



Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10563

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Blueing the Black Sea (BBSEA)

Countries

Regional, Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye, Ukraine

Agency(ies)

World Bank

Other Executing Partner(s)

Black Sea Economic Cooperation

Executing Partner Type

Others

GEF Focal Area

International Waters

Sector

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, International Waters, Coastal, Pollution, Nutrient pollution from all sectors except wastewater, Nutrient pollution from Wastewater, Large Marine Ecosystems, Strategic Action Plan Implementation,

Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Stakeholders, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Participation, Partnership, Consultation, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Communications, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Education, Strategic Communications, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Innovation, Knowledge Exchange, Learning, Theory of change

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Significant Objective 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

No Contribution 0

Land Degradation

No Contribution 0

Submission Date

4/16/2020

Expected Implementation Start

3/30/2023

Expected Completion Date

12/31/2027

Duration

48In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

607,306.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
IW-1-3	Strengthen blue economy opportunities by addressing pollution reduction in marine environments	GET	6,392,694.00	138,500,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			6,392,694.00	138,500,000.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

To strengthen the capacity and preparedness of governments and the private sector in the Project Focus Countries to take actions to reduce pollution in the Black Sea

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1. Economic case to Invest in Pollution Prevention and Reduction	Technical Assistance	<p>Subcomponent 1.1: National Policy and Institutional Framework</p> <p>Subcomponent 1.2: National investment recommendations, knowledge exchange and regional dialogue</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <p>Strengthened agencies' capacities to address pollution at national and regional level in Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Preparation for small clean-up activities in Ukraine conducted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Recommendations for policy harmonization delivered and workshops conducted (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine); •Regional dialogue established, best practice exchange completed, knowledge products disseminated (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine); •Regional cooperation with relevant agencies (Including UNDP and FAO) is established (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine); •Priority investment recommendations produced and disseminated at workshops (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine); •Assessment of the pollution impact; selection and preparation of small clean-up activities (Ukraine). 	GET	1,128,000.00	39,200,000.00

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2. Green & innovative financing	Investment	<p>Subcomponent 2.1 Eco-Innovation Challenge</p> <p>Subcomponent 2.2 Investments Preparation</p> <p>Outcomes - Innovative ideas on nutrient pollution reduction brought to viability with demonstration effect for replication, a scale-up, and new innovation (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye);</p> <p>- A critical pollution reduction investment, selected by the project, is ready for preparation (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye);</p> <p>- Pilot clean-up interventions to address pollution impact of the war prepared.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Acceleration program for early innovative ideas implemented (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye); •Advanced innovative ideas tested using demonstration pilot investments (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye); •Regional platform for multi-stakeholder engagement, involving public, private sector and civic society is established (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye); •A critical investment selected; its pre-preparation analyses and assessments concluded (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye); •Stakeholder outreach completed (Georgia, Moldova, T?rkiye, Ukraine); •Preparation of a pilot clean-up completed (Ukraine). 	GET	4,961,000.00	92,704,762.00

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
				Sub Total (\$)	6,089,000.00	131,904,762.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
GET			303,694.00		6,595,238.00	
Sub Total(\$)			303,694.00		6,595,238.00	
Total Project Cost(\$)			6,392,694.00		138,500,000.00	

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(\$)
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	48,000,000.00
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	67,000,000.00
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	22,000,000.00
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	1,500,000.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				138,500,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The project will be co-financed by five Bank TA/lending projects: - Bulgaria RAS - Bulgaria River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plans Preparation Support (P167719, TA, implementation 2018-22, co-financing US\$22 million); - Romania Integrated Nutrient Pollution Control Project (P093775, implementation 2008-23, Loan, co-financing US\$48 million); - Danube Water Program Third Phase: Building a Danube Water Security Platform (P167702, implementation 2019-22, TA, co-financing US\$1.5 million); - Turkey Integrated Landscapes Management Project (P172562, implementation 2021-26, Loan, co-financing US\$118.125 million). The Bulgaria River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plans Preparation Support (P167719) project includes the assessment of the current condition of the surface and ground water in the Danube, the Black Sea, and the East and West Aegean River Basin Districts in Bulgaria, as well as the preparation of the river-based management plans, which will propose measures to improve the status of the country's bodies of water, thus contributing to pollution reduction in the water systems connected to the Black Sea and to greater compliance with related European and National Environmental Legislation requirements. Thus, this is a parallel/synergetic activity to the BBSEA project. The Romania Integrated Nutrient Pollution Control Project (P093775) directly targets nutrient pollution reduction in the water bodies leading to the Danube and Black Sea through integrated land and water management, thus supporting the Government of Romania towards meeting EU Nitrates Directive requirements at a national scale. This way, the Romania project supports the same long-term objectives as the BBSEA project, albeit through a different set of expected direct project results. Thus, this is a parallel/synergetic activity to the BBSEA project. The Danube Water Program Third Phase: Building a Danube Water Security Platform (P167702) program supports institutional capacity building and the development of regulatory and policy instruments in the water supply and wastewater sector in the Danube Region. The higher-level objective of the program is to contribute to improving the efficiency and quality of water supply and wastewater service delivery in the Danube region. This way, the program contributes

to improved water quality/reduced pollution of the water systems leading to the Black Sea, thus supporting the BBSEA objectives. The Turkey Organized Industrial Zones (OIZ) Project (OIZ) (P171645) aims at increased efficiency, environmental sustainability and competitiveness of select OIZs in Turkey. This includes financing the development of advanced water and wastewater treatment facilities, which can be replicated in the BBSEA countries. The BBSEA can showcase this experience during training as innovative WWS solution. The Turkey Integrated Landscapes Management Project (P171645) promotes integrated natural resource management and aims at improved livelihoods and resilient infrastructure services for rural communities in targeted areas of Turkey. The list of activities includes improved agricultural practices leading to reduced water pollution from agriculture. The BBSEA can showcase this experience during training as innovative climate smart approaches in agriculture. In addition, this experience can be replicated in other BBSEA countries. The BSEA might also consider financing a pre-feasibility study for nature-based solutions through its subcomponent 2.2. The BBSEA project will be closely coordinated with the co-financing projects: the project teams will be invited to knowledge sharing events, where specific country experience will be showcased; the events will become part of the knowledge platform. The linkage between the BBSEA and the co-financing projects is in: (i) knowledge exchange and awareness raising and (ii) parallel activities supporting nutrient pollution reduction, either through direct investment in pollution management or through pollution assessments, support to policies incentivizing pollution reduction activities, capacity building to implement such activities, and related institution building. (PAD, page 52-53: Annex 2, Subcomponent 1.2).

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(\$)
World Bank	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	6,392,694	607,306	7,000,000.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					6,392,694.00	607,306.00	7,000,000.00

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 (\$)

182,648

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

17,352

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
World Bank	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	182,648	17,352	200,000.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					182,648.00	17,352.00	200,000.00

Core Indicators

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Indicator 5.1 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)

Type/name of the third-party certification

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

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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Black Sea	4	4		

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)

Indicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial 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)
Black Sea	2	2		

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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Black Sea	1	1		

Indicator 9 Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 9.1 Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)

POPs type	Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.2 Quantity of mercury reduced (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.3 Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.4 Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.5 Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.6 POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.7 Highly Hazardous Pesticides eliminated

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.8 Avoided residual plastic waste

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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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	100,000	3,500		
Male	100,000	6,500		
Total	200000	10000	0	0

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

Part II. Project Justification

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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



2. Stakeholders

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Citizen Engagement. The project has adopted a participatory planning approach for the preparation of the project and its activities including the Eco-Innovation Challenge to ensure local stakeholders' buy-in and commitment. The Citizen Engagement (CE) strategy -to be included in the POM- will inform the participatory planning approach. Participants in the Eco-Innovation Challenge will be able to actively provide feedback about the competition process from the phase of call for proposals through the implementation. A culturally appropriate Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be established

and communicated to stakeholders during project implementation. This GRM will be functional throughout the project duration and will be open to allow citizens to provide unrestricted feedback on any issue pertaining to the Project. An indicator on CE is included in the Project's Results Framework to measure the percentage of the grievances submitted to the GRM established by the project that are addressed following the procedures.

The BSEC Secretariat maintains a website including information on the CMA and on the BBSEA (<http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/Forms/BlueingTheBlackSeaProject>). This webpage contains, among other relevant information, a description of the project, the project's SEP, and documents from both cross-country and country level stakeholder consultations, the latter took place between February 2021 and October 2021. The webpage states that project "aims at tackling marine pollution and catalyzing blue economy investments in the Black Sea region. This way, it will practically help Black Sea riparian countries substantiate their efforts in advancing a vision for a sustainable and better valued Black Sea backed by concrete projects, as stipulated in the 2019 Common Maritime Agenda." The webpage also states that the project is being designed based on "consultations with the respective stakeholder communities (institutional, business, academia and civil society) working on marine pollution on the state of play, pressing issues and priorities related to pollution prevention, reduction and the control in the Black Sea, as well as the opportunities that result in the process."

The summary of the project SEP, which has been shared with the GEF SEC, is as follows. The SEP is aimed at ensuring the engagement of a wide range of stakeholders. The SEP presents: (i) the stakeholder mapping, with the emphasis on project-affected groups and vulnerable groups; (ii) a stakeholder engagement program, aligned with the WB ESS10 and Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines of GEF; and (iii) assigned responsibilities for the SEP implementation throughout the life of the project. The PIU will be responsible for the implementation of the SEP and the project's Grievance Redress Mechanism. The Regional Steering Committee (RSC) and Governing Councils (GC) will have a monitoring role. The PIU will be briefing the RSC, the GC, and the Consultative Committee on stakeholder engagement activities and grievances. The grant project reporting template will have a section for stakeholder engagement and community consultations, where the grantees will be submitting their progress reports. The PIU will publish the stakeholder engagement KPIs and progress updates on project websites monthly/quarterly.

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 beneficiary countries will list all relevant Project stakeholders. An impact-influence grid will be used for mapping the stakeholders. Screening of NGOs, CBOs, chambers/unions, scientific institutions working on agriculture, tourism, shipping, aquaculture, and water management from international / regional, national, and local level will be conducted. Taking into consideration the COVID-19 pandemic, the project will use virtual meetings, online surveys and online focus groups meetings. Grant projects, which may have high interaction frequency with communities and last more than six months, should have at least one Community Liaison Officer who will be responsible for the implementation of

the stakeholder engagement plan and reporting to PIU periodically. BSEC will prepare country specific SEPs before project activities begin. The stakeholders will be selected from the following groups: (i) affected communities (including farmers, fishermen, women headed households, refugees, ethnic minorities); (ii) local NGOs/CBOs (business associations, agricultural cooperatives, aquaculture cooperatives, tourism cooperatives, shipping); (iii) national and local public agencies (environment ministries, agriculture ministries, tourism and shipping agencies, agencies responsible for innovation, technology, SME); (iv) Chamber of commerce and SMEs; (v) regional development agencies; (vi) municipalities; (vii) international organizations (General Fisheries Commission for Mediterranean (GFCM), Black Sea Commission (BCS), BSEC Business Council, EC, UNDP.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

The Project will encourage women's participation in Eco-Innovation Challenge and will dedicate at least one regional round of Challenge to women-led businesses to advance economic opportunities for female entrepreneurs. Targeted measures are envisaged under the project Stakeholder Engagement Plan which are to secure that women are reached out and well represented among the project beneficiaries. The Eco-Innovation Challenge awareness campaigns will reach out to vulnerable groups as well as networks of women and businesswomen. Women entrepreneurs will be given extra attention to ensure their enterprises have proper financial and technical support (training, capacity building activities etc.). To monitor the progress of closing the gender gap in women's access and control of assets, an indicator 'Share of women benefitting from business development services, TA, funding support' has been included in the Results Framework. In addition, the Project will adopt a number of measures and mechanisms to support women's active participation more broadly, including: selection of service providers with proven capacity in working with women; separate sessions with women to ascertain their opinions and needs; preferential access for women to appropriate activities on a demand-

driven basis etc. In addition, gender-disaggregation will be applied in Project M&E and knowledge management systems whenever possible.

The BBSEA's Gender Action Plan (GAP) is intended to fulfill the GEF's Policy on Gender equality (SD/GN/02)[1]¹ as well as the World Bank Group Gender Strategy (FY16-23): Gender Equality, Poverty Reduction, and Inclusive Growth[2]². Both the GEF and the World Bank (WB) recognize the importance of promoting gender equality[3]³ and the empowerment of women. BBSEA will promote a gender-responsive approach, taking into account the particular needs, priorities, power structures, status, and relationships between men and women to address them in the design, implementation, and evaluation of activities. To accomplish this general objective, the BBSEA will: (i) consult with gender experts, local civil society organizations and women groups, to identify key gender issues and empower women to support project success and sustainability; (ii) use participatory methods to provide equal opportunities for women and men to contribute to project design and implementation, including within the Eco-Innovation Challenge; (iii) consider a gender-balanced Project Implementation Unit and use of local gender experts; (iv) define responsibilities for integrating gender aspects into project implementation; and (v) allocate sufficient funds to implement the gender action plan. Specific gender sensitive activities will focus on supporting the following: (i) gender equality in Eco-Innovation Challenge participation; (ii) gender-informed project management; and (iii) gender-disaggregated reporting.

[1] Global Environment Facility. 2017. Guidelines on Gender Equality (SD/GN/02). GEF. http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/Gender_Equality_Guidelines.pdf

[2] World Bank Group. 2015. World Bank Group Gender Strategy (FY16-23): Gender Equality, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth. World Bank, Washington, DC. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/23425>

[3] The state or condition that affords women and men equal enjoyment of human rights, socially valued goods, opportunities and resources.

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;

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women

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 - in particular Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) - lack appropriate support and incentive to adopt clean technologies and practices. Investment in clean technologies and practices by start-ups and SMEs are limited by the lack of technical assistance and innovation support and funding, with a low success rate of projects coming from the Black Sea region in major pan-European innovation competitions . These low levels of investments and of successful start-ups and projects can be explained by a low capacity to prepare viable project proposals in a competitive environment. In other words, innovations and ideas are present, but turning them into viable business ventures is a major hurdle. Furthermore, in some coastal countries, barriers to accessing investment capital for SMEs and innovative projects are due to difficulties in identifying financiers and investors interested in addressing pollution problems, according to the feedback from the national stakeholder consultation webinars carried out in 2021 . Moreover, in the Black Sea region, there is no knowledge platform to match the development challenges to innovative solutions, making it difficult for innovators and SMEs to be easily matched with potential development partners that aim to resolve the same challenges.

The Project will engage with the private sector two activities. First, the Project includes capacity building activities aimed at SMEs, including training of trainers and workshops. Second, one of the main Project activities is ECO innovation challenge, which catalyzes innovation approaches to nutrient pollution reduction by (i) investing in a contest of innovative solutions (including early-stage concepts, proven concepts, technology, business models) and (ii) providing grants for piloting the best solutions. Potential participants will include private sector entities, NGO/CSO, academic institutions, youth groups, women's groups, and private individuals. The contest will be held at national and regional level, with slightly different focus and procedures, both including private sector participants. The regional contest winners will receive a US\$10,000 award each (no piloting will follow), while the top projects in the national contest will be provided with grants in the amount of US\$170,000-US\$250,000. ECO innovation challenge will be held in three project countries: Georgia, Moldova, and Turkey. Chambers of Commerce or relevant business associations will be considered as potential selection committee members for ECO innovation challenge.

5. 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
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.

Environmental Risk Rating Moderate

The Environmental risk is assessed as Moderate. The project is expected result in positive environmental and social impacts in the Black Sea region by providing assessment of national policies and legal frameworks, development of national investment recommendations for pollution reduction and circular economy, strengthened framework for blue economy and enhancing regional dialogue in the Black Sea Basin. Those positive impacts include conservation of aquatic species, improved water use and treated wastewater quality, reduced soil pollution. In the absence of environmental and social measures, the associated adverse impacts could be increased water pollution and reduced water quality, increased deterioration of habitats and respective species and unsustainable use of natural resources.

The investment component of the project includes eco-innovation challenge in combating marine pollution through reduction and/or prevention to mitigate the impact of eutrophication in the Black sea water. The potential impacts associated with such activities (waste generation and management, energy use, noise, dust emissions and occupational health and safety) could be temporary and reversible, low in magnitude and localized which can be easily mitigated through good management practices. Project sub-component 2.2 will support preparation of investments through identification and selection of viable solutions and locations such as pre-feasibility studies, economic and financial analysis which will be prepared in line with ESF requirements. The instruments will consider not only the requirements of the ESSs but also World Bank Group (WBG) General and industry-specific

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines where necessary as well as other international best practices. For this purpose, the borrower has hired one environmental and one social consultant to prepared ESF instruments during project preparation. BSEC will continue to retain at least one environmental and one social specialist in the PIU to ensure that the project is implemented in line with the ESF, during project implementation. The activities foreseen are expected to result in positive environmental impacts on overall and the small scale activities will result in limited adverse environmental impacts. However, the project is rated as moderate due to implementation at four different countries (Turkey, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia) through a regional entity.

Social Risk Rating Moderate

Social risk is assessed as Moderate. Social impacts are expected to be minimal, localized and reversible, since the project activities are designed to generate positive results for maritime pollution reduction and to strengthen policy coordination around Black Sea sustainable management. Reduced marine pollution will have positive social effects on populations in the Black Sea region, whose livelihoods are dependent on the sea. The project will not finance activities which require land acquisition or involuntary resettlement, impact on cultural heritage, nor those involving child and forced labor. These risks and impacts will be part of the exclusion list. Labor and community health and safety risks are anticipated to be moderate, and may include impacts such as dust, noise, temporary traffic disruptions, and occupational health and safety risks associated with small - scale civil/installation works. The project will not finance any large civil works, therefore impacts will be temporary, reversible and easily managed with mitigation measures included in ESMF/LMP and sub-projects E&S documents. Labor influx is not expected to be associated with eco competition - grant funded activities, as it is expected that local workforce, of limited size and footprint, will be engaged in these activities. Sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and sexual harassment (SH) risks are assessed as low. The Project will develop extensive stakeholder engagement program with diverse stakeholders in participating countries, and will rely on participatory approach and active consultation in selection of grant supported activities. While BSEC does not have previous experience with the ESF implementation, the government entities in project participating countries including Turkey, Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova have the experience with implementation of the WB funded projects. During project preparation BSEC enhanced its knowledge of the ESF, and carried out national stakeholders consultations on the project design in Turkey, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

While the project inherent activities will create overall positive social impacts, and have limited and temporary negative impacts, the project is rated Moderate due to complex stakeholder landscape involving diverse social contexts of four beneficiary countries.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS)	CEO Endorsement 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 Framework

**COUNTRY: Europe and Central Asia
Blueing the Black Sea GEF Regional project**

Project Development Objectives(s)

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to strengthen the capacity and preparedness of governments and the private sector in the Project Focus Countries (Georgia, Turkiye, Moldova and Ukraine) to take actions to reduce pollution in the Black Sea.

Project Development Objective Indicators

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_PDO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets	End Target
			1	
Strengthen capacity and preparedness of governments to reduce pollution in the Black Sea				
Strengthened agencies' capacities to reduce or prevent pollution in the Black Sea as a result of the project (Number)		0.00	3.00	6.00
Completed investment preparation activities (pre-feasibility studies etc.) (Number)		0.00		1.00
Strengthen capacity and preparedness of private sector to reduce pollution in Black Sea				
Pilot projects implemented by private entities (Number)		0.00	1.00	3.00
Innovations successfully promoted through the the Eco-Innovation Challenge (Number)		0.00	3.00	6.00

PDO Table SPACE

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_IO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets	End Target
			1	
Component 1: Economic case to Invest in Pollution Prevention and Reduction				
Assessments of the current national policy and legal framework (1x country) (Number)		0.00	1.00	3.00
Draft of national pollution reduction investment recommendations (1x country) (Number)		0.00		3.00
Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation (Number)		0.00		3.00
Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees (Number)		0.00		2.00
Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products to inform the region and national governments about the impact of inaction (Number)		0.00		3.00
Component 2: Green & innovative financing				
Awards granted as a result of the Regional Eco-Innovation Challenge (Number)		0.00	3.00	6.00
Support for nature-based solutions (Number)		0.00	1.00	3.00
Completed investment preparation activities (pre-feasibility studies, etc.) (Number)		0.00		1.00

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_IO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets	End Target
			1	
Stakeholder outreach (events, communication campaigns, news items, blog posts, ad-hoc documents) (Number)		0.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
Percentage of beneficiaries who report that the project has established effective engagement processes (Percentage)		0.00	50.00	70.00
Share of women inclusive enterprises participating in the Eco-innovation challenge (Percentage)		0.00	20.00	30.00
Share of women benefitting from business development services, TA, funding support (Percentage)		0.00	20.00	30.00
Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (Number (Thousand))		0.00		10.00

IO Table SPACE

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).

Responses to the GEF Council comments

	Comments	Answers
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<p>1. Requests for a more detailed project description.</p>	<p>From France: ??the level of detail in the description does not allow for a true understanding of the project content.?</p> <p>From Germany: ?Germany is missing information regarding Part I. B. Indicative Project description summary and the detailed project description (1a under Part II. Project Justification).?</p> <p>From Germany: ?the PID only includes information on sub-components, but not on specific outputs and indicators.?</p>	<p>The updated PAD provides details on the project content, please see component description in the main text and Annex 2 with detailed project description.</p> <p>Both outcomes and outputs are included in the updated GEF Datasheet (Part I. Table B). They can also be found in the Theory of Change in the PAD (section II.D. Results Chain)</p>
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2. A more focused project.

From the USA: ?What sort of investment plans for pollution prevention or reduction could be adopted by countries under circular economy or following a blue economy approach??

From Germany: please provide ?a detailed definition of design criteria and consultation processes for ?preparation of investment plans for pollution prevention and circular economy? and ?preparation of cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms?? for specific countries and sectors.?

Please note that based on the consultations, the project was focused on the most urgent issue of nutrient pollution of the Black Sea, and therefore the circular economy and blue economies approaches became irrelevant to the project.

the project is focused on nutrient pollution reduction from urban wastewater, from farming or from industrial sources. Sectors are diverse which is taken into account by national regulation. National BBSEA Focal points are from the department in charge of nutrient pollution in the respective government and they are in charge of coordination at the national level. At regional level, cross-sectoral coordination is taking place through BSEC and CMA reporting mechanism. BSEC typically engages with Minister of Foreign Affairs. CMA focal points, that are from different Ministries, are also invited at the Steering Committee of the project.

The survey results from the four participating countries have been added to the package (SurveyResultsConsolidated.xlsx). This was defined through national consultations, which involved a survey. This way, country specific preferences were defined and incorporated in project design.

The BBSEA is working closely with the CMA (in fact, is included in the CMA functional structure and is being invited to every CMA meeting), and the BBSEA outcomes adds value - long term - to the CMA agenda. The BBSEA progress is shared with the CMA on a regular basis at stakeholder meetings.

Please see <http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/Forms/Default>, <http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/search/Blueing%20the%20Black%20Sea> <http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/Forms/Default>

Please also see the attached CMA booklet with the agenda and presentations of the CMA Regional Stakeholder Conference of December 10, 2020, where the first Plenary Session was ?CMA: challenges and opportunities for a sustainable and resilient blue economy across the Black Sea? and where the BBSEA is mentioned as follows: ?the GEF has launched in 2020 the Blueing the Black Sea (BBSEA) Program, which serves as an umbrella to foster synergies amongst various national investments projects, trust-funds and partnerships. The long-term program objective is to improve environmental health of the Black Sea and increase social and economic benefits for the population.?

OUR INTERVENTION AREAS FOR THE BLACK SEA

COMMON MARITIME AGENDA

BLUEING THE BLACK SEA PROJECT



BSEC PERMIS hosted a regional stakeholder webinar to initiate consultations on the environmental and social aspects of the "Blueing the Black Sea" (BBSEA) GEF Regional project on 27 October 2021.

The outcome of the webinar will define the area of expertise and knowledge the region would like to share and receive through the envisaged BBSEA regional program and will inform the dialogue with the Governments of the targeted countries in the field of Blue economy.

OUR INTERVENTION AREAS FOR THE BLACK SEA

3. The focus of the policy/capacity development component of the project.	From Germany: please provide a detailed description of specific planned activities for capacity development to strengthen national capacity for monitoring and enforcement of regulations.?	Based on consultations, the policy/capacity development activities of the project are now focused on the assessment of national policies and their alignment with national policies; on supporting the stakeholder dialogue; and on the identification of priority investments in pollution hot spots. Please see the updated PAD, section II.D. Results Chain, paragraph 47.
4. Relation to other WB and partner institution programs.	From Germany: How is this proposed project situated within on-going and co-financed programmes of the World Bank or other partner institutions?.	Please see the updated PAD, section II.E. Rationale for Bank Involvement and Role of Partners, paragraph 51. Also, please see the PAD, section II.F. Lessons Learned and Reflected in the Project Design.
5. Co-financing.	Germany requires clarification of the co-financed amount of 291,430,000 USD as mentioned in the PIF.?	Please see the updated PAD, section II.E. Rationale for Bank Involvement and Role of Partners, paragraph 52, which starts with the words "The Project will benefit from World Bank parallel co-financing?". The paragraph describes all projects that provide co-financing. Also, please see the GEF Datasheet, Part I, Table C. Sources of Confirmed Co-financing.

Responses to comments from the STAP

	Comments	Answers
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1. Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insufficient information to assess if global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits are likely to be generated. - Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes? 	Please see the updated PAD, section I.C Relevance to Higher Level Objectives and section II.D Results Chain. Also, please note that the outcomes are included in the updated GEF Datasheet (Part I. Table B).
2. Theory of Change	Please provide ?A simple narrative explaining the project?s logic, i.e. a theory of change.?	Please see the updated PAD, section II.D. Results Chain.
3. Stakeholder identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PIF notes that environment ministries will be engaged in the steering committee but does not identify other stakeholders. - 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? 	Please see the submitted Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Please see the updated PAD, section II.C. Project Beneficiaries and section III. Implementation arrangements. Please see the GEF Datasheet, Part II.2.
4. Gender plan	Description of gender analysis is preliminary but suggests appropriate areas of focus, including access to infrastructure, investments and services. Should also address gender inclusion in planning and decision-making re investment priorities.	A separate document with the gender plan has been submitted.

5. Lessons learned	Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects? Appropriate linkages identified, but lessons should be identified explicitly.	Please see the updated PAD, section II.F. Lessons Learned.
6. KM indicators	Appropriate knowledge management measures integrated into design. Further specification of anticipated metrics is needed.	Please see the updated PAD, a description of the knowledge exchange activities under Sub-component 1.2 (paragraph 30, second half). Knowledge products and trainings will be posted on the Black Sea Virtual Knowledge Center and disseminated through the IW:LEARN Platform. The IW:Learn platform is in place: http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/Forms/BlueingTheBlackSeaProject/ The next step will be the Acceleration program, which is aimed at a scale-up of the eco-innovation challenge initiative in the project. Resources have been dedicated to the Acceleration program. Please see the updated PAD, a description of the Sub-component 2.1 (paragraph 36).

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: 200,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Project preparation activities included the following: - Development of the design for the Eco-Business competition and modalities of eco-innovation grants for marine pollution reduction in the Black Sea region	40,000	20,000	18,215
- Development of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) - Drafting of the Terms of Reference for the Sectoral Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (SESA)	37,500	37,500	
- Preparation of a Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF) - Preparation of Labor Management Procedures (LMP)	37,500	37,500	

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USD)							Total (USD eq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
		Component 1: Economic case to Invest in Pollution Prevention and Reduction		Component 2: Green & innovative financing		Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
		Subcomponent 1.1: National Policy and Institutional Framework	Subcomponent 1.2: National investment recommendations, knowledge exchange and regional dialogue	Subcomponent 2.1 Eco-Innovation Challenge	Subcomponent 2.2 Investments Preparation					
International and National Consultants	Consultant services for assessment of national policy, legal, and institutional frameworks and their alignment with the regional policies, regulation, and institutional setup.	250,000				250,000			250,000	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

	<p>Facilitation of a dialogue with the line ministries and ministries of finance of the seven project countries and with regional stakeholders to promote discussions and increase knowledge and awareness of the nutrient pollution issues. Identification of the priority investments at pollution hot spots, preparation of the investment concept and roadmap with baseline data, targets and monitoring mechanism.</p>	452,971			452,971			452,971	<p>Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)</p>
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Monitoring and reporting							210,000	210,000	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
Eco-Innovation Challenge : coordination leader, innovation consultant, logistics consultant, communication consultant			1,000,000					1,000,000	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
Consultant services for the preparation of investments through identification and selection of viable solutions and locations.					500,000		500,000	500,000	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

Grants/ sub- grants	Accelerat ion program for early innovativ e ideas			1,000,00 0		1,000 ,000			1,000 ,000	Perma nent Internat ional Secreta riat of Black Sea Econo mic Cooper ation (BSEC)
	Demonstr ation investme nt pilots for proven innovativ e ideas			1,878,82 0		1,878 ,820			1,878 ,820	Perma nent Internat ional Secreta riat of Black Sea Econo mic Cooper ation (BSEC)
Contra ctual Services ? Individ ual and Compa ny	Worksho p for assessme nt of national policy, legal, and institution al framework s and their alignment with the regional policies, regulation , and institution al setup.	70,000				70,00 0			70,00 0	Perma nent Internat ional Secreta riat of Black Sea Econo mic Cooper ation (BSEC)

	Workshops for priority investments at pollution hot spots, preparation of the investment concept and roadmap with baseline data, targets and monitoring mechanism		134,000						134,000	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
	Workshop on the preparation of investments through identification and selection of viable solutions and locations				532,570				532,570	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
PMU Staff costs	Salaries and benefits for all personnel who will be working on the project implementation.							300,657	300,657	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

IW Learn (1%)	IW Learn activities, including production of project experience notes and participation in IW learning conferences	3,000	5,929	39,180	10,430	58,539	2,100	3,037	63,676	Permanent International Secretariat of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
Grand Total		323,000	592,900	3,918,000	1,043,000	5,876,900	212,100*	303,694	6,392,694	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit a 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 Agency 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).