries to identify similarities and differences.
- Activity 1.1.1b Provide a sub-regional platform to consider the review and identify areas for better regional consistency.

Output 1.1.2: Established regional stakeholder working groups for improved trans-boundary fisheries management and addressing key regional issues

76. Work under this output will include a brief review of the objectives and mode of operations of past and present working groups that have been previously formed. The objective of this brief review is to identify any working groups that are currently operating that could be used by GoTFish plus any past working groups that could be revitalized for GoTFish (e.g. a working group as a sub-set of an ASEAN-wide working group or re-vitalizing a sub-regional working group formed under another project). The review would also describe the membership and mode of operation of these working groups, including funding.
Once the review of past and present working groups and the three to four high priority issues agreed, the appropriate working groups will be formed, including their terms of reference (lead coordinator, membership, including private and public, frequency and type, virtual or face-to-face, of meetings, reporting etc.). The working groups that are important to the longer-term agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the GoT (output 1.1.15) need to be formalized and institutionalized to ensure their sustainability.

The project will provide ?hands-on? capacity development opportunities to ensure full participation in the meetings of these platforms and working groups, including the development and implementation of work plans, M&E systems that guarantee ?proof of action?, and for defining ?cost-sharing arrangements? for the sustainability of these platforms, as well as to ensure effective participation in the design and implementation of regional fisheries management plans and action plans.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 1.1.2a Undertake a brief review of the objectives and mode of operations of past and present working groups that have formed under different projects and initiatives (e.g. SEAFDEC-Sweden project (2013-2019), Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tunas, REBYCII-CTI (2013-2017), SCS-SAP Implementation project (2018-2023) and Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand Project (2016-2022).
- Activity 1.1.2b Establish regional stakeholder working groups based on the results of the review and the agreed priority issues (see 1.1.4) to provide for stakeholders with common concerns to come together and share best practices and lessons learnt in order to develop targeted and time-bound activities to address priority fisheries issues in the GoT.

Output 1.1.3: Development and implementation of regional action plans to address common fisheries issues.

77. The project will conduct an up-to-date assessment of the content and progress of implementation of existing Regional Action Plans that are relevant for the GoT Fisheries. The existing RPOAs include the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (RPOA-Capacity (2017)); Regional Plan of Action to promote Responsible Fishing Practices including combating IUU fishing (RPOA ? IUU (2007)); Regional Plan of Action for Neritic Tunas (RPOA - Neritic Tuna (2015)); and the Regional Action Plan for Management of Transboundary Species: Indo-Pacific Mackerel (Rastrelliger brachysoma) in the GoT Sub-Region (RAP- Indo-Pacific Mackerel 2020). Some of these RPOAs (e.g. RPOA-IUU (2007) have their own formal mechanisms for assessing progress, while others have less formal arrangements and fewer assessments have been carried out. Of particular relevance to transboundary cooperation in fisheries management of the GoT countries is the RAP- Indo-Pacific Mackerel 2020, which should take priority in the review and subsequent actions.

The project will then assist countries to implement the existing GoT. The assessments need to be considered by a working group formed under output 1.1.2 to determine whether their objectives are being met and the costs and benefits of implementing the RPOAs, including examining alternatives for their implementation, such as National Plans of Action (NPOAs) and/or implementing them through national EAFM plans. The working group would facilitate the filling of knowledge gaps and revision of any RAP/RPOA, as appropriate, and ensure that sub-regional actions for the GoT countries are agreed and implemented.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 1.1.3a Provide an up-to-date assessment of the content and progress in implementation of existing Regional Action Plans (RAPs) Regional Plans of Action (RPOAs), particularly actions under the transboundary Indo-Pacific mackerel plan that was developed by GoT countries.
- Activity 1.1.3b Assist GoT countries implement the existing RPOAs by providing a forum for sub-regional implementation arrangements between GoTFish States that demonstrate national commitments to actions (e.g. national budgets committed to implement the plans). This could involve the development of NPOAs, where appropriate or implementation through national EAFM plans.

Output 1.1.4: Prioritization of regional, sub-regional and national transboundary related issues for fisheries management and related biodiversity and environmental issues.

78. During the project preparation grant (PPG) phase of GoTFish, three priority fisheries in the GoT sub-region were recognized ? (i) demersal trawl fishery (large-scale commercial otter board and pair trawls); (ii) pelagic purse seine fishery (large scale commercial purse seines), and (iii) coastal small-scale artisanal fishery (all artisanal fishing gears). The considerations as to why these were chosen are presented in Box 1.

Box 1: Priority fisheries for sub-regional EAFM planning

Output 1.1.4 specified the selection of three to four priority fisheries for component 1. This choice was considered in the PPG phase in consultation with SEAFDEC and GotFish countries. The selection criteria for the sub-regional fishery management units (FMUs) included:

1. Meeting GEF core indicators and targets

a. ***GEF CORE Indicator 5*** *? 4 million ha of marine fisheries habitat under improved management practices*

b. ***GEF Core Indicator 8*** *- About 315,000 tonnes (or 75% of overexploited fisheries) return to sustainable levels.).*

c. ***GEF Core Indicator 11*** *- About 120,000 fish-workers (estimated at about 50% male and 50% female ? to be conformed during PPG phase) benefit from GEF investment*

d. ***Indicator 1.2.2****: 30% of raw fish supply that is converted to fish meal comes from fisheries with an EAF plan and is part of a transparent catch documentation scheme;*

2. Including socio-economic issues of small-scale fishers and fishing communities;
3. Building on past work on RAPs/RPOAs;
4. Practicality of implementing management measures, especially capacity and effort controls;
5. Building on past transboundary fish stock activities; and
6. Complementing Component 2 focus areas.

Note: fish is a generic term that covers finfish, shrimp, crabs, squid, cuttlefish etc

Recommendation from the PPG phase (agreed by all GotFish countries)

The GotFish project focus on three FMUs for the formulation of sub-regional EAFM plans. Other plans may follow, if appropriate. The three FMUs should be:

1. Demersal trawl fishery
2. Pelagic purse seine fishery
3. Small-scale artisanal coastal fishery

The **demersal trawl fishery** will include all the fish caught by commercial trawl gear i.e. otter board trawl and pair trawl. This will include ?low value/trash fish?, finfish (sharks and rays, threadfin bream, bigeyes, trevallies, croakers, mackerels, snapper, grouper etc), squid and cuttlefish, shrimp and crabs.

The **pelagic fishery** will include all the fish caught by commercial purse seines (not anchovy purse seines). This will include trevallies, scads, mackerels, neritic tuns, squids, sardines and anchovies.. Other fishing gears will be considered as necessary but the focus of the offshore FMUs will be commercial trawl and purse seine gears.

The **small-scale artisanal coastal** FMU will cover all artisanal gears. This choice will allow any management measures to control fishing capacity and fishing effort to have the maximum effect on the fish-workers (both male and female) in the GoT.

Justification

These three FMUs will contribute significantly to the GEF Core Indicators 5, 8 and 11, especially 8 and 11. Past work on transboundary species is also recognized and two RPOAs are directly relevant ? the RPOA-Capacity and RPOA-IUU. The RPOA-Neritic Tuna and the RAP Indo-Pacific mackerel are relevant to the pelagic purse seine fishery and the Indo-Pacific mackerel would be a key indicator species for GEF core indicator 8. The choice also complements the focus of component 2 ? the fish meal/oil value chain (demersal trawl fishery) and fish sauce supply chain (both pelagic purse seine fishery and small-scale artisanal coastal fishery).

The list of possible issues recognized in the PIF that need to be prioritized are listed below. The PIF also identified (i) assessment of transboundary stocks, (ii) estimates of appropriate level of fishing capacity and effort and (iii) practices to improve sustainable use of GoT fishery resources as possible high priority. The PIF recognized the following priority issues:

- overfishing/over-capacity;
- illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- by-catch (juvenile fish and endangered species);
- abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG);
- lack of adequate fisheries information systems;
- role of coastal protection in a fisheries context;
- poverty;
- gender;
- labor and other social issues;
- inefficiencies including harmful subsidies; and
- post-harvest losses.

Note: the issue of ?poor onboard handling? was added during the PPG phase.

The national priority issues highlighted by the GoT countries during the PPG phase are presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3: National priority issues identified during PPG phase

SW Viet Nam	- IUU fishing and reduced resources - Climate Change, - Ocean plastic waste and ghost fishing gear, - Changing jobs and livelihoods
Cambodia	- Declining coastal and marine fish stocks due to unsustainable fishing practices, conversion of mangroves, and pollution. - Rapid industrialization and tourism development in coastal areas. - Loss of coastal mangrove - The lack of appropriate post-harvest infrastructure and technologies (e.g., berthing facilities with adequate freshwater, ice plants, chilled storages, etc.), poor cold chain management, improper handling, and insufficient testing laboratories have resulted in post-harvest losses and poor food safety standards. - Informal banking systems at high interest rates - Marine pollution (plastics and sewage disposal)
Thailand	- Degraded fishery resources in Thai waters. - Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. - Habitat degradation and declining biodiversity. - Low socio-economic condition of artisanal fishers and communities. - Inadequate fisheries management capacity.

Malaysia	- Depletion of natural resources - Encroachment of fishing zone (e.g., IUU fishing) - Conservation of threatened species - Effects of climate change - Increase in input prices, wages, and fish prices - Productivity and income of target consumer group - Human capital and dependence on foreign workers

Tentative Activity

- Activity 1.1.4 Through sub-regional workshops for stakeholders, identify and confirm 3 to 4 priority transboundary fisheries and 3 to 4 priority cross-cutting issues as input into the development and implementation of sub-regional and national EAFM plan(s). These issues need to be linked to the integration of the connectivity and biodiversity considerations considered under Component 3.

Output 1.1.5: Agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the Gulf of Thailand

79. There are a number of regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) operating in different LMEs of the world. These range from arrangements to facilitate collecting and sharing of data and information though to a management advisory committee (MACs) or regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs). The review would focus on those RFBs that operate across the EEZs of participating countries (i.e. not the high seas) and provide information on their mode of operation and costs. The appropriate working group formed in 1.1.2, in close contact with their respective authorities would discuss and agree on the ?best option? for a mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the GoT. At a minimum this would include a mechanism to facilitate collecting and sharing of data and information and reviewing progress in implementing better fisheries management in the GoTFish sub-region. The mechanism would also need to be institutionalized post project based on existing platforms, including any working groups formed during the project that are relevant to the ongoing cooperative management approach.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 1.1.5a Review the costs and mode of operation of regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) in other similar large marine ecosystems of the world.
- Activity 1.1.5b Carry out a cost/benefit analysis and examine opportunities and constraints to a transboundary and cooperative fisheries management approach in the GoT. Agree and implement at least one regional mechanism that involves sharing data and information and reviewing progress in fisheries management. The mechanism/arrangements to include involvement of Inter-Ministry Committees/ National Level Committees.

Outcome 1.2: Development and implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management (EAFM) plans in the Gulf of Thailand enhances the resilience against climate change and manages fishing effort of fisheries stakeholders (women and men) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1)

80. The purpose of an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) is to plan, develop and manage fisheries in a manner that addresses the multiple needs and desires of societies, without jeopardizing the options for future generations to benefit from the full range of goods and services provided by marine ecosystems (FAO 2003) . The ecosystem approach, when applied to fisheries management, is now known widely as the ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) and is used as a policy platform in many countries. EAFM is a more holistic approach that broadens traditional fisheries management and Table 4 below provides this comparison):

Table 4: Comparison between the ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) and traditional fisheries management

Traditional fisheries management	**Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)**
Main focus of management is on ecological well-being, especially sustainable use of target stocks	More emphasis on the balance between ecological well-being and human well-being.
Main management measures involve controlling fishing pressure on target stocks	Broader focus of management, including multi-species fishery resources, critical habitats, endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species and ecosystem structure and function.
Single species objectives and reference points	Multiple objectives covering the ecological, socio-economic and governance dimensions of sustainable development
Single species objectives and reference points	Status of multispecies resource ? multispecies modelling and use of indicators
Individual stock assessments of target species	
Environmental impact on target fish stocks	Impact of fishing on fishery resources and ecosystem structure and function
Impact of the environment (e.g. climate change) on target stocks	Impact of the environment on the ecosystem, especially transboundary shifts
Top-down government control	More participatory approaches through co-management, and broader consideration of gender aspects
Science driven	Uses science, but also gives greater consideration to traditional knowledge and experience

The project will work on enhancing the capacity of stakeholders to participate in national and ultimately regional level EAF planning processes. This will result in national and sub-regional EAFM plans, that will also integrate priority transboundary fisheries issues. To this end, existing information will be used to provide assessments and status reports of the current ecological, biological, economic,

social and governance of GoT fisheries and their value chains. Based on agreed transboundary priority risks and opportunities to human wellbeing and ecosystem integrity, Ecosystem **Approach to Fisheries** transboundary management plans will be developed based on the best available knowledge on the biological and ecological dimensions of key transboundary GoT fisheries, as well as the human and governance dimensions for the sectors and communities that depend on them. Knowledge generated under Component 3, focused on biodiversity connectivity and effectiveness of conservation areas, will be integrated into these EAFM plans. The implementation support of the regional and national EAFM plans will include gender-specific capacity development actions, supporting networks, trainings, implementing gear and post-harvest technologies and practices, awareness raising, climate change and adaptive management for effective decision-making, linking with Outcome 1.1.

The outcome will be achieved through activities leading towards the following outputs:

Output 1.2.1: Stakeholder capacity to develop EAFM plans is strengthened, taking into consideration the different needs of women and men

81. A key activity under this output will be the development of gender-sensitive capacity building opportunities for key stakeholders to participate fully in the development and implementation of sub-regional and national action plans. This will be integrated into the planning processes outlined in 1.2.2 and 1.2.3. In particular, for women to have a larger role in participatory decision-making process, the use gender tools and criteria will be encouraged. The project will also support the design and implementation of gender-sensitive capacity development initiatives for legal officers and other government representatives to support their awareness and implementation of fisheries-related global and regional instruments (e.g. PSMA, UNFSA, ILO C188) and their ability to engage in regional and national dialogues to facilitate the design of joint management measures and collaboration frameworks, as well as to better understand the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem connectivity in the development of legal/policy frameworks (national and regional), linking directly with component 3.

Tentative Activity

- Activity 1.2.1a Develop gender-sensitive capacity building opportunities for key stakeholders to participate fully in the development and implementation of sub-regional and national plans. These could include gender-specific capacity development actions, supporting networks, trainings, implementing gear and post-harvest technologies, where appropriate to EAFM, and practices, awareness raising, and adaptive management for effective decision-making, linking with Outcome 1.1.

Output 1.2.2: Strengthened national fisheries management plans are implemented through the EAF approach.

82. The focus will be to providing a platform to share experiences in the design and implementation of national EAFM plans. In the case of Malaysia, Thailand and Cambodia, this activity would focus on the newly developed EAFM plans for these countries (assuming that they are available when the GoTFish project is initiated). For these plans, the main activities would be to strengthen the plans so that the performance of management can be evaluated, set up a more formal monitoring and

evaluation (M&E) scheme for evaluating performance against their stated objectives. This would allow the sharing of what is working and what is not working among the GoT countries. This could be carried out by a working group formed under 1.1.2 and could lead to a more pro-active ?harvest strategy? approach, where harvest control rules are formed that guide what actions need to be taken when trigger reference points are met.

In the case of SW Viet Nam, which does not have an up-to-date EAFM plan, the project could assist in the revision and updating of the Kien Giang trawl management plan 2016 (noting that the trawl fishery accounts for about 75% of the total catch) or developing a new EAFM plan covering all fishing gears. This would then become part of the M&E scheme.

In terms of raw fish supply that is converted into fishmeal, the activity would focus on the demersal trawl fisheries in the GoT, especially those under MarinTrust Fisheries Improver Program (FIPs) and link with market incentives under component 2.
For the fishery resources support the development of ecosystem models such as Ecopath with Ecosim (EwE) for the GoT (include spatial segregation at the national level) and aggregated production modelling. Some specific stock assessments will also be carried out (FAO co-financed activity). Habitat assessments will be based on the Malaysian DOF in component 3 of GoTFish and assessments made by the Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand? (hereafter referred to as the SCS-SAP Project).

Modelling of the fishery resources using aggregate production modelling and ecosystem modelling (e.g. EwE) would provide baseline multispecies maximum sustainable yield (MMSY) estimates, as well information on the status of different species/species groups and the structure and function of the ecosystem/biodiversity that can be used to establish appropriate management measures (e.g. the control of fishing capacity and fishing effort) and the effects of different management strategies to be explored. When coupled with an indicator species approach, this would allow the formulation of more robust harvest strategies for selected GoT fisheries.

Habitat assessments should be available from component 3 (see activities under outputs 3.2.1. 3.1.2, and 3.1.3. and the SCS-SAP Project.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 1.2.2a Provide a platform to share experiences in developing and implementing national EAFM plans and assist countries in (i) strengthening the plans and (ii) monitoring and evaluating progress in implementing these plans by setting up an adaptive management scheme that includes biennial reviews and improvement advice. Assist SW Viet Nam update its Trawl Fisheries FMP to be more EAF-based in its approach.
- Activity 1.2.2b Provide an up-to-date assessment of the status of the GoT fishery resources, habitats, ETPs and ecosystem structure and function, and capacity development on its use by GoT countries, informed by EwE modelling

Output 1.2.3: EAFM plan(s) developed, addressing priority risks and opportunities to human well-being, ecosystem integrity and governance (including the components 2 and 3) including the implications of climate change on GoT countries? fisheries.

83. This output aims to facilitate the development of EAFM plans for each of the priority fisheries ? demersal trawl fishery, pelagic purse seine fishery and the small-scale artisanal coastal fishery at the sub-regional level (i.e. for the GoT LME as a whole). Recognizing that under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), countries have the right to manage their fisheries in their EEZs, the EAFM plans would focus on developing a joint vision, goals and objectives, with each country then applying appropriate management measures to meet those objectives. These measures would be informed by the results of activity 1.1.2a and 1.1.2b and link closely to the national EAFM plans.

The aim will be then to develop a fisheries information system for GoT countries and populating it with non-confidential fisheries data and information to enable sharing of data and information to assist sub-regional EAFM planning and implementation.

The resulting EAFM plans would require formal adoption across the GoT countries and national commitments (e.g. national budgets) to implement them, noting that implementation would be at the national/provincial/district/ community level in each country).

In order to integrate fisheries into the broader marine planning initiatives (e.g. marine spatial planning (MSP)) GoTFish will contribute spatial data and information, as appropriate. Additional data and information will be sourced through component 3.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 1.2.3a Develop a sub-regional EAFM plans based on transboundary priority risks and opportunities to human wellbeing and ecosystem integrity using the best available knowledge on the biological and ecological dimensions of key transboundary GoT fisheries, as well as the human and governance dimensions for the sectors and communities that depend on them. Knowledge generated under Component 3, focused on biodiversity connectivity and effectiveness of conservation areas, will be integrated into these EAFM plans.
- Activity 1.2.3b Collate relevant fisheries data in a sub-regional fisheries information system.
- Activity 1.2.3c Initiate implementation the EAFM plans based on national commitments (e.g. national budgets committed to the plan).
- Activity 1.2.3d Contribute to broader planning frameworks and regional marine spatial planning (MSP) such as that developed by the SCS-SAP project, by facilitating the integration of fisheries considerations within the planning of other maritime sectors (such as tourism, oil and gas, transport, etc.) and vice-versa. In particular, make spatial data developed during EAFM planning, including ecological corridors and transboundary stocks to any appropriate MSP activity in the GoT sub-region.

Component 2: Alignment of Incentive Mechanisms

Executing Agency: SFP

Outcome 2.1: Establishment of a market and behaviour incentive mechanism which reduces ecosystem stress from fishing, enhances the uptake of good practices supporting fisheries management and supports the transition to climate-resilient fisheries (integrating gender considerations and the different needs of women and men along the fishery value chain) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 3)

84. This component will work on improving the understanding of the roles of incentives (positive and negative) that can support sustainable and well-managed fisheries resources in the GoT, particularly market incentives such as the Fisheries Improvement Schemes for transboundary species, and behaviour-change incentives. In order to address the barriers explained above, it will be necessary to integrate socioeconomic objectives into Fishery Improvement Projects (FIP) workplans that the supply chain will understand and support. Currently there are a number of improvement efforts to address socio-economic issues through the FIP model, including collecting the data necessary to assess the impact of those improvements on fisher livelihoods; small-scale fisheries are also seeing FIPs as a tool to reach international markets. Much of this work has included a commitment to fisheries co-management ? if fishers are actively engaged in the management of the resource on which their livelihood depends, and fully informed about the likely biological and economic consequences of each improvement option, the chances for gaining their support and addressing their economic challenges should greatly increase. Globally, awareness among business is growing on the value of sustainably managed fisheries. Notwithstanding ?green? goals, sustainable fisheries are simply good business. Well-managed fisheries provide reliable supplies of fish and mitigate price fluctuations, and help business manage reputational risks associated with illegal fishing and abusive labour practices in seafood supply chains. Fishery improvement projects provide incentives and engage the private sector in promoting sustainability. These projects are directly scalable with the supply chain, from small local fisheries to global fisheries (e.g. tunas) spanning national boundaries and international waters . FIPs and sustainability can also provide disincentives, in that buyers may decide to refuse products that do not meet certain standards or cannot demonstrate transparently that they are improving

Output 2.1.1: Identification of mechanisms and stakeholder platforms to support incentives for sustainable and well-managed GoT fisheries value chains, including those linked to fishmeal for feeds.

85. This output will be achieved through the identification of mechanisms and stakeholder platforms to support incentives for sustainable and well-managed GoT fisheries value chains. The analyses will identify market actors, existing initiatives, and key stakeholders that have an interest in supporting the development of incentive mechanisms in the two target supply chains that depend upon raw material from the selected focus fisheries. Special attention will be placed on better understanding the multi-gear anchovy fishery and the fish sauce supply chain, where no market incentive mechanisms are currently in place. Similarly, while market incentives exist for fishmeal coming from multispecies fisheries, attention will be focused on identifying other sectors (e.g., surimi) with good prospects for the development of market incentives. The analysis of key actors may require supply chain mapping by using market data tools and available official data, as well as primary data gathering and consultation with key stakeholders.

Before rolling out the implementation of activities, the project will analyse the potential uptake by supply chain companies of the improvement frameworks planned for development by the project as market incentive mechanisms. This activity aims to minimize the risk of project interventions not receiving attention from the private sector and counting with enough buy-in amongst targeted supply chain. Several different methodologies and their combinations may be used to gauge interest of key stakeholder groups, ranging from participatory consultations and methods, semi-structured interviews, or a survey. Main target group for the consultation are suppliers and buyers of the end products. However, processors and other stakeholders within the supply chain, including fishers, also will be considered.

In collaboration with stakeholders (e.g., governments and key actors in relevant supply chains, including private-public partnerships, inclusive businesses, and others within relevant supply chains) a plan will be developed outlining the steps that the project will take to generate or improve selected incentive mechanisms. The plan will outline the specific actions and milestones envisaged in the implementation process, including the technical components and the market engagement components. SFP has mobilized significant co-funding for support to this process.

Tentative activities

- Activity 2.1.1a. Carry out grounded baseline analyses of at least two supply chains using raw material from key fisheries within the GoT.
- Activity 2.1.1b. Gauge interest of key stakeholder groups to develop market incentives through newly created or already existing improvement frameworks that utilize pre-competitive collaborations and/or public-private alliances.
- Activity 2.1.1c Prepare a plan to develop or improve/refine at least two market incentive mechanisms that will receive support from the project.

Output 2.1.2: Market and other innovative incentive mechanisms implemented to enhance sustainable fisheries value chains aimed to promote sustainable sourcing of fish and aquatic products, as well as to transition to low-impact fishing practices

86. There are two improvement frameworks currently used to drive purchasing decisions by buyers of marine ingredients in the US and EU markets: Marin Trust certification (and its Improvement Program and Multispecies Pilot) and FishSource. By using the newly developed FAO Technical Guidelines (Leadbitter et al. 2022) for multi-species fisheries management, collaborative work will be established with Marin Trust in order to analyse and build agreement on how current improvement frameworks used by the marine ingredients supply chains can be adapted for multi-species tropical fisheries such as those in the GoT. In contrast with the marine ingredients supply chain, no known improvement framework (e.g. certification, ratings or other standard) is currently being used by the fish sauce market. A newly developed Responsible Sourcing Scheme is initially envisaged. The creation of such an improvement framework will be highly experimental. This improvement framework will be generated through a participatory process that necessarily considers the nuanced challenges and complexities of the fisheries and establishes a realistic improvement ladder that can be adopted by supply chain companies and triggers the development of Fishery Improvement Projects.

87. Outreach to relevant supply chain players will be done in order to promote uptake of the newly generated or refined incentive mechanisms. This can be done through one-to-one meetings with major suppliers and buyers, as well as through established pre-competitive collaborations such as the Supply Chain Roundtables coordinated by SFP, and supported by co-funding leveraged by SFP specifically for this purpose. In this vein, the Global Roundtable on Marine Ingredients will play a key role, as its participants include major companies with interests in the fishmeal and fish oil derivates of raw material from the GoT?s multi-species trawl fishery. In the case of the fish sauce supply chains, uptake will heavily depend on SFP?s broad network of seafood suppliers, buyers, and partners, including retailers in the US and EU markets, but also through an expanded network of partners and suppliers from domestic and regional markets that SFP plans to build over the life of the project. Major Seafood Shows, such as the Seafood Expo North America (SENA) in Boston, the Seafood Expo Global (SEG) in Barcelona, or the Seafood Expo Asia may be used to promote uptake of the newly developed or refined market incentives created with support from the project. Costs related to market engagement activities during major seafood shows will be mainly covered by SFP using co-finance.

88. At least one FIP will be supported by the GoTFish project. SFP usually provides technical advice during the initial stages of FIP implementation or aids the completion of critical activities that the FIP is unable to accomplish on its own. Typical SFP support during the initial stages of a FIP focuses on developing FIP baseline assessments or workplans and providing advice on establishing a FIP governance mechanism and funding structure. All SFP-supported FIPs are led by industry, so SFP works to ensure that the project will be sustainable and industry funded by the end of the project, that FIP participants establish the critical public-private alliances (such as collaboration arrangements with the research and management authorities) and engage the needed critical mass (e.g., the most important producers and mid supply chains ?e.g. processors, by volume) to achieve the FIP?s goals, or on addressing the bottlenecks that are preventing FIP progress.
SFP will use its wide network of supply chain partners and the co-funding it leverages to cover travel and meeting expenses to raise awareness of the enhanced or new improvement frameworks developed as incentive mechanisms under the project during major seafood events and related fora. This will be accomplished by project supported activities such as, creating specific communications products on the market tools developed by the project; connecting engaged buyers with suppliers and producers; and promoting peer-to-peer learning exchanges among supply chain actors involved in the focus fisheries and their supply chains.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 2.1.2a Develop or refine at least two new or existing market incentive mechanisms to enhance sustainable fisheries value chains that serve to promote environmental and social improvements, including gender equity.
- Activity 2.1.2b Promote uptake by key supply chains of project supported market incentive mechanisms to engage in sustainable sourcing of fish and aquatic products.
- Activity 2.1.2c Support at least one Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) to meet the requirements of improvement frameworks and incentive mechanisms, so that producers transition to low-impact fishing practices.

- Activity 2.1.2d Support engaged regional supply chains in two-way communications with markets (e.g., communicating the attributes of project supported market incentive tools and improvement frameworks, connecting engaged supply chains with interested buyers or promoting peer-to-peer learning among supply chain actors).

Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia)

Executing Agency: University of Queensland; Department of Fisheries Malaysia

Outcome 3.1: Improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations and fishery socioeconomic considerations in the management of fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand through deeper understanding of the ecological transboundary corridors existing in the Gulf of Thailand, leading to enhanced resilience of vulnerable aquatic species and those important for regional food security and sovereignty (SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1)

89. This component will contribute to the conservation of globally significant biodiversity, identifying the existing ecological corridors in the GoT LME that are important both for biodiversity and fisheries. In the East coast of Peninsular Malaysia, this will include the identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA). The project will contribute to the conservation of valuable biodiversity resources, as well as food security through improved management of fisheries, and the protection of the livelihoods of thousands of people who rely on marine ecosystem for their day-to-day existence. This component is envisaged to improve transboundary management of coastal and fisheries resources within the GoT LME especially in transboundary stocks replenishments and biodiversity protection. The identification of ecological corridors will focus on two aspects for prioritization: 1) Priority corridors for vulnerable or threatened species present of global biodiversity significance in the GoT) and 2) species of commercial importance to fisheries, which have transboundary movements during different life stages.
Different approaches will be needed for the identification of the important ecological corridors at the GoT scale and higher resolution scale for Malaysia. Starting with the larger GoT scale, the plan is to use existing datasets and potentially supplement that with limited demographic dispersal modelling for fisheries if insufficient data are available. Thus, the primary approach will be to identify corridors of migration and habitat use (including nesting) by key taxa including marine mammals, turtles and whale sharks. Global and regional datasets exist for these. Turtle nesting: UNEP-WCMC ; Turtle migrations: Status of the World Sea Turtles (https://www.seaturtlestatus.org/); global models of whale shark distribution, that can be applied within the GoT for a more detailed estimate of feasible hotspots given local data on sea temperature, chlorophyl-a, depth, and distance from shore ; and country-level data on dugong distribution exists for Thailand , Cambodia/Viet Nam , and Malaysia , and syntheses have been carried out by UNEP (UNEP 2002) and the Global Register of Migratory Species.

There are multiple methods available to integrate such data into regional planning and the project will explore the application of each with the broader set of users. These include site selection criteria for key nursery habitats or corridors including the potential to identify Key Biodiversity Areas where residence times are high and population levels critical , , network design criteria for essential

bottlenecks in population migration , , and explicit policy recommendations on connected populations . The project will collate regional datasets, many of which are not available in the primary literature, as well as expert knowledge on the key habitats and corridors of key fisheries species. For example, the Indo-Pacific Mackerel (Rastrelliger brachysoma) appear to utilize Terengganu and Pahang in Malaysia as a regionally-significant ecological corridor that connects international jurisdictions. At the finer spatial scale within Malaysia the focus will concentrate on (1) the role of mangroves as nursery habitats for a variety of fish and invertebrate species and (2) the corals and their fisheries. There is strong evidence from Fisheries Department surveys that areas of mangroves are exceptionally important nursery habitats, which aligns with global studies. Methodologies to map corridors of mangrove nurseries with offshore adult habitat will be adapted to the distribution of coastal resources in Malaysia , thereby identifying priority locations for consideration in MPAs or other forms of protection. These analyses will be based on existing maps of major habitats as well as existing algorithms of nursery habitat function that prioritise habitat importance, in part according to their tidal profile; emergent mangroves provide weaker nursery benefits .

Connectivity in coral reef fisheries can be modelled using particle tracking and new algorithms have been developed under a recent World Bank/GEF project at the University of Queensland to operationalize such connectivity for rebuilding reef fisheries. These approaches are now routinely applied in eastern Indonesia in the creation of new MPAs. Specifically, they identify the key source locations to resupply larvae to important fishing grounds. The tools to implement such methods are freely available. The approach does require models of larval dispersal, which are created from regional oceanographic models and the project will fund such work in key parts of the GoT including Malaysia. It is important to note that a key justification for adopting The University of Queensland at the Executing Agency of the Malaysian component is their scientific experience in modelling and applying connectivity for planning at both local and regional levels. and also headed the GEF Capturing Coral Reef Ecosystem Services project (CCRES) and the Migratory Connectivity in the Ocean project.

Involvement of UQ will help ensure that regional implementing agencies will, in collaboration with local data providers, have access to the latest approaches for modelling and applying connectivity. With regards to corridor identification, work done under Outcome 3.1.1. will synthesize available data on regional nursery, nesting and migratory sites / corridors throughout the GoT. This will have a focus on biodiversity and key regional fisheries species, mostly of a pelagic nature like the Indo-Pacific mackerel. These data will inform regional fisheries management plans with a view to ensuring transboundary sustainability of biodiversity and key fisheries species. Work done under Outcome 3.2.1 will utilise the data from 3.1.1. but include more detailed biodiversity information for Malaysia if available. It will also create new data layers on corridors and nursery habitats for mangrove nurseries and the connectivity of reef fisheries. These data will be used to map out the potential fisheries benefits accruing from existing and potentially new protected areas (i.e., the degree to which these areas provide important sources of fish larvae to major fishing grounds). There are two ways that the project will enhance management effectiveness. The first is by highlighting which areas of the existing conservation area provide the most important fisheries and conservation benefits (the latter being interpreted by the ability to replenish larvae within the MPA. This increased level of transparency of MPA function will help target enforcement resources where they can be more effective as well contribute to communication products. Secondly, the project will create a tool to predict the expected

fisheries benefits of different management areas. Such information is currently absent yet is frequently desired as part of an assessment of expected MPA functionality. An MPA?s function will improve as the brood stock of fisheries species improves within its borders and where the MPA has the potential to contribute important spillover to fished areas. By developing a monitoring tool for MPA fisheries benefits, the project will improve the governance of fisheries management areas by adding greater transparency and helping stakeholders set realistic expectations from protection.

The proposed project will integrate the management of inter-related ecosystems and incorporate marine spatial planning. Taking into consideration the local context and other effective conservation measures described by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the project will ensure the establishment of effective and dynamic management mechanisms by incorporating the latest science-based approaches to marine resource management, including Ecosystem-based Management and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The component will be implemented following a participatory approach, focused on the inclusivity of multidisciplinary stakeholders in the management and decision making of aquatic resources, and by ensuring that the project provides fair and equitable benefits for all stakeholders, particularly local communities. Through the use of up-to-date data on marine resource management and connectivity modelling, the project will address ecosystem and community resilience through the improvement of decision-making mechanisms, while also strengthening the enabling policy environment for marine spatial planning. The focus of this proposal is in Malaysia since the country has mobilized biodiversity funds ? however, IW funds will be used to increase the GoT understanding of the existing transboundary ecological corridors (important both for fisheries and biodiversity) and connectivity with the other three countries. This gained knowledge will be integrated into the four countries? EAFM plans as part of the IW funding and therefore directly contribute to reduce fisheries stress on marine biodiversity, contributing not only to Malaysia?s marine biodiversity (as case study country), but also to the other 3 countries.

90. This outcome will make use of International Waters funding to obtain greater understanding on the existing ecological corridors existing in the GoT that are relevant both for fisheries as well as for aquatic biodiversity conservation, especially with regards to transboundary species. The component will also serve to link with the work done in Malaysia related to marine spatial planning and mapping of key habitats and species, and integrating this information as part of Component 1.

Output 3.1.1: Mapping of aquatic ecological corridors and fishery socioeconomic profiles in the Gulf of Thailand

91. This first output will seek to map out the entire marine ecological system of the GoT with the purpose of establishing a general baseline for the GoT in terms of marine habitats, biodiversity composition, corridors of fish and coral larval dispersion as well as present economic areas. Focus will be given towards the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia as a pilot site, seeing as it is the southernmost state of the GoT. The outputs from the activities intend to provide a basis for the other three participating countries (Thailand, Cambodia, and Viet Nam) to further document their marine biodiversity and ecological assets in order to identify the marine ecological corridors in the GoT. It is envisioned that a regional GIS dataset / database will be established for the region that will contain updated information on important fisheries species distribution (inc. larval dispersion), distribution of

marine habitats (esp. corals, mangroves and seagrass beds), as well as the current status (Indicator 3.1.2). The mapping will be done through local consultations, using tools that were previously developed by the GEF-CCRES project , such as Sesamme tool, which is a mapping tool to help people map values, threats, and activities. The scenarios being developed will be looking at ecological resilience, where people have a high dependence on natural resources - social considerations will be fully integrated into the process. The socioeconomic maps will also include information related to fishing areas and fishers socioeconomic profiles. Local communities in these areas will be engaged and actively participate in these processes and using these tools.

Tentative Activities:

- Activity 3.1.1a Mapping and archiving of regional ecological and biodiversity assets throughout major marine areas of GoT
- Activity 3.1.1b Analysis and potential modelling of fish larval dispersion
- Activity 3.1.1c Zoning of core conservation areas (both terrestrial and marine)
- Activity 3.1.1d Mapping of economic activity areas (e.g., fishing zones, tourism, and local community uses)

Output 3.1.2: Development of recommendations/guidelines for the alignment of key biodiversity considerations into national, transboundary and/or regional fisheries management plans and action plans

92. This output will focus on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation as part of ecosystem approaches into fisheries management planning. The basis for this, primarily from a Malaysian context, is that fisheries management and marine biodiversity conservation are still being addressed in silo. Rather, these two aspects should be managed collectively, seeing as biodiversity conservation directly and indirectly supports the sustainability of the fisheries industry. The envisaged outputs will be to develop marine biodiversity conservation guidelines to be mainstreamed into national and transboundary plans, as well as regional fisheries management plans.

Tentative Activity:

- Activity 3.1.2 Development of national guidelines with regards to managing biodiversity and fisheries in the seascape

Output 3.1.3: Creation of an interim Gulf of Thailand sub-regional technical discussion platform to address integration of fisheries and aquatic biodiversity and fishery socioeconomic considerations.

93. Building on Output 3.1.2, stakeholder collaborations remain a vital component to bridge and strengthen linkages between fisheries and marine biodiversity conservation. This output intends to establish a working platform for continuous collaborations between all relevant stakeholders. It is envisaged that this platform will also be used to for knowledge sharing and capacity building among the 4 participating countries, leveraging on Malaysia?s experience in seascape management and biodiversity conservation.

Note: This platform can also be considered as one of the working groups under Component 1

Tentative Activity:

- Activity 3.1.3 National level consultations to form an interim Gulf of Thailand sub-regional technical discussion platform

Outcome 3.2: Reduced threats to vulnerable species and critical/ important habitats for food security and sovereignty with strengthened national and transboundary protection and management of aquatic resources in East Coast Peninsular Malaysia

94. This outcome will examine the existing ecological corridors of critical and important habitats for aquatic resources in East Coast Peninsular Malaysia, especially the biodiversity significant species, and EBSA covering migratory routes, spawning, feeding, aggregation and nursery grounds, and other related habitats. These species and areas will be identified, mapped and their status assessed. Work under this outcome will also address the linkages between biodiversity and fisheries, through for example, the evaluation of benefits accrued by MPAs into fisheries areas as well as the level of biodiversity protected. The marine ecological corridor of East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia will have the following elements: i) a focus on conserving biodiversity at the landscape, ecosystem or regional scale, ii) an emphasis on maintaining or strengthening ecological coherence, primarily through providing for connectivity, iii) ensuring that critical areas are buffered from the effects of potentially damaging external activities, iv)restoring degraded ecosystems where appropriate, and v) promoting the sustainable use of natural resources in areas of importance to biodiversity conservation. The East coast of Peninsular Malaysia has been identified as an important ecological corridor. Research suggests that there is biological connectivity from the Southern islands of Johor and the Northern islands of Terengganu, indicating that these widely separated islands are dependent upon each other for re-supply with larvae. It is highly important to understand the spatial connectivity of trans-boundary species through genetic studies to ensure proper management of the existing resources and to protect important marine ecological corridors. Genetic studies have been carried out on fisheries species, such as the spotted sardinella (Amblygaster sirm), and the Indo-Pacific Mackerel (Rastrelliger brachysoma), as well as on other species such as Longtail Tuna (Thunnus tonggol), as well as other important biodiversity species such as the green turtles (Chelonia mydas). Other endangered species found in the GoT include the Dugong (Dugong dugon), Dolphin and whale species, sea turtles, and whale sharks (Rhincodon typus). During PPG phase, the relevant information about these species will be analysed for the determination of the ecological corridors relevant for GoT Fisheries and Biodiversity (more information in Annex G).

95. In identifying the linkages, the status and connectivity of resources within ecosystems as well as the distribution of threats ranging from climate change to local anthropogenic causes will be assessed. These results, in addition to assessments of community resilience under outcome 3.3. will be integrated into the broader Marine Spatial Planning initiatives (linkages with Component 1).

96. To achieve this, the project will also work on strengthening the institutional and legal framework for integrated coastal resources management and marine spatial planning (MSP), establishing a system for more rational use of marine space, its resources and the interactions between its uses, to balance demands for development with the need to protect the environment, and to achieve

social and economic objectives. This is in line with the National Coastal Zone Physical Plan 2 which calls for the protection of our marine ecosystem through implementation of marine spatial planning, gazettement of important biodiversity areas as well as management of marine resources through the seascape approach. This approach will be a significant achievement for Malaysia if Fisheries Management Plans and Marine Spatial Plans developed through the project are operationalise at national and local levels. These documents will be precursors to establish long term integrated institutional arrangement to manage our fisheries resources and our marine biodiversity as well as to secure sustainable funding to manage these areas. The process will create transparent participatory approach that aspires to leave no one behind and embraces the co-management concept.

Output 3.2.1: Identification of ecological corridors of critical and important habitat for aquatic resources in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia with spatial maps and information available for EAF planning and identification of management and protection measures including protected areas (PAs).

97. Marine protected areas in Peninsular Malaysia are established under the National Fisheries Act which allows for the gazettement of a 2 nautical area around islands, which are defined as Marine Parks. However, this system presents various management challenges, notably that the Marine Parks Unit (under the Fisheries Department of Malaysia) only has jurisdictions in marine waters, while land use is managed by other national agencies.

98. Moving forward, it is vital for a different approach to be adopted to strengthen biodiversity conservation and management at the seascape level. This output will thus focus on establishing marine ecological corridors to connect the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia as one functional marine ecosystem, which will thus benefit fisheries management in the long-term through sustainable zoning and management of different marine areas.

Output 3.2.1 will make use of the static data layers developed under Outcome 3.1, to model how the seascape functions and therefore how alternative management decisions, such as where to locate MPAs, will influence outcomes. The activities under this output will examine connectivity of threatened species, fisheries species, and biodiversity across three scales: regional migration, inter-habitat ontogenetic migration, and larval dispersal.

Tentative Activities:

- Activity 3.2.1.a Compilation of existing data on migratory species throughout Malaysia Waters (and transboundary GoT areas). While some of these data, such as turtle nesting sites (data.unep-wcmc.org), occur in existing global databases, many are held locally. The project will work with local organizations within the GoT to collaborate, share their data, and contribute to the open-access metadata system MiCO (Migratory Connectivity in the Ocean), which was created by UQ research scientist Dr Daniel Dunn (a member of the project). Daniel?s team use a variety of modelling approaches to help estimate migratory corridors using available data.
- Activity 3.2.1.b Estimate the strength of ontogenetic migration for fisheries species that use coastal wetlands, including mangroves, as nursery habitats prior to moving offshore to adult

reef habitat . This will be done building from earlier spatial algorithms that estimate the strength of inter-habitat connectivity , , and adapting them for differences in tidal ranges that strongly influence the degree to which mangroves provide a stable nursery habitat . These algorithms highlight which coastal areas provided the strongest benefits and which offshore reefs experience these benefits. Such information helps identify corridors of connected habitat that may be considered for shared protection.

- Activity 3.2.1.c Use simulations of fish and coral larval dispersal on ocean currents to estimate the connections among reefs. The use of such Lagrangian oceanographic models with particle tracking is more comprehensive and cost-effective than evaluating genetic connectivity, though comparisons between approaches have generally found good levels of agreement , . Data on larval dispersal pathways can be instrumental in identifying sites that lend themselves to either biodiversity conservation or the replenishment of fisheries. For the latter, the project will focus on sites that are ?self-reliant? and not dependent upon larval resupply from unprotected locations, and then identifying locations that supply key fishing grounds with new larvae. Building the source populations of these sites, through MPAs can help rebuild fisheries . Similarly, it is possible to take advantage of coral dispersal pathways to identify sites that play an exceptional role in helping other reefs recover after heatwaves or local damage . Such information supports the building of resilience plans that helps ecosystems ? and the people using them ? adapt to climate change. Major coral sources might be targeted for additional monitoring, protection from pests like crown-of-thorns starfish, or prioritized for restoration if damaged .The use of ?seascape connectivity? models at these three hierarchical levels allows the consequences of alternative management scenarios to be compared.
- Activity 3.2.1.d Simulate alternative MPA design options and evaluate their impacts. To communicate MPA designs and obtain support from stakeholders, continuous stakeholder consultations as well as communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) programmes will be conducted throughout project duration. These will be done through workshops, focus group discussions, seminars and face-to-face interviews. Such stakeholder engagements will be aided using community mapping tools, created under an earlier GEF project, Capturing Coral Reef Ecosystem Services. Specifically, an iPad-based app ?Sesamme? has been developed to help people map the resources, activities, and threats in their local environment (ccres.net). Regular meetings will be held with decision makers at state levels to discuss establishment of MPAs and proposed management regimes for the whole stretch of East Coast Peninsular Malaysia.

Output 3.2.2: Identification and establishment of management measures in four conservation areas to ensure they provide the highest potential return for achieving biodiversity conservation (following the METT) and fisheries management targets

99. Following from Output 3.2.1, this output intends to further strengthen the management of marine conservation areas in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia (with the creation of two new MPAs). These will encompass both marine parks as well as identified seascape areas collectively. In turn, this output will also endeavour to establish linkages on how biodiversity conservation will directly

contribute to fisheries management through effective enforcement of no-take zones, closed season to allow for stock regeneration, and other conservation measures.

Tentative Activity:

- Activity 3.2.2 Identify important biodiversity areas for gazettement as protected areas and preparation of respective management plans

Outcome 3.3: Enhanced resilience of ecosystems and associated biodiversity in East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia

Note: The Outputs under this Outcome are all inter-related with each other and as such, the tentative activities reflect all three outputs collectively.

100. This outcome will work on the establishment of effective and dynamic management mechanism by incorporating the latest science-based approaches to marine resource management, including ecosystems-based management and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The project will establish participatory research and monitoring plans for fisheries replenishment zones (including MPAs, EBSA, refugia and other OECM areas), providing up-to-date data in improving decision-making mechanisms, with the aim of ensuring fair and equitable benefits for all stakeholders, especially local communities in the fisheries replenishment zones and other conservation areas. The project will also investigate the resilience and vulnerability levels of coastal/island communities to changes in their environment, especially socio-economic aspects, and formulate strategies to improve their resilience and adaptive capacity, through direct support to blue sector livelihoods that promote the conservation of biodiversity (the livelihood support will be dependent on the mobilization of national budget, instead of the BD funds). The project will incorporate mechanisms to increase inclusivity of multidisciplinary stakeholders in the management and decision making of the fisheries management especially the fisheries replenishment zones (MPA, EBSA, refugia and OECM areas). The development of priority ecosystem resilience maps will focus primarily on the coral reefs of Malaysia seeing as they are a key biodiversity asset. The major threats to these ecosystems are global warming (coral bleaching events), sedimentation reaching the coast from rivers, and overfishing. Reef habitats provide high quality habitat for small scale fisheries, and habitat quality is a key determinant of productivity, as is the proximity of mangrove nurseries which can mitigate some loss of reef habitat quality. Threats to reefs will be adapted from the existing ?Reefs at Risk? for water quality and fishing whereas climate change will be mapped using patterns of relative thermal stress during heatwaves as measured by NOAA satellites. Together these data layers provide information on the exposure of reefs to damage. A full vulnerability analysis can then be undertaken in a participatory manner where community groups identify factors that confer sensitivity and adaptive capacity of the system. High sensitivity would include dominance by highly sensitive species to stress such as corals of the genus Acropora. Adaptive capacity includes factors that help the reef recover such as areas of lower fishing pressure, good mangrove cover (as this helps mitigate coral habitat loss for reef fisheries), and areas that are thought to be more acceptable for local management (good governance, high community cohesion, existing protection, etc.). Maps of reef vulnerability to damage will then be combined with community information on local value for fisheries, tourism and amenity. Areas of high vulnerability and community importance can then be considered as priority for further protection. This process

constitutes a ?participatory ecosystem resilience mapping? and is used to aid transparency and inclusion in the conservation prioritization process. This will be applied at a priority location (to be determined) where new levels of protection are being considered.

101. The outcome will be achieved through the following outputs:

Output 3.3.1: Participatory monitoring system established to monitor the effects of fishing and other pressures on marine biodiversity in conservation areas

102. Monitoring of impacts and pressures towards marine biodiversity requires substantial human and financial capacities. More often than not, weak monitoring sometimes contributes to biodiversity degradation seeing as impacts are not able to be properly addressed through sound actions.

103. This output will seek to establish a participatory monitoring system through collaboration with stakeholders and local communities to effectively manage marine biodiversity on the ground. This monitoring system can also be used to for more effective data collection in order to develop suitable mitigation / adaptive measures quicker and more efficiently.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 3.3.1.a Demonstration of a participatory monitoring program for Malaysian coral reefs and its use for identification of resilient reef areas. Through a collaboration with the citizen science organization, Reef Check Malaysia, a review will be undertaken of resilience assessment methodologies (Lam et al. 2020). Resilience methodologies consider ecological and social metrics relating to coral reefs. Through workshops that include invited experts, the project will select priority metrics and appropriate monitoring strategies. Other activities include a review of the status of existing resilient reef areas and identifying additional areas. This activity will be implemented in MPAs, proposed MPAs, and in strategically important areas such as reefs that provide critical stepping stones of connectivity among MPAs. These datasets are important for operationalizing resilience-based management planning. Specifically, we will be able to assess where resilience is likely to be high, where and why resilience might be impeded, and what interventions might be suitable for improving resilience. The concept of resilience here embraces both the ecosystem and its biodiversity as well as the social resilience of dependent communities.
- Activity 3.3.1.b Creation of a tool that estimates the fisheries benefits expected from MPAs. Here, local monitoring data, estimates of fishing pressure, and the connectivity of MPAs to fished areas will be integrated to help planners anticipate the expected benefits of MPAs. This tool will help managers optimize their design and biomass targets for MPAs in order to improve fishery benefits. These activities support the element of Outcome 3.3.1 that speaks to reducing fishing pressure; it reveals how a reduction in fishing pressure is likely to improve fishery benefits.

Output 3.3.2: Map priority areas to improve resilience of ecosystem components including identification of existing threats and vulnerabilities (including climate change and other natural and human hazards)

104. Marine habitats are both subjected to anthropogenic activities, as well as the growing impacts of climate change. Improving the resilience of marine habitats (i.e., coral reefs, seagrass beds, and mangroves) is crucial as these areas help sustain the future of the fisheries industry. This output will aim to determine areas that require immediate interventions to improve ecosystem/habitat resilience to ensure that the ecosystem services remain functional in the long term.

Tentative Activities:

- Activity 3.3.2a Determine priority areas based on habitat/ecosystem resilience considerations
- Activity 3.3.2b Prepare list of recommendations for priority actions in these areas

Output 3.3.3: Development of participatory ecosystem resilience plans within and beyond Marine Protected Areas that address the needs of the ecological corridors.

105. Building on the previous Outputs, ecosystem resilience plans will become crucial tools to ensure that marine habits are able to withstand pressures and climate change impacts in the long-term. While national resilience plans are able to provide guidance, localised plans will be more effective as it can and will directly address all issues related to a specific site. This output will seek to develop participatory ecosystem resilience plans for various marine conservation areas under Component 3. This will require continuous stakeholder engagements and opportunities for involvement in these plans, in order for it to be realised and implemented effectively.

Tentative Activities:

- Activity 3.3.3a Incorporate resilience-based management planning and resilience assessment methodology into marine spatial planning system/guideline
- Activity 3.3.3b Develop resilience strategy to provide guidance on managing marine resources across East Coast Peninsular Malaysia.
- Activity 3.3.3c Capacity building on resilience principles among multiple stakeholders (agencies, students, and local communities).

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Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation

Executing Agency: SEAFDEC [RCU]

106. This component will contribute to IW focal area by facilitating project coordination and monitoring of project performance to achieve the expected outputs, enhancing the participation of stakeholders (with a strong focus on women?s involvement), and on creating, documenting, sharing and using of knowledge related to transboundary sustainable fisheries practices and aquatic ecological corridors. The project will promote replicability and scaling up of interventions within the GoT countries (particularly those areas not covered by the project, such as the South China Sea, and the Andaman Sea), and other regions, through regular contributions to IW Learn and LME Learn, among other regional and international forums.

Outcome 4.1: Efficient knowledge management and targeted communication, improves the understanding amongst stakeholders of ecosystem and fishery linkages in the Gulf of Thailand (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 2)

Output 4.1.1: GoT project monitoring system established and implemented. (including mid-term and final evaluations).

107. This output will work on developing the M&E tracking system for the indicators under components 1, 2 and 3, with linkages between the national and sub-regional levels, for effective monitoring of the output level indicators. The Mid Term Review and final Evaluations will also be facilitated under this Output, as well as the Annual PSC meetings.

Tentative Activities

- Activity 4.1.1a Develop the M&E tracking system for indicators under components 1, 2 and 3 (both at regional and national levels monitoring).
- Activity 4.1.1b Regular monitoring of output level indicators
- Activity 4.1.1c Mid Term Review (including assessment against output level and GEF Core Indicators).
- Activity 4.1.1d Final Evaluation (including assessment against output level and GEF Core indicators).
- Activity 4.1.1e Annual PSC meetings (including the development of the project exit strategy by the end of the project).
- Activity 4.1.1f Preparation of Environmental and Social Safeguards Plan (ESSP) during the Inception Phase (covering ALL project components), following FAO Guidelines and previous to the design of field activities, and completion of the METT Scores for Malaysia MPAs under the project.

Output 4.1.2: GoT knowledge management strategy and communication strategy established and implemented

108. Activities under this output will include the development of the knowledge management strategy and communication strategy for the GoTFish project, the development of the project website and lessons learned.

Tentative activities

- Activity 4.1.2a Develop the knowledge management strategy for sharing knowledge and lessons learned related to the GoTFish components.
- Activity 4.1.2b Develop the communication strategy for the GotFish.
- Activity 4.1.2c Develop and maintain the GoTFish Project Website
- Activity 4.1.2.d Develop 10 lessons learned knowledge materials.

Output 4.1.3: Participation in the activities of the IW Learn Project.

109. This output is to ensure participation in the activities related to IW Learn, and sharing knowledge. An annual knowledge sharing event will be convened by the project and engage with GEF supported projects and relevant stakeholder initiatives.

Tentative activities

- Activity 4.1.3a Facilitate participation of project stakeholders to the IW Learn annual meetings (budget allocated is 1 % of the IW budget)
- Activity 4.1.3b Share lessons learned documented in Output 4.1.2 to the IW Learn website.

Outcome 4.2: Enhanced stakeholder involvement and gender equity

Output 4.2.1: GoTFish gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented

110. Under this output, the gender and stakeholder engagement strategies will be developed and implemented.

Tentative activities

- Activity 4.2.1a Revise and implement the GoTFish Gender Strategy, documenting lessons learned
- Activity 4.2.1b Revise and implement the GoTFish Stakeholder engagement strategy of the GoTFish

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

111. The proposed project is aligned with the GEF7 International Waters Focal Area, through its objective of strengthening Blue Economy opportunities. This will be done by working specifically on the two key areas of strategic action: 1) sustaining healthy coastal and marine ecosystems, and 2) catalysing sustainable fisheries management. As described above, the proposed project is in line with the SCS-SAP, and it will strengthen the implementation of the SCS-SAP Fisheries Outcomes, and the SCS-SAP regional cooperation, and its call for sub-regional and bi-lateral agreements to address SCS-SAP issues such as fisheries.

112. The project is designed to address the governance and management issues of transboundary fisheries resources in Component 1, promoting the implementation of good practices that integrate fisheries management and biodiversity conservation at the regional level, as well as other socioeconomic and governance considerations, following the EAF. This is directly in line with the IW focal area aim to support the management of transboundary marine resource and addressing the complexity of transboundary marine ecosystems such as the GoT, through multinational cooperation. The project will provide innovative approaches to the management of multispecies fisheries by expanding on single-species approaches commonly applied in fisheries in more temperate parts of the world. The project results will facilitate integration of fisheries considerations within the broader coastal and marine development objectives (e.g. by contributing to marine spatial planning processes),

thereby facilitating the understanding of the opportunities and constraints of different options and their impact on fisheries (and vice-versa).

113. The project will follow GEF guidance for private sector engagement, in particular, Pillar 2, Mobilizing the private sector as an agent for market transformation. Component 2 will focus on the alignment of the private sector with sustainability initiatives towards improved fisheries management and healthier coastal and marine ecosystems through EAF, engaging two key supply chains that depend upon key resources from the ecosystem. Engagement of private sector actors will be done at several levels of the supply chains, from retailers (through SFP?s network of retail partners), major suppliers in international markets (e.g. fishfeed companies purchasing fish meal and fishoil) and regional buyers who supply products from the GoT (e.g such as Thai Union, CP Foods, MarinTrust and others), as well as fishers and processors in producing countries (to aid the development of Fishery Improvement Projects). SFP has leveraged co-funding to support these engagement processes, and the overall aim of component 2 is to stimulate private sector action to promote positive changes. This will be done by creating incentives along the value chains to reduce the impacts of fisheries on marine ecosystems, improve stock health and overall fisheries management, working as well towards improved wellbeing of fishery dependent communities and more equitable supply chains.

114. Component 3 is focused on strengthening national and transboundary protection and management of critical habitats for biodiversity conservation and effective management of key fish stocks, aligning with GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area, through its Objectives 1) Mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes, and 2) Addressing direct drivers to protect habitats and species, and with IW Focal Area, investing in a greater understanding of ecological corridors and their contribution to maintaining transboundary marine ecosystems (both related to fisheries and biodiversity).

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

115. In the baseline scenario, it was shown how GoT countries are working at the national level to achieve their fisheries targets. GoTFish will build on the existing experience on fisheries governance and management, and use the GEF investment to coordinate actions at the regional level that will have global significance in improving sustainable fisheries value chains through:

- a) GEF investment will accelerate regional momentum towards sustainable fisheries in the GOT, by bringing together key national and international agencies working on conservation and sustainable fisheries: GoTFish will bring together different partners, including UN Agencies, NGOs, academics and research institutions, the private sector and government stakeholders to work under a common vision for the GoT. The GoT project will leverage a wide range of existing global, regional and investments, capacities and knowledge for the long- term benefit of the global environment and communities dependent on fisheries. GEF support is necessary to coordinate cross-agency partnerships to champion sustainable fisheries under a common platform that is urgently required in the sub-region, through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach and the Blue Economy principles. These partnerships will enable effective sharing and learning

between initiatives based on harmonized approaches and a joint results framework for GoT?s transboundary fisheries that would not be possible without the support from GEF.

- b) Speed-up policy reform processes in participating countries so that they are better harmonized and are based on regional and global best practices and guidelines: Through the investment in this project, the GEF will be supporting transboundary fisheries management approach in the GoT working directly with the neighbouring countries, generating and sharing examples of good practice in terms of transboundary fisheries governance and management, and linkages with sustainable fisheries value chains. Through the project, countries will be able to learn from, and share lessons with, their neighbours when planning and monitoring their national fisheries plans and would allow them to have a shared approach for planning, monitoring and implementing activities that consider transboundary issues and solutions, which will support more comprehensive reform processes at the national level. This would not be possible without the GEF investment, which will be used to support a regional approach for fisheries governance and management in the GoT sub-region, and the sharing of knowledge and approaches.
- c) Make a difference in the use of market incentives for fisheries: GoTFish will focus on the use of incentives (positive and negative), particularly market incentives such as the Fisheries Improvement Schemes for transboundary species, looking at their application for small-scale fisheries, especially multispecies tropical fisheries, and the linkage to fishmeal for fish and livestock feeds. The GEF investment will allow exploring social sanctions and incentives focused on social-trust and participatory management systems, connecting local fishers with global consumers in a sustainable and transparent manner, also taking gender equality aspects in fisheries into consideration.
- d) Integrate the human dimension in fisheries value chains: Through the promotion of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries, GoTFish will integrate human wellbeing considerations as part of fisheries value chains, particularly with regards to livelihoods, decent working conditions (e.g. in fishing vessels, processing plants, etc.), and ensuring that gender issues are given full attention during the project implementation. In this sense, GoTFish will be addressing one key limitation of the SCS-SAP, that did not make mention of gender or women. The GEF investment will support small-scale fishing communities and their direct involvement in improving fisheries livelihoods by working towards rebuilding fisheries through better MPA placement to protect explicit (connected) sources of brood stock and sustaining and promoting ecosystem health.

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

116. Through the enhancement of the fisheries potential for the Blue Economy in the GoT, this project is directly linked to the delivery of global environmental benefits that the GEF?s international waters focal area is designed to achieve. The project will directly contribute to improved management of 4 M Ha of the GoT (related to GEF Core Indicator 5) and includes several globally important habitats and species. The project will ensure that 315,000 tonnes (related to GEF Core Indicator 8) of globally overexploited marine fisheries is moved to more sustainable levels. Moreover, lessons from this project will also contribute directly to global lessons on international waters and fisheries management.

117. With GEF?s incremental support, the project will create joint policy frameworks and knowledge platforms to define strategic actions for the region, formulate transboundary EAFM management plans, promote innovative and effective incentives working with the private sector, ultimately shifting unsustainable fishing practices towards joint sustainable fishing practices along the value chain that will generate significant global environmental benefits.

118. This will be done through strengthened regional management of fisheries resources and addressing jointly IUU fishing, which one single country cannot achieve on its own. Through improved cooperation in the region, GoTFish will reduce this key driver of marine biodiversity loss and its impacts on coastal and marine ecosystems (coral reefs, seagrass, and mangroves) and on global threatened species (e.g. dugongs). This will be achieved by facilitating data sharing into Marine Spatial Planning that can take into consideration the marine ecosystem as well as the connectivity and networks of species and interactions, information that will be very useful when developing management plans of fisheries species, but also conservation action plans of key species and habitats. Even though the project will not develop MSP plans, it will ensure that fishery objectives are integrated into MSP discussions in the GoT.

119. The project will highlight the complementary ways in which protection of biodiversity and fisheries benefits can be gleaned from the use of MPAs and fisheries refugia. The project estimates that under Component 3, by the end of the project, at least 240,604 ha (related to GEF Core Indicator 2) of coastal area will under improved management on the East coast of Peninsula Malaysia (i.e., new MPA or improved METT score of existing MPAs) or at an advanced stage of the protection process (i.e., areas identified, first round of consultations completed). The approach to achieving this will be shared throughout the wider GoT region and refine the fisheries management paradigm, shifting towards integrated ocean management incorporating environmental (physical, biological and chemical) aspects of marine ecosystem functioning into fisheries management. The project will contribute to the Aichi Target No. 4 (sustainable production and consumption), Target 6 (applying ecosystem-based approaches in fish harvest management), Target 11 (10% of coastal and marine areas are conserved) and Target 14 (ecosystems that contributed to the livelihood are restored and safeguarded).

120. The project will contribute directly to the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG14 on Life Below Water, for rebuilding of fishery resources as well as SDG14b ensuring that people depending on the marine resources provided by the GoT for livelihoods, can continue to do so in a sustainable manner. The project will also contribute to other SDGs, such as SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), as well as SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), through a strong commitment to partnership and cooperation. The project will directly contribute to SDG 13 (Climate Action) with a focus on adapting island /coastal production (especially the smallholder) and making the livelihoods of coastal/ island populations more resilient to natural and anthropogenic disasters including climate change.

g) Innovativeness, sustainability, potential for scaling up and capacity development

Innovation

121. The project is innovative in its approaches to implementing the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) at a regional scale for complex, multispecies tropical fisheries, fostering of partnerships and networking platforms to develop solutions for national and transboundary fisheries, and by ensuring that knowledge related to marine fisheries and biodiversity in the GoT is integrated into the development of EAFM plans.

122. From a governance perspective, the GoT is one of small number of LMEs worldwide that does not include any waters within the High Seas, or Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ). This means that all decision-making will be done within the EEZ of the four coastal states ? as far as joint management of transboundary species in the GoT is concerned, this will be of interest to be documented from a governance arrangement perspective, since the governance rules for High Seas and use of RFMOs to coordinate this are different from the EEZ of coastal states.

123. From a management perspective, the project will be innovative by developing regional EAFM plans dealing with multispecies fisheries, such as trawl and purse seine fisheries. These fisheries are among the first in the world to apply tropical multispecies sustainability guidelines.

124. GoTFISH will be innovative in seeking practical solutions for the challenge of managing the multispecies GoT fisheries. The GoTFish project plans to incorporate the following sustainability guidelines that balances sustainable utilization of the fishery resources with biodiversity concerns, viz: fishery management units composed of a group of species are sustained at a level consistent with the aggregate MMSY; high-risk species within the group are sustained above a level where reproduction becomes seriously threatened (known as the point of recruitment impairment (PRI)); critical habitats (e.g. mangroves, seagrasses and coral reefs) are conserved and protected; and endangered, protected and threatened species are also conserved and protected.

125. The GotFish project will introduce innovative assessment methods, such as multispecies MMSY assessments and ecosystem modelling in an attempt to inform fisheries EAFM planning, both at the national and sub-regional level in applying this approach. This will assist tracking improvements of existing changes in the management measures applied in the GoT.

126. In adopting the sustainability guidelines outlined above, simple indicators and targets such as ?over-exploited fisheries moved to more than sustainable levels (metric tonnes)? need to be interpreted in the context of multispecies/multigear fisheries. For example, the ?overexploited? stocks in the GoT are mainly high-risk vulnerable species (such as grouper, some sharks and rays, emperors etc) that are usually caught in relatively low numbers and quantity compared with the more highly productive less vulnerable species (pony fish, shrimps and crabs). Moving the high-risk species to more sustainable levels (e.g. levels above their PRIs) will not contribute significantly to the metric tonnages of the catch, but will have significant benefits in terms of strengthening ecosystem resilience and increasing biodiversity.

127. Other innovations of the project include the engagement of the private sector through the alignment of supply chains with EAF management needs. Particularly, through the development of

incentive mechanisms in two supply chains that depend upon the raw material from fisheries that rely upon the catch of key ecosystem species. This will be done through strong commitment from trading partners (e.g. MarinTrust, etc.) that will serve as an incentive force to change towards better management. As an important part output of Component 2 ? GoTFish will document the specifically on how the incentives approach has led to behaviour change.

128. The project will also look at innovative ways to incorporate guidelines pertaining to improving livelihoods of small-scale artisanal fishers and fishing communities. The project will also create and strengthen working groups and other platforms to discuss on issues of regional importance, such as labour and migration, gender issues, certification and eco-labelling, etc, which form the basis for longer-term cooperative mechanisms for the GoT countries (see sustainability below).

129. Finally, the Project will also help incorporate the use of the seascape approach in managing both fisheries and marine biodiversity conservation. In particular, the Project will leverage on the experiences of Malaysia in implementing the seascape approach as a platform to engage the participation of the other three coastal states within the GoT.

Sustainability

130. The project will ensure institutional sustainability by basing future cooperative mechanisms on existing mechanisms and partnerships and building on past commitments. The focus of the project will be to build on and institutionalize the already existing collaboration in the GoT from the very beginning of implementation. This will include assessing the financial and political sustainability of the regional arrangements that will be discussed and decided in Component 1 of the project, and include costs and benefits of the different options that will be provided for countries to consider. The financial sustainability of the regional mechanism and the follow up to the implementation of the plans beyond the life of the project will be pursued through the commitment of national budgets for implementing the regional and national management plans and for maintaining regular regional meetings building on the existing governance structure provided by agencies such as SEAFDEC (or any coordination mechanism(s) developed/used by the countries as a result of the project).

131. The EAFM plans developed will rely on national implementation based on national priorities and financial resources, but guided by the project to show how transforming regional cooperation into national plans can be achieved.

132. The management plans developed will rely on national implementation based on national priorities and financial possibilities, although some pilots are envisaged as part of the project to show what are the requirements of transforming regional cooperation into national plans. The platforms and working groups will also require financial solvency in order to continue beyond the life of the project.

133. Additionally, the project will work to engage the private sector through various mechanisms that are expected to continue once the project ends, such as in supporting the development of industry funded Fishery Improvement Projects and public-private alliances aimed to advance the science and management of key fisheries that depend upon key species in the ecosystem.

134. Environmental sustainability is core to this project and has been emphasized throughout the PIF. Through the use of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries, and a strong focus on partnerships and participatory process, the project will improve the sustainability of fisheries resources, especially those currently addressed as overexploited , and promote ecosystem integrity and resilience - the project will implement the Blue Economy principles in fisheries, promoting changes in behaviour through the use of incentives and involving stakeholders (those with influence and those with interest) for the designing and implementation of long-term solutions for the environmental challenges facing the aquatic ecosystem in the Gulf.

135. Social sustainability will be ensured through strong participation of women and men at various levels of the supply chain, taking into consideration gender issues and the empowerment of women in particular (as they tend to be marginalized in fisheries development projects). The project will also rely on the use of Free Prior and Informed Consent previous to direct engagement with coastal fishing communities and their participation in the project. Through the exploration and use of social incentives and a focus on behaviour change, the project will aim to prompt an evolution towards sustainable practices, taking into account people?s livelihood options and wellbeing and by facilitating stakeholder participation in decision-making, and promoting gender equity.

136. These requirements will be part of the monitoring and evaluation system of the project, ensuring broad participation of stakeholders in the implementation of project activities.

137. The Exit Strategy and sustainability of the outcomes of the project will be discussed during the PSC meetings at the end of the project.

Potential for scaling up

138. The project will serve as example to other regions on how to manage transboundary stocks attending to livelihood and gender considerations and finding effective ways to align the private sector towards the common goal of sustainable EAF management. In this respect, the project will scale-up EAF as applied to complex multispecies fisheries in other LMEs, including the South China Sea, the Bay of Bengal and globally. Many countries involved also have other shared international waters ? particularly rivers and aquifers and work through this project can also cement their relationships, trust and aid their management. Engaging the private sector under component 2, especially by companies supplying large volumes from GoT resources (such as Thai Union), through industry roundtables and other market-based tools, can expand improvement models to other LMEs.

139. The project will also attempt to scale up the seascape approach in terms of managing transboundary fisheries management and marine biodiversity conservation. Leveraging on Malaysia as a case study area, Component 3 will endeavour to share knowledge and experiences in transboundary fisheries and biodiversity management.
Capacity Development.

140. The project has a strong focus on capacity development as part of all the components of the project. Some of the key areas where the project will focus strongly on capacity development include actions to enhance the capacity of stakeholders (individuals and relevant organizations), as well as the policy enabling environment, in areas such as:

- a) Enhance capacity of stakeholders for the management of transboundary fisheries, and on how to address other cross-cutting issues (such as climate change, IUU fishing, gender issues in fisheries, etc.) and promote the development and implementation of EAFM plans, by addressing the governance, ecological and human dimensions of fisheries systems.
- b) Enhance the ability of stakeholders to engage in sub-regional GoT, bilateral and national dialogues to facilitate the design of coherent management measures and collaboration frameworks, as well as to better understand the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem connectivity in the development of legal/policy frameworks (national and regional).
- c) The project will also support the design and implementation of gender-sensitive capacity development initiatives for legal officers and other government representatives to support their awareness and implementation of fisheries-related global and regional instruments (e.g. PSMA, UNFSA, ILO C188).
- d) The project will also provide ?hands-on? capacity development opportunities to ensure full participation in regional working groups, develop work plans and M&E systems that guarantee ?proof of action?, and provide guidance regarding the financial sustainability of the working groups (e.g. cost-sharing arrangements?.
- e) Greater understanding of the connectivity and linkages between biodiversity conservation and fisheries objectives (including trade-offs and synergies).
- f) Capacity development of national stakeholders on aspects related to gender issues in fisheries throughout the project (e.g. when developing EAFM plans, take into consideration the different needs of women and men along the value chain, especially the buyers and marketers of fish).
- g) Capacity development to stakeholders and key industry players about currently available market-based tools, sustainability requirements of key markets as well as new emerging tools available to local and regional supply chains to promote sustainability and alignment with EAF in complex fisheries (e.g. multi-species tropical fisheries).

Summary of changes in alignment with the project design with the original PIF

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Project Components: Component 1: Regional transboundary fisheries governance and management strengthened Component 2: Alignment of incentive mechanisms Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia) established Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation	 Component 1: Regional transboundary fisheries governance and management strengthened Component 2: Alignment of incentive mechanisms Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia) established Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation	 No changes

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
GEF Core Indicators were integrated as part of the project components	GEF Core Indicator 2: Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (hectares) 240,604 ha of conservation area under improved conservation management and sustainable use in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia based on global Protected Area (PA) performance standards. GEF Core Indicator 5: Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (hectares; excluding protected areas) 4 million ha of marine fisheries habitat under improved management practices GEF Core Indicator 7: Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management. Working group on ?Stock status and fishing effort/capacity for sustainable use of GOT fishery resources? provides advice to National DOF on sustainable fishing effort/capacity Adopted regional mechanism for sharing data and information and reviewing the state of management of the GoT Fisheries GEF Core Indicator 8: Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons) 75 % of the over-exploited stocks fished sustainably	The GEF Core Indicators have been included at the top of the project framework as Core Indicators for the whole project to demonstrate how the how the project outcomes contribute to the achievement of the project objective. This is considered a clear way of demonstrating project impact, as different components will contribute to the same GEF Core Indicators. Some targets have been updated with new information gained during the PPG phase, and some additional ways of measuring the indicators and targets have been included e.g. the use of research vessel data for the Thailand EEZ. Core indicator 7 target has been made more explicit in terms of expected outcome.. Core Indicator 8 has been revised based on updated data published by the SAUP. The updated SAUP catch-status plots estimated that 41% of the stocks and 23% of the GoT catch was over-exploited in 2018= 420,000 tonnes. Rebuilding 75% of this amount = 315,000 tonnes. Note: The total catch of the GoT is estimated to be around 1.83 million tonnes in 2019, based on the PPG phase.

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
	(equivalent to 315,000 tonnes of catch). 15 out of 19 stocks in 50% of the GoT raised above 20% virgin biomass (190,000 tonnes) GEF Core Indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment 120,000 fish-workers (about 50% male and 50 % female) benefit from GEF investment	
Outcome 1.1: Fisheries resources and marine biodiversity ecosystem services are restored through strengthened regional transboundary governance and cooperation of GoT fisheries, building their resilience through improved habitat and fisheries management (SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1[1])	Outcome 1.1: Fisheries resources and marine biodiversity ecosystem services are restored through strengthened regional transboundary governance and cooperation of GoT fisheries, building their resilience through improved habitat and fisheries management (SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective)	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Output 1.1.1: Updated and regionally coherent fisheries policies across the GoT countries and strengthened national legal frameworks Output 1.1.2: Established regional stakeholder taskforces for improved trans-boundary fisheries management and addressing key regional issues Output 1.1.3: Development and implementation of regional action plans to address common fisheries issues (e.g. overfishing, overcapacity, IUU (illegal, unreported and unregulated) fishing, by-catch, ALDFG (abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear), lack of adequate fisheries information systems, role of coastal protection in a fisheries context, blue sector livelihoods, poverty, gender, labour and other social issues, as well as market inefficiencies including harmful subsidies, post-harvest losses. Output 1.1.4: Prioritization of regional, sub-regional and national transboundary related issues for fisheries management and related biodiversity and environmental issues. Output 1.1.5: Agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the Gulf of Thailand and accompanying regional EAFM plan	Output 1.1.1: Updated and regionally coherent fisheries policies across the GoT countries and strengthened national legal frameworks Output 1.1.2: Established regional stakeholder working groups for improved trans-boundary fisheries management and addressing key regional issues Output 1.1.3: Sub-regional implementation of existing regional action plans that address fisheries issues that are common to GoT countries Output 1.1.4: Prioritization of regional, sub-regional and national transboundary related issues for fisheries management and related biodiversity and environmental issues. Output 1.1.5: Agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the Gulf of Thailand	Slight changes in terminologies based on suggestion from the consultations (e.g. the use of ?working-groups? instead of ?task-force?). Output 1.1.3 will now focus on the review and facilitate the implementation of the existing action plans instead of creating new ones ? the text has been revised accordingly. The inclusion of EAFM plan as part of 1.1.5 has been removed as this is outcome 1.2, specifically indicator 1.2.3 The rest of the Outputs remain unchanged.

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Indicator 1.1.2. At least 1 regional stakeholder task-force and a key regional issue identified Indicator 1.1.3. 1 revised regional/ national fisheries policy/ guidelines/ RPOA/ NPOA for management of shared stocks (e.g. possible bilateral arrangement between Implementation State), that takes into account gender considerations and the different needs of women and men in the fisheries sector. Indicator 1.1.4 At least 2 Decisions and/or Recommendation related to shared stock management endorsed through the active participation of Inter-Ministry Committees/ National Level Committees Indicator 1.1.5 - 1 regional mechanism for transboundary GoT, based on existing platforms ((e.g. SEAFDEC- GoT Countries Technical Working Group, ASWGFi, RPOA-IUU) Indicator 1.1.6. ? At least 1 GoT sub-regional fisheries management plans/action plans that is developed/ revised for shared species/fisheries and other shared fisheries issues, with evidence that implementation has been initiated (e.g. national budget committed to implement the plans), following the EAF.	Indicator 1.1.1. At least 1 sub-regional (GoT countries) stakeholder working group and a key sub-regional issue identified and regional policy best practices shared. Indicator 1.1.2 At least 1 (a) policy area in the GotFish country polices identified as benefiting from improved consistency (b) revised RPOA for management with sub-regional arrangement between Implementation States (e.g. possible bilateral arrangement between Implementation State), that takes into account gender considerations and the different needs of women and men in the fisheries sector. Indicator 1.1.3: At least 2 decisions and/or recommendation related to shared stock management endorsed through the active participation of Inter-Ministry Committees/ National Level Committees. Indicator 1.1.4 One regional mechanism for sharing data and information and reviewing the state of management of the GoT Fisheries based on existing platforms ((e.g. SEAFDEC- GoT Countries Technical Working Group, ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU), ASWGFi, RPOA-IUU etc) Indicator 1.1.5.a One regional mechanism for transboundary GoT, based on existing platforms ((e.g. SEAFDEC-GoT Countries Technical Working Group, ASEAN Network for Combating IUU	Indicator numbers have been changed as a result of moving core indicators to the top of the list. The original PIF indicator 1.1.3 has been divided into (a) policy, (b) regional plans to link more closely with the outputs. Indicators 1.1.4 has been made more explicit in terms of the target. The original PIF indictor 1.1.6 has been moved to component 1.2 because it was related to sub-regional fisheries management plans, not governance arrangements.

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
	Fishing (AN-IUU), ASWGFi, RPOA-IUU etc) Indicator 1.1.5b: At least 2 decisions and/or recommendation related to shared stock management endorsed through the active participation of Inter-Ministry Committees/ National Level Committees.	
Outcome 1.2: Development and implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management plans in the Gulf of Thailand enhances the resilience against climate change and manages fishing effort of fisheries stakeholders (women and men) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1)	Outcome 1.2: Development and implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management plans in the Gulf of Thailand enhances the resilience against climate change and manages fishing effort of fisheries stakeholders (women and men) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1)	No changes

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Output 1.2.1 Stakeholder capacity to develop EAFM plans is strengthened, taking into consideration the different needs of women and men Output 1.2.2: Strengthened national fisheries management plans are implemented through the EAF approach Output 1.2.3: EAFM plans developed, addressing priority risks and opportunities to human well-being, ecosystem integrity and governance (including the components 2 and 3) including the implications of climate change on GoT countries? fisheries	Output 1.2.1: Stakeholder capacity to develop EAFM plans is strengthened, taking into consideration the different needs of women and men Output 1.2.2: Strengthened national fisheries management plans are implemented through the EAF approach. Note: National EAFM plans are called Fisheries Management plans locally, but because they are based on EAF, they can be considered as EAFM plans. Output 1.2.3: EAFM plans developed, addressing priority risks and opportunities to human well-being, ecosystem integrity and governance (including the components 2 and 3) including the implications of climate change on GoT countries? fisheries	No changes but terminology (e.g. EAFM plans) clarified.

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Indicator 1.2 .3 ? 30 % of raw fish supply that is converted to fishmeal comes from fisheries with an EAF plan and is part of a transparent catch documentation scheme Indicator 1.2.5 ? 4 national fisheries management plans/action that are developed/ revised for shared species/fisheries and other shared fisheries issues, with relevant participation of stakeholders. Indicator 1.2.6 ? 4 national plans that initiate implementation, with evidence of national commitment (e.g. national budget committed to implement the plans) following the EAF and addressing gender considerations	Indicator 1.2.1: At least one major capacity building exercise be provided to key stakeholders (including both women and men) in each of the four GoT participating States along with ongoing involvement of these stakeholders in the development and implementation of EAFM plans. Indicator 1.2.2. 30 % of raw fish supply that is converted to fishmeal comes from fisheries with an EAFM plan Indicator 1.2.3 Four national EAFM plans based on issues common to GoT countries are implemented and reviewed based on up-to-date resource assessments, and with relevant participation of stakeholders and evidence of national commitment (e.g. national budgets) following the EAF and addressing gender considerations. Indicator 1.2.3b Up-to-date assessments on the status of the fisheries resources, ecosystem structure and function, habitats, and ETPs are provided every 2 years throughout the project. Indicator 1.2.4. ? At least 1 GoT sub-regional EAFM plan developed for a transboundary fishery to include issues common across GoT countries, with evidence that implementation has been initiated (e.g. national budget committed to implement the plans), following the EAF	Indictor 1.2.1 has been added to provide a target for capacity development for EAFM planning. Original indictors 1.2.5 and 1.2.6 have been combined as 1.2.3 - both refer to national EAFM plans Indicator 1.2.3b has been added to reflect the importance of basing planning on the best available scientific evidence. Indicator 1.2.4 has been moved from component 1.1. (PIF indicator 1.1.6) and clarified (EAFM plan for a transboundary fishery).

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Component 2: Alignment of incentive mechanisms	Component 2: Alignment of incentive mechanisms	
Outcome 2 Outcome 2.1: Establishment of a market and behaviour incentive mechanism which reduces ecosystem stress from fishing, enhances the uptake of good practices supporting fisheries management and supports the transition to climate-resilient fisheries (integrating gender considerations and the different needs of women and men along the fishery value chain) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 3[2])	 Outcome 2.1: Establishment of a market and behaviour incentive mechanism which reduces ecosystem stress from fishing, enhances the uptake of good practices supporting fisheries management and supports the transition to climate-resilient fisheries (integrating gender considerations and the different needs of women and men along the fishery value chain) (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 3	 No change
Outputs Output 2.1.1: Identification of mechanisms and stakeholder platforms to support incentives for sustainable and well managed GoT fisheries value chains, including those linked to fishmeal for feeds Output 2.1.2: Market and other innovative incentive mechanisms implemented to enhance sustainable fisheries value chains aimed to promote sustainable sourcing of fish and aquatic products, as well as to transition to low impact fishing practices	Outputs Output 2.1.1: Identification of mechanisms and stakeholder platforms to support incentives for sustainable and well managed GoT fisheries value chains, including those linked to fishmeal for feeds Output 2.1.2: Market and other innovative incentive mechanisms implemented to enhance sustainable fisheries value chains aimed to promote sustainable sourcing of fish and aquatic products, as well as to transition to low impact fishing practices	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Indicator 2.1.1 ? 1 fishmeal transparency catch documentation scheme covering estimated 20 % of fishmeal production (or 2 commercial stocks) is in place and is being implemented Indicator 2.1.2 ? 2 market and/or behaviour change incentive mechanisms initiated (with women?s participation of at least 30%) Indicator 2.1.3 ? 10% of fisheries related establishments/operations that meet national or international certification and incorporates biodiversity/ sustainable resources/ resource protection considerations (direct and indirect) Indicator 2.1.4 ? At least 1 of private/public partnerships created at the regional level Indicator 2.1.5 ? At least 1 fisheries improvement projects (FIPs) taking place in the GoT (with clear fisher livelihood improvements and gender considerations) Indicator 2.1.6 ? 1 regional plan to enhance the level of participation of women along the fisheries value chain implemented	Indicator 2.1.1 ? 2 market and/or behaviour change incentive mechanisms initiated or refined (with women?s participation of at least 30%) Indicator 2.1.2 ? 10% of fisheries related establishments/operations that meet national or international certification and incorporates biodiversity/ sustainable resources/ resource protection considerations (direct and indirect) Indicator 2.1.3 ? At least 1 of private/public partnerships created at the regional level Indicator 2.1.4? At least 1 fisheries improvement projects (FIPs) taking place in the GoT (with clear fisher livelihood improvements and gender considerations) Indicator 2.1.5 ? at least one regional market incentive mechanism includes gender considerations and serves to promote women?s leadership in sector organizations or decision making in fisheries	Two indicators have been changed: Indicator 2.1.1 has been eliminated. Catch documentation schemes are established by the customs authorities of the receiving countries as an export requirement. The project does plan to work with international supply chains, but does not plan to work with the customs authorities of the receiving countries but with the supply chain companies instead. On the other hand, major buying countries of fishmeal have catch documentation schemes in place. It is considered therefore that this indicator does not show progress against project goals, and is not consistent with the model of work and theory of change. Indicator 2.1.6 has been modified and substituted by Indicator 2.1.5. This indicator is linked to Component 2, ?Alignment of Incentive Mechanisms?. Women already make up to 40% of the workforce in small scale fisheries, and are already part of the value chain. The challenge is the lack of recognition of their work and accompanying rights and their lack of involvement in fisheries related policy making. It is considered that ?Developing a regional plan to enhance the level of participation of women along the fisheries value chain? is not a relevant activity, neither consistent with the

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
		Component 2 aim, the project model of work and theory of change. Instead, it is proposed that the market incentive mechanism developed by the project (resulting from Component 2 activities) includes gender considerations and promotes women?s participation and leadership in sector organization to enable enhanced participation of women in decision making and the recognition of women rights in the sector
Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia) established	Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia) established	No change
Outcome 3 Outcome 3.1: Improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations in the management of fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand through deeper understanding of the ecological transboundary corridors existing in the Gulf of Thailand, leading to enhanced resilience of vulnerable aquatic species and those important for regional food security and sovereignty, (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1)	Outcome 3.1: Improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations, and fishery socioeconomic considerations in the management of fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand through deeper understanding of the ecological transboundary corridors existing in the Gulf of Thailand, leading to enhanced resilience of vulnerable aquatic species and those important for regional food security and sovereignty, (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 1).	Change to indicate also attention to socioeconomic aspects of the fishery

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Outputs Output 3.1.1: Mapping of aquatic ecological corridors in the GoT Output 3.1.2: Development of recommendations/ guidelines for the alignment of key biodiversity considerations into national, transboundary and/or regional fisheries management plans and action plans Output 3.1.3 Creation of an interim GoT sub-regional technical discussion platform to address integration of fisheries and aquatic biodiversity	Output 3.1.1: Mapping of aquatic ecological corridors and fishery socioeconomic profiles in the GoT Output 3.1.2: Development of recommendations / guidelines for the alignment of key biodiversity considerations into national, transboundary and/or regional fisheries management plans and action plans Output 3.1.3: Creation of an interim GoT sub-regional technical discussion platform to address integration of fisheries and aquatic biodiversity and fishery socioeconomic considerations	Change to indicate also attention to socioeconomic aspects of the fishery
Indicator 3.1.1 ? At least 2 biodiversity targets and outcomes, incorporated into EAFM plans (regional and national levels) Indicator 3.1.2 ? 1 regional GIS dataset on species and habitat distribution and status (with different levels of information being shared) established Indicator 3.1.3 ? 1 national Guidelines for biodiversity integration developed and implementation initiated Indicator 3.1.4 ? 4 countries participate in GoT technical platform on fisheries and aquatic biodiversity	Indicator 3.1.1: At least 2 biodiversity targets incorporated into EAFM plans (regional and national levels) Indicator 3.1.2: 1 regional GIS dataset on species and habitat distribution and status (with different levels of access sharing) established Indicator 3.1.3: 1 national guidelines for biodiversity Indicator 3.1.4: 4 countries participate in GoT technical platform on fisheries and aquatic biodiversity	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Outcome 3.2: Reduced threats to vulnerable species and critical/ important habitats for food security and sovereignty with strengthened national and transboundary protection and management of aquatic resources in East Coast Peninsular Malaysia	Outcome 3.2: Reduced threats to vulnerable species and critical/ important habitats for food security and sovereignty with strengthened national and transboundary protection and management of aquatic resources in East Coast Peninsular Malaysia	No change
Output 3.2.1: Identification of ecological corridors of critical and important habitat for aquatic resources in the East Coast of peninsular Malaysia with spatial maps and information available for EAF planning .and identification of management and protection measures (the type of measures to be decided during PPG phase in consultation with stakeholders) Output 3.2.2: Identification and establishment of management measures in four conservation areas to ensure they provide the highest potential return for achieving biodiversity conservation (following the METT) and fisheries management targets	Output 3.2.1: Identification of ecological corridors of critical and important habitat for aquatic resources in the East Coast of peninsular Malaysia with spatial maps and information available for EAF planning and identification of management and protection measures including PAs. Output 3.2.2: Identification and establishment of management measures in four conservation areas to ensure they provide the highest potential return for achieving biodiversity conservation (following the METT) and fisheries management targets	Slight change in the expression of the Output

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Indicator 3.2.1 ? 240,604 ha of conservation area under improved conservation management and sustainable use in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia based on global Protected Area (PA) performance standards. Indicator 3.2.2 ? 1 New guideline in evaluating fisheries benefits of conservation areas developed and tested in at least 1 project site. Indicator 3.2.3 ? 1 improved related National or Sub-National Policy on Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management, and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) for the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia adopted (subject to the decision by the Cabinet)	Indicator 3.2.1 ? 240,604 ha of conservation area under improved conservation management and sustainable use in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia based on global Protected Area (PA) performance standards. Indicator 3.2.2 ? 1 New guideline in evaluating fisheries benefits of conservation areas developed and tested in at least 1 project site. Indicator 3.2.3 ? 1 improved National or Sub-National Policy on Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management, and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) for the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia adopted (subject to Cabinet approval)	Slight change in the indicator 3.2.3 to indicate that it will be subject to the approval of the Cabinet.
Outcome 3.3: Enhanced resilience of ecosystems and associated biodiversity in East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia	Outcome 3.3: Enhanced resilience of ecosystems and associated biodiversity in East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Output 3.3.1: Participatory monitoring system established to reduce fishing and other pressures on marine biodiversity in conservation areas. Output 3.3.2: Map priority areas to improve resilience of ecosystem components including identification of existing threats and vulnerabilities (including climate change and other natural and human hazards) Output 3.3.3: Development of participatory ecosystem resilience plans, following the findings of the priority ecosystem resilience maps (for biodiversity), within and beyond the MPAs, and addressing the needs of the ecological corridors, with evidence of implementation initiated	Output 3.3.1: Participatory monitoring system established to monitor the effects of fishing and other pressures on marine biodiversity in conservation areas. Output 3.3.2: Map priority areas to improve resilience of ecosystem components including identification of existing threats and vulnerabilities (including climate change and other natural and human hazards) Output 3.3.3: Development of participatory ecosystem resilience plans within and beyond Marine Protected Areas that address the needs of the ecological corridors.	Small change in Output 3.3.1 to clearly indicate the participatory monitoring of the system. Slight change in the terminology of Output 3.3.3 to indicate Marine Protected Areas.
Indicator 3.3.1 ? Marine managed areas have been assessed and management improvements increased BD biodiversity benefits and improved linkages with fisheries (targets to be defined during PPG phase) Indicator 3.3.2 ? At least 1 participatory ecosystem resilience plan with a monitoring system initiated in marine conservation areas	Indicator 3.3.1 ? Marine Protected areas have been assessed and management improvements increased BD biodiversity benefits and improved linkages with fisheries (targets to be defined during PPG phase) Indicator 3.3.2 ? At least 1 participatory ecosystem resilience plan with a monitoring system initiated in marine conservation areas	Changed from Marine Managed Area to Marine Protected Area
Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation	Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Outcome 4.1: Efficient knowledge management and targeted communication, improves the understanding amongst stakeholders of ecosystem and fishery linkages in the Gulf of Thailand (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 2[3][3])	Outcome 4.1: Efficient knowledge management and targeted communication, improves the understanding amongst stakeholders of ecosystem and fishery linkages in the Gulf of Thailand (related to SCS-SAP Fisheries Objective 2)	No change
Output 4.1.1: GoT project monitoring system established and implemented. (including mid-term and final evaluations). Output 4.1.2: GoT knowledge management strategy and communication strategy established and implemented Output 4.1.3: Participation in the activities of the IW Learn Project.	Output 4.1.1: GoT project monitoring system established and implemented. (including mid-term and final evaluations). Output 4.1.2: GoT knowledge management strategy and communication strategy established and implemented Output 4.1.3: Participation in the activities of the IW Learn Project	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Indicator 4.1.1 ? 1 regional and 4 M&E systems in place and monitoring performance against gender sensitive indicators Indicator 4.1.2 ? 10 knowledge sharing events on topics related to transboundary EAFM plans, FIPS, gender issues in fisheries value chains, social and market incentives, etc. carried out and related materials developed, shared and used to affect change Indicator 4.1.3 ? Participation in 5 IW Learn meetings and adoption of GoT relevant IWLearn tools Indicator 4.1.4 ? 1 GOTFISH knowledge platform established and easily accessible for stakeholders Indicator 4.1.5 ? At least 10 GoTFish lessons learned collated and accessible., communicated through IW-Learn fora. Indicator 4.1.5 ? GoTFish lessons learned collated and accessible., communicated through IW-Learn fora.	Indicator 4.1.1 ? 1 regional and 4 M&E systems in place and monitoring performance against gender sensitive indicators Indicator 4.1.2 ? 10 knowledge sharing events on topics related to transboundary EAFM plans, FIPS, gender issues in fisheries value chains, social and market incentives, etc. carried out and related materials developed, shared and used to affect change Indicator 4.1.4 ? 1 GOTFISH knowledge platform established and easily accessible for stakeholders Indicator 4.1.5 ? At least 10 GoTFish lessons learned collated and accessible., communicated through IW-Learn fora. Indicator 4.1.4 ? 1 GOTFISH knowledge platform established and easily accessible for stakeholders Indicator 4.1.5 ? At least 10 GoTFish lessons learned collated and accessible., communicated through IW-Learn fora.	The indicators have been reordered. The GEF Core Indicators have been brought to the top of the project framework table, while the indicators remain for the Outcome level.
Outcome 4.2: Enhanced stakeholder involvement and gender equity	Outcome 4.2: Enhanced stakeholder involvement and gender equity	No change
Output 4.2.1: GoTFish gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented	Output 4.2.1: GoTFish gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented	No change

PIF text	ProDoc Text	Comments
Indicator 4.2.1 ? 1 regional and 4 national project gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented Indicator 4.2.2 ? 1 regional and 4 GoTFish gender and stakeholder strategy developed and approved by stakeholders	Indicator 4.2.1 ? 1 regional and 4 national project gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented Indicator 4.2.2 ? 1 regional and 4 GoTFish gender and stakeholder strategy developed and approved by stakeholders	The indicators have been reordered. The GEF Core Indicators have been brought to the top of the project framework table, while the indicators remain for the Outcome level.

[1] SAP Fisheries Objective 1: Build the resilience of Southeast Asian fisheries to the effects of high and increasing levels of fishing effort
[2] SAP Fisheries Objective 3: Build the capacity of fisheries departments/ministries to engage in meaningful dialogue with the environment sector regarding the improvement of fisheries and management of interactions between fisheries and critical marine habitats
[3] SAP Fisheries Objective 2 - Improve the understanding amongst stakeholders, including fisher folk, scientists, policymakers, and fisheries managers, of ecosystem and fishery linkages, as a basis for integrated fisheries and ecosystem/habitat management.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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


Cambodia
VietNam
Thailand
Gulf of Thailand
Large Marine Ecosystem
South China Sea
Large Marine Ecosystem
Bay of Bengal
Large Marine
Ecosystem
Malaysia

Source: Gulf of Thailand LME follows the definition of the Gulf of Thailand in International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)1953. Limits of oceans and seas. 3rd edition. IHO Special Publication, 23. Monaco. 38 pp.

FAO map disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.

	Latitude	Longitude
MPA LOCATIONS (Component 3)		
Pulau Lang Tengah	102.8962712	5.795196321
Pulau Redang	103.0077684	5.783928943
Pulau Ekor Tebu	103.0302932	5.7378865
Pulau Lima	103.0603829	5.773731218
Pulau Susu Dara	102.6637941	5.959212225
Pulau Perhentian Kecil	102.7201317	5.917055143
Pulau Perhentian Besar	102.7571417	5.902053849
Pulau Yu Besar	103.1525277	5.641418902
Pulau Yu Kecil	103.1605731	5.623948246
Pulau Kapas	103.264906	5.219003027
Rantau Abang Fisheries Protected Area	103.3926451	4.865849477
Pulau Nyireh	103.6650451	4.844975808
Pulau Tenggol	103.6814828	4.80566
EAFM AREA		
All GOT LME area within Malaysian EEZ with sub-sites to be identified		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Kelantan	102.2448	6.1806
Tok Bali	102.4713	5.8847
Besut	102.5574	5.8264
Terengganu	103.1297	5.3252
Chendering	103.1843	5.2639
Marang	103.2123	5.2043
Dungun	103.4251	4.7792

Kerteh	103.4503	4.5168
Kemaman	103.4453	4.2399
Tanjung Sidili	104.1082	1.9310
Mersing	103.8377	2.4340
Endau	103.6187	2.6556
Kuantan	103.3422	3.8078

CAMBODIA

	Latitude	Longitude
EAFM/MMA		
GOT LME area within Cambodian EEZ with sub-sites to be identified		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Sihanoukville	103.5195	10.6621
Stueng Hav	103.6259	10.7455
Bakkhlang	102.9561	11.5668
Koh Kong	102.9771	11.6069
Kaoh Khjorng Port	103.7861	10.5348
Changhaon	104.0087	10.5700
Kep	104.3222	10.4840
Angkol	104.3852	10.4568

THAILAND

	Latitude	Longitude
EAFM AREA		
GOT LME area within Thai EEZ with sub-sites to be identified (east and west gulf)		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Klong Makham	102.8983	11.7328
Ao Cho	102.5315	12.1147
LaemNgop	102.3925	12.1700
Bang Chan	102.2705	12.3270
Koh Proet	102.1277	12.4083
PakNam Laem singh	102.0648	12.4855
Pak Nam Khaem Nu	101.9493	12.5405
PakNam Phang Rat	101.7854	12.6951
Prasae	101.7008	12.6996
BanPhe	101.4387	12.6258
Ban Phala	101.0452	12.6659
Samae San	100.9558	12.6013
Bang saray	100.8898	12.7650
Pattaya	100.8969	12.9744
Samut Prakarn	100.5788	13.5689
Samut Sakhorn	99.9924	13.3755
Bang Tabun	99.9389	13.2625
Pranburi	99.9911	12.4054
Bang Pu	100.0050	12.2051
Klong Khao Daeng	99.9649	12.1352

Wat Thung Noi	99.9545	12.0892
Pak Klong Kliaoi	99.9056	12.0428
Prachuap Kirikhan	99.8259	11.8503
Bo Thong Lang	99.5727	11.2166
Bang Saphan	99.5244	11.2007
Bang Saphan Noi	99.4914	11.0886
Ao Thung Maha	99.4338	10.8558
Hin Kop	99.3737	10.7078
Klong Bang Son	99.3473	10.6843
Ao Sappli	99.2815	10.5850
Phru Ching	99.2583	10.5382
Phanang Tak	99.2382	10.4958
Pak Nam Chumphon	99.2473	10.4424
Pak Nam Tako	99.1513	10.0942
Pak Nam Langsuan	99.1558	9.9450
Pak Nam ThaKrachai	99.2074	9.6022
Laem Pho	99.2695	9.3768
Bang Chana	99.3792	9.1727
Donsak	99.6873	9.3104
Khanom	99.8543	9.2196
Sichon	99.9086	9.0157
Tha Sala	99.9466	8.6653
Pak Phanang	100.1980	8.3485
Songkhla	100.5889	7.1852
Pattani	101.2504	6.8967
Saiburi	101.6409	6.7064

Narathiwat	101.8267	6.4397
Tak Bai	102.0884	6.2338

VIETNAM

	Latitude	Longitude
EAFM AREA		
GOT LME area within VietNam EEZ with sub-sites to be identified		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Phu Quoc	103.9574	10.2186
C?ng An Th?i	104.0162	10.0158
H? Ti?n	104.4924	10.3930
B?nh An	104.6084	10.1627
Lung Lon	104.6990	10.2136
B?nh S?n	104.7832	10.2161
L?nh Hu?nh	104.8502	10.1460
Th? S?n	104.8661	10.1125
Vi?nh Quang	105.0533	10.0380
R?ch Gi?	105.0889	10.0108
R?ch S?i	105.1087	9.9497
Ch?u Th?nh	105.1048	9.9215
S?ng ??c	104.8256	9.0381

1c. Child Project?

If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

N/A

2. Stakeholders

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

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Stakeholder Consultation foreseen in project Implementation[1]

Cambodia

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Fishing communities in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/consultation/field work	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Medium-scale fishing vessel operators in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/consultation/field work	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Large-scale fishing vessel operators in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/consultation/field work	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement during consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Coastal fish processors	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Fish processing associations in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4

Fish sauce producers	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Department of fisheries conservation, of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1, 2 and 4
Dept of Post-Harvest Fisheries, Technologies and Quality Control, of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Component 2 on Fisheries value chains, (processing, certification, compliance)
Marine Fisheries Research and Development Institute (MAFReDI), of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Engagement on discussions related to migration routes
Gender working group of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under component 1, 2 and 4 on Gender mainstreaming, gender and child labour planning, gender disaggregation, etc.
4 fisheries administration cantonments	Indirect Beneficiary	Local Government Institution/body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under component 1,2 and 4 on issues related to Fisheries governance, regional dialogues, transboundary issues
Marine fisheries inspectorate	Indirect Beneficiary	Local Government Institution/body	Meeting/consultation	Year 1 to Year 5 (Q1 and Q4)	Involvement on consultations related to component 1 on Fisheries governance, regional dialogues, transboundary issues, and coordination

EU?s CAPFISH Capture	Partner	Resource Partner/Donor	Meeting/policy dialogues	Year 1 to Year 5 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to Policy, planning, research and development, transboundary management.
ADB Cambodia	Partner	Resource Partner/Donor	Meeting/policy dialogues	Year 1 to Year 5 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to Policy, planning, research and development, transboundary management.
FFI	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development
MCC	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development
IUCN	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development
Sang Ssa Foundation	Partner	Other	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development

Thailand

The list of potential stakeholders divided into 4 groups as

(i) Small-scale fisheries group, in particular to those relevant to the selected small-scale fisheries in Component #2, as well as CSO and NGO, which support the small-scale fisheries.

(ii) Commercial fisheries (and related industries) group, which would be the key stakeholders for both Component #1 and #2. For this group, the Thai Sustainable Fisheries Roundtable, which involves 8 important associations viz., National Fisheries Association of Thailand (NFAT), Thai Fishmeal Producers Association (THAI), Thai Shrimp Association (TSA), Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA), The Thai Overseas Fisheries, Thai Feed Mill Association (TFMA), Thai Frozen Foods Association (TFFA), Thai Food Processors Association (TFPA), must be included to the project. Moreover, if the ?fish sauce? is about to be the choice for small-scale fisheries, the Fish-sauce Factories Association would be also recruited.

(iii) Academes as universities and research groups/institutes, for provide scientific support.

(iv) National and Regional Institutes, which related the fisheries governance and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Selected fishing communities along the GoT coastline (i)	Direct beneficiary	Local community	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Field visit and project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Federation of Thai Fisher Folk Association (i)	Direct beneficiary	Civil Society Organization	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Sustainable Development Foundation (i)	Indirect beneficiary	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development and social and gender issues in fisheries
The Thai Sustainable Fisheries Roundtable (TSFR)	Direct beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Selected Provincial Fishery Associations	Direct beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
the Fish-sauce Factories Association	Direct beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Seafood markets and restaurants	Indirect beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4

Universities, which engage their research to the GoT	Partner	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data sharing and research collaboration	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development and social and gender issues in fisheries
Center for Oceanic Research and Education | south east Asia (CoreSea)	Indirect beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data sharing and research collaboration	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development and social and gender issues in fisheries
Department of Fisheries	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data and information sharing ? Project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1, 2 and 4
SEAFDEC	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data and information sharing ? Project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
Department of Marine and Coastal Resources	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data and information sharing	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
The Maritime Enforcement Command Center	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4

Ministry of Tourism and Sports	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 2 and 4

Note: Meeting and/or workshop should be organised as for both Inception and terminal

Viet Nam

Stakeholder Consultation foreseen in project Implementation[2]

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Selected fishing communities along the GoT coastline (i)	Direct beneficiary	*Local community*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
DFISH	Direct beneficiary	*National Government Institution body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4

RIMP	Direct beneficiary	*Local Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
VIFEP	Direct beneficiary	*Local Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
DARD/ Selected Provincial	Direct beneficiary	*Local Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Vietnam Fishery Sociaty (VINAFIS)	*Partner*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
VINATUNA	*Indirect Beneficiary*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
VASEP	*Indirect Beneficiary*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Vietnam Fishsauces Association	*Partner*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 2 and 4
Nha Trang University	*Indirect Beneficiary*	*Local Government Institution/body*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1 and 4

SEAFDEC	*Partner*	*Regional Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Data and information sharing* *Project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
ASIC	*Partner*	*Non-Gonvernmental Organization*	? *Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1 and 4
OXFAM	*Partner*	*Resource Partner/Donor*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ?	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1,2 and 4
ILO	*Partner*	*International Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
World Bank	*Partner*	*Resource Partner/Donor*	? *Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4

Malaysia

GoTFish project will be dealing with local and national level stakeholders. These engagements and participations with be critical to achieve the outcomes of the project within short, medium, and longer terms. Table below shows a list of the stakeholders that were involved during the formulation of the GoTFish project (Table 1 on Stakeholder Consultation in Project Formulation), and that have been identified as key stakeholders during project implementation (Table 2 on Stakeholder Consultation on Project Implementation). Additional stakeholders that have not been actively engaged during Project Formulation were also added to the list as potential contributor prior to Project Implementation. Preliminary engagement of these stakeholders will be achieved through a process of focused dialogues in the areas where the project activities will take place.

Relevant stakeholders identified primarily consist of different government level institutions. These include Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Ministry of Tourism, Art, and Culture Malaysia, Department of Fisheries Malaysia, PLANMalaysia, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, National Water Research Institute of Malaysia, Economic Planning Unit (Prime Minister?s Department) and as listed as below. State and district level

representatives from government agencies were also included for higher efficiency of project implementation.

Partners from academia groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOS) are included mostly to provide research support prior to respective components. These consists of Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES, Universiti Malaya), Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (UIAM), Reef Check Malaysia (RCM), and WWF Malaysia.

Other potential stakeholders that can contribute and facilitate project implementation as identified are Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia (LKIM) and local Fishermen?s Association (PNK). Additionally, local community plays crucial role for the project implementation. The potential stakeholder listed from the community level includes related fisheries community and local community from respective marine parks. Other potential stakeholders were listed accordingly such as industry players and service industries.

Table attached summarizes key stakeholders for the project. This will be updated regularly throughout project implementation.

Key Stakeholder in project Implementation ?

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters	In accordance with agreed schedule	Support implementation of Components 1 and 2
Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOFM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters	In accordance with agreed schedule	Review of policies, plans, budgets, facilitate and monitor overall project implementation
DOF state representatives (refer table 3)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters	In accordance with agreed schedule	Monitor/facilitate DOF district representatives and liaise with DOFM

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
18 DOF district representatives (refer table 3)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters, field visits throughout the project and follow up engagements (focus group discussion and workshops)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout the implementation timeline	Localised project implementation for Components 1 and 3 specifically
Fisheries Research Institute (FRI)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for fisheries resources within East Coast Peninsular Malaysia (specifically for Components 1 and 2)
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (KeTSA)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Provide implementation assistance in terms of policy planning and reviews
National Water Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research capability for larval dispersal modelling
Marine Department Malaysia (JLM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation in terms of enforcement
Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (APMM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation in terms of enforcement
Ministry of Tourism, Art, and Culture Malaysia (MoTAC)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation (for Components 2 and 3)
MoTAC state offices (refer table 3)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation (for Components 2 and 3)
Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister?s Department (UPEN)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
District offices	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation
State park authorities where applicable (e.g., Terengganu State Park Council, Johor National Parks Corporation)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation
Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES, Universiti Malaya)	Partner	Other	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for Component 3 Potential area: Kelantan waters (off Bachok)
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)	Partner	Other	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for Component 3 Potential area: Marine spatial planning for Kuala Terengganu & Kuala Nerus
Universiti Islam Antarabangsa (UIAM)	Partner	Other	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for Component 3 Potential area: Kuantan waters
Reef Check Malaysia (RCM)	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting, workshops, and field visits for selected sites	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support and project implementation for Component 3 Specific focus on coral and fish larvae dispersal modelling, marine ecological connectivity between East Johor, Pahang, and Terengganu, and ecosystem resilience
WWF Malaysia	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Research support for important habitat for aquatic resources and fisheries resources (Component 1, 2 and 3)

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
PLAN-Malaysia (Town and Country Planning Dept.)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Assist in project implementation for Component 3
Industry players (e.g., QL Resources Berhad, etc)	Indirect Beneficiary	Other	Meeting, workshops, and field visits	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation for Component 2
Service industries (e.g., Berjaya Hotels & Resorts, Bubbles Dive Resort, Perhentian Island Divers, Sea Voice Divers)	Indirect Beneficiary	Other	Meeting, workshops, and field visits	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation for Component 3
Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia (LKIM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Assist in project implementation, research support in fisheries resources (Component 1 and 2)
Fishermen?s Association (PNK)	Indirect Beneficiary	Civil Society Organization	Meetings, workshops, field trials and follow-up engagements (focus group discussions etc)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Assist in project implementation (Components 1,2 and 3)
Local communities of marine park islands	Indirect Beneficiary	Local community	Meetings, workshops, and focus group discussions	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation for Component 3
Fisheries local community (e.g., myKP)	Indirect Beneficiary	Local community	Meetings, workshops, and focus group discussions	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation (Components 1 and 2)

SEAFDEC

GoTFish project will be dealing with stakeholders at the global, regional (ASEAN), sub-regional (GoTFish countries) and national levels. The executing agencies are the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), a regional intergovernmental agency, the Sustainable Fisheries partnership (SFP), a US-registered non-profit agency that operates globally, and the University of Queensland, a leading research and teaching institution in Australia. At the regional level, several intergovernmental and non-government agencies will have an interest in the outcome of the project. the sub-regional level the main stakeholders will be the project executing agencies. Fisheries governance and planning will be carried out sub-regionally, mainly through the Fishery Departments of Viet Nam (particularly SW Vietnam), Cambodia, Thailand, and Malaysia, (particularly east coast peninsular

Malaysia), non-government organisations and representatives of fishers, fish buyers and coastal fishing communities in these areas (both male and female).

National stakeholders - fisherfolks and fishing communities, including women involved in fisheries related activities along the value chain, and fisherfolk families in the 4 countries (Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam) - will be engaged in the project implementation through the national stakeholder consultation process, as identified in the separate stakeholder consultation templates, led by the Department of Fisheries in each GoT country.

The attached table summarizes key regional stakeholders for implementing the project. This will be updated regularly throughout project implementation.

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, Asia-Pacific Regional Office (FAO/RAP)	Implementing agency	Regional Government Institution/body	Contracts Exchange of reports	Project inception, mid-term review and final evaluation plus 6-monthly reporting	Support implementation of all Components
Sustainable Fisheries partnership (SFP)	Executing agency	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Contract, meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for executing Component 2
University of Queensland (UQ)	Executing agency	National academic institution	Contract, meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for executing Component 3
Directorate of Fisheries Viet Nam (xxx)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Viet Nam
Fisheries Administration, Cambodia (FiA)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Cambodia
Department of Fisheries, Thailand (DOFT)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Thailand
Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOFM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Malaysia
The Asia Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Support knowledge sharing of project outcomes
The Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
Secretariat for the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in the Region (RPOA-IUU)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, and engagement for the Green List under component 3
USAID, Regional Development Mission for Asia	Partner	Local Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
WorldWide Fund for Nature (WWF)	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
Marin-Trust (MT)	Partner	International certification programme for marine ingredients	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, under component 2
International Fishmeal and Fish Oil Organisation (IFFO)	Partner	International trade organisation	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, under component 2
Thai Union (TU)	Partner	International seafood company	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, under component 2

SFP

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments

	Direct beneficiary	Select a stakeholder profile			
IFFO /Global Roundtable on marine ingredients	Partner	Other	Consultation and engagement on multispecies improvements for marine ingredients and other sectors	Inception and throughout project	IFFO and members of the Global Roundtable seek to support improvements in fisheries supplying marine ingredients through development of FIPs. Many members are current and prospective FIP participants, and the roundtable may be a source of co-funding.
Marin Trust	Partner	Other	Consultation and engagement on multispecies improvements for marine ingredients and other sectors	Inception and throughout project	Marin Trust is keen to engage with the GoT Fish project to use learnings from their multispecies pilot, together with the FAO multispecies toolkit, to encourage improvements and refine approaches to responsibly manage multispecies fisheries. Their certification and improver program are recognized by leading aquaculture certifications and provide direct market incentives. May be a source of co-funding
Kim Delta	Partner	Other	Consultation and engagement on multispecies improvements for marine ingredients and other sectors, as well as anchovy fisheries used in fish sauce	Inception and throughout project	Kim Delta is coordinating the Vung Tau multispecies FIP and exploring expansion to Kien Giang. They also have connections with regional fish sauce industry. They could assist in engaging industry and designing improvements in Vietnam.
Ocean Mind	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Consultation and engagement around vessel monitoring	Inception and throughout project	Ocean Mind?s work with the Thai DoF is relevant to the GoT Fish project, and OM could potentially be engaged to do similar work under some of the regional management approaches being discussed under the project
Seafood Task Force	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Consultation and engagement on vessel oversight efforts and FIPs	Inception and throughout project	STF has been active in encouraging improvements and conducting capacity building and training for vessel oversight including marine ingredient supply chains. They are active in Thailand and Vietnam. Some members could be FIP participants and STF may be a source of cofunding.

3) Identified districts involved in project implementation

Malaysia

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Johor				
Johor Bharu Timur	District of Johor Bahru/Kulai Fisheries Office Kompleks Jabatan Perikanan Tampoi, Batu 4 1/2, Jalan Skudai Kiri, 81200 Johor Bahru, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my	Johor Fisheries Office Kompleks Perikanan Negeri Johor, Jalan Pendas Laut, 81550 Gelang Patah, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Johor Office) Aras 2 Kiri, Wisma PERKESO, Jalan Susur 5, Off Jalan Tun Abdul Razak, Larkin, 80200 Johor Bahru. Johor Darul Takzim	Pejabat Daerah Johor Bahru Jalan Datin Halimah, 80350 Johor Bahru, Johor Email: pdjb@johor.gov.my
Kota Tinggi Utara (Tg. Sedili)	District of Tanjung Sedili Fisheries Office Sedili, 81900 Kota Tinggi, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Kota Tinggi Aras 2, Bangunan Sultan Iskandar, 81900 Kota Tinggi, Johor Email: pdkt@johor.gov.my
Kota Tinggi Selatan (Pengerang)	District of Kota Tinggi Selatan (Pengerang) Fisheries Office Kota Tinggi Selatan, Sungai Rengit, 81620 Pengerang, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my			
Mersing	District of Mersing Fisheries Office JKR 34, Jalan Tun Dr. Ismail, 86800 Mersing, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Mersing Aras 1, Kompleks Pejabat-Pejabat Kerajaan, Jalan Ibrahim, 86800 Mersing, Johor. Email: pdkt@johor.gov.my
Pahang				
Kuantan	District of Kuantan Fisheries Office Tingkat 7, Wisma Persekutuan, Jalan Gambut, 25000 Kuantan, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my	Pahang Fisheries Office Tingkat 2, Wisma Persekutuan, Jalan Gambut, 25000 Kuantan, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Pahang Office) B 8006, Tingkat 1-3,	Bangunan Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Kuantan Bandar Indera Mahkota 25990 Kuantan Pahang Darul Makmur

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Pekan	District of Pekan Fisheries Office Jalan Engku Muda Mansor, 26600 Pekan, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my		Seri Kuantan Square, Jalan Teluk Sisek 25000 Kuantan, Pahang Darul Makmur	Pejabat Daerah Dan Tanah Pekan Jalan Sultan Abu Bakar 26600 Pekan Pahang Darul Makmur
Kuala Rompin	District of Rompin Fisheries Office 26800 Kuala Rompin, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Dan Tanah Rompin Blok A, Kompleks Pentadbiran Kerajaan Daerah Rompin, 26800 Kuala Rompin Pahang Darul Makmur
Terengganu				
Kemaman	District of Kemaman Fisheries Office Kampung Geliga, Chukai, 24000 Kemaman, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my	Wisma Perikanan Negeri, Taman Perikanan Chendering, 21080 Chendering, Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Terengganu Office) Lot 5116 dan 5117, Jalan Masjid Abidin, 20100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Darul Iman	Pejabat Daerah Kemaman Jalan Sentosa, 24000, Kemaman
Dungun	District of Dungun Fisheries Office Jalan Yahya Ahmad, 23000 Dungun, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Dungun Jalan Yahya Ahmad, 23000, Dungun
Marang	District of Marang Fisheries Office Lot 5024, Bukit Batu Merah, 21600 Marang, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Marang 21600, Marang
Kuala Terengganu Utara	District of Kuala Nerus Fisheries Office Seberang Takir, 21300 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Kuala Terengganu Kompleks Sri Iman, Jalan Sultan Mohamad, 20692, Kuala Terengganu

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Kuala Terengganu Selatan	District of Kuala Terengganu Fisheries Office Jalan Hiliran, Pulau Kambing, 20300 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			
Besut	District of Besut Fisheries Office Jalan Jeti, Kuala Besut, 22300 Besut, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Besut Kampung Raja 22000, Besut
Setiu	District of Setiu Fisheries Office Bandar Permaisuri, 22100 Setiu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Setiu Bandar Permaisuri, Setiu 22100, Setiu
Kelantan				
Kota Bharu	District of Kota Bharu Fisheries Office 440, Jalan Kuang Off Jalan Kuala Krai, 15150 Kota Bharu, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my	Kelantan Fisheries Office Tingkat 6, Wisma Persekutuan, 15628 Kota Bharu, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Kelantan Office) Kampung Kraf tangan, Jalan Hilir Balai 15300 Kota Bharu, Kelantan Darul Naim	Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Kota Bharu 15000 Kota Bharu, Kelantan
Bachok	District of Bachok Fisheries Office Kompleks Perikanan Tawang, 16300 Bachok, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Bachok Kg. Telok, 16300 Bachok, Kelantan
Pasir Putih	District of Pasir Puteh Fisheries Office D/A Wisma PNKS, Tingkat Bawah, Lot 2815, Taman Impian Tok Bali, 16700 Pak Mayong, Pasir Puteh, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Pasir Puteh 16800 Pasir Puteh, Kelantan

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Tumpat	District of Tumpat Fisheries Office Jalan Hilir Pasar, Pekan Tumpat, 16200 Tumpat, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Tumpat Jalan Masjid, 16200 Tumpat, Kelantan

[1] Please include identification and consultations of disadvantage and vulnerable groups/individuals in line with the GEF policy on Stakeholder Engagement and GEF Environmental and Social Safeguard.

[2] Please include identification and consultations of disadvantage and vulnerable groups/individuals in line with the GEF policy on Stakeholder Engagement and GEF Environmental and Social Safeguard.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

The engagement of stakeholders throughout the project execution will follow the GEF Guidelines on the Implementation of the Policy on Stakeholder Engagement. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, it was not possible for the project formulation team to reach out directly to the community level stakeholders (both women and men). In any case, previous to initiate any activity at the local level, the execution agencies will carry out a Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC), and properly document their willingness and availability to participate actively in the project. Coastal fishing communities in the four project countries will be the direct beneficiaries of the project.

In addition, a wide number of stakeholders (from Government agencies, private sector, NGOs and CSOs, and academia), have been identified consulted during the project formulation phase, and their roles have been identified for project execution as explained in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan attached.

Stakeholder Consultation foreseen in project Implementation[1]

Cambodia

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Fishing communities in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/consultation/field work	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4

Medium-scale fishing vessel operators in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/consultation/field work	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Large-scale fishing vessel operators in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/consultation/field work	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement during consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Coastal fish processors	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Fish processing associations in four coastal provinces	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Fish sauce producers	Direct Beneficiaries	Local community	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Department of fisheries conservation, of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1, 2 and 4
Dept of Post-Harvest Fisheries, Technologies and Quality Control, of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Component 2 on Fisheries value chains, (processing, certification, compliance)
Marine Fisheries Research and Development Institute (MAFReDI), of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Engagement on discussions related to migration routes

Gender working group of the Fisheries Administration	Indirect Beneficiary	National Government Institution body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under component 1, 2 and 4 on Gender mainstreaming, gender and child labour planning, gender disaggregation, etc.
4 fisheries administration cantonments	Indirect Beneficiary	Local Government Institution/body	Meeting/consultation/coordination	Year 1 to Year 5 from Q1 to Q4	Involvement as primary stakeholders under component 1,2 and 4 on issues related to Fisheries governance, regional dialogues, transboundary issues
Marine fisheries inspectorate	Indirect Beneficiary	Local Government Institution/body	Meeting/consultation	Year 1 to Year 5 (Q1 and Q4)	Involvement on consultations related to component 1 on Fisheries governance, regional dialogues, transboundary issues, and coordination
EU?s CAPFISH Capture	Partner	Resource Partner/Donor	Meeting/policy dialogues	Year 1 to Year 5 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to Policy, planning, research and development, transboundary management.
ADB Cambodia	Partner	Resource Partner/Donor	Meeting/policy dialogues	Year 1 to Year 5 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to Policy, planning, research and development, transboundary management.
FFI	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development
MCC	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development
IUCN	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development

Sang Ssa Foundation	Partner	Other	Meeting/field visit	Year 1 to Year 2 (Q1 and Q4)	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development

Thailand

The list of potential stakeholders divided into 4 groups as

(i) Small-scale fisheries group, in particular to those relevant to the selected small-scale fisheries in Component #2, as well as CSO and NGO, which support the small-scale fisheries.

(ii) Commercial fisheries (and related industries) group, which would be the key stakeholders for both Component #1 and #2. For this group, the Thai Sustainable Fisheries Roundtable, which involves 8 important associations viz., National Fisheries Association of Thailand (NFAT), Thai Fishmeal Producers Association (THAI), Thai Shrimp Association (TSA), Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA), The Thai Overseas Fisheries, Thai Feed Mill Association (TFMA), Thai Frozen Foods Association (TFFA), Thai Food Processors Association (TFPA), must be included to the project. Moreover, if the ?fish sauce? is about to be the choice for small-scale fisheries, the Fish-sauce Factories Association would be also recruited.

(iii) Academes as universities and research groups/institutes, for provide scientific support.

(iv) National and Regional Institutes, which related the fisheries governance and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Selected fishing communities along the GoT coastline (i)	Direct beneficiary	Local community	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Field visit and project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Federation of Thai Fisher Folk Association (i)	Direct beneficiary	Civil Society Organization	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Sustainable Development Foundation (i)	Indirect beneficiary	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development and social and gender issues in fisheries

The Thai Sustainable Fisheries Roundtable (TSFR)	Direct beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Selected Provincial Fishery Associations	Direct beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
the Fish-sauce Factories Association	Direct beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Seafood markets and restaurants	Indirect beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under Component 2 and 4
Universities, which engage their research to the GoT	Partner	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data sharing and research collaboration	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development and social and gender issues in fisheries
Center for Oceanic Research and Education | south east Asia (CoreSea)	Indirect beneficiary	Other	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data sharing and research collaboration	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Coordination on issues related to marine research and development and social and gender issues in fisheries
Department of Fisheries	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data and information sharing ? Project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1, 2 and 4

SEAFDEC	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data and information sharing ? Project assessment	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
Department of Marine and Coastal Resources	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops ? Data and information sharing	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
The Maritime Enforcement Command Center	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
Ministry of Tourism and Sports	Partner	National Government Institution body	? Meetings and/or workshops	In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 2 and 4

Note: Meeting and/or workshop should be organised as for both Inception and terminal

Viet Nam

Stakeholder Consultation foreseen in project Implementation[2]

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Selected fishing communities along the GoT coastline (i)	Direct beneficiary	*Local community*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
DFISH	Direct beneficiary	*National Government Institution body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
RIMP	Direct beneficiary	*Local Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
VIFEP	Direct beneficiary	*Local Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
DARD/ Selected Provincial	Direct beneficiary	*Local Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Field visit and project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as beneficiaries/primary stakeholders in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Vietnam Fishery Sociaty (VINAFIS)	*Partner*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
VINATUNA	*Indirect Beneficiary*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4

VASEP	*Indirect Beneficiary*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
Vietnam Fishsauces Association	*Partner*	*Civil Society Organization*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 2 and 4
Nha Trang University	*Indirect Beneficiary*	*Local Government Institution/body*	*Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1 and 4
SEAFDEC	*Partner*	*Regional Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ? *Data and information sharing* *Project assessment*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement as primary stakeholders under Components 1 and 4
ASIC	*Partner*	*Non-Gonvernmental Organization*	? *Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1 and 4
OXFAM	*Partner*	*Resource Partner/Donor*	? *Meetings and/or workshops* ?	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1,2 and 4
ILO	*Partner*	*International Government Institution/body*	? *Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4
World Bank	*Partner*	*Resource Partner/Donor*	? *Meetings and/or workshops*	*In accordance with agreed schedules and procedures*	Involvement during stakeholder consultations in field activities under components 1, 2 and 4

Malaysia

GoTFish project will be dealing with local and national level stakeholders. These engagements and participations with be critical to achieve the outcomes of the project within short, medium, and longer terms. Table below shows a list of the stakeholders that were involved during the formulation of the GoTFish project (Table 1 on Stakeholder Consultation in Project Formulation), and that have been identified as key stakeholders during project implementation (Table 2 on Stakeholder Consultation on Project Implementation). Additional stakeholders that have not been actively engaged during Project Formulation were also added to the list as potential contributor prior to Project Implementation. Preliminary engagement of these stakeholders will be achieved through a process of focused dialogues in the areas where the project activities will take place.

Relevant stakeholders identified primarily consist of different government level institutions. These include Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Ministry of Tourism, Art, and Culture Malaysia, Department of Fisheries Malaysia, PLANMalaysia, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, National Water Research Institute of Malaysia, Economic Planning Unit (Prime Minister?s Department) and as listed as below. State and district level representatives from government agencies were also included for higher efficiency of project implementation.

Partners from academia groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOS) are included mostly to provide research support prior to respective components. These consists of Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES, Universiti Malaya), Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (UIAM), Reef Check Malaysia (RCM), and WWF Malaysia.

Other potential stakeholders that can contribute and facilitate project implementation as identified are Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia (LKIM) and local Fishermen?s Association (PNK). Additionally, local community plays crucial role for the project implementation. The potential stakeholder listed from the community level includes related fisheries community and local community from respective marine parks. Other potential stakeholders were listed accordingly such as industry players and service industries.

Table attached summarizes key stakeholders for the project. This will be updated regularly throughout project implementation.

Key Stakeholder in project Implementation ?

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters	In accordance with agreed schedule	Support implementation of Components 1 and 2
Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOFM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters	In accordance with agreed schedule	Review of policies, plans, budgets, facilitate and monitor overall project implementation
DOF state representatives (refer table 3)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters	In accordance with agreed schedule	Monitor/facilitate DOF district representatives and liaise with DOFM
18 DOF district representatives (refer table 3)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting, workshops, exchange of minutes, official letters, field visits throughout the project and follow up engagements (focus group discussion and workshops)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout the implementation timeline	Localised project implementation for Components 1 and 3 specifically
Fisheries Research Institute (FRI)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for fisheries resources within East Coast Peninsular Malaysia (specifically for Components 1 and 2)
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (KeTSA)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Provide implementation assistance in terms of policy planning and reviews
National Water Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research capability for larval dispersal modelling
Marine Department Malaysia (JLM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation in terms of enforcement

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (APMM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation in terms of enforcement
Ministry of Tourism, Art, and Culture Malaysia (MoTAC)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation (for Components 2 and 3)
MoTAC state offices (refer table 3)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation (for Components 2 and 3)
Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister?s Department (UPEN)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation
District offices	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation
State park authorities where applicable (e.g., Terengganu State Park Council, Johor National Parks Corporation)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation
Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES, Universiti Malaya)	Partner	Other	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for Component 3 Potential area: Kelantan waters (off Bachok)
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)	Partner	Other	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for Component 3 Potential area: Marine spatial planning for Kuala Terengganu & Kuala Nerus
Universiti Islam Antarabangsa (UIAM)	Partner	Other	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support for Component 3 Potential area: Kuantan waters

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Reef Check Malaysia (RCM)	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting, workshops, and field visits for selected sites	In accordance with agreed schedule	Research support and project implementation for Component 3 Specific focus on coral and fish larvae dispersal modelling, marine ecological connectivity between East Johor, Pahang, and Terengganu, and ecosystem resilience
WWF Malaysia	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Research support for important habitat for aquatic resources and fisheries resources (Component 1, 2 and 3)
PLAN-Malaysia (Town and Country Planning Dept.)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Assist in project implementation for Component 3
Industry players (e.g., QL Resources Berhad, etc)	Indirect Beneficiary	Other	Meeting, workshops, and field visits	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation for Component 2
Service industries (e.g., Berjaya Hotels & Resorts, Bubbles Dive Resort, Perhentian Island Divers, Sea Voice Divers)	Indirect Beneficiary	Other	Meeting, workshops, and field visits	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation for Component 3
Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia (LKIM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Meeting and workshops (knowledge sharing session)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Assist in project implementation, research support in fisheries resources (Component 1 and 2)
Fishermen?s Association (PNK)	Indirect Beneficiary	Civil Society Organization	Meetings, workshops, field trials and follow-up engagements (focus group discussions etc)	Prior to start of activities and as required throughout	Assist in project implementation (Components 1,2 and 3)

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Local communities of marine park islands	Indirect Beneficiary	Local community	Meetings, workshops, and focus group discussions	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation for Component 3
Fisheries local community (e.g., myKP)	Indirect Beneficiary	Local community	Meetings, workshops, and focus group discussions	In accordance with agreed schedule	Assist in project implementation (Components 1 and 2)

SEAFDEC

GoTFish project will be dealing with stakeholders at the global, regional (ASEAN), sub-regional (GoTFish countries) and national levels. The executing agencies are the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), a regional intergovernmental agency, the Sustainable Fisheries partnership (SFP), a US-registered non-profit agency that operates globally, and the University of Queensland, a leading research and teaching institution in Australia. At the regional level, several intergovernmental and non-government agencies will have an interest in the outcome of the project. the sub-regional level the main stakeholders will be the project executing agencies. Fisheries governance and planning will be carried out sub-regionally, mainly through the Fishery Departments of Viet Nam (particularly SW Vietnam), Cambodia, Thailand, and Malaysia, (particularly east coast peninsular Malaysia), non-government organisations and representatives of fishers, fish buyers and coastal fishing communities in these areas (both male and female).

National stakeholders - fisherfolks and fishing communities, including women involved in fisheries related activities along the value chain, and fisherfolk families in the 4 countries (Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam) - will be engaged in the project implementation through the national stakeholder consultation process, as identified in the separate stakeholder consultation templates, led by the Department of Fisheries in each GoT country.

The attached table summarizes key regional stakeholders for implementing the project. This will be updated regularly throughout project implementation.

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, Asia-Pacific Regional Office (FAO/RAP)	Implementing agency	Regional Government Institution/body	Contracts Exchange of reports	Project inception, mid-term review and final evaluation plus 6-monthly reporting	Support implementation of all Components

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
Sustainable Fisheries partnership (SFP)	Executing agency	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Contract, meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for executing Component 2
University of Queensland (UQ)	Executing agency	National academic institution	Contract, meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for executing Component 3
Directorate of Fisheries Viet Nam (xxx)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Viet Nam
Fisheries Administration, Cambodia (FiA)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Cambodia
Department of Fisheries, Thailand (DOFT)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Thailand
Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOFM)	Partner	National Government Institution body	Contract, Meetings, workshops, official letters	On-going	Responsible for national activities in Malaysia
The Asia Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Support knowledge sharing of project outcomes
The Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
Secretariat for the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in the Region (RPOA-IUU)	Partner	Regional Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, and engagement for the Green List under component 3

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
USAID, Regional Development Mission for Asia	Partner	Local Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)	Partner	International Government Institution/body	Meetings, workshops, emails	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
WorldWide Fund for Nature (WWF)	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels
Marin-Trust (MT)	Partner	International certification programme for marine ingredients	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, under component 2
International Fishmeal and Fish Oil Organisation (IFFO)	Partner	International trade organisation	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, under component 2
Thai Union (TU)	Partner	International seafood company	Meetings, workshops	On-going	Direct coordination at country and regional levels, under component 2

SFP

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
	Direct beneficiary	Select a stakeholder profile			
IFFO /Global Roundtable on marine ingredients	Partner	Other	Consultation and engagement on multispecies improvements for marine ingredients and other sectors	Inception and throughout project	IFFO and members of the Global Roundtable seek to support improvements in fisheries supplying marine ingredients through development of FIPs. Many members are current and prospective FIP participants, and the roundtable may be a source of co-funding.

Marin Trust	Partner	Other	Consultation and engagement on multispecies improvements for marine ingredients and other sectors	Inception and throughout project	Marin Trust is keen to engage with the GoT Fish project to use learnings from their multispecies pilot, together with the FAO multispecies toolkit, to encourage improvements and refine approaches to responsibly manage multispecies fisheries. Their certification and improver program are recognized by leading aquaculture certifications and provide direct market incentives. May be a source of co-funding
Kim Delta	Partner	Other	Consultation and engagement on multispecies improvements for marine ingredients and other sectors, as well as anchovy fisheries used in fish sauce	Inception and throughout project	Kim Delta is coordinating the Vung Tau multispecies FIP and exploring expansion to Kien Giang. They also have connections with regional fish sauce industry. They could assist in engaging industry and designing improvements in Vietnam.
Ocean Mind	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Consultation and engagement around vessel monitoring	Inception and throughout project	Ocean Mind?s work with the Thai DoF is relevant to the GoT Fish project, and OM could potentially be engaged to do similar work under some of the regional management approaches being discussed under the project
Seafood Task Force	Partner	Non-Gonvernmental Organization	Consultation and engagement on vessel oversight efforts and FIPs	Inception and throughout project	STF has been active in encouraging improvements and conducting capacity building and training for vessel oversight including marine ingredient supply chains. They are active in Thailand and Vietnam. Some members could be FIP participants and STF may be a source of cofunding.

3) Identified districts involved in project implementation

Malaysia

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Johor				

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Johor Bharu Timur	District of Johor Bahru/Kulai Fisheries Office Kompleks Jabatan Perikanan Tampoi, Batu 4 1/2, Jalan Skudai Kiri, 81200 Johor Bahru, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my	Johor Fisheries Office Kompleks Perikanan Negeri Johor, Jalan Pendas Laut, 81550 Gelang Patah, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Johor Office) Aras 2 Kiri, Wisma PERKESO, Jalan Susur 5, Off Jalan Tun Abdul Razak, Larkin, 80200 Johor Bahru. Johor Darul Takzim	Pejabat Daerah Johor Bahru Jalan Datin Halimah, 80350 Johor Bahru, Johor Email: pdjb@johor.gov.my
Kota Tinggi Utara (Tg. Sedili)	District of Tanjung Sedili Fisheries Office Sedili, 81900 Kota Tinggi, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Kota Tinggi Aras 2, Bangunan Sultan Iskandar, 81900 Kota Tinggi, Johor Email: pdkt@johor.gov.my
Kota Tinggi Selatan (Pengerang)	District of Kota Tinggi Selatan (Pengerang) Fisheries Office Kota Tinggi Selatan, Sungai Rengit, 81620 Pengerang, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my			
Mersing	District of Mersing Fisheries Office JKR 34, Jalan Tun Dr. Ismail, 86800 Mersing, Johor Email: dofjohor@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Mersing Aras 1, Kompleks Pejabat-Pejabat Kerajaan, Jalan Ibrahim, 86800 Mersing, Johor. Email: pdkt@johor.gov.my
Pahang				
Kuantan	District of Kuantan Fisheries Office Tingkat 7, Wisma Persekutuan, Jalan Gambut, 25000 Kuantan, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my	Pahang Fisheries Office Tingkat 2, Wisma Persekutuan, Jalan Gambut, 25000 Kuantan, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Pahang Office) B 8006, Tingkat 1-3, Seri Kuantan Square, Jalan Teluk Sisek 25000 Kuantan, Pahang	Bangunan Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Kuantan Bandar Indera Mahkota 25990 Kuantan Pahang Darul Makmur
Pekan	District of Pekan Fisheries Office Jalan Engku Muda Mansor, 26600 Pekan, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Dan Tanah Pekan Jalan Sultan Abu Bakar 26600 Pekan Pahang Darul Makmur

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Kuala Rompin	District of Rompin Fisheries Office 26800 Kuala Rompin, Pahang Email: dof_pahang@dof.gov.my		Darul Makmur	Pejabat Daerah Dan Tanah Rompin Blok A, Kompleks Pentadbiran Kerajaan Daerah Rompin, 26800 Kuala Rompin Pahang Darul Makmur
Terengganu				
Kemaman	District of Kemaman Fisheries Office Kampung Geliga, Chukai, 24000 Kemaman, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my	Wisma Perikanan Negeri, Taman Perikanan Chendering, 21080 Chendering, Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Terengganu Office) Lot 5116 dan 5117, Jalan Masjid Abidin, 20100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Darul Iman	Pejabat Daerah Kemaman Jalan Sentosa, 24000, Kemaman
Dungun	District of Dungun Fisheries Office Jalan Yahya Ahmad, 23000 Dungun, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Dungun Jalan Yahya Ahmad, 23000, Dungun
Marang	District of Marang Fisheries Office Lot 5024, Bukit Batu Merah, 21600 Marang, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Marang 21600, Marang
Kuala Terengganu Utara	District of Kuala Nerus Fisheries Office Seberang Takir, 21300 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Kuala Terengganu Kompleks Sri Iman, Jalan Sultan Mohamad, 20692, Kuala Terengganu
Kuala Terengganu Selatan	District of Kuala Terengganu Fisheries Office Jalan Hiliran, Pulau Kambing, 20300 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			

Fisheries District	DOF District Offices	DOF State Offices	MoTAC State Offices	District Offices
Besut	District of Besut Fisheries Office Jalan Jeti, Kuala Besut, 22300 Besut, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Besut Kampung Raja 22000, Besut
Setiu	District of Setiu Fisheries Office Bandar Permaisuri, 22100 Setiu, Terengganu Email: ppn_trg@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Daerah Setiu Bandar Permaisuri, Setiu 22100, Setiu
Kelantan				
Kota Bharu	District of Kota Bharu Fisheries Office 440, Jalan Kuang Off Jalan Kuala Krai, 15150 Kota Bharu, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my	Kelantan Fisheries Office Tingkat 6, Wisma Persekutuan, 15628 Kota Bharu, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia (Kelantan Office) Kampung Kraf tangan, Jalan Hilir Balai 15300 Kota Bharu, Kelantan Darul Naim	Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Kota Bharu 15000 Kota Bharu, Kelantan
Bachok	District of Bachok Fisheries Office Kompleks Perikanan Tawang, 16300 Bachok, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Bachok Kg. Telok, 16300 Bachok, Kelantan
Pasir Putih	District of Pasir Puteh Fisheries Office D/A Wisma PNKS, Tingkat Bawah, Lot 2815, Taman Impian Tok Bali, 16700 Pak Mayong, Pasir Puteh, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Pasir Puteh 16800 Pasir Puteh, Kelantan
Tumpat	District of Tumpat Fisheries Office Jalan Hilir Pasar, Pekan Tumpat, 16200 Tumpat, Kelantan Email: dof_kelantan@dof.gov.my			Pejabat Tanah Dan Jajahan Tumpat Jalan Masjid, 16200 Tumpat, Kelantan

[1] Please include identification and consultations of disadvantage and vulnerable groups/individuals in line with the GEF policy on Stakeholder Engagement and GEF Environmental and Social Safeguard.

[2] Please include identification and consultations of disadvantage and vulnerable groups/individuals in line with the GEF policy on Stakeholder Engagement and GEF Environmental and Social Safeguard.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body;

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain) Yes

The Civil Society will be involved in **in regional working groups.**

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

The project is aligned with the GEF?s and FAO?s Policies on Gender Equality (2020 ? 2030), the GEF Gender Implementation Strategy, as well as the SEAFDEC Gender Strategy . The project is also in line with SDG 5 on Gender Equality, and the empowerment of women and girls, and it will therefore put efforts to improve the participation of women in decision-making particularly in post-harvest, where they are more largely represented, but also in other levels along the fisheries value chain (e.g. in small-scale fisheries, many women also fish). In addition to this, the project will provide examples on how to integrate gender considerations into projects and interventions dealing with marine resource management, creating lessons and guidance for the SDG 14 on Life Below Water, which lacks any gender-related indicators.

Gender Assessments during the PPG Phase in the GoT countries

Due to the travel limitations imposed by Covid-19, a detailed gender analysis was not possible during the PPG phase. Despite of this, the initial gender findings of the PIF have been updated by:

- a. The integration of specific gender related questions were integrated as part of the guidance document prepared for the national consultations that led to describing the project?s baseline, as well in building the activities under the project components.
- b. Getting in contact with the Gender on Fisheries and Aquaculture (GAF) Network, with three main purposes, 1) to find out of existing gender and socioeconomic studies of countries in

the GoT, 2) find out about existing (or future) initiatives that are directly aimed at enhancing the role of women in the fisheries sector in the Southeast Asia region, and more particularly, in any of the GoT countries: Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam, and 3) open a path for collaboration.

•c. Desk-review of previous gender related studies in the four GoTFish countries

•d) The findings of the process above has led to a review and update of the gender section of the PIF, the integration of the gender considerations along the GoTFish project framework, and the development of the Gender Action Plan for the GoTFish.

The findings of the gender assessments during PIF and PPG phase, inputs from the GAF Network, and desk-studies have been summarized below:

•a. Women are crucial to the fisheries sector in the GoT countries - however, women?s contributions have often gone undocumented and therefore rendered invisible to most researchers and policy makers.

•b. National fisheries policies prioritize primary production of fish over other parts of the supply chain in which women are represented in much larger numbers, such as post-harvest.

•c. The lack of recognition of women?s contributions to the sector?s economy at different stages of the supply chain and to food security undervalues the economic and social benefits they provide, marginalizing women and increases their vulnerability, especially in small-scale capture fisheries which are already side-lined within the fishing industry. Another problem is the real availability of women?s time to participate in other non-domestic activities.

•d. Studies have shown that women participate in almost all activities in the fisheries sector including the construction of fishing gears, fish sorting, fish handling, fish processing and marketing, and some women also participate directly in fishing activities with their family members in lakes, rivers and streams.

•e. For the harvest subsector, women?s role as fish buyers, traders and money lenders is particularly important as they have a major influence on the well-being of fishers and their families.

•f. More efforts are necessary to enhance the role of women in the fisheries sector, particularly when it comes to strengthening their participation in decision-making, and better capturing their roles and specific needs in fisheries policies and plans.

•g. The existence of gender focal points (e.g. Cambodia) has proved a good way to share knowledge and information on how to mainstream gender ? but there needs to be more efforts to make gender inequalities the concern of all practitioners working on the human dimension of fisheries (and not just a matter for the gender focal points/experts). Capacity development and guidance is therefore necessary throughout the four components.

•h. Some of the key gender issues identified during the desk review and national consultations on the topic of role of women in in fisheries in the GOT countries, include the following:

i. Cambodia: Women play a large role in aquaculture and capture fisheries. They play a primary role in fish processing and marketing, which generate income for family. Gender has

been mainstreamed in fishery policies with the existence of a specific policy to mainstream gender in fisheries, which aim was to emphasize the importance of women?s contributions and mainstreaming gender across activities, but many issues remain to be addressed further in particular in decision making process and leadership roles. Young women in particular are at higher risk of migration finding jobs in the garment industry or traveling to other countries to work in agriculture, industry and other processing supply chain related activities although their working conditions are not always safe due to the legality status of employment and working environment. Access to education for children (particularly girls) in fishing communities is limited due to the degree of poverty among fishers. Women are less involved in decision-making processes related to the sustainable management of coastal resources.

ii. **Malaysia:** Women involved in small-scale fisheries activities are usually the wives or daughters of fishers, and they work to supplement the family income as part of the home-based family business. Their roles are seen as supportive roles (accompanying husbands out to sea and help to mend nets), and on marketing. Marketing of fish is a traditional role of many women from the lower socio-economic group. In Peninsular Malaysia, women in the east coast states especially Kelantan, are more actively involved in the marketing of the catch than women in the west coast. Women are also involved in activities such as the traditional processing of dried, salted or smoked fish or in factories involved in fish canning or prawn processing.

iii. **Thailand:** There is little knowledge and information about the fisher population that are women in Thailand, and up to now, there is also no clear policy direction on promoting women in the fisheries sector. Owing to the paucity of research in this area, awareness of women's activities in fisheries is lacking. Women are also becoming increasingly involved through their work on fish farms and through migration, with many women migrating from neighbouring countries to Thailand for seafood processing jobs. The government?s main policy is the 2017?2021 Women?s Development Strategy and a cabinet resolution in 2011 further required all ministries and departments to have a Chief Gender Equality Officer (CGEO). In the Department of Fisheries specifically, there is a CGEO, a Gender Equality Coordination Centre, a Gender Mainstreaming Working Group, and a Master Plan for Gender Equality (DOF, 2007). A Gender Equality Promotion Committee establishes policies and plans to promote gender equality in all private and public entities. Despite these efforts by the Thai government, the local realities of gender mainstreaming in policies regarding coastal resources management and fisheries have been fragmented. According to the Ministerial Regulation On The Protection Of Labour In Sea Fisheries, B.E. 2557 (2014) and Amended version B.E.2561 (2018), it is mentioned that this regulation has to be followed Labour Protection Act, B.E. 2541 (1998), which clause 15 states that the employer must treat the employees fairly and equally both male and females.

iv. **Viet Nam:** Over 3.4 million people are involved in fisheries related activities in Viet Nam, such as capture fisheries, fish farming, transporting, processing, distributing and marketing of fish and fishery products, with an estimated half being women (in rural areas and coastal fishing villages). The Vietnamese Women in Fisheries (VWIF) Network established in March 1999 operates under the guidance of the Committee for the Advancement of Women in Fisheries (an integral component of the Network for Women and Gender in Fisheries Development in the Mekong Region), and aims to gather baseline data pertinent to female labour in fisheries.

During early project implementation, gender actions will be consolidated into a GoTFish project Gender Strategy, that will include, among others, the following interventions:

a) Capacity development to national stakeholders on gender issues in fisheries.

b) Creation of a system with Gender Focal points at national and regional levels to share information related to gender issues in fisheries, and liaison with other gender focal points of partner organizations

c) Conduct gender analysis along the value chain in the project counties to have an overall assessment of women?s roles in fisheries in the GoT.

d) Design specific activities targeted to women to ensure they benefit from the project and to improve their participation in decision-making

e) Setting up a gender responsive M&E system, with gender sensitive indicators

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

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes
4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.

Private Sector Engagement Strategy for the GoTFish Project

This project seeks to enhance the role of market incentives to deliver positive change in the key fisheries of the GoT, triggering aligned action and collaboration between the public and private sectors toward effective Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. Specifically, market incentives will be focused on two fisheries that exert fishing pressure over key ecosystem species, namely a) the multi-species trawl fishery that supplies the marine ingredients and other markets; and b) the multi-gear small pelagic fishery that supplies raw material to the fish sauce market.

Both the development or refinement of market incentives for these two fisheries, as well as the rollout of their implementation through adoption by businesses within these supply chains, will require direct

engagement with the private sector. This work will involve discussion with different actors involved in both the international export market of the two commodities referred to above (such as major retailers in the US or EU markets), but also with domestic and regional supply chains whose businesses depend on the selected fisheries (including major retailers and vertically integrated companies such as CP Foods or as Thai Union). This direct engagement will be carried out exclusively by one of the project partners: Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Foundation (SFP). SFP?s strategy for achieving seafood sustainability is to engage industry to drive improvements in the fisheries and aquaculture operations from which they source their seafood. A pioneer organization in the engagement of seafood markets players in sustainability initiatives and the development of innovative market-based tools (such as Fishery Improvement Projects), SFP has developed a number of private sector engagement models with the ultimate aim of improving sustainability performance in world fisheries.

Collaborative arrangements used by SFP vary depending on a number of factors, such as the improvement needs of the fishery, operations of supply chains, seafood sector structure (e.g., octopus, marine ingredients) and profile of final end users of the product (e.g., food service, retail). For example, SFP maintains partnerships with large-volume buyers of seafood (i.e., retailers, food service, hotels, etc.) in the major seafood markets of North America and Europe. SFP provides buyer partners with information on the sustainability status of the seafood they are purchasing along with analyses and advice on best options for supporting improvement efforts. These partners use this information to work with their suppliers to foster positive changes in their source fisheries that suffer from unsustainable practices. SFP also organizes suppliers in supply chain roundtables (SRs), which are pre-competitive platforms structured around seafood sectors that act as catalysts for the creation of Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs). To do so, SFP provides suppliers with the latest scientific information and analysis on the sustainability status of their source fisheries and encourages their support for FIP development and implementation in those fisheries that require improvement.

SFP pioneered and promoted the Fishery Improvement Project tool to address sustainability challenges in fisheries. FIPs comprise key industry players from producing countries who, with support from committed suppliers and buyers, seek to address environmental challenges in a fishery by fostering positive collaboration with science and management authorities through public-private alliances. A FIP identifies the environmental issues that must be addressed, sets the priority actions that should be undertaken, and oversees implementation of the action plan adopted by the participants. While SFP provides support for FIP creation, management, and implementation, all FIPs supported by SFP are led and funded by industry, and their progress against FIP workplan objectives are reported publicly to forestall ?greenwashing? and to ensure transparency and accountability.

Finally, in domestic and regional markets with lower levels of demand for sustainable products, SFP engages supply chains through experimental and innovative pre-competitive collaboration platforms, such as Responsible Sourcing Schemes, understood as sets of agreed upon purchasing requirements that, when adopted by a group of businesses involved in a specific supply chain, serve to incentivize positive change.

Engagement with the private sector as part of this project is envisaged to entail work through a number of tools, including a) with the members of the already established Global Roundtable on Marine Ingredients, which is co-chaired by SFP and Marin Trust, and comprises key buyers of fishmeal and

fishoil; b) through the development or support to industry-led Fishery Improvement Projects in the key fisheries, as well as c) the establishment of a multi-stakeholder Responsible Seafood Scheme that will be developed in a participatory manner and is expected to be adopted by key businesses involved in the fish sauce supply chain as part of their seafood purchasing policies. These three private sector engagement models build upon more than 15 years of SFP?s experience in building industry capacity to lead transformational change towards sustainable seafood production.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

Risk management is a structured, methodical approach to identifying and managing risks for the achievement of project objectives. The risk management plan will allow stakeholders to manage risks by specifying and monitoring mitigation actions throughout implementation. Part A of this section focuses on external risks to the project and Part B on the identified environmental and social risks from the project.

Section A: Risks to the project

In the section below, elaborate on indicated risks to the project, including climate risks , potential social environmental, political or fiduciary risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.

Description of risk	Impact[1]	Probability of occurance3	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
Risks to project implementation				
Ensuring effective multi-stakeholder involvement from multiple countries can be time and resource consuming ? especially to ensure that people and institutions involved effectively represent their sector or stakeholders	**High**	**Medium**	The project will facilitate roundtables and working groups to ensure that knowledge is being shared among different stakeholders, and that the views of different groups are being taken into consideration.	RCU Executing Agencies

Description of risk	Impact[1]	Probability of occurance3	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
National processes ? particularly approvals for plans and legal mechanisms ? may be complex and lead to uneven progress between countries that may undermine different countries interest/ engagement	**High**	**Medium**	The project will facilitate knowledge sharing and provide guidance based on lessons learned and other similar experiences ? but this will not limit the normal processes in each country, and it is expected that countries will move at difference paces. When necessary, informal discussion forums (e.g. regional workshops) at the same time formal processes (e.g. setting up an advisory group) are being set up, to avoid time lags.	RCU Executing Agencies
Weak understanding of specific value chain and consumer habits	**Medium**	**Medium**	At the moment, there is little knowledge about the consumer habits and other value chain considerations for the domestic markets (including the demand for sustainably sourced seafood in Asia). The project will address these issues as part of Component 2	SFP
Weak consideration of existing capacities. e.g. activities should be country specific with the incorporation of evidence-based approaches.	**Medium**	**Medium**	The project focus is at the regional level, but will also need to include capacity needs assessments at the national level to facilitate the participation of national staff in the regional discussion and decision-making process	RCU, Executing Agencies
Social and gender impacts				
Weak participatory processes, with no meaningful integration of the often under-represented (marginalized) small-scale fishers and processors	**High**	**Low**	The project has gone through an extensive consultation process but has been limited to the national and regional levels. The project needs to be brought to the local level to assess that it will have a positive impact on the fishers and responsive to their needs. During early implementation, once pilot locations have been decided, the project will follow the Free Prior and Informed consent methodology to inform coastal fishing communities about the aims of the project and obtain their approval to participate.	RCU, Executing Agencies

Description of risk	Impact[1]	Probability of occurance3	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
High dependency of fish workers to informal working arrangements, with limited access to infrastructure and markets. Many small-scale fishers and processors are poor and highly dependent on limited access to credit, knowledge and inputs, limiting their possibilities to participate in the project	**High**	**High**	The GoTFish project will promote the four pillars of FAO on Decent Rural Employment and will work with Executing Agencies to address any existing issues of child or forced labour that become apparent during project implementation. The concept of Decent Rural Employment also calls for an adequate living income, as well as a certain degree of employment, security and stability. The GoTFish project will work with partners facilitating linkages to ongoing social protection programmes for the fisheries sector in the four project countries, ensuring that the specific needs of fishing communities are being taken into account.	RCU, Executing Agencies

Description of risk	Impact[1]	Probability of occurance3	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
Improvement of MPA management and/or gazetting of new MPAs under Component 3 results in loss of access to current fishing grounds to small-scale fisheries and consequent loss of livelihoods or economic opportunities	**High**	**Low**	The project will improve the management of 35 MPAs on small islands on the east coast of Malaysia which are currently clustered into 4 groups. These islands are already under MPA listing and management measures apply, specifically to the prohibition of fishing activities within 2 nautical miles of the island constituting approximately 1,745.28km2. Improved management may include monitoring control and surveillance of these area to deter illegal fishing activities. Legitimate fishing would be unaffected. The islands are between 12-25km from shore and almost all lie outside of Malaysia?s reserved area for small-scale fisheries (0-9.3km from shoreline) and are less accessible by small scale vessels and the fishing activity around them is primarily commercial vessels. In the case of the [two] newly gazetted MPAs , as the islands are quite small, the area that is estimated to be is 299km2 . These islands also lie outside the reserved area for traditional fishing (SSF). Moreover, the intent is to consider how the MPA placement can help rebuild local fisheries, though there will be a delay of several years before such benefits are likely to occur. Finally, the tools that will be prepared under the project will be taking into consideration the potential displacement of fishers as part of the decision-making process ? and by making this a participatory and inclusive process, there will be better opportunities to take social and resilience issues into account, providing a higher chance of success	
Gender dimensions are not fully integrated meaningfully	**High**	**Low**	A gender action plan with a budget has been developed as part of the PPG phase, to ensure that gender issues have been taken into account as part of all the Outputs. A full Gender Strategy will be developed during Inception and implemented throughout the project	RCU, Executing Agencies

Description of risk	Impact[1]	Probability of occurance3	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
Environmental Impacts				
Lack of understanding of aquatic biome. No scientific and ecological approaches integrated and absence of stock assessments to assess the status of the resources based on management measures	**High**	**Medium**	There is currently little scientific information available related to the status of the stocks and this is not something the project will be able to carry out; however, the project will support initiatives to assess stock status by mobilizing support from partners such as SEAFDEC, and will rely on the use of proxy indicators as much as possible and as required.	RCU will coordinate with other projects
Limited integration of climate change considerations into project implementation	**Medium**	**Low**	The project will integrate climate change considerations, particularly related to adaptation and disaster risk reduction of the fisheries sector in the GoT. Climate change considerations will be integrated as part of the EAFM plans and wherever relevant as part of project execution	RCU and Execution Agencies
Climate risk and natural disaster can jeopardize any attempts to improve management measures	**High**	**Medium**	The project will take into account climate impacts and will contribute to improving resilience of fishing communities in the GoT, facilitating knowledge sharing at the regional level on what actions to take.	RCU and Execution Agencies
Covid 19 - Pandemic				
Continued restrictions on transboundary and within-country movements restricts project activities, especially with on the ground meetings and pilot activities, travel of international consultants	**Medium**	**Medium**	The project will work with countries to ensure that activities are proofed to the extent possible against extended travel between areas. Virtual conferencing will be used wherever possible for transboundary meetings and between country dialogues. International consultants my deliver part of their inputs remotely. National consultants will be used wherever possible operating within their locality to reduce risks of extended movements.	RCU and Execution Agencies, and Government counterparts

Description of risk	Impact[1]	Probability of occurance3	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
Rise of IUU during COVID19, due to unemployed people resorting to fishing to provide for their families, with additional pressure on the fisheries.	**Medium**	**Low**	Ongoing monitoring by both FAO and SEAFDEC is tracking effects of Covid-19 on fisheries in the GoT countries. Initial assessments indicate that IUU fishing activities during the COVID-19 in GoT is stable or decreasing. This is because the government enforcement and management measures have not been affected significantly so far. Reduced access to fishing labour and lower market demands due to economic downturn means there has also not been significant increase in fishing effort nor IUU. The project current design will help address the impact of IUU fishing (due to COVID-19 secondary impacts, and other causes), so it will be even more important to enhance fisheries management measures in the four GoT countries. The longer term COVID-19 impacts on fisheries and livelihoods are being taken into account in terms of how they will be addressed in the context of delivering GEBs and/or climate adaptation and resilience benefits, including long term dependency concerns and opportunities.	RCU and Execution Agencies, and Government counterparts

[1] H: High; M: Moderate; L: Low.

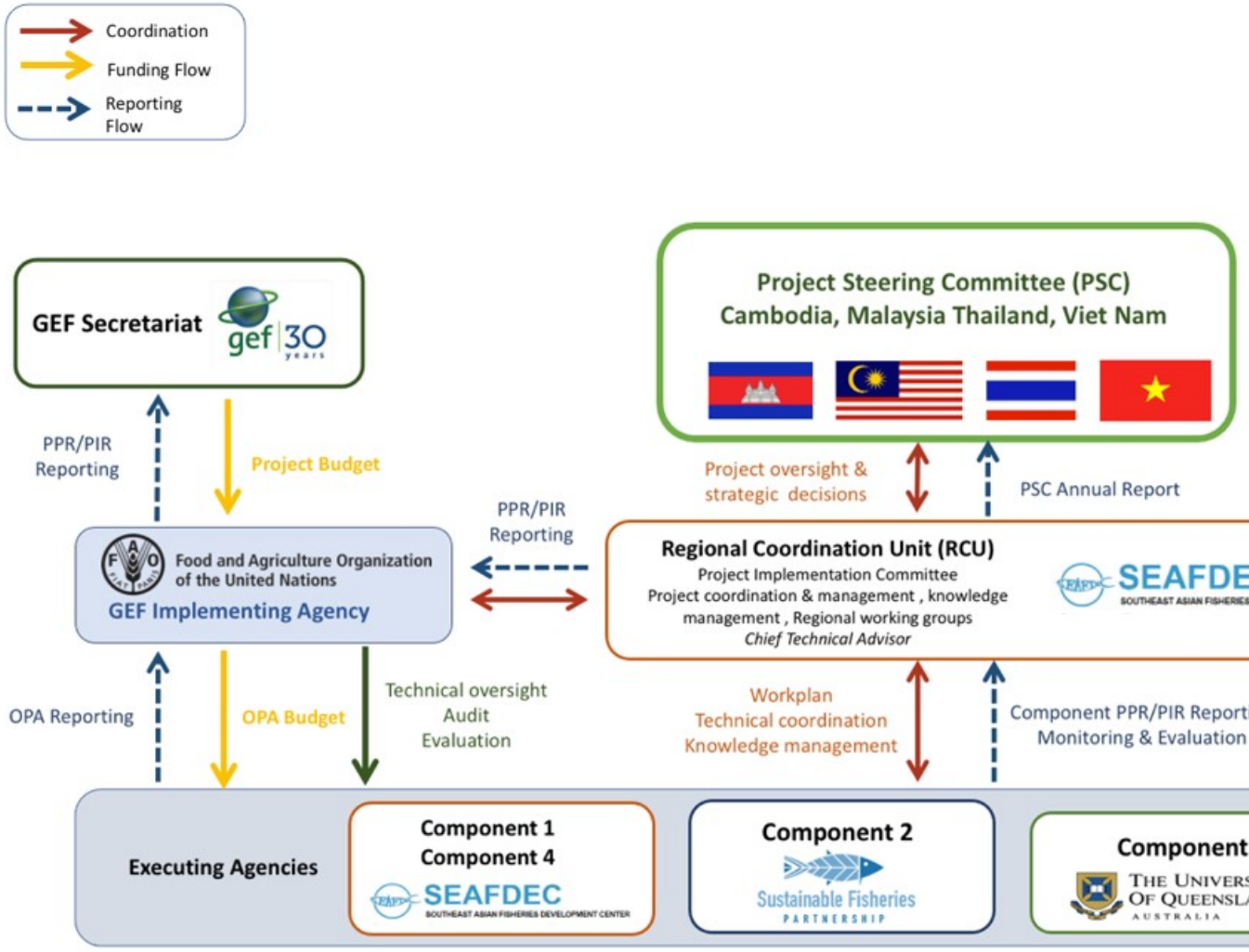
6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

6.a Institutional arrangements for project implementation.

The project organization structure is illustrated in Figure 3:

Figure 3: GoTFish institutional arrangements



SEAFDEC will act as lead Executing Agency (EA) with overall executing and technical responsibility for Components 1 and 4 of the project and will be also host and operate the project Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU), led by the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA). The Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP) will be the EA for Component 2 and University of Queensland will be the EA for Component 3. The EAs will be guided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and receive advice from the Implementing Agency (FAO) under their respective Operating Partner Agreements (OPA)

Project Steering Committee

The project will be guided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) which acts as the main governing body of the project. The PSC will approve Annual Work Plans and Budgets on a yearly basis and will provide strategic guidance to the RCU and the EAs.

The PSC will meet at annually to ensure: i) Oversight and assurance of technical quality of outputs; ii) Close linkages between the project and other ongoing projects and programmes relevant to the project; iii) Timely availability and effectiveness of co-financing support; iv) Sustainability of key project outcomes, including up-scaling and replication; v) Effective coordination of governmental partners work under this project; vi) Approval of the six-monthly Project Progress and Financial Reports, the Annual Work Plan and Budget; vii) Making by consensus, management decisions when guidance is required by the CTA and the RCU.

The PSC members will be comprised of Nominated representatives from the participating countries. The members of the PSC will each assume the role of a Focal Point for the project in their respective agencies. Hence, the project will have a Focal Point in each concerned institution. The chair of the PSC will be elected on a rotational basis from amongst the participating country NFP?s. Other participants in the PSC meeting will be (i) Representatives of the Project EAs (SEAFDEC, SFP, UQ) (ii) The CTA and RCU, which will provide the secretariat function for the PSC; (iii) FAO in its capacity as the GEF implementing agency; (iv) other parties such as the GEF.

National Focal Points

The Governments of Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam will designate a National Focal Point (NFP) in each country. Located in the Department of Fisheries the NFP will be responsible for coordinating the activities with all the national bodies related to the different project components, as well as with the project partners.
The National Focal Points as Focal Points in their respective agencies participating in the project will:

- a) Supervise and guide the CTA (see below) on their government policies and priorities
- b) Technically oversee activities in their sector
- c) Ensure a fluid two-way exchange of information and knowledge between their agency and the project
- d) Facilitate coordination and links between the project activities and the work plan of their agency; and
- e) Facilitate the identification and provision of co-financing to the project.

Executing Agencies

The Executing Agencies (EAs) act as Operational Partners to deliver their components within the framework delineated by the PSC. The EAs and will be responsible for: (i) the delivery of results; (ii) operational oversight of implementation activities; (iii) timely reporting to ensure the effective use of GEF resources for the intended purposes in line with FAO and GEF policy requirements entrusted to them in full compliance with all terms and conditions of their respective Operational Partnership Agreements signed with FAO . To achieve this, they will have the following responsibilities:

- a) Ensure compliance with all Operational Partners Agreement (OPA) provisions during the implementation, including timely reporting and financial management;
    i. Coordinate and closely monitor the implementation of project component activities for which they are responsible;

ii. Track the progress of their component activities and ensuring timely delivery of inputs and outputs;

iii. Provide technical support and assessing the outputs of the project national consultants or sub-contractors hired with GEF funds under their components, as well as the products generated in the implementation of the project;

iv. Monitor financial resources and accounts of their OPA activities to ensure accuracy and reliability of financial reports;

v. Maintain documentation and evidence that describes the proper and prudent use of project resources as per OPA provisions, including making available this supporting documentation to FAO and designated auditors when requested;

vi. Ensuring timely preparation and submission of requests for funds, financial and progress reports to FAO as per OPA reporting requirements; and

vii. Submit the OP quarterly financial and six monthly progress reports to FAO.

•b) Coordinate with the RCU and lead executing agency with respect to component reporting and other regional actions

i. Timely preparation and submission to the RCU of the six-monthly Project Progress Report (PPR) and annual Project Implementation Review (PIR) for their respective components;

ii. Submit component-relevant monitoring data to the RCU for incorporation into the common M&E and indicator tracking framework;

iii. Support the RCU with component relevant information for implementation of the project?s knowledge management and communications plan;

iv. Assist RCU for component relevant preparation and presentations and participate in the annual PSC meeting;

v. Inform the RCU, PSC and FAO of any delays and difficulties as they arise during the implementation to ensure timely corrective measure and support; and

vi. Cooperate and assist the mid-term and final evaluations.

Regional Coordination Unit (Lead Executing Agency)

A project Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) will be co-funded by the GEF grant and established within SEAFDEC Training Department in Bangkok, Thailand. The main functions of the RCU, following the guidance of the Project Steering Committee, are to ensure overall efficient management, coordination, implementation and monitoring of the project through the effective implementation of the annual work plans and budgets (AWP/Bs).

The RCU will be composed of a Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) who will work full-time for the project lifetime. In addition, the RCU will include two Operations and Financial Assistants (TORs in Annex M).

The RCU will also convene at a minimum of every six months (and more frequently if necessary) an advisory Project Implementing Committee (PIC), that will be comprised of the project Executing Agencies and the Implementing Agency (FAO). The purpose of the PIC will be to ensure coordination and coherence between the project components; to address work planning and budget across the component; prepare for the PSC and ensure the implementation of PSC recommendations. The PIC will be convened physical or in hybrid format to keep costs down. As the host of the RCU and Lead Executing

Agency of the project SEAFDEC will have overall responsibility to coordination of the project components under their respective Executing Agencies. SEAFDEC will therefore:

- a) Maintain the RCU and its functions for coordination, project management, knowledge management and liaison with FAO;
- b) Organize and convene and act Secretariat for the annual Project Steering Committee (PSC);
- c) Arrange the regular Project Implementation Committee meeting
- d) Be responsible and accountable to FAO for the timely submission of project reports;
- e) Coordinate the submission and collation of reports for the preparation of the six-monthly Project Progress Reports(PPR) and Annual PIR for submission to FAO, receiving inputs from SFP and UQ under their respective components;
- f) Liaise with the other Executing Agencies for their annual workplans, budgets and budget revisions;
- g) Inform the PSC and FAO of any delays and difficulties as they arise during the implementation to ensure timely corrective measure and support;
- h) Coordinate the overall work plan;
- i) Organize regional project workshops and meetings to monitor progress to prepare Annual Budget and Work Plans;
- j) Ensure all EAs submit into the common M&E and indicator tracking framework;
- k) Support the organization of the mid-term review and final evaluation in close coordination with the FAO Budget Holder and the FAO Independent Office of Evaluation (OED);
- l) Implement and manage the project?s communications plan; and
- m) Maintain the GRM log and support the resolution of complaints as per the project GRM framework

GEF Implementing Agency

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) will be the GEF Implementing Agency (IA) for the Project, providing project cycle management and support services as established in the GEF Policy. As the GEF IA, FAO holds overall accountability and responsibility to the GEF for delivery of the results. FAO responsibilities, as GEF Implementing agency are detailed in Annex K but are summarized as follows:

- a) Administrate funds from GEF in accordance with the rules and procedures of FAO;
- b) Oversee project implementation in accordance with the project document, work plans, budgets, agreements with co-financiers, Operational Partners Agreement(s)and other rules and procedures of FAO;
- c) Approve and manage requests for provision of financial resources according the OPAs with the Executing Agencies
- d) Provide technical guidance to ensure that appropriate technical quality is applied to all activities concerned;
- e) Conduct at least one supervision mission per year;
- f) Reporting to the GEF Secretariat and Evaluation Office, through the annual Project Implementation Review, the Mid Term Review, the Terminal Evaluation and the Project Closure Report on project progress; and

- g) Financial reporting to the GEF Trustee.

In its IA role, FAO will utilize the GEF fees to deploy three different actors within the organization to support the project:

- a) The Budget Holder, which is usually the most decentralized FAO office, will provide oversight of day to day project execution;
- b) The Lead Technical Officer(s), drawn from across FAO will provide oversight/support to the projects technical work in coordination with government representatives participating in the Project Steering Committee;
- c) The Funding Liaison Officer(s) within FAO will monitor and support the project cycle to ensure that the project is being carried out and reporting done in accordance with agreed standards and requirements.

6.b Coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Coordination with other GEF projects

How the GoTFish is different to the Fisheries Refugia and SCS-SAP implementation projects. The GoTFish project has been designed to address the management challenges and disconnections that arise from transboundary fishery governance issues (e.g. overexploitation of fisheries resources, IUU fishing, gender and other socioeconomic issues, etc., as described in the barriers section above). This is complementary to, but quite distinct from the approach of the Fishery Refugia project, which is the fisheries component of the SCS-SAP project (explained below), and which is focused on management of those habitats that underpin important life stages of species that form important fisheries (e.g. wetlands, mangroves, seagrasses, coral reefs). The Refugia Project?s objective is more focussed on enhancement of the science and knowledge and development of policy and plans for implementation of the ?fishery refugia? concept. The GoTFish project addresses fishery management at the broader LME scale, through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries and Blue Economy reasoning at a regional level. It aims to strengthen fisheries governance, based on a shared vision for the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the GoT LME, this necessarily incorporates the actions and progress achieved by the SCS and Fishery Refugia Projects but the specific issues the GoTFish will address are not covered by these other two projects. This is the aspect of placing transboundary governance and cooperation at the centre to:

- a) update policies and strengthen legal frameworks to improve cooperative approaches
- b) establish and enhance regional stakeholder working groups to deal with other transboundary fishery issues (beyond fisheries refugia and habitat management, e.g. IUU, sustainable management)
- c) develop regional EAFM plans and other related action plans, and a mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management (which will be defined by countries during early project implementation).

The GoTFish project is also innovating beyond the scope of SCS and Refugia projects, in its exploration of multi-species tropical fishery management and market- and behaviour-related incentive mechanisms, through partnerships and active involvement of the private sector in the search of solutions (e.g. Fishery Improvement Projects, involvement in seafood taskforces, etc).

Component 3 of the GoTFish project makes use of IW (all four countries) and Biodiversity (only Malaysia) funds to provide for a greater understanding of the ecological corridors existing in the GoT, with a special focus in Malaysia. Although there are clear linkages to the Refugia concept in terms of managing and protecting ecologically important habitat or corridors, the focus is primarily on vulnerable biodiversity that may be related or unrelated fisheries resources, but still potentially impacted by the activities within fisheries. This Component builds on the knowledge generated by the Fishery Refugia project and will, for example, integrate and build on findings and recommendations of the Tajung Leman fishery refugia, as well as other completed GEF projects such as the CCRES). Importantly, the activities in Component 3 do not isolate biodiversity from fisheries, as the component will work on the integration of these issues into the EAFM plans, alongside improving the management of existing, and development of new, MPAs that are important for marine biodiversity.

The GEF project ?Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea? (SCS-SAP Project), is being implemented by UN Environment, and executed by COBSEA and SEAFDEC, in partnership with the Ministries of Environment in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. The overall objective of the SCS-SAP project is to assist participating country governments in meeting the targets of the approved Strategic Action Programme (SAP) to reverse environmental degradation trends in the South China Sea. Project activities aim to reduce environmental stressors through actions establishing sustainable management of coastal ecosystems (mangroves, coral reefs and seagrass, as well as coastal wetlands), reducing land-based pollution and supporting regional cooperation in the management of marine and coastal environment. The proposed GoT project activities will be harmonized within the SCS-SAP implementation through internal linkages within SEAFDEC and in close coordination with COBSEA (especially for actions under component 3).

The GEF/UN Environment project ?Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand? was developed to implement the fisheries component of the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea, and it is executed regionally by the SEAFDEC in partnership with the government agencies responsible for fisheries in the 6 participating countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam). The project has the following 4 project components: Component 1, on the establishment of operational management of 14 priority fisheries refugia; Component 2, on strengthening the enabling environment for the formal designation and operation management of refugia; Component 3, on strengthening information management and dissemination aimed at enhancing the national uptake of best practices in integrating fisheries management and biodiversity conservation and in improving community acceptance of area-based approaches to fisheries and coastal environmental management, and; Component 4, on strengthening cross-sectoral coordination for integrated fisheries and environmental management, and foster regional cooperation for the establishment and operation of a regional system of fisheries refugia. The long-term goals of the project are to contribute to improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations in the management of fisheries in the South China Sea and GoT, as well as to develop the capacity of fisheries departments to engage in meaningful dialogue with the environment sector regarding the improvement of fisheries and management of the interactions between fisheries and critical marine habitats.

Contributing to these efforts, the GoT project will address regional and national governance and management practices among the four GoT countries (Component 1), promoting incentives that are related to market mechanisms and fishers? behaviour (Component 2), and a greater understanding and integration into planning of the existing ecological corridors, important for aquatic biodiversity (Component 3). The knowledge generated by the project (lessons learned, best practices, success stories, issues encountered, etc.) will be shared, and the progress monitored, along with strong stakeholder involvement and supporting the empowerment of women in fishery value-chains (Component 4). The improved practices and local management of fisheries using the EAFM approach, enhancing livelihoods and gender equality in the fisheries sector, and changing behaviour of fishers, will all reduce stress across the GoT fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.

With regards to the location of the fisheries refugia project, of the 15 priority fisheries refugia sites identified by the project, 7 are located in the GoT, including Cambodia (Koh Kong, Kampot and Kep), East Peninsular Malaysia (Tanjung Leman), Thailand (Trat and Surat Thani) and South of Viet Nam (Phu Quoc). The implementation of Component 3 of the project that will be implemented in East Peninsular Malaysia will take into consideration the knowledge produced in Tajung Leman fishery refugia site, as well as during the identification of the EBSA location for the execution of pilot activities for the development of the ecological corridors.

A coordination mechanism will be created within SEAFDEC and linked to COBSEA to facilitate the coherence in implementation of GoTFish, along with the two projects implementing the SAP (the SAP implementation project, and the fisheries refugia project). The principle coordination and contributions of GoTFish to the Fisheries Refugia Project are outlined in Table 5.

Table 5: GoTFish coordination actions with the activities under the Fisheries Refugia Project components

Fisheries Refugia Activities	Linkages and actions by GoTFish
Component 1 **Activities related to the** Identification and management of fisheries and critical habitat linkages at priority fisheries refugia in the South China Sea.	GoTFish will integrate the findings of the fisheries refugia profile reports developed in the 8 sites of the GoT, as part of the development of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management plans (both at national and regional levels), under Component 1 of GoTFish
Component 2 **Activities related to** Improving the management of critical habitats for fish stocks of transboundary significance via national and regional actions to strengthen the enabling environment and knowledge-base for fisheries refugia management in the South China Sea	GoTFish will facilitate the integration of the recommendations generated by the Fisheries Refugia project and support countries to develop a regional vision for fisheries management of transboundary fisheries species, improving coherence among policy and legal frameworks and management plans
Component 3 **Proposed Activity:** Information Management and Dissemination in support of national and regional-level implementation of the fisheries refugia concept in the South China Sea	GoTFish will promote the use of the fishery refugia related indicators developed by the Fishery Refugia project, and implement measures for the long-term management of transboundary resources in the GoT.

Component 4 **Proposed Activity:** National cooperation and coordination for integrated fish stock and critical habitat management in the South China Sea.	GoTFish will set up a regional mechanism for fisheries governance and EAFM management, integrating the habitat management measures developed by the fisheries refugia project, through the use of the regional working groups and action plans.

The SAP implementation projects are largely focused on the management and conservation of coastal and marine habitats, including those that are highly important for fisheries life cycles, while GoTFish will directly address the existing gaps dealing with fisheries overcapacity and the management of multispecies and transboundary fisheries, among other fisheries issues. The proposed GoT project will contribute to the implementation of the SCS-SAP, by directly addressing fisheries governance inefficiencies leading to IUU fishing, overcapacity, overfishing, harmful fishing practices, etc., that are drivers of habitat and ecosystem loss. The project will do this by promoting the Blue Economy potential and the use of EAF principles and tools; by creating and supporting regional multi-stakeholder working groups and teams to tackle critical issues faced by the GoT fisheries; by updating/developing coherent policy and legal frameworks across the GoT; and by developing the GoT?s first regional fisheries management plan as well as transboundary action plans for shared issues (markets and incentive mechanisms, capacity development, gender assessments, etc.), with a stronger focus on biodiversity and the development of ecological corridors particularly in Malaysia, as part of Component 3. The coordination between the three projects will take place during the Project?s Steering Committee (PSC) meetings, to ensure the working plans are aligned and do not overlap each other?s work. Regular communication will take place through the facilitation of SEAFDEC Secretariat, the executing agency of the three projects.

The GoTFish project has a number of focus areas for the EAFM plans and at least 2 of these areas are located with existing refugia sites identified under the GEF refugia project (which is due to close in December 2022). The EAF plans to be developed in these sites will build in the project sites and at least species such as short mackerel will also be incorporated in the plans, particularly in the case of transboundary dialogue. It is expected that progress made on the establishment of a regional level agreement for short mackerel will also be supported/enhanced/pursued withing the GoTFish framework as part of overall regional cooperation of GoT LME. With regards to the SCS-SAP project, GoTFish LME will bring a strong focus on fisheries management using the EAFM approach, linking to habitats and ecological corridors. This will provide both concrete examples of linking habitat and fisheries management into the SCS SAP, and provide opportunities for cross-learning and capacity building.

The inclusion of Malaysia in the GoTFish project also offers the opportunity to broaden the interaction of countries in the region within the SCS project as Malaysia is not a member of that project.

Under the KM Component 4 ? it is proposed that the component of GoTFish will host regional learning events that will directly target stakeholders related to fisheries and habitat management, as part of institutional strengthening between fisheries and environment. This will contribute at creating a platform between the two projects.

The physical colocation of the RCU of the two projects within SEAFDEC offers significant opportunities for coordination and cooperation in relation to the points indicated above, particularly over KM.

Opportunities for transboundary benefits will be demonstrated, in part, by collaborating with members of the GEF Capturing Coral Reef and Related Ecosystem Services (CCRES) project that specialize in the role of population connectivity in rebuilding fisheries ? this time across borders ? as well as the development of business models that will better align with private sector expectations and enhance access to global markets.

The GoT project will also benefit from cross-fertilization of knowledge and lessons learned with the BOBLME SAP implementation programme, which is now under PPG development phase. Thailand and Malaysia both share borders with the BOBLME and the GoT LME, so strong integration and cooperation among these two projects is not only desirable, but required.

With regards to national projects, of relevance is the LDCF ?Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Cambodia?s Coastal Fishery Dependent Communities?, or CamAdapt, project that is currently in PPG phase and will become operational in 2021. The objective of the project is to strengthen the resilience of coastal fishery-dependent communities and reduce their vulnerability to climate change, through a focus on policy coordination and capacity development, sustainable ecosystem management (mangroves, seagrass and coral reefs), and enhance the capacity of fishing communities to adapt to climate change. Interventions will build resilience and enhance climate change adaptation within these vulnerable social-ecological systems, with the use of ecosystem approaches for the management of fisheries, mangroves and other coastal resources such as seagrasses and coral reefs. The project will work with national, provincial and local authorities and the coastal communities to identify short- and medium-term climate risks and to co-develop adaptation actions that address their specific vulnerability contexts.

Lessons, knowledge and tools generated by the project will be shared in the IW:Learn Network, a GEF project which was established to strengthen transboundary water management around the globe by collecting and sharing best practices, lessons learned, and innovative solutions to common problems across the GEF International Waters portfolio. IW:Learn promotes learning among project managers, country official, implementing agencies, and other partners, through workshops and meetings, and also the IW:Learn website: https://iwlearn.net/abt_iwlearn.

The Work Plan for the Fisheries Refugia has been summarized in Annex W of the FAO project Document.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assesments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

Linkages with SCS-SAP priorities: As indicated above, the project is consistent with the SCS-SAP for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, especially for Priority 5 (Managing fish habitat and fish stocks in the South China Sea) and 8 (Regional cooperation).

Linkages with national fisheries policies: In addition to the SCS-SAP, the project is in line with the four GoT countries national fisheries and environmental priorities, such as Cambodia?s Agricultural Strategic Development Plan for the 2019-23, the Strategic Planning Framework for Fisheries: Update for 2015-2024, Statement of the Royal Government of Cambodia on Cambodia?s Marine Fisheries Management Key Principles; Malaysia?s National Agro-Food Policy 2021 ? 2030, National Fisheries Development Plan 2021 ? 2030 (Pelan Pembangunan Perikanan Negara 2021 ? 2030), National Policy on Biological Diversity 2016 ? 2025, The 2nd National Coastal Zone Physical Plan / Rancangan Fizikal Zon Persisiran Pantai Negara -2 (RFZPPN ? 2), Department of Fisheries Malaysia Strategic Plan 2021 ? 2030, Marine Park and Resource Management Strategic Plan; Thailand?s Marine Fisheries Plan of Thailand: A National Policy for Marine Fisheries Management 2015 ? 2019 and 2020-22 and Viet Nam?s Strategy for sustainable development of Viet Nam's marine economy to 2030, with a vision to 2045 and Master Plan on Fisheries Development of Viet Nam to 2020 with vision to 2030.

Linkages to CBD NBSAPs: The project is coherent with, and will contribute to, achieving the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in the four countries, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, particularly Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 ?By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits?.

Linkages to UNFCCC NCs/INDCs and NAPAs/NAPs: The project is in line with the countries? Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and their Adaptation Planning frameworks. Cambodia endorsed the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in 2006, putting the focus on adaptation measures that have direct impacts on the lives of local people, especially the poorest. GoTFish is in line with the framework provided by the NAPA to guide the coordination and implementation of adaptation initiatives, through a participatory approach, building synergies with other environmental and development programmes, and contributing to the country?s achievement of sustainable development under changing conditions due to climate change. The project is also in line with Malaysia?s National Policy on Climate Change, which has the objective of mainstreaming climate change through responsible management of resources and enhanced environmental conservation. The project will contribute to Thailand?s National Adaptation Plan?s mission of integrating climate change adaptation into national development and enhancing capacity and awareness at all levels including in natural resource management. The project is also in line with Viet Nam?s National Climate Change Strategy (2012) and the National Action Plan on Climate Change (2012-2020) that has the aim to protect natural resources in the context of climate change.

Contributions to the SDGs: The project will contribute to a range of important socio-economic and environmental SDG targets, especially SDG14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources, and its targets: by 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution (14.1); by 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy

and productive oceans (14.2); minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels (14.3); by 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics (14.4); by 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information (14.5); and provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets (14.b).

8. Knowledge Management

Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.

Knowledge management and effective communication will be a cross-cutting priority under all of the project?s Outputs and Outcomes. The project recognizes the importance of knowledge management, which will fall under Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation, and it will be a central part of Output 4.1.2: GoT knowledge management strategy and communication strategy established and implemented. The RCU and Executing Agencies will ensure the preparation of the necessary documentation and publications detailing the project progress and achievement of project activities and posted on project website and other channels. Specific knowledge management sessions and workshops will be held each year previous to the PSC meetings, and at the end of the project, a dissemination workshop will be organized for the presentation of project achievements and suggestions for possible follow up/development interventions that will be submitted to the GEF.

During PPG phase, the strategy for knowledge management has been discussed, with a focus on the type of knowledge that needs to be produced, and how can it be widely disseminated to the general public but also reaching the right audience through targeted communications.

A plan for drawing out lessons learned and elaboration on the knowledge products, including how the lessons learned will be shared and through what channels (within IWLEARN, the GoTFish project website, the Executing Agencies websites, FAO channels and beyond). This will be done as part of the communication strategy. The project will coordinate with other projects and programs in the region and beyond, to capture and share lessons learned.

In particular, the project will generate the following knowledge products (10 in total):

Component	Knowledge products
Component 1 (by SEAFDEC)	1. Importance of regional cooperation in managing transboundary stocks in the GoT. 2. EAFM planning- bridging the gap between policy and action in the GoT.
Component 2 (by SFP)	3. Responsible Sourcing Schemes. The value of pre-competitive collaborations to foster improvements in fisheries 4. Lessons learned from engaging domestic markets to promote sustainability and the ecosystem approach in key GoT fisheries"

Component 3 (by UQ/Malaysia DoF)	5. Establishing regional transboundary management of marine and coastal habitats throughout GoT (using Malaysia?s ongoing experience of improving transboundary management of seascapes) 6. Improving capacities for resilience planning and management
Component 4 (by SEAFDEC)	7. Lessons learned implementing the GoTFish project Gender Strategy 8. 3 x Reports of the stakeholder engagement and knowledge sharing workshop that will take place previous to the PSC meetings every year (at least 3 reports).

The project will coordinate will other national, regional and global organizations working in the region to identify knowledge products, as well as to disseminate relevant products within the scope of the project stakeholders. Through participation in the IW Learn workshops (Output 4.1.3, which has an allocation of 1 % of the IW of the budget), the project will share lessons learned with other IW projects and benefit from knowledge of similar experience taking place in other parts of the world.

Integration of previous lessons learned

The GoTFish project will continue to integrate lessons learned from other projects.

Some key lessons learned that were integrated into the project development phase include:

- a. Single species stock management is not adequate for tropical LMEs, that are multispecies and multi-gear;
- b. Other projects have not taken into account the importance of incentives to improve fisheries management, which will explored under Component 2;
- c. We require tools that can continue ensuring food security for people dependent on fisheries resources, and that they are not displaced, while providing opportunities for management improvements and enhancing the status of ecosystems;
- d. The project will integrate the lessons learned from the Fisheries Refugia project, particularly related to habitat management of fisheries species in the GoT and beyond;
- e. Lessons from EAF that takes into account social and livelihood dimensions, and not only ecosystems and impacts on vulnerable and iconic species;
- f. Lessons learned on modelling species through EwE ? learning from this / CSIRO on EA in complex systems; and
- g. FAO extensive experiences from EAF programs and LME programs with GEF (BOBLME) ? EAF Nansen.

Under all four components, there is relevant ongoing knowledge generation related to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (known as the SSF Guidelines), which were endorsed by the FAO Committee on

Fisheries in July 2014. The SSF Guidelines complement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other related international instruments, setting out objectives such as: the enhancement of the contribution of small-scale fisheries to global food security and nutrition; the equitable development of small-scale fishing communities and poverty eradication; and the sustainable utilization, prudent and responsible management and conservation of fisheries resources. One of the project countries, Cambodia, is providing a good example of opportunities for community empowerment through community-based organizations, following the principles of the SSF Guidelines. It has been noted that a key priority identified in the CFi related to the SFF Guidelines was the need to strengthen the capacity of CFi members to maintain their livelihoods, and addressing illegal fishing activities through demarcation and clear tenure rights, and the provision of effective patrolling support. Work for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in Cambodia and the other three countries can be strengthened attending to the following lessons learned :

- a. Initiatives in support of small-scale fisheries need to be participatory and people centered, and must provide attention to ensuring access rights to resources
- b. Resource conservation is a key factor for the successful management of small-scale fisheries.
- c. Conservation of aquatic ecosystem requires strong institutional and infrastructure support.
- d. Good leadership is the bedrock of successful organizations for small-scale fishers. Leadership can be cultivated through practice and training.
- e. Women?s involvement must be central to any effort for small-scale fisheries development and management.
- f. Management plans for small-scale fisheries should become a central part of any fisheries development programme ? their development and implementation processes should be participatory and with a keen understanding of local natural resources and viable governance structures.

Some other relevant lessons from previous SEAFDEC projects have also been taken into consideration. For example, those under the USAID Oceans and Fisheries Partnership initiative (USAID Oceans) that run from 2015 to 2020, and had the goal to to strengthen regional cooperation for sustainable and legal management and trade of fisheries resources in the Asia-Pacific region, the key lessons learned include the following, which will be relevant for Component 1:

- a. Partnerships with existing, trusted organizations are essential for gaining entry, convening key representatives and garnering buy-in.
- b. Initiatives to promote thought leadership should consider creating a space for engagement, using evidence-based advocacy, and identifying and building the capacity of change agents.
- c. Capacity building activities are essential to establish a sustainable network of technical resources and lead ongoing efforts.
- d. Capacity building efforts should be phased, targeted, and tailored to meet stakeholders needs.
- e. National and site-level Technical Working Groups need to be established early and meet regularly

Other key lessons learned to improve fisheries governance include the following recommendations prepared by SFP from previous projects :

- a. Determine the scope of the platform. This is an entry level decision that will determine who may be interested in being involved, budgeting, timetables, long term arrangements and more.
- b. Document any existing consultation arrangements and how they currently operate. This should pay attention to jurisdictional aspects, membership, consultation arrangements and the degree of government commitment to the consultation outcomes.
- c. Finding out which of the existing arrangements are actually being implemented and working, and why this is so (performance evaluation, and the generation of trust and respect).
- d. Finding out who is involved and what the relationships between the players are, since having the right people involved is as important as having the right structures and the correct mix of representation. This will require stakeholder mapping, and a better understanding of the existing relationships, identifying the potential conflicts of interests and understanding the deeper motivations of partners.
- e. Ensure the platform has clear objectives, roles and responsibilities linked to the legal responsibilities of the agencies charged with managing the fisheries.
- f. Have a clear and agreed National Action Plan, with a highly participatory process
- g. Ensure that capacity is adequate, and provide opportunities for capacity and skill development.
- h. Create/strengthen links with other initiatives.
- i. Ensure access to facts and funding.
- j. Keep the end goal of sustainable use in mind

Under Component 2, one of the most relevant conclusions of SFP previous work is that ?the demand for sustainable fishery products can be a critical driver to achieve technical and financial contributions from the participating parties. This is shown in the fact that, despite the organisational and economic challenges, the stakeholders have found mechanisms to collaborate in the FIP because its success will generate the conditions necessary to access the [MarinTrust] certification. This in turn will allow them to demonstrate that their marine ingredients are responsibly sourced and produced?. Some of the key lessons learned identified by the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership carrying out similar work in other countries are that:

- a. The increased demand for sustainable products is the main incentive for the industry to implement fisheries improvements;
- b. To compete in the contemporary fishing market, it is necessary to establish cooperation and coordination fora that promote the sustainability of the production chain;
- c. Having a transparent and formal administration and coordination mechanism generates confidence to attract investment and strong commitment from industry and other private and public stakeholders;

Under Component 3 (specific for Malaysia), some of the previous lessons learned that will be taken into account include experiences from the World Bank /GEF Capturing Coral Reef Ecosystem Services (CCRES project:

- a. Marine spatial planners and conservation practitioners (e.g., the marine parks element of Fisheries Departments) are looking to have a more transparent link between MPAs and fisheries benefits. Current conservation planning methods are mostly focused on biodiversity alone and struggle to deliver obvious benefits to fisheries because they only consider the composition of the MPA network rather than the links between MPAs and fished areas. GoTFish will utilise state-of-the-art methods, developed by CCRES, to help practitioners identify MPA locations that maximise the expected benefits to fisheries.

- b. Efforts to diversify livelihoods away from such a high dependence on fisheries can benefit from both an ?outside-in? and ?inside-out? approach. The former educates and hopes to inspire with examples of what has worked in comparable social and environmental contexts elsewhere. The latter discusses the basis of entrepreneurship and helps people build potential business models for their ideas. Feedback from business modelling professions, seed funding, and connecting new business owners to national mentors can help build a sustainable support network.

- c. Many local stakeholders feel excluded from marine spatial planning and conservation decisions. Improved practices and tools that facilitate engagement can play a significant role in helping to gather and organise stakeholder feedback. These tools, such as SESAME ? mapping tool to help people map values, threats, and activities - are expected to be used in GoTFish.

- d. Specific to Malaysia, there has been a noticeable increase in awareness on the need to improve MPA management, as focus has traditionally been towards terrestrial protected areas;

- e. Malaysia's 2nd National Coastal Zone Physical Plan (which is expected to be launched in June 2022) will represent a much needed change towards marine spatial planning and MPA management, as it will require states and local councils to factor in seascapes in development planning;

- f. Marine biodiversity conservation will no doubt still be rooted as a leading pillar in marine spatial planning, and it is timely that Malaysia?s DoF and the Town & Country Planning Dept. have decided to work together to further realise the seascape approach as the next step for better MPA management and planning; and

- g. The seascape approach is heavily featured in Component 3 and it is expected that the GoTFish project will further assist efforts in Peninsular Malaysia to improve MPA management.

Project communication strategy

Led by the RCU facilitated by SEAFDEC, the project will develop an overarching knowledge management and communication strategy at the outset of the project implementation, with participation of all GoTFish partners. Under this plan, the RCU will collate, and coordinate knowledge products produced by the project. The RCU will maintain the project website and also manage social media communications related to the project activities. This includes linkage to the Regional Project Steering Committee, the project partner agencies and other IW projects, including (but not limited to) the Fisheries Refugia and SCS-SAP projects. All three executing partners will contribute to this in relation to their respective components. All three executing partners will also place their technical documents on their own websites under the relevant thematic areas to which they contribute.

The project will play a key facilitation role in ensuring that the world?s knowledge resources are available to GoTFish countries but also the relevant knowledge from the GoTFish countries, especially those generated through the project, are also available to the world.

There will also be a strong focus on effective communication within the project institutional structure so that there is smooth flow of communication between regional steering committee to national committees to the ground. Reaching, informing, and engaging external stakeholders at local, State, national and international level outside of the project will also be high priority. The project will also use existing government, partner, GEF and FAO communication channels to disseminate knowledge. One element of knowledge management and communication will be through the GoTFish website (maintained by the RCU) and its use as a regional information sharing mechanism to support wide dissemination GoTFish findings and lessons to the participating countries as well as to the GEF IWLearn. The Project?s communication is also going to focus on sharing lessons with other relevant programmes and projects in the Asia-Pacific region.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project has developed the M&E plan with gender sensitive indicators (as seen in the project framework and the Gender Action Plan), including baseline and targets, assumptions and means of verification. The project will focus on ensuring that the project outcomes influence partnerships to promote sustainable fisheries by involving fishers, fishing communities, local and national level fisheries agencies and relevant departments, national and regional stakeholders including private sector, academia, CSOs, NGOs, and development partners. The project will produce semi-annual, mid-term and final reports which will be shared with stakeholders to disseminate lessons learned, especially with regards to regional approach to fisheries management, and the use of incentives to promote sustainable fisheries

The project results, as outlined in the project results framework (Annex A1) will be monitored regularly, reported annually and assessed during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results. Monitoring and evaluation activities will follow FAO?s, SEAFDEC, SFP, UQ?s and GEF?s policies and guidelines for monitoring and evaluation. The M&E system will also facilitate learning, replication of the project?s results and lessons which will feed the project?s knowledge management strategy.

Monitoring Arrangements

Project oversight and supervision will be carried out by the Budget Holder with the support of the PTF, LTO and FLO and relevant technical units in FAO headquarters. Oversight will ensure that: (i) project outputs are produced in accordance with the project results framework and leading to the achievement of project outcomes; (ii) project outcomes are leading to the achievement of the project objective; (iii) risks are continuously identified and monitored and appropriate mitigation strategies are applied; and (iv) agreed project global environmental benefits on International Waters and Biodiversity are being delivered.

The FAO-GEF Coordination Unit and HQ Technical units will provide oversight of GEF financed activities, outputs and outcomes largely through the annual Project Implementation Reports (PIRs), periodic backstopping and supervision missions.

Day-to-day project monitoring will be carried out by the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU). Project performance will be monitored using the project results matrix, including indicators (baseline and targets) and annual work plans and budgets. At inception phase, the results matrix will be reviewed to finalize the identification of i) outputs ii) indicators iii) targets and iv) any missing baseline information

A detailed M&E System, which builds on the results matrix and defines specific requirements for each indicator (data collection methods, frequency, responsibilities for data collection and analysis, etc) will also be developed during project inception by the RCU.

M&E Activity	**Managers**	**Time frame / Periodicity**	**Budgeted costs (USD)**
Inception workshop and first PSC Meeting	SEAFDEC	1 time, two months from project start up	16,000 USD
Project inception report.	SEAFDEC	1 time	Includes in the costs of the meeting
National Inception Workshop	SEAFDEC	1 time at the national level	4,000 per country = 16,000 USD
4 PSC Meetings	SEAFDEC	One per year for 4 years	29,754 USD
Mid Term Review	FAO	Mid way through the project	60,000 USD
Final Evaluation	FAO	End of the project	70,000 USD
Final Report	FAO	End of the project	7,000 USD
Annual Work Plans	SEAFDEC	Every Year	20,000
Progress Project Report	SEAFDEC	Every Year	Included in the Component
Technical Reports	Executing Agencies as relevant	Every year	20,000
Co-finance reports	SEAFDEC to follow-up for the letters	Every Year	Included in the Component
TOTAL Estimate			**238,754 USD***

* In the project budget this the sum of the M&E columns for IW and BD

- **Monitoring and Reporting**

In compliance with FAO and GEF M&E policies and requirements, the RCU, in consultation with the PSC and PTF will prepare the following i) Project inception report; (ii) Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP/B); (iii) Project Progress Reports (PPRs); (iv) annual Project Implementation Review (PIR); (v) Technical Reports; (vi) co-financing reports; and (vii) Terminal Report. In addition, the Core Indicators will be used to monitor Global Environmental benefits and updated regularly by the RCU.

Project Inception Report. A project inception workshop will be held within two months of project start date and signature of relevant agreements with partners. During this workshop the following will be reviewed and agreed:

- a) the proposed implementation arrangement, the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder and project partners;
- b) an update of any changed external conditions that may affect project implementation;
- c) the results framework, the SMART indicators and targets, the means of verification, and monitoring plan;
- d) the responsibilities for monitoring the various project plans and strategies, including the risk matrix, the Environmental and Social Risk Management Plan, the gender strategy, the knowledge management strategy, and other relevant strategies;
- e) finalize the preparation of the first year AWP/B, the financial reporting and audit procedures;
- f) schedule the PSC meetings;
- g) prepare a detailed first year AWP/B

The RCU will draft the inception report based on the agreement reached during the workshop and circulate among PSC members, BH, LTO and FLO, and the Executing Agencies, for review within one month. The final report will be cleared by the FAO BH, LTO and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit and uploaded in FAO?s Field Program Management Information System (FPMIS) by the BH.

Results-based Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP/B). The draft of the first AWP/B will be prepared by the RCU in consultation with the FAO Project Task Force and reviewed at the project Inception Workshop. The Inception Workshop inputs will be incorporated and subsequently, the submit a final draft AWP/B to the BH within two weeks after the workshop. For subsequent AWP/B, the RCU will organize a project progress review and planning meeting for its progress review and adaptive management. Once PSC comments have been incorporated, the RCU will submit the AWP/B to the BH for non-objection, LTO and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit for comments and for clearance by BH and LTO prior to uploading in FPMIS by the BH. The AWP/B must be linked to the project?s Results Framework indicators to ensure that the project?s work and activities are contributing to the achievement of the indicators. The AWP/B should include detailed activities to be implemented to achieve the project outputs and output targets and divided into monthly timeframes and targets and milestone dates for output indicators to be achieved during the year. A detailed project budget for the activities to be implemented during the year should also be included together with all monitoring and supervision activities required during the year. The AWP/B should be approved by the Project Steering Committee, LTO, BH and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit, and uploaded on the FPMIS by the BH.

Project Progress Reports (PPR): The PPRs are used to identify constraints, problems or bottlenecks that impede timely implementation and to take appropriate remedial action. PPRs will be prepared based on the systematic monitoring of output and outcome indicators identified in the Project Results Framework indicate annex number, AWP/B and M&E Plan. Every six months the Chief/Regional Technical Advisor (CTA) will collate the draft PPR, based on inputs provided by the Executing Agencies. This document will incorporate any comments from the FAO PTF. The RCU will submit the final PPRs to FAO-RAP every six months, prior to 31 July (covering the period between January and June) and before 31 January (covering the period between July and December). The July-December report should be accompanied by the updated AWP/B for the following Project Year (PY) for review and no-objection by the FAO PTF. The Budget Holder has the responsibility to coordinate the preparation and finalization of the PPR, in consultation with the RCU, LTO and the FLO. After LTO, BH and FLO clearance, the FLO will ensure that project progress reports are uploaded in FPMIS in a timely manner.

Annual Project Implementation Report (PIR): The PIR is a key self-assessment tool used by GEF Agencies for reporting every year on project implementation status. It helps to assess progress toward achieving the project objective and implementation progress and challenges, risks and actions that need to be taken. Under the lead of the BH, the CTA will collate the consolidated, annual PIR report based on inputs provided by the Executing Agencies, covering the period July (the previous year) through June (current year) for each year of implementation, in collaboration with national project partners (including the GEF OFP), the Lead Technical Officer, and the FLO. The CTA will ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the PIR submission and report these results in the draft PIR.

BH will be responsible for consolidating and submitting the PIR report to the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit for review by the date specified each year after each co-implementing agency?s review for each respective output under their responsibilities (to be included for joint implementation only). FAO - GEF Funding Liaison Officer review PIRs and discuss the progress reported with BHs and LTOs as required. The BH will submit the final version of the PIR to the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit for final approval. The FAO-GEF Coordination Unit will then submit the PIR(s) to the GEF Secretariat as part of the Annual Monitoring Review of the FAO-GEF portfolio

Technical Reports: Technical reports will be prepared as part of project outputs and to document and share project outcomes and lessons learned. The LTO will be responsible for ensuring appropriate technical review and quality assurance of technical reports which may be published or distributed. Copies of technical reports will be distributed to project partners and the Project Steering Committee as appropriate.

Co-financing Reports: The RCU will be responsible for tracking co-financing materialized against the confirmed amounts at project approval and reporting. The co-financing report, which covers the GEF fiscal year 1 July through 30 June, is to be submitted on or before 31 July and will be incorporated into the annual PIR. The co-financing report needs to include the activities that were financed by the contribution of the partners and the EAs will assist in identifying these investments..

Tracking and reporting on results across the GEF 7 core indicators and sub-indicators: As of July 1, 2018, the GEF Secretariat requires FAO as a GEF Agency, in collaboration with recipient country governments,

executing partners and other stakeholders to provide indicative, expected results across applicable core indicators and sub-indicators for all new GEF projects submitted for Approval. During the approval process of the GoTFish project expected results against the relevant indicators and sub-indicators have been provided to the GEF Secretariat. Throughout the implementation period of the project, the RCU, is required to track the project?s progress in achieving these results across applicable core indicators and sub-indicators. At project mid-term and project completion stage, the project team in consultation with the PTF and the FAO-GEF CU are required to report achieved results against the core indicators and sub-indicators used at CEO Endorsement/ Approval. Methodologies, responsibilities and timelines for measuring core-indicators will be outlined in the

M&E Plan prepared at inception.

Terminal Report: Within two months before the end date of the project, and one month before the Final Evaluation, the RCU will submit to FAO RAP a draft Terminal Report. The main purpose of the Terminal Report is to give guidance at ministerial or senior government level on the policy decisions required for the follow-up of the project, and to provide the donor with information on how the funds were utilized. The Terminal Report is accordingly a concise account of the main products, results, conclusions and recommendations of the project. The target readership consists of persons who are not necessarily technical specialists but who need to understand the policy implications of technical findings and needs for insuring sustainability of project results.

MTR and Evaluation provisions

Mid-Term Review

As outlined in the GEF Evaluation Policy, Mid-Term Reviews (MTRs) or mid-term evaluations (MTEs) are mandatory for all GEF-financed full-sized projects (FSPs), including Enabling Activities processed as full-sized projects. It is also strongly encouraged for medium-sized projects (MSPs). The Mid-Term review will (i) assess the progress made towards achievement of planned results (ii) identify problems and make recommendations to redress the project (iii) highlight good practices, lessons learned and areas with the potential for upscaling.

The Budget Holder is responsible for the conduct of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the project in consultation with the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit halfway through implementation. He/she will contact the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit about 3 months before the project half-point (within 3 years of project CEO Endorsement) to initiate the MTR exercise. To support the planning and conduct of the MTR, the FAO GEF CU has developed a guidance document ?The Guide for planning and conducting Mid-Term Reviews of FAO-GEF projects and programmes?. The FAO-GEF CU will appoint a MTR focal point who will provide guidance on GEF specific requirements, quality assurance on the review process and overall backstopping support for the effective management of the exercise and for timely the submission of the MTR report to the GEF Secretariat.

After the completion of the Mid-Term Review, the BH will be responsible for the distribution of the MTR report at country level (including to the GEF OFP) and for the preparation of the Management Response within 4 weeks and share it with national partners, GEF OFP and the FAO-GEF CU. The BH will also

send the updated core indicators used during the MTR to the FAO-GEF CU for their submission to the GEF Secretariat.

Terminal Evaluation

The GEF evaluation policy foresees that all Medium and Full sized projects require a separate terminal evaluation. Such evaluation provides: i) accountability on results, processes, and performance ii) recommendations to improve the sustainability of the results achieved and iii) lessons learned as an evidence-base for decision-making to be shared with all stakeholders (government, execution agency, other national partners, the GEF and FAO) to improve the performance of future projects.

As per the FAO policy on evaluation, the FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) will conduct a final evaluation of the project, to be launched within six months prior to the actual completion date (NTE date). It will aim at identifying project outcomes, their sustainability and actual or potential impacts. It will also have the purpose of indicating future actions needed to assure continuity of the process developed through the project. OED will conduct the evaluation in consultation with project stakeholders and the donor, and share with them the evaluation report, which is a public document.

After the completion of the terminal evaluation, the BH will be responsible to prepare the management response to the evaluation within 4 weeks and share it with national partners, GEF OFP, OED and the FAO-GEF CU. The BH will also send the updated core indicators used during the TE to the FAO-GEF CU for their submission to the GEF Secretariat.

Disclosure

The project will ensure transparency in the preparation, conduct, reporting and evaluation of its activities. This includes full disclosure of all non-confidential information, and consultation with major groups and representatives of local communities. The disclosure of information shall be ensured through posting on websites and dissemination of findings through knowledge products and events. Project reports will be broadly and freely shared, and findings and lessons learned made available.

10. Benefits

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

The project?s approach will be to generate interlinked global environmental benefits (as explained in section 1.a.6) and socio-economic benefits. As indicated in the target under GEF Core Indicator 11, the project is expected to benefit 120,000 people (50 % women). Of these, is expected that about 80,000 people (50 % women) will benefit from the development and implementation of the EAFM plans, under Component 1, particularly those involved in the small-scale fishery (in addition to demersal trawl and pelagic purse seine fishery). About 20,000 people (50 % women) will benefit from value chain improvements under Component 2, and the inclusion of incentive mechanisms and fisheries improvement projects that also take into consideration the needs of women in the sector (e.g. by involving the processing sector as well). An estimated 20,000 people (50 % women) will benefit from enhanced MPA management

under Component 3. Some of the key socio-economic benefits that will be generated by the project include:

- a) An enabling environment through enhanced capacity of key institutions providing support to local communities dependent of coastal and marine fisheries resources.
- b) A strong focus on gender equity and on ensuring free prior informed consent which is also expected to strengthen social sustainability. With equal rights and opportunities to participate and benefit from the project, women and men can become agents of change for sustained socio-economic development in their communities, so they are more resilient to changing environments, including climate change.
- c) Improved access to markets for small-scale fishers, including women, and integrating post-harvest considerations into fisheries management.
- d) Exploration of alternative and diversified livelihoods for fishing communities
- e) Promotion of decent rural employment pillars into the fisheries sector in the four project countries (see below)

Decent Rural Employment

Decent rural employment refers to any activity, occupation, work, business or service performed by women and men, adults and youth, in rural areas that respects the core labour standards as defined in ILO Conventions. This will include ?no child labour?, ?no forced labour?, as well as no discrimination at work, which is also linked to gender equality. It also guarantees freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining.

Globally the fisheries sector is an important source of employment and income, supporting the livelihoods of 10-12 percent of the world?s population. Just under 60 million people are employed in the primary sector alone, with a further 140 million employed along the value chain, from harvesting to distribution. While it is recognized that many fishing and aquaculture operations provide acceptable (and often good) conditions for fish workers, employment in fisheries and aquaculture typically does not provide sufficient income, and commonly exploits fish workers under hazardous conditions. Forced labour and poor working conditions at sea are a significant problem in the region.

The GoTFish project will promote the ILO Conventions and will work with Executing Agencies to address any existing issues of child or forced labour that become apparent during project implementation. The concept of Decent Rural Employment also calls for an adequate living income, as well as a certain degree of employment, security and stability. The GoTFish project will work with partners facilitating linkages to ongoing social protection programmes for the fisheries sector in the four project countries, ensuring that the specific needs of fishing communities are being taken into account.

The project will contribute to the FAO decent work pillars and overall work of FAO on Decent Rural Employment :

- Pillar 1. Employment generation and enterprise development. For the fisheries sector, the issues and decent work deficit include: low earnings and labour productivity, threats to sustainable livelihoods and also limited data and policy gaps

- Pillar 2. Social protection. For the fisheries sector, the decent work deficit includes issues such as lack of social protection and hazardous employment environment
- Pillar 3 Standards and the right to work. For the fisheries sector, the decent work deficit includes issues such as ineffective labour regulation, flags of convenience and IUU fishing, child labour, vulnerable migrant labour
- Pillar 4. Governance and social dialogue. For the fisheries sector, the decent work deficit may include low levels of organization and participation

The GoTFish project will work with partners on linkages and promotion of Decent Rural Employment for the fisheries sector in the Gulf of Thailand, ensuring that the specific needs of fishing and coastal vulnerable communities are being taken into account. Considerations of sector-specific risk and hazards will be included as part of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management (EAFM) plans, that will be developed under Component 1, Outcome 1.2, with SEAFDEC. Issues related to poverty and vulnerability (including gender issues) will be included when conducting the assessments to enhance the fish-sauce value chain under Component 2, Outcome 2.1, with SFP, once the communities have been selected.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
High or Substantial	Medium/Moderate		

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

Please note that the project's Environmental and Social safeguards screening at PIF and later at Project Document stage resulted the project to be High Risk on account of the fact that it would work in and around protected areas. FAO's Environment and Social Safeguards team considered this aspect and

downgraded the project to Medium Risk. This is reflected in the new screening document uploaded in the portal.

Social & Environmental Risks and Impacts	Mitigation measures	Implementation Responsibility	Cost	Timeline
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				

Low Risk: The EAFm management plans developed under the project might result in changed access to natural resources by one or more stakeholder groups (commercial/industrial fisheries; small- scale fishers). This may permanently or temporarily deny or restrict the current access to fishery resources All forms of fishery management will result in the introduction of measures which will control to some degree, the manner in which resources are exploited to promote their sustainable use. All fishery management measures that arise from project related activities therefore have potential implications for access (spatial and temporal) and accessibility (permitted gears, licensing/authorization; vessel types) to fishery resources.	The project will undertake activities that will inform national or local level decisions regarding the management of fishery resources. The project aims to strengthen existing legitimate rights through the application of EAFM and promotion of fisheries co management. This also includes existing community-based management of resources such as MPA?s within the project areas. There are potential situations where there may be a change to the ?existing legitimate tenure? of fishers to access resources, through the introduction of controls on the fishery. This may be the restriction of access by commercial fisheries to reserved artisanal zones; or the limitations placed on the fishery during certain seasons or locations to conserve breeding or nursery areas. Other limits may be the reduction of fleet capacity through non renewal of licenses to reduce over-exploitation Any fishery management measures which are introduced are done so through the legitimate process of fishery	SEAFDEC Departments of Fisheries in participating countries	Incorporated into the EAFm stakeholder engagement and planning process	Stakeholder engagement in year 1 &2 GRM in place Year 1 EAFm plans elaborated Year 2-3 Mid-term review assessment Year 2

	management which is vested in the competent National authority for fishery management. In all cases these actions are taken within the national fishery legislation and institutional framework as part of the mandate of the competent authority to manage fishery resources. The project will support the development of ecosystem approach to fishery management plans. The process to elaborate these involves stakeholder engagement and the identification of issues for the different stakeholders in the fishery. Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) provides channel for complaints. Mid-term review also assesses any potential issues.			
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				

Low risk: Management planning for fisheries under Component 1 of the project would be executed in proximity to around protected areas and natural habitats.	The project aim is to support governments, and fishery stakeholders in strengthening management of natural resources. The project will improve fishery management in 4 million ha of GOT. Project EAFM pilot fishery management areas are sited close to marine national parks or marine protected areas. The purpose of the project is to reverse current levels of degradation from fishery activities and improve ecosystem function and services for biodiversity. Management plans developed will not decrease the biodiversity or alter the ecosystem functionality; use alien species, or use genetic resources. They are directed towards improvement of the sustainable use of natural resources. No activities will take place within the park or protected areas. Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) provides channel for complaints. Mid-term review also assesses any potential issues.	SEAFDEC Departments of Fisheries in participating countries	Incorporated into the EAFm planning process	Stakeholder engagement in year 1 &2 GRM in place Year 1 EAFm plans elaborated Year 2-3 Mid-term review assessment Year 2

Low risk: Component 3 of the project will specifically be implemented within a legally designated marine protected areas	The project will improve and strengthen the management of 273,416 ha of existing marine protected areas, refugia, among others, through measures such as revised management plans, zonation schemes, co-management arrangements and increased compliance with regulations. Component 3 will also map marine animal migration corridors to support improved avoidance and reduce interaction with fisheries. The IUCN Green List Standard for assessment of MPA performance will be the tool to assess the improvement Mid-term review also assesses any potential issues.	DOF Malaysia University of Queensland	Incorporated into Protected area management activities under component 3 planning process	Plans elaborated Year 2-3 Mid-term review assessment Year 2
ESS 7: Decent Work				

Low risk: Component 2 of this project will operate in Small-scale fishery value chains that are dominated by subsistence producers and other vulnerable informal workers. Some of these are characterized by high levels ?working poverty?	The project will be working in coastal fisheries. These have high levels of small-scale fishery actors - however, very few could be termed? subsistence? but there are levels of working poverty. Although not wealthy, these groups would not be normally considered as ?highly vulnerable?. The project interventions under Component 2 the fish processing value chains are targeted at processor groups and aimed at improving their competitiveness and marketability of their products. Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) provides channel for complaints. Mid-term review also assesses any potential issues.	Sustainable Fishery Partnership	Incorporated into value chain activities under component 2 planning process	Plans elaborated Year 1-2 GRM in place Year 1 Value chain improvements year 2-4 Mid-term review assessment Year 2
Moderate risk: The fisheries that are covered by the project do involve significant occupational and safety risks.	Although marine fisheries are one of the most dangerous agricultural occupations in the world, **the project will not be undertaking or supporting specific activities related to fishing operations.** Under Component 1 of the projects, awareness raising of OSH could be built into EAFm plans if this is identified during stakeholder EAFm consultations	SEAFDEC Departments of Fisheries in participating countries	Incorporated into the EAFm planning process under component 1	EAFm plans elaborated Year 2-3 Mid-term review assessment Year 2

Moderate risk: Migrant labour is common in the marine fisheries of both Thailand and Malaysia and the fisheries and value chains that are covered by the project do have the presence of migrant labour.	The project activities focus on sustainable fishery management, rather than specific measures related to employment or decent work the fishery. Although decent work is not a direct focus of project interventions and if situations arose where this was identified as an issue in a fishery, attention would be drawn to matter to be addressed by the policies and legislation issued by the competent authority for labour in the participating countries. Mid-term review also assesses any potential issues.	SEAFDEC Sustainable Fishery Partnership Departments of Fisheries in participating countries	Incorporated into the EAFm planning process under component 1. Incorporated into value chain activities under component 2 planning process	Plans elaborated Year 2-3 Mid-term review assessment Year 2
ESS 8: Gender Equality				

Low risk: Components 1 and 2 of the project will potentially operate in some situations where there may be gender inequality in the labour market (e.g. where women tend to work predominantly as unpaid contributing family members or subsistence farmers, have lower skills and qualifications, lower productivity and wages, less representation and voice in producers? and workers? organizations, more precarious contracts and higher informality rates, etc.)	Small scale fisheries, which will be part of the overall project focus, do contain family members who may be unpaid. Note, that Component 2 will focus on empowering women processors in the small scale value chain activities. A gender strategy will be developed by the project (under component 4) to address any potential inequalities or gender imbalances in the project components that might arise as a result of the project activities. Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) provides channel for complaints. Mid-term review also assesses any potential issues.	SEAFDEC Sustainable Fishery Partnership Departments of Fisheries in participating countries	Incorporated into the EAFm planning process under component 1. Incorporated into value chain activities under component 2 planning process	Gender strategy executed from year 1 GRM in place Year 1 Mid-term review assessment Year 2 Plans elaborated Year 2-3

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
Annex I1 Environmental and Social Risk Annexes	**CEO Endorsement ESS**	
ESSSupportingDocument_Applicable Environmental and Social Safeguards	**CEO Endorsement ESS**	
ESS for GOTFISH	**Project PIF ESS**	

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
Objective: Improved natural resource governance in the Gulf of Thailand through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) contributing to the fisheries objectives of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme (SCS-SAP)							
Project level contribution to GEF Core Indicators							

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
Objective: Improved natural resource governance in the Gulf of Thailand through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) contributing to the fisheries objectives of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme (SCS-SAP)	**GEF Core Indicator 2** Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (hectares) (Delivered by Component 3 only)	Current area of MPAs on the East Coast of Peninsula Malaysia is 225,704 ha METT Scores (Cluster of MPAs) Redang ? 75 Tioman ? 77 Tinggi ? 75 R. Abang ? 49	- Gazette one new MPA (ideally Pulau Lima as Marine Park and expansion of Pulau Tinggi and Pulau Sibu Marine Park) METT Scores (Cluster of MPAs) Redang ? 77 Tioman ? 79 Tinggi ? 76 R. Abang ? 52	**At least 240,604 ha of coastal area** under improved management on the East coast of Peninsula Malaysia (i.e., new MPA or improved METT score of existing MPAs) or at an advanced stage of the protection process (i.e., areas identified, first round of consultations completed) METT Scores (Cluster of MPAs) Redang ? 86 Tioman ? 86 Tinggi ? 85 R. Abang ? 66	Documentation of state of planning / gazettement process by DoF Malaysia Use METT/ Green List as an assessment tool	No other countries? MPAs will be included - however information related to existing MPA may be included in EAFm plans under component 1 Final gazetted areas will depend on approval and agreement by stakeholders during consultation processes.	Malaysia DOF/UQ IUCN METT, green list assessment SCS-SAP project Project M&E system

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	GEF Core Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (hectares; excluding protected areas) - Area under improved practices through the development and implementation of EAF management plans - Number of FIPs with a Fisheries Action Plan implement [rated A,B,C]	Total GOT area 3,916 million ha National EAFm plans being developed in Malaysia, Cambodia and Thailand. Trawl plan developed for SW Viet Nam Interest from Marin Trust Fishmeal FIP Other FIPs	1 million ha of marine fisheries habitat under improved management practices - 3 EAFm plans developed with national commitments and ongoing reviews - 1 FIP with a Fisheries Action Plan	**4 million ha of marine fisheries habitat** under improved management practices - 3 national EAFm plans endorsed and implemented with ongoing reviews and revisions - 1 sub-regional EAFM plan developed and implemented - 1 FIP with a Fisheries Action Plan implemented [rated A, B, C)	EAFm plans are endorsed and under implementation with budget commitments FIPs rated A to C using the FIP Progress Rating Tool (FishSource Improvement Projects list) or meeting Marin Trust Improver Program requirements	Areas under EAFm plans lead to improved practices to benefit biodiversity Areas under FIPs lead to improved practices to benefit biodiversity	PMU SFP Fishsource Marin Trust

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	GEF Core Indicator 7 Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management - - Number of working groups formed and sustained after the GoTFish project - - Mechanisms for regional cooperation agreed	No Working groups formed No sub-regional agreements/mechanisms in place	1 GOT Regional Working group established on ?Stock status and fishing effort/capacity for sustainable use of GOT fishery resource Options for regional mechanisms reviewed at round table meetings with participating countries for decisions on implementation	Working group on ?Stock status and fishing effort/capacity for sustainable use of GOT fishery resources? provides advice to National DOF on sustainable fishing effort/capacity Adopted regional mechanism for sharing data and information and reviewing the state of management of the GoT Fisheries	Working groups and sub-regional arrangements/ mechanisms PMU M&E reports on	Fishery status assessments can be collated and shared EwE modelling is used to inform working group GoT countries are willing to assess options for cooperative arrangements/ mechanisms	National DOF surveys/ assessments SEAFDEC/CSIRO PMU

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	GEF Core Indicator 8: Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons) - Over-exploited stocks showing recovery based on FAO stock status assessments - Over-exploited stocks showing signs of recovery based on indicator stocks (assessed using research survey results)	45 % of GoT commercial fishery stocks overexploited (= 420,000 tonnes) 13 out of 19 commercial indicator stocks in the Thailand EEZ below 20% of virgin biomass = 250,000 tonnes Status of commercial indicator stocks unknown in other countries	50% of GoT over-exploited stocks demonstrating signs of recovery (equivalent to 210,000 tonnes of catch). Stock data from all countries is identified and analyzed 10 out of 19 stocks in 50 % of the GoT area raised above 20% virgin biomass (130,000 tonnes)	75 % of the over-exploited stocks returned to sustainable levels (equivalent to 315,000 tonnes of catch). 15 out of 19 stocks in 50% of the GoT raised above 20% virgin biomass (190,000 tonnes) Demonstrated improved status of indicator species in other countries.	FAO stock status analysis SAUP stock status analysis Status of indicator species in Thailand EEZ based on Thailand research vessel surveys. Status of indicator stocks in other countries based on SEAFDEC research surveys, Malaysian surveys and Viet Nam surveys.	Stock-status plots are updated regularly throughout the project. Research surveys covering other countries are analysed using indicator stocks	PMU and appropriate working group FAO SAUP SEAFDEC website

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	<u>GEF Core Indicator 11</u> Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment - Number of fishworkers benefiting from development and implementation of EAFM plans - Number of fish workers benefiting from improved value chains	No beneficiaries from the GoTFish Project	60.000 fish-workers (about 50% male and 50 % female) benefit from GEF investment, of which: 40,000 beneficiaries under EAFM plans 10,000 under value chain improvements and PIFs 10,000 under MPA work	120,000 fish-workers (about 50% male and 50 % female) benefit from GEF investment of which: 80,000 under EAFM plans 20,000 under value chain improvements 20,000 under MPA work	Project records and estimates	People are interested in participating in the project	PMU
Component 1: Regional transboundary fisheries governance and management strengthened							

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
<u>Outcome 1.1:</u> Fisheries resources and marine biodiversity ecosystem services are restored through strengthened regional transboundary governance and cooperation of GoT fisheries, building their resilience through improved habitat and fisheries management (SAP Fisheries Objective) -	**Indicator 1.1.1 -** Stakeholder working group and a key sub-regional issue identified and regional policy best practices shared.	**1.1.1 Baseline:** Sub-regional working groups were formed under the Sweden-SEAFDEC ?Gulf of Thailand Meeting? platform, including the MCS network, but these are no longer operating. The SCS SAP implementation project has working groups on mangroves, seagrasses, coral reefs and wetlands. The Fish Refugia has a number of committees that include GoT countries.	Sub-regional working groups identified, TORs written and groups functioning as required by the TORs.	At least 1 sub-regional (GoT countries) stakeholder working group and a key sub-regional issue identified and regional best practices shared.	Project records	GoTFish countries continue to work together to address fisheries issues.	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 1.1.2 GotFish country polices identified as benefiting from improved consistency (b) revised RPOA for management with sub-regional arrangement between Implementation States (e.g. possible bilateral arrangement between Implementation State), that takes into account gender considerations and the different needs of women and men in the fisheries sector.	**1.1.2 Baseline:** Each country has a Fisheries Law of varying approaches and dates of adoption. The Cambodian Fisheries Law is undergoing modernization and revision. The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030 (RES&POA-2030) provides regional policy guidance. Each country also has a large number of national (and provincial) policies and strategic plans for fisheries and related topics.	(a) Policies reviewed and areas for improved consistency identified. (b) RPOAs/RPAs reviewed and areas for further implementation identified and initiated.	At least 1 (a) policy area in the GotFish country polices identified as benefiting from improved consistency (b) revised RPOA for management with sub-regional arrangement between Implementation States (e.g. possible bilateral arrangement between Implementation State), that takes into account gender considerations and the different needs of women and men in the fisheries sector.	Project records Report	Countries want to cooperate and work together to share information	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 1.1.3: Decisions and/or recommendation related to shared stock management endorsed through the active participation of Inter-Ministry Committees/ National Level Committees	**Baseline:** Lack of shared stock management related initiatives	Decisions and recommendations related to stock management identified and linked to indictor 1.1.4 (new cooperation mechanism).	At least 2 decisions and/or recommendation related to shared stock management endorsed through the active participation of Inter-Ministry Committees/ National Level Committees.	Project reports	Countries want to cooperate and work together to share information	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 1.1.4 Regional mechanism for sharing data and information and reviewing the state of management of the GoT Fisheries based on existing platforms (e.g. SEAFDEC-GoT Countries Technical Working Group, SEAFDEC MCS network, ASWGFi, RPOA-IUU etc)	**Baseline 1.1.4:** There is no formally agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the GoT. Globally, there are a number of Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) some of which have the authority to manage fisheries, including Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) that manage high seas areas/species.	Review of mechanisms and arrangements in other parts of the world and options for GoT considered.	One regional mechanism for sharing data and information and reviewing the state of management of the GoT Fisheries based on existing platforms ((e.g. SEAFDEC-GoT Countries Technical Working Group, SEAFDEC MCS	Project reports SEAFDEC website	Countries want to cooperate and work together to share information and fisheries management activities	SEAFDEC

Output 1.1.1: Updated and regionally coherent fisheries policies across the GoT countries and strengthened national legal frameworks

Output 1.1.2: Established regional stakeholder working groups for improved trans-boundary fisheries management and addressing key regional issues

Output 1.1.3: Sub-regional implementation of existing regional action plans that address fisheries issues that are common to GoT countries

Output 1.1.4: Prioritisation of regional, sub-regional and national transboundary related issues for fisheries management and related biodiversity and environmental issues.

Output 1.1.5: Agreed mechanism for a regional approach to transboundary fisheries management in the Gulf of Thailand.

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
Outcome 1.2: Development and implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management plans in the Gulf of Thailand enhances the resilience against climate change and manages fishing effort of fisheries stakeholders (women and men) (related to SAP Fisheries Objective 1)	**Indicator 1.2.1**: Capacity building exercise be provided to key stakeholders (including both women and men) in each of the four GoT participating States along with ongoing involvement of these stakeholders in the development and implementation of EAFM plans.	**Baseline 1.2.1:** All GotFish countries have received EAFM training based on the FAO/NOAA/IMA training package implemented through SEAFDEC. These were mainly directed to governments who through a training of trainers (ToT) rolled out the training to relevant national stakeholders. SEAFDEC also has EAFM learning sites in Cambodia and Thailand. Malaysia has a working group on EAFM.	Capacity development needs identified, training packages and other activities developed and training has initiated in the four GoT countries	At least one major capacity building exercise be provided to key stakeholders (including both women and men) in each of the four GoT participating States along with ongoing involvement of these stakeholders in the development and implementation of EAFM plans.	Project records SEAFDEC website	Countries continue to be interested in the EAFM and there is support for the training activities	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 1.2.2. % of raw fish supply that is converted to fishmeal comes from fisheries with an EAFM plan	**Baseline 1.2.2 and 1.2.3** Thailand has an EAFM plan for 2015-2019 that was revised for 2020-2022 that contain national government budget commitments. These plans include the demersal trawl fishery that supplies	**10** % of raw fish supply that is converted to fishmeal comes from fisheries with an EAFM plan	30 % of raw fish supply that is converted to fishmeal comes from fisheries with an EAFM plan	Project records SEAFDEC website	Countries continue to improve the management of their reduction fisheries and join FIP activities, where appropriate.	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 1.2.3 National EAFM plans based on issues common to GoT countries are implemented and reviewed based on up-to-date resource assessments, and with relevant participation of stakeholders and evidence of national commitment (e.g. national budgets) following the EAF and addressing gender considerations. **Indicator 1.2.3b** Up-to-date assessments on the status of the fisheries resources, ecosystem structure and function, habitats, and ETPs are provided every 2 years throughout the project.	raw fish for conversion to fishmeal. MarinTrust has recently included the Mixed Trawl Fishery in the Gulf of Thailand into its Fisheries Improver Program (FIP). Thailand and Malaysia provide regular fisheries resource and habitat assessments. An EWE model has been developed for Thailand and SW Vietnam Spatial information products are currently being developed in GoT countries, but sharing is ad hoc and sporadic	Four national EAFM plans developed and shared among GoT countries. Up-to-date assessments of fishery resources, ecosystems, habitats and ETPs have been provided.	Four national EAFM plans based on issues common to GoT countries are implemented and reviewed based on up-to-date resource assessments, and with relevant participation of stakeholders and evidence of national commitment (e.g. national budgets) following the EAF and addressing gender considerations. Up-to-date assessments on the status of the fisheries resources, ecosystem structure and function, habitats, and ETPs are provided every 2 years throughout the project.	Project records SEAFDEC website	Countries are able to develop national EAFM plans that meet the requirements of GoTFish. Countries share data and information need for modelling and assessment.	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 1.2.4 GoT sub-regional fisheries management plans/action plans developed/ revised for transboundary species/fisheries and other fisheries issues that are common to GoT countries, with evidence that implementation has been initiated (e.g. national budget committed to implement the plans).	**Baseline 1.2.4** There are several RPOAs addressing specific issues, but there is no one overarching plan for any fishery in the GoT. Data and information on GoT fisheries vary in quality and accessibility making sub-regional planning difficult and inefficient.	The structure and content of sub-regional plans agreed.	At least one GoT sub-regional EAFM plan developed for a transboundary fishery to include issues common across GoT countries, with evidence that implementation has been initiated (e.g. national budget committed to implement the plans).	Project records SEAFDEC website	Countries cooperate in developing sub-regional EAFM plans.	SEAFDEC
Output 1.2.1: Stakeholder capacity to develop EAFM plans is strengthened, taking into consideration the different needs of women and men **Output 1.2.2:** Strengthened national fisheries management plans are implemented through the EAF approach. Note: National EAFM plans are called Fisheries Management plans locally, but because they are based on EAF, they can be considered as EAFM plans. **Output 1.2.3:** EAFM plans developed, addressing priority risks and opportunities to human well-being, ecosystem integrity and governance (including the components 2 and 3) including the implications of climate change on GoT countries? fisheries							
Component 2: Alignment of incentive mechanisms							

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
<u>Outcome 2.1:</u> Establishment of a market and behaviour incentive mechanism which reduces ecosystem stress from fishing, enhances the uptake of good practices supporting fisheries management and supports the transition to climate-resilient fisheries (integrating gender considerations and the different needs of women and men along the fishery	**Indicator 2.1.1:** Market and/or behaviour change incentive mechanisms initiated or refined (with women?s participation of at least 30%)	Currently, the only market incentive mechanism existing in the project focus fisheries is the Marin Trust Improver Program Multi-Species pilot scheme.	At least 1 market and/or behaviour change incentive refined	At least 2 market and/or behaviour change incentive mechanisms initiated or refined (with women?s participation of at least 30%)	FishSource Marin Trust Project Records	Marine ingredients supply chains have interest in adopting improved standards (Marin Trust) and ratings (FishSource) systems currently in use by the markets. Marin Trust engages in revisions of its standard based on FAO technical Guidelines for multi-species fisheries management.	SFP RCU

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
value chain) (related to SAP Fisheries Objective 3						There is an interest by fish sauce supply chains in a Responsible Seafood Scheme. Private and public sector actors engage in developing a Responsible Sourcing Scheme for fish sauce fisheries.	

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 2.1.2: % of fisheries related establishments /operations that meet national or international certification and incorporates biodiversity/ sustainable resources/ resource protection considerations (direct and indirect)	Currently no fishery meets national or international certification. Yet, there are improvement efforts in place within the Gulf of Thailand that incorporate biodiversity/ sustainable resources/ resource protection considerations, including: a) Gulf of Thailand Mixed-Trawl FIP b) Thailand blue swimming crab - bottom gillnet/trap. c) Thailand longtail tuna - purse seine. Only the improvement effort a) covers a portion of one of the project fisheries (multi-species trawl fishery).	5 % of fisheries related establishments /operations that meet national or international certification and incorporates biodiversity/ sustainable resources/ resource protection considerations (direct and indirect)	10% of fisheries related establishments /operations that meet national or international certification and incorporates biodiversity/ sustainable resources/ resource protection considerations (direct and indirect)	Marin Trust Project Records	Enough market support to sustainability initiatives is maintained to engage key actors into Fishery Improvement Projects in project ?s focus fisheries.	SFP RCU

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 2.1.3: Private/public partnerships created at the regional level to improve sustainability performance of fisheries	No known regional public private partnership operating at the regional level to improve sustainability performance of project fisheries	At least 1 private/public partnerships identified and under development at the regional level	At least 1 of private/public partnerships created at the regional level	Project Website New initiative (public private partnership) website	Companies in the fish sauce supply chain are interested in developing a Responsible Sourcing Scheme through a public-private partnership. Actors in the public and private sector fully engage in the development of new incentive mechanism and improvement framework.	SFP RCU

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 2.1.4: Fisheries improvement projects (FIPs) taking place in the GoT (with clear fisher livelihood improvements and gender considerations)	Need to consider potential repetition with Indicator 2.1.3. Baseline is 3 FIPs in the Gulf of Thailand. Only one FIP ?a) above, covering a portion of one of the project fisheries.	At least 1 fisheries improvement projects (FIPs) under achieve stage 1 or2 based on FIP Rating Tool definitions in the GoT (with clear fisher livelihood improvements and gender considerations)	At least 1 fisheries improvement project (FIPs) in the GoT (with clear fisher livelihood improvements and gender considerations) maintains an A-C rating based on FIP rating tool	Project Website FishSource	Enough market support to sustainability initiatives is maintained to engage key actors into Fishery Improvement Projects in project ?s focus fisheries.	SFP RCU

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 2.1.5: At least one regional market incentive mechanism includes gender considerations and serves to promote women?s leadership in sector organizations or decision making in fisheries	There is no currently existing market-based tool that promotes enhanced participation of women in sector organizations or decision making in fisheries	At least one regional market incentive mechanism has been identified and includes gender considerations and serves to promote women?s leadership in sector organizations or decision making in fisheries	At least one regional market incentive mechanism includes gender considerations and serves to promote women?s leadership in sector organizations or decision making in fisheries	Project records Project website Fishsource	Market incentive mechanism can serve to promote advances in gender equality and promote enhanced women?s participation on sector organizations and decision making in fisheries. Private sector actors will have an interest to promote gender equality within the fisheries that	SFP RCU

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
						provide raw material and/or along their value chains.	
Output 2.1.1: Identification of mechanisms and stakeholder platforms to support incentives for sustainable and well managed GoT fisheries value chains, including those linked to fishmeal for feeds **Output 2.1.2:** Market and other innovative incentive mechanisms implemented to enhance sustainable fisheries value chains aimed to promote sustainable sourcing of fish and aquatic products, as well as to transition to low impact fishing practices							
Component 3: Ecological Corridor of Critical and Important Habitat for Aquatic Resources in the Gulf of Thailand (with a focus on Malaysia) established							
Outcome 3.1: Improved integration of habitat and biodiversity conservation considerations, and	**Indicator 3.1.1:** At least 2 biodiversity targets incorporated into EAFM plans (regional and national levels)	EAFM Plans for Peninsular Malaysia are not fully developed and in place	Consultations have been in place to mainstream biodiversity targets into EAFM Plans for Peninsular Malaysia	EAFM Plans have fully included biodiversity conservation targets with suitable monitoring indicators	Reporting during GoTFish working group meetings Annual DoF Malaysia updates	Development of EAFM Plans commences at the start of the GoTFish project	DoF Malaysia

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
fishery socioeconomic considerations in the management of fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand through deeper understanding of the ecological transboundary corridors existing in the Gulf of Thailand, leading to enhanced resilience of vulnerable aquatic species and those important for regional food security and sovereignty, (related to SAP	**Indicator 3.1.2:** 1 regional GIS dataset on species and habitat distribution and status (with different levels of access sharing) established	There is no central repository for GIS data on species distribution and habitat conditions. Data is scattered between DoF Malaysia, research institutions and partner NGOs, leading to difficulties in ascertaining current data.	Work for a functional GIS database has commenced, including efforts to collate all relevant data as well as establishing the database (i.e. storage capacities, access, administrators)	A GIS database has been fully established and functional to be used at the national and regional levels	Reporting during GoTFish working group meetings Annual DoF Malaysia updates	Work on the database commences at the start of the GoTFish project	DoF Malaysia
	Indicator 3.1.3: 1 national guidelines for biodiversity	There is currently no documented national guideline to plan and design marine protected areas (MPA) in Malaysia. Current plannings and designs are base on international guidelines such as IUCN?s Marine and Coastal Protected Areas : A Guide for Planners and Managers	Work has commenced in developing guidelines for planning and designing MPA (i.e., consultant has been appointed to undertake the task)	1 National Guideline for Planning dan Designing MPA has been fully developed	Reporting during GoTFish working group meetings Annual DoF Malaysia updates	Working paper has been submitted at national level in Malaysia to develop this guideline at the start of the GoTFish project	DoF Malaysia Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
Fisheries Objective 1)	**Indicator 3.1.4:** 4 countries participate in GoT technical platform on fisheries and aquatic biodiversity	There are no technical working platforms for the GoT region to facilitate discussions on fisheries management and biodiversity conservation	The foundations of the GoT technical platform have been established (i.e. working groups, meeting schedules, secretariat etc.) To streamline with Component 1	1 Technical Meeting between the 4 countries has been conducted	Proceedings from technical meeting (to be circulated to all participants of the meeting)		RCU
Output 3.1.1: Mapping of aquatic ecological corridors and fishery socioeconomic profiles in the GoT **Output 3.1.2**: Development of recommendations / guidelines for the alignment of key biodiversity considerations into national, transboundary and/or regional fisheries management plans and action plans **Output 3.1.3** Creation of an interim GoT sub-regional technical discussion platform to address integration of fisheries and aquatic biodiversity and fishery socioeconomic considerations							
Outcome 3.2: Reduced threats to vulnerable species and critical/ important habitats for food security and sovereignty with strengthened national and	**Indicator 3.2.2:** 1 new guideline in evaluating fisheries benefits of conservation areas developed and tested in at least 1 project site.	Fisheries benefits in conservation areas have not been fully assessed systematically ? mostly as research papers	Work has commenced in developing guidelines assessing fisheries benefits in conservation areas	1 National Guideline for Assessing Fisheries Benefits in Conservation Areas has been fully developed and launched	Reporting during GoTFish working group meetings Annual DoF Malaysia updates	Working paper has been submitted at national level in Malaysia to develop this guideline at the start of the GoTFish project	DoF Malaysia Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
transboundary protection and management of aquatic resources in East Coast Peninsular Malaysia	**Indicator 3.2.3:** 1 improved National or Sub-National Policy that considers aspects of either Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management or Marine Spatial Planning for the **east** coast of Peninsular Malaysia adopted (subject to Cabinet approval)	The National Coastal Zone Physical Plan 2 for Malaysia has already included elements of marine spatial planning, coastal management and improving management and conservation of marine biodiversity through the seascape approach. However, these concepts need to be further translated into the state structure plans and local district plans to be effective	Work has commenced to develop marine spatial plans to complement State Structure Plans and Local District Plans in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia	Marine spatial plans have been fully developed for 4 states of East Coast Peninsular Malaysia (Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, and Johor)	Reporting during GoTFish working group meetings Launch of marine spatial plans	Working paper has been submitted to develop marine spatial plans at the start of the GoTFish project. Policy adoption is subject to Cabinet approval	DoF Malaysia PLAN-Malaysia (Town and Country Planning Dept.)

Output 3.2.1: Identification of ecological corridors of critical and important habitat for aquatic resources in the East Coast of peninsular Malaysia with spatial maps and information available for EAF planning and identification of management and protection measures including PAs.

Output 3.2.2: Identification and establishment of management measures in four conservation areas to ensure they provide the highest potential return for achieving biodiversity conservation (following the METT) and fisheries management targets

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
Outcome 3.3: Enhanced resilience of ecosystems and associated biodiversity in East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia	**Indicator 3.3.1:** Marine Protected areas have been assessed and management improvements made to address biodiversity and linkages with fisheries	METT assessments have been conducted for present marine protected areas in the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia However, management requirements have yet to be identified as way forwards to improve management practices and standards to address biodiversity conservation and fisheries management	Review of METT scores for present marine protected areas as well as upcoming / potential sites to ensure biodiversity conservation and fisheries management aspects are addressed.	Management improvements have been initiated for assessed marine protected areas	DoF Annual Reports		DoF Malaysia
	Indicator 3.3.2: At least 1 participatory ecosystem resilience plan with a monitoring system initiated in marine conservation areas	Marine ecosystem resilience studies are presently being conducted under a separate initiative to improve capacities on monitoring coral reef resilience in selected marine parks	Priority areas to improve ecosystem resilience have been identified and mapped Work on developing a participatory monitoring system and ecosystem resilience plan has commenced	Ecosystem Resilience Plan has been fully developed, approved, and initiated in pilot area Participatory Monitoring System has also been fully developed and initiated in pilot study area	Reporting during GoTFish working group meetings Annual DoF Malaysia updates	Previous work on marine ecosystem resilience has been completed and approved in order for the Activities to commence	DoF Malaysia Reef Check Malaysia

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
Output 3.3.1: Participatory monitoring system established to monitor the effects of fishing and other pressures on marine biodiversity in conservation areas **Output 3.3.2:** Map priority areas to improve resilience of ecosystem components including identification of existing threats and vulnerabilities (including climate change and other natural and human hazards) **Output 3.3.3:** Development of participatory ecosystem resilience plans within and beyond Marine Protected Areas that address the needs of the ecological corridors.							
Component 4: Stakeholder engagement, communication, monitoring and evaluation							
Outcome 4.1: Efficient knowledge management and targeted communication, improves the understanding amongst stakeholders of ecosystem and fishery linkages in the Gulf of Thailand (related to SAP Fisheries Objective 2)	**Indicator 4.1.1 ?** 1 regional and 4 M&E systems in place and monitoring performance against gender sensitive indicators	Baseline: No existence of M&E system for the project	1 regional and 4 M&E systems in place and monitoring performance against gender sensitive indicators	**Indicator 4.1.1 ?** 1 regional and 4 M&E systems in place and monitoring performance against gender sensitive indicators	Project records		SEAFDEC, with support from SFP and UQ
	Indicator 4.1.2 ? 10 knowledge sharing events on topics related to transboundary EAFM plans, FIPS, gender issues in fisheries value chains, social and market incentives, etc. carried out and related materials developed, shared and used to affect change	Baseline: No knowledge sharing documents	Knowledge documents identified	**Indicator 4.1.2 ?** 10 knowledge sharing events developed	Project records		SEAFDEC SFP UQ

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
	Indicator 4.1.4 ? 1 GOTFISH knowledge platform established and easily accessible for stakeholders	Baseline: Non existent	At least 2 knowledge sharing events	5 Knowledge sharing events	Project records Project Website		SEAFDEC UQ SFP
	Indicator 4.1.5 ? At least 10 GoTFish lessons learned collated and accessible., communicated through IW-Learn fora.	Baseline: non existent	Lessons learned topics identified and starting to draft outline	At least 10 GoTFish lessons learned collated and accessible., communicated through IW-Learn fora.	Project records Project website		
Output 4.1.1: GoT project monitoring system established and implemented. (including mid-term and final evaluations). **Output 4.1.2:** GoT knowledge management strategy and communication strategy established and implemented **Output 4.1.3:** Participation in the activities of the IW Learn Project							
Outcome 4.2: Enhanced stakeholder involvement and	**Indicator 4.2.1** ? 1 regional and 4 national project gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented	Baseline: Lack of data on gender issues in the GoT	Gender inputs provided to the project framework and Gender Strategy developed	Gender Strategy implemented as part of the project, and documented	Project records Report	Member countries continue to support the project	SEAFDEC

Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for data collection
gender equity	**Indicator 4.2.2 ?** 1 regional and 4 GoTFish gender and stakeholder strategy developed and approved by stakeholders	Baseline: Lack of data on gender issues in the GoT	Gender inputs provided to the project framework and Gender Strategy developed	Gender Strategy implemented as part of the project, and documented	Project records Report	Member countries continue to support the project	SEAFDEC
Output 4.2.1: GoTFish gender and stakeholder engagement strategy implemented							

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

GEF Secretariat Comments

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Focal Area Elements **1. Is the project/program aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements in Table A, as defined by GEF 7 Programming Directions?** **Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, May 10, 2021).** **Yes.** Points addressed. Note that during the preparation, if the Agency gets new LoEs, then they can follow the procedure for an amendment by the time of CEO Endorsement. As the change in figures is less than 5 % of the original amount, this could be processed as a minor amendment.	n.a.

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Indicative project/program description summary **2. Are the components in Table B and as described in the PIF sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project/program objectives and the core indicators?** (Karrer and Sapijanskas, May 3). **Yes.** As noted and agreed by FAO the Theory of Change will require further elaboration and detail during the PPG, including linkages between the strategies, actions, impacts and visions.	The Theory of Change has been revised during PPG phase, including more detail in the linkages between strategies, actions, impacts and visions. The revised ToC has been agreed by the countries and other relevant stakeholders at the regional validation meeting. It is currently presented in section 3 paragraph 69 (Figure 2) of the GoTFish ProDoc.
Co-financing **3. Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-finance adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-financing Policy and Guidelines, with a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized?** Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, April 6, 2021). **Yes**	During the PPG phase, the co-finance letters have been secured and the co-finance value adjusted accordingly
GEF Resource Availability **4. Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (Including the Agency Fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):** Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, April 6, 2021). **Yes.**	n.a.
Project Preparation Grant **5. Is PPG requested in Table E within the allowable cap? Has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substained? (not applicable to PFD)** Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes**.	n.a.

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Core Indicators **6. Are the identified core indicators in Table F calculated using the methodology included in the corresponding Guidelines? (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)** o (Karrer and Sapijanskas, May 4, 2021). **Yes.** Please note that baseline METT score are not required at PIF stage but CEO endorsement stage. Also for implementation please be sure to correct the WDPA entries.	During the PPG phase, there has been a revision of the METT scores for the Component 3 MPAs, but it has been noted that these will need to be re-assessed during the early stage of the project. This revision will be done by the DoF Malaysia, with the support of UQ and IUCN. The WDPA entries will also be revised at this time.
Project/Program taxonomy **7. Is the project/program properly tagged with the appropriate keywords as requested in Table G?** Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
Part II ? Project Justification	
1. Has the project/program described the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers that need to be addressed? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
2. Is the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects appropriately described? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
3. Does the proposed alternative scenario describe the expected outcomes and components of the project/program? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
4. Is the project/program aligned with focal area and/or Impact Program strategies? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
5. Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.

Comments	FAO and EA Response
6. Are the project?s/program?s indicative targeted contributions to global environmental benefits (measured through core indicators) reasonable and achievable? Or for adaptation benefits? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
7. Is there potential for innovation, sustainability and scaling up in this project? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
Project/Program Map and Coordinates	
Is there a preliminary geo-reference to the project?s/program?s intended location? (Karrer and Sapijanskas, May 3, 2021). **Yes.** As agreed by FAO, for the CEO endorsement request, please be sure to include the corresponding activity and budget line to support the KBA designation process.	This is noted and this has been integrated as part of the MPA design scenario budget in contexts where activities are planned to identify important areas for conservation under Component 3. However, please note that the term used by DOF Malaysia not ?KBA?. With facilitation from IUCN, DOF Malaysia and UQ may be able to use the ?KBA? designation for the areas for MPA gazettement. This is also part of the contribution from IUCN towards using the Green List framework.
Stakeholders	
Does the PIF/PFD include indicative information on Stakeholders engagement to date? If not, is the justification provided appropriate? Does the PIF/PFD include information about the proposed means of future engagement? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, April 6, 2021). Yes. A much more thorough explanation of the role of the stakeholders will need to be provided in the Pro Doc based on consultations during PPG.	A more thorough explanation of the role of stakeholders has been provided as part of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in the ProDoc, in Section 2. Paragraph 142 onwards and the embedded document.
Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment	
Is the articulation of gender context and indicative information on the importance and need to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, adequate? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
Private Sector Engagement	

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Is the case made for private sector engagement consistent with the proposed approach? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
Risks to Achieving Project Objectives	
Does the project/program consider potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved or may be resulting from project/program implementation, and propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
Coordination	

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Is the institutional arrangement for project/program coordination including management, monitoring and evaluation outlined? Is there a description of possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project/program area? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, May 3, 2021). Yes. For CEO a much more detailed explanation of coordination will need to be provided	A more detailed explanation of the coordination between the three SAP projects (Fisheries Refugia, SCS-SAP and GoTFish) has been provided under section 6.b. In relation to the Fisheries Refugia project, the GoTFish project has a number of focus areas for the EAFM plans and at least 2 of these areas are co-located with existing refugia sites that have been identified under the GEF refugia project (which is due currently under extension until December 2022). The refugia areas are primarily focussed on spatial measures and related action to reduce the impact of fishing and improve the status of single target species within a critical habitat. The GoTFish approach is complementary, but has a broader scope of fishery management, that can encompass and incorporate the specific spatial measures or actions for the single species under the refugia approach, within the multispecies, multigear fisheries that prevail in the GoTLME. The EAFM plans to be developed in the GoTLME will build on the progress made regarding the establishment of fishery refugia; and the species for which the refugia are established species such as short mackerel will also be incorporated in the plans, particularly with respect to sustaining and deepening the transboundary dialogue on management of the single species. It is expected that progress made on the establishment of a regional level agreement for short mackerel will also be supported/enhanced/pursued withing the GoTFish framework as part of overall regional cooperation of GoT LME as a model for further regional cooperation across more species or more broadly multispecies management of GoTLME within sustainable limits. In relation to the SCS-SAP project, the GoTFish project will bring a strong focus on fisheries management using the EAFM approach, and demonstrate linkage to habitats and ecological corridors to fisheries management. This will provide concrete examples of linking habitat and fisheries management into the SCS SAP and also provide opportunities for cross-learning and capacity building. The participation of Malaysia in the GoTFish project also offers the opportunity to broaden the interaction of countries in the region within the SCS project as Malaysia is not a member of the SCS-SAP project. This is particularly pertinent to Component 3 on MPAs and ecological corridors. Relevant to both Fisheries Refugia and SCS-SAP projects, under the KM Component 4 ? it is proposed that the component of GoTFish will host regional learning events that will directly target stakeholders related to fisheries and habitat management, as part of

Comments	FAO and EA Response
	institutional strengthening between fisheries and environment. This will contribute at creating a platform between the two projects. Most importantly, the physical and institutional co-location of the GoTFish RCU together with the Fisheries Refugia and SCS-SAP projects within SEAFDEC offers significant opportunities for coordination and cooperation in relation to the points indicated above, particularly regarding KM and EAF management planning.
Consistency with National Priorities	
Has the project/program cited alignment with any of the recipient country?s national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). Yes.	n.a.
Knowledge Management	

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Is the proposed ?knowledge management (KM) approach? in line with GEF requirements to foster learning and sharing from relevant projects/programs, initiatives and evaluations; and contribute to the project?s/program?s overall impact and sustainability? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). Yes. During PPG the knowledge management plans need further consideration. Plans for drawing out lessons learned and elaboration on the knowledge products need to be provided. It also needs to be clear how the lessons learned will be shared and through what channels beyond only IWLEARN.	During PPG phase, the strategy for knowledge management has been discussed, with a focus on the type of knowledge that needs to be produced, and how can it be widely disseminated to the general public, but also reaching the right audience through targeted communications. A plan for drawing out lessons learned and elaboration on the knowledge products, including how the lessons learned will be shared and through what channels (within IWLEARN, the GoTFish project website, the Executing Agencies websites, FAO channels and beyond). This will be done as part of the communication strategy. The project will coordinate with other projects and programs in the region and beyond, to capture and share lessons learned. In particular, the project will generate the following knowledge products (10 in total): **Component 1 (by SEAFDEC)** - Importance of regional cooperation in managing transboundary stocks in the Gulf of Thailand. - EAFM planning- bridging the gap between policy and action in the Gulf of Thailand. **Component 2 (by SFP)** - Responsible Sourcing Schemes. The value of pre-competitive collaborations to foster improvements in fisheries - Lessons learned from engaging domestic markets to promote sustainability and the ecosystem approach in key GoT fisheries **Component 3 (by UQ/Malaysia DoF)** - Establishing regional transboundary management of marine and coastal habitats throughout GoT (using Malaysia?s ongoing experience of improving transboundary management of seascapes) - Improving capacities for resilience planning and management **Component 4 (by SEAFDEC)** - Lessons learned implementing the GoTFish project Gender Strategy - Reports of the stakeholder engagement and knowledge sharing workshop that will take place previous to the PSC meetings every year (at least 3 reports). In addition, specific details have been included, explaining the integration of previous lessons learned that have informed the design of the project.
Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)	

Comments	FAO and EA Response
Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, Oct 2, 2020). **Yes.**	n.a.
Part III	
Country Endorsements	
Has the project/program been endorsed by the country?s GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF data base? Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion (Karrer, April 6, 2021). **Yes**	n.a.
Termsheet, reflow table and agency capacity in NGI Projects	
Does the project provide sufficient detail in Annex A (indicative termsheet) to take a decision on the following selection criteria: co-financing ratios , financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments. Does the project provide a detailed reflow table in Annex B to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. After reading the questionnaire in Annex C, is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments. Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion	n.a.

Comments from the STAP

STAP Overall Assessment and Rating	
Concur. Proposed project aims to promote the blue economy and strengthen fisheries governance in the Gulf of Thailand using an ecosystem approach. The vision centers on realizing ?Blue Economy potential,? which is a vague ambition unless grounded in specific indicators of ecological, social and economic change. The direct focus on incentives based on better understanding of the market and fishers? behavior sets it apart and if successful could potentially yield positive results and lessons. Good indication of engagement with major private fisheries-sector players (e.g., Thai Union). Additional articulation of assumptions and mechanisms of change would be important in the next stages of project development. Project would also be greatly improved if climate change impacts, including scenario development and related identification of exposure, sensitivity, adaptive capacity, and opportunities were explicitly considered and incorporated into the project design and implementation	Thankyou for this concurrence. The project theory of change has been updated to improve the articulation of assumptions and mechanisms that will drive the outcomes. With respect to incentives, the Private Sector engagement is foreseen with major players in fish processing, aquaculture feeds as well as fishmeal production and procurement. This will include MarinTrust that is developing multispecies assessment criteria as part of their pilot Improver Program. With regard to the suggestion to consider incorporating scenario development for climate change impacts and related adaptation and resilience, this is foreseen to some degree under the EAFM planning approach, which does take climate change into consideration especially in terms of changes in the distribution of transboundary stocks. However, the project is unlikely to extend activities to include scenario development as this would require dedicated resources for the detailed technical line of work to inform this and the current budget cannot accommodate this.
Part I: Project Information B. Indicative Project Description Summary	
Project Objective	

Is the objective clearly defined, and consistently related to the problem diagnosis? **Yes.** The objective of this project is ?improve natural resource governance in the Gulf of 2 Thailand through the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) contributing to the Fisheries objectives of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme (SCSSAP)? This responds directly to the problem of weak governance, which is articulated along with limited law enforcement as a result of lack of budget, unregistered vessels, limited cooperation. The objective implies that implementing an EAF will improve governance.	n.a.
Project components	
A brief description of the planned activities. Do these support the project?s objectives? **Yes.** Component 1 addresses regional decision-making processes among stakeholders for improved fisheries governance. Useful to clarify how prioritization from stakeholder workshops interacts with the role of science and evidence in terms of informing the development of priorities. Component 3 addresses marine spatial planning to enhance the management of marine ecological corridors relevant to transboundary fisheries. This makes sense though it ends at identification and establishment of management measures. How will this be resourced in the long run?	The GoTFish exit strategy will evolve through the lifetime of the project. It will be specifically addressed as part of PSC meetings during the latter-half of the project, and will include the discussion of potential financing options to sustain the activities beyond the life of the project. Financing of a new regional mechanism for cooperation will be extremely challenging. All actions at national and regional level ultimately are financed by national contributions. However, the pre-existence of a regional mechanism in the form of SEAFDEC, with its linkages to the ASEAN Sectoral working Group on Fisheries, provides a platform upon which to build commitments from the member countries. There is also the parallel but linked process of private sector engagement, which is intended to be self-sustaining through its own commercial incentives (e.g. responsible fishmeal, sustainable value chains for specific commodities). In the case of the Malaysian Component 3 outcomes, longer term commitment is more or less guaranteed though the DoF programme and this is part of the Malaysian strategy for integrated coastal management initiatives at the local (east coast MPAs) and national scale (Malaysia national strategy for marine protected areas).
Outcomes	

A description of the expected short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention. Do the planned outcomes encompass important adaptation benefits? **Yes.** However, it is not made explicit how the EAF approach is reflected across the various components. Experience shows this is difficult in practice (see, for example, Kenny et al., 2018, Delivering sustainable fisheries through adoption of a risk-based framework as part of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management,? Marine Policy 93: 232-240).	The project is taking an innovative approach to management of multispecies and multi-gear fisheries ? taking into account food production and economic value, while also trying to restore ecosystem structure and function. This is fundamental to the EAF approach that supports sustainable development by striving to find the balance between ecological well-being and human well-being through good governance. The EAF framework will provide a means of integrating the rebuilding of different stocks within the GoT LME with improved management of vulnerable species and critical habitats through more effective EAFM planning and implementation. Market-based incentives will also work to support these approaches by providing private partnership support to both short-term and medium-term outcomes.
Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated? Good potential, given experience of other fisheries restoration efforts, provided economic and institutional drivers are well addressed.	Thankyou. The approach of GoTFish is aimed to build a workable and practical model for multispecies, multigear tropical fisheries operating in a developing country context. Developing robust management models that can actually deliver sustainable fisheries, stock rebuilding and the economic incentives to do this have proved extremely challenging to date. We believe that GoTFish is well placed to make substantial contributions to this, with potential applications across other Asian LMEs, and potentially beyond.
Outputs	
A description of the products and services which are expected to result from the project. Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes? Clearly structured.	n.a.
Part II: Project justification A simple narrative explaining the project?s logic, i.e. a theory of change	
1. Project description. Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)	
Is the problem statement well-defined? **Yes,** with extensive referencing.	n.a.
Are the barriers and threats well described, and substantiated by data and references? **Yes,** with good mapping to indicate how relevant project components aim to respond.	n.a.

For multiple focal area projects: does the problem statement and analysis identify the drivers of environmental degradation which need to be addressed through multiple focal areas; and is the objective welldefined, and can it only be supported by integrating two, or more focal areas objectives or programs? **Yes,** with appropriate integration of biodiversity objectives in protected areas activities.	n.a.
2. The baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects	
Is the baseline identified clearly? **Yes.** Extensive information provided regarding baseline agreements, programs, country-level actions, etc. Also data throughout the PIF on the state of fisheries and related ecosystem trends.	n.a.
Does it provide a feasible basis for quantifying the project?s benefits? **Adequate;** however, given the breadth of initiatives underway, it will be important to specify approaches to estimate the distinct contribution of this project towards targeted benefits.	An important part of the GoTFish project will be developing means to assess the state of rebuilding of different stocks within the GoTLME. This is both part of the project monitoring process, but also links to complementary work undertaken by FAO to develop more effective stock assessment for the GOT countries using indicator species. This builds on foundational work with the countries to improve their stock assessments as well as modelling work on fishery management scenario-building (CSIRO/FAO), which will be continued during the project. This is intended to give a clear idea of changes in the GoTLMe fisheries. This can then be linked to other indicators such as economic value and biodiversity. The tangible effects of Component three improving MPA management are covered using the IUCN Green List Standard.
Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project? See above	Please see above.
For multiple focal area projects:	

Are the multiple baseline analyses presented (supported by data and references), and the multiple benefits specified, including the proposed indicators; are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described; **Yes:** Project states that lessons learned from past and ongoing projects will be valuable for GoTFish; however, few specifics are provided. Does state that focus on controlling IUU fishing has been successful but more work needed.	More details have been provided under the Knowledge Management (section 8 of the ProDoc), covering : 1) Key lessons learned integrated into the project development phase 2) Under all four components, relevant ongoing knowledge generation related to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication 3) relevant lessons from previous SEAFDEC projects pertionent to component 1 4) key lessons learned to improve fisheries governance include the following recommendations prepared by SFP from previous projects pertinent to component 2 5) Under Component 3 (specific for Malaysia), lessons learned form regional and Malaysia specific initiatives The project will also integrate the lessons learned from: 6) The Fisheries Refugia project, particularly related to habitat management of fisheries species in the GoT and beyond and the transboundary dialogue that has been initiated. 7) CSIRO/FAO work using Ecopath with Ecosim (EwE) modelling on the effects management scenarios on different species groups has provided a more effective way of presenting the implications of different management objectives. Use of this tool will be extended into the GoTFish project activities. 8) Complementary, ongoing-work of FAO with SEAFDEC to build capacity in stock assessment will provide important baselines for the status of GoTLME fishery resources and also pave the way to use indicator species for tracking the state of GoTLME fisheries.
How did these lessons inform the design of this project? Lessons have informed prioritization; specific insights not stated. However, there is good specification of the distinct approaches to be applied in different territorial waters and zones within the GOT, implying application of prior learning throughout.	Please see above
3. The proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project	

What is the theory of change? A visual TOC is presented, accompanied by a well-stated summary of the logic. While the visual is simple, it does summarize the approach, aiming to embed the planned actions in a set of guiding strategies. Additional articulation of assumptions and mechanisms of change would be important in the next stages of project development. The vision centers on realizing ?Blue Economy potential,? which is a vague ambition unless grounded in specific indicators of ecological, social and economic change.	The ToC has been updated under section 1.a.3. The project indicators in the results framework have been strengthened and now link concretely to the GEF core indicators. These in effect provide stronger grounding for the foreseen ecological and economic/social benefits.
What is the sequence of events (required or expected) that will lead to the desired outcomes? See above	Addressed through revised TOC. Please see above.
What is the set of linked activities, outputs, and outcomes to address the project?s objectives?	
Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions? Assumptions are not specifically articulated	The assumptions have been included in the project framework.

4. Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes? **No**	The success or otherwise of the project depends on continuing cooperation among the four GoT countries. Some of the major changes which are potential risks during the project lifetime and the project?s mitigation action include: **Actions by trading partners (e.g. trade restrictions and technical barriers to trade)** A number of trade restrictions are currently in place, or have bene recently lifted in GoT LME countries. Examples are the EU red/yellow cards which are currently in place affecting Cambodia and Viet Nam and the recently lifted Yellow card for Thailand. These can have a major influence on the type and nature of fisheries management activities. The WTO subsidies negotiations are another potential force that may increasingly exert influence. *Project risk mitigation strategy:* To date, the trade sanctions have generally provided an major opportunity and incentive for better management practices, rather than driving unsustainable fishing. The project has been designed to provide information and actions which will assist these countries in the effort to lift the restrictions. **Major change in fishery management policy in a negative direction** Historically, policies and fishery development has tended to focus on maximizing production, with consequent degradation of resources. Over the past decade, all GoT countries have increasingly developed and started to implement policies that align with best practice international guidelines (e.g. FAO Code of Practice for Responsible Fisheries). There are foreseeable macro-economic forces emerging (e.g. recent rises in fuel and food prices) that may push the fishery sector backwards) *Project risk mitigation strategy:* The project should be well positioned to foresee emerging policies that might backtrack on positive developments in sustainable fisheries and help steer any negative policy directions through contact with SEAFDEC, FAO, private partners and other GoT countries. **GoT countries are unwilling to assess options for cooperative arrangements/mechanisms and adopt suitable mechanisms.** There is considerable resistance to simply adopting management cooperation mechanisms that are being used in other parts of the (especially developed) world. The main issues will be sovereign rights and costs. Any formal mechanism will also require high-level endorsement. *Project risk mitigation strategy:* The project specifies that any future cooperative mechanism will be based on existing structures, such as the Southeast Asia

	Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC). The GotFish project implementation is also based on the premise that countries should plan cooperatively but it is the responsibility of each country to implement the management measures and activities best suited to their situation. Part of the assessment of possible cooperative mechanisms will be a cost/benefit analyses so that countries can decide what mechanism best suits their needs. **GoTFish countries unwilling to continue to work together to address fisheries issues common to these countries.** Based on the previous work of the Sweden/SEADEC project, the four GoT countries have worked cooperatively on some issues common to the countries, including the collection and sharing of statistics, IUU fishing and joint research surveys. *Project risk mitigation strategy:* The countries will be choosing the issues that will be considered through a series of working groups. The countries will also be consulted in the formulation and implementation of the working groups, including TORs for the groups and their reporting requirements. It will be important to ensure that all working group discussions and actions are transparent with the results made publicly available. **Countries unwilling to cooperate and work together to share information** Based on the previous work of the Sweden/SEADEC project, the four GoT countries have shared some information in the past, but some information (e.g. detailed catch data and IUU fishing activities) are confidential. *Project risk mitigation strategy:* The countries will be responsible for deciding what information can be shared. Sensitive confidential information may require special protocols to maintain confidentiality. **Countries are able to develop national EAFM plans that meet the requirements of GoTFish.** One assumption of GoTFish project, is that most countries are developing national EAFM plans that will be ready for implementation in 2023. *Project risk mitigation strategy:* Cambodia, Thailand and Malaysia are currently developing EAFM plans. From the outset of the project, all countries will be involved in sharing their experiences in developing EAFM plans and lessons learnt will be shared. Any country requiring additional assistance will be supported by the project.
5. incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and cofinancing	

GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits? This project builds on years of existing efforts in this area. There is some evidence of country specific improvements however, it is likely that transformational change will be needed for there to be significant change across the entire GoT.	We recognize the previous work done in GoTLME but much of this has: ? Been undermined by a lack of concrete commitment by most GoT countries to take concrete actions to limit fishing effort and transform fishing operations towards greater sustainability - particularly with respect to demand for fish for feeds and the high level of dependence on fishing in the small-scale sector. ? Focused on tracking the level of production of GoT fishery resources, without being able to gain any significant traction on changing fishery or habitat management by the countries ? Focused on habitat measures, but with limited complementary action on improved fisheries management and regulation to support the potential benefits. The GoTFish is intended to be innovative and transformational and the project will be tracking improvements of changes in the management measures applied in the GoT. The GoTFish projects comes on the time that allows to support these changes. Transformation requires a strong commitment, trading and economic partners are putting pressure at the national level, driving fisheries stakeholders to the point that they are no longer economically valuable and are now increasingly willing to consider these changes. The project will enhance the emerging trend in the GoT countries to be more assertive in their efforts to manage fisheries and the marine environment and to start to address decades of consistent degradation. GoTFish will support these processes for fishery management actors to be able take control and improve management with the best available data (modelling and by making use of the precautionary approach), linked to the improving trend in political will to make this work. This will also be supported through commitment from processes that affect trading partners that will serve as an incentive force to change towards better management (e.g. the fish meal sector under Component 1 plans and Component 2 work with MarinTrust)
LDCF/SCCF: will the proposed incremental activities lead to adaptation which reduces vulnerability, builds adaptive capacity, and increases resilience to climate change? N/A	n.a.
6. global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)	

Are the benefits truly global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits, and are they measurable? Yes	n.a.
Is the scale of projected benefits both plausible and compelling in relation to the proposed investment? Yes	n.a.
Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits explicitly defined? Yes	n.a.
Are indicators, or methodologies, provided to demonstrate how the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits will be measured and monitored during project implementation? Yes	n.a.
What activities will be implemented to increase the project?s resilience to climate change? Climate adaptation is noted but not well integrated into the project - an important opportunity for improvement	Overall, the entire approach for improved management and stock status of the fisheries resource of the GoTLME is intended to render the system biologically more resilient to climate change. In that regard the improved status of indicator species will be a proxy for GoTLME system resilience. Component 1: Climate change and adaptation considerations are an essential part of EAF planning, so this will be primarily addressed as part of Component 1 development of EAFM plans for transboudary fish stocks. Component 2: One of the species considered for fish sauce value chain improvement is highly driven by climatic factors (anchovies). The potential variations in supply and longer-term implications of climate change will require attention and assessment of the degree of risk and requirement for adaptation. Component 3: Climate aspects related to impacts on habitat (e.g. coral bleaching), will be of high importance, and will also need to be integrated into the MPA management scores (e.g. the IUCN Green List standard)
7. innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up	

Is the project innovative, for example, in its design, method of financing, technology, business model, policy, monitoring and evaluation, or learning? Component 2 aims to mobilize the role of the private sector and other partners to work on incentives/disincentives suited for Southeast Asian fisheries, with worldwide reach. Good indication of engagement with major private fisheries-sector players (e.g., Thai Union). This component has the potential to yield interesting results ? particularly with respect to behavior change and would be interesting and helpful to assess outcomes and improve the knowledge base on this topic to see if and how it could be applied more broadly ? see STAP advisory document entitled ?Why behavioral change matters to the GEF and what to do about it.[1]?	All three components have significant innovative aspects. Component 1: Innovative approach to the assessment and management of multispecies/multigear fisheries that includes state-of-the-art ecosystem modelling and aggregate species fishery assessments. The component will also explore innovative ways to incorporate guidelines pertaining to improving livelihoods of small-scale artisanal fishers and fishing communities. Component 2: The engagement of the private sector through the alignment of supply chains with EAF management needs. Particularly, through the development of incentive mechanisms in two supply chains that depend upon the raw material from fisheries that rely upon the catch of key ecosystem species. This will be done through strong commitment from trading partners (e.g. MarinTrust, etc.) that will serve as an incentive force to change towards better management.As an output of Component 2 ? we will document the specifically on how the incentives approach has led to behaviour change. This will be an important part of the M&E of Component 2 under Sustainable Fisheries Partnership. Component 3: Will incorporate the use of the seascape approach in managing both fisheries and marine biodiversity conservation. In particular, the Project will leverage on the experiences of Malaysia in implementing the seascape approach as a platform to engage the participation of the other three coastal states within the GoT.
Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors? Good consideration of different aspects.	n.a.
Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability? While there is room for progress with incremental measures to improve enforcement and enhance protection, trends indicate the need for a transformation	Agreed. Please see response on climate change in section 6 above. The project seeks overall transformation of the management of fishery resources of the GoTLME.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place. A map is provided including lat/long for the larger region. Additional maps provided in Annex ? would be good if these annexes were better described.	The maps have been downscaled and additional description is provided. EAFM planning is envisaged to be transboundary in nature and be at the LME scale. Some national activities may be at smaller scales (e.g. coastal fishing communities) but the locations of these will be developed during the project implementation. MPA coordinates for Malaysia Component 3 have been provided.
2. Stakeholders. Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase: Indigenous people and local communities; Civil society organizations; Private sector entities. If none of the above, please explain why. In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.	
Have all the key relevant stakeholders been identified to cover the complexity of the problem, and project implementation barriers? Stakeholder groups are described in reasonable groupings (country, fisherfolk, communities, regional and international organizations, civil society, academia and research, private sector).	A more detailed stakeholder engagement plan has now been provided
What are the stakeholders? roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge? Specifics and roles will be further refined during PPG.	A more detailed stakeholder engagement plan has ow been provided
Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment. Please briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). **Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes/no/ tbd.** **If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: access to and control over resources; participation and decision making; and/or economic benefits or services. Will the project?s results framework or logical framework include gendersensitive indicators? yes/no /tbd**	**Yes**

Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences? Detailed reference to country-specific data on gender inequalities in the sector, citing relevant studies. Good indication of aim to address ?human dimension in fisheries value chains,? including gender dimensions identified as missing from prior SAP	n.a.
Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed? **Yes.** Good reference to relevant organizations and networks that will be engaged to help define gender-responsive strategies.	n.a.
5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design	

Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project?s control? Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project? For climate risk, and climate resilience measures: **? How will the project?s objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately?** **? Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed?** **? Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with?** **? What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures?** **Yes.** Climate change and climate impacts are included as ?Environmental impacts? in the risks section, separate from the risks to project implementation. A separate ESS document is provided but no climate risk assessment. This project would be greatly improved if climate change impacts, including scenario development and related identification of exposure, sensitivity, adaptive capacity, and opportunities were explicitly considered and incorporated into the project design and implementation. As it currently stands, climate change impacts are an underlying threat and the project claims to build resilience without specifying what is meant by this and how it will be achieved.	The ESS document is specifically directed towards safeguarding people and the environment from negative impacts rising from the project interventions. As described above, fishery management is adaptive and reactive - as such, it tends to operate on shorter time frames than those presented by potential impacts of climate change. Overall, the entire approach for improved management and stock status of the fisheries resource of the GoT LME is intended to render the system biologically more resilient and this includes greater resilience to the longer-term impacts of climate change. In that regard the improved status of indicator species will be a proxy for GoT LME system resilience. With regard to the suggestion to consider incorporating scenario development for climate change impacts and related adaptation and resilience, this is foreseen to some degree under the EAFM planning approach, which does take climate change into consideration. However, the project is unlikely to extend activities to include scenario development as this would require dedicated resources for the detailed technical line of work to inform this and the current budget cannot accommodate this. Component 1: Climate change and adaptation considerations are an essential part of EAF planning, so this will be primarily addressed as part of Component 1 development of EAFM plans for transboundary fish stocks. Component 2: One of the species considered for fish sauce value chain improvement is highly driven by climatic factors (anchovies). The potential variations in supply and longer term implications of climate change will require attention and assessment of the degree of risk and requirement for adaptation.. Component 3: Climate aspects related to impacts on habitat (e.g. coral bleaching), will be of high importance, and will also need to be integrated into the MPA management scores (e.g. the IUCN green list standard)
6. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other related initiatives	
Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects? Yes	n.a.

Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them? Clear knowledge of prior projects, but no explicit articulation of lessons learned.	A more detailed explanation of the integration of lessons learned has now been provided
Have specific lessons learned from previous projects been cited? See above	A more detailed explanation of the integration of lessons learned has been provided. Please see
How have these lessons informed the project?s formulation? See above.	n.a.
Is there an adequate mechanism to feed the lessons learned from earlier projects into this project, and to share lessons learned from it into future projects? Adequate indication of links to other initiatives for exchange of lessons	In paragraphs 162-173 knowledge sharing is described across a number of mechanisms and processes. - There is also explanation of the linkage to the other GEF investments under South China Sea SAP - Links to BOBLME II - Bringing Malaysia?s component 3 learning to SCS-SAP - Joint regional learning/sharing events - The co-location of RCUs in SEAFDEC as an additional advantage - Knowledge management strategy Text on lessons learned from earlier and ongoing initiatives has also been provided in paras 185-191 under Section 8 of knowledge management.
8. Knowledge management. Outline the ?Knowledge Management Approach? for the project, and how it will contribute to the project?s overall impact, including plans to learn from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations.	
What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used? Component 4: effective communication, monitoring and sharing knowledge and lessons learned among all the stakeholders and wider audience. This is standard; however, it is rare that lessons learned from earlier projects are reflected (or clearly articulated) in the design of projects that build on them. Would be good if this could be built in somehow.	A more detailed explanation of the integration of lessons learned has been provided

What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience Useful, preliminary indication of topics for knowledge exchange, including attention to transboundary governance, multi-stakeholder platforms, behavioral science lessons, gender dimensions and effectiveness of ecosystem protection measures such as corridors.	A more detailed explanation of the integration of lessons learned has been provided
STAP Advisory Response	
1. Concur STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. The proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.	Thank you for your concurrence. Thank you for the many relevant points that have been raised. We think that these have now been elaborated and are fully addressed.
2. Minor issues to be considered during project design STAP has identified specific scientific /technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the project proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. The proponent may wish to: i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development, and possibly agreeing to terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement	n.a.

3. Major issues to be considered during project design. STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical methodological issues, barriers, or omissions in the project concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. The proponent is strongly encouraged to: (i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development including an independent expert as required. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement	n.a.

Comments from the GEF countries

Comment by Liesl Karen Inglis, Senior Advisor, Department for Green Diplomacy and Climate (GDK), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Council, Denmark made on **Comment**: ? ***Norway/Denmark Comments***	
We note the comments from STAP on the importance of better integrating climate change adaptation in the project, this is especially important in fisheries management and should be considered when establishing management plans.	Overall, the entire approach for improved management and stock status of the fisheries resource of the GoTLME is intended to render the system biologically more resilient to climate change. In that regard the improved status of indicator species will be a proxy for GoTLME system resilience. Component 1: Climate change and adaptation considerations are an essential part of EAF planning, so this will be primarily addressed as part of Component 1 development of EAFM plans for transboundary fish stocks.. Component 2: One of the species considered for fish sauce value chain improvement is highly driven by climatic factors (anchovies). The potential variations in supply and longer term implications of climate change will require attention and assessment of the degree of risk and requirement for adaptation.. Component 3: Climate aspects related to impacts on habitat (e.g. coral bleaching), will be of high importance, and will also need to be integrated into the MPA management scores (e.g. the IUCN green list standard)
We see that some of the planned work is similar to what Norway is supporting through the EAF Nansen programme, implemented by FAO and IMR, especially outcome 1.2 on management plans based on EAF.	Thank you. EAF-Nansen programme is linked through complementary activities of FAO with GOT countries. There is scope for exchange of learning on EAF management plans supported by EAF Nansen (mainly in outside of the SE Asian region)
We strongly recommend close dialogue with the Nansen programme to benefit on lessons learnt and also look into the tool developed by the Nansen programme, ?EAF monitoring tool?, and if this could be adapted in the project some how. Thailand is a one of the partner countries to the Nansen programme.	Thankyou. The EAF monitoring tool that has been developed by EAF Nansen and piloted in Africa will be considered as part of the monitoring of EAFM plans. https://www.fao.org/3/cb3669en/cb3669en.pdf

We would like to understand more on how FAO is planning to link this project with work planned in FAO project Bay of Bengal LME (BOBLME II).	FAO is the implementing agency for both GoTFish and BOBLME II, but the projects are executed by partners: SEAFEC, IUCN, BOBP-IGO, UQ and SFP. As such there is no direct FAO control over execution of the two projects. However, there are strong institutional linkages to FAO and also between the two projects through the common role of SEAFDEC and associated role of IUCN. Also, the complementary FAO programme work (some of which is under EAF Nansen) will be common to both. This affords considerable opportunities to introduce cross learning and common approaches under the two projects, especially through the knowledge management components. The central role of the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific will also act as a bridging mechanism, Fishery assessment work and incentives piloted and pioneered in GoTFish will be directly relevant to BOBMLE II and FAO intended to roll this out in the South Asian region. Likewise ecosystem stock monitoring for multispecies fisheries. BOBLME II will have important lessons under EAF m planning (SEAFDEC) and coastal livelihoods, MPA management (linked through IUCN and Green List Standard) for transfer back to GoTFish.
Comment by Kordula Mehlhart, GEF Council Member, Head of Division on Climate Finance, BMZ, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Council, Germany made on 7/4/2021 **Comment**: ? ***Germany Comments***	
Germany approves the following PIF in the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account: Germany welcomes the proposal which aims to improve the management of transboundary fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand (GoT) which suffered of extremely unsustainable and damaging practices for many years. The dwindling stocks and rising fuel costs for higher fishing led to a dangerous spiral of cost-cutting practices, resulting in poor labor conditions.	n.a.

It is great to see that the private sector will be engaged in this project as business companies must adopt better fisheries practices and improve their supply chain through due diligence practices. Germany therefore welcomes that companies with environmentally and socially unacceptable practices wish to improve through support from this project. However, the commitment seems rather opportunistic: in-kind commitment will secure private sector interests (e.g. financial benefits and better market access). We suggest to demand tangible and meaningful commitments and milestones from the private sector.	We take this consideration into account, and therefore we have removed the in-kind co-finance from the private sector actors for now, until more tangible and meaningful commitment is reached, as suggested by Germany. This commitment will be sought by the project at an early stage. An important aspect of the project cooperation is that the project does not actually provide any financial support to the private sector companies and does not endorse the companies that are involved No claims can be made in that regard. This means that the companies continue to remain accountable for their activities. The nature of cooperation intended with the private sector is around the area of engagement of SFP through a number of existing coordination and liaison tools, including a) engagement with the members of the already established Global Roundtable on Marine Ingredients, which is co-chaired by SFP and the MarinTrust and comprises key buyers of fishmeal and fish oil; b) through the identification and development of industry-led Fishery Improvement Projects in the key fisheries, as well as c) promotion of the establishment of a multi-stakeholder Responsible Seafood Scheme that will be developed in a participatory manner and is expected to be adopted by key businesses involved in the fish sauce supply chain as part of their seafood purchasing policies (this last activity will be supported by the project but is targeted towards SMEs). These three private sector engagement models build upon more than 15 years of SFP?s experience in building industry capacity to lead transformational change towards sustainable seafood production.

Specifically: Regarding outcome 21 and indicator 5.1, it might be a good idea to create a regional certification scheme as MSC has not proven suited for developing world fisheries because of data requirements and high costs associated with the assessment. There is also a high regional risk of poor labor conditions on board which have not been addressed by MSC so far. Thus, a regional certification must adhere with the benchmark principles that have been developed by the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) in accordance with FAO frameworks and tools . FAO, as well as Thai Union and CPF must be partners of this new regional certification scheme. The number of fisheries participating in certification schemes can also be a double-edged indicator. Certification schemes currently available have proven to be particularly detrimental to small-scale fisheries. This is well addressed under outcome 2.1. Options for SSF indicators under 5.1 such as ?sustainable marketing initiatives? should also be considered. For example, by creating and marketing direct linkages between sustainably operating small-scale fishers and restaurant/ hotels in tourist regions.	We agree with the approach for a regional scheme instead of MSC due to the issues considered. The scheme should take into account the peculiarities of SSF, and the specific context of GoT Fisheries. We are, however, also aware of the limitations of reaching a ?certification? scheme as such, and during the PPG phase it has come clear that there is scope to work on a Fisheries Improvement Project, and a market incentive that shows progress and commitment of stakeholders (fishers, government, private sector) towards management improvement on aspects of sustainability, following the EAF approach of social, environmental and governance dimensions). For now, we will need time to identify this ?incentive mechanism?, and that is the reason why we are not using the term ?certification?.
Comment by Tom Bui, Director, Environment, Global Issues and Development Branch (MFM), Global Affairs Canada, Council, Canada made on 7/14/2021 **Comment**: ? ***Canada Comments***	-
This project is focused on increasing resource use from the ocean, so caution is needed to demonstrate that this will be sustainable and also yield positive biodiversity outcomes. It seems that this is the case through the focus on the ecosystem approach though a number of the proposed indicators and outputs measure actions and proxies rather than actual biodiversity outcomes (e.g. Indicator 1.1.1 - Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management (GEF Core Indicator 7). Also, the summary of the project notes that the following: ??In addition, 3 fisheries will meet national or international certifications that incorporate biodiversity.?? What certifications, specifically?	The project is operating in a highly complex tropical multispecies fishery that as to date, defied nay sort of sustainable management system being applied. A major part of this is the inadequacy of management models from elsewhere (that focus more on targeted single species fisheries and their impacts and associated certification schemes such as MSC) and the complex biological, economic and human dimensions that must be integrated into the management framework. The project will work with countries to set realistic management objectives that will push stocks away from unsustainable use and over exploitation, whilst still delivering the food and economic benefits from the fishery The projects targets have been updated from the earlier PIF versions , Certification is now framed more clearly and is not MSC certification, but more process oriented improvement. This is intended to lead towards some form of internationally recognized better management certification.

Furthermore, Canada is of the view that the below should be taken into account: *Database & analytical systems & ICT of the target fishing communities to identify level of socio-economic status and knowledge levels as baseline information;* The project will miss out many stakeholders if the below mentioned organizations are not included.	The identified relevant bodies below are now included in the text and or included in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan
2.The regional organization should include Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA ? https://enaca.org/) which is an intergovernmental organization based in Bangkok and has 19 country members in Asia-Pacific;	Please note that GEF Secretariat explicitly requested the removal of all references to aquaculture in the project document. NACA is included in the text and is already mentioned already in the baseline The primary relevant linkage to NACA is as a potential channel for communicating the issues of responsible fishmeal to a broader inter-governmental audience. This is more of less guaranteed as NACA and SEAFDEC are co-located in the same Secretariat building and both have extremely close linkages with FAO.
3. National institutions should engage fish marketing organisations (https://www.fishmarket.co.th/) in the four countries as well as government function levels from central to provincial, district and local administrative organisations;	These bodies are recognized generically in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as potential partners, particularly under Component 2.
4. The project should engage academic institutions in all four countries;	These have been included in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan
5. On the gender issues, Gender on Fisheries and Aquaculture (GAF) - https://www.genderaquafish.org/discover-gaf/ should be involved strongly;	The GAF network has already been contacted during the PPG phase as requested, and the data gathered has helped inform the GoTFish Gender Action Plan. This is a network arrangement rather than an entity, however there are actors in the network are foreseen to be engaged as part of the project Gender Strategy.
6. The project should engage International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD) based in Bangkok on the value chain - https://www.itd.or.th/en/.	SFP are the specifically competent body for addressing fishery value chain matters. ITD have been included in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as potential interested parties on the ASEAN aspects of regional trade in sustainable fishery projects.

[1] 54640 STAP Behavior Change_WEB.pdf (stapgef.org)

ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: USD 196,465			
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (USD)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent to date	Amount Committed
5011 Salaries Professional/Operation supports	9,355	9,614	0
5013 Consultants	88,000	104,706	21,126
5014 Contracts	77,000	47,925	
5021 Travel	2,610		
5023 Training/Workshop	19,000	280	0
5024 Expendable expense	0		109
5028 General Operating Expenses	500	23	
Total	**196,465**	162,548	21,235

Explanation of the costs

Consultants:

- Costs of hiring international consultants to organize and facilitate national and regional consultations, regional validation workshop as well as project document drafting
- Costs of hiring national consultant each from the four countries for country data collection and to facilitate national consultations with national stakeholders.

Salaries Professional:

- FAO operational cost

Contract

- Cost to contract Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Foundation (SFP) to collect information/analyses and provide technical inputs for components 1 & 2 and to facilitate the regional discussions;

- Cost to cover the fiduciary assessment costs for the potential partners (SFP, Queensland University and SEAFDEC).

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.

The geographical location of the project area is the Gulf of Thailand Ecosystem. It is defined by IHO as the line from the southernmost point of Camau Province, Vietnam to the southern most point of Peninsular Malaysia and includes some or all of the EEZ waters of the participating countries Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and VietNam.


Cambodia
VietNa
Thailand
Gulf of Thailand
Large Marine Ecosystem
South
Large Mar
Bay of Bengal
Large Marine
Ecosystem
Malaysia

The Gulf of Thailand Large Marine Ecosystem (LME)

Source: Gulf of Thailand LME follows the definition of the Gulf of Thailand in International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)1953. Limits of oceans and seas. 3rd edition. IHO Special Publication, 23. Monaco. 38 pp.

MALAYSIA MPA LOCATIONS

FAO map disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.

	Latitude	Longitude
MPA LOCATIONS (Component 3)		
Pulau Lang Tengah	102.8962712	5.795196321
Pulau Redang	103.0077684	5.783928943

Pulau Ekor Tebu	103.0302932	5.7378865
Pulau Lima	103.0603829	5.773731218
Pulau Susu Dara	102.6637941	5.959212225
Pulau Perhentian Kecil	102.7201317	5.917055143
Pulau Perhentian Besar	102.7571417	5.902053849
Pulau Yu Besar	103.1525277	5.641418902
Pulau Yu Kecil	103.1605731	5.623948246
Pulau Kapas	103.264906	5.219003027
Rantau Abang Fisheries Protected Area	103.3926451	4.865849477
Pulau Nyireh	103.6650451	4.844975808
Pulau Tenggol	103.6814828	4.80566
EAFM AREA		
All GOT LME area within Malaysian EEZ with sub-sites to be identified		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Kelantan	102.2448	6.1806
Tok Bali	102.4713	5.8847
Besut	102.5574	5.8264
Terengganu	103.1297	5.3252
Chendering	103.1843	5.2639
Marang	103.2123	5.2043
Dungun	103.4251	4.7792
Kerteh	103.4503	4.5168
Kemaman	103.4453	4.2399
Tanjung Sidili	104.1082	1.9310
Mersing	103.8377	2.4340

Endau	103.6187	2.6556
Kuantan	103.3422	3.8078

CAMBODIA

	Latitude	Longitude
EAFM		
GOT LME area within Cambodian EEZ with sub-sites to be identified		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Sihanoukville	103.5195	10.6621
Stueng Hav	103.6259	10.7455
Bakkhlang	102.9561	11.5668
Koh Kong	102.9771	11.6069
Kaoh Khjorng Port	103.7861	10.5348
Changhaon	104.0087	10.5700
Kep	104.3222	10.4840
Angkol	104.3852	10.4568

THAILAND

	Latitude	Longitude
EAFM AREA		

GOT LME area within Thai EEZ with sub-sites to be identified (east and west gulf)		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Klong Makham	102.8983	11.7328
Ao Cho	102.5315	12.1147
LaemNgop	102.3925	12.1700
Bang Chan	102.2705	12.3270
Koh Proet	102.1277	12.4083
PakNam Laem singh	102.0648	12.4855
Pak Nam Khaem Nu	101.9493	12.5405
PakNam Phang Rat	101.7854	12.6951
Prasae	101.7008	12.6996
BanPhe	101.4387	12.6258
Ban Phala	101.0452	12.6659
Samae San	100.9558	12.6013
Bang saray	100.8898	12.7650
Pattaya	100.8969	12.9744
Samut Prakarn	100.5788	13.5689
Samut Sakhorn	99.9924	13.3755
Bang Tabun	99.9389	13.2625
Pranburi	99.9911	12.4054
Bang Pu	100.0050	12.2051
Klong Khao Daeng	99.9649	12.1352
Wat Thung Noi	99.9545	12.0892
Pak Klong Kliaoi	99.9056	12.0428
Prachuap Kirikhan	99.8259	11.8503

Bo Thong Lang	99.5727	11.2166
Bang Saphan	99.5244	11.2007
Bang Saphan Noi	99.4914	11.0886
Ao Thung Maha	99.4338	10.8558
Hin Kop	99.3737	10.7078
Klong Bang Son	99.3473	10.6843
Ao Sappli	99.2815	10.5850
Phru Ching	99.2583	10.5382
Phanang Tak	99.2382	10.4958
Pak Nam Chumphon	99.2473	10.4424
Pak Nam Tako	99.1513	10.0942
Pak Nam Langsuan	99.1558	9.9450
Pak Nam ThaKrachai	99.2074	9.6022
Laem Pho	99.2695	9.3768
Bang Chana	99.3792	9.1727
Donsak	99.6873	9.3104
Khanom	99.8543	9.2196
Sichon	99.9086	9.0157
Tha Sala	99.9466	8.6653
Pak Phanang	100.1980	8.3485
Songkhla	100.5889	7.1852
Pattani	101.2504	6.8967
Saiburi	101.6409	6.7064
Narathiwat	101.8267	6.4397
Tak Bai	102.0884	6.2338

VIETNAM

	Latitude	Longitude
EAFM AREA		
GOT LME area within VietNam EEZ with sub-sites to be identified		
Commercial Fishing Ports		
Phu Quoc	103.9574	10.2186
C?ng An Th?i	104.0162	10.0158
H? Ti?n	104.4924	10.3930
B?nh An	104.6084	10.1627
Lung Lon	104.6990	10.2136
B?nh S?n	104.7832	10.2161
L?nh Hu?nh	104.8502	10.1460
Th? S?n	104.8661	10.1125
V?nh Quang	105.0533	10.0380
R?ch Gi?	105.0889	10.0108
R?ch S?i	105.1087	9.9497
Ch?u Th?nh	105.1048	9.9215
S?ng ??c	104.8256	9.0381

ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

	GoTFIsh Budget (IW and BD)	Component 1		Component 2	Component 3		Component 4			Component 3 BD			
Agency	FAO Cost categories	1.1 IW	1.2 IW	2.1 IW	3.1 IW	4.1 IW	4.2 IW	*M&E IW*	PMC IW	3.2 BD	3.3 BD	M&E BD	PMC BD
5011	**5011 Salaries Professionals**	**353,700**	**916,300**	**1,109,700**	**205,800**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**50,000**	**292,730**	**137,756**	***0***	***0***
SEAFDEC	Regional CTA GoTFish	202,500	497,500						50,000				
SEAFDEC	Fisheries Management specialist	135,000	365,000										
SEAFDEC	Part-time Data and information specialist	16,200	53,800										
SFP	Fisheries Techical Experts			540,024									
SFP	Seafood Markets Experts			278,397									
SFP	Markets Information Specialists			111,050									
SFP	IT Specialists			8,457									
SFP	Fisheries Assessment Analysts			37,607									
SFP	Senior Scientists			24,019									
SFP	Legal Specialist			17,347									
SFP	Partnership Engagement Specialists			92,800									
UQ	Technical coordination				54,000					81,760	88,116		
UQ	Analysis of biodiversity corridors									77,380			
UQ	MPA design scenarios									87,600			
UQ	Analysis of resilience patterns										49,640		
UQ	Regional migratory corridor mapping				151,800								
UQ	Fisheries benefits calculator									45,990			
5012	**5012 GS Salaries**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	***40,000***	**106,213**	**0**	**0**	***0***	***24,727***
SEAFDEC	M&E and Finance support officers							*40,000*	44,000				
SFP	Admin and Finance support officers								50,300				
UQ	Admin support officer								11,913				*24,727*
5013	**5013 Consultants**	**109,944**	**92,856**	**328,000**	**51,100**	**100,000**	**105,000**	**0**	**0**	**76,100**	**0**	**0**	**0**
	International Consultants	**34,344**	**92,856**	**121,500**	**29,200**	**100,000**	**90,000**	**0**	**0**	**46,900**	**0**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Fisheries specialists	26,244	70,956										
SEAFDEC	Policy and Legal Advice	8,100	21,900										
SEAFDEC	Regional Gender Expert						90,000						*0*
SEAFDEC	Documentatiion of Lessons Learned (ALL components)					60,000							
SEAFDEC	Documentation Project Knowledge Management					20,000							
SEAFDEC	at Inception					20,000							
SFP	Data Limited Expert			3,500									
SFP	FS Method Dev & Testing			40,000									
SFP	FS Multispecies Expert			10,000									
SFP	Standard & quality development and review consultant			12,000									
SFP	Scientific Consultant			28,000									
SFP	Supply Chain Data Mechanism Consultant			28,000									
UQ	Web interface of fisheries benefit calculator									21,900			
UQ	Provision of biodiversity data				29,200								
UQ	Green List support IUCN									25,000			
	National Consultants	**75,600**	**0**	**206,500**	**21,900**	**0**	**15,000**	**0**	**0**	**29,200**	**0**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	National consultants to carry out desk reviews	21,600											
SEAFDEC	National EAFM and Fisheries Specialists	54,000											
SEAFDEC	National Gender Specialist						15,000						
SFP	Meeting Facilitation Consultancy			4,500									
SFP	Regional consultants to engage in stakeholders			80,000									
SFP	National FS analysts			19,000									
SFP	Fishing Gear Analysis Consultant			6,000									
SFP	Fisheries Technical Specialist			97,000									
UQ	Provision of biodiversity data				7,300								
UQ	GIS support				14,600								
UQ	Creation of guidelines on seascape approach									29,200			
5014	**5014 Contracts**	**0**	**490,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**58,400**	**57,433**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Contract for modelling fish resources in the GoT/CSIRO		50,000										
SEAFDEC	Contract for research on transboundary species		20,000										
SEAFDEC	Contracts for national DOF partners		420,000										
SFP	N/A												
UQ	Coastal larval dispersal modelling									58,400			
UQ	Coastal coral reef surveys										57,433		
5021	**5021 Travel**	**244,125**	**665,875**	**102,500**	**213,890**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**87,600**	**26,126**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Air flights +DSA/hotel (Component 1)	4,500	18,000										
SEAFDEC	Working groups: Air flight s +DSA/hotel	189,000	511,000										
SEAFDEC	Regional consultations: Workshops/awareness	50,625	136,875										
SFP	Fisheries Lead travel to regional meeting			5,000									
SFP	meeting			55,500									
SFP	Cambodia-Vietnam Consultant national and retional travel			22,000									
SFP	SFP travel to regional meeting			10,000									
SFP	Travel for FS Workshop for Multispecies Method			10,000									
UQ	Regional seascape technical forum				116,800								
UQ	Regional biodiversity workshops				42,340								
UQ	Workshops to map physical and social data (including fisheries socioeconomic data)				43,800								
UQ	Consultations with stakeholders seascape plans									43,800			
UQ	Consultations with government and stakeholders									43,800			
UQ	Workshop on ecological and social resilience methods and planning										14,600		
UQ	Technical coordination				10,950						11,526		
5023	**5023 Training**	**92,231**	**104,668**	**155,000**	**21,900**	**70,535**	**125,132**	**61,754**	**0**	**55,915**	**196,715**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Annual PSC meetings, Inception and Final workshops							*61,754*					
SEAFDEC	Knowledge Sharing Events and Stakeholder Consultations (pre-PSC meetings)					11,134	100,132						*0*
SEAFDEC	Regional Meetings/Training for Outputs	92,231	104,668										*0*
SEAFDEC	Regional Gender Meetings						25,000						*0*
SEAFDEC	IW learning events and knowledge sharing (1 % of the IW budget)					59,401							*0*
SFP	Regional Market Uptake Workshops			75,000									*0*
SFP	National Market Uptake Meetings			60,000									*0*
SFP	FS Workshop for Multispecies Method			20,000									*0*
UQ	Seascapes approach for DOF and other personnel									50,623			
UQ	Regional capacity building activities				21,900								
UQ	PhD scholarship for Malaysian student to work on project at UQ										111,123		
UQ	Workshop on resilience approach										21,900		
UQ	Advanced training within Malaysian university partners										58,400		*0*
UQ	Malaysia Inception and Final Workshops									5,292	5,292		*0*
5024	**5024 Expendable procurement**	**0**	**6,000**	**6,000**	**7,310**	**21,261**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**18,980**	**9,490**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Publications and layout					15,261							*0*
SEAFDEC	Equipment and Supplies		6,000										*0*
SEAFDEC	Project Website development and maintenance					6,000							*0*
SFP	Equipment and Supplies (Lump Sum)			6,000									*0*
UQ	Data storage, computers etc				7,310					18,980	9,490		*0*
6100	**6100 Non-expendable procurement**	**0**	**8,560**	**8,800**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,968**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Communications and Technical Supplies		8,560										*0*
SEAFDEC	Office Supplies								8,968				
SFP	Communications and Technical Supplies			8,800									
UQ													
5028	**5028 GOE budget**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**60,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
SEAFDEC	Rental RCU								60,000				*0*
													0
5650	**5650 Contracts**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**116,450**	**71,537**	**0**	**0**	**20,550**	**27,163**
FAO	Operational partner (OP) spot checks								32,629				*12,821*
FAO	Operational partner (OP) audits								38,908				*14,342*
FAO	Independent Mid Term Review (MTR)							*51,000*				*9,000*	
FAO	Independent Final Evaluation (FE)							*59,500*				*10,500*	
FAO	Terminal Report							*5,950*				*1,050*	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agencys is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies? capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).