

# GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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## General Project Information

### Project Title

Mainstreaming Climate-Resilient Blue Economy in the BCLME Region (BCLME IV Project)

Region	GEF Project ID
Regional	11282
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Regional	FSP
Angola	
Namibia	
South Africa	
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
UNDP	6732
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
Benguela Current Convention Secretariat	Others
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Multi Focal Area	4/13/2023

### Project Sector (CCM Only)

### Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Biodiversity, International Waters, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approach, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Civil Society, Local Communities, Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Gender Mainstreaming, Enabling Activities, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange, Learning

Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
GET	72
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
10,484,931.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)
943,445.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
11,428,376.00	25,000,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
200,000.00	18,000.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

218,000.00

11,646,376.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No

## Project Summary

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

This project will be implemented in the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) shared by Angola, Namibia, and South Africa. The BCLME is among the world’s most productive Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs). It is home to marine biodiversity of global importance (including fish, crustaceans, seabirds, turtles, corals, sponges, sea urchins, whales and dolphins), and provides a diverse array of valuable ecosystem goods and services including fish stocks and other living marine resources, as well as non-renewable resources, such as rich deposits of precious minerals, particularly diamonds, and oil and natural gas reserves. Many of the marine resources, particularly fish stocks and other living marine resources, are shared between two or among all three Parties. This important global reservoir of marine biodiversity is, however, threatened by habitat degradation, Illegal, overexploitation and Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and marine pollution. Furthermore, the increase in shipping activities and mineral exploration, as well as the effects of climate change have the potential to significantly impact the BCLME.

UNDP-GEF has been supporting the sustainable management of the BCLME through 3 previous financing phases, with the first one initiated in 2002. Throughout the various phases, this support has accomplished several achievements including, among others, the establishment of the Benguela Current Convention (BCC) Secretariat for the purpose of regional integration and coordination on transboundary issues.

The shared nature of the BCLME and its many natural resources, combined with the transboundary sources and the environmental pressures to which it is subjected, makes it imperative for the Parties to adopt a collaborative and coordinated ecosystem approach to the sustainable use and management of the BCLME. In this context, the BCC emphasized the need for the development of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and National Action Plans (NAPs) to provide a framework for coordination and integration of regional and national interventions for sustainable use of the BCLME ecosystem resources. The objective of this new project is to mainstream the development of sustainable economies and resilient ecosystems within the BCLME and advance the implementation of the BCLME SAP (2023-2033). This will be achieved through an ecosystem-based, multi-sectoral approach for sustainable management of transboundary ecosystem goods and services, in particular, enhancing sustainable marine living and non-living resources and their value chains, improving marine and coastal management efforts through the establishment and expansion of Marine Protected Areas and Special Management Areas for socio-economic development, and promoting blue and/or ocean economy innovative and sustainable finance for positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts. Building on the achievements of the BCLME III project, including the development of the sea strategy in Angola, the national blue economy policy in Namibia and an oceans economy programme in South Africa, this project aims to facilitate a governance model that enables an environment of cooperation in the 3 participating countries, making it the frontrunner in implementing ecosystem-based ocean governance among

African LMEs. This project will also have a strong focus on enhancing climate resilience capacities of coastal communities.

## Indicative Project Overview

### Project Objective

Mainstreaming the development of climate-resilient sustainable blue and/or ocean economies in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem.

### Project Components

#### 1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,000,000.00	3,098,897.00

Outcome:

1.1: **Climate resilient** and sustainably managed fisheries and seafood

Output:

1.1.1: Bilateral agreements for joint sustainable and climate resilient management of transboundary fish stocks (Cape horse mackerel, Cape hakes) developed and implemented to curb IUU fishing

1.1.2: Sustainable and climate resilient mariculture **opportunities** and exploitation of other living marine resources at national levels **identified** and **plans for development and scaling up developed.**

1.1.3: Third-party sustainability and **climate resilience** certifications for fish and seafood products **undertaken**

1.1.4: Awareness raised, and capacity developed **(with a gender-sensitive approach)** for **the** sustainable and **climate-resilient management of** fisheries and **seafood**

#### 1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,000,000.00	3,207,968.00

Outcome:

1.2: Market growth and diversification for BCLME sustainable and **climate resilient** marine commodities in domestic and international markets and improved socio-economic conditions of fishing communities

Output:

1.2.1: Fish, seafood and mariculture market research and analysis that takes into consideration climate change impacts developed at national and regional levels

1.2.2: National and regional determination of current fish and seafood products, and potential for diversification and value addition

1.2.3: Capacities for Sustainable and climate resilient value chains developed (with a gender-sensitive approach) for new and diversified fish and seafood products, including mariculture

1.2.4: New climate-resilient markets identified, explored and viable ones engaged

## 1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
500,000.00	902,500.00

Outcome:

1.3: Minimized impacts of exploration and extraction of non-living resources (seabed mining, oil and gas) on ecosystems

Output:

1.3.1: Policy and legislative frameworks strengthened to minimize adverse impacts of extractive activities in the BCLME

1.3.2: Capacity of government institutions, private sector actors and financial institutions involved in exploration/exploitation of non-living marine resources strengthened (with a gender-sensitive approach) for adoption of innovative environmentally friendly exploratory and extractive methods and technologies

## 2: Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development (only for Namibia)

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
650,000.00	1,884,411.27

Outcome:

2.1: Policy, regulatory and institutional framework for the sustainable management of the BCLME strengthened

Output:

2.1.1: Legal frameworks of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems of global importance improved to enhance pollution control and their protection and conservation in a context of coexistence with other marine economic sectors including gas and oil exploration/exploitation

2.1.2 Integrated Management Plans (including pollution control measures) of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems of global importance produced **with a participatory, climate and gender sensitive approach** to manage competition of shared resources and space, strengthen collaborative approaches with other marine economic sectors including gas and oil exploration/exploitation and avoid conflicts. This will include the development of **cross-sectoral** Marine Spatial Plans (MSP) and Coastal Zone Management Plans **for selected areas (including establishment of the monitoring system) and identification of climate-resilient measures**

**2.1.3 Training and capacity building for ocean and coastal ecosystem management provided (with a gender-sensitive approach) for selected communities along the BCLME coast**

**2. Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development (only for Namibia)**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,443,000.00	2,846,744.73

Outcome:

2.2: Climate resilient nature-based solutions for restoration (and prevention of degradation) of MPAs and coastal ecosystems implemented through Special Management Areas/Locally managed Marine Areas approach. **[Namibia only]**

Output:

2.2.1: Sustainable community-based tourism developed in and around selected MPAS and coastal ecosystems (under 2.1) with potential for third-party certifications ([www.earthcheck.org](http://www.earthcheck.org)).

2.2.2: Community-based **climate-resilient** ecosystem restoration interventions such as enhanced protection, control of alien and invasive species, assisted regeneration implemented in selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems (under 2.1)

2.2.3 Implementation of identified community-based **climate-resilient** management efforts for local economic development and beneficitation

**2. Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development (only for Namibia)**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
257,000.00	1,226,410.00

Outcome:

2.3: Improved biodiversity monitoring (using eDNA-based methods) to inform actions for improved management of MPAs and coastal ecosystems. **[Namibia only]**

Output:

2.3.1: Community-based biodiversity monitoring within the selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems (under 2.1) developed or enhanced

### 3. Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
300,000.00	969,291.00

Outcome:

**3.1 Policy and regulatory frameworks for reducing pollution from land and ocean-based sources and activities in the BCLME strengthened**

Output:

**3.1.1 Relevant Policy and legislative frameworks that incorporate the ‘polluter pays’ principle approach developed/updated/strengthened and related strategies in place for pollution control in the BCLME**

**3.1.2 Cooperative agreements and long-term programs for ecosystem health monitoring and compliance between countries formalized**

**3.1.3 Regional quality standards of nutrients and sediments in fresh, coastal and marine waters developed and adopted**

**3.1.4 Harmonised regional environmental monitoring and surveillance programme and clean-up of chemical pollution in transboundary coastal hotspots of the BCLME developed and/or strengthened**

### 3. Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
500,000.00	969,292.00

Outcome:

**3.2 Action to curb land and ocean-based sources of pollution in the BCLME accelerated**

Output:

**3.2.1 New technologies for pollution control at the community level, with participation of local businesses developed and piloted**

**3.2.2 Community awareness, training and capacity building and implementation plans and best practices for pollution management undertaken (with a gender-sensitive approach) in selected communities along the BCLME coast**



3.2.3 Opportunities for alternative livelihoods linked to pollution management activities identified and piloted  
3.2.4. Water quality monitoring in pollution hotspots within the selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems (under 2.1) developed or enhanced to improve ecosystem health

#### 4. Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
600,000.00	1,581,069.00

Outcome:

4.1: Policy, regulatory and institutional capacity for boosting sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance strengthened (within the framework of a Circular Economy)

Output:

4.1.1 Policies and strategies for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy finance developed and/or strengthened

4.1.2: Reinforced national and regional (public sector) capacities in the design and implementation of bankable Sustainable Blue/ocean economy projects, innovative financing, principles, standards and green investments, among others, to advance the BE agenda through short and long-term training

4.1.3: Capacities developed (with a gender-sensitive approach) for private sector and local level engagement, and delivery of investment-ready innovative bankable projects

#### 4. Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,872,495.00	5,000,160.00

Outcome:

4.2: Innovative sustainable blue/ocean finance at national and/or regional levels accelerated

Output:

4.2.1: Viable innovative sustainable blue/ocean finance mechanisms and tools developed and piloted (including incentives to stimulate regional, national, local and private sector SBE investments, pollution reduction, circular economy, etc.)

4.2.2: Feasibility for blue carbon finance assessed and viable options developed (the project will work with NGI to expand kelp harvesting (e.g. such efforts as <https://kelp.blue/namibia/>).

#### 4.2.3: Blue carbon finance mechanism developed and implemented

### 5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
363,585.00	800,490.00

Outcome:

**5.1: Knowledge management, awareness raising and communication on Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy in the BCLME region strengthened**

Output:

5.1.1: Knowledge products (project results, innovative solutions, best practices and lessons learned) from sustainable blue/ocean economy **shared for replication and upscaling.**

5.1.2 **Strengthened capacities for knowledge management in relation to SBE, ICZM, MSP and MPA, and monitoring Knowledge Management performance**

5.1.3 **Communication and Outreach Programme for awareness raising on Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy approaches and opportunities developed and implemented**

### 5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
200,000.00	622,291.00

Outcome:

**5.2: The upscaling of sustainable and viable blue/ocean economy interventions is promoted**

Output:

5.2.1: **Communication and knowledge products (information packages, tools and approaches) for upscaling developed and shared with beneficiaries via knowledge-sharing platforms.**

5.2.2: Scalable, sustainable and viable blue/ocean economy interventions shared with the Africa LME Caucus and IW:LEARN.

5.2.3: Sustainable blue/ocean economy practice, knowledge and lessons shared across African LMEs in partnership with IW:LEARN.

## M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
299,569.00	700,000.00

Outcome:

Output:

Operational project M&E systems successfully implemented and informing adaptive management

## Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME	1,000,000.00	3,098,897.00
1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME	1,000,000.00	3,207,968.00
1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME	500,000.00	902,500.00
2. Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development (only for Nambia)	650,000.00	1,884,411.27
2. Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development (only for Nambia)	1,443,000.00	2,846,744.73
2. Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development (only for Nambia)	257,000.00	1,226,410.00
3. Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME	300,000.00	969,291.00
3. Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME	500,000.00	969,292.00

4. Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts	600,000.00	1,581,069.00
4. Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts	2,872,495.00	5,000,160.00
5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy	363,585.00	800,490.00
5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy	200,000.00	622,291.00
M&E	299,569.00	700,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>9,985,649.00</b>	<b>23,809,524.00</b>
Project Management Cost	499,282.00	1,190,476.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>10,484,931.00</b>	<b>25,000,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

Note: Activities proposed under outcomes 2.2 and 2.3 of component 2 will only be implemented in Namibia with a total budget of USD 1,700,000 of Namibia STAR allocation.

## PROJECT OUTLINE

### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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

The BCLME is among the world's most productive LMEs. The BCLME countries are highly dependent on the BCLME's environment and living and non-living marine resources for human wellbeing and socio-economic development, and, as such, it is of crucial importance to the Parties. Despite this fact and the ongoing management efforts at the regional and national levels, the BCLME's marine environment and living marine resources continue to be heavily impacted by human activities combined with global warming and climate change. The combined pressures on the BCLME from multiple sources and activities have resulted in drastic changes, some of which may be irreversible, including depletion of fish stocks and degradation of critical coastal habitats and loss of marine biodiversity, which compromise the ability of the ecosystem to sustain many of the goods and services that it provides.

The current project will aim to address the environmental problems and climate vulnerabilities summarized next.

*Global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address include:*

**Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.** With some of the most productive fisheries in the world, the fisheries sector is very important for food security, employment, and foreign currency earnings in the BCLME region. However, the sustainability of these fisheries is threatened by demand for more participation in domestic fishing sectors, and IUU fishing. More than 35% of global commercial fish stocks are overfished<sup>[1]</sup>. This is evidenced in the BCLME region where, the Angolan media reported unsustainable fishing practices by local communities along the coast, and Namibia's fishing sector reports of lower catches year-on-year, along with reduction in sizes of commercially viable fish. A surge in the number of ski boats in Namibia over the past 2 years is linked to people losing jobs and being able to enter this segment of the fishing sector. No regulations are currently in place for this fishery; hence, no controls on their catches, with reported unsustainable catches at present.

In Angola, it was observed that the locally called "band banda" fishery catches fish below size at first maturity. This can drive the stock toward collapse for both Angola and Namibia if left unaddressed. In Namibia, west coast rock lobster total allowable catches went from 10,000 metric tonnes during the 1990s to below 500 metric tonnes in recent years. The median marketable size of horse mackerel went from +24 centimeters (cm) in Namibia prior to 2014, to only +16 cm at present. The Cape hakes in Namibia are reported to be fished below maximum sustainable yield (MSY), while climate change impacts are still unclear. Of the 61 commercial fish stocks assessed by South Africa in 2020, 24 (36%) are of concern, of which 14 (23% of total assessed) are

overexploited<sup>[2]<sup>2</sup></sup>. The assessment suggested that both Cape hakes species (*M. capensis* and *M. paradoxus*) are above the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), which could be due in part to the observed distribution changes linked to changes in ecosystem conditions. Similar to Namibia, the west coast rock lobster stock in South Africa remains depleted.

Significant value is lost due to the lack of a joint management agreement for transboundary stocks. While scientists collaborate through the FAO-EAF Nansen programme, there is still not a platform for joint data analysis and processing and delivery of recommendations for total allowable catches (TACs), based on joint data analysis and interpretation. The absence of joint management of transboundary fish stocks, suboptimal Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) policies and their implementation, limited alternative livelihoods for coastal communities, poor recognition of the socio-economic value of fisheries, and the slow and fragmented implementation of the Ecosystem-Based Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management, are some of the key factors that need to be addressed to transition toward sustainable fisheries. Shared stocks may be depleted faster than currently perceived given that for transboundary fish stocks, assessments of biomass are not done jointly, and countries are not aware of each other's' fishing capacities. There has been increasing pressure on fish stocks given that higher TACs are demanded year-on-year for fishing companies to remain viable. Transformation and wealth redistribution policies in Namibia and South Africa have led to more entrants in the fishing sector, placing more pressure on fish stocks as some have made significant investments in fishing vessels and land-based processing infrastructure. Except for hakes and horse mackerel, the lack of joint management is due, at times, to limited or no data proving the transboundary nature of species. This has been facilitated over the years through collaboration between BCLME countries and the FAO-EAF Nansen survey programme. There is, therefore, a need for the three countries to improve efforts for firm determination of transboundary status so that joint management approaches are discussed and implemented. Similarly, IUU is a problem in the region due to the limited capacity for monitoring and surveillance of the respective Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). This has been impacted by the economic recessions experienced by all three countries since 2014/15 and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Underlying causes of overfishing and IUU include inadequate fisheries management, limited regional collaboration in managing shared stocks, inadequate data and information, inadequate monitoring, surveillance and enforcement, and limited human, technical, and institutional capacity. Root causes include population and cultural pressures (high dependence on fisheries for food security, employment, livelihoods, income, and export earnings), limited alternative livelihood opportunities, weak governance, unsustainable development models, low public awareness, and conflicts over rights of access.

**Habitat degradation and biodiversity loss.** A diverse range of coastal and marine habitats (such as sand dunes, beaches, estuaries, lagoons, wetlands, mangroves, kelp forests, and coral reefs) and associated biodiversity in BCLME provide valuable ecosystem goods and services that contribute to human well-being and socio-economic development in the countries. The various habitats serve as shelter, nurseries, spawning, feeding, roosting, and breeding grounds for various organisms, including seabirds, sea turtles, fish and shellfish, sharks, and marine mammals. Marine habitats play an important role in coastal protection, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and some such as mangroves, kelp forests and seagrass meadows play also an important role in climate change mitigation by sequestering carbon from the atmosphere and ocean in their tissues (blue carbon). Some of the coastal habitats are transboundary (e.g., Orange River estuary and Cunene and Congo River mouths), and some are Ramsar sites (Walvis Bay Lagoon, Sandwich Harbour Lagoon and Orange River Mouth). Unprecedented pressures from a combination of human activities (fishing, mariculture, oil and gas industries, mining, shipping, tourism, agriculture, etc.), natural environmental variability, and

climate change are leading to degradation and loss of the BCLME's marine habitats and associated biodiversity, reducing their resilience to climate change impacts. Many of the marine species, some of which are rare, endemic and migratory, are threatened, vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered. Destructive human activities include emerging and proposed large-scale economic development, such as oil and gas exploration and production, marine phosphate mining, development of green hydrogen, exploration of new minerals and alternative living marine resources, marine bio-prospecting and industrial scale aquaculture (including alien species like salmon).

Angola's economy still largely relies on oil production, while oil was discovered in southern offshore Namibia, and South Africa is active in exploration for viable hydrocarbons. Angola has a framework to develop its economy away from hydrocarbons by 2050, while Namibia's NDCs commit to 95% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and South Africa's NDC prioritizes the decarbonization of its economy by 2030. The Namibian economy is heavily reliant on the marine diamond mining sector for post-COVID-19 economy recovery. This high degradation and loss of the region's marine ecosystems and biodiversity have significant impacts on fisheries and coastal/marine tourism that are highly dependent on healthy and productive ecosystems and living marine resources. In addition, this issue can threaten the food security and livelihoods of coastal human communities that rely on coastal ecosystems, as well as increase the vulnerability of coastal areas and human communities to extreme meteorological events. Underlying causes of habitat degradation and biodiversity loss include harmful fishing, unsustainable agricultural and tourism practices, improperly planned coastal development, land-use changes, inadequate waste management, and weak implementation and enforcement of biodiversity conservation measures. Root causes include growing coastal population, high dependence on marine ecosystem goods and services for socio-economic development, low political will and commitment, weak and ineffective legal, policy and institutional frameworks, no internalization of the cost of ecosystem degradation, limited data and information, and low public awareness. Except for the identification and description of ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSAs), the countries have limited capacity to monitor the health of specific habitats bearing global important environmental assets. Current *in situ* and remote surveys are focused mainly on the commercially exploited resources, particularly the fishing sector, while data on tunas and large cetaceans are based on regional and global cooperation entailing several countries (e.g., of ICAT).

**Marine pollution.** Sources, current and potential, are increasing in the BCMLE region due to increasing coastal populations and the accompanying need for jobs and basic services, and the increasing use of ocean and coastal space and resources. The coastal population of the BCLME region is estimated at 39 million people, with Angola having the highest population proportionate to the national population (45%), followed by South Africa (38%) and Namibia, where only 8% of the total population is estimated to live along the coast. Coastal industries formally employ some 1.6% of people in Angola, 5.9% in Namibia and 2.6% in South Africa. The informal employment and business sectors reliant on the ocean are not accounted for and perceived to be quite significant. In all three countries there are cases of untreated wastewater and solid wastes ending up in the ocean, many times due to lack of or suboptimal wastewater treatment and solid waste management capacities. This negatively impacts estuaries, lagoons and other biodiversity hotspots that provide refuge, forage and breeding grounds for a diversity of species, especially coastal and marine birds. Based on the Environmental Performance Index for BCLME countries, the average wastewater treatment index, measuring the proportion of treated wastewater multiplied by the proportion of the population connected to a wastewater collection system, is 12 per cent, noting no data for Angola where more than 60% of the coastal population does not have adequate wastewater treatment and or solid waste management capacities. This increases the risks of eutrophication and hypoxia in coastal areas, which has been observed in the BCLME region. Increasing shipping activity and exploration of minerals, including oil and gas also present threats of ocean pollution. Pollutants and the related degradation of

biodiversity and habitats have adverse impacts on the livelihoods of coastal communities, the tourism and fishing sectors. All BCLME countries depend on these sectors and propose to increase eco-tourism under Blue and/or Ocean Economy strategies and action. These sectors are more vulnerable to the impacts of pollution while the countries still have suboptimal capacity to tackle the problem. Underlying causes of marine pollution include inadequate waste treatment infrastructure and inadequate waste management, improperly planned coastal development, uncontrolled growth of informal coastal settlements, land-use changes, harmful agricultural practices, leakage and accidents at sea, and inadequate surveillance and compliance monitoring. Root causes include population growth, inadequate policies and legislation, including limited environmental and performance standards, weak political will and commitment, low public awareness, few incentives for sustainable practices, and poverty of coastal communities. Without the improvement of capacities (including stakeholder awareness and knowledge), technology and infrastructure, marine pollution can become an increasing threat to the BCLME. Discharge of wastewater and solid wastes, particularly plastics, can increase along the system if capacities are not enhanced significantly to cater for current population and industry sizes, and for the ongoing population growth and emerging industries. Support from the BCLME III Project enabled the refinement of data on pollution hotspots, complemented with baseline surveys of solid wastes, ongoing monitoring and assessment of seawater quality and human capacity development. Building on this could enable a pragmatic and effective response.

**Climate change.** Climate change impacts, such as increasing temperatures, sea level rise, shifts in species distribution and abundance, and increased frequency of extreme weather events are confirmed for the BCLME region. Sea surface temperature (SST) has increased over the past three decades, with estimated increases of 0.23°C<sup>[33]</sup> and 0.8°C<sup>[44]</sup> per decade in Angola. An increase in SST of approximately 1°C has been predicted for Angolan marine waters from 2006-2055<sup>[55]</sup>. Other climate associated changes in the BCLME include decreases in pH and productivity, increases in the frequencies of unfavourable environmental events, like harmful algal blooms (HABs), anoxia and hypoxia. Decreases in pH result in increases in ocean acidification as observed by the increasing brittleness of shellfish, while unfavourable events deplete the oxygen levels causing increased natural mortalities that can cause imbalances in the ecosystem. The total cumulative upwelling has reduced to less than half the long-term mean in recent years (2009-2014)<sup>[66]</sup>, which corroborates the reduced primary productivity. These changes are projected to remain or increase for the BCLME region. Climate change impacts particularly coastal communities, especially women and the youth, who have high reliance on coastal and marine resources for livelihoods and incomes. Lower catch rates and catches are linked to fewer fishing days, which are due to increasing storm events and unsafe conditions at sea. Including, the need to go further offshore to land viable catches. In 2012, it was reported that Cape hakes, shared by Namibia and South Africa, and Cape horse mackerel, shared by Angola and Namibia, show changes in their distribution and migratory patterns. Cape hakes tend to remain longer in South Africa waters before returning to Namibia, potentially favouring colder more nutrient rich waters emanating from Antarctica, while Cape horse mackerel seems to stay longer in Angolan waters, potentially favouring higher temperatures and higher diversity of foraging sources. In time this could lead to lower viability of the Namibian fishing sector, particularly as these two species are currently the mainstays of the country's fishing sector in terms of value (hakes) and volume (horse mackerel). The underlying causes of climate change impacts on the BCLME marine and coastal environment are greenhouse gas emissions, inappropriate technologies, and limited access to and investment in green technologies, energy inefficiency,



unsustainable agricultural practices, land-use change/ deforestation, limited implementation of international obligations (Paris Agreement), ineffective legal, policy and institutional frameworks, limited financial resources, knowledge, and human capacity.

If nothing is done, impacts of climate change enumerated above, coupled with high unemployment rates, and increasing national pressures for post-COVID-19 economic recovery and growth, will lead to increased unsustainable use of marine and coastal resources. If left unchecked, this will be accompanied by increases in pollution and wastes to the ocean, and leading to increased biodiversity, habitat and ecosystem degradation. This in turn will lead to reduced ocean capacity to regenerate species and maintain food web balance, and to produce oxygen, to sequester and capture carbon. It will also lead to reduced resource viability, not only in terms of harvestable biomass volumes but access to fishing grounds amidst rougher seas and unpredictable and ongoing changes in resource distribution. Coastal areas are projected to become more populous around Africa, including the BCLME region, implying higher demand for decent lives, incomes, improved livelihood security, and to pursue business opportunities. The current critical demand for jobs, incomes and food security in the region, if not addressed with viable, sustainable and scalable blue/ocean economy solutions, will result in higher incidences of illegal use of ocean resources, over harvesting and the implementation of poorly coordinated and designed income-generating interventions. Job losses and business closures in the three countries have been significant, as experienced elsewhere in Africa and the world which, aside from pre-existing migrations to coastal areas for better opportunities, places higher pressures on national and local level resources. In Namibia, it is estimated that more than 14,500 persons lost their jobs, while in South Africa the number exceeds 3 million people. The countries have on average above 35% youth unemployment levels with women making up the highest proportion. Many youths have not completed secondary schooling, have limited skills and are lured into easy-money-making schemes that include illegal use of resources. This can exacerbate in time if opportunities for upskilling, vocational training and or entrepreneurship are not offered and financed. Climate variability and change hold major uncertainties for the BCLME region that could result in negative impacts on people and living marine resources. Addressing climate change requires innovative climate-resilient, and sustainability-driven approaches for economic growth, based on adequate competencies for successful implementation.

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[1] <https://www.fao.org/state-of-fisheries-aquaculture>.

[2] Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (2020) [Status of the South African marine fishery resources 2020](#).

[3] Jarre et al., 2015. Cited in Angola National Report: Small Pelagic Fisheries Vulnerability and Adaptation (2020, unpublished).

[4] Potts et al., 2014.

[5] RCP 8.5 represents a scenario in which high emissions of greenhouse gases continue in the future

[6] Lamont et al., 2018.

#### *Project Objective and Justification:*

This project has been selected because it addresses the problems described above building on current and past initiatives while providing solutions to emerging issues in the BCLME region. With the objective to mainstream the development of climate resilient blue/ocean economies in the implementation of the SAP of the BCLME, the proposed project will enable a shift toward sustainable fisheries management through bilateral agreements for the joint monitoring, assessment, and recommendation of total allowable catches for transboundary stocks; enable an effective response to climate change and improved marine and coastal biodiversity conservation;

**improve pollution management** and unlock innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable ocean management. This project builds on the current and previous investments under 3 UNDP-GEF phases in the BCLME region to ensure sustainability. Recent achievements under the BCLME III project include the establishment of coordination mechanisms between countries (TDA, SAP, NAPS, NICS, different working groups, etc.); production of a National Strategy for the Seas in Angola, a Blue Economy Policy and Implementation Action Plan for Namibia, an oceans economy programme in South Africa, a State of BCLME Marine Environment Report, and the Economic Valuation and Cost Benefit Analysis of ecosystem services in BCLME. Lessons and good practices from local level demonstration initiatives, including the climate change work, will be applied and the outcomes embedded for sustainability. This project will support the implementation of the BCC's updated Strategic Action Program (SAP) which includes developing and implementing a Regional Blue/Ocean Economy Strategy. The SAP incorporates national priorities of regional relevance while country-specific blue/ocean economy and ecosystem stress reduction targets are covered in NAPs.

Furthermore, the BCLME IV project will work to address the priority transboundary environmental concerns of the SAP, in relation to: living marine resources- LMR (non-optimal harvesting of living marine resources), non-living marine resources, ecosystem health and biodiversity (EHB) loss, pollution, and climate change, as well as addressing the human dimensions and governance concerns. The objective of the SAP and NAPs is to promote the sustainable use of the BCLME marine resources within a climate-resilient, blue economy/sustainable ocean economy framework. Over the longer term, implementation of the SAP will restore depleted living marine resources and degraded marine habitats, thus enhancing sustainable development opportunities within the BCLME region and increasing the resilience of marine ecosystems as well as dependent coastal communities to climate change impacts.

The purpose of the NAPs in the three countries is to provide an overall overview of key BCC sectors' priority actions, projects and other initiatives, knowledge gaps and barriers. The NAP offers descriptive information for how the defined technical, management interventions and strategies in ocean governance would be addressed. Furthermore, a NAP is developed to effectively and successfully implement the SAP at national level. The NAP development further affords an opportunity for a collaboration in order to achieve sustainable and ecosystem-based management of the LME.

The Blue Economy / sustainable ocean economy concept is recognized as central to sustainable development seeking a balance between socio-economic benefits and ecological conservation. The World Bank defines the Blue Economy as the "sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystem."The SAP promotes an integrated approach to the blue economy / sustainable ocean economy, pushing for the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved sustainable livelihoods, and maintaining/restoring the health and productivity of the BCLME. It explicitly calls for the integration of blue economy / ocean economy principles in the solutions to address the priority transboundary issues confronting the BCLME.

**In addition, the Blue/Ocean Economy brings countries an opportunity for diversifying their economies beyond land-based activities and achieving economic growth. The sustainable blue/ocean economy encompasses all**

sectoral and cross-sectoral economic activities related to the oceans, seas and coasts, and their resources. For numerous coastal and island countries, oceans represent a significant jurisdictional area and a source of opportunity. “Innovation and growth in the coastal, marine and maritime sectors could deliver food, energy, transport, among other products and services, and serve as a foundation for sustainable development. Diversifying countries’ economies beyond land-based activities and along their coasts is critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and delivering smart, sustainable and inclusive growth globally.”<sup>11</sup>

Major economic sectors in the three countries that are highly dependent on the BCLME and its natural resources, which are expected to be engaged under the BCLME IV include: fisheries, aquaculture/mariculture, coastal and marine tourism, mining, maritime transport, and blue carbon. The fisheries sector involves the harvesting, processing, and distribution of fish and other marine resources and related activities (such as deck handling, transport, trade on ice, other supplies such as fishing gears, and fish products). The BCLME region is known for its rich fisheries, which support the livelihoods of many coastal communities. Most of the important harvested fish stocks are shared between at least two of the BCLME countries, and some are shared with other countries outside the region. However, inadequate management and limited monitoring, surveillance, and control, as well as overfishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing practices have depleted some fish populations and are of concern in many of the region’s commercial fisheries. Because of the high dependence of the countries on fisheries resources for food, livelihoods, revenue, and employment, non-optimal fisheries exploitation has serious socio-economic consequences for the BCLME countries, such as food insecurity and loss of livelihoods (especially for the less privileged and vulnerable communities), reduced revenue (including export earnings), increased poverty, user conflicts, and increased migration to cities (which all three countries have experienced to varying degrees). Women are especially vulnerable since the majority of land-based fisheries employees are women. Efforts are underway in the region to implement sustainable fishing practices. In addition to the harvesting of wild fish stocks, the BCLME is also home to a growing aquaculture/mariculture industry, which involves the farming of fish, shellfish, and other marine species. There is considerable potential for the expansion of mariculture regionally. The stage has been set for increased aquaculture production in Angola, Namibia, and South Africa. Angola, for example, has enacted aquaculture legislation and developed a comprehensive aquaculture policy based on accepted international guidelines and protocols. Aquaculture is addressed as a development priority in Namibia, where fish and fisheries play an important role in the economy. The aquaculture industry of South Africa is the most developed of the three countries. It produces abalone, mussels, oysters, turbot, and prawns, in addition to species on the threshold of commercial production such as seaweed and kob (*Argyrosomus* spp.). While mariculture can provide a sustainable source of food, it can also have negative impacts on the environment, including pollution and the spread of disease to wild fish populations. Thus, it is crucial to support the sustainable development of this industry, ensuring that the aquaculture activities are carried out according to the best practices and international regulations to minimize the impact on the marine environment of the BCLME.

The BCLME region is also known for its coastal and marine tourism industry, which includes activities such as recreational fishing, whales and dolphins watching, and diving. While this industry is seen as providing justifiable option in the region (in particular, eco-tourism, currently underexploited) as non-extractive industry with good economic benefits, it is recognized that unless sustainably managed (regulated), tourism development can have negative impacts on the coastal and marine environment, such as habitat destruction and pollution, increasingly coming into conflict with its protection and conservation. At the same time, degradation and loss of the region’s coastal and marine ecosystems and biodiversity can have significant impacts on coastal and marine tourism, which is highly dependent on healthy and productive ecosystems and living marine resources

as main attraction for the business success and viability. The mining sector, which involves the exploration and extraction of non-living resources from the ocean floor, is a key economic sector in the region, currently in expansion.

The rich mineral resources of the region, which support significant economic activities (such as oil, gas and mineral extraction), are expected to grow due to increasing regional and international demands. There is substantial oil extraction in northern Angola (Cabinda) while the development of oil and gas fields are planned further south (e.g., in the Orange River Basin along the Namibian-South African border). Extensive diamond mining is being conducted using dredging equipment along the Namibian and South African coasts and on the continental shelves of these countries, while other seabed mining projects have been proposed, notably bulk seabed mining for phosphates in Namibia and South Africa. The exploitation of the significant oil, gas and mineral reserves existing in the BCLME can have negative impacts on the marine environment, including pollution and habitat destruction. While current mining activities may have a fairly localized impact (i.e., with limited transboundary consequences for the most part), the increase in exploration and extraction activities over the past decade means that the likelihood of the occurrence of impacts is now greater. Conflicts between the mining sector (which often tends to operate somewhat in isolation from other sectors), and fishing industries exist and need to be addressed. Other sectors that are impacted by mining activities, such as tourism, appear to have limited engagement with the mining sector possibly due to a lack of opportunity and suggesting a lack of capacity to participate in such a dialogue.

The BCLME is an important shipping route, with many vessels passing through its waters each year. Five of South Africa's eight commercial ports are located inside or near the Benguela ecosystem: Port Elizabeth, Mossel Bay, Cape Town, Saldanha, and Ngqura. Cape Town is the world's second-largest seaport, with a terminal that handles over 3,000 boats each year with a gross tonnage of 44.5 million. Similarly, Namibia has two main seaports within the BCLME. Walvis Bay is Namibia's largest commercial port, receiving approximately 3,000 vessel calls each year and handling about 5 million tonnes of cargo. The port of Lüderitz in southern Namibia was primarily developed as a fishing port, but it now serves as a vital logistics hub for the marine diamond mining and the petroleum industries. Angola has four main seaports: Luanda, Lobito, Namibe and Cabinda. Luanda being one of the most important commercial ports on the west coast of Africa. In 2006, the port handled an estimated 5 million tonnes of cargo. The port's main exports include petroleum, diamonds, iron ore and fish products. Major imports include iron, steel, machinery, flour and coal. While maritime transport is vital for trade and commerce, it can also have negative impacts on the marine environment, including pollution and accidental spills. Maritime accidents pose a serious threat to the marine environment, destroying coastal ecosystems, beaches, and related industries such as fishing and tourism. As a result, the Benguela Current Convention prioritizes minimizing, mitigating, and eliminating marine pollution. Finally, the BCLME region has vast coastal ecosystems, including mangroves, salt marshes, and seagrasses that have the potential to sequester significant amounts of carbon (blue carbon). The protection and restoration of these ecosystems can contribute to climate change mitigation through blue carbon. By conserving and restoring these coastal habitats, the region can reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also providing many other benefits, such as storm protection, fisheries nursery habitats, and recreational opportunities. In addition, by protecting and restoring coastal habitats, the BCLME can create opportunities for the buying and selling of carbon offsets, which can provide financial incentives for restoration and conservation projects.

While these sectors can provide significant economic benefits, some can also have negative impacts on the marine environment if not managed sustainably. The proposed project components under the BCLME IV aim to implement sustainable practices in these sectors to ensure the long-term health and productivity of the BCLME ecosystem.

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[1] Oceans 2030. Financing the Blue Economy for Sustainable Development. The World Bank. (<https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/446441473349079068-0010022016/original/AMCOECCBlueEconomyDevelopmentFramework.pdf>)

*Other completed and ongoing initiatives that are in line with this project objective include:* the GiZ MSP-EBSA Project to position the BCC Member States for a climate-resilient and sustainable blue economy; the BCC-FAO Project on climate change adaptation; private sector investment in mangrove reforestation in Angola; the Oceans 5-Namibia Nature Foundation partnership to improve the socio-economics of the Namibia Islands MPA (NIMPA); and WWF and Abalobi interventions to improve the small-scale fishing sector in South Africa. New initiatives that are being negotiated include the BCC partnership with the Blue Nature Alliance (BNA) and The Nature Conservancy on marine biodiversity conservation.

This project fits directly with the priorities of participating countries, especially improving fisheries management and diversification of the fishing sector, addressing climate change and pollution impacts, and using the blue/ocean economy concept to stimulate economic recovery and growth. It is timely and a most appropriate fit for the BCLME Region, based on current Presidential leadership for ocean protection, the existing and evolving landscape of investments, and the new and emerging funding avenues (e.g., non-traditional donors and private sector). The current Presidents in the BCLME Region all embrace the goals of ocean protection and using the blue/ocean economy to recover from COVID-19 and to address the impacts of climate change. Public commitments for improved ocean governance and protection have never before been the case in the region, hence the opportunity to leverage the current Presidential willpower and leadership to achieve transformative outcomes and impact. The President of Namibia is one of the founding global leaders of the High-Level Panel for Sustainable Oceans.

The proposed project is also very well-aligned with the GEF Global Environmental Benefits under International Waters, Biodiversity and Climate Change focal areas which are sustainable management of fisheries, Protected Area under effective management in landscapes/seascapes and reduced emissions respectively.

This project will engage different stakeholders including the 3 participating Governments, Private Sector actors, NGOs, Local communities, Development Partners, and research and academic institutions.

## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### **Project description**

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section

should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

## Project Description

**Angola, Namibia, and South Africa share the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME), which is richly endowed with living and non-living marine resources, providing a range of essential ecosystem services that underpin the socio-economic development and well-being of the region's people. Recognising the threats to the BCLME previously described and its shared nature, the Parties joined forces to collaborate on the sustainable use and management of the BCLME. As previously stated, this has been reflected throughout the years, on the achievement of several milestones directed towards the management of transboundary marine resources at the broader ecosystem level rather than at the national level. The proposed regional project involves a set of enabling transformational interventions aimed at addressing and overcoming several transboundary environmental constraints, challenges and priorities, as highlighted in the countries' NAPs and the regional SAP (2023-2033), related to fitting strategies, policies, capacities and access to technology, adapting to new developments, and satisfying the evolving needs for effective governance to address environmental concerns; all of which influence the productivity and sustainability of existing and envisioned blue economy investments that rely on, and also affect marine ecosystem services.**

**Mandate and buy-in from key decision-makers in the BCLME Region.** Presidential commitments (*see below*) reflect biodiversity protection balanced with economic recovery and growth. This resonates with all stakeholder categories and trigger the leading role of BCC line ministries. Presidents show appreciation of the role of the private sector and local communities to address environmental problems and barriers, and to realize opportunities for inclusive climate-resilient blue/ocean economy development:

- **President Hage Geingob of Namibia is a founding member of the global High-Level Panel for Sustainable Ocean Economy signaling his political leadership for blue economy development. He announced at the 74<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly in 2019 that the country will declare 10% of ocean space as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and at the 2022 World Economic Forum (WEF) to explore blue and green finance as innovative means for economic transformation. The BCLME III Project has proposed how to apply EBSAs data for viable MPAs and to explore and unlock blue carbon finance.**

- **President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço of Angola was awarded the International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) prize in September 2021 for his outstanding leadership in securing national parks and protected areas in Angola for the benefit of wildlife and communities. He appointed a 16-member Cabinet committee that delivered the 2022 National Strategy for the Seas and he shows strong commitment for mangrove reforestation and improved protection.**
- **President Cyril Ramaphosa of South African committed at a G7 Special Summit in Canada in 2022 to join global partnership efforts to improve ocean protection and to leverage ecosystem services to address climate change mitigation and blue/ocean economy development. Affirmed with Global Steering Committee of the Campaign for Nature in May 2022, the protection of biodiversity and to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Welcomed the goals and targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) which includes the ambitious “30x30” target.**

**The above is the key success factor for the realization of the Theory of Change, to harness opportunities and address barriers. Project outcomes of high national, regional and global importance often lack or have limited political commitment that resonates with all stakeholder and sectors, and to catalyze a paradigm shift for results, sustainability and scalability.**

**Explicit, clear and logical outcomes, opportunities and barriers. Overarching causal pathways, emanating from Presidential commitments, include (i) effective identification and engagement of key stakeholders, (ii) support the development of appropriate capacities, that can (iii) enable meaningful participation in project activities, and (iv) enable the achievement of successful outputs that lead to sustainable and scalable outcomes, including financing. Limited or no appropriate human, institutional, policy and technological capacities are the main barriers, exacerbated by limited resources. This project aims to address the barriers through targeted competencies and skills development for sustainability of ecosystem services and financing, integration of climate change across sectors, and the development of climate-resilient blue/ocean economy.**

**The logical framework of the proposed project is rooted in the Theory of Change diagram presented in Figure 1. Its design assumes that by addressing priority concerns on the management of living and non-living resources (Component 1), marine and**

**coastal areas and pollution in the BCLME (Components 2 and 3) and promoting innovative and sustainable blue/ocean economy finance (Component 4), the project will contribute to the development and implementation of climate-resilient sustainable blue/ocean economies in the BCLME region (long-term impact).**

**In particular, by enhancing capacities for transboundary stock management, identifying and developing new climate-resilient markets, developing inclusive and sustainable mariculture and fisheries value chains, and enhancing policies and capacities for the sustainable exploration and exploitation of non-living marine resources (outputs of Component 1), the project intends to enhance the sustainability and climate resilience of marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME, thus, contributing to improving ocean protection and ecosystem health in the BCLME (medium-term impact).**

**Also, by strengthening policy and regulatory frameworks, planning and capacities for the management of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems and expanding MPAs, developing sustainable community-based tourism around selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems, developing community-based climate-resilient ecosystem restoration interventions and management schemes, and improving ecosystem health monitoring (outputs of Component 2), the project intends to improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME region, in particular in Namibia, thus, also contributing to improving ocean protection and ecosystem health in the region (medium-term impact).**

**Furthermore, by developing and/or strengthening policy and regulatory frameworks that incorporate the ‘polluter pays’ principle approach, formalizing cooperative agreements and harmonizing regional long-term regional biodiversity, ecosystem and environmental monitoring and surveillance programmes and chemical pollution clean-up initiatives in transboundary hotspots, developing new technologies for pollution control, developing alternative livelihoods and building capacities for pollution management at the community level (outputs of Component 3), the project is expected to improve marine pollution management in the BCLME, also contributing to improving ocean protection and ecosystem health, while at the same time contributing to reducing poverty, increasing jobs and strengthening adaptive capacities in the countries (medium-term impacts).**



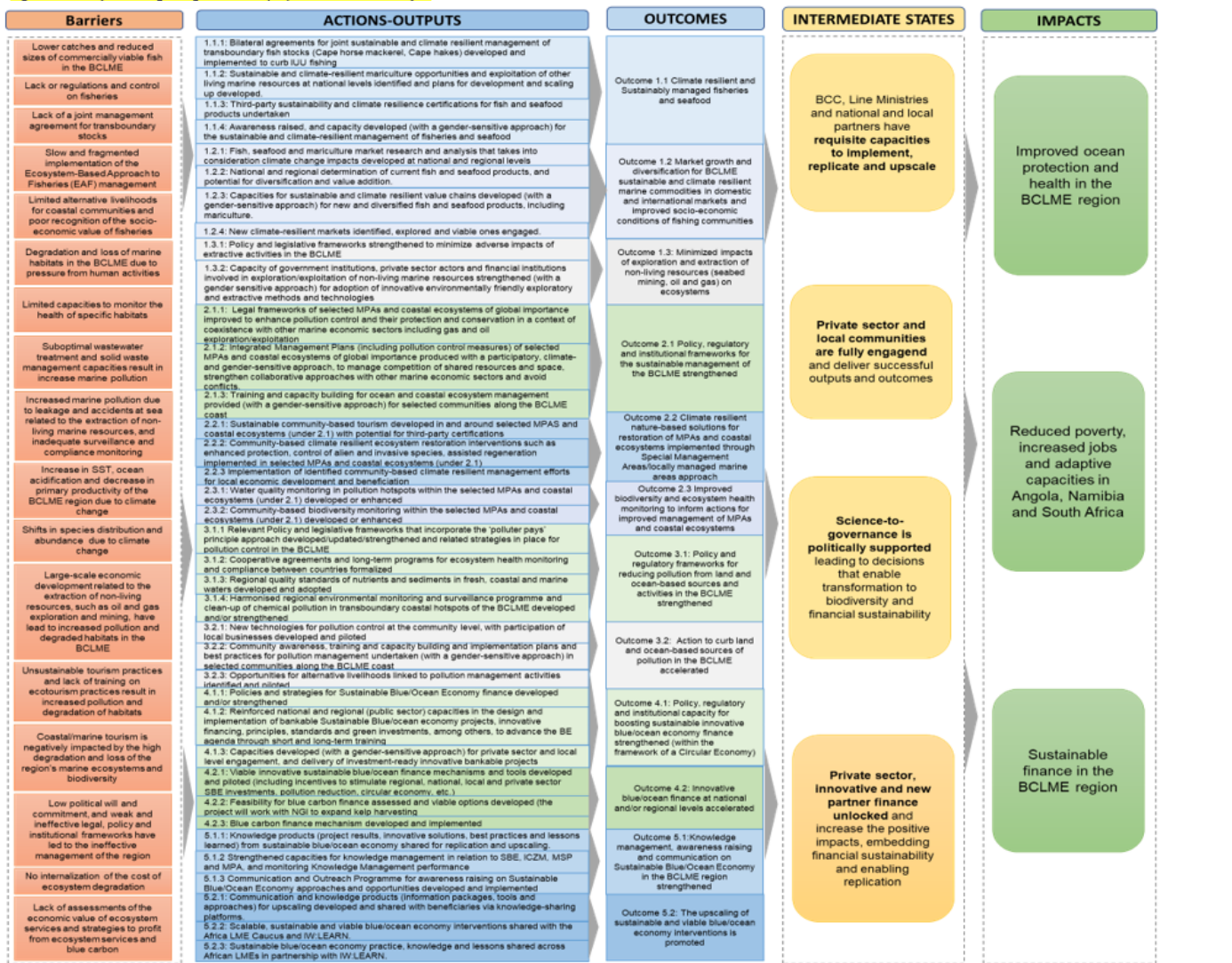
**Finally, through strengthening policy and regulatory frameworks and institutional and private capacities, developing viable finance mechanisms to stimulate investment in sustainable blue/ocean economy interventions, and promoting blue carbon finance mechanisms (outputs of Component 4), the project will contribute to developing regional and national frameworks for innovative sustainable blue/ocean economy finance (medium-term impacts),**

**In summary, the delivery of the above outputs and the achievement of the outcomes and medium-term impacts, will facilitate the realization of the long-term impact of contributing to the development and implementation of climate-resilient sustainable blue/ocean economies in the BCLME region.**

The causal pathways, outcomes and intended impact of this project are directly well-aligned with multi-sectoral ocean strategies/blue economy policy frameworks that incorporate climate Change. through sector integrated, inclusive and participatory processes. National and subnational ownership of these strategies and policies is in place raising the chances of success given the common objectives and the established platforms to harness the “power of the collective”. All three countries regard blue/ocean economy development as an innovative and promising solution, which positions the causal pathways for success.

The different components of the project are detailed below.

Figure 1. Theory of Change diagram for the proposed BCLME IV Project



## Component 1. Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME

This component focuses on the sustainable management and exploitation of living and non-living marine resources. The management of marine resources will be successful and, climate resilient and sustainable through (a) enabling bilateral reviews and analysis of survey data, the negotiation and joint recommendation of total allowable catches for transboundary stocks, (b) legally binding agreements at bilateral levels for shared stock management (building on bilateral MoUs, and lessons from the joint data analysis), (c) market research and analysis to determine the demand for value added fish and seafood products and their value chains, (d) improving the socio-economic conditions of fishing communities, (e) developing capacities for implementation, (e) securing and engaging viable new markets for sustainable supply, (f) developing and/or strengthening policies and legislative frameworks to minimize adverse impacts of extractive activities in the BCLME, and (g) strengthening the capacity of government

institutions, private sector actors and financial institutions involved in the exploration/exploitation of non-living marine resources for adoption of innovative environmentally friendly exploratory and extractive methods and technologies.

## **Component 2. Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and/or expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development**

Aimed at improving the management of marine and coastal areas in the BCLME region and in Namibia, this component will entail: (a) strengthening of the legal frameworks and integrated management of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems, (b) building the capacities of communities for ocean and coastal ecosystem management, (c) meaningful involvement of communities and the private sector operating in or nearby selected MPAs, (d) feasibility assessments including environmental impact assessments (EIAs), of viable eco-tourism options and mariculture embedding sustainability, which will inform enterprise development, (d) sustainable community-based tourism activities, (e) community-based ecosystem restoration interventions, (f) Marine Spatial Plans (MSPs) and Coastal Zone Management Plans developed to manage competition of shared resources and space, strengthen collaborative approaches with other marine economic sectors (gas and oil exploration/exploitation) and avoid conflicts, (g) ongoing market reviews, which will be important to respond to changing industry trends and consumer demand, (h) capacity development for community-based enterprise development in tourism and mariculture will be prioritized as a key factor for sustainability and good governance, and (i) community-based biodiversity monitoring for improved management of selected MPAs. It is worth mentioning that community and private sector partnerships, as being tested by the BCC-FAO Project in South Africa, and existing PPPs will bear valuable lessons and good practice to raise chances of success and sustainability. Community and private sector ownership are important success factors for successful co-management of ocean space and biodiversity linked to social and economic opportunities and climate resilience capacities. Some of these activities will have a regional focus (such as the aforementioned activities a, b or f), while others will be implemented exclusively in Namibia (e.g., activities c, d, e, g, h or i),

Since several economic activities (including fisheries, mining, and tourism activities) may compete for the same space (in target MPAs), the implementation of Component 2 will be closely linked to the implementation of Component 1. As such, the outputs from Component 1, such as the distribution of major stocks, mariculture opportunities, the full array of fisheries value chain assessed, and new markets identified will be integrated in Marine Spatial Plans (MSPs), Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans (ICZMPs) and management plans of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems.

## **Component 3. Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME**

**This component will focus on improving the management of marine pollution in the BCLME. This will be achieved by supporting the a) strengthening of policy and regulatory frameworks for reducing pollution from land and ocean-based sources, incorporating the ‘polluter pays’ principle into policy and legislative frameworks, b) Formalizing cooperative agreements and long-term programs for ecosystem monitoring and compliance between the countries, c) developing and adopting regional quality standards of nutrients and sediments in fresh, coastal and marine waters, and establishing a harmonised regional environmental monitoring and surveillance programme and clean-up of chemical pollution in transboundary coastal hotspots of the BCLME. In addition, this component will also work on accelerating actions to curb land-and ocean-based sources of pollution through e) developing and piloting new technologies for pollution control at the community level, with participation of local businesses, f) undertaking community awareness, training and capacity building and implementation plans and best practices for pollution management, following a gender-sensitive approach in selected communities along the BCLME coast; and developing/enhancing water quality monitoring in pollution hotspots within the selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems (under 2.1) to improve ecosystem health.**

**By improving the management of coastal and marine pollution, the component will contribute to the overall goal of developing sustainable blue/ocean economies in the BCLME region. Improved coastal and marine pollution management will help to protect the coastal and marine ecosystems, which is a key focus of component 2. The reduction of pollution from land and ocean-based sources, as well as the development of regional quality standards for marine waters, will contribute to the improved management of living and non-living marine resources, which is the focus of component 1. The development of new technologies for pollution control at the community level and community awareness, will also contribute to the overall goal of developing sustainable blue economies, by creating new opportunities for local businesses and increasing the adaptive capacity of coastal communities.**

#### **Component 4. Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts**

**This component will be sustainable given (a) the national ocean strategies and blue/ocean economy policies as country commitments and cross-sector enabling policies, (b) by fostering common understanding of blue/ocean economy and a common executable and achievable vision. This will build on national processes, supported by the BCLME III Project, to generate awareness, knowledge and understanding of**

blue/ocean economy. It will also support (c) the development of competencies and skills for all stakeholders in environmental protection, the design and implementation of bankable sustainable blue/ocean economy projects, innovative and sustainable financing, principles and standards, green investments, and monitoring and evaluation, among others, for the advancement of the BE agenda. It will further entail (d) more substantive engagement of the private sector and local communities as implementers of strategies and policy actions. (e) At national and regional levels, stakeholder capitalism of the blue/ocean economy will be developed and shared to ensure resonance, buy-in and ownership by each segment of society. This will ensure the endurance of commitment and sustainability of interventions. (f) The Regional Blue/Ocean Economy Strategy will integrate and harmonize national strategies and policies to embed the ecosystem-based approach (EBA) in blue/ocean economy.

### **Component 5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/ Ocean Economy**

This component will support the preparation and dissemination of SBE knowledge products, tools and support services that are based on the outcomes, impacts, benefits and experiences of the SBE project interventions under all components, for use in awareness raising campaigns and upscaling SBE development and growth within and among BCLME countries. Innovative SBE practices, value-added partnerships, successful financing and operating templates, and other relevant knowledge products and technologies from the SBE pilot interventions will be prepared, shared, and upscaled. All knowledge outputs and products will be uploaded to the BCC Regional Integrated Information Management System (RIIMS) for ease of access and sharing, and will be made available for access via partner websites and platforms (above list including SADC, African Union Commission, IW:LEARN and the UN System). This component will also address knowledge gaps and strengthen knowledge management for supporting blue/ocean economy decision making, planning, enhancing visibility, access to information, readiness and awareness programs for sustainable blue/ocean economy, including also through building and strengthening linkages to and involvement of relevant R & D institutes in the region, within BCLME countries and wider, through the Africa LME Caucus IW:LEARN platform. Participation in IW:LEARN activities will be supported by adequate allocations in the project's budget.

#### ***Monitoring and evaluation***

Timely project monitoring and evaluation will be carried out with the aim of informing stakeholders on the progress of the project's implementation, as well as to allow for

adaptive management resulting in successful delivery of the project's products and services.

### *Gender mainstreaming*

Engaging women in project activities is crucial for the sustainable development of the blue/ocean economy. To achieve this, gender equality and women's empowerment should be prioritized in project design and implementation. A comprehensive approach should be taken to address gender issues, considering the needs and perspectives of both women and men. This includes identifying and addressing gender-based differences in access to resources, decision-making power and participation in decision-making processes, and benefits from the project activities. Women are actively involved in the fishing industry and are responsible for activities such as fish processing, marketing, and trading. They also play a critical role in the food security and livelihoods of households and communities. The BCLME III Project has illuminated the critical role of women in fish value chains and has recognized the need to empower women in the sector. Empowering women in the sector can lead to increased productivity, better quality products, and more efficient value chains, ultimately contributing to the sustainability of the fisheries. In the tourism sector, women's participation in product and service development should be promoted, including training and capacity building programs. Similarly, in the transport sector, equal access to job opportunities and safe, affordable transportation for women should be ensured. In general, women's participation and leadership can help to ensure that the different industries are managed in a socially and environmentally responsible way, taking into account the needs of local communities and promoting sustainable practices. Women are often responsible for collecting and managing natural resources, and they have traditional knowledge and practices that can contribute to the development of effective nature-based solutions. Ultimately, empowering women in the blue/ocean economy sector not only benefits them but also contributes to the overall development of the sector, leading to greater economic growth and sustainability. Therefore, recognizing and empowering women's leadership and participation in the blue/ocean economy development of the BCLME is crucial for achieving sustainable and inclusive development in the region.

In more detail, the project components will work towards gender mainstreaming and empowerment through a series of actions, including but not limited to the following actions:

- **Ensure equitable participation of women in fisheries management committees and decision-making processes related to marine resources.**
- **Promote access to finance for women involved in fishing activities and value chains to enhance their livelihoods.**
- **Develop gender-sensitive policies and legislative frameworks to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women in the sector.**
- **Ensure meaningful participation of women in the development and implementation of Marine Spatial Plans and Coastal Zone Management Plans.**
- **Promote capacity building for women in the tourism and mariculture sectors to enhance their entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for economic empowerment.**
- **Develop policies and guidelines to ensure gender mainstreaming in the implementation of community-based ecosystem restoration interventions.**
- **Ensure equitable access to innovative blue/ocean economy finance for women and women-led businesses.**
- **Develop gender-sensitive principles and standards for sustainable financing of blue/ocean economy projects.**
- **Promote capacity building for women in the design and implementation of bankable sustainable blue/ocean economy projects.**
- **Ensure gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation of the project's implementation and impact, and dissemination of gender-disaggregated data.**
- **Promote gender-sensitive knowledge management practices and tools for supporting blue/ocean economy decision-making, planning, and implementation.**
- **Develop awareness-raising campaigns to promote women's participation and leadership in sustainable blue/ocean economy development and growth.**

## **Component 1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME**

- 1.1. *Climate resilient and sustainably managed fisheries and seafood* – to be achieved by enabling bilateral and regional agreements and **partnerships for joint sustainable and climate resilient ecosystem-based** management of shared stocks. Data on species biomass and management capacities will secure third-party sustainability certifications for transboundary, other stocks and mariculture. Evidence from the above will be applied for capacity development for sustainable and climate resilient fisheries management, providing sound understanding for the need and its benefits, and acknowledging the critical role of women in fisheries. Existing evidence-based lessons and good practice will be applied for the successful development and scaling of sustainable **mariculture opportunities** (community-based and private sector). **Awareness raising and capacity development efforts for the sustainable and climate resilient management of fisheries and seafood will also be undertaken.**
- 1.2. *Market growth and diversification for BCLME sustainable and climate resilient marine commodities in domestic and international markets and improved socio-economic conditions of fishing communities* – to be achieved with, fish, seafood and mariculture market research and analysis that provides evidence of viability for new processing and value addition investments. Research will be conducted to determine the scope for potential product development, diversification and value addition. Capacities will be developed for value chains for new and diversified fish and seafood products, including mariculture, improving the conditions for fishing communities. **New markets will also be identified, explored and viable ones engaged, taking into consideration the potential impacts from climate change.**
- 1.3. *Minimized impacts of exploration and extraction of non-living resources (sea bed mining, oil and gas) on ecosystems* – to be achieved by setting and/or strengthening the policy and regulatory basis to minimize adverse impacts of extractive activities in the BCLME and strengthening the capacities of relevant stakeholders involved in the exploration and extraction of non-living marine resources (**government institutions, private sector actors and financial institutions**) for adoption of innovative environmentally friendly exploratory and extractive methods and technologies.

**Component 2: Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs, taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development**

**As indicated above, the majority of activities in this component will be implemented in Namibia given that only the government of Namibia committed their Biodiversity STAR allocation to this component. Details are in the LoE of Namibia OFP. As a result,**



the activities proposed under outcome 2.1 will have a regional scope, while those under outcomes 2.2 and 2.3 will only be implemented in Namibia.

***2.1 Policy, regulatory and institutional framework for the sustainable management of the BCLME strengthened [for all the BCLME region] – to be achieved by improving the legal frameworks of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems of global importance to enhance their protection and conservation in a context of coexistence with other marine economic sectors; producing integrated Management Plans of selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems of global importance with a participatory, climate- and gender-sensitive approach, to manage competition of shared resources and space, strengthen collaborative approaches with other marine economic sectors and avoid conflicts; and providing training and capacity building for ocean and coastal ecosystem management (with a gender-sensitive approach) for selected communities along the BCLME coast***

***2.2 Climate resilient nature-based solutions for restoration (and prevention of degradation) of MPAs and coastal ecosystems implemented through Special Management Areas/Locally managed Marine Areas approach [for Namibia only]. – this will be achieved with the identification and development of sustainable community-based tourism options in and around selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems with potential for third party certifications; the implementation of community-based climate resilient ecosystem restoration interventions, such as enhanced protection, control of alien and invasive species, assisted regeneration, in selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems; as well as supporting the implementation of community-based climate-resilient management efforts for the development of local economies.***

***Improved biodiversity and ecosystem health monitoring (using eDNA-based methods) to inform actions for improved management of MPAs and coastal ecosystems [For Namibia only]– will be achieved by the development and enhancement of water quality and biodiversity monitoring activities in selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems, improving the water quality at identified pollution hotspots and the biodiversity composition and ecosystem health at national and transboundary MPAs and SMAs; and targeted actions to improve the abundance and distribution of keystone and indicator species in Namibian waters.***

### **Component 3. Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME**

**3.1 Policy and regulatory frameworks for reducing pollution from land and ocean-based sources and activities in the BCLME strengthened** – will be achieved by developing and/or updating and strengthening relevant policy and legislative frameworks and related strategies in place for pollution control in the BCLME that incorporate the ‘polluter pays’ principle approach ; formalizing cooperative agreements and long-term programs for biodiversity and ecosystem monitoring and compliance between countries; developing and adopting regional quality standards of nutrients and sediments in marine waters; and developing and/or strengthening a harmonised regional environmental monitoring and surveillance programme and clean-up of chemical pollution in transboundary coastal hotspots of the BCLME.

**3.2 Action to curb land and ocean-based sources of pollution in the BCLME accelerated** – will be achieved by the development and piloting of new technologies for pollution control at the community level, with participation of local businesses; undertaking community awareness, training and capacity building and developing implementation plans and best practices for pollution management (with a gender-sensitive approach) in selected communities along the BCLME coast; and identifying and piloting opportunities for alternative livelihoods linked to pollution management activities.

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Component 4: Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts.

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**4.1 Policy, regulatory and institutional capacity for boosting sustainable innovative blue/ocean finance strengthened (within the framework of a Circular Economy)**– to be achieved by developing and/or strengthening policies and strategies for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy finance; reinforcing national and regional (public sector) capacities for the design and implementation of bankable Sustainable Blue/ ocean economy projects, innovative financing, principles, standards and green investments, among others, to advance the BE agenda through short and long-term training; developing capacities for private sector and local level engagement (with a gender-sensitive approach), and delivery of investment-ready innovative bankable projects.

**4.2 Innovative blue/ocean finance at national and/or regional levels accelerated-** to be achieved by developing and piloting viable innovative blue/ocean finance mechanisms and tools ; carrying out an assessment of the feasibility for blue carbon finance and developing viable options in collaboration with NGI, focusing on expanding kelp harvesting; and developing and implementing a blue carbon finance mechanism.

## **Component 5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy**

- 5.1 Knowledge management, awareness raising and communication on Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy in the BCLME region strengthened** – will be achieved by sharing knowledge products (project results, innovative solutions, best practices and lessons learned) from sustainable blue/ocean economy at the national and regional levels, for nationally and regionally replication and upscaling; capacities for knowledge management in relation to SBE, ICZM, MSP, and MPA, and monitoring Knowledge Management performance will be strengthened; and a Communication and Outreach Programme for awareness raising on Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy approaches and opportunities will be developed and implemented. All results from BCLME IV interventions will be communicated effectively with stakeholders
- 5.2 The upscaling of sustainable and viable blue/ocean economy interventions is promoted** – Communication and knowledge products (information packages, tools and approaches) for upscaling will be developed and shared with beneficiaries via knowledge-sharing platforms; scalable, sustainable and viable blue/ocean economy interventions will be shared with the Africa LME Caucus and IW:LEARN; and sustainable blue/ocean economy practice, knowledge and lessons learned will be shared across African LMEs in partnership with IW:LEARN.

All proposed interventions have positive transboundary impacts that cannot be optimally realized at a national level without transboundary cooperation of the three participating countries through this GEF funded programme. Further, almost all proposed interventions have multi-sectoral implications that cannot be addressed effectively with the business-as-usual sectoral approach. Through the proposed interventions, the project will support the BCC and its member states to realize the sustainable utilization and management of the BCLME marine resources at the transboundary scale. Also, it will contribute to building the resilience of the people living in the coastal region through improved planning and resources management.

Specifically, the project activities will increase the number of commercially exploited stocks under improved management and on sustainability pathway, supporting the sustainable economic development of the fishing sector. Similarly, the interventions will also increase the total area under improved protection and/or conservation, in this way safeguarding the diverse habitats and biodiversity found in the BCLME. Interventions

will result in an increase in the number of people with enhanced resilience and adaptive capacities as well as raised capacities for blue/ocean economy project identification, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation, and the number of alternative climate resilient blue/ocean economy interventions implemented. Innovative finance mechanisms will be unlocked and implemented, ensuring the development of sustainable blue/ocean economy in the region. Lastly, the project will contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ocean industries by promoting low carbon technologies and minimizing negative environmental impacts from economic activities.

Furthermore, many of the outputs and reforms that would arise from this project would support and contribute to several global environmental commitments and objectives including:

- **Sustainable Development Goals**

This project will primarily contribute to the achievement of **SDG14 on Life below Water** (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development), and also **SDG13 on Climate Action** (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts) and **SDG17 on Partnerships for the Goals** (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development).

With regards to **SDG14**, African coastal States have endorsed the achievement of a series of targets by 2030, most of which relate to a better exploitation of the sea, preservation of the environment and prevention of pollution and other harmful changes resulting from human activities. In particular, the **BCLME** programme contributes to the following targets:

- **14.1. By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution**
- **14.2. By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.**
- **14.4. By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the**

shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

- **14.a. Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries**
- **14.b. Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets**
- **14.c. Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in “aragraph 158 of "T”e future we want”.**

**With regards to SDG13, the BCLME programme contributes to the following targets:**

- **13.1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries**

**With regards to SDG17, the BCLME programme contributes to the following targets:**

- **17.6. Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism**
- **17.14. Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development**

- **The Rio + 20 Resolution:**

**This project supports the following conclusions from the Rio + 20 Resolution:**

- **The need to give more attention to Africa and the lag in commitments made previously at major UN summits and conferences (particularly those contained in the Millennium Declaration, the UN Declaration on NEPAD, The Monterrey Consensus and the Johannesburg PoI and the outcomes of the 2005 World Summit on Sustainable Development);**
- **The importance of promoting the science-policy interface;**
- **Strengthening the participation of countries in international sustainable development processes through capacity building and assistance to conducting their own monitoring and assessments;**
- **Recognizing the importance of also building capacity in developing countries to benefit from conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources and emphasizing, in this regard, the need for cooperation and partnership in marine scientific research, particularly in the implementation of UNCLOS;**
- **Commit to urgently address the issue of conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ);**
- **Commit to take action to reduce the incidents and impacts of pollution on marine ecosystems, including through effective implementation of relevant conventions and adoption of coordinated strategies to this end (including measures to control introduction of alien invasive species);**
- **Supporting international cooperation toward realizing the social, economic and environmental benefits from the conservation and effective management of coral and mangrove ecosystems;**
- **Recognize the importance of area- based planning and conservation measures;**
- **Encourage the Global Environment Facility to take additional steps to make resources more accessible to meet country needs for the national implementation on international commitments, in particular in Africa;**
- **Recognize that a dynamic, inclusive and well-functioning and socially environmentally responsible private sector is a valuable instrument that can offer a crucial contribution to economic growth and reducing poverty and promoting sustainable development.**

- **Aichi Biodiversity Targets:**

This project would contribute to all of the Strategic Goals (and their targets), namely:

- A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society;
- B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use;
- C. Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity;
- D. Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

- **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Targets:**



2030 Targets of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework	Links to project interventions
<p><b>TARGET 2</b></p> <p>Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.</p>	<p>The project will help reduce the rates of loss and degradation of globally important ecosystems and biodiversity, reducing threats to freshwater and coastal aquatic ecosystems and improved ecosystem health in coastal areas, due to the improved management and establishment of MPAs, increased capacities for pollution monitoring and management, sustainable fishing and ecotourism implemented in the BCLME region, and restoration activities.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 7</b></p> <p>Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources, by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use;</p>	<p>The project will contribute to eliminating pollution and its impacts on marine biodiversity mainly through the implementation of Component 3: Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME, given that the proposed activities focus on improving marine pollution management in the BCLME by strengthening policy frameworks, establishing cooperative agreements, adopting regional quality</p>

<p>reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and also preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.</p>	<p>standards, and implementing pollution control technologies at the community level. It also includes community awareness programs, capacity building, and water quality monitoring in pollution hotspots to enhance ecosystem health.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 14</b></p> <p>Ensure the <b>full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity</b>, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>	<p>The project will help integrate recognition for biodiversity values into policies mainly through implementation of Component 2: Improve marine and coastal management efforts in the BCLME through spatial management tools and the establishment and expansion of MPAs and SMAs taking into consideration climate change and ensuring climate-resilient socio-economic development. Given that proposed activities have designed interventions to strengthen legal frameworks, capacity building, community involvement, eco-tourism options, and the development of Marine Spatial Plans. It emphasizes the importance of community and private sector partnerships for successful co-management, sustainable development, and climate resilience.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 15</b></p> <p>Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios;</li> <li>b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;</li> <li>c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable;</li> </ul> <p>in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to</p>	<p>The project will help businesses be more transparent on biodiversity impacts and promote the sustainable use of marine resources mainly through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Component 1: Enhance sustainable and climate resilient marine living and non-living resources and their value chains in the BCLME;</li> <li>Component 3: Improve coastal and marine pollution management in the BCLME, and</li> <li>Component 4: Promote regional and national frameworks for sustainable innovative blue/ocean economy finance to foster positive ecosystem, social and economic impacts</li> </ul>



<p>business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.</p>	
<p><b>TARGET 16</b></p> <p>Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices including by <b>establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030, reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.</b></p>	<p>The project will help improve sustainable consumption by providing upstream actions to improve the sustainable management of living and non-living marine resources in the BCLME, through Component 1, and through Component 5: Knowledge management, awareness raising and upscaling for Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 20</b></p> <p><b>Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the framework.</b></p>	<p>This will mainly be achieved through interventions of Component 5, which focuses on on knowledge management and upscaling for the Sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy (SBE) by preparing and disseminating SBE knowledge products, tools, and support services, sharing innovative practices and successful templates, and addressing knowledge gaps. It also emphasizes the importance of uploading knowledge outputs to the BCC Regional Integrated Information Management System (RIIMS) and collaborating with partner websites and platforms to enhance visibility, access to information, and awareness programs for sustainable blue/ocean economy, including involvement of relevant R&amp;D institutes and participation in IW:LEARN activities.</p> <p>In addition, Components 1, 2, 3, and 4 incorporate capacity building and training activities to support the main objectives of each component. These activities are designed to enable stakeholders to actively learn from and engage in project interventions, thereby promoting the long-term sustainability of project initiatives.</p>

The following stakeholders will contribute to the development and implementation of the project and will also benefit from it.

- **Government.** National governments of the three participating states set the policy, legislative and regulatory environment that can catalyze positive transformative changes in marine resources management and governance. The three governments are at the lead of this project’s development given the role of government to set sustainable development and climate change response priorities. Line ministries and agencies in the BCLME member states will lead the direction toward sustainability for specific ocean industries, while the regional/ provincial and local level structures will ensure implementation of laws and regulations and facilitate the participation of all stakeholders. Stakeholders include ministries and authorities that are in charge of marine environment, tourism, maritime and ports, agriculture and fisheries, and mineral resources and energy, among others. Others included indirectly are finance and planning, marine security, oil and gas, municipalities in coastal areas and national Inter-agency Committees/Commissions. During the BCLME III Project, all levels and structures of government have demonstrated willingness, awareness and knowledge to collaborate, raise the impact and efficiency of resources and have consensus about common goals, priorities and targets. All three governments promote public-private partnerships (PPP), especially in their blue/ocean economy policies/ ocean strategies, particularly now to address the negative impacts of COVID-19 and climate change.
- **Private Sector** – serves as the vehicle for economic development and growth through viable and sustainable business, employment generation, foreign currency earnings and tax payments, and contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The private sector contributes toward achieving societal goals through corporate social responsibility investments, and the development of competencies in innovative technology, human resources, processes, and systems. This project will support the private sector to continue with this important development role by enhancing collaboration with the government, BCC and local communities. The private sector is crucial to enable the “power of the collective” that is a key success factor for sustainable blue/ocean economy implementation and ecosystem stress reduction, and also to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project interventions. Stakeholders include those mainly working in tourism (coastal and diving), and associated service sectors (hotels, resorts, transport); shipping and ports services, mineral extraction and oil and gas. Most are represented by business chambers and union. Those that are not being members of such bodies (e.g. small and medium enterprises) will be reached through feasible ways (e.g. key informant persons, relevant community groups, profession societies, etc.).

- **Local communities** – particularly, locally organized community groups (women, youth, disabled and marginalized), NGOs and community-based enterprises, will have the role of advancing awareness and understanding of the blue/ocean economy concept, the importance of marine resources preservation and partnerships with government and the private sector. As viable partners for project implementation, they will be engaged through partnership agreements with results-oriented focus over the life of the project (e.g., community-based Blue/Ocean Economy interventions, and community-based climate resilient interventions). They will be instrumental for the replication and scaling of successful demonstration interventions, particularly mariculture and ecosystem stress reduction, but also to explore other viable climate adaptation initiatives. Project supported capacity development will be key to ensure adequate and appropriate capacities for project implementation.
- **Non-government organizations (NGOs)** – will serve as results-driven local level implementation agents for the project. NGOs engaged in marine conservation, marine resources value chains, ocean literacy and knowledge building, and co-management of resources will be targeted for partnerships. They will also be relied upon for wider stakeholder consultation and engagement in blue/ocean economy project development.
- **Research and academic institutions** – will serve the pivotal role of knowledge generation and capacity development for blue/ocean economy, resource protection and ecosystem stress reduction, and unlocking viable and sustainable innovative finance. Through their ongoing research agendas, MSc and PhD students, they play an important role to have updated information and data on resource availability and ecosystem health, sector status and emerging trends, climate change and all its impacts (social, environmental and economic), and the impacts of different ocean industries. Partnership agreements will guide their specific role in this project as described above.

The project will generate knowledge that will be managed and [exchanged](#), and lessons learned will be captured to benefit future projects. Knowledge generated by this project would include; (a) capturing processes and approaches toward joint fisheries management and sustainability, (b) outputs from the market research and analysis for fish and seafood products, and also to develop bankable blue/ocean economy projects, (c) the regional Blue/Ocean Economy Strategy for BCLME, (d) outputs to improve co-management, management effectiveness of ocean protection, and the various available and country-appropriate protection options (e.g., Special Malement Areas), (e) capturing the processes and milestones for innovative and sustainable financing options, and (f) innovative exploratory and extractive methods and technologies to minimize adverse impacts to marine and coastal ecosystems. In addition, (g) training and capacity development materials, (h) sector specific, regional and blue/ocean economy policy briefs, (i) good practice and lessons learning outputs, and (j) documents on sustainable blue/ocean economy projects will also be part of knowledge generation. All outputs will be converted into user-friendly and audience-specific products, such as infographics, posters, factsheets, short video clips and buzzworthy messaging for social media. All knowledge outputs and products will be uploaded to the BCC Regional Integrated

Information Management System (RIIMS) for ease of access and sharing, and will be made available for access via partner websites and platforms (above list including SADC, African Union Commission, IW:LEARN and the UN System).

This project will improve or develop national policies, including an improved alignment of existing policies ([policy coherence](#)). National ocean strategies and blue/ocean economy policies provide the opportunity for national level policy improvements and alignment. Motivated by existing national ocean strategies and blue/ocean economy policies, some of which were achieved as part of BCLME III, this project will provide support for strengthening the existing national policy and regulatory frameworks for sustainable blue/ocean economy and ocean governance, in particular in relation to innovative blue finance mechanisms or the establishment of new MPAs, and for aligning and improving existing sector, and cross-sector policies, laws and regulations. The project also envisions the provision of support for the development and/or strengthening of the policy and legislative frameworks to minimize adverse impacts of extractive activities in the BCLME. Finally, an important output of this project will be the development of a Regional Blue/Ocean Economy Strategy and the corresponding national action plans, which will integrate and harmonize national strategies and policies to embed the ecosystem-based approach (EBA) in blue/ocean economy. This process will be consultative and inclusive to ensure ownership across all facets of society of revised and or improved policies. Alignment toward enabling the blue/ocean economy; improving sector coordination; collaboration between government, private sector and civil society; sustainability and good governance will be key focus areas for policy support.

This project is intended to be [transformative](#) and [innovative](#). Examples of successful, viable and scalable interventions exist in the BCLME Region, across Africa and the rest of the world. Scaling will be achieved by (i) ensuring adequate and sufficient human and technological capacities, (ii) enabling the rolling out of easily replicable results in areas where appropriate and viable (e.g., mariculture in Angola, organizing artisanal fishers in Namibia, and estuary rehabilitation in South Africa); and (iii) ensuring relevant national and local level government capacity and policy direction for scaling. Harmonization of human and technological capacities, monitoring and assessment techniques, project development and implementation practice, industry standards and approaches within countries and across the region will further enable scaling and enable lessons learning and good practice sharing. Private sector and community-based enterprise involvement in scaling blue/ocean economy business concepts (e.g., mariculture, fish value addition, etc.) can improve the chances of success significantly given this expertise already resides with the private sector, while at the same time ensuring the long-term sustainability of the interventions. Capacities at local level are important to ensure that critical success factors are achieved in a sequential manner to enable scaling.

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

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

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

No

The work with ORASECOM on the joint ecosystem health monitoring at the Orange River mouth will inform the planning and implementation of the project component 3 on coastal and marine pollution control. The objective being to address the sediments that come through the estuary. The two organizations are working together towards harmonization/alignment of activities e.g.: Joint participation in surveys, (e.g. 2019 ORASECOM joined BCC; 2022 BCC joined ORASECOM survey); Standardizing monitoring protocols and how samples are analysed i.e. doing inter-laboratory bench-marking; joint training; and data and information exchange.

The lessons from GEF funded West Indian Ocean-LaB (implemented between 2004 – 2010) that focused on main threats to coastal and marine ecosystems looking at land-based activities and sources of degradation will inform the preparation of plans for implementation of the project component 2 and 3.

The guidelines developed by GEF WIO-SAP Project (implemented by the Nairobi Convention) for mangrove restoration, environmental flow assessments and seagrass restoration will inform the formulation of regional quality standards of nutrients and sediments in fresh, coastal and marine waters, and clean-up of chemical pollution in transboundary coastal hotspots of the BCLME, developing and piloting new technologies for pollution control, undertaking community awareness, training and capacity building and implementation plans and best practices for pollution management, following a gender-sensitive approach in selected communities along the BCLME coast; and developing/enhancing water quality monitoring in pollution hotspots within the selected MPAs and coastal ecosystems.

The SAPPHERE UNDP-GEF project developed regional guidelines for ecosystem monitoring framework, ecosystem economic valuation, and water quality monitoring; the regional marine and coastal ecosystem monitoring framework and the regional ocean governance strategy and the National Marine Diagnostic Analysis for South Africa. These are important tools that will inform the implementation of several activities under components 1,2,3 and 4. The BCC Secretariat is already administering funds from the Nairobi Convention for implementation of a demonstration project in South Africa on the Land-Sea Integration project (Enhancing Coastal Ecosystems Management through Land-Sea Interactions in South Africa), which has created a strong cooperation and partnership between the Nairobi Convention and the BCC but also serves as a baseline for the implementation of component 2 of this project.

The achievements of the UNDP-GEF project on creating Marine Protected Areas in Angola will inform the activities under component 2 of this project.

The Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) – Oceans5 partnership will contribute to the work to be covered by the project in Namibia under Component 2 as it is focusing on improving the socio-economics of the Islands MPA (NIMPA).

The WWF-Abalobi intervention is focusing on improving capacity in the small scale fishing sector and this work will complement the work to be done under component 1 of the project.

The project is also expected to establish synergies with new initiatives that are being negotiated, such as the BCC partnership with the Blue Nature Alliance (BNA) and the Nature Conservancy on marine biodiversity conservation. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) brings technical acumen and experience to secure marine and coastal biodiversity protection as a mechanism to unlock financial resources. TNC's NatureVest arm brings financial skills and proven experience in concepts such as "debt for nature swaps" and exploring the potential to leverage blue carbon. The case-study of establishing a blue bond for the Seychelles is demonstrative of TNC's experience and capabilities. The Blue Nature Alliance (the Alliance) is a global partnership co-funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), BCC's longest multilateral funding partner. The Alliance's specific objective is to catalyze the conservation of 18 million km<sup>2</sup> of ocean as part of the global "30x30" ambition, by providing technical and financial support to countries and LMEs to achieve targets by 2025. Through partnering with these two organizations, the BCC will benefit from TNC's and the Alliance's regional and global resources, and their network of partners and collaborators. Such partners include a range of expertise aligned with BCC priorities, including in combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, conducting blue carbon feasibility, and implementing ocean conservation areas and ecosystem-based management approaches.

The existing BCC-GI-WACAF (of IMO) partnership is very important for this BCLME IV project as it brings in rare skills in the specialized area of marine-based sources of pollution from oil spills. GI-WACAF provides training sessions through drills in order to develop capacity in the BCC countries in this specialized area. GI-WACAF work will contribute to Component 3 of the project.

The MARISMA project supports the region in maximising socio economic benefits generated by the ocean whilst ensuring the safeguarding of the marine ecosystem's health, through implementation of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and identification of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) in the BCLME. Namibia has already identified potential conservation areas for marine protected areas (MPA) using information generated through MARISMA and endorsed by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). MSP, on the other hand, provides the spatial foundation for a sustainable Blue/Ocean Economy. The work will contribute to implementation of Component 2 of the project.

The FAO-NANSEN and BCC partnership brings in skills and resources that are much needed in the BCLME region. Through the FAO-NANSEN programme, scientists from the three countries are offered the opportunity to conduct much needed research on the fisheries while on board the research vessel provided by the NANSEN programme to the BCLME region. Activities from this partnership will contribute to Component 1 of the project.

The partnerships between BCC and the two Namibian companies (Namdeb and Debmarin) will bring information for Component 1 of the project as they both engage in Land and Marine ecosystem conservation, monitoring and rehabilitation programmes and provide support for environmental protection and prevention of pollution; and undertake assessment of marine mining on benthic organisms. Similarly, information was recently provided by these partners while Namibia was conducting a baseline survey for coastal biodiversity.

Lastly, the BCC Parties will provide in-kind contribution during project development and implementation through staff time, provision on meeting venues, data as well as exchange of information which benefits the region.

## Core Indicators

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1919810	0	0	0

#### Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

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

#### Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
1919810	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
			1,919,810.00						

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

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

#### Indicator 5.1 Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

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

#### Type/name of the third-party certification

### Indicator 5.2 Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE

### Indicator 5.3 Marine OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
Namibe EBSA		752,770.00			
Orange Cone EBSA		157,915.00			
Orange Seamount and Canyon Complex EBSA		1,463,370.00			

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

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

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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Benguela Current	4			

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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Benguela Current	3			

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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Benguela Current	3			



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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Benguela Current	4			

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

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
50,000.00			

### Fishery Details

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

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	750			
<b>Male</b>	750			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

Core Indicator 2: The area protected through MPAs in BCLME extends over 2,400,000 ha .The project will support improved management effectiveness of at least 3 MPAs with an area of about 1,919,810 hectares in total. These include Namibian Islands’ Marine Protected Area that covers 949,110 ha; Namaqua National Park Marine Protected Area of 50,000 hectares in South Africa; and Tombwa Bay Marine Protected Area of 920,700 ha in Angola. This indicator will be updated at the PPG phase when the project sites will be confirmed.

Core Indicator 3: The area of land to be restored in the coastal area will be determined at the PPG phase once the sites for tourism development will be identified.

Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) in the coastal area will be determined at the PPG phase once the sites for coastal tourism development will be identified.

Core Indicator 5: the implementation of all project components will contribute to improved practices in marine habitat (excluding protected areas) from reduced pollution to better management practices. This will be achieved through creating an enabling environment for climate resilience, sustainable fisheries, integrated marine spatial planning and implementation of related specific guidelines. The territorial waters and exclusive economic zones of BCLME extend over an area of approximately 148,500,000 ha . A set of 21 marine areas have been identified as high priority areas for conservation and sustainable use within BCLME with features relating to one or more of the scientific criteria in relation to Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), as defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The spatial extent of the EBSAs in the BCLME is 28,700,000 ha. This project will focus on three of these EBSAs that are shared across national borders: Namibe between Angola and Namibia of 1,505,540 ha; Orange Cone of 315,830 ha between Namibia and South Africa and Orange Seamount and Canyon Complex of 2,926,740 ha between Namibia and South Africa. The total size of these three EBSAs is 4,748,110 ha and the project will focus on half of them that is 2,374,055 ha.

Core Indicator 7: The project will contribute to improved cooperative management of one shared water ecosystem, the Benguela Current Marine Ecosystem. Building on the achievements of the previous phases of the GEF financing including the preparation of the SAP and NAPs, the project aims to attain Level 4 of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation (Indicator #7.1), Level 3 of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation (Indicator #7.2), Level 3 of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees (Indicator #7.3), and Level 4 of engagement in IW: LEARN through participation and delivery of key products (Indicator #7.4).

Core Indicator 8: The project aims to move 50,000 tons of globally over-exploited marine fisheries to more sustainable levels. Related interventions are mainly planned under component 1. Approximately, one million tons of fish are harvested annually in BCLME .

Core Indicator 11: 40% of target beneficiaries are in fisheries, aquaculture, mariculture sector, 30% in eco-tourism and conservation and 30% in other sectors. These figures will be updated at the PPG phase.

## Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation

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

Risk Categories	Rating	Comments
Climate	Moderate	Climate change is likely to have an impact on the region’s coastal areas and near-shore ecosystems, which may potentially affect provision of ecosystem services. Thus, accelerated change due to climate change could worsen the socio-economic situations in the countries, and lead to faster shifts in the marine ecosystem and resources. Project support will enhance medium- to long-term climate resilience through the protection and restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and the sustainable utilization of the ecosystem services they provide.

Environment and Social	Substantial	<p>Resource over exploration may increase due to high levels of joblessness and poverty. Social cohesion and stability may shift negatively as people are becoming more and more desperate for secure incomes and livelihoods. In addition, the increased competition for resources and space of the different marine economic sectors in the absence of spatial management tools, as well as challenges in the reduction of pollution sources, may continue to degrade marine and coastal ecosystems. It is expected that by supporting the development of inclusive, sustainable and integrated Blue and/or Ocean Economy and ocean governance in the region, the project will contribute to minimizing the environmental and social risks.</p>
Political and Governance	Low	<p>None of the BCC Member States are defined as fragile based on the Fragile States Index . Angola and South Africa’s indices increasing signaling improvements in cohesion, economic, social and political areas, with Namibia showing decline since 2009. None of the countries are classified as conflict states and elections over the past 5 years have been peaceful and without civil unrest.</p>
Macro-economic	Substantial	<p>Macro-economic risks exist, which may be made more complex as a result of negative macro-economic changes on a world scale. All three countries were in economic recessions since 2014/15 that were deepened due to COVID-19 negative impacts on trade, businesses and jobs. The governments do not have fiscal scope to stimulate economic recovery and growth and are appealing to the international</p>

		<p>multilateral and bilateral development partners, and the domestic private sector for support. The reserve banks forecast increases in inflation, potential further declines in GDP and suggest reliance on the primary export sectors to stimulate recovery. All three countries have priorities related to blue and/or ocean economy development as viable directions for economic transformation and all are keen to explore innovative finance like blue carbon. The project will monitor the macro-economic situation and respond as necessary.</p>
Strategies and Policies	Low	<p>Member States have sound strategic and policy frameworks in place with room for improvements in implementation and compliance. Governments are ready, more than before, to engage in public-private partnerships (PPPs) that may offer avenues for accelerated implementation of strategies and policies, that could lead to improved self-regulation by industry and enhanced compliance. The project will support the development and strengthening of relevant policies, in particular those aimed at Sustainable Blue and/or Ocean Economy, as well as the development of development of a Regional Blue/Ocean Economy Strategy and the corresponding national action plans, which will integrate and harmonize national strategies and policies to embed the ecosystem-based approach (EBA) in blue and/or ocean economy. At the same time, the project will build the capacity to develop and implement those policies.</p>
Technical design of project or program	Low	<p>Ample information and data are available to design a transformative</p>

		and innovative project for the BCC and its Member States. These are coupled by high quality technical understanding and knowledge within the line ministries, the private sector and among some segments of civil society (Sector Associations, development focused Youth Clubs and Women’s Groups). Literature and data on lessons and good practice of contemporary and trending concepts like blue and/or ocean economy (e.g., Principles of Sustainable Ocean Finance), carbon finance and innovations in marine protection (e.g., Indigenous Protection Zones) are accessible to inform project design.
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Substantial	The BCC Secretariat has all the key positions required to enable implementation of this project. Augmenting this capacity with expertise in blue carbon and climate finance, monitoring and evaluation, and stakeholder engagement and strategic communications could ensure achievement of excellent results and sustainability of outcomes that can lead to impact. Line ministries, private sector, NGOs and community-based capacities complement the BCC’s and would enable success of interventions at local level, and strong ownership at local level will ensure sustainability.
Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement	Substantial	BCC has no qualified audits on record for the Secretariat and development partners projects. There is room for improvement in procurement by using principles consistently, driving for efficiency and results-based financing.
Stakeholder Engagement	Low	BCC has a strong evidence-based culture of engaging relevant stakeholders for consultation and

		<p>meaningful participation. Targeting local level intervention since 2017 has enhanced BCC’s engagement of local authorities (municipalities) and communities and the private sector. Different modes of engagement are used from in-person public meetings to information available via the website and messaging and sharing via social media. Stakeholders were consulted for the preparation of this PIF. A comprehensive stakeholder mapping will be developed during the PPG phase to identify relevant stakeholders, including local communities, CSOs, and private sector entities, to define their roles, level of influence, level of interest, and means of engagement. Community groups including women, youth and elders, people with disabilities and marginalized communities, will be contacted early in the PPG process to elicit their interest to participate in project interventions, policy processes and trainings. The mapping will be further refined during the inception phase of the project when a stakeholder engagement strategy will be developed. Relevant stakeholders will be part of the Steering Committee to buy-in.</p>
Other		
Financial Risks for NGI projects		
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	

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

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

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

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

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## **Objective 1: Accelerate joint action to support a Sustainable Blue Economy**

The BCC has updated the TDA in 2020, and the SAP revision and updating is in its final development stages. The SAP serves as the implementation vehicle of the legally binding Benguela Current Convention that has the objective, “to promote a coordinated regional approach to the long-term **conservation, protection, rehabilitation, enhancement and sustainable use of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem**, to provide economic, environmental and social benefits. The SAP will be for a 10-year period (2023-2033) and has a Regional Blue and/or Ocean Economy Strategy as a priority and the implementation of circular economy principles (to eliminate wastes and emissions). This will enable transformation and to embed the sustainability of outcomes. The SAP also guides an integrated programming approach to improve sector cooperation, coordination and co-financing for ocean protection and for the development and mainstreaming of climate-resilient blue and/or ocean economy. Improved participation of local authorities, ports and harbours and the agriculture sector, as key stakeholders to address wastewater, agricultural runoff and solid waste discharges to the ocean is promoted for a wider integrated approach to stress reduction.

### **Advancing sustainable fisheries management.**

Serving as implementation support for the BCC SAP, this project, under Component 1, will implement the SAP objectives under the Living Marine Resources thematic area; (a) Fishing capacity and fishing effort at levels required for MSY and restoration of depleted stocks to within safe biological limits; (b) Reduce and mitigate threats to vulnerable species and critical coastal and marine habitats from unsustainable fishing practices; (c) Strengthen regional capacity to collaboratively manage shared living marine resources; (d) Conservation and management of shared LMR are supported by appropriate policy and legislative frameworks and effective surveillance and enforcement mechanisms; and (e) Sustainable fisheries and mariculture resources use to achieve full blue growth and minimize conflicts with other blue and/or ocean economy sectors.

### **Sustaining healthy blue ecosystems.**

Under the SAP thematic area on Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity, the project, under Component 2, will implement the SAP objectives on; (a) Minimize direct and indirect anthropogenic threats to the integrity and productivity of coastal and marine ecosystems; (b) Restore the integrity and productivity of degraded critical coastal habitats; (c) Eliminate populations of Invasive and or Alien Species in the BCLME; (d) Improve the conservation status of threatened species and protect vulnerable and keystone species and their habitats including transboundary species; (e) Strengthen institutional capacity for conservation and management of the BCLME; and (f) Policy and decision making are supported by the most up to date and scientifically credible data and information available.

### **Empowerment of Women and Gender Mainstreaming.**

BCC’s Gender Policy and Action Plan will guide the empowerment of women and gender mainstreaming in this project. The BCLME III Project implemented some policy measures and actions, particularly at the local level, while accounting for the leadership role of women in the Commission, the Ecosystem Advisory Committee, and participation in the multi-sector development of national ocean strategies and blue/ocean economy policies. Local level interventions illuminated the critical role of women particularly in fish value chains and in the food security and livelihoods of households and communities. Women’s leadership in fishing in Angola will be leveraged, along with the local Africa Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET<sup>[17]</sup>) chapters in the three countries. BCC’s Women in the Maritime sector collaboration with the Association for Women in the Maritime Sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA) is testimony of the level of priority this is for the Convention and the Member States. The BCC-SADC-Government of Malawi partnership celebration event for the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) 2022, delivered a declaration for endorsement by SADC Ministers

responsible for fisheries in November 2022. Key points of the declaration include the recognition of the role of women in fisheries and aquaculture and dedicated support for their empowerment and development.

### Alignment with Country Strategies and Plans

This project aligns directly with the BCLME III Project supported National Strategy for the Seas of Angola, the National Blue Economy Policy of Namibia, and will lend support for consultations on South Africa's Master Plan for a Sustainable Oceans Economy. The latter three country strategies, policies and plans express the national direction to unlock and develop climate-resilient and sustainable blue/ocean economies that are inclusive, integrated and transformative. The policies address innovative directions for sustainability through improved protection, exploring blue carbon and sustainable financing, and applying Marine Spatial Planning and climate change data to manage ocean space, and build adaptive and mitigation capacities. All three countries have national policies and laws on for environmental protection, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women.

[1] A fish net chapter exists in South Africa, a chapter was establish for Namibia during World Oceans Day 2022 celebrations and Angola has a strong Association of Maritime, Port and Related Activities for Women of Angola (AMMPACA).

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Yes

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

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

Yes

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

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

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

Stakeholder consultations were carried out from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, 2023, with stakeholders from governmental institutions from Angola, Namibia and South Africa, and BCC stakeholders. The aim of these consultations was to i) present the preliminary PIF to all relevant entities in the three countries and get their feedback on the methodological components proposed, and ii) discuss additional concerns that the participating countries may have, to ensure their respective needs are integrated in the final version of the PIF.



Overall, the stakeholders agreed with the main objective of the project, which is to implement the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) of the BCLME and support sustainable economic development in the region. Main aspects to consider for the improvement of the PIF included ensuring a common understanding of the blue economy/sustainable ocean economy concept between countries and the need to consider all marine resources (living and non-living) and marine economic sectors to maximize economic growth while minimizing environmental impacts, the need of formal training and long-term capacity building on blue/ocean economy and sustainable use of marine resources, and the need of an enhanced approach to sensitization and communication of project activities to stakeholders.

First Name	Last Name	Organization/Institution	Email	Date
Yamkela	Mngxe	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa	<a href="mailto:ymngxe@dffe.gov.za">ymngxe@dffe.gov.za</a>	March 2023
Ralepheya	Metse	Department of Transport, South Africa	<a href="mailto:RalepheM@dot.gov.za">RalepheM@dot.gov.za</a>	March 2023
Mqoqi	Mandisile	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa	<a href="mailto:MandisileM@daff.gov.za">MandisileM@daff.gov.za</a>	March 2023
Molefe	Morokane	Department of Mineral Resources & Energy, South Africa	<a href="mailto:Molefe.Morokane@dmr.gov.za">Molefe.Morokane@dmr.gov.za</a>	March 2023
Ashley	Naidoo	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa	<a href="mailto:Anaidoo@environment.gov.za">Anaidoo@environment.gov.za</a>	March 2023
Caroline	Garus-Oas	Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism, Namibia	<a href="mailto:Caroline.Garus-Oas@meft.gov.na">Caroline.Garus-Oas@meft.gov.na</a>	March 2023
Paulus	Kainge	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia	<a href="mailto:Paulus.Kainge@mfmr.gov.na">Paulus.Kainge@mfmr.gov.na</a>	March 2023
Elise	Hashikutuva	Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism, Namibia	<a href="mailto:elise.hashikutuva@meft.gov.na">elise.hashikutuva@meft.gov.na</a>	March 2023
Filomena	Vaz Velho	National Institute for Fisheries and Marine Resources and BCC Commissioner, Angola	<a href="mailto:menavelho@gmail.com">menavelho@gmail.com</a>	March 2023
Julio Inglês João	Ferreira	Ministry of Environment - Angola	<a href="mailto:chandalajif@yahoo.com">chandalajif@yahoo.com</a>	March 2023
Avelina	Victor	Ministry of Fisheries and Sea, Angola	<a href="mailto:avelinajoao22@gmail.com">avelinajoao22@gmail.com</a>	March 2023

First Name	Last Name	Organization/Institution	Email	Date
Estefania	Kiteculo	Ministry of Mineral Resources and Petroleum, Angola	fannyquissanga@hotmail.com	March 2023
Maria	Dombaxe	Ministry of Fisheries and Sea, Angola	marialvas70@yahoo.com	March 2023
Maria	Sardinha	Ministry of Fisheries and Sea, Angola	mdlsardinha@gmail.com	March 2023
Catarina	Dias	Ministry of Environment, Angola	cajeolima@gmail.com	March 2023
Arlete	Massal	Ministry of Environment, Angola	arlette.m170@gmail.com	March 2023
Manuel	Paixao e Silva	Ministry of Fisheries, Angola	masilv75@hotmail.com	March 2023
Pedro	Tchipalanga	Ministry of Fisheries and Sea, Angola	pcmtchipa@gmail.com	March 2023
Sango	de Sa	Ministry of Environment, Angola	bigssango11@gmail.com	March 2023
Silvi	Nsiangango	Ministry of Fisheries and Sea, Angola	silvinsiangango@gmail.com	March 2023
Adnan	Awad	The Nature Conservancy	Adnan.awad@TNC.ORG	March 2023
Keith	Roberts	Blue Nature Alliance	Kroberts@terr-nautics.com	March 2023
Estelle	van der Merwe	Ocean Network Action	estelle@our.ocean.org	February 2023
Serge	Raemaekers	Abalobi-WWF	serge@abalobi.org	January 2023
Chris	Karstens	Abalobi-WWF	chris@abalobi.org	January 2023
Talent	Kapapilo	Debmarmine	Talent.Kapapilo@debeersgroup.com	March 2023
Nandeshasho	Nickanor	Namdeb	Nandeshasho.Nickanor	March 2023
Nicky	Stander	The Southern African Foundation For The Conservation Of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB)	nicky@sancob.co.za	January 2023
Anais	Guillou	GI-WACAF (IMO Agency)	Anais.guillou@ipieca.org / giwacaf-project@ipieca.org	January 2023
Merete	Tandstad	FAO-NANSEN Programme	Tandstad, Merete (NFIFM) <Merete.Tandstad@fao.org>	January 2023
Roma	Sorgenfrei	MARISMA EU+GIZ funded Project	roman.sorgenfrei@giz.de	April 2023
Angus	Middleton	Namibia Nature Foundation	cb@nnf.org.na	March 2023

First Name	Last Name	Organization/Institution	Email	Date
Rodney	Braby	Namibia Nature Foundation	rod.braby@nnf.org.na	March 2023
Chris	Brown	Namibia Chamber of Environment	info@n-c-e.org	March 2023
Captain Ravi	Naicker	South African Maritime Authority	Rnaicker@samsa.org	March 2023
Geas	Shatika	Namport, Namibia	g.shatika@namport.co.na	March 2023
Thandiwe	Gxaba	BCC	thandiwe@benguelacc.org	June 2022
João	Carvalho	BCC	joao@benguelacc.org	June 2022
Tembisa	Sineke	BCC	tembisa@benguelacc.org	June 2022
Nico	Willemse	BCC	nico@benguelacc.org	14 June 2022
Ignatius	Kauvee	BCC	ignatius@benguelacc.org	June 2022
Laimy	Brown	BCC	laimy@benguelacc.org	November 2023
Zenobia	Mckay	BCC	zenobia@benguelacc.org	November 2023
Xolela	Wellem	BCC	xolela@benguelacc.org	November 2023
Monica	Thomas	BCC	monica@benguelacc.org	November 2023
Ipenige	Mundjulu	BCC	lpeinge@benguelacc.org	November 2023

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

### Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

### Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Yes

### Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
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High or Substantial

## E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### Knowledge management

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

Yes

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
UNDP	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters: IW-1	Grant	8,932,420.00	803,818.00	9,736,238.00
UNDP	GET	Namibia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	1,552,511.00	139,627.00	1,692,138.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>10,484,931.00</b>	<b>943,445.00</b>	<b>11,428,376.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

200000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

18000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters: IW-1	Grant	200,000.00	18,000.00	218,000.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>						<b>200,000.00</b>	<b>18,000.00</b>	<b>218,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Namibia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,692,138.00
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>1,692,138.00</b>

### Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
IW-1-1	GET	8,932,420.00	21900000
BD-1-1	GET	1,552,511.00	3100000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>10,484,931.00</b>	<b>25,000,000.00</b>

### Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Angola	Grant	Investment mobilized	2700000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia	Grant	Investment mobilized	4600000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3000000
Recipient Country Government	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment, South Africa	Grant	Investment mobilized	5600000
Recipient Country Government	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment, South Africa	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3000000
Others	Namibia Nature Foundation	Grant	Investment mobilized	400000
Others	WWF-Abalobi Partnership – South Africa	Grant	Investment mobilized	600000

Others	Nature Conservancy	Grant	Investment mobilized	500000
Others	The Southern African Foundation for the Conservation Of Coastal Birds	Grant	Investment mobilized	800000
Others	Blue Nature Alliance	Grant	Investment mobilized	700000
Private Sector	NAMDEB	Grant	Investment mobilized	1200000
Private Sector	Debmarine	Grant	Investment mobilized	600000
Donor Agency	GI-WACAF	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1000000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	300000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>25,000,000.00</b>

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

In collaboration with UNDP Namibia, The Benguela Current Convention Secretariat organized consultation meeting with different stakeholders to discuss the project concept and the PIF. During consultation meetings, stakeholders with investment mobilized under the co-financing table above shared ongoing and upcoming projects with possible synergies and complementarity with the components of this project. Co-financing amounts were estimated based on the projects' timeframe and the time co-financiers' staff would spend on supporting this project.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Pradeep Kurukulasuriya	4/12/2023	Madeleine Nyiratuza		madeleine.nyiratuza@undp.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Julio Ingles Joao Ferreira	Advisor to the Minister	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Environment/ Angola	3/27/2023
Zaheer Fakir	Acting Deputy Director General	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment /South Africa	3/30/2023

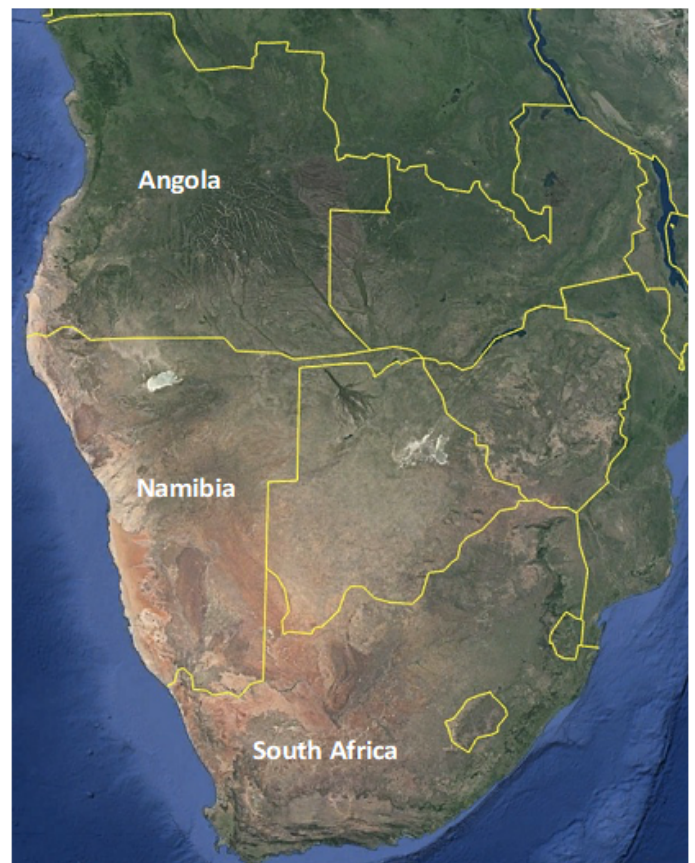
Teofilus Nghitila	Director of Environmental Affairs	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism/ Namibia	3/27/2023
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### ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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

#### Coordinates for the BCLME

Latitude: 21° 15' 4.6" S (-21.25127°)  
 Longitude: 12° 29' 58" E (12.49944°)  
 Precision: 1816815 meter  
 Min. Lat: 36° 37' 11.2" S (-36.6198°)  
 Min. Long: 7° 55' 3.2" E (7.9176°)  
 Max. Lat: 5° 48' 40" S (-5.8111°)  
 Max. Long: 19° 47' 19.5" E (19.7887°)



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

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

Title

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### ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing Models	Transform policy and regulatory environments; Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making;	Convene multi-stakeholder alliances;	Demonstrate innovative approaches; Deploy innovative financial
Stakeholders	Beneficiaries, Local communities	Private Sector	Civil Society
Capacity, Knowledge and Research	Capacity development, enabling activities	Knowledge generation and exchange,	Learning
Gender Equality	Gender mainstreaming		
Focal Areas/Theme	International Waters	Biodiversity	