



## **Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project**

### **Part I: Project Information**

#### **Name of Parent Program**

**Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security**

#### **GEF ID**

**9686**

#### **Project Type**

FSP

#### **Type of Trust Fund**

GET

#### **Project Title**

Mediterranean Sea Basin Environment and Climate Regional Support Project

#### **Countries**

Regional, Albania, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon

#### **Agency(ies)**

UNEP

**Other Executing Partner(s):**

UN Environment/MAP

**Executing Partner Type**

GEF Agency

**GEF Focal Area**

Multi Focal Area

**Taxonomy**

Climate Change, Focal Areas, Mainstreaming adaptation, Climate Change Adaptation, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, International Waters, Persistent toxic substances, Pollution, Nutrient pollution from Wastewater, Large Marine Ecosystems, Access to benefits and services, Knowledge Exchange, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Participation, Partnership, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Community Based Organization, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Capacity Development, Targeted Research, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Indicators to measure change, Theory of change, Innovation, Coastal, Freshwater, Aquifer, Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Chemicals and Waste, Mercury, Persistent Organic Pollutants, Climate resilience, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Climate information, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Participation and leadership

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 1

**Duration**

60In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

225,000

**A. Focal Area Strategy Framework and Program**

<b>Objectives/Programs</b>	<b>Focal Area Outcomes</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b>
IW-2_P3	3.1 Improved governance of shared water bodies, including conjunctive management of surface and groundwater through regional institutions and frameworks for cooperation lead to increased environmental and socio-economic benefits.	GET	500,000	1,324,784
IW-2_P4	4.1 Increased water/food/energy/ecosystem security and sharing of benefits on basin/sub-basin scale underpinned by adequate regional legal/institutional frameworks for cooperation.	GET	500,000	1,324,784
IW-3_P5	5.1 Elimination or substantial decrease in frequency and extent of “dead zones” in sizeable part of developing countries’ LMEs.	GET	500,000	1,324,784
IW-3_P6	6.1 Coasts in globally most significant areas protected from further loss and degradation of coastal habitats while protecting and enhancing livelihoods.	GET	500,000	1,324,784
CW-2_P3	3.1 Quantifiable and verifiable tons of POPs eliminated or reduced.	GET	250,000	662,392
CW-2_P4	4.1 Mercury is reduced.	GET	250,000	662,392
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>			<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>6,623,920</b>

## B. Project description summary

### Project Objective

Foster MedProgramme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge, effective portfolio coordination and synergistic interactions among CPs, gender mainstreaming and monitoring progress to impacts.

<b>Project Component</b>	<b>Financing Type</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Project Financing(\$)</b>	<b>Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)</b>
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination	Technical Assistance	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b></p> <p>The increased uptake of the lessons and of the cutting-edge knowledge generated across the portfolio of MedProgramme interventions, and the active participation in IW: LEARN activities, Communities of Practice, and events, improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders, and of the global IW and CW communities, to build climate resilience, reduce pollution from nutrients and persistent toxic substances (POPs and Mercury), sustainably manage coastal freshwater and marine resources, protect biodiversity, and restore coastal ecosystems.</p>	<p><b>Output 1.1:</b></p> <p>Knowledge management platform in place.</p> <p><b>Output 1.2:</b></p> <p>Communication, Outreach and Awareness Raising Products and Activities produced.</p> <p><b>Output 1.3:</b></p> <p>Mechanisms to promote the broader adoption and replication of the successful policies, practices and technologies implemented under the MedProgramme available for stakeholders of the Programme.</p>	GET	1,458,000	3,822,379

<b>Project Component</b>	<b>Financing Type</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Project Financing(\$)</b>	<b>Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)</b>
Component 2: Coordination and Synergies	Technical Assistance	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b></p> <p>The coordination and learning among all Child Projects, consistency with the Programme objectives, and synergies among projects and partners, strengthened</p>	<p><b>Output 2.1:</b></p> <p>Monitoring mechanism of MedProgramme progress to impacts established.</p> <p><b>Output 2.2:</b></p> <p>Mechanisms in place to establish synergistic interactions among Child Projects and with other relevant initiatives and stakeholders, and to take stock of progress and challenges at the MedProgramme level.</p> <p><b>Output 2.3:</b></p> <p>Cooperation and synergy with IW: LEARN.</p>	GET	923,000	1,638,163

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
				<b>Sub Total (\$)</b>	<b>2,381,000</b>	<b>5,460,542</b>
<b>Project Management Cost (PMC)</b>						
				GET	119,000	1,163,378
				<b>Sub Total(\$)</b>	<b>119,000</b>	<b>1,163,378</b>
				<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>6,623,920</b>

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

<b>Sources of Co-financing</b>	<b>Name of Co-financier</b>	<b>Type of Co-financing</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>
GEF Agency	UN Environment/MAP	Grant	600,000
GEF Agency	UN Environment/MAP	In-kind	238,578
Government	Algeria	In-kind	2,160,542
Government	Egypt	In-kind	2,000,000
Government	Lebanon	In-kind	160,800
Government	Libya	In-kind	500,000
Government	Montenegro	In-kind	300,000
Government	Morocco	In-kind	500,000
Government	Tunisia	In-kind	164,000
<b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b>			<b>6,623,920</b>

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

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>NGI</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>
UNEP	GET	Regional	International Waters		No	2,000,000	180,000
UNEP	GET	Regional	Chemicals and Waste	POPs	No	250,000	22,500
UNEP	GET	Regional	Chemicals and Waste	Mercury	No	250,000	22,500
<b>Total Grant Resources(\$)</b>						<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>225,000</b>

**E. Non Grant Instrument**

**NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement**

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Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

**F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)**

**PPG Amount (\$)**

150,000

**PPG Agency Fee (\$)**

13,500

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>NGI</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>
UNEP	GET	Regional	International Waters		No	120,000	10,800
UNEP	GET	Regional	Chemicals and Waste	POPs	No	30,000	2,700
<b>Total Project Costs(\$)</b>						<b>150,000</b>	<b>13,500</b>

**Core Indicators**

**Indicator 7 Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management**

	<b>Number (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at TE)</b>
<b>Shared water Ecosystem</b>		Mediterranean Sea		
<b>Count</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<b>Shared Water Ecosystem</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at TE)</b>
Mediterranean Sea		4		
<b>AF33</b>				

**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)**

<b>Shared Water Ecosystem</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at TE)</b>
Mediterranean Sea		4		
<b>AF33</b>				

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

<b>Shared Water Ecosystem</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at TE)</b>
<b>AF33</b>		1		

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

<b>Shared Water Ecosystem</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Rating (Achieved at TE)</b>
<b>AF33</b>		1		

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

	<b>Number (Expected at PIF)</b>	<b>Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at MTR)</b>	<b>Number (Achieved at TE)</b>
<b>Female</b>		1,100		

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Male</b>		1,100		
<b>Total</b>	0	2200	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

**Note on the corporate result No 5: As a cross-cutting project the Regional Support Project – CP4.1 will not directly result in reductions of POPs or Hg, which will be achieved under the chemicals and waste Child Project 1.1. However, the Regional Support project will indirectly support the achievement of those targets and allow for scaling up beyond the targets in CP 1.1. In terms of the disposal of POPs and mercury, the GIS-based tool to be deployed under this Child Project 4.1 for recording national inventories and assessing and visualizing the environmental impact of the inventoried wastes will directly facilitate decision making and operational planning for the field work to remove the wastes, thereby ensuring that the target of 2000 tons of PCBs and POPs are removed with maximum efficiency. The exchange of best practices planned under the Regional Support Project will also directly result in the scaling up and expansion of the demonstration activities on new POPs and Hg which are planned for only 3 countries under CP 1.1 (target under Indicator 9.4 is ‘3 country pilot demonstration projects on alternatives to new POPs in manufacturing’). The knowledge sharing activities included under the CP 4.1 will allow all the project countries (up to 8 total) to be informed and access the tools to also implement these practices.**

## **PART II: Project JUSTIFICATION**

### **1. Project Description**

#### **Overview of the MedProgramme and context of the Child Project 4.1**

The GEF/UN Environment “Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security” (2019-2024)[1]<sup>1</sup> represents the first GEF programmatic multi-focal area initiative in the Mediterranean Sea aiming to operationalize priority actions to reduce major transboundary environmental stresses in its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. The MedProgramme is implemented in nine beneficiary countries sharing the Mediterranean basin: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia. Its eight Child Projects[2]<sup>2</sup> cut across four different Focal Areas of the Global Environment Facility (International Waters [IW], Biodiversity [BD], Chemicals and Waste [CW], and Climate Change [CC]) and involve a wide spectrum of developmental and societal sectors, ranging from banking institutions, the private sector, governmental and non-governmental bodies, industry, research, media, and various other organizations. It builds on the MedPartnership and ClimVar & ICZM[3]<sup>3</sup> GEF projects which have enriched the knowledge on the Mediterranean environment and unraveled the implications of climate change and variability; strengthened countries’ mutual trust, cooperation and common purpose; consolidated the partnership among countries, UN bodies, civil society organizations, bilateral donors and the European Union (EU); and tested on the ground the feasibility and effectiveness of technical and policy instruments aimed at addressing major present and future threats to environmental sustainability and climate related impacts.

The eight Child Projects (CP) of the MedProgramme (Figure 1 and Table 1 in Annex J1 and J2) are expected to deliver a set of complementary results embracing three categories of priorities identified by the TDA for the Mediterranean Sea which are translated into three components of the programme: i) Reduction of Land-Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots and measuring progress to impacts; ii) Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone; and iii) Protecting Marine Biodiversity.

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[1] GEF Lead Implementing Agency: UN Environment. Other GEF Implementing Agency: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Leading Executing Agency: UN Environment/MAP. Executing partners: UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), European Investment Bank (EIB), Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), IUCN, Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC), Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (Plan Bleu), Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Centre (SCP/RAC).

[2] At the time of its approval in October 2016, the MedProgramme was comprised of seven Child Projects. Subsequently, a Mediterranean climate change adaptation project was developed by UN Environment/MAP for financing through the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). It was agreed by the UN Environment/MAP, UN Environment and the GEF

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Secretariat that this SCCF project would be managed for all intents and purposes as an additional Child Project of the MedProgramme. Hence the reference to eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme.

[3] More info on MedPartnership, ClimVar and ICZM (Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean) projects: <http://www.themedpartnership.org/>, <https://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/2600> and <https://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/3990>.

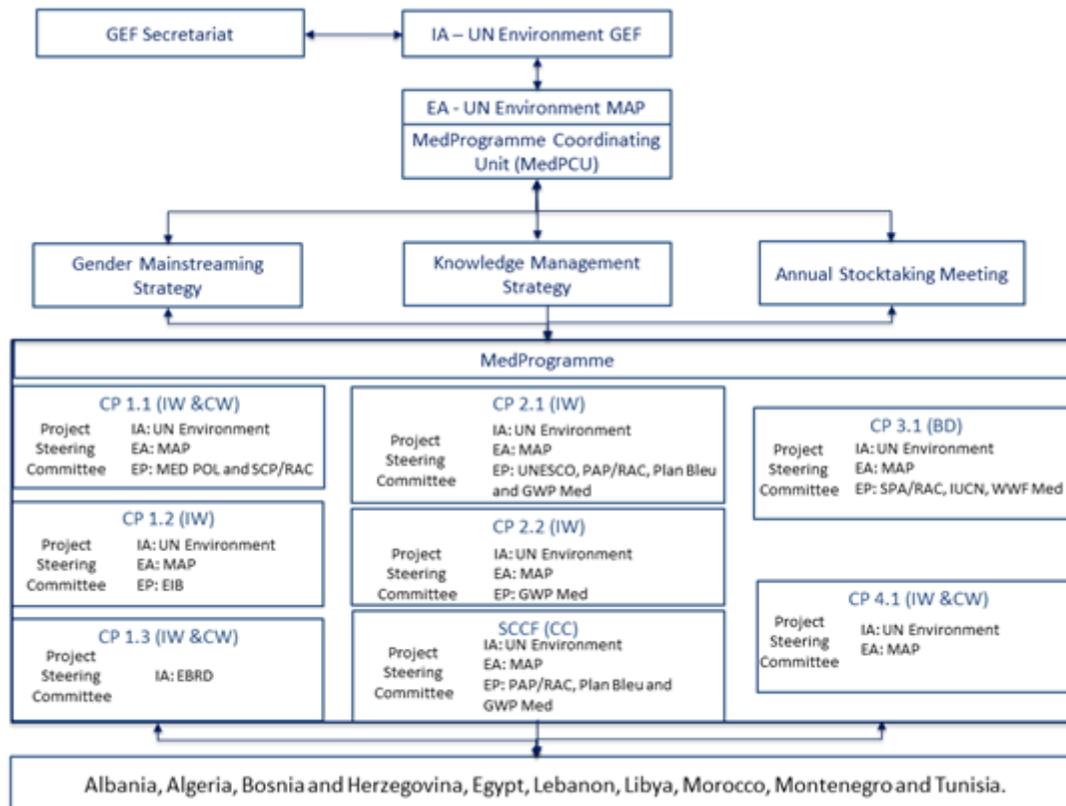


Figure 1 MedProgramme Structure

**Table 1** MedProgramme Components, Child Projects and GEF Focal Areas

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)		
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	GEF Focal Areas
1. Reduction of Land Based Pollution in Priority Coastal Hotspots, and measuring progress to impacts.	1.1 “Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hot Spots and Measuring Progress to Impacts”	IW and CW
	1.2 “Mediterranean Pollution Hot Spots Investment Project”	IW
	1.3 “Mediterranean Sea Finance for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (FINWACC)”	IW and CW
2. Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone.	2.1 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience Water Security and Habitat Protection”	IW
	2.2 “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Food-Energy and Ecosystem NEXUS”	IW
	SCCF “Enhancing regional climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas”	CC

Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme)		
MedProgramme Component	Child Project	GEF Focal Areas
3. Protecting Marine Biodiversity	3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya”	BD
4. Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination	4.1 “Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Environment and Climate Regional Support Project”	IW and CW

The fourth component (Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination) is comprised of Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea LME Environment and Climate Regional Support Project” which plays a key role within the MedProgramme as it “implements mechanisms for Programme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge, monitoring the Programme’s progress to impacts, and fostering synergistic interactions among Child Projects”. Within the GEF programmatic approaches there is a need to ensure programme coherence and impact through coordination among diverse sets of multi-focal area Child Projects contributing to the same programme outcomes. A Support Project functions as a trait d’union (a common link) among Child Projects by providing overall coordination of the programme portfolio, resource-saving services, a robust system to managing knowledge effectively and a sound action plan for gender mainstreaming.

#### Overview of the Child Project 4.1

The current situation of the Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean shows all the signs of progressive deterioration of environmental security. Among them, the loss and degradation of coastal and shallow marine ecosystems and the scarcity of coastal freshwater resources, compounded by the increasing negative impacts of climate variability and change, play an important role in determining social instability and political volatility. The “Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security” is a powerful response to these looming threats. The term “environmental security” used in the title of MedProgramme, captures its overall perspective and goal, which is to address all three major factors impinging on environmental security in the wider Mediterranean region, namely: (i) loss of environmental integrity impacting the lives of present and future generations; (ii) water scarcity and degradation intensifying conflicts at the water nexus and social instability; and (iii) insecurity experienced by individuals and communities as a consequence of climate variability and change.

The MedProgramme adopts the Programmatic Approach funding modality of the GEF, i.e., an overarching vision for change that generates a series of individual yet interlinked projects (Child Projects) under a common objective, and whose anticipated results are more than the sum of its components. This modality has proven uniquely suited to the present advanced state of the policy and legal framework for environmental assets in the Mediterranean Sea LME, since it has provided for the necessary involvement of multiple GEF focal areas, for the leveraging of broader partnerships and funding, and for creating the momentum and critical mass that is expected to sustain countries’ action for the long term.

MedProgramme actions reflect regionally and nationally agreed upon priorities and strategies, address identified Mediterranean hotspots, and will be developed within a framework of effective transboundary cooperation ensured by the UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan [MAP]-Barcelona Convention system<sup>[4]</sup>,

To ensure MedProgramme's (i) coherence and impact through synergistic interactions among diverse sets of multiple focal areas Child Projects contributing to the same program outcomes, and (ii) overall consistency with strategic priorities agreed by Mediterranean countries and with GEF standards, there is the need for effective information flow and exchanges of experience within the MedProgramme and beyond, coordinated implementation of Child Projects, harmonized approaches for monitoring progress to impacts and for incorporating the new global priority of gender equality.

This crucial "glue" (or trait d'union) function will be fulfilled by Child Project 4.1: "Mediterranean Sea LME Environment and Climate Regional Support Project". It is expected that, thanks to the support and synergetic action provided by the Child Project 4.1, the MedProgramme's results will in fact be "more than the sum of its components".

The project, while ensuring coordination and monitoring of all MedProgramme's child projects, will have as main focus increasing the capacity of main stakeholders to address the major environmental problems affecting the Mediterranean coastal areas and shallow marine environments: pollution, impacts of climate change, coastal zone and marine resources degradation.

The project will develop its support function through three main lines of action:

(i) Knowledge Management and Dissemination, aimed at:

- Leveraging and systematically sharing knowledge assets generated by the Child Projects with the intended beneficiaries and audiences;
- Strengthening the science-policy interface (SPI) and influencing decision-making through data and information sharing, capacity building, and regional stakeholder engagement;
- Supporting the objectives of the Barcelona, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions and the work of the UN Environment/MAP through effective stocktaking and scaling up, and broader adoption of MedProgramme's approaches and results;
- Fostering incremental innovation within GEF programmatic approaches and enriching the knowledge base of GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies.

(ii) Coordination and Monitoring, aimed at:

- Strengthening operational coherence, harnessing synergies and pooling resources among Child Projects in order to maximize cost and operational efficiencies;
  - Implementing mechanisms for Programme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge;
  - Monitoring the execution of the activities under the entire Programme to assess the progress to impact;
    - Reporting in a consistent and timely manner to track progress and ensure compliance with financial management requirements across all Child Projects;
  - Identifying in a timely consistent manner, bottlenecks and challenges at programmatic level to tackle them with the programme stakeholders;
  - Ensuring effective and cross-fertilizing interactions among Child Projects.
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(iii) Gender Mainstreaming, aimed at:

- Providing an overarching and harmonized “Gender Mainstreaming Strategy” for the MedProgramme;
- Supporting and building capacity of Child Projects as they implement the Strategy through gender-responsive actions within the specific context of each project;
- Monitoring implementation advancements and consistency, as well as cohesion and complementarity of gender focus across the entire portfolio; and
- Benefitting, over the long term, the UN Environment/MAP system, by serving as an entry point and testing ground for mainstreaming gender in the programme of work of UN Environment/MAP.

The basic assumption of Child Project 4.1 is that all Child Projects, implementing agencies and executing partners, while benefiting from the support received, will in turn actively interact with Child Project 4.1 by contribution to the Programme’s Knowledge Management Strategy through their participation in stocktaking events, dialoguing and systematically contributing with information on progress, milestone achievements and events, environmental data and scientific advances, and issues affecting project implementation. Moreover, by ensuring integrated coordination of the eight (8) Child Projects of the MedProgramme, the Child Project 4.1 will allow for the monitoring and execution of the Programme’s Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

The MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU), established by MAP Secretariat/Coordinating Unit, will be responsible for the execution of Child Project 4.1, providing coordination and management support, implementing the Knowledge Management Strategy, and assisting in the execution of the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy throughout the entire MedProgramme. The MedPCU will be staffed by professionals with management skills and technical knowledge, thus benefiting the whole Programme.

The Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and the decisions of the its Contracting Parties provide the regulatory and policy framework under which the MedProgramme will operate and the MAP Barcelona Convention system will ultimately carry forward the legacy of the outcomes of the MedProgramme’s Child Projects, including its knowledge management mechanisms, approaches and tools. The MAP Components/Regional Activity Centers (RACs) will play a crucial role in sustaining and amplifying these efforts. Moreover, regular reporting to the Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention on the progress made by the MedProgramme will be ensured through the MAP Secretariat.

**1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED:**

The MedPartnership and ClimVar & ICZM GEF projects have enriched the knowledge on the Mediterranean environment and unraveled the implications of climate change and variability; strengthened countries’ mutual trust, cooperation and common purpose; consolidated the partnership among countries, UN bodies, CSOs, bilateral donors and the EU; tested on the ground the feasibility and effectiveness of technical and policy instruments aimed at addressing major present and future threats to environmental sustainability and climate related impacts.

Alongside and thanks to these GEF-funded support actions, UN Environment/MAP, at the request of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, has developed a comprehensive regional policy framework including strategies, plans and guidelines that will serve as guidance for the regional and national efforts in the Mediterranean for the years to come.

The update of the National Action Plans (NAPs) for the implementation of the LBS Protocol of the Barcelona Convention and its Regional Plans in the framework of the Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from land-based activities (SAP-MED) succeeded in creating momentum at local, national and regional levels, with a remarkable level of

involvement and participation of all stakeholders. In each country, national and local authorities, the industrial sector and NGOs discussed priorities, possible actions and opportunities for investment thus making NAPs a realistic initiative.

These remarkable achievements, while not yet bringing about measurable changes in the levels of environmental stress or in degradation trends, have however created the indispensable foundation and the enabling conditions for initiating national actions targeting major causes of marine and coastal transboundary degradation. To confront the challenge of implementation, thereby achieving concrete and lasting results, is the *raison d'être* of MedProgramme.

MedProgramme actions reflect regionally and nationally agreed upon priorities and strategies, and address identified Mediterranean hotspots. They will be developed within a coordinated framework of effective transboundary cooperation, Mediterranean-wide harmonized standards, indicators and monitoring procedures, information flow and exchanges of experience, and with the support of relevant regional bodies and an expanded partnership of agencies and donors.

Within MedProgramme's context, Child Project 4.1 will provide the coordination, dissemination, experience sharing and monitoring mechanisms necessary to assist GEF beneficiary countries of the Mediterranean Basin to rise to this implementation challenge and step up their efforts and commitments, including financial.

## 2) BASELINE SCENARIO

The activities of Child Project 4.1 are devoted to knowledge sharing and dissemination, coordination and synergies, and monitoring of the MedProgramme's progress towards impacts in climate resilience, land-based pollution reduction, coastal resources sustainability, and gender equality. For this reason, the baseline scenario for this support project addresses the state of the environment and monitoring frameworks in the Mediterranean basin; existing knowledge management initiatives and platforms of relevance to the MedProgramme; and current gender trends in the region.

### State of the environment and monitoring frameworks

Since the 2005 Mediterranean Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), the situation in the Mediterranean in terms of transboundary issues in the marine and coastal areas has evolved. In terms of major assessments, in addition to the evaluation of the Barcelona Convention SAPs and NAPs, and the revision of the NAPs on pollution from land-based sources, there have been several key assessments undertaken by the MAP, European Commission (EC), European Environment Agency (EEA) and other partners. These include: the initial integrated assessment of the Mediterranean Sea (2011); The State of the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Environment (2012); the EEA-UN Environment/MAP report on the implementation of H2020 to de-pollute the Mediterranean by 2020 (2014); the MedTrends 2015 Report; and the Mediterranean 2017 Quality Status Report, amongst others. Over 100 technical reports were produced during the lifespan of the MedPartnership project on various issues relating to pollution, MPAs, aquifers, and fisheries. In addition, the EC and others have been financing a sizable number of marine-related research projects in the last decade, with many projects in recent years also attempting to bring together science and policymaking. For example, since 2010, the EC has invested 200 million euros in its Oceans of Tomorrow projects.

A robust monitoring framework for the Mediterranean region has been established by the MAP Barcelona Convention system covering a wide range of thematic areas addressing the state of the Mediterranean environment. The MAP Barcelona Convention system committed to implement Ecosystem Approach through the adoption of a Roadmap in 2008, which led to the adoption of 11 Ecological Objectives, 61 indicators and definition of Good Environmental Status (GES) and targets in 2012 at the COP17 of the Barcelona Convention. This led to the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) for the Mediterranean, which was adopted in 2016 at the Barcelona Convention COP19.

In this context, the challenge is now for countries, to redesign their national monitoring programs in line with IMAP and the 23 common indicators covering also offshore areas. Regarding monitoring of marine pollution, countries will build upon their national monitoring programs and database that has been coordinated in the framework of MAP/MED POL programme since 1999, with agreed parameters and stations in key hotspots and coastal areas. However, due to the innovative features of IMAP few data sets exist for the majority of the common indicators, other than some contaminants, nutrients and chlorophyll data, particularly in the GEF eligible countries of the Mediterranean.

A foundation for monitoring the Mediterranean region's progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals was established in 2016 through the adoption of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016 – 2025, which includes provisions for a monitoring system and a regional dashboard on the implementation of the Strategy. In 2017, this framework was expanded by the definition of a set of indicators for the monitoring of the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean.

In spite of these important developments, there are still some fundamental needs including:

1. Integration of existing national and regional databases, not for the creation of new platforms but to look towards systems of sharing data, and making it publicly available, through for example Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI). Barriers include many national databases that are in the national language and need translation, and the need to establish data agreements among all participating countries, and potentially also a data sharing decision to be adopted by the Barcelona Convention Contracting Parties.
2. Completion of a set of common indicators, including ecosystem approach-based indicators to assess drivers, pressures and responses within a framework for a revised TDA<sup>[5]</sup>. Without a strong and quality assured monitoring program in the Mediterranean coastal areas and offshore waters, it will not be possible to measure the impact and change resulting from the implementation of projects, policy reforms, capacity building and investments, including those proposed under the MedProgramme. The Mediterranean is a complex ecosystem with many pressures, therefore understanding the relationship between pressures and state requires a coherent, coordinated and comparable monitoring systems, indicators of pressures, drivers and response. This has also to be in line with the new Sustainable Development Goals, future assessments, and state of environment reports which are more quantitative rather than qualitative, so as to assess which actions are the most cost-effective and sustainable solutions.

### Knowledge Management

The MedProgramme cuts across four different GEF Focal Areas (Biodiversity, Chemicals and Waste, International Waters and Climate Change), therefore its results will be relevant for many different sectors and activities in the Mediterranean region. A review of the existing initiatives related to knowledge management (KM) in these domains was carried out with the purpose to: 1) avoid unnecessary duplication; 2) replicate and build on successful practices; and 3) establish potential synergies and partnerships. The research included knowledge platforms, databases, initiatives and projects on knowledge/information sharing in the Mediterranean region (or globally when relevant) focusing on pollution reduction, biodiversity, water resources (fresh and marine) and climate change. This research is summarized in detail in the MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy (Annex P).

The result of the baseline analysis is a detailed knowledge map that will be useful during the execution of the Child Project 4.1 and the MedProgramme to:

3. Establish collaborations (for content sharing and use of respective networks to increase impact and dissemination);
-

4. Benefit from existing collected data and technical information, make reference to relevant policy and legal frameworks;
5. Get inspiration from effective data visualization examples and platform designs, and replicate/participate in successful awareness raising campaigns and capacity building activities (see in Figure 2 in Annex J1)the legend of the Knowledge Management Baseline Overview - Relevance for the MedProgramme).

Against this baseline (Figure 3), the MedProgramme will generate new data and develop additional capacity of beneficiary countries to access and use evidence-based information to reduce pollution in marine and freshwater coastal bodies, increase resilience to climate change, improve the governance of water resources, promote the nexus approach and protect biodiversity and ecosystems. It will also endeavor to strengthen the links among knowledge management systems that support GEF interventions in the Mediterranean region, and in particular to promote effective knowledge sharing among the IW and CW focal areas to enhance efforts to manage land-based sources of pollution affecting the Mediterranean Sea.

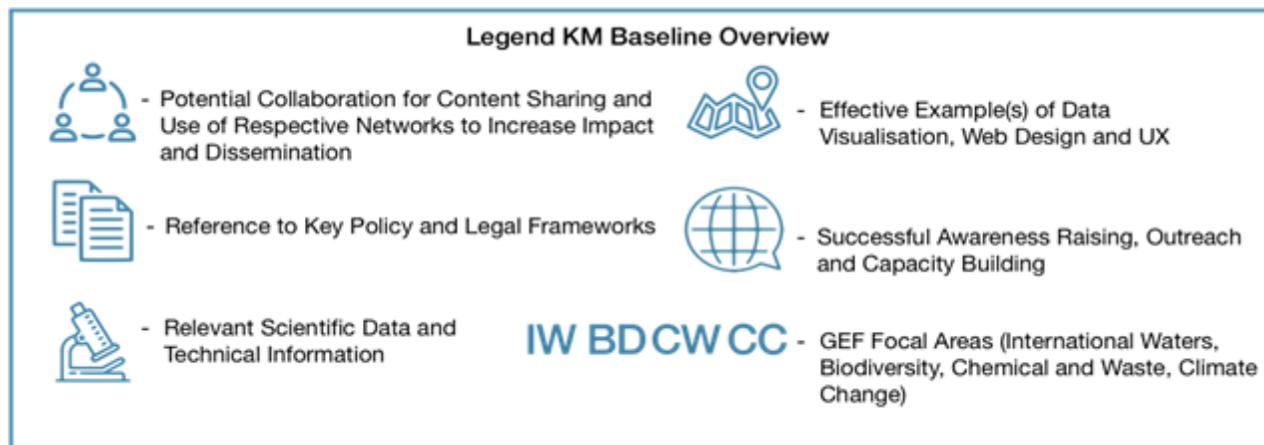


Figure 2 Legend of the knowledge management baseline overview - relevance for the MedProgramme

## Overview of selected knowledge platforms and initiatives relevant for the MedProgramme (2018)

A selection of platforms, databases, initiatives and projects on knowledge - and information - sharing in the Mediterranean region (or globally when relevant) focusing on pollution reduction, biodiversity, water resources and climate change compiled for the purpose of drawing a KM baseline scenario for the GEF/UN Environment "MedProgramme".

Initiative Name and URL	Organizations	Where - When - What	Relevance for MedProgramme
<b>AMAre</b> <a href="https://amare.interreg-med.eu">https://amare.interreg-med.eu</a> <a href="https://bit.ly/2BxKG9J">https://bit.ly/2BxKG9J</a>	<b>Executing Partners:</b> CNR, Interreg Mediterranean  <b>Donors:</b> ERDF, IPA	<b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea  <b>Activity Period:</b> 36 months (ongoing)  <b>Description:</b> The objectives of this project are 1- to develop shared methodologies and geospatial tools for multiple stressors assessment, coordinated environmental monitoring, multi criteria analyses and stakeholders' engagements; 2- to translate these guidelines into concrete pilot actions and coordinated strategies in selected Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to solve hot spots of conflicts affecting marine biodiversity and the services it provides. <b>Geographical Area:</b> Europe	 BD CW
<b>AQUACROSS</b> <a href="http://dataportal.aquacross.eu">http://dataportal.aquacross.eu</a>	<b>Executing Partners:</b> IOC-UNESCO  <b>Donors:</b> EU	<b>Activity Period:</b> 2018 - ongoing  <b>Description:</b> Aquacross Information Platform aims to provide open access to a wide range of resources related to aquatic (freshwater, marine and coastal) ecosystem and biodiversity management at the European level. The primary focus is on data used in the various project Case Studies and Work packages, and resulting maps, model outputs and tools. <b>Geographical Area:</b> Global (particular focus on Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean)	 IW BD
<b>Aquastat</b> <a href="http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/main/index.stm">http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/main/index.stm</a>	FAO	<b>Activity Period:</b> 1994 - ongoing  <b>Description:</b> AQUASTAT started with the aim to contribute to FAO's goals through the collection, analysis and dissemination of information related to water resources, water uses and agricultural water management, with an emphasis on countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. AQUASTAT is FAO's global water information system, developed by the Land and Water Division. It is the most quoted source on global water statistics. We collect, analyze and disseminate data and information by country on water resources, water uses, agricultural water management.	    IW CW CC
<b>Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Joint Clearing House Mechanism</b> <a href="http://synergies.pops.int/Implementation/KnowledgeManagementandOutreach/Clearinghousemechanism/tabid/5382/language/en-US/Default.aspx">http://synergies.pops.int/Implementation/KnowledgeManagementandOutreach/Clearinghousemechanism/tabid/5382/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a>	UN and UN Environment	<b>Geographical Area:</b> Global  <b>Activity Period:</b> 2001 - ongoing  <b>Description:</b> The joint clearing-house mechanism is a multi-stakeholder global system that facilitate the exchange of information and expertise relevant for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. To achieve such an objective the Secretariat has developed, and is continuously enhancing, a global knowledge base made of information and tools, fed and used by all members of the clearing-house community.	   IW CW
<b>Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE)</b> <a href="https://biodiversity.europa.eu/">https://biodiversity.europa.eu/</a>	European Commission, European Environment Agency	<b>Geographical Area:</b> Europe  <b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing  <b>Description:</b> BISE is a single entry point for data and information on biodiversity supporting the implementation of the EU strategy and the Aichi targets in Europe.	    IW BD CW
<b>Blue Med Virtual Knowledge Centre</b> <a href="http://www.blumed-initiative.eu/virtual-knowledge-centre/">http://www.blumed-initiative.eu/virtual-knowledge-centre/</a>	<b>Executing Partners:</b> UIM, EU Commission, EIB, IMO  <b>Donors:</b> EU Commission	<b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Area  <b>Activity Period:</b> 2014 - ongoing  <b>Description:</b> The Digi-gate for Marine and Maritime Knowledge in the Mediterranean, The Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC) was launched with the objective to provide a centralised platform for marine and maritime information and to improve synergies across different initiatives and projects in the Mediterranean region.	   IW
<b>Climate-ADAPT</b> <a href="https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu">https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu</a>	EU Commission, European Environment Agency	<b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - ongoing  <b>Description:</b> Climate-ADAPT aims to support Europe in adapting to climate change. It is an initiative of the European Commission and helps users to access and share data and information on: Expected climate change in Europe; Current and future vulnerability of regions and sectors; EU, national and transnational adaptation strategies and actions; Adaptation case studies and potential adaptation options; Tools that support adaptation planning.	  CC
<b>CONSUME-LESS Consume Less in Mediterranean</b>		<b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Area  <b>Activity Period:</b> 2016 - 2019	

<p>EMODnet</p> <p><a href="http://www.emodnet.eu/">http://www.emodnet.eu/</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> EU Commission DG MARE</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> EU Commission DG MARE</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Europe Marine Environment</p> <p><b>Activity period:</b> 2013 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) consists of more than 160 organisations that together work on assembling, harmonising and making marine data, products and metadata more available to public and private users. The main purpose of EMODnet is to unlock fragmented and hidden marine data resources and to make these available to individuals and organisations (public and private), and to facilitate investment in sustainable coastal and offshore activities through improved access to quality-assured, standardised and harmonised marine data which are interoperable and free of restrictions on use. EMODnet provides access to European marine data across seven discipline-based themes: Bathymetry; Geology; Seabed habitats; Chemistry; Biology; Physics; Human activities. EMODnet motto is 'collect data once and use it many times'.</p>	  		<p>IW BD CW</p>	
<p>Environment LIVE</p> <p><a href="https://environmentlive.unep.org">https://environmentlive.unep.org</a></p>	<p>UN Environment</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Environment Live provides the UN Member States open access to information and knowledge on the environment at the global, regional and national levels. Environment Live is a dynamic on-line platform for sharing contextualized data and knowledge to keep the environment under review.</p>	  		<p>IW BD CW CC</p>	
<p>Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector (EMWIS)</p> <p><a href="http://www.semide.net/">http://www.semide.net/</a> <a href="http://www.emwis.org">http://www.emwis.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UIM, EEA, GWP, WWF, Lebanese Minister of Energy and Water, INBO-MENBO, MED-EUWI, IME, ACWUA, AQUAMADRE, EcoMENA, MEDRC, UNU-INWEH, L'Ambassade de l'Eau</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> EU Commission, EuropeAid Co-operation Office &amp; EC DG Environment, France, Italy and Spain</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 1999 - 2020</p> <p><b>Description:</b> EMWIS is an initiative of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. It provides a strategic tool for exchanging information and knowledge in the water sector between and within the Euro Mediterranean partnership countries. All the countries involved in the Union for the Mediterranean (UIM) are concerned: The 27 EU member states of the EU and the 16 Mediterranean Partner Countries (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey).</p>	  		<p>IW</p>	
<p>European MSP Platform</p> <p><a href="https://www.msp-platform.eu/">https://www.msp-platform.eu/</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> EASME on behalf of DG MARE</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> EU Commission under the EMFF</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Europe</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The European MSP Platform is an information and communication gateway designed to offer support to all EU Member States in their efforts to implement Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) in the years to come. Funded by the EU Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), the European MSP Platform acts as the central exchange forum for the rich knowledge generated in past, current and upcoming MSP processes and projects.</p>	  		<p>IW</p>	
<p>European Ocean Biogeographic Information System – EurOBIS</p> <p><a href="http://www.eurobis.org">http://www.eurobis.org</a></p>	<p>EMODnet, MarBEF, LifeWatch, Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Area</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2004 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> EurOBIS - the European Node of the international Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) - publishes distribution data on marine species, collected within European marine waters or collected by European researchers outside European marine waters. EurOBIS is an online marine biogeographic database compiling data on all living marine creatures. The principle aims of EurOBIS are to centralize the largely scattered biogeographic data on marine species collected by European institutions and to make these data freely available and easily accessible.</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	
<p>FATE and impact of pollutants in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems</p> <p><a href="http://fate.jrc.ec.europa.eu/rational/home.html">http://fate.jrc.ec.europa.eu/rational/home.html</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> EU Commission, JRC, Institute for Environment and Sustainability</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> EU, JRC</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Europe</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2009 - 2015</p> <p><b>Description:</b> FATE is the ensemble name for the pool of activities related to the assessment of fate and impacts of pollutants in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems carried out at the Institute for Environment and Sustainability (IES) of the Joint Research Centre (JRC). Contaminants spread across different environmental media through atmospheric deposition, leaching from soil to groundwater, accumulation in rivers and lakes, and discharge into the sea. FATE addresses the fate and impacts of pollutants across a range of temporal and spatial scales depending on the policy question and making the best use of available data. The results are pollution risk and vulnerability maps, which are very useful to assess the impact of EU policies, raise public awareness and facilitate planning of management scenarios.</p>	 		<p>BD CW</p>	



<p>Geo-referenced information system for coastal aquifers in the Mediterranean (INWEB)</p> <p><a href="http://www.inweb.gr/index.php?option=com_wrapper&amp;view=wrapper&amp;Itemid=220#">http://www.inweb.gr/index.php?option=com_wrapper&amp;view=wrapper&amp;Itemid=220#</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNESCO Chair and Network/International Network of Water-Environment, Centres for the Balkans (INWEB), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> UNESCO</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Area</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2003 - 2015</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The UNESCO Chair/INWEB is a network of academic and non-academic institutions. Each of the ten Balkan member countries has a focal point for its own country's members. Concentrating mainly on transboundary issues, the UNESCO Chair/INWEB promotes a multi-disciplinary approach to water resources management issues, involving scientists, engineers, economists, legal experts and sociologists. It encourages initiatives on water resources management issues from the bottom up, and promotes joint training projects and the sharing of expertise. The objectives of INWEB are to: 1. Establish an open international network of communication and shared expertise in the Balkans and other developing countries to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise in the field of water and the environment; 2. Promote the services to the region of an international body of recognised experts in water and environmental issues; 3. Create and maintain a database on transboundary water and the environment by developing an inventory of existing transboundary monitoring systems for water resources and the environment.</p>	 <p>IW</p>
<p>GODEM - Optimised Management of Waste in the Mediterranean</p> <p><a href="https://ira4dev.cor.europa.eu/portal/EN/coopmonth/Pages/GODEM.aspx">https://ira4dev.cor.europa.eu/portal/EN/coopmonth/Pages/GODEM.aspx</a></p>	<p>EU Commission</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2010 - 2012</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The project is aimed at setting a network for the exchange of information and experiences between European local/regional authorities and institutions of the southern Mediterranean on the sustainable management of waste treatment.</p>	<p>CW</p>
<p>Green Growth Knowledge Platform - GGKP</p> <p><a href="http://www.greengrowthknowledge.org">http://www.greengrowthknowledge.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> GGGI; OECD; World Bank; UNEP.</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> MAWA, Swiss, Netherlands, Germany</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The GGKP is a global community of organisations and experts committed to collaboratively generating, managing and sharing green growth knowledge and data to mobilise a sustainable future.</p>	 <p>CW CC</p>
<p>H2020/SEIS Info system</p> <p><a href="https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south">https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south</a> <a href="https://www.h2020.net/">https://www.h2020.net/</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> EEA, UN Environment MAP</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> EU</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> South Mediterranean (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia)</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2015 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> ENI SEIS II South Project aims to contribute to the reduction of the marine pollution in the Mediterranean by developing a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) supporting the regular production and sharing of quality assessed environmental data, indicators and information.</p>	 <p>IW CW</p>
<p>ICZM Platform</p> <p><a href="http://www.iczmpatform.org">http://www.iczmpatform.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> PAP/RAC</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> MTF</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Area</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2018 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> This interactive space is designed as a multi-disciplinary "bank" of information, documentation and good practices related to ICZM in the Mediterranean (and elsewhere), as well as a place for networking and exchange. This platform provides information on the legal and policy framework, capacity building, awareness raising, data base of projects, library and the resources for networking.</p>	 <p>IW CC</p>
<p>IMAP Info Pilot System</p> <p>(website under development as of 11/2018)</p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UN Environment MAP, InfoRAC</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> UN Environment MAP, EC</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b></p> <p><b>Description:</b> Pilot IMAP compatible Data and Information System, connected to MAP Components' information systems and other relevant regional knowledge platforms, will provide data based on data standards and data dictionaries for ten selected IMAP Common Indicators.</p>	 <p>IW</p>
<p>INSPIRE Knowledge Base</p> <p><a href="https://inspire.ec.europa.eu">https://inspire.ec.europa.eu</a></p>	<p>Member States of the EU</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> EU</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2007 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The INSPIRE Directive aims to create a European Union spatial data infrastructure for the purposes of EU environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. This European Spatial Data Infrastructure will enable the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organisations, facilitate public access to spatial information across Europe and assist in policy-making across boundaries. INSPIRE is based on the infrastructures for spatial information established and operated by the Member States of the European Union. The Directive addresses 34 spatial data themes needed for environmental applications. The Directive came into force on 15 May 2007 and will be implemented in various stages, with full implementation required by 2021.</p>	
<p>INTEGRATED COASTAL WATER MANAGEMENT FOR MED (ICWM)</p> <p><a href="https://business.esa.int/projects/icwm-for-med">https://business.esa.int/projects/icwm-for-med</a></p>	<p>ESA; Planetek</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Tyrrhenian Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2015 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The objective of ICWM for MED is to demonstrate the benefits of a service based on the integration of Earth Observation based products, Satellite Communication and Navigation solutions together with Terrestrial assets and crowdsourcing features, for the set-up of an improved coastal</p>	 <p>IW CW</p>



<p>IW:LEARN (Global Environment Facility's International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network)</p> <p><a href="http://www.iwlearn.net">www.iwlearn.net</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNDP, UN Environment.</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> GEF</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global (GEF IW portfolio)</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2004 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> IW:LEARN is the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network. The IW:LEARN project 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. It promotes learning among project managers, country officials, implementing agencies, and other partners.</p>				IW				
<p>IW:LEARN Groundwater Community of Practice</p> <p><a href="http://groundwatercop.iwlearn.net">http://groundwatercop.iwlearn.net</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNDP, UN Environment (Implementing Agencies); UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (Executing Agency)</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> GEF</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global (GEF IW portfolio)</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The GW CoPs aims to accelerate learning from and within the GEF IW portfolio, and promote replication of good practices in transboundary freshwater management. The CoP acts as a catalytic coalition among GEF IW projects to promote learning that meets project-level priorities. It is designed to build on existing knowledge from inside and outside the GEF portfolio and be responsive to the learning needs of the GEF IW projects. The COP provide an opportunity to build capacity on groundwater resources management and promote the conjunctive management with surface freshwater and marine waters.</p>				IW	BD	CW		
<p>MAMIAS - Marine Mediterranean Invasive Alien Species</p> <p><a href="http://www.mamias.org">http://www.mamias.org</a></p>	<p>UNEP/MAP, RAC/SPA</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The Database includes among Alien species, cryptogenic ones. Tropical Atlantic species, which have expanded their geographic distribution in the Mediterranean, are noted as range expansion, or vagrant. The Database includes also species that have been occasionally reported as alien but were subsequently excluded from lists, along with the reasoning of their exclusion.</p>					BD			
<p>MAPAMED</p> <p><a href="http://www.rac-spa.org/mapamed">http://www.rac-spa.org/mapamed</a></p>	<p>MedPAN and SPA/RAC</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> MAPAMED (Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean) is a GIS database that gathers information on marine protected areas of the Mediterranean, and more generally on sites of interest to the conservation of the marine environment. It is developed and jointly administered by the MedPAN association and SPA/RAC. MAPAMED (i) facilitates the access and the sharing of data on Mediterranean MPAs, (ii) allows the analysis and the evaluation of the status and trends of the MPA network and (iii) identifies ecological and management issues at a supra-MPA scale.</p>				IW	BD			
<p>MapX</p> <p><a href="https://www.mapx.org">https://www.mapx.org</a></p>	<p>UN Environment, World Bank, GRID-Geneva</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> MapX was developed by UN Environment, the World Bank and the Global Resource Information Database (GRID-Geneva) to capitalize on the use of new digital technologies and cloud computing in the sustainable management of natural resources. One of the founding principles was to equalize information held by different stakeholders as a prerequisite to better dialogue, decision making and monitoring. MapX evolved from an initial focus on extractive resources to include a range of different resource types and themes. Of particular relevance for the MedProgramme are the data layers in MapX developed by UN Environment for MapX to support countries in meeting their reporting obligations on mercury use and emissions under the Minamata Convention, and to manage spatial information regarding PCBs and facilitate reporting for the Stockholm Convention.</p>				IW	BD	CW	CC	
<p>Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning EU Network of Excellence - MarBEF</p> <p><a href="http://www.marbef.org">http://www.marbef.org</a></p>	<p>EU</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Europe Marine Environment</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2004 - 2009</p> <p><b>Description:</b> A key task of the MarBEF Network is the integration of different resources related to marine biodiversity. The inventory of these resources can be found on this website. At the moment, this relational database includes information on different European marine biodiversity research sites and European marine biodiversity datasets. The European Register of Marine Species, ERMS and the European node of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System, EurOBIS is also accessible through this website. The terms of use of data are formulated in the MarBEF data policy.</p>				IW	BD			
<p>MED POL Info System</p> <p><a href="http://www.info-rac.org/en/activities/infomap">http://www.info-rac.org/en/activities/infomap</a></p>	<p>UNEP/MAP</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2001 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> MED POL Info System is an online portal that allows Contracting Parties to submit their quality assured data generated from the implementation of the national marine pollution programmes designed in accordance with LBS Protocol.</p>				IW		CW		
<p>MED-3R Euro-Mediterranean Strategic Platform for a Suitable Waste Management - Recycle, Reduce, Reemploy</p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme ENPI CBCMED</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - 2015</p> <p><b>Description:</b> MED-3R sets up an institutional innovation of multi-level governance, implemented on the basis of strategic platform: "The Euro-Mediterranean Strategic Platform for a Suitable Waste</p>							CW	



<p>Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot</p> <p><a href="http://www.birdlife.org/cepf-med/hotspot">http://www.birdlife.org/cepf-med/hotspot</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> CEPF (Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund); Bird's Life; LPO; DOPPS.</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> CEPF (GEF, World Bank, AFD, CI, EU, Japan Gov.)</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2012 - 2022</p> <p><b>Description:</b> During the initial investment, 108 grants were awarded to 84 different organizations in 12 countries. This first investment phase demonstrated that civil society organizations do exist in each hotspot country, and that adequate financial support, combined with technical support, has the potential to build strong constituencies able to tackle conservation issues at the local level. CEPF's second phase of investment will focus on protecting plants, promoting regional networking and preserving three ecosystems—coastal, freshwater and traditionally managed landscapes. CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank.</p>			<p>BD</p> <p>CC</p>
<p>MEDITERRANEAN OBSERVATORY ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p><a href="http://obs.planbleu.org/en/">http://obs.planbleu.org/en/</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> Plan Bleu, UNEP/ MAP</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> MAWA, UN Environment</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Plan Bleu, acting as a Mediterranean Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development, has developed an experience in collecting, managing and disseminating data on Sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean Region. One of Plan Bleu's mission is to provide the Contracting Parties of Barcelona Convention with environmental and sustainable development statistics, indicators and assessments to support their action and decision making process.</p>	  	 <p>IW</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p>Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform (MWKP)</p> <p><a href="http://www.emwis.net/initiatives/MWKP">http://www.emwis.net/initiatives/MWKP</a></p>	<p>International Office for Water (IOWater); Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME); Union for the Mediterranean (UIM)</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> (Phase 1) 2013-2016 - (Phase 2) 2016-2018</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The regional project towards a Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform got the UIM label on 8 April 2014, at the unanimity of 43 countries members of the Union for the Mediterranean. The project has two components: the 1st one, coordinated by the International Office for Water (IOWater), aims at strengthening the National Information Systems on Water in line with the regional approach taken implemented by the Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector (EMWIS); the 2nd one, coordinated by the Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME), is based on the exploitation of data and information on water for the preparation of a Mediterranean White Paper on Water. This White Paper is part of logical showcasing best practices for integrated water resources management.</p>	 	<p>IW</p>	
<p>MEDLEM (MEDiterranean Large Elasmobranchs Monitoring) PROGRAM</p> <p><a href="http://www.arpat.toscana.it/medlem">www.arpat.toscana.it/medlem</a></p>	<p>ARPAT (agenzia regionale per la protezione ambientale della Toscana)</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2002 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> MedLem is a monitoring programme on the captures and sightings of the large cartilaginous fishes occurring in the Mediterranean Sea. A tool for storing and sharing the large shark's data collected in the mediterranean countries. The database is under maintenance: it will be on line again at the end of 2017.</p>			<p>BD</p>
<p>MedOpen</p> <p><a href="http://www.medopen.org">http://www.medopen.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> PAP/RAC</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> UNEP</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Area</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> MedOpen aims at assisting Mediterranean countries in building capacities for coastal management. The training programme has been created to share ideas, knowledge and strategies to forward the art of designing and implementing local, national and regional place-based integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), as well as to enhance a policy dialogue and build / improve capacities on implications of climate variability and change (CV&amp;C) considerations. The MedOpen training is completely free of charge.</p>	 	 <p>IW</p>	
<p>MedPAN - The network of Marine Protected Areas managers in the Mediterranean</p> <p><a href="http://medpan.org">http://medpan.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNEP RAC/SPA, WWF, IUCN</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> EU Commission, UNEP, WWF and others</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2008 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The MedPAN network's mission is to promote, through a partnership approach, the sustainability and operation of a network of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean which are ecologically representative, connected and effectively managed to help reduce the current rate of marine biodiversity loss.</p>	 	<p>IW</p> <p>BD</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p>NBB PRTR</p> <p>(website under development as of 11/2018)</p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UN Environment MAP, InfoRAC</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> UN Environment MAP, EC</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b></p> <p><b>Description:</b> Provides information on pollution load from sectors and activities in accordance with the requirements LBS Protocol of Barcelona Convention</p>	  	<p>IW</p>	<p>CW</p>
<p>OBIS - Ocean Biogeographic Information System</p> <p><a href="http://www.oceanic.org">http://www.oceanic.org</a></p>	<p>IOC-UNESCO, IODE</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 1997 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> OBIS is a global open-access data and information clearing-house on marine biodiversity for science, conservation and sustainable development. Its aim is to build and maintain a global alliance that collaborates with scientific communities to facilitate free and open access to, and application of,</p>	  	<p>IW</p> <p>BD</p>	



<p>Pegaso Project - People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing Sustainable development of Ocean and coast</p> <p><a href="http://pegasosdi.uab.es/">http://pegasosdi.uab.es/</a></p>	<p>Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2010 - 2014</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The main objective of PEGASO is to build on existing capacities and develop common novel approaches to support integrated policies for the coastal, marine and maritime realms of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Basins in ways that are consistent with and relevant to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean. The PEGASO SDI is a distributed sharing infrastructure made up of GeoNodes and with three main components: a map viewer, map services and a spatial catalog.</p>			<p>IW</p>	
<p>Protected Planet</p> <p><a href="https://www.protectedplanet.net/marine">https://www.protectedplanet.net/marine</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNEP-WCMC, IUCN</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> UNEP, IUCN</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2014-ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Protected Planet is the most up to date and complete source of information on protected areas, updated monthly with submissions from governments, non-governmental organizations, landowners and communities. It is managed by the United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre with support from IUCN and its World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA). It is a publicly available online platform where users can discover terrestrial and marine protected areas, access related statistics and download data from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA).</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	
<p>SPACE ALBORAN</p> <p><a href="http://www.iucn-geoportalboran.org/">http://www.iucn-geoportalboran.org/</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> IUCN Center for Mediterranean Cooperation</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> IUCN, EU, MAWA, POCTAFEX</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Alboran sea (Gibraltar strait)</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2007 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The geoportal's aim is to promote governance of the natural resources of the Alboran sea. A space for governance that promotes the exchange of knowledge, participation, management and learning.</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	
<p>Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)</p> <p><a href="http://www.saicm.org/Home/tabid/5410/language/en-US/Default.aspx">http://www.saicm.org/Home/tabid/5410/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a></p>	<p><b>Donors:</b> UN Environment, ICCA, EU + 15 countries</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2006 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> SAICM was developed by a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral Preparatory Committee and supports the achievement of the 2020 goal agreed at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. SAICM overall objective is the achievement of the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle so that by the year 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health.</p>				<p>CW</p>
<p>The Mediterranean Biodiversity Platform</p> <p><a href="http://data.medchm.net/en/">http://data.medchm.net/en/</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> SPA/RAC</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> MAWA Foundation</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Sea</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2017 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The Mediterranean Biodiversity Platform is an online tool to inventory, catalog and store data on marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean, and view them on maps.</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	
<p>The MPA Action Agenda</p> <p><a href="https://www.mpaaction.org/">https://www.mpaaction.org/</a></p>	<p>WWF and partners</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 2014 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The MPA Action Toolkit is an online platform designed for MPA managers and establishers, marine researchers and other MPA advocates. The objective of this online platform is to share knowledge on MPAs and tools that can contribute to MPA advocacy. On this toolkit you find infographics, videos, academic articles, reports and other types of material that can be used for MPA advocacy and relating activities.</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	
<p>The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) Project</p> <p><a href="http://themedpartnership.org">http://themedpartnership.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNEP/MAP</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> GEF, EU, others</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Mediterranean Basin (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey)</p> <p><b>Activity period:</b> 2010 - 2015</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) is a collective effort of leading environmental institutions and organizations together with countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea to address the main environmental challenges that Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems face. The goals include: to improve environmental conditions of pollution and biodiversity hotspots and other priority areas under stress, to promote the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources through integrated approaches, to reduce pollution from land-based sources, to enhance the protection of 'critical' habitats and species, and to integrate climate considerations into national marine and coastal planning.</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	
<p>UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre</p> <p><a href="https://www.unep-wcmc.org/">https://www.unep-wcmc.org/</a></p>	<p>UNEP, WCMC</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) works with scientists and policy makers worldwide to place biodiversity at the heart of environment and development decision-making to enable enlightened choices for people and the planet. Our 100-strong international team are recognised leaders in their field and have unrivalled understanding of the institutional landscape surrounding biodiversity policy and ecosystem management. Based in Cambridge, UK, UNEP-WCMC is a collaboration between UN Environment and the UK charity, WCMC. By working with expert partners worldwide, we draw together, analyse and interpret information on biodiversity, and strengthen the ability of others to do so.</p>			<p>IW BD</p>	

<p>WOCAT - World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies</p> <p><a href="https://www.wocat.net/en/about">https://www.wocat.net/en/about</a></p>	<p>Universitat Bern, SDC, GIZ, CIAT, ICARDA, FAO, ISRIC, ICIMOD</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 1992 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) is a Network that was established in 1992. The WOCAT Network launched efforts to compile, document, evaluate, share, disseminate, and apply sustainable land management (SLM) knowledge. It was far ahead of others in recognizing the vital importance of SLM and the pressing need for corresponding knowledge management. In early 2014, WOCAT's growth and ongoing improvement culminated in its being officially recognized by the UNCCD as the primary recommended database for SLM best practices.</p>	  	 IW	 
<p>World Resource Institute</p> <p><a href="http://www.wri.org">http://www.wri.org</a></p>	<p>WRI</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> 1962 - ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> World Resources Institute (WRI) is a global research organization that spans more than 60 countries. Our more than 700 experts and staff turn big ideas into action at the nexus of environment, economic opportunity and human well-being. We start with data, creating user-friendly information systems, protocols and standards. We conduct independent, unbiased research to analyze relationships and design solutions, and communicate our findings in a compelling manner.</p>	   	 	
<p>World Water Quality Portal</p> <p><a href="http://www.worldwaterquality.org">http://www.worldwaterquality.org</a></p>	<p><b>Executing Partners:</b> UNESCO-IHP, IIWQ (International Initiative on Water Quality), EOMAP</p> <p><b>Donors:</b> UNESCO-IHP</p>	<p><b>Geographical Area:</b> Global</p> <p><b>Activity Period:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>Description:</b> UNESCO, through its International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ) under IHP, has launched the first comprehensive worldwide water quality online portal for freshwater systems, lakes and rivers, retrieved from satellite-based earth observation data, to assist with global water quality assessment and capacity building.</p>	 		

Figure 3 Overview of selected knowledge management platforms and initiatives relevant for the MedProgramme

### Gender mainstreaming

An added synergy that Child Project 4.1 will pursue is the coherence and execution of the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (Annex Q) of the MedProgramme – thus, positively impacting upon the socioeconomic and gender baseline[1] of the region, particularly in the context of environmental security and resilience.

Gender mainstreaming, has been defined as: *the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programs, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs in all political, economic and social spheres so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.*[2] Elaborating upon this definition, the Division for the Advancement of Women on Gender Mainstreaming, added: *gender mainstreaming requires more than a quantitative change in numbers of women and men participating in, or benefiting from, policies and programs. It requires a transformation of all sectoral policies at all levels, and of institutions, organizational practices, attitudes and systems that shape them so that they fully consider the realities, needs, and views of women.*”[3]

Socioeconomic landscapes and gender relations in the Mediterranean region form a kaleidoscope of overlapping social, economic and cultural roles, spread across a diverse multitude of countries and communities. It is important to consider these nuances[4], as they often determine how women and men are able to access and leverage sustainable development opportunities and cope with (build resilience against) environmental degradation; pollution, chemicals and waste hazards; pressures on natural resources, biodiversity and coastal and marine ecosystems; and climate change and related risks.

The beneficiary countries of the MedProgramme display a variety of socioeconomic and gender phenomena – for example, the labor market dynamics<sup>[5]</sup> in the northern Mediterranean countries exhibit a significant gender gap: women’s employment rates (especially for marginalized or minority communities such as the Romas) are lower, along with an existing gender wage gap.

For several countries in the Mediterranean, coupled with barriers to the labor market and employment opportunities, women often face particular forms of institutionalized exclusion from civil society and political spheres. Since economic capital is among the important determinants of coping capacities to external shock, women (and other population subgroups, including ethnic minorities) are more likely to be vulnerable. The ‘double disadvantage’ of the situation should also be reckoned with: due to lack of viable economic capital, vulnerable groups are often excluded from policy negotiation and decision-making – increasing the possibilities of exposure to the threats looming in the Mediterranean region. Further, decision-making power within the household and the polity could be limited by traditional interpretations of gender norms, reducing women’s capacities to engage in the public sphere and gear development opportunities to safeguard their interests.

In recent years, however, women have been capitalizing on opportunities presented by pluralistic interpretations of traditional gender norms, and entering both the work force and the public space. That being said, the gains achieved through social change in this region may not keep pace with the risks and threats arising from the lack of disposal and prevention plans for toxic chemicals and heavy metals, proper management policies for natural resources and preservation planning for biodiversity in the coastal zones, and growing threats of climate change and environmental degradation in the region. Across the region, burdens of emerging risks and shocks is expected, thus, to fall on the vulnerable and susceptible groups.

## 1) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO

### *The Project's Theory of Change*

The design of Child Project 4.1 is expected to produce two primary outcomes:

- (i) Uptake of the lessons and of the cutting-edge knowledge generated across the portfolio of MedProgramme interventions will improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders to build climate resilience, reduce pollution from nutrients and persistent toxic substances, sustainably manage coastal freshwater and marine resources, protect biodiversity, restore coastal ecosystems, and advance gender equality; and
- (ii) Integrated coordination of the Programme and monitoring its advancement will strengthen the effectiveness of all Child Projects, ensure their consistency with the overall MedProgramme objectives and help capture synergies among projects and partners.

These outcomes will be achieved through support activities that will embrace the whole Programme, and revolve around three main pillars:

- Knowledge Management;
- Coordination and Monitoring;
- Gender Mainstreaming.

The *Theory of Change* (Figure 4) recognizes that if countries sharing the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments, all Child Projects of MedProgramme, and the many organizations and bodies with mandates over the Mediterranean Sea remain fully committed and actively contribute to Child Project 4.1; if there is a shared recognition of the need to manage and protect the coastal and marine resources of the region; if regional cooperation continues to provide incentives and support; then, in the medium term, through the activities and outcomes produced by Child Project 4.1 the stress reduction approaches promoted by MedProgramme will more likely be broadly adopted; positive trends in monitoring data produced by the countries will foster commitment to full SAP implementation, and the Barcelona Convention System will enhance its support to SAP implementation. This will also indirectly accelerate the countries' implementation of the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions requirements on management of hazardous chemicals and wastes.

In the long term, full SAP implementation will reverse degradation trends and improve sustainability of coastal environmental resources; Mediterranean countries will be better prepared to face threats from global changes and climatic variability and change; overall environmental security will be enhanced.

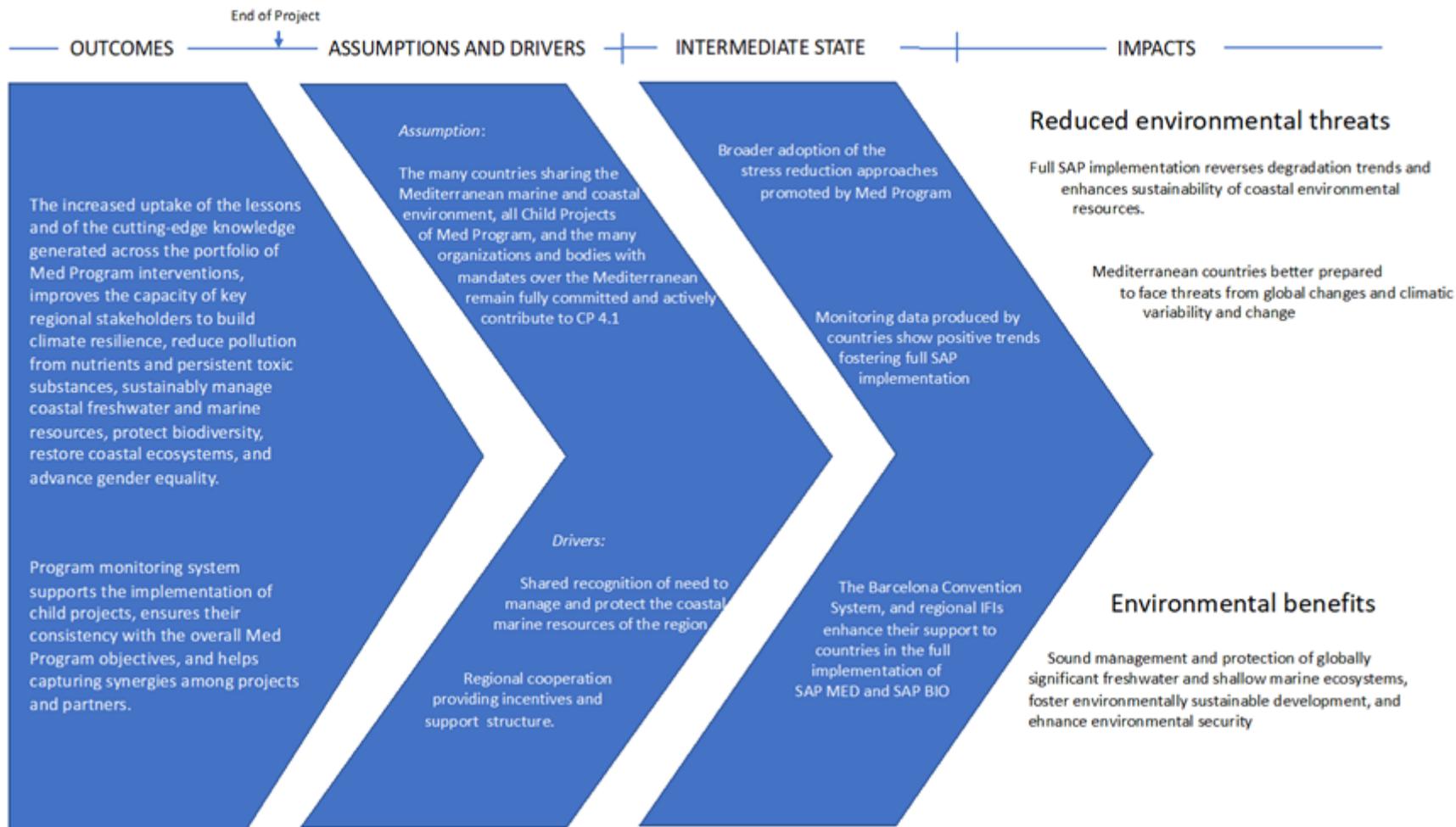


Figure 4 Child Project 4.1 Theory of Change: From outcomes to impacts

Aware of the existing needs/obstacles/barriers analyzed in the baseline and theory of change sections, Child Project 4.1 “Mediterranean Sea LME Environment and Climate Regional Support Project” will aim to significantly improve the situation against the existing baseline. Its objectives are to:

6. Promote innovation across technology and governance to reduce land-based sources of marine pollution, foster ICZM and coastal aquifer management, and protect marine biodiversity;
7. Monitor progress towards impacts within the context of MedProgramme;
8. Provide the overall coherence, coordination and delivery of the MedProgramme as a whole;
9. Increase collaboration in learning and capacity building between the Mediterranean countries and agencies involved in the Programme on best practices to improve environmental security along Mediterranean coasts;
10. Foster gender equality through a harmonized Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

This regional Child Project will complement and support MedProgramme’s mostly national projects and maximize their effectiveness by providing opportunities for south-south learning, fostering cooperation and the use of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) tools and geospatial services, disseminating best practices and peer-reviewed publications and developing portfolio-wide training and communication strategies. It rests upon three pillars: Knowledge Management, Coordination and Monitoring, and Gender Mainstreaming.

#### Knowledge Management

The MedProgramme strives to become a knowledge hub in the Mediterranean region to scale up successful practices, encourage broader adoption, promote knowledge sharing and support the common objectives of the signatories to the Barcelona Convention. This is the *vision* encapsulated in Child Project 4.1 through its supporting functions to all eight Child Project under the MedProgramme. To support this vision a new integrated Programme-wide Knowledge Management Strategy has been developed. The Strategy introduces mechanisms for learning and dissemination of the knowledge produced by the entire Programme. This first pillar of Child Project 4.1 will in particular:

- Ensure the effective management of data and learning among all Child Projects through annual stocktaking meetings and other communication/dissemination means;
- Monitor and disseminate throughout the region and beyond, the Programme’s progress towards impacts in climate resilience, land-based pollution reduction, and coastal resources sustainability, gender equality and empowerment of women;
- Raise regional and global awareness on the Programme and its objectives and accomplishments through the use of effective and modern communication tools; and
- Ensure coordination and synergy with the existing and relevant initiatives ongoing in the region.

The KM Strategy puts in place a framework that will underpin and guide the MedProgramme knowledge-sharing activities and support the achievement of the Programme outcomes, reflecting the complexity of its portfolio while ensuring that its findings are effectively translated, shared and delivered to the intended audiences. The Knowledge Management Strategy is briefly described in section A.8 of this document and provided in full as Annex P.

### Coordination and Monitoring

Coordination and Monitoring is the second pillar of Child Project 4.1, the one that will operationalize the MedProgramme. This pillar will strengthen the operational coherence of the MedProgramme, harness synergies and pool resources among Child Projects. Amongst others, this will support cross-cutting actions such as:

- Implementing mechanisms for Programme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge;
- Monitoring the execution of the activities under the entire Programme to assess the progress to impact;
- Identifying in a consistent manner bottlenecks and challenges at the programmatic level, to timely tackle them with the programme stakeholders; and
- Ensuring effective and cross-fertilizing interactions among Child Projects.

### Gender Mainstreaming

The Gender Mainstreaming Strategy constitutes the third pillar of Child Project 4.1. The Strategy adopts a transformative approach ('the approach of difference or reversal'), positing a gender equality vision for the MedProgramme that questions established categories and implements positive action measures towards gender-responsive actions in the Mediterranean region. In effect, gender mainstreaming is therefore not an end (goal) of the MedProgramme— rather, a means (process) to an end (greater gender equality) among beneficiary countries.

Given the socioeconomic and gender baseline in the region, the Child Project 4.1's proactive, GEF-7 ready gender approach<sup>[6]</sup> is timely and necessary. Child Project 4.1 will not only have a unique role to play in maintaining these organizational (GEF's and UN Environment's) gender priorities (presented above)— being the coordination project, it will also oversee the execution and coherence of the Strategy, across the portfolio. By executing the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, Child Project 4.1 will:

11. Provide tailored action points and cohesive gender focus to the different Child Projects – since the Strategy allows for considerable autonomy for each Child Project to conduct its unique gender assessment and develop a tailored gender action plan, Child Project 4.1 will have a support role – the Gender Specialist(s) that will provide periodic support to the MedPCU (through Child Project 4.1 resource allocation) will have a birdseye view of gender actions in the Programme, ensuring complementarity of regional and national gender actions, in project-specific contexts.

12. Generate pioneering knowledge and information on gender, socioeconomic factors and environmental security in the Mediterranean region – by providing a gender support structure to the pan-MedProgramme portfolio, Child Project 4.1 will also provide a platform for ‘cross-fertilization’ by pooling in gender-relevant research and data (from the different Child Projects) to facilitate Programme-wide learning and exchange in a first-of-its-kind endeavor pertaining to the region.

13. Impact the gender and socioeconomic status quo of the beneficiary countries – by placing gender-responsive activities and gender-aware policy-making at the core of the MedProgramme agenda; and by partaking in as well as furthering the current efforts on gender equality to specifically leverage opportunities for inclusive and accessible environmental and social co-benefits.

The Gender Mainstreaming Strategy is briefly described in section A.4 of this document and provided in full as Annex Q.

#### Objectives and Benefits of the Child Project 4.1

1. Biodiversity focal area (such as: assessments to understand gender-disaggregated biological resource, providing women and other natural resource-dependent groups equal partnership in protection management);
2. Climate Change focal area (such as: incorporating action points to address the different climate risks faced by men, women, boys and girls and providing adaptation alternatives that improve the status quo);
3. Chemicals and Waste focal area (such as: understanding the socioeconomic dynamics that expose men and women to different chemicals, as well as their biological implications),
4. IW focal area (such as: gender assessments and social analysis during project preparation, and differentiated reporting of output indicators and additional measures based on the GEF’s Gender Action Plan.

The objectives of Child Project 4.1 along with its benefits structure and three pillars are presented below in Figures 5 and 6.

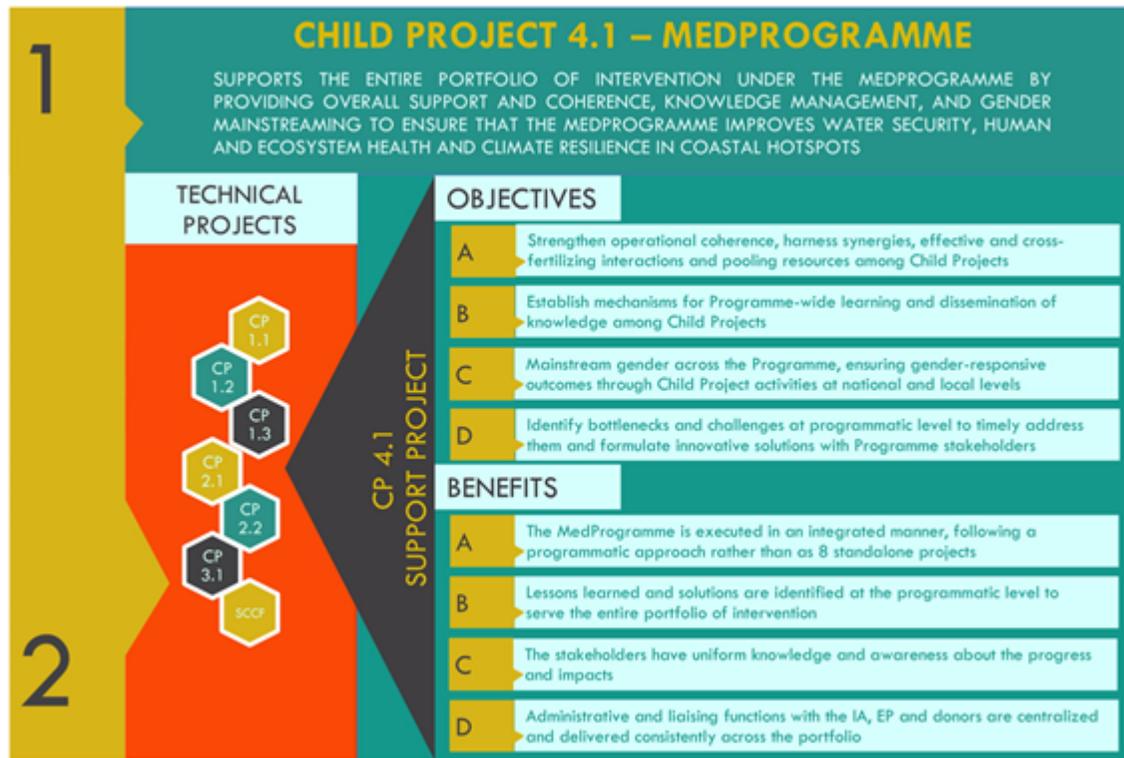


Figure 5 Child Project 4.1 Objectives and Benefits

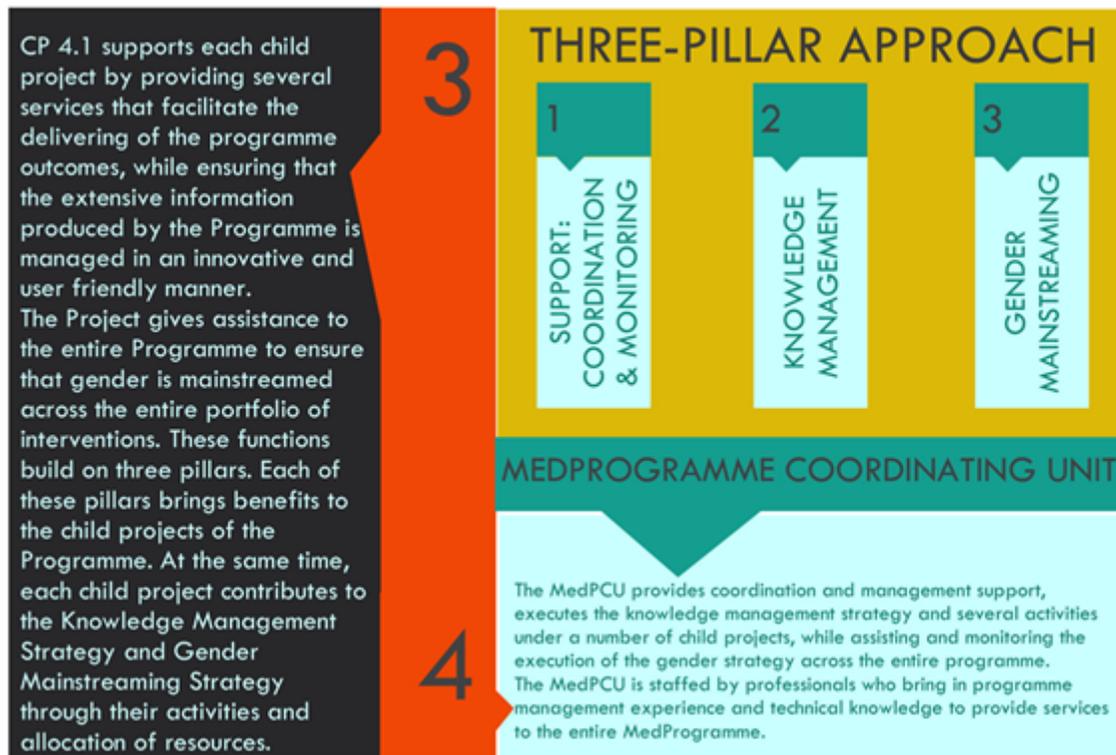


Figure 6 Child Project 4.1: Three pillar approach and coordinating mechanism

The project consists of two Components:

#### Component 1: Knowledge sharing and dissemination

Political attention at the national and regional levels, and active stakeholder participation will be maintained throughout the implementation of the Programme through the development of an effective and innovative information sharing and communication strategy. This Component aims also to improve coordination among the executing agencies and

institutions involved in the Programme and develop a reporting system for all the Child Projects. This will enhance learning uptake and adaptive management of each Child Project and strengthen all of the MedProgramme's interventions.

**Outcome 1: The increased uptake of the lessons and of the cutting-edge knowledge generated across the portfolio of MedProgramme interventions, and the active participation in IW: LEARN activities, Communities of Practice, and events, improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders, and of the global IW and CW communities, to build climate resilience, reduce pollution from nutrients and persistent toxic substances (POPs and Mercury), sustainably manage coastal freshwater and marine resources, protect biodiversity, and restore coastal ecosystems.**

#### **Output 1.1: Knowledge management platform in place**

The engine of the KM Strategy is enshrined in a powerful web-based knowledge hub comprised of a data and information management system (with both public and restricted access) and a combination of visualization tools to serve the portfolio's needs.

The platform will serve as central repository of all the data generated by the eight Child Projects of the MedProgramme and will be designed with a view to the following strategic knowledge management objectives:

14. Facilitate information sharing and promotion of the Programme achievements among the partners and the regional stakeholders.
15. Reflect the indicators of all Child Projects in the establishment of the relevant tools and frameworks, and seek coherence with efforts underway in the GEF's Chemical and Waste Focal Area to create a platform to assist countries in meeting the reporting requirements of the Stockholm and Basel Conventions.
16. Support policy development through its data collection and management tools.
17. Strengthen the science-policy interface, incorporating existing relevant data generated by the countries, with the clear understanding that no data would be disseminated without the permission of its owner.
18. Assist countries in meeting their IMAP reporting requirements.
19. Ensure that the highly valuable legacy of the MedPartnership, which produced a substantial volume of knowledge and information as well as a number of tools and guidelines, lessons, and experiences, is carefully preserved and easily accessible, including translations of key documents.
20. Evolve, over the long term, into a tool of the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention. This process will be initiated during the execution of the MedProgramme and will have to follow several steps over which the Contracting Parties will assess the platform in terms of: 1) its value added for the work of the Convention; 2) the practical implications linked to its support; and 3) eventually will decide if use it systematically as a tool of Barcelona Convention. This decision is ultimately taken by the countries an official meeting of the Convention (i.e. a Conference of the Contracting Parties), or any other decision-making meeting where the countries are represented by nominated officials.

Such an integrated platform should host: 1) a project management tool; 2) a public/outward-facing portal, including sub-webpages for each Child Project; 3) visualization tool(s) to display a digitalized representation of data through GIS and other suitable means; and 4) a database for raw/primary data.

1. ***The project management tool (PMT):*** A multilingual online project management tool (integrated in the KM platform) can respond to the need of supporting efficient project (and programme) management by facilitating communication and information exchange among key actors of the Programme; promote knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer learning; facilitate tracking and monitoring of progress; and meet reporting requirements. A review of options currently available on the market (such as Asana, Freedcamp, Wrike, Slack, Microsoft Project, Basecamp, among others) has been carried out in the preparatory phase of the MedProgramme with a view to inform the selection of the most suitable tool to serve the needs of the portfolio. The final selection and adoption of the tool will occur during the inception phase of Child Project 4.1. This decision-support system employs effective data-mining techniques and can be customized to suit the programme's needs, and project managers (and designated project collaborators) will receive specific training on its use and adoption to ensure portfolio-wide consonance. Key features for such a tool include (but are not limited to): automated reporting, shared calendars, live editing/collaboration on document development, workflow and task monitoring, Gantt-Chart, time tracking, file management and cloud repository, encrypted security, back-ups, integration with email and other products, mobile apps, and role-based access control and discussion boards. The majority of respondents to the online survey on projects needs the idea of utilizing a PMT (and benefitting from ad hoc training). Previous experience from MedPartnership showed limited uptake of a similar tool, however since then these online tools have greatly improved their features and levels of customization, and have been adopted widely to manage complex, multi-partner and multi-lingual projects.
  2. ***The outward-facing MedProgramme portal:*** will be populated with key information showcasing progress towards impact and the contribution of the MedProgramme to global and regional environmental goals. The portal will serve as a gateway for information related to international waters, coastal zones, biodiversity and climate resilience in the Mediterranean Sea basin, bringing together information from GEF and non-GEF projects (for example, results from the MedPartnership project will be made available and possibly re-packaged in new materials) for broad dissemination and cross-fertilization (several platforms identified in the KM baseline can be cross-referenced from the MedProgramme platform to reach out to vaster audience and stakeholders). It will closely dialogue with the GEF's new portal (corporate database for projects, reports, and documentation) and the IW:LEARN website. The MedProgramme portal will feature a highly user-friendly interface including effective search functions, filters (such as drop-down menus) and analytical capabilities. Each Child Project will have dedicated sub-pages about their specific activities. Child Projects are expected to provide regular information (in different multimedia formats) to generate content for their respective project sub-pages and the overall programme portal. The MedPCU will be responsible for curating the information provided and packaging them for the intended audiences.
  3. ***Visualization tools:*** Visualization tools<sup>[7]</sup> will be used to display spatial and non-spatial data (be they quantitative or qualitative) generated by the projects. Data need to be connected, stored and mined in a way that makes them readily available not only to track progress but also to support decision making by the different stakeholders. GIS (geographic
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information systems[8]<sup>8</sup>) will be largely used as well as textual information, photos, story maps, pie charts, graph charts, infographics, map dashboards, trend line charts, among others. Users can build a query based on specific criteria such as geographic area, data layer or specific indicators. Alternatively, users can simply browse for information using the icons provided. There are a number of visualization software tools available both as open source and commercial options. A number of products (with license or open access) could be suitable for integration in the MedProgramme knowledge platform, such as Esri ArcMap and ArcGis, Geonode, QGIS, MapX [9]<sup>9</sup> and Google Earth Outreach[10]<sup>10</sup>. The final selection will be made during the inception phase.

4. **Raw/primary data:** Raw/primary data will be stored in a database with flexible restricted/public access. A shared data model/protocol should be agreed at the beginning of the Programme to ensure that projects will compile relevant data with a standardized approach and enable a harmonized data entry system (the INSPIRE directive[11]<sup>11</sup> could be taken as reference to harmonize the process). Issues related to open data, ownership, quality and review of data will be addressed in this exercise; a mapping of voluntary standards can help to evaluate feasible options. Contributors of data are all stakeholders of the MedProgramme, including the Executing Partners. Child Projects are responsible for producing their own data.

In addition to promoting knowledge sharing among the stakeholders of the MedProgramme, there is also a need to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, information and data between the Programme and other relevant initiatives and processes in the region. These include ongoing GEF as well as non-GEF initiatives such as the H2020 Program and the SEIS II South Project, both financed by the EU. Of particular relevance in this domain is UN Environment/MAP's "Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria" (IMAP) information system. The IMAP system aims to establish a regional pool of socio-economic and environmental data that can be used to produce assessment reports based on a set of commonly agreed indicators to facilitate comparison across the Mediterranean region. The MapX platform on chemicals and waste being developed by UN Environment for POPs and mercury data storage and visualization, including addition of data from both Stockholm Convention NIPs and Minamata Convention NAPs; and upload of detailed waste inventories to facilitate environmental risk mapping and prioritization. Furthermore, there are opportunities to promote knowledge generated by the MedProgramme by linking with other relevant platforms, such as the UN Environment Regional Office for Africa managed Africa Adaptation Knowledge Network online portal, an information sharing portal on ecosystems-based adaptation best practices. Efforts throughout the lifespan of the MedProgramme will be undertaken to link as much as possible the KM platform to existing knowledge which would enrich the execution of the MedProgramme while, at the same time, would also benefit from the information produced by the Programme. A comprehensive listing of existing knowledge management platforms and initiatives of relevance to the MedProgramme is provided in Figure 2 above (Section 2, Baseline scenario).

Care will be taken in the design of the MedProgramme's knowledge management platform to ensure coherence with existing data platforms of the UN Environment/MAP system and other relevant knowledge management platforms, in particular with respect to harmonization of data requirements.

**Output 1.2: Communication, Outreach and Awareness Raising Products and Activities produced.**

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### **MedProgramme identity:**

In terms of visibility, the MedProgramme will be presented in a holistic and coherent way through the development of clear vision statement and positioning, visual identity, logo design, etc. showing consistency and integration across the portfolio. At the same time, each Child Project will be granted individual identities within the overall MedProgramme-branding in order to promote specific activities and benefit from ad hoc services. This will entail the design of consistent logos for each Child Project, creation of sub-websites within the Programme platform, organization of tailor-made trainings, preparation of specific publications, social media services, among others.

The MedPCU will develop a proposal<sup>[12]</sup><sup>12</sup> in close consultation with project teams and, once adopted at the Steering Committee level, Child Projects are expected to use it consistently.

### **Storytelling for advocacy:**

A number of traditional storytelling instruments will be blended with innovative and creative approaches to increase dissemination and advocacy efforts. Particular emphasis will be given to the preparation of high-quality short movies, animations and documentaries, graphic novels<sup>[13]</sup><sup>13</sup>, documentaries, podcasts<sup>[14]</sup><sup>14</sup>/radio programmes, infographics, art exhibitions, digital interactive stories/articles/interviews, professional photos, microblogging, e-books, art exhibits, among others. The MedPCU will collect different multimedia material from the Child Projects necessary to prepare these products. Translations of key communications outputs will be carried out in English, French and Arabic to ensure ample dissemination in the participating countries. Specific translations in other national languages will be sought pending budget constraints and upon due consideration of stakeholders' needs.

### **Social Media:**

Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter are four social media tools suggested for use by the MedProgramme. Development of timely and appropriate content and material to populate these channels is indispensable to achieve the desired impact. Child Projects will be prompted to contribute with relevant and ad-hoc information, pictures, statistics and other data to enrich the social media campaign.

The use of hashtags will be coordinated with the GEF Implementing Agencies (IAs) and Executing Agencies (EAs) and project and country representatives of the Programme in support also of other related initiatives and campaigns.

The registration on the above-mentioned channels (or a selection of them) will take place at the beginning of the Programme and content population will start as soon as data and information from the projects becomes available.

### **Launching/Closing events of the MedProgramme:**

The design and practical details of these events will be planned during the inception phase of the MedProgramme. Considering the staggered initiation timeframes of the different Child Projects, a launching event of the MedProgramme could be organized in the form of a press conference to coincide with the kick-off of the Support Child Project 4.1. Basic communications material about the objectives of the MedProgramme (such as visual identity, slogan, mission statement, description of Child Projects, informative brochure, short promo video, basic online pages, etc.) should be prepared prior to the launching event. Participation to these events will not necessarily be open to the large public, however the information and messages emanating from them will be relevant for a general audience as well.

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### **Knowledge exchanges and capacity building:**

At the portfolio level, the MedPCU will capacitate Child Project teams with knowledge and training that can help them to deliver better project results and achieve greater impact. The identification of topics and modalities of exchange (face-to-face, virtual meetings, Communities of Practice, Expert visits, Study Tours, manuals, among others[15]<sup>15</sup>) will be defined at the beginning of the Programme implementation. Preliminary topics could include:

- 1) Gender mainstreaming and stakeholders' engagement;
- 2) Scientific communication: bridging the gap between scientists/technical practitioners and media specialists;
- 3) Lessons learned from the MedPartnership and the ClimVar and ICZM projects.

It is expected that these knowledge exchanges will further empower project stakeholders, enhance cooperation, strengthen the institutions they represent and ultimately influence policies and norms for better management of natural resources in coastal areas.

At the policy-and decision-making level, efforts will be directed at strengthening the science-policy interface through activities that bring science closer to those responsible for developing policies and taking decisions. These may include workshops to identify innovative solutions to promote collaborations between scientists and governments to foster policies and decisions that promote the shared vision of a sustainable Mediterranean.

Additionally, Child Projects will participate in learning exchanges by twinning with other relevant GEF IW projects as facilitated by the GEF IW:LEARN Project.

Moreover, the MedPCU will support specific capacity building activities foreseen by each Child Project by taking stock and amplifying results through the programme-wide outreach. These may include the development of additional knowledge management and technical tools to build the capacity of Contracting Parties to manage data that can contribute to monitoring the MedProgramme's progress to impacts.

### **Technical reports and scientific publications:**

The MedPCU will ensure that relevant scientific reports and scientific peer-reviewed publications are prepared by the various Child Projects providing technical information about the achievements of the Programme.

### **Engagement with media and testimonials:**

The MedPCU will reach out to a different number of media outlets and journalists with a view to establish long-lasting collaborations. To this end, Child Projects will be asked to liaise with national and local media of the project countries (for instance, by providing the MedPCU with a list of relevant contacts). A series of direct interactions with communications specialists, media experts and social media influencers is foreseen throughout the duration of the Programme to increase mutual understanding and flow of information. The MedPCU will also reach out to renowned personalities from different realms (such as art, sports, entertainment or fashion) to invite them to serve as ambassadors for the Programme and raise awareness about the main environmental challenges (and solutions) in the coastal areas of the Mediterranean. Child Projects will be prompted to suggest names, and facilitate contacts when possible, of suitable and potential "goodwill ambassadors" of relevance in the region.

### **Participation to global campaigns, events and processes:**

Experiences and lessons learned from the MedProgramme will be of relevance for a number of global processes shaping policies related to the sustainable management of natural resources in coastal areas. In turn, global processes are important for the MedProgramme to align with national, regional and global priorities and be receptive to new "waves" (policies, socio-economic trends, tech advances, etc.). MedProgramme activities in this sense will build on existing successful campaigns, for example the "ICZM Mediterranean awareness-raising Strategy (MARS)" and the Mediterranean Coast Day celebrations of the MAP system.

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Contribution to events will take different forms, ranging from physical attendance, production of specific products, content and multimedia material to be packaged in suitable products, among others. Examples of processes and events that could be relevant for the MedProgramme include the conferences devoted to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), Mediterranean-wide policy-dialogues, the UN Environment campaigns against chemical and plastic pollution, the EU Development Days and other key gatherings at the EU level, International Days (such as Environment Day, World Water Day, Health Day, etc.), among others.

Specific guidance on how to concretely contribute (format, frequency, purpose, etc.) to each of the aforementioned activities will be provided during the initial phase of the Programme as a result of targeted consultations carried out by the MedPCU. The full KM Strategy of the MedProgramme is annexed to each Child Project document for transparency and ease of reference.

**Output 1.3: Mechanisms to promote the broader adoption and replication of the successful policies, practices and technologies implemented under the MedProgramme available for stakeholders of the Programme.**

The effectiveness of regional level processes presently in place in the Mediterranean region for the dissemination of best practices, and raising awareness on the results of ongoing efforts, is not adequate to fully capture the opportunities for replication and broader adoption of the policies, practices, technologies, investments in infrastructure, management plans, institutional reforms, etc., that will be developed and implemented through the MedProgramme. To demonstrate how to overcome this obstacle, two highly informative National Replication Atlases – translated in relevant languages, highlighting areas and situations where replication of MedProgramme’s successful interventions should preferentially occur – will be produced to stimulate replication and encourage regional and global dialogue. The MedPCU will lead the participatory process to collect and present the inputs.

## **Component 2: Coordination and synergies**

The Programme’s monitoring system supports the implementation of Child Projects, ensures their consistency with the overall Programme objectives, and helps capture synergies among projects and partners. Political attention at the national and regional levels, and active stakeholder participation is maintained throughout the implementation of the Programme through the development of an effective and innovative communication strategy.

**Outcome 2: The coordination and learning among all Child Projects, consistency with the Programme objectives, and synergies among projects and partners, strengthened.**

**Output 2.1: Monitoring mechanism of MedProgramme progress to impacts established.**

Periodic MedProgramme Bulletins will be published (every six months or on a quarterly basis) together with a regular MedProgramme newsletter<sup>[1]</sup> (whose frequency will be adjusted to number of news, events, achievements to be reported), to showcase progress of the Programme as a whole and of individual Child Projects, including highlights of results, success stories and project events, and relevant global, regional and national relevant meetings and events. It will be one of the primary tools for tracking achievement of targets and milestones for all Child Projects, based upon the corresponding results frameworks. Bulletins will feature a “journalistic” style making the content appealing for a wide range of audiences. Therefore, all Child Projects are expected to contribute to these Bulletins with different types of inputs in order to document their activities and progress, such as high-quality images, articles, statistics, quotes, interviews, footage, among others.

The output will also ensure that reporting across all Child Projects on project technical and financial reporting obligations are coordinated, namely:

*Planning requirements:*

- Annual workplan by quarter;
- Annual budget forecast by component and by quarter (linked to workplan above); and
- Annual procurement plan.

*Reporting requirements*<sup>[16]</sup>:

- Quarterly expenditure reports;
- Quarterly progress reports against the workplan activity plan;
- Annual Project Implementation Review (GEF format); and
- Annual co-finance report.

**Output 2.2: Mechanisms in place to establish synergistic interactions among Child Projects and with other relevant initiatives and stakeholders, and to take stock of progress and challenges at the MedProgramme level.**

The main identified mechanism will consist of the organization of major regional events: the MedProgramme Annual Stocktaking Meetings (ASM).

*The Annual Stocktaking Meetings (ASM)*<sup>[17]</sup> are one of the milestone activities of the MedProgramme. They are major regional events aiming to establish synergistic interactions among Child Projects and with other relevant initiatives and stakeholders, including with all other Mediterranean countries not participating in the MedProgramme.

ASMs hold a two-fold objective: 1) provide a forum for peer-to-peer learning among the Programme portfolio; 2) catalyze regional and global attention on the progress made towards impact in the entire Mediterranean region; and 3) enable adaptive management at the Programme level.

The ASMs will be an occasion for face-to-face knowledge exchanges, south-south and north-south learning, and promotion of the broader adoption of MedProgramme approaches and solutions. Project managers, stakeholders and beneficiaries will have the opportunity to learn from each other, tap into respective tacit knowledge, and at the same time benefit

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from experiences and expertise generated by GEF and non-GEF projects and other relevant experts in different disciplines with diverse backgrounds. Moreover, Child Projects will have the chance to showcase their implementation advancement, discuss problems encountered, and engage with a broad audience of peers and stakeholders. The participation of regional and global media will raise public awareness across the Mediterranean countries and beyond. These knowledge exchanges will further enhance cooperation, strengthen the institutions they represent and ultimately influence policies and norms for better management of natural resources in coastal areas.

The meetings will involve: all Child Projects and representatives of the Governments of the participating countries, the MedProgramme's implementing and executing agencies, the GEF Secretariat and Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE), Convention Secretariats, the UN Environment Global Programme of Action (GPA), as well as major regional and global NGOs, MAP partners, representatives of those Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention not participating in the MedProgramme; bilateral and multi-lateral donors, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), other regional intergovernmental organizations (OSS, etc.), and major private sector coastal area actors, water users, tourism associations and the shipping industry. Following a dedicated stakeholder analysis, other relevant groups will also be invited to participate in these events, including representatives of faith-based leaders, women's organizations, youth organizations, fashion/art/sports groups, and media specialists, amongst others.

The Annual Stocktaking Meetings will also serve as adaptive management strategy tool at the MedProgramme level. Through these major meetings all issues of concern related to changes in political will or instability in the recipient countries will become manifest and allow for timely adaptive management responses at both the specific Child Project and at the Program levels. This critical function of the ASM will be played in advance of the Project Steering Committee in order to prepare working documents and decisions for the deliberation of the countries.

All project partners are expected to attend, and contribute to, the ASMs. They will be organized by the MedPCU in cooperation with all Child Projects and country representatives and will take place on a rotation basis in different locations in the countries participating in the MedProgramme.

The ASM will be chaired by the Coordinator of the Barcelona Convention. Its design, objectives and architecture will be defined during the first year of MedProgramme operation and approved at the Child Project 4.1 Steering Committee level. The first ASM will be held during the second year of MedProgramme operation.

### **Output 2.3: Cooperation and synergy with IW: LEARN**

The results produced by the MedProgramme (hot spots of coastal/marine pollution and habitat degradation, implementing ICZM and nexus planning, conjunctive surface water and groundwater management, protecting coastal groundwater-related ecosystems and coastal/marine biodiversity) will substantially contribute to the GEF knowledge base and to relevant GEF process, events and activities involving the four focal areas of International Waters, Chemicals and Waste, Biodiversity, Climate Change.

The MedProgramme will closely collaborate with the GEF International Waters Learning and Resource Exchange Network (IW:LEARN) Project to facilitate uptake of lessons learned and knowledge exchange from/to the MedProgramme portfolio. Cooperation in the following activities will be particularly addressed:

21. Participation in the GEF International Waters Conferences (landmark biannual events of the IW portfolio). The first MedProgramme contribution is expected for the 10th edition of the IWC in 2020.
22. Production of Experience Notes (short case studies) produced by Child Projects to showcase worthy results and disseminated through IW:LEARN channels and the MedProgramme KM platform.

23. Participation in IW:LEARN Twinnings with other GEF relevant projects and programs.
24. Contribution to IW:LEARN.net with specific content (i.e. data visualization).
25. Contribution to social media, news, events, etc.
26. Participation in GEF Communities of Practice (CoPs) on IW, CW, when relevant.

While there is no single equivalent platform for chemicals and waste (Stockholm and Minamata Convention), this output will also include collaboration and synergy with the main platforms identified in the baseline Knowledge Management mapping, and particularly the Stockholm Convention website and platform, the SAICM knowledge management platform being developed under a SAICM GEF project (GEF ID: 9771), and MapX which is developing tools for the management, visualization and assessment of site-specific data on hazardous waste stockpile locations and quantities.

#### **Output 2.4: Monitoring mechanism to assess progress on gender actions across the MedProgramme in place**

Under this output, a mechanism will be established to ensure a portfolio-wide review and monitoring of gender actions taken by the different Child Projects, in pursuit of the common gender and socioeconomic goals set out in the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy. As the Strategy provides the scope for devolved gender activities, mainstreamed through the particular ambit of each Child Project, having a coordinated monitoring system for tracking gender-related progress to impacts will ensure the overall coordination, implementation and execution of the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

Annual assessments will be undertaken to measure progress on the implementation of the gender action plans developed for the Child Projects, and a final assessment will showcase overall progress achieved towards the advancement of gender equality through the actions of the MedProgramme, and potential strategies for scaling up successful approaches to further promote gender equality in the region.

#### **2) INCREMENTAL COST REASONING, EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE AND CO-FINANCING, AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

Through Child Project 4.1 the GEF TF resources will provide incremental value across a range of project interventions to reduce land-based sources of marine pollution, harmful chemicals and their transboundary impacts, enhance resilience of coastal ecosystem and biodiversity to climatic impacts and human induced degradation, improve knowledge exchanges and management, and foster gender equality. The Project will build on a strong baseline of knowledge platforms, databases, initiatives and projects on knowledge/information sharing in the Mediterranean region. Against this baseline, the MedProgramme will generate new data and develop additional capacity of beneficiary countries to reduce pollution in marine and freshwater coastal bodies, increase resilience to climate change, improve the governance of water resources, promote the nexus approach and protect biodiversity and ecosystems.

The objectives that this Child Project will strive to achieve are incremental with respect to the achievements expected by every single Child Project, as they will focus on expanding the overall impact of the Programme through effective coordination, dissemination and communication mechanisms by:

27. Establishing interconnectivity across countries that are using their GEF STAR allocations for protection of biodiversity, something that would not be achievable through small, isolated projects;
28. Expanding the scale of impacts achieved by individual investments;
29. Promoting monitoring and identification of best practices and results;
30. Communicating the positive results (through the web, media and other means) achieved under the Programme to catalyze rapid changes by all stakeholders and decision makers;
31. Measuring progress to impacts.

**Box 1** Overview of the objectives of the GEF Focal Areas addressed by the MedProgramme

***GLOBAL BENEFITS***

International Waters Focal Area - The goal the International Waters Focal Area is to foster collective management for transboundary water systems and facilitate implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of water dependent ecosystem services.

Chemicals and Waste Focal Area - The goal of the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area is to prevent the exposure of humans and the environment to harmful chemicals and waste of global importance, including POPs, mercury and ozone depleting substances, through a significant reduction in the production, use, consumption and emissions/releases of those chemicals and waste.

Biodiversity Focal Area - The goal of the Biodiversity Focal Area is to maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society. It includes focus on the establishment and effective management of coastal and near shore protected area networks to increase the representation of globally significant marine ecosystems in protected area systems.

Climate Change Focal Area: The goals of the Climate Change Focal Area are to reduce the vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets and natural systems to the adverse effects of climate change; strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective climate change adaptation; and integrate climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes.

**3) INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP**

It is the first time that several GEF focal areas join forces for the implementation of a Strategic Action Program through a coordinated set of full-fledged projects in fostering the implementation of measures for the protection and sustainable use of a major transboundary waterbody such as the Mediterranean Sea LME; thus achieving multiple benefits at the national, regional and global levels, and providing a collective response to regional and global soft and binding international environmental agreements. This pioneering initiative

could lead the way to the systematic adoption of programmatic approaches in IW SAP implementation whenever the consolidation of transboundary cooperation frameworks will allow, and the complexity of the drivers of degradation will require.

Within this innovative context, Child Project 4.1 will play a key and innovative role in ensuring coordination and consistency to MedProgramme's objectives among all Child Projects, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the Programme in achieving stress reduction in the identified hot spots. Moreover, Child Project 4.1 will devote efforts through innovative KM coupled with communication initiatives and events, to foster the broader adoption of MedProgramme's demonstrations in the fields of coastal management, aquifer and groundwater dependent ecosystems protection and management, treated wastewater reuse, watershed rehabilitation, reduction of POPs and nutrients discharges, marine biodiversity protection.

It is expected that the KM platform and tools, together with the experience gained by the Executing Agency in outreach, communication and advocacy, will continue to support the action and the goals of the Barcelona Convention and its Secretariat beyond the life of MedProgramme.

CP4.1 aims to proactively involve key stakeholders such as the private sector to explore opportunities and concrete possibility for investments and generation of processes in parallel with the execution of the MedProgramme and beyond its lifespan. This strategy should allow achieving an impact which is more than the sum of the benefits generated by each Child Project. Moreover, the involvement of the private sector in particular, could make long terms sustainable the actions/activities executed by CP4.1, and more in general by the MedProgramme. For example, banks could decide to get actively involved in supporting coastal plans and resources management plan developed under the MedProgramme, or the insurance sector could develop products to support the efforts of the countries in decreasing the risk of coastal areas against the adverse effects of climate change.

Child Project 4.1 also provides the gender support structure to the MedProgramme portfolio, through the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (see Annex Q). A pioneering approach, this gender focus will kickstart the conversation in the region on the cross-sectional links between gender and the environmental security domain – boiling down to the specifics of chemicals and waste, transboundary water issues (TDA update), pollution hotspots, biodiversity stress, water-food-energy security nexus and climate change. In compliance with GEF and UN Environment gender mainstreaming mandates, Child Project 4.1 represents an innovative approach towards targeting gender inequalities in the region, and will provide an indispensable example to future interventions, as well as an inventory of Mediterranean-specific information and data.

[1] The GEF ID: 9272 Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program newsletter will be used as example for the production of the MedProgramme newsletter.

[7] Data visualization is the presentation of data in a pictorial or graphical format, and a data visualization tool is the software that generates this presentation. Data visualization provides users with intuitive means to interactively explore and analyse data, enabling them to effectively identify interesting patterns, infer correlations and causalities, and supports sense-making activities.

[8] The information about location associated with observation and statistical analysis is called geographic information.

[9] MapX was developed by UN Environment, the World Bank and the Global Resource Information Database (GRID-Geneva) to capitalize on the use of new digital technologies and cloud computing in the sustainable management of natural resources. More info: [www.mapx.org](http://www.mapx.org).

[10] A recent partnership has been established between UN Environment and Google.

[11] The INSPIRE Directive aims to create a European Union spatial data infrastructure for the purposes of EU environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. This European Spatial Data Infrastructure will enable the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organizations, facilitate public

access to spatial information across Europe and assist in policy-making across boundaries. INSPIRE is based on the infrastructures for spatial information established and operated by the Member States of the European Union. The Directive addresses 34 spatial data themes needed for environmental applications. The Directive came into force on 15 May 2007 and will be implemented in various stages, with full implementation required by 2021. More info: <https://inspire.ec.europa.eu>.

[12] In line with both UN Environment and GEF policies on branding and use of logos.

[13] Graphic novel or “graphic journalism” is an increasingly popular literary genre that uses comics and poignant texts to explain complex matters. It is a compelling way of storytelling for scientific dissemination.

[14] A mix of radio and audiobooks, podcasts are a very incisive and entertaining way of sending messages across and inform and spark debate on pressing issues. They are easy to share and can reach a vast and varied audience.

[15] Useful guidance can be found in the following publications: “The Art of Knowledge Exchange. A Results-Focused Planning Guide for the GEF Partnership” 2015 ([https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF\\_WB\\_AoKE\\_English.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF_WB_AoKE_English.pdf)); “Becoming a Knowledge-Sharing Organization” 2016 (<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/306761478498267644/pdf/109809-PUB-Box396311B-PUBLIC-DOCDATE-11-2-16.pdf>); and

[16] Normally this reporting is done on a semi-annual basis, however, the Implementing Agency has requested for these reports to be produced on a quarterly basis during the first year of the MedProgramme’s execution.

[17] The importance of, and need for stocktaking meetings emerged during the execution of the Strategic Partnership for the Danube and Black Sea Basin, the first GEF experiment in multi-project programs.

## **A.2. Child Project?**

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

**A.2. Child Project?** If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

Child Project 4.1 will play a critical role within the framework of MedProgramme. It will support and facilitate the replication and broader adoption of the stress reduction measures – policy, legal and institutional reforms, and investments – implemented through the various Child Projects, disseminate experiences and lessons learned, promote gender mainstreaming, and allow to monitor progress towards the expected impacts.

The MedPartnership project - predecessor of MedProgramme - was the first large scale GEF multi-focal area (IW, CW, BD) co-funded initiative including a particular focus on setting the stage for replication of best practices and successful demonstrations in the field of stress reduction. This innovative thrust of the Partnership on promoting the replication of “stress reduction” practices required a methodological effort in order to define the conceptual framework, and the correct context for broader adoption. The

framework defined by the MedPartnership project targeted the stress reduction practices (technologies, infrastructure, behaviors, approaches, policies, laws, organizational setups, capacity building) being demonstrated and successfully tested in the region through investments by various actors, and/or the pilot demonstrations conducted under MedPartnership itself.

The MedProgramme has adopted the “broader adoption” framework developed by MedPartnership, organized by categories of transboundary concerns (see below), as identified by:

- 32. TDA findings;
- 33. SAP MED and SAP BIO commitments;
- 34. Stockholm Convention NIPs and Minamata MIAs where available;
- 35. National Action Plans of each Mediterranean country;
- 36. GEF IW and CW strategic priorities.

Table 2 MedProgramme interventions by categories of transboundary concerns

Transboundary Concern	Intervention type	Agency
Land Based Pollution – Point Sources - Excess Nutrient	Reduction of Nutrient Discharges from Urban Wastewaters, and TWW reuse	EIB, EBRD
Land Based Pollution – point sources	Depollution of Catchment Areas Treatment of Industrial Emissions and/or Remediation of Former Industrial Areas	EIB, EBRD
Discharges of Persistent Toxic Substances	Disposal of POPs, Reduction of Mercury releases	MED POL, EIB, EBRD

Land Based Pollution (point and non-point sources), Anthropogenic Pressures on Coastal Zones Habitats and Resources, impacts of Climate Variability and Change.	Reduction of non-point source pollution, and improved overall environmental sustainability of coastal areas through the implementation of the coastal areas Integrative Management Framework (IMF)  Preparation of National ICZM strategies and plans  Introducing Coastal Aquifers Management Plans	PAP/RAC, UNESCO IHP, GWP Med
Conflicts among users and uses of coastal resources, considering also future climatic scenarios.	Balancing competing uses of coastal resources through the application of the nexus approach	GWP Med
Conversion of Critical Habitats	Strengthening of MPAs Management	SPA/RAC, IUCN, WWF MedPO

In addition to supporting the implementation of all the above priority stress reduction measures through Child Projects 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.1, the MedProgramme will strive to further expand the adoption of such measures in the region, and to improve the sustainability of the results that will be achieved by the entire Programme, through the Child Project 4.1. This objective will be reached by ensuring that:

37. Experience and knowledge generated through the Programme's Child Projects is fully and systematically shared across Program countries, and the Mediterranean Basin;
38. Effective coordination among MedProgramme agencies and Child Projects is in place, and that the Programme's progress will be monitored and reported throughout the region.

### A.3. Stakeholders

#### **Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.**

Stakeholder participation is an inherent part of the structure of MAP Barcelona Convention system where the 22 Contracting Parties are represented by their respective MAP focal points. Within each country MAP and its RACs have designated focal points that are responsible for the co-ordination of specific actions. In addition, about 100 NGOs and IGOs, MAP partners are participants to the MAP Barcelona convention system meetings.

It should also be stressed that stakeholders participated in the formulation of the TDA-MED, SAP-MED, SAP-BIO and countries NAPs, on which the present Programme is based. In summary, the key stakeholders in the that Child Project 4.1 will strive to involve at national level include:

39. Public Sector: ministries responsible for water resources; environment; spatial and development planning; transport; tourism; fisheries; industry; maritime affairs; health; fire-fighting; community development; education; culture and local government authorities.
40. Private Sector: national and regional organizations representing: farmers; fisher folk; manufacturers/ industrialists; tourism and aquaculture sector; banks; insurances.
41. Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs): national trusts; conservation associations; women's organizations; community-based organizations (CBOs);
42. Scientific community: researchers; sociologists; environmental managers; engineers (water, civil, environmental); environmental economists; biologists; climatologists, geographers, oceanographers; teachers; curriculum specialists; media practitioners;
43. General public such as the entire coastal population of the Mediterranean Basin (in particular those living in identified hotspots and sensitive areas) and the 176 million tourists visiting the Mediterranean annually.

An important guidance for the systematic involvement of relevant stakeholders will be provided by the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 (MSSD), adopted by 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. The MSSD calls among others, for the engagement of the private and finance sectors as key partner, notably in the emerging green and blue economy, not only through corporate social responsibility, but also through more sustainable consumption and production processes. The MedProgramme will work in synergy with the process associated to the MSSD benefitting from its results as well as supporting specific activities related to the involvement of the private sector or any other strategic actors relevant to the objectives of the Programme.

One of the goals of CP4.1 will be to ensure that the private sector, as well as other key stakeholders as identified by the stakeholder analysis that will be developed each Child Project, will be exposed to the experiences gained through other Child Projects, and actively share the lessons learnt that may have Mediterranean-wide implications. The ultimate objective of this process is to engage with these stakeholders to explore opportunities of investments, active involvement and generation of processes in parallel with the execution of the MedProgramme and beyond its lifespan.

At a regional and global level, the stakeholders will be the various signatories to the relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (e.g., Convention on Biological Diversity, Basel Convention, UNFCCC, UNCCD, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention and Minamata Convention), voluntary instruments like the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and all individuals and organizations associated with the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

The Terminal Evaluation of MedPartnership observed that in spite of the wide stakeholder engagement during implementation of the MedPartnership, the involvement of NGOs, private sector, and Mediterranean countries that are not eligible for GEF funding could have been greater. In the execution of the MedProgramme and its Child Projects the Executing Agency (UN Environment/MAP) will foster opportunities to more closely involve NGOs and the private sector in project activities and to engage more closely with non-GEF eligible countries that share the LME. Child Project 4.1 will play an important role in this effort by broadly disseminating information on, and the progress and results of MedProgramme, stimulating all other Child Projects to design and implement effective stakeholder's participation strategies, and promoting involvement in the project's milestone events of relevant NGOs, of the private sector (in particular the tourism industry), and of all non-beneficiary Mediterranean countries.

Regarding specific stakeholders, each Child Project shall undertake its own research and analysis based on the respective project objectives to identify partners, target groups and beneficiaries. This analysis is essential to understand who the different players are, their expectations and interest, their characteristics, commitment and constraints, their

influence over others, etc. The MedProgramme KM Strategy will support the jump-start and continuous engagement of these groups at the programme level with targeted actions and outreach tools.

Opportunities to enlarge the existing partnership of the MedProgramme to increase knowledge sharing, promote broader adoption and reinforce ownership should not only be welcomed, but actively sought. Reaching out to different stakeholders, be they individuals, organizations or companies, and engage them directly in some of the MedProgramme activities will produce a series of distinct advantages:

44. It will contribute to transformational change: groups that are likely to evade the radar of “usual suspects” mapping (intended as classic stakeholders for environmental projects) will be intentionally targeted, moving away from the old-fashioned top-down view of passive beneficiaries of knowledge to a new vision in which conscious citizens are regarded as source of knowledge and potential allies in the strive against environmental degradation; for example, a collaboration with Faith-Based Organizations to prepare a workshop or joint statements disseminated through their networks would tremendously increase the chances to inform and influence a large portion of general public that is not reached by traditional channels; or a partnership with a fashion magazine to sensitize readers about sustainable business in coastal areas;

45. It will facilitate a faster achievement of the Programme results: for example, a partnership with tourism institutions in the different participating countries could accelerate the adoption of more sustainable touristic habits to reduce pollution load into water bodies and increase the acceptance and reuse of treated freshwater for human consumption;

46. It will raise the profile of the GEF investments in the Mediterranean and of the countries and partners participating to the effort. A partnership with National Geographic for instance, or with national TVs and radio stations, could enhance the dissemination of knowledge and results generated by the MedProgramme as well as by related initiatives and policy-frameworks, like the Barcelona Convention;

47. It will further stimulate a sense of ownership and contribute to the sustainability of Programme results: making tight connections for example with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina to host a permanent or temporary exhibition about the MedProgramme, which could then travel around museums of the entire Mediterranean basin (starting with participating countries), could ensure that the legacy of the MedProgramme will continue to inspire people even after the program closure.

48. It will give additional means to further expand Programme activities: by adding ad hoc co-financing (in-cash or in-kind) to produce, for example, a publication or a short movie for the general public, the MedProgramme could gain positive returns in terms of resources and prestige. Bringing together renown artists in the region and a business organization to jointly produce a graphic novel on the MedProgramme, for instance, could be rewarding under many aspects.

The MedProgramme holds the possibility to create a fertile hub for different partners to come together and share experiences and solutions to common challenges related to environmental degradation and pollution of freshwater/marine waters in the region. The private sector is a prime stakeholder in this effort and should be always engaged to cross-fertilize MedProgramme’s interventions. As emphasized in the GEF 2020 strategy: “Coordination failures abound in environmental management, in part because of the prevalence of “tragedy of the commons” issues. Moreover, the complexity of environmental challenges requires that actions be taken simultaneously by many different stakeholders to be effective. Partnerships with the private sector, civil society, research groups, and indigenous and local communities are vital in this regard.”

The MedProgramme was born under the auspices of the GEF 6 Replenishment and fully embraces the integrated approach that is further strengthened in the GEF 7 Programmatic directions. The importance of tightening relations with the private sector is again stressed in the GEF 2020 strategy: “The IAPs (Integrated Approach Pilots) will give special attention to engaging the private sector and improving evidence-based design and implementation to enhance learning and the effectiveness of the IAP interventions.”

Furthermore, in strengthening collaboration with a vast and diverse, yet relevant, groups of stakeholders, the MedProgramme’s Child Project 4.1 will contribute to the vision encapsulated in the Sustainable Development Goal 17: “A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the center, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level.”

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[1] *As per the GEF-6 Corporate Results Framework in the GEF Programming Directions and GEF-6 Gender Core Indicators in the Gender Equality Action Plan, provide information on these specific indicators on stakeholders (including civil society organization and indigenous peoples) and gender.*

## Documents

Title	Submitted
<b>Annex S - Reports of the stakeholder consultations for CP4</b>	
<b>Annex R Complete list of Stakeholders for CP4</b>	
<b>Annex R Complete list of Stakeholders for CP4</b>	

**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.**

Typology	Stakeholder	Role/ responsibility in project execution
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**Project partners (Child Projects of the MedProgramme).**

**Child Project 1.1**

- UN Environment Chemicals and Health Branch (Geneva)
- MED POL (Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the Mediterranean)
- Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC)
- Plan Bleu
- UN Environment/MAP

**Child Project 1.2**

- European Investment Bank (EIB)
- MED POL
- UN Environment/MAP

**Child Project 1.3**

- European Bank for Reconstruction and Redevelopment (EBRD)
- UN Environment/MAP

**Child Project 2.1**

- Priority Actions Programme/Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)
- Plan Bleu
- Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med)
- International Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO-IHP)
- UN Environment/MAP

**SCCF Project**

- Priority Actions Programme/Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)
- Plan Bleu

Child projects are both the beneficiaries and main actors of the Knowledge Management and gender mainstreaming Strategy that will be implemented by CP 4.1.

During the design phase, the stakeholders under each Child Project contributed to the definition of the 2 strategies by providing inputs to define the needs in terms of KM and Gender mainstreaming. For the latter, these contributions were used to develop specific gender action plans for each Child project.

During the execution of the Child Project 4.1 and the MedProgramme, the stakeholders under each Child Project by executing their specific activities will produce knowledge which will be collected, analyzed and processed by the KM strategy of Child Project 4.1. This will result into an increase uptake of the lessons learned by each specific stakeholder which will share this knowledge with the other child projects and their actors.

Moreover Child Project 4.1 will also provide support and guidance the stakeholders under each Child Project for the execution of the specific gender action plans. This will be also monitored by Child Project 4.1 to assess the progress made by each Child Project.

**Contracting Parties (CPs) of the Barcelona Convention participating in the MedProgramme**

- Albania (Ministry of Tourism and Environment)
- Algeria (Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina (Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations)
- Egypt (Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency)
- Lebanon (Ministry of Environment)
- Libya (Environment General Authority)
- Montenegro (Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism)
- Morocco (Secretariat of State in Charge of Sustainable Development)
- Tunisia (Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment)

During the design phase, the CPs contributed to the definition of the 2 strategies by proving inputs to define the needs in terms of KM and Gender mainstreaming.

During the execution of the Child Project 4.1 and the MedProgramme, the CPs will act as child project 4.1 ambassadors disseminating MedProgramme's achievements in their countries increasing the impact of the Programme.

**National stakeholders in the participating countries**

- Public Sector: ministries responsible for water resources; environment; spatial and development planning; transport; tourism; fisheries; industry; maritime affairs; health; fire-fighting; community development; education; culture and local government authorities.
- Private Sector: national and regional organizations representing: farmers; fisher folk; manufacturers/industrialists; tourism and aquaculture sector; banks; insurances.
- Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs): national trusts; conservation associations; women's organizations; community-based organizations (CBOs).
- Scientific community: researchers; sociologists; environmental managers; engineers (water, civil, environmental); environmental economists; biologists; climatologists, geographers, oceanographers; teachers; curriculum specialists; media practitioners.
- General public such as the entire coastal population of the Mediterranean Basin (in particular those living in identified hotspots and sensitive areas) and the 176 million tourists visiting the Mediterranean annually.
- Media outlets including newsprint, radio, television and online publications.

Based on each country's stakeholder analysis developed by each Child Project, the Child Project 4.1 will ensure that key national stakeholders will be exposed to the experiences gained through other Child Projects, and actively share the lessons learnt that may have Mediterranean-wide implications.

<b>Other Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Croatia</li> <li>· Cyprus</li> <li>· the European Community</li> <li>· France</li> <li>· Greece</li> <li>· Israel</li> <li>· Italy</li> <li>· Malta</li> <li>· Monaco</li> <li>· Slovenia</li> <li>· Spain</li> <li>· Syria</li> <li>· Turkey</li> </ul>	<p>Non-beneficiary Mediterranean littoral countries will be kept informed of MedProgramme related developments and invited to participate to the ASMs. This will allow a wider dissemination of the results achieved by the Programme as well as stimulate the dialogue among the Contracting Parties.</p>
<b>Regional and international organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· UN Environment Global Programme of Action (GPA)</li> <li>· Union for the Mediterranean</li> </ul>	<p>Both the UfM and the GPA share the same objectives of MedProgramme and have contributed/inspired to its conceptual design:</p> <p>During Child Project 4.1 execution they will be vehicles for fostering replication in the region and beyond.</p>
<b>Financial institutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Bilateral and multi-lateral donors</li> <li>· International Financial Institutions (IFIs)</li> </ul>	<p>These key stakeholders, some of which have contributed to the design of MedProgramme and of Child Project 4.1, will be targets of the KM strategy, and important actors of and contributors to the ASMs.</p>

<b>Secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Basel Convention</li> <li>· Convention on Biological Diversity</li> <li>· Minamata Convention</li> <li>· Rotterdam Convention</li> <li>· Stockholm Convention</li> <li>· UNCCD</li> <li>· UNFCCC.</li> </ul>	<p>All major MEAs will be made aware through Child Project 4.1 of the multiple global environmental benefits that will be accrued through MedProgramme's efforts to accelerate the SAP MED and SAP BIO implementation and will be actors as participants to the ASMs with a view to promote coordinated synergistic actions and collective compliance to their provisions.</p>
<b>GEF system</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· GEF Secretariat and Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE)</li> <li>· Global communities of the GEF Focal Areas of International Waters, Chemicals and Waste, Biodiversity and Climate Change</li> <li>· IW:LEARN project</li> </ul>	<p>Besides being the funding organization and hence responsible vis a vis the donors of the Child Project 4.1, alignment to GEF priorities and procedures, the GEF system will benefit from the experience gained through the implementation of MedProgramme, the largest IW led Integrated Approach.</p> <p>Child Project 4.1, as well all the MedProgramme put emphasis on creating synergies with IW:LEARN and any other similar initiative for the CW, Climate Change and Biodiversity focal areas.</p>

**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)**

#### A.4. 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).

*UN Environment and all the MedProgramme partner agencies are committed to supporting capacity development of its national partners to adopt approaches that advance women's rights and take account of the full range of their contributions to development. Involving both women and men in the Programme's activities is likely to increase project effectiveness and efficiency. Participation by both genders also improves project performance and improves the likelihood of sustainability. In other words, a project is more likely to achieve what planners hope it will achieve if women and men (both rich and poor and representing different sectors) are active participants and decision makers. (MedProgramme)*

Child Project 4.1 support the MedProgramme by adopting a transformative approach ('the approach of difference or reversal'), positing a gender equality vision for the MedProgramme that questions established categories and implements positive action measures towards gender-responsive actions in the Mediterranean region.

Adopting this gender focus meets organizational priorities of the GEF and UN Environment, and pioneers the first regional move towards integrating a cohesive and coordinated approach to impact upon the current status quo. Indeed, both the GEF and UN Environment have prioritized delivering inclusive and gender-responsive environmental results, as well as adaptation and mitigation solutions towards climate risks. Having launched its initial gender policy in 2011, the GEF approved a reinforced policy in November 2017[1] at the 53rd Council Meeting, shifting the focus from a 'gender-aware, do no harm' approach to a 'gender-responsive, do good' approach. This requires robust standards in the design, implementation and evaluation of GEF activities, and introducing measures that will allow the GEF, over time, to better leverage strategic opportunities to address gender gaps critical to the achievement of global environment benefits.[2] UN Environment, too, recognizes the role of gender equality as a 'driver of sustainable environment development'[3], particularly to enhance environmental security and climate resilience; to assuage the stresses on natural resources and dependent communities, including unsustainable management of coastal resources; to mitigate risks arising from pollutions and chemicals (particularly POPs and mercury) in the region; and, to preserve the health of large marine ecosystems (like the Mediterranean) which provide environmental and economic services to coastal populaces. Overall, the organization focuses on the increased visibility and capacity of vulnerable groups in sustainable development policy- and decision-making.

Child Project 4.1 will provide support to all other Child Projects by facilitating adherence to the principles enshrined in the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy of the MedProgramme as well as coherence of gender-responsive action throughout the portfolio. Particular activities for this target will be: knowledge exchanges and capacity building products whose topics and modalities (face-to-face, virtual meetings, Communities of Practice, Expert visits, Study Tours, manuals, among others) will be defined during MedProgramme implementation. The MedPCU will dedicate resources to periodically engage a Gender Specialist to advise on implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and to assist in monitoring progress towards the targets and milestones associated with the gender action plans for each of the Child Projects, thereby ensuring complementarity of regional and national gender actions, in project-specific contexts.

**Box 2** The gender mainstreaming approach of the MedProgramme

The **Gender Mainstreaming Strategy of MedProgramme** adopts a transformative approach, positing a gender equality vision for the MedProgramme that questions established categories and implements positive action measures towards gender-responsive actions in the Mediterranean region. In effect, gender mainstreaming is not an end (goal) of the MedProgramme— rather, a means (process) to an end (greater gender equality). This approach reflects also the normative standards defined by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), which stipulates the importance of identifying gender mainstreaming as a process because it:

*“Ensures that policy-making and legislative work is of higher quality and has a greater relevance for society, because it makes policies respond more effectively to the needs of all citizens – women and men, girls and boys. Gender mainstreaming makes public interventions more effective and ensures that inequalities are not perpetuated. It does not only aim to avoid the creation or reinforcement of inequalities, which can have adverse effects on both women and men. It also implies analyzing the existing situation, with the purpose of identifying inequalities, and developing policies which aim to redress these inequalities, and undo the mechanisms that caused them”.*

The full gender Mainstreaming Strategy is attached as Annex Q and will be applied across the entire portfolio of intervention of the MedProgramme.

### **Targets and Components of MedProgramme’s Gender Mainstreaming Strategy:**

#### ***Address gender-blind hurdles with gender-differentiated consequences.***

Although formal gender equality rights and guarantees are almost ubiquitous in the Mediterranean nations, this Strategy recognizes that gender-neutral policy language may not result in gender-egalitarian outcomes, when implemented in a gendered environment, influenced by gender imbalances and biases. The neutral policies and laws, which are veritably gender-blind, often work in concert with social tenets, traditional norms, constitutional interpretations, and cultural expectations in ways that may stymie the advancement of gender-responsive practices. Thus, in tandem with country partners and implementing agencies, the MedProgramme will stipulate the analysis of potential gender-neutral hurdles in project- and site-specific contexts to develop targeted action towards addressing the gender-differentiated consequences.

#### ***Mitigate gender-specific barriers and discriminatory norms.***

Certain barriers and discriminatory norms are framed with gender-specificity, targeting one gender or more, against normative ideals that stipulate hegemonic social identities. Gender-specific barriers have tangible and invisible discriminatory outcomes, prejudices and stigma, and are often accepted, condoned and tolerated within the larger social framework. To address these barriers, attention, awareness and resources have to be accorded to address the effects of the multiplicity of social differences and gender norms to usher in disruptive change and assuage the gender burdens on specific demographic groups. The MedProgramme will, hence, develop dedicated project- and country-specific gender assessments and gender action plans for each of its constituent projects and from the preparation phase through to the concluding monitoring and evaluation stage of the project cycle, with objectives (relating to broader project objectives), transformative outcomes (relating to the wider focus of the project), means of verification and indicators.

#### ***Scale up gender-sensitive policies and deliver gender-responsive outcomes.***

Building on the knowledge and analysis of gender-blind and gender-specific barriers, the MedProgramme will have the imperative to use consultative and participatory tools to conduct gender-differentiated beneficiary assessments and formulate gender-sensitive policies to address the same. These gender-sensitive policies will provide the basis for gender-responsive outcomes within the results framework of the different projects, by bringing transformative change towards : promoting equitable access to goods, services, status, and decision-making power (both within policy institutions and households); expanding the subjective and objective range of legal, social and psychological choices available to both men and women; breaking gender stereotypes, norms and patterns; and, providing the conducive environment, through capacity-building in policy institutions, governance structures and local bodies and awareness-raising among communities (particularly, male sensitization), for a pan-Mediterranean gender mainstreaming effort that is verifiable on all three accounts of accountability, transparency and incentive mechanisms.

To scale up and deliver these policies and actions, the MedProgramme will stipulate gender-related budget lines within the constituent projects, as dedicated resources need to be mobilized for positive impacts on the gender gap in the region

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[1] See here for the latest GEF Gender Mainstreaming guide (EN). GEF. (2017) (publication).

[2] “A new Policy on Gender Equality for the GEF”. GEF official website. (2017) (news update).

[3] *Gender Equality and the Environment: Policy and Strategy*. UN Environment. (2015).

## Documents

Title

Submitted

### Annex P - MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

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

Yes

**If yes, please upload document or equivalent here**

As attached Annex - MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

**If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:**

**Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;** No

**Improving women's participation and decision making** Yes

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women** No

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

Yes

## A.5. Risks

**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.**

The risks related to Child Project 4.1 are presented in Table below.

Table 3 Risks, risk levels and proposed mitigation strategies

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Mitigation Strategy</b>
The implementation of the knowledge exchanges and the coordination activities among the various child projects and numerous national actions could be affected by government changes, hindering the pace of implementation and the continuity of some activities.	<b>Medium</b>	Enhancing the visibility and awareness of MedProgramme among national and regional stakeholders and engaging with other levels of government, such as regional governors and municipalities, is expected to generate longer term commitments, and offset risks from potential political changes at a national level.
Project ownership: Low attendance of high-level decision-makers to knowledge exchange events could hamper desired impacts and effectiveness of knowledge outcomes.	<b>Medium</b>	The project team will plan ahead all KM events ensuring broad participation from countries and request that child projects nominate, on a rotating basis, key decision makers that can open the KM events and learn more about the program.
Unsatisfactory involvement of regional, national and local level stakeholders and civil society organizations.	<b>Low</b>	The project team will ensure that all relevant stakeholders are involved in the program. Each of the child project documents identifies the stakeholders that will be involved at the national level. Once all of the child projects are approved by the GEF CEO, a consolidated stakeholder matrix for each country will be prepared and an analysis will be done to ensure that all relevant regional stakeholders are included in the individual national projects.
Lack of full cooperation of all Child Projects in identifying and sharing lessons learned and successful policies and practices, participating in the design and production of modern dissemination tools, ensuring a regular flow of information on progress to impact indicators.	<b>Low</b>	The strong coordination role at the Programme level of the Steering Committee supported by the MedProgramme Manager, coupled with the affective monitoring function of the Annual Stocktaking Meetings, are expected to sustain Child Projects' involvement in KM activities.

## A.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.

The institutional arrangement and coordination of the Child Project 4.1 is illustrated in Figure 7.

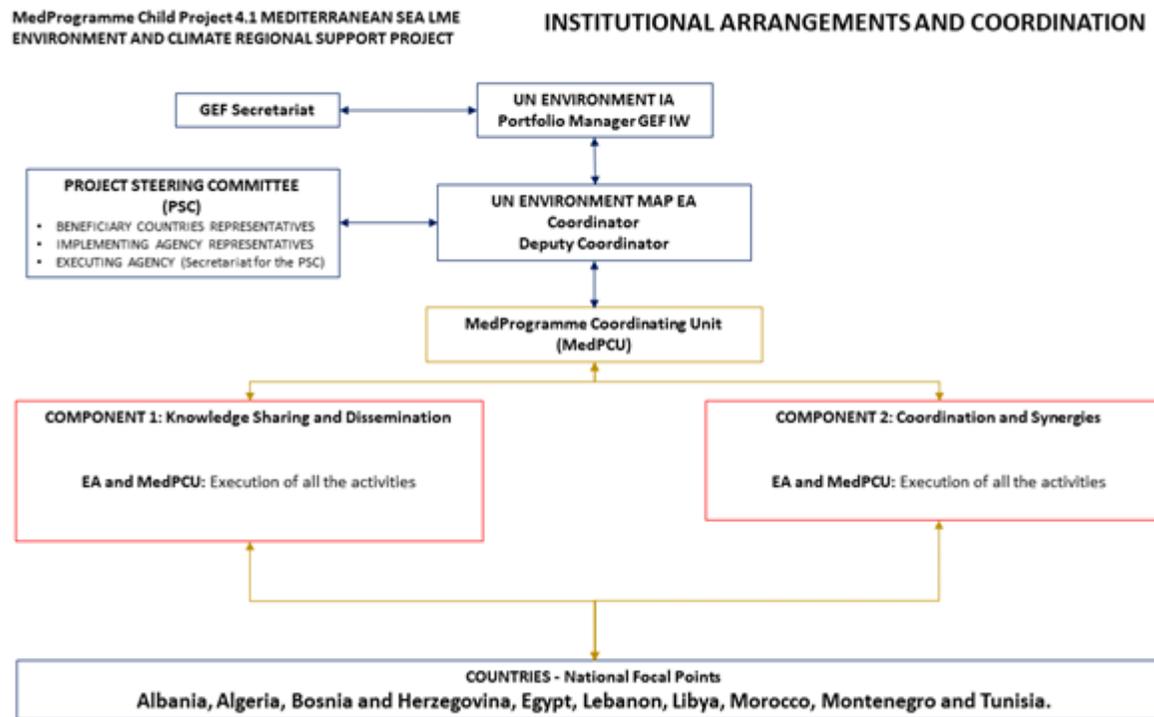


Figure 7 Institutional Arrangements and Coordination Structure of the Child Project 4.1

**Implementing Agency (IA):** The GEF Units in the Ecosystems Division of UN Environment will serve as Implementing Agency (IA) for Child Project 4.1. The IA will be responsible for overall supervision of the project and will oversee its progress through the monitoring and evaluation of activities and through progress reports. The IA will report on the project implementation progress to the GEF and will take part in the Project Steering Committee (PSC). The IA will provide guidance and oversight of project execution by the Executing Agency (EA) including through the review and approval of work plans, budget allocations and budget revisions proposed by the Executing Agency.

**Project Steering Committee (PSC):** The PSC will be established and will carry out the function of a Project Board. The PSC will consist of: 1) beneficiary countries, the IA and the Executing Agency (EA) representatives; and 2) the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU) acting as Secretariat for the PSC. These are the Members of the PSC. Countries will be represented at the PSC at a technical, decision making level, e.g. national focal points. Following the model of the PPG MedProgramme Regional Consultation Meetings, the PSC meetings will bring together International Water stakeholders, with parallel technical working sessions combined with plenary discussion and approval of workplans to maximize transparency and joint working across the two Focal Areas.

It is anticipated that to ensure an efficient use of the resources, PSC of different Child Projects of the MedProgramme will be organized back to back. These meetings will dedicate one session to inform the countries about the progress made by the entire MedProgramme followed by several sessions dedicated to specific decisions to be made by the countries for each Child Project.

The Executing Partners (EP) will intervene at the PSC to present the progress made and support the Secretariat for the PSC by providing background information on substantive and technical issues, as well as on modification to the Project Document and its annexes presented to the PSC by the MedPCU. The role of the PSC is to:

49. Oversee the project;
50. Provide overall guidance and ensure coordination among all parties;
51. Provide overall supervision for project implementation;
52. Approve the annual work plan and budget;
53. Oversee the implementation of corrective actions;
54. Enhance synergy between the project and other ongoing initiatives related to the GEF International Waters Focal Area;
55. Ensure full coordination of the project with the entire MedProgramme.

Additional stakeholder representatives from private sector, academia, CSOs, NGOs, etc. can be invited to join the PSC during the project execution as observers. At all times, the PSC and its activities will comply with the policies, conditions and regulations of the UN and the GEF.

**Executing Agency (EA):** The UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (UN Environment/MAP) will serve as the Executing Agency (EA) for the entire project. The EA will report on the project implementation progress to the IA (including those activities executed by the Executing Partners). The EA will organize the PSC and host the MedPCU which will act as Secretariat to the PSC. The EA will be responsible for, inter alia, the following required activities to achieve the project objectives, outputs and outcomes:

56. Establishing, hosting and supervising the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU);
57. Acting as Secretariat for the Project Steering Committee (PSC);
58. Ensuring that the project is executed according to the agreed work plan and budget;
59. Review and submit required reporting obligations to the IA, including quarterly expenditure reports and annual Project Implementation report (PIR);
60. Ensuring all procurement is done in compliance with Agency standards;
61. Communicating with and disseminating information to the Executing Partners (EP) and other stakeholders.

The EA will ensure that all activities, including procurement of goods and services, are carried out in strict compliance with the rules and procedures of UN Environment and GEF. The EA will be responsible for the establishment, adequate staffing and uninterrupted functioning, throughout the project's life span, of the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU).

**MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU):** The MedPCU will be established, hosted and supervised by UN Environment/MAP. The MedPCU will ensure coordination across the entire MedProgramme and the consistent execution of the seven Child Projects implemented by UN Environment and executed by UN Environment/MAP, as well as the Child Project implemented by EBRD. The MedPCU will execute all the activities included in the Child Project 4.1. In terms of MedProgramme coordination, the MedPCU will provide management functions to the Child Projects implemented by UN Environment and executed by UN Environment/MAP and EBRD. The Unit will be responsible for, inter alia, the following tasks:

62. Provide project and financial management including producing periodic monitoring reports, legal instruments and procurement;
63. Ensure programmatic coordination;
64. Ensure visibility of the MedProgramme;
65. Support technical staff and activities.

**Execution at National Level:** The Beneficiaries Countries will designate a National Project Focal Point (NPPF) during the inception phase. The NPPF will act as the liaising person between the government, the EA and EP. The NPPF will be fully involved in the selection of the national consultants and experts which will support the execution of activities on ground under Components 1 and 2 of the Project. The NPPF will also facilitate collaboration with other country offices, as well as the MedProgramme Coordinating Unit (MedPCU). Moreover, special attention will be given in all countries to overcoming fragmentation across sectors in decision making related to project's goals and activities.

Please refer to Annex H - Project Implementation Arrangements for further details on the specific roles and tasks of the MedPCU and the Executing Partners.

**Additional Information not well elaborated at PIF Stage:**

## A.7. Benefits

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

The MedProgramme will bring about a wealth of benefits at the national and local levels: from improved water security due to better coastal aquifer management, improved health of coastal populations due to elimination/reduction of pollution from harmful chemicals, and higher quality freshwater supply, to better and more sustainable livelihoods thanks to enhanced coastal management and integrity of coastal ecosystem services, to more sustainable tourism, to gender equity and more.

Based on the MedProgramme KM Strategy (see Annex P) and the knowledge management activities of all Child Projects and especially the Child Project 4.1, the following benefits will be accrued:

- Increased uptake of best practices and of cutting-edge knowledge generated across the portfolio of interventions, and the active participation of stakeholders in the IW:LEARN activities, Communities of Practice, and events;
- Improved capacity of key regional stakeholders, and of the global IW community, to build climate resilience, maintain coastal resources, protect biodiversity, and restore coastal ecosystems.
- Effective coordination and learning achieved among all Child Projects, consistency ensured with the Programme objectives, and synergies among projects and partners identified and fostered.

## A.8. Knowledge Management

**Elaborate on the Knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives (e.g. participate in trainings. conferences, stakeholder exchanges, virtual networks, project twinning) and plans for the project to assess and document ina user- friendly form (e.g. lessons learned briefs, engaging websites, guidebooks based on experience) and share these experiences and expertise (e.g. participate in community of practices, organize seminars, trainings and conferences) with relevant stakeholders.**

Since the early 1990s there has been growing attention to the process of managing knowledge within organizations, mostly with the objective of improving performance and capitalizing on lessons learned. These efforts have gained a consolidated reputation which has led to establishing knowledge management (KM) as a recognized discipline.

Moreover, knowledge management is now viewed as an organization's most valuable and strategic asset. There are many definitions of KM but it can be concisely described as the "systematic process to identify, capture, structure, value, leverage, and share an organization's intellectual assets to enhance its performance and competitiveness through a

multidisciplinary approach”. KM is based on two critical activities: (1) capture and documentation of explicit and tacit knowledge, and (2) its dissemination amongst the intended audiences and stakeholders.

There are two key challenges: knowledge is difficult to assemble and it is difficult to encourage its use. Many managers see it as a time-consuming distraction from their core role. However, good knowledge management can reduce risks and increase efficiency through the re-use of proven approaches and avoidance of known pitfalls. It can also produce a virtuous circle as individuals and teams see their contributions recognized and re-used, thus encouraging further participation in the process. To this end, careful consideration of the different types of knowledge that will be generated throughout the MedProgramme life has been taken into account to make sure that intangible assets (tacit knowledge, intended as human and intellectual capital) as well as technical and codified information (explicit knowledge) are properly valued and managed through targeted means (such as a powerful project management tool) and activities that encourage continuous learning and exchange. Moreover, a right mix of innovation (defined as a process through which knowledge can be translated into new products, new services or new methods) and incremental innovation (building on and improving existing knowledge, products, processes and services) is sought in the strategy to increase overall Programme efficiency - better quality, higher data integrity, greater collaboration, streamlined processes, reduced times and lower costs.

A good knowledge management strategy is closely aligned with the overall vision, objectives and identified priorities of the organizations leading a given effort. In the case of the MedProgramme, due consideration of related KM guidelines from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the GEF/UNDP IW:LEARN project and UN Environment have been taken into account when developing the present strategy.

The policy recommendations emanating from the GEF-7 replenishment clearly refer to knowledge as a “critical asset of the GEF Partnership” and commend “the steps taken to build the GEF’s knowledge management systems and practices in GEF-6, as well as the increasing attention to learning and knowledge exchange in GEF projects and programs, notably the integrated approach pilot programs, and in outreach to recipient countries”. Moreover, the importance of bringing together different expertise through inclusive communities of practices to best tackle environmental degradation has similarly been reaffirmed in the Programming Directions of the GEF-7 replenishment, voicing “strong country demand for GEF to offer platforms where countries can come together around common challenges”.

The call for more investments in knowledge management systems and practices also stems from the results of recent GEF OPS (Overall Performance Studies) which have found that “the relevance of knowledge management to the GEF mandate has been increasingly recognized, and efforts to improve knowledge management in the partnership have been made on several fronts. The GEF2020 Strategy emphasizes “strategically generating knowledge” as a priority. In 2014, the policy recommendations in the GEF-6 Replenishment Document similarly emphasized “the importance of developing a knowledge management (KM) system that aims to improve the GEF partnership’s ability to learn by doing and thereby enhance its impact over time”. In addition, OPS6 reports that “multi-focal area projects are better at achieving global environmental and socio-economic outcomes at completion compared to single-focal area projects”.

Again, the GEF-7 Programming Directions note that “more complex programs and sets of child projects will tend to offer more entries for development links due to multi-sectoral approach, multi-stakeholder engagements and platforms, and potential for delivering socio-economic co-benefits, along with enhancing the sustainability of the associated investments. Child projects generally performed better than stand-alone projects on all rating dimensions, especially on execution quality, sustainability and M&E design. Child projects have also improved in design and are now better linked to the overall program in terms of objectives, result based management and M&E.” This emphasis from the GEF on both, integrated knowledge management systems and holistic multi-focal area programmes, clearly sets the ground for a purposeful, concrete and action-orientated KM strategy for the MedProgramme.

The KM Strategy develop for the MedProgramme aims to maximize the MedProgramme impact by:

- Leveraging and systematically sharing knowledge assets generated by the Child Projects with the intended beneficiaries and audiences;
- Strengthening the science-policy interface (SPI) and influencing decision making through data and information sharing, capacity building, and regional stakeholder engagement;
- Supporting the objectives of the Barcelona Convention and the work of the MAP system through effective stocktaking and scaling up of programme results; and
- Fostering incremental innovation within GEF programmatic approaches and enriching the knowledge base of GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies.

In order to achieve these objectives, three interconnected functional levels have been identified to articulate the KM Strategy:

1. At the PORTFOLIO LEVEL to support the work of project managers and executing partners by providing project management tools and training to key regional stakeholders;
2. At the GENERAL PUBLIC LEVEL to share results, inform and influence target audiences by reaching out to and engaging with civil society, media, and representatives of non-scientific community;
3. At the POLICY- and DECISION-MAKING LEVEL to support the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention, relevant decision makers in the region and the work of GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies by contributing to relevant regional policy processes and related GEF initiatives (particularly the IW:LEARN project).

Organizational coherence and strong synergies among MedProgramme Child Projects are considered critical to sustain effective knowledge sharing and ensure the successful achievement of the KM objectives. Careful consideration was given to the different types of knowledge that will be generated throughout the program life to ensure that intangible assets (tacit knowledge, intended as human and intellectual capital) as well as technical and codified information (explicit knowledge) are properly valued and managed.

Table 4 summarizes how each activity and tool the project will implement and utilize contribute to the different levels and are inscribed in one of the two components of Child Project 4.1.

Table 4 Contribution of activities and tools to KM levels and Child Project 4.1 Components

Activity/Tools	Portfolio Level	General Public Level	Policy Level	Child Project 4.1 Component 1 Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination	Child Project 4.1 Component 2 Coordination and Synergies
Project/Program Management Tool	X				X

Database and Visualization tools	X	X	X	X	X
Public portal		X	X	X	
Annual Stocktaking Meetings	X	X	X	X	X
Replication Atlases		X	X	X	X
Trainings for portfolio	X				X
MedProgramme identity	X	X		X	
Med Bulletin/Newsletter	X	X	X	X	X
Storytelling (movies, graphic novels, podcasts, infographics, ...)		X	X	X	
Social media		X	X	X	
Technical reports and scientific publications, IW:LEARN Experience Notes		X	X	X	
MedProgramme Launching event and Final Conference	X	X	X	X	X
IW:LEARN IWC and twinnings, GEF events	X		X	X	X
Global campaigns and processes		X	X	X	
Engagement with testimonials		X		X	
Partnerships	X	X	X	X	

Both the strategy and its implementation are critical to successful exploitation of knowledge. Many KM strategies fail not because there is something fundamentally wrong with them, but because they are not well implemented. There must be a good strategy, but also appropriate organizational structure, systems, and the right people to implement the strategy.

**B. Description of the consistency of the project with:**

## **B.1. Consistency with National Priorities**

**Describe the consistency of the project with nation strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions such as NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.**

Child Project 4.1 supports through knowledge management and communication/coordination activities the implementation of all MedProgramme's actions, which all adhere to national priorities in project beneficiary countries. These priorities are enshrined in the National Action Plans for the implementation of SAP MED and SAP BIO, and are in line with the Barcelona Convention and its ICZM Protocol. The project will also enhance national compliance with global and regional agreements and action programmes, as well as contribute to the achievement of a number of SDGs targets.

### **C. Describe The Budgeted M & E Plan:**

Project execution performance will be monitored through the following standard GEF M&E activities. The associated M&E budget and work plan is provided in Annex G-M&E Budget and Work Plan.

#### **Project start:**

A Project Inception Workshop will be held within the first 8 months of project start, with participation of those with assigned roles in the project organization structure. The Inception Workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the annual work plans for the first 2 project years. It is anticipated that the Inception Workshop will also be the de facto first meeting of the Project Steering Committee.

The Inception Workshop will address a number of key issues including:

66. Assisting all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project. Detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UN Environment, MAP and MedPCU staff vis à vis the project team. Discuss the roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms.
67. Based on the Project Results Framework and the International Waters GEF Tracking Tool, the Annual Work Plans for the first two years will be finalized. Indicators, targets and their means of verification will be reviewed, revised (as needed) and agreed, and assumptions and risks will be re-checked.
68. A detailed overview of reporting, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements will be provided. The Monitoring and Evaluation work plan budget will be agreed and scheduled.
69. Financial reporting procedures and obligations will be discussed.

Project governance meetings will be planned and scheduled, and the overall project governance mechanisms will be reviewed and further fine-tuned, giving particular attention to cost-efficiency, enhanced stakeholder ownership, and the continuity of efforts towards SAP implementation beyond the project life span. Roles and responsibilities of all project organization structures will be clarified, and a meeting/reporting calendar will be elaborated.

Together with the GEF approved Project Document, the Inception Workshop Report will constitute a key reference document for the Project and will be prepared and shared with participants to clarify and formalize various agreements and plans decided during the meeting.

**Annually:**

Annual Project Review/Project Implementation Report (APR/PIR): This key report is prepared to monitor progress made since project start and in particular for the previous reporting period (1 July to 30 June). The APR/PIR combines both UN Environment and GEF reporting requirements.

The APR/PIR includes, but is not limited to, reporting on the following:

- Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes - each with indicators, baseline data and end-of-project targets (cumulative);
- Project outputs delivered per project outcome (annual);
- Lesson learned/good practice;
- Annual Work Programme (AWP) and other expenditure reports;
- Risk and adaptive management; and
- GEF International Waters Tracking Tool indicators.

**Mid-term of project cycle:**

In-line with UN Environment Evaluation Policy and the GEF's Monitoring and Evaluation Policy the project will be subject to a Terminal Evaluation and, additionally, a Mid-Term Review will be commissioned and launched by the Project Manager before the project reaches its mid-point. Based on the conclusion of the Mid-Term Review, the Evaluation Office will determine, whether an independent Mid Term Evaluation (MTE) is required at the mid-point of project implementation. If the decision is to proceed with an independent Mid-Term Evaluation, this will assess the progress made toward the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; it will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions, and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the Mid-Term Evaluation will be decided after consultation between the parties. The Terms of Reference for this Mid-Term Evaluation will be prepared by UN Environment

Information in the GEF International Waters Tracking Tool will also be updated during the mid-term evaluation cycle.

**End of Project:**

The Evaluation Office will be responsible for the Terminal Evaluation (TE) and will liaise with the Task Manager and Executing Agency(ies) throughout the process. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UN Environment, the GEF, executing partners and other stakeholders. The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget. The Terminal Evaluation will be initiated no earlier than six months prior to the operational completion of project activities and, if a follow-on phase of the project is envisaged, should be completed prior to the submission of the follow-on proposal. Terminal Evaluations must be initiated no later than six months after operational completion.

The draft TE report will be sent by the Evaluation Office to project stakeholders for comment. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. The project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the report is finalized and further reviewed by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office upon submission. The evaluation report will be publically disclosed and may be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

**PART III: Certification by GEF partner agency(ies)**

**A. GEF Agency(ies) certification**

<b>GEF Agency Coordinator</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Project Contact Person</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Kelly West	3/28/2019	Yegor Volovik	207626707	yegor.volovik@un.org

**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).**

<b>MEDITERRANEAN SEA PROGRAMME: ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY</b>					
<b>MedProgramme Objective</b>	To accelerate the implementation of agreed upon priority actions to reduce the major transboundary environmental stresses affecting the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas while strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations				
<b>MedProgramme Component 4 - Knowledge Management and Programme Coordination</b>					
<b>Child Project 4.1: Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Environment and Climate Regional Support Project</b>					
<b>Project Objective</b>	<b>Objective level Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>End of Project Targets</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Assumptions &amp; Risks</b>

<p>Foster MedProgramme-wide learning and dissemination of knowledge, effective portfolio coordination and synergistic interactions among CPs, gender mainstreaming and monitoring progress to impacts.</p>	<p>Growing stakeholders attendance to the annual stocktaking meetings - ASMs, and utilization of the project's various products.</p>	<p>So far there is a lack of systematic information exchanges among Mediterranean countries on the progress to impact of projects related to climate resilience, land based pollution reduction including from persistent toxic substances, coastal resources sustainability, and improved gender equality.</p> <p>The effectiveness of traditional regional level awareness raising approaches and dissemination of scientific advancements and best practices, needs enhancements for the benefit of the Mediterranean as well as of other regional seas.</p>	<p>90% of Mediterranean Basin countries participate to the ASMs</p> <p>Contributions to the Medprogram Bulletin include also non-MedProgramme projects and initiatives</p>	<p>Stocktaking Meetings Reports</p> <p>Published MedProgramme Bulletins</p>	<p>Growing international attention to environmental security and political stability in the Mediterranean Basin.</p>
<p><b><u>Component 1: Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination</u></b></p>					
<p><b>Outcome 1 (MedProgramme Outcome 8)</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome Indicators</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline</b></p>	<p><b>Targets and Monitoring Milestones</b></p>	<p><b>Means of Verification</b></p>	<p><b>Assumptions</b></p>

<p>The increased uptake of the lessons and of the cutting-edge knowledge generated across the portfolio of MedProgramme interventions, and the active participation in IW:LEARN activities, Communities of Practice, and events, improve the capacity of key regional stakeholders, and of the global IW and CW communities, to build climate resilience, reduce pollution from nutrients and persistent toxic substances (POPs and Mercury), sustainably manage coastal freshwater and marine resources, protect biodiversity, and restore coastal ecosystems.</p>	<p>1.1 Number of experience notes and scientific publications on the innovative approaches, best practices and lessons learned on nutrients and toxic pollution reduction, coastal zone management, and application of circular economy principles collectively developed by the Programme, collectively developed by MedProgramme's projects for regional and global outreach through the Programme website, IW:LEARN and other dissemination means.</p> <p>1.2 number of child projects sharing information on knowledge management platform</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>NA</p>	<p>At least 10 experience notes and peer reviewed scientific publications documenting the knowledge generated across the portfolio of interventions.</p> <p>At least 5 Child Projects are consistently sharing information with the knowledge management platform.</p>	<p>Experience notes and scientific publications disseminated.</p> <p>Specific data/information/results of the Child Projects of the MedProgramme available on knowledge management platform.</p>	<p>All Child Projects cooperate in identifying and sharing lessons learned and successful policies and practices.</p>
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	1.3 Number of awareness raising communication products at regional and global levels on the objectives, progress and accomplishments of the Programme.		At least five (5) awareness raising tools aimed at the regional and global audiences.	MedProgramme website, YouTube, international media coverage.	MedProgramme implementing and executing agencies, and all project countries join forces in the design and production of modern dissemination tools.
	1.4 Numebr of highly informative National Replication Atlases – translated in relevant languages, highlighting areas and situations where replication of MedProgramme’s successful interventions should preferentially occur.	NA	Two highly informative National Replication Atlases are produced.	Problication (digital) of the atles available in the MedProgramme website.	Data vailabilty and the MedProgramme implementing and executing agencies, and all project countries join forces in the design and production of modern dissemination tools.
<b><u>Component 2: Coordination and Synergies</u></b>					
<b>Outcome 2 (Program Outcome 9)</b>	<b>Outcome indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>

<p>The effective coordination and learning among all Child Projects, consistency with the Programme objectives, and synergies among projects and partners, ensured.</p>	<p>2.1 Programme monitoring system successfully developed and periodically reporting on the progress of the Programme as a whole, and of each Child Project.</p>	<p>The implementation of mechanisms aimed at establishing synergistic interactions among complementary projects of different agencies has not yet been attempted in the Mediterranean region</p>	<p>ASMs and MedProgramme Bulletin periodically reporting on progress to impacts, including uptake of the gender mainstreaming strategy.</p>	<p>Stocktaking Meetings and Progress Monitoring reports</p>	<p>Full cooperation of all Child Projects and countries' key stakeholders and scientific communities.</p> <p>All Child Projects allocate sufficient resources for coordination and learning processes</p>
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**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).**

The following table reports the comments made by the STAP on the activities, outputs and outcomes of the Medprogramme and the feedback provided by the Programme. This table is included only in CP4.1 because this project provides a crosscutting support function to the entire programme.

<p><b>Comments of the STAP</b></p>	<p><b>Feedbacks of the MedProgramme</b></p>
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1. The need for the proposed Programme is understood by STAP to be a demand for a coordinating mechanism for the implementation of actions identified through the MedPartnership project.

2. The updating of the TDA proposed in Child Project 1.1 should not be permitted to distract from the implementation of the two agreed SAPs and various NAPs.

3. It is not clear from the PFD that the child projects proposed have been designed in a participatory manner with national and local stakeholders, particularly with civil society representatives and community groups. The PFD still reads as largely a top-down document and proponents need to address this deficit, regarding roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of stakeholders especially at sub-national level.

4. Therefore, the entire Programme design should provide for sufficient flexibility and appropriate adaptive management strategies to counteract political instability and continuously changing circumstances of the countries in the Mediterranean region.

5. During the further preparation of the Programme and its individual projects, STAP strongly recommends using a common analytical approach using scenarios to explore possible futures and identify specific intervention points for most impactful programme/project interventions.

6. Ecosystem-based adaptation solutions could be explored.

7. Recognizing the current regional security context, STAP recommends developing further cooperative and transboundary infrastructure to protect human security of refugees and migrants by e.g. supporting livelihoods

The actions that will be addressed in the MedProgramme were defined by the Countries after a long and complex participatory TDA-SAP process leading to the National Action Plans where all the major stakeholders at national level were involved along with the major decision makers and political institutions. The MedPartnership was instrumental in supporting the final phase of this process in order to ensure that the NAPs were developed by the countries in a coordinated and efficient sound manner.

It will not, activities which address the SAPs and NAPs will be mainly implemented under CP1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.1. The CP 1.1 will work on POP and Hg, moreover it will ensure to put in place all the diagnostic tools that can help us to measure the progress to impact; being the updated TDA one of those.

As stated in the STAP “*the Programme followed the successful implementation of the MedPartnership*”. The MedProgramme has been developed by request for the countries and with an approach that considers all the major stakeholders who will be instrumental to the implementation of the proposed activities. For example, for the investment component, both EIB and EBRD, will use the NAPs which has been endorsed at national level with a bottom-up approach involving a wide number of stakeholders at national and local level. The same applies to the conjunctive surface and groundwater management which will be implemented in those countries that recognized its importance through processes which involved (under the MedPartnership) the main stakeholders.

The adaptive management strategy at the MedProgramme level relies on one major tool, the Annual Stocktaking Meetings, part of CP 4.1 (output 2.2). Through these major meetings all issues of concern related to changes in political will or instability in the recipient countries will become manifest and allow for timely adaptive management responses at both the Child Project and at the Program levels.

Done. In the selection of the many hot spots addressed by MedProgram, a homogeneous approach has been adopted including future scenarios, whenever necessary.

Done. Nature based solutions, and circular economy approaches inform a number of CPs, in Particular CP 1.2 and 2.1.

The implementing and executing partners of the Medprogramme fully recognize such much needed actions

No specific comments on the activities, outputs and outcomes of Child Project 4.1 were made by the GEF Council at PFD stage

FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

Breakdown for Child Project as approved by the GEF Council at PFD stage

Objectives/Programs	Expected Outcomes	Trust Fund	Amount (\$)
			GEF Program Financing (USD)
<b>BD 1 Program 1</b>	1.2: Improved management effectiveness of protected areas	GEFTF	CP3.1 <b>1,376,147</b>
<b>IW2 Program 3</b>	3.1 Improved governance of shared water bodies, including conjunctive management of surface and groundwater through regional institutions and frameworks for cooperation lead to increased environmental and socio-economic benefits.	GEFTF	CP1.1 (3,000,000) CP2.1 (3,500,000) CP4.1 (500,000) <b>7,000,000</b>
<b>IW 2 Program 4</b>	4.1 Increased water/food/energy/ecosystem security and sharing of benefits on basin/sub-basin scale underpinned by adequate regional legal/institutional frameworks for cooperation.	GEFTF	CP2.2 (3,500,000) CP4.1 (500,000) <b>4,000,000</b>
<b>IW 3 Program 5</b>	5.1 Elimination or substantial decrease in frequency and extent of “dead zones” in sizeable part of developing countries’ LMEs.	GEFTF	CP1.2 (5,000,000) CP1.3 (5,000,000) CP4.1 (500,000) <b>10,500,000</b>
<b>IW 3 Program 6</b>	6.1 Coasts in globally most significant areas protected from further loss and degradation of coastal habitats while protecting and enhancing livelihoods	GEFTF	CP2.1 (3,500,000) CP4.1 (500,000) <b>4,000,000</b>
<b>CW 2, Program 3</b>	3.1 Quantifiable and verifiable tons of POPs eliminated or reduced	GEFTF	CP1.1 (6,250,000) CP1.3 (3,750,000) CP4.1 (250,000) <b>10,250,000</b>

Objectives/Programs	Expected Outcomes	Trust Fund	Amount (\$)
			GEF Program Financing (USD)
CW 2, Program 4	4.1 Mercury is reduced	GEFTF	CP1.1 (3,000,000) CP1.2 (2,000,000) CP4.1 (250,000) <b>5,250,000</b>
<b>Total Program Costs</b>			<b>42,376,147</b>

## ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS.

A. Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PFD: 150,000				
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Amount (\$)</i>			
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount or Committed</i>	<i>Amount planned till the end of the PPG phase</i>
International Consultants - 1 Technical and 1 Project Preparation Expert + 1 Knowledge Management and 1 Gender Specialist.	120,460	33,956	83,320	3,184
Travels to support the preparation of the Child Project 4.1.	21,540	4,852		16,688

Organization of national and regional Consultation Meetings.	8,000	2,322		5,678
Contractual Services		295		
<b>Total</b>	150,000	41,425	83,320	25,255

**ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)**

**Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)**

n/a

**ANNEX E: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet**

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, Table G to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the program will be aggregated and reported at any time during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Core Indicator 1		Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use				(Hectares)	
		<i>Hectares (1.1+1.2)</i>					
		<i>Expected</i>		<i>Achieved</i>			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	

			Sum				
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Sum					
<b>Core Indicator 2</b>	<b>Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use</b>						<i>(Hectares)</i>
		Hectares (2.1+2.2)					
		Expected			Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement		MTR	TE	
Indicator 2.1	Marine protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement		MTR	TE
		Sum					
Indicator 2.2	Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness						



Indicator 3.3	Area of natural grass and shrublands restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.4	Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
<b>Core Indicator 4</b>	<b>Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)</b>					<b>(Hectares)</b>
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected		Expected	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
<b>Core Indicator 5</b>	<b>Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity</b>					<i>(Hectares)</i>

Indicator 5.1	Number of fisheries that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations				
Third party certification(s):	Number				
	Expected		Achieved		
	PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 5.2	Number of large marine ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollution and hypoxial				
	Number				
	Expected		Achieved		
	PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
<b>Core Indicator 6</b>	<b>Greenhouse gas emission mitigated</b>				<b>(Tons)</b>
	Tons (6.1+6.2)				
	Entered		Entered		
	PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
	Expected CO2e (direct)				
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector				
	Tons				
	Entered		Entered		
	PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	

		Expected CO2e (direct)				
		Expected CO2e (indirect)				
		Anticipated Year				
Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Expected CO2e (direct)				
		Expected CO2e (indirect)				
		Anticipated Year				
Indicator 6.3	Energy saved					
			MJ			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology					
			Capacity (MW)			
		Technology	Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

<b>Core Indicator 7</b>	<b>Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management</b>					<b>1</b>
Indicator 7.1	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		<i>Mediterranean LME</i>		4		
Indicator 7.2	Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		<i>Mediterranean LME</i>		4		
Indicator 7.3	Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
				1		
Indicator 7.4	Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			Rating		Rating	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
				1		

<b>Core Indicator 8</b>	<b>Globally over-exploited fisheries Moved to more sustainable levels</b>					<b>(Tons)</b>
			Metric Tons			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
<b>Core Indicator 9[1]</b>	<b>Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products</b>					<b>(Tons)</b>
			Metric Tons (9.1+9.2+9.3)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	PIF stage	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.1	Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and POPs containing materials and products removed or disposed					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.2	Quantity of mercury reduced					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.3	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.4	Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities					
			Number			
		Technology	Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
<b>Core Indicator 10</b>	<b>Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources</b>					<b>(Grams)</b>
Indicator 10.1	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 10.2	Number of emission control technologies/practices implemented					
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 10.3	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment					(Number)
					Number Achieved	
					MTR	TE
				Female	1,100	
				Male	1,100	
				Total	2,200	

[1] Note on the corporate result No 5: As a cross-cutting project the Regional Support Project – CP4.1 will not directly result in reductions of POPs or Hg, which will be achieved under the chemicals and waste Child Project 1.1. However, the Regional Support project will indirectly support the achievement of those targets and allow for scaling up beyond the targets in CP 1.1. In terms of the disposal of POPs and mercury, the GIS-based tool to be deployed under this Child Project 4.1 for recording national inventories and assessing and visualizing the environmental impact of the inventoried wastes will directly facilitate decision making and operational planning for the field work to remove the wastes, thereby ensuring that the target of 2000 tons of PCBs and POPs are removed with maximum efficiency. The exchange of best practices planned under the Regional Support Project will also directly result in the scaling up and expansion of the demonstration activities on new POPs and Hg which are planned for only 3 countries under CP 1.1 (target under Indicator 9.4 is ‘3 country pilot demonstration projects on alternatives to new POPs in manufacturing’). The knowledge sharing activities included under the CP 4.1 will allow all the project countries (up to 8 total) to be informed and access the tools to also implement these practices.

**ANNEX: Project Taxonomy Worksheet**

Use this Worksheet to list down the taxonomic information required under Part1 by ticking the most relevant keywords/topics//themes that best describes the project

**GEF 7 TAXONOMY**

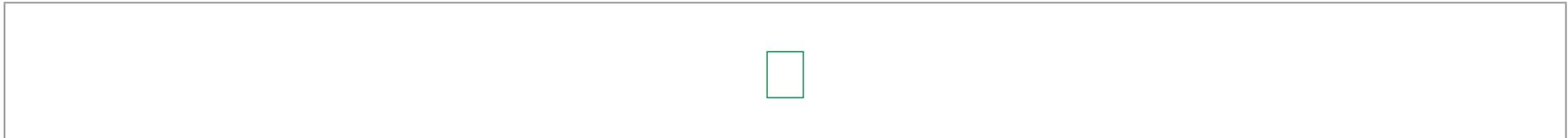
**Annex C**

Please identify the taxonomic information required in Part I, Item G by ticking the most relevant keywords/ topics/themes that best describe the project.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Influencing models</b>			
	<b>Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making</b>		
	<b>Convene multi-stakeholder alliances</b>		
	<b>Demonstrate innovative approaches</b>		
<b>Stakeholders</b>			
	<b>Beneficiaries</b>		
	<b>Local Communities</b>		
	<b>Civil Society</b>		
		Community Based Organization	
		Non-Governmental Organization	
		Academia	
	<b>Type of Engagement</b>		
		Information Dissemination	
		Partnership	
		Consultation	
		Participation	
	<b>Communications</b>		
		Awareness Raising	
		Public Campaigns	
<b>Capacity, Knowledge and Research</b>			
	<b>Enabling Activities</b>		
	<b>Capacity Development</b>		
	<b>Knowledge Generation and Exchange</b>		
	<b>Learning</b>		

		Theory of Change	
		Indicators to Measure Change	
	<b>Innovation</b>		
	<b>Knowledge and Learning</b>		
		Knowledge Management	
		Innovation	
		Capacity Development	
		Learning	
	<b>Stakeholder Engagement Plan</b>		
<b>Gender Equality</b>			
	<b>Gender Mainstreaming</b>		
		Beneficiaries	
		Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		Gender-sensitive indicators	
	<b>Gender results areas</b>		
		Participation and leadership	
		Access to benefits and services	
		Capacity development	
		Awareness raising	
		Knowledge generation	
<b>Focal Areas/Theme</b>			
	<b>Biodiversity</b>		
		Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
	<b>International Waters</b>		
		Coastal	
		Freshwater	
			Aquifer
		Learning	
		Pollution	
			Persistent toxic substances
			Nutrient pollution from Wastewater
		Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	

		Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		Large Marine Ecosystems	
	<b>Chemicals and Waste</b>		
		Mercury	
		Persistent Organic Pollutants	
	<b>Climate Change</b>		
		<b>Climate Change Adaptation</b>	
			Climate Resilience
			Climate information
			Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			Mainstreaming Adaptation



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