



Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10799

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Regional Initiative for Water and Environment in the transboundary basin of the Mono River (RIWE-Mono)

Countries

Regional, Benin, Togo

Agency(ies)

IUCN

Other Executing Partner(s)

Mono Basin Authority (MBA), Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), Global Water Partnership West Africa (GWP-WA); National Focal Points (MEEM; MEHV)

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

International Waters

Sector

Mixed & Others

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Local Communities, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Participation, Communications, Awareness Raising, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Academia, Beneficiaries, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Knowledge Generation, Capacity Development, Knowledge Exchange

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

No Contribution 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

No Contribution 0

Land Degradation

No Contribution 0

Submission Date

9/16/2022

Expected Implementation Start

1/1/2024

Expected Completion Date

12/31/2027

Duration

48In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

450,000.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
IW-3-5	Advance information exchange and early warning	GET	890,400.00	2,520,000.00
IW-3-6	Enhanced regional and national cooperation on shared freshwater surface and groundwater basins	GET	2,599,200.00	8,273,830.00
IW-3-7	Investments in water, food, energy and environment security	GET	1,510,400.00	12,658,073.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			5,000,000.00	23,451,903.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Mono River Basin water resources, ecological and economic development assessment and planning	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 1.1: The threats and potentials of the ecological and economic functions of the Mono basin are assessed and their management planned in an integrated and concerted manner</p> <p>Outcome 1.2: Pilot Integrated interventions to enhance suitable use of the basin resources, economic development as well as environment protection and population adaptation and resilience to climate change</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1: A Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), including groundwater, is performed, published and agreed by the two countries</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is developed for the period 2024-2038, followed by the first Strategic Plan (SP1) 2024-2028, approved and signed at the appropriate national ministerial level by both countries, as well as an investment plan for the SAP horizon (over 15 years) and an investment plan for SP1 (over 05 years);</p>	GET	2,345,450.00	18,759,073.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
			<p>Output 1.2.1: Pilot activities on the integration of CC into IWRM, pollution control at source, co-management of transboundary protected areas, conservation of biodiversity of global interest, local community mobilization and knowledge management for IWRM in the Mono River Basin are conducted and lessons learned.</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthening	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 2.1: The technical and institutional capacities of the MBA and key partners are strengthened to enable actions for water and soil conservation, and restoration and protection of Mono basin ecosystems</p> <p>Outcome 2.2 Improved governance and cooperative framework of the Mono basin to support water-related challenges and transboundary flooding risk reduction</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1: Capacity building and training of MBA Executive Directorate and main stakeholders in IWRM regulation, management of Protected Areas as well as the animation of the CLE</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: MBA's capacity to mobilize financial resources is strengthened, specifically through the upgrading of fiduciary, environmental safeguard and gender equality policy documents.</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: Institutional and technical capacities of CSOs/CBOs operating in</p>	GET	1,456,450.00	2,034,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
			<p>the Mono Basin are increased for better engagement in transboundary management of shared resources</p>			
			<p>Output 2.2.1: The statutory bodies of the MBA are established and operational</p>			
			<p>Output 2.2.2: The Mono River Observatory for ecological monitoring of the basin and flood risks is created and data sharing protocols are established</p>			
			<p>Output 2.2.3: A regulatory framework for the sustainable</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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and collaborative management of transboundary natural resources in the Mono River Basin is developed and submitted for approval

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3 - Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communication	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 3.1: Project implementation is improved through better KM</p> <p>Outcome 3.2: Project stakeholders are informed and engaged</p>	<p>Output 3.1.1: A project monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system is developed and implemented</p> <p>Output 3.1.2: Stakeholders in the Mono Basin IWRM innovation system are trained and supported to tailor capacity building actions in response to specific needs and thus achieve greater impacts</p> <p>Output 3.1.3: Knowledge management products (Studies, Maps, IWRM Best Practice Guide, Posters, Video</p>	GET	957,500.00	1,450,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
			<p>reports, Photos, Concept papers, etc.) are developed and contribute to the GEF IW-LEARN platform</p> <p>Output 3.2.1: A communication plan for stakeholder engagement is developed and implemented</p> <p>Output 3.2.2: Targeted communication materials (reports, case studies, podcasts, flyers, etc.) are developed and disseminated in appropriate channels</p>			
Sub Total (\$)					4,759,400.00	22,243,073.00

Project Management Cost (PMC)

GET	240,600.00	1,208,830.00
Sub Total(\$)	240,600.00	1,208,830.00
Total Project Cost(\$)	5,000,000.00	23,451,903.00

**Please provide justification
the PMC is at 5%.**

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	IUCN	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,250,000.00
Beneficiaries	Mono River Basin Authority	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	85,000.00
Beneficiaries	Mono River Basin Authority	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	520,000.00
Other	Global Water Partnership Africa	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000.00
Other	Observatoire du Sahel et du Sahara	Grant	Investment mobilized	11,650,000.00
Recipient Country Government	MEHV/TOGO	Grant	Investment mobilized	5,708,073.00
Recipient Country Government	MEHV/TOGO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
Recipient Country Government	MEEM/BENIN	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,188,830.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				23,451,903.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment mobilized has been identified through the co-executing agencies and line ministries of the MBA ? they are all actions linked to IWRM, ecosystem conservation and sustainable management in the basin, as qualified in the table above. These activities will be enhanced by the institutional development and capacity building proposed under this GEF funding as they will help perennialize and coordinate current and future IWRM, other natural resource management and sustainable development in the basin. The GEF projects was designed in a way it is complementary to these activities in which the Governments and executing agencies are investing.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	5,000,000	450,000	5,450,000.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					5,000,000.00	450,000.00	5,450,000.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)

150,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

13,500

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	150,000	13,500	163,500.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					150,000.00	13,500.00	163,500.00

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
2,500.00	261,150.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

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)
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Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
2,500.00	261,150.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	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)
<input type="checkbox"/> Basses Vallées du Couffo, Lagune Côtier, Chenal Aho, Lac Ahom (Ramсар 1017)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Others	2,500.00	230,150.00					
<input type="checkbox"/> Réserve de Faune de Togodo	<input type="checkbox"/>	Others		31,000.00					

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	2500.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	2,500.00		

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

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

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

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

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
2500.00	2500.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

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

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
2,500.00	2,500.00		

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial 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)

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted

Indicator 7 Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management

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

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

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

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

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
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)
Mono	1	2		

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

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

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	100,000	10,200		
Male	150,000	10,465		
Total	250000	20665	0	0

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

The calculation of area for Core Indicator 1 represents the overlap between the Mono River Basin and the two Ramsar Sites identified ? (Site 1017 in Benin; Site 736 in Togo) ? as determined through GIS analysis. The estimates for core indicators 3 and 4 are based on current knowledge of the state of lands in the shortlisted areas (for pilot initiatives 2 and 4). This knowledge is borne of direct observations/measurements in the localities, existing thematic maps and reports of previous studies. Similarly, the estimate of area that can be restored was directly based on previous experiences by MBA and other partner organisations in the basin. The calculation of the direct beneficiaries of project interventions was calculated by adding the target number of people participating in capacity building/training, and based on average sizes of CLE, ACP, womens groups and communes in the basin who will take part in specific project activities (e.g. seed funds, pilot initiatives, CLE AP updating). Gender estimates were based on the available census data of populations in the data, and the project?s gender targets (e.g. increasing women participation in natural resource management and decision making).

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

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

Environmental context

The Mono River basin is a transboundary basin situated between Benin and Togo in western Africa. According to Rossi (1996), the Mono is located in its downstream part on the border between Togo and Benin, and flows over 340 km, discharging into the Gulf of Guinea. The watershed, oriented North-South, has an area of approximately 30,000 km², 86% of which is found in Togo. In Togo, it is the largest river, covering 37% of the national territory and 48 communes, 32 of which have more than half of their area there. In Benin, it is the smallest river, with only 3% of the national territory found in its basin, representing 15 municipalities spread mainly over 2 departments (Mono and Couffo). The River's source is in the west of Benin, in the Koura mountains (altitude ~900m), with many of the other tributaries coming from Togo. From its source, it flows to the west into Togo, before becoming the border between Togo and Benin in its last 100 kms or so, until it empties into the Atlantic Ocean through large estuary situated in Benin (Figure 3?1).

The main tributaries to the Mono come from the Togolese portion of the basin. These include the following:

- ? The Ougu river, which takes its source in the Tchaoudjo massif (km 207);
- ? The Ani? river and its tributaries (Okou, Akama-Kaba and Adjassihou?-Hou?), which takes its source on the Faoza mountain (km 161);
- ? The Amou river, which takes its source on the Akposso plateau, and becomes the Atalo river as it merges with the Amouchou river (62 km);
- ? The Khra river, which takes its source in the Ha?to mountain (km 69).

In addition to these tributaries, there are a number of important bodies of water and associated wetlands, such as lakes Toho and Tobadji in Benin, or the Nangb?to Lake in Togo (an artificial reservoir result of the Nangb?to Dam). The river estuary river is in Benin, but associated with a wider complex of lagunes, mangrove forests and brackish ecosystems in both Benin and Togo, all of which constitute a complex mosaic of ecosystems recognized internationally for its complex biodiversity.

There is strong seasonality in discharge, with high flows from August to October, and this is affected by reservoir operation at the upstream Nangbeto reservoir (ECOWAS-ECREEE, 2017; ECOWAS-ECREEE, 2017). In term of annual water balance, the southern part of Togo lose 90% of rainfall via evapotranspiration and only 10% of lost is generated by runoff. In the central parts, where rainfall is higher, about 80% of rainfall is lost vis evapotranspiration and 20% generates runoff. In Benin, 90% of rainfall is lost via evapotranspiration and 10% generates runoff in the southern parts of the country, while in the north, about 95% of rainfall is lost via evapotranspiration and 5% generates runoff.

The basin is characterized by an equatorial savannah with dry winter climate (Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification). Rainfall patterns however, differ between the lower and upper sections of the basin. In the upper part of the basin, there are clearly two rainy seasons: the first from April to July, which represents 50-60% of the annual rainfall and the second from September to November (EXPERTS-DEV Sarl/Ing?nieurs -Conseil, 2021); however, in the lower section, there is a more unimodal rain pattern, more characteristic of tropical climates, with March to July being the wettest months (Fousseni, et al., 2014). Total rainfall averages between 850-1,2400 mm, from a north to south gradient, with last 30 average being 1,200 mm per year (Thiam, et al., 2022). Flooding in the lower part of the basin is most common in August and September (ANM, pers. comm.). Annual temperature range between 25°C in August, and 30°C in March.

Vegetation

The basin can be divided into three sections, with the northern (headwaters) most section being the most forested, shifting to wooded savannah and cropland in the middle section, before transitioning to mangrove forests in the estuary. In between, there are gallery forests along the main rivers, though these are becoming scarcer, notably outside of protected areas.

Most of the forests and woodlands are composed of species characteristic of the Sudano-Guinean ecological zone, notably *Ibizia spp*, *Anogeissus leiocarpus*, *Vitellaria paradoxa*, *Isoblerlinia doka*, *Kaya senegalensis*, *Entada abyssinia*, *Parkia biglobosa* and *Parinaris farinose* (EXPERTS-DEV Sarl/Ing?nieurs -Conseil, 2021). These forests become sparser moving southwards, partially due to anthropogenic pressure (see below). The estuary is home to mangrove forests, with species such as *Rhizophora racemose*, *Avicennia africana* and *Achroscopicum aureum*.

Land-use has been changing in the basin in the past 40 years. Generally speaking, there has been a large increase in agricultural land, to the detriment of both forests and woodlands. This speaks to environmental degradation seen in the basin, notably deforestation, soil erosion, loss of biodiversity, etc.

Table 3?1: Land use estimates in the basin based on satellite imagery (source: Koubodana Houteta et al. 2021).

Land cover category	1975	2013	% change
Forest	14.87%	7.96%	- 6.91
Savannah	75.94%	50.3%	- 25.59
Wetland	0.02%	0.16%	+0.14
Cropland	8.84%	39.82%	+ 30.97

Fauna

Based on the most recent baseline study of the basin (EXPERTS-DEV Sarl/Ing?nieurs -Conseil, 2021), the following animal species can be found in the basin:

? Fish ? the lower section of the basin is the most diverse and prolific, with 61 species that have been identified. The most characteristic of this water way include: *Spermete nonette*, *Ctenopoma kinglayea*, *Chrysichthys auratus*, *Chrysichthys nigrodigitatus*, *Parachanna obscura*, *Brycinus carolinae*, *Brycinus longipinnis*, *Brycinus macrolepidotus*, *Brycinus nurse*, *Hydrocynus forskalii*, *Chromidotilapia guntheri*, *Hemichromis fasciatus*, *Hemichromis bimaculatus*, *Oreochromis bimaculatus*, *Sarotherodon galilaeus*, *Sarotherodon melanotheron*, *Tilapia guineensis*.

? Aquatic crustaceans ? in the estuary, invertebrates are key species for the people, as a source of food and revenue, notably crabs (*Cardiosoma amatum*), shrimp (*Macrobrachium velenovenii*, *Macrobrachium macrobrachion*) and oysters (*Etheria elliptica*).

? Mammals - the most recent inventory done was in 2015 during the evaluation of the lower valley for the UNESCO rating. At that point, 28 species were identified, notably the sitatunga (*Tragelaphus spekei*), mona monkey (*Cercopithecus mona*), common duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*), hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*, vulnerable), red river hog (*Potamochoerus porcus*), Gambian rat (*Cricetomys gambianus* et *Cricetomys emini*), the stripped ground squirrel (*Xerus erythropus*), African clawless otter (*Aonyx capensis*), sun squirrel (*Helosciurus gambianus*), greater cane rat (*Thryonomys swinderianus*), harnessed bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), genet (*Genetta genetta*), and civet (*Civettictis civetta*), etc. The presence of these animals is patchy throughout the basin due to anthropogenic pressures such as poaching, habitat loss and competition with livestock. Some of the animals, notably the hippopotamus and monkeys, are subject to human-animal conflict, due to crop raiding, fishing, etc.

? Birds ? the basin is an important zone for water and migratory birds. In estuary alone, 233 species have been identified. Some of these species include: *Egretta alba*, *Egretta intermedia*, *Egretta garzetta*, *Ardeola ralloides*, *Ardea cinerea*, *Ardea melanocephala*, *Ardea purpurea*, *Charadrius hiaticula*, *Charadrius dubius*, *Dendrocygna viduata*. The main families represented in the savannahs and forests include Accipitridae, Glareolidae, Columbidae, Cuculidae, Alcedinidae, Hirundinidae, Turdidae, Sylviidae. It should be noted that some of the species found, while not internationally regarded as endangered, are so in Benin, including: *Anastomus lamelligerus*, *Dendrocygna viduata*, *Onychognathus fulgidus*, *Pandion haliaetus*, *Pelecanus rufescens*, *Ploceus aurantius*, *Psittacula krameri*, *Rynchops flavirostris*.

? Reptiles ? these are represented by crocodiles (mainly *Crocodylus niloticus*), turtles, lizards and snakes. Marine turtles are present in the estuary, including *Lepidochelys olivacea* (vulnerable), *Dermochelys coriacea* (vulnerable), *Chelonia mydas* (EN), *Eretmochelys imbricata* (critically

endangered), with terrestrial and riparian ecosystems harbouring species such as *Pelusios castaneus*, *Pelomedusa subrufa*, *Kinixys belliana* et *Trionyx triunguis*.

Protected Areas

The Mono basin is home to a number of protected areas, both on national and international scale. In Togo, the following areas can be found:

? *Fazao Malfakassa National Park* ? at 2,615 km², this is the largest national park in the country and it lies within it in the north-westerly section of the basin. With both dense forests and woodlands, this park is home to a number of large mammals (19 species), including two species of elephants, hippopotamus and cheetah. It is also home to almost 600 species of plants, including species rarely encountered in the country. Similarly, the bird diversity is large, with 294 species found within the park, including regional endemics (e.g. *Ceratogymna elata*) and globally endangered species (e.g. *Gyps africanus*).

? *Togodo Faunal Reserve (Ramsar site 736)* ? a Ramsar wetland of international importance designated in 1995, this 31,000-ha reserve is characterised by deciduous and semi-deciduous forests, as well as ponds and swamps. It is an important stopover site for migratory birds, and one of the target sites for pilot projects (see below).

? *Abdoulayh? Faunal Reserve* ? this site is over 300 km² but degraded in a number of areas due to exploitation by local communities. Faunal diversity is on the decline, with emblematic species such as the African elephant, no longer present (Fandjinou, et al., 2020).

? *Forest reserves* ? a number of forest reserves are found within the basin, notably: Tchila-Monota, Ouatchidome, Asrama, Tetetou-Nord, Djemegni, Savalou, Have-Nord, Agodjololo, Bas-Ougu?

In Benin, the following protected areas are recognized in the basin:

? *Bouche du Roy Marine Reserve* ? the gazetting of this reserve was decided in early 2022, in order to preserve the marine biodiversity found just off of the Beninese coast, including sea turtles, African manatees, dolphins, whales and fish species.

? *Basse Vall?e du Couffo, Lagune C?tiere, Chenal Aho, Lac Ah?m? (Ramsar site 1017)* ? this wetland of international importance, originally designated in 2001, was extended (10-fold) in 2018, covering an area of 524,000 ha to include all of the valleys of the Couffo, Mono and Sazu? rivers. As such, it extends out of the Mono basin itself, and is contiguous with the Ramsar site nr. 1018, which englobes the rest of the Beninese coastline. This area is notably for its mosaic of environments, included mangrove swamps, seasonal wetlands and wooded savannahs. As such, it is home to terrestrial, freshwater and some marine/brackish species, including the African manatee, the hawksbill turtle and the red-bellied monkey (Basse Vall?e du Couffo, Lagune C?tiere, Chenal Aho, Lac Ah?m?, 2022). The western most section is included in the Mono Transboundary Biosphere Reserve and will be part of the pilot project sites (see below).

? *Classified forests (for?ts class?es) ? Bassila, P?n?ssoulou, Naglagnou, Guehoun?* In addition, there are a number of sacred forest (*for?t sacr?e*) sites, which are not protected through legislation, but through local cultural and/or religious practices. These are usually fairly small, but free from anthropogenic activities.

The Mono Transboundary Biosphere Reserve

A transboundary Man and Biosphere (MAB) reserve was recognized by UNESCO in 2017. While the national legal recognition of individual sites is still pending in both countries, it is nevertheless an important step in terms of conserving the biodiversity and promoting the sustainable development of the people who live in the area. The current site represents 346,286 ha; this area englobes part of the 1017 Ramsar site in Benin and the entirety of site 736 (Togodo Faunal Reserve) in Togo as well as other nationally recognized sites (see below), and the inhabited areas around it. It is representative of the Dahomey Gap ecoregion, which is a savannah system stretching between Ghana and Benin, interrupting the otherwise continuous band of continuous [albeit degraded] rainforest in Western Africa.

The overall vision of the Mono Transboundary Biosphere Reserve is to conserve, restore and sustainably manage natural resources and ecosystem services of the region in a participatory manner for the more than two million people that live within the reserve. Following the principle of MAB reserves, the area is divided into ?core?, ?transition? and ?buffer? zones; the core zones are designated as conservation areas. In contrast, buffer zones are areas where certain anthropogenic activities are allowed, as allowed by user defined management rules, while transition zones are the other areas where there are no specific limitations on anthropogenic activities (bar those in national legislation). Management rules for core and buffer zones are developed in a participatory manner, and in accordance with national legislation.

One of the particularities of the MTBR is that there are multiple core areas, rather than a single large one, each identified as a community biodiversity conservation area. For instance, in the Community Biodiversity Conservation Area around la Bouche du Roi, 394.8 ha are distributed over 10 core areas, which are surrounded by 8305.13 ha of buffer zones. The transition zone, where there are no specific limitations on anthropogenic activities (bar those in national legislation) represents the rest. As such, the whole site has 14,496 ha classified as core (4.19%), 43,378 (12.52%) as buffer zones, and 288,412 ha (83.29%) as transition zones.

Global environment problem

Freshwater resources are a precious and finite resource. Representing just 3% of all water on the planet, freshwater is a vital resource for all life, and provides humans with innumerable ecosystem services: provisioning (crops, fisheries, energy, transport), regulatory (flood control, water quality), supporting (nutrient cycling) and cultural (tourism, recreation, spiritual). These resources include not only rivers, but also wetlands, lakes, and other smaller and/or temporary bodies of water. Water resources are also,

more often than not, shared between multiple countries, therefore the benefits, but also the responsibility of sustainable management is shared between multiple governments.

The Mono River is one of the 63 transboundary river basins in Africa. Shared between Togo and Benin, this basin is a key shared resource. However, it is far from immune from a number of pressures, including land degradation due to inappropriate land uses, deforestation, and pollution. These actions affect the terrestrial ecosystems, decreasing land productivity, increasing landslide, flood and drought risk; they also impact the freshwater ecosystems themselves, with increased sedimentation, decreased water quality, heightened flood risks, etc. Unfortunately, these pressures are only compounded by the increasing demographic pressure and climate change. All of this also has wider ranging impacts on populations, including on energy production (through siltation of the reservoir; decreased water availability), food production (agriculture, but also fisheries and livestock), and overall economy, as a large portion of the population rely directly on the natural resources for a living. Climate change in particular is thought to have a particularly strong impact on the basin populations as the current subsistence farming practices are particularly at risk from climate variability and change.

As a shared basin, efforts to better manage it are necessary both on the Togolese and Beninese sides of the border; importantly, this management needs to be coordinated at basin level rather than at national level. Indeed, the degradation of the basin can only be slowed/halted as a whole as actions in one part of the basin will have knock-on effects in other parts. Providing a cohesive institutional backbone, from local to regional level, will allow for concerted efforts, and provide the appropriate framework and bodies with which to spearhead development and dialogue in the basin and champion transformative inclusive change.

Threats, roots causes and barriers analysis

The table below provides an overview of the threats, root causes and barriers that contribute to river basin degradation and poor management, and their associated impacts, in the Mono River basin.

Table 3?5: Threats, root causes and barrier analysis

Threats	Root causes	Barrier analysis
? Habitat degradation, conversion and fragmentation	? Population pressure ? Energy poverty	? Lack of knowledge, capacity and data ? Poor governance frameworks and lack of regulation and enforcement of laws
? Loss of above-ground floristic and faunal biodiversity	? Rural poverty and dependence on primary sector	? Unsustainable land and fishing practices impact water resources
? Degradation of water resources	? Climate change and variability	
? Overuse/harvesting of natural resources		
? Pollution (organic and non-organic)		

Threats

? **Habitat degradation, conversion and fragmentation** ? land degradation and conversion is a permanent threat in the basin, mainly due to development of agricultural land, but also need for biomass (firewood and charcoal), and gravel/sand mining (particularly in the north of the basin). A recent study suggests that cropland has increased by over 30% since 1975 in the basin, while natural habitat such as forest and savannahs, have reduced by 6.9% and 25.6% respectively (Koubodana Houteta, et al., 2021). Vast tree cover loss massively impacts ecosystem services such as habitat for pollinators, water retention, cleaner water, windbreaks, and soil stabilization. Topsoil is lost due to runoff and wind therefore crop yields decline.

? **Loss of above-ground floristic and faunal biodiversity** ? coupled with the previous point, is biodiversity loss. Habitat degradation or fragmentation decrease the area available for animal or plant populations. Other human activities, such as hunting or fishing, also directly impact faunal biodiversity. Animal-human conflict often exacerbate these, fostering negative feelings towards specific species. For instance, during consultations, community stakeholders admitted to having locally exterminated hippopotamus in the Lake Toho area (Benin) as they were perceived as threats to fishermen and farmers. A number of other species are deemed locally/nationally threatened, such as the grey pelican (endangered ? Benin) [hunted], Button mangrove (*Conocarpus erectus*, endangered ? Benin), African whitewood (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*, endangered ? Benin), sitatunga (*Tragelaphus spekii*, endangered - Benin) [hunted and habitat fragmentation] (Amadou Siako & Kedowide, 2019).

? **Degradation of water resources** ? water resource degradation includes quality and quantity. In the basin, there are pollution issues caused by activities including fertilizer/pesticide use, household wastewater or washing in the rivers[1]¹, These activities combined with increased agricultural runoff

and riverbed erosion lead to eutrophication and subsequent fish kill (see Pilot 1) and augmented heavy metal concentration in the coastal lagoon (Bocodaho, et al, 2021). In the south of Togo heavy metal pollution is very high in areas close to phosphate mines and treatment facilities, surface and groundwater are contaminated with fluorid, Cadmium and Lead^{[2]²[3]³. Excessive sedimentation is an increasing issue in the basin, with erosion happening throughout the basin, due to inappropriate or excessive land use, riverbank degradation (including trampling by livestock), and exacerbated by the disruption of the natural hydrological cycle of the river by Nangbeto dam. It is particularly visible in the estuary, where there is heavy siltation of the lagoons, as well as the natural outlets to the ocean, to the point where mechanical dredging is being deployed to try to provide a short-term solution. In terms of quantity, extreme flood/drought cycles are increasing, with sources drying up for longer in the northern reaches and increasing flooding events in the lower reaches.}

? **Overuse of natural resources** ? overuse/overharvesting of natural resources is due to high and increasing demand for natural resources, often coupled with a lack of or poor enforcement of sustainable management regulations. In the basin, these include wood, terrestrial animals, aquatic animals, etc. While quantitative data are currently difficult to obtain (due to a lack of systematic monitoring ? see Barriers), consultations with local populations in the basin highlighted the decrease in availability of these resources and/or the increased time needed to access them. These are also documented in local action plans, such as in the Development and Management Plan of the Bouche du Roy ACCB: ?The pressure of fishing has caused a scarcity of fishery products and as a result some fishermen have converted to agriculture for lack of activities? (ACP Bouche du Roy, 2017)

Root causes

? **Population pressure** - Population growth in Benin is over 3% and over 2% in Togo as of 2022. In the basin, the values vary by department/region, but most are at line with or above the national levels. For instance, within the Bassila commune (Donga department), the most recent value was 5.44% (Commune de Bassila, 2017). This translates in densely populated areas, especially in the coastal areas, and a young population in need of economic activity. In this rural environment, where the majority rely on natural resources for their subsistence, this equates to increased land degradation through many processes, including deforestation, erosion, overgrazing, etc.

? **Rural poverty and dependence on primary sector** ? Agriculture in the Mono is rain-fed and mainly of subsistence; around 80% of the basin population are engaged in the activity and it is for the large majority, the main source of household income (EXPERTS-DEV Sarl/Ing?nieurs -Conseil, 2021). However, it is far from profitable, as the agricultural productivity is generally low and Togo?s agricultural exports (i.e. cotton, palm oil, milk and cream, soya bean) are exported unprocessed meaning export revenue is low hurting the income of farmers leaving much of the basin population in poverty. In Togo, poverty was higher among households headed by farmers in 2015, and even more so in women headed households (Atake, Dandonougbo, Litaaba-Akila, Kouevidjin, & Sika Limazie,

2020). The practices used at basin level are generally not environmentally friendly or sustainable, and the lack of profitability only encourages further expansion of agricultural lands throughout the area, to the detriment of the environment and sustainable management.

? **Energy poverty** ? linked to the previous point is energy poverty. With low electrification rates in rural areas (6.53% in Benin; 8% in Togo^[4]), most rural households still rely on biomass for energy. In the basin, this includes the likes of palm fronds (in the southern section), firewood, or charcoal. This dependence has an impact deforestation, which in turn, impacts erosion and runoff. Furthermore, the most recent national development plan for Benin recognizes that the low access to electricity has further implications than simply deforestation: it also hinders the development of agriculture, leaving most of the population reliant on unsustainable land use practices (GoB, 2018), negatively feeding back into patterns of land degradation.

? **Climate change and variability** ? Benin as a country has been ranked as the 13th most vulnerable country to climate change, while Togo fares slightly better as 50th most vulnerable (out of 182) in 2021 (ND-GAIN, 2022). In Togo, average temperatures have risen by 1.1° C since 1960 (World Bank Group, 2021), while rainfall variability will drive an ever-worsening flood/drought cycle in the basin. For instance, in Benin, where August has generally been characterized by a decrease in rainfall, the central area has become increasingly rainy (MCVDD, 2021). Importantly, it seems that while there may be an overall decrease in annual rainfall, these will be concentrated in more 'extreme' events and less predictable (World Bank Group, 2021).

Barrier analysis

? **Lack of knowledge, capacity and data** - In the two countries and in the Mono basin, there is little knowledge and poor monitoring of water resources, both surface and underground, in terms of quantity, quality, availability, uses, demands, etc. Actions are being undertaken at the level of the two States (Benin and Togo) for the development and implementation of water information systems. Monitoring equipment (hydrometric and piezometric) exists and is being updated thanks to various projects and initiatives, but these are insufficient, poorly distributed and the data not readily available to improve knowledge of water resources. **Currently, at the transboundary level of the Mono basin there is no provision for knowledge and management of water resources on a cross-border scale.**

? In addition to this lack of hard data, there is a need to ensure that the populations living within the basin are not only made aware of the information that does exist, but also are able to voice and share their knowledge on the basin and its resources, and to work in cooperation with technicians and scientists. In particular, it is important to reconcile their knowledge with the national efforts and frameworks, namely in the rolling out of IWRM.

? **Poor governance frameworks and lack of regulation and enforcement of laws** The legal framework for the management of the Mono basin consists of national legal standards and the legal framework of West African sub-regional organizations of which the two countries of the basin are members. Overall, each of the two states applies its national legislation to the portion of the basin

located on its national territory and ensures its management by relying on its national institutions. However, instability, centralization and difficulties in enforcing legislation are other governance factors that have an indirect impact on the resources of the basin. In particular, at the regional level, there is a need to strengthen the Mono Basin Authority. While the ongoing developments are laudable, there is still a way to go in order to ensure that it fully fills its role as an internationally recognized transboundary river organization. **This includes ensuring that the MBA is legally recognized within each country, ensuring that it is equipped with all the necessary policies, strategies and guidelines necessary to run projects at global standards, furthering its capacity, both in terms of skills and human capital, and also building and establishing its visibility amongst stakeholders, from the local to the regional level.**

? At the local level, there are existing efforts to engage populations in the management of natural resources, namely water (*Comité Local de l'Eau* ? CLE) or conservation areas (*Association de Conservation et de Protection* ? ACP[5]⁵). These young structures seem to be overall positive experiences, but still require extra support in order to ensure that their sustainability. This support includes capacity building and awareness-raising (within the group but also throughout the communities they support), namely to support the implementation of their action plans as well as more widespread recognition of their roles and improved relations with local government and communities.

? **Unsustainable land and fishing practices impact water resources** ? Poor cultivation practices and poor land use lead to erosion, degradation of riverbanks and silting of the watercourse. Extensive slash-and-burn agricultural practices, overgrazing of grasslands and deforestation have also caused further degradation of the Mono basin's resources. To make matters worse, many of the practices being used at this time are no longer adapted to a changing environment. All of this impacts the overall health of the ecosystems, which in turn impacts communities who rely on them.

Each of these barriers can be tackled individually; however, it is also critical to acknowledge how they interact and negatively feedback into each other: without proper ecological monitoring, data generation and sharing, it will be impossible to create appropriate management and regulatory frameworks. Similarly, without respected, inclusive, multi-level, integrated and informed institutions, it is difficult to promote the uptake of improved practices and enforce regulatory frameworks. As such, achieving transformational change requires the promotion of an enabling environment which includes clear institutional networks (at all levels), information and awareness.

2) Baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

The baseline scenario in the Mono River Basin remains one that is mainly driven by national efforts on either side of the border, with the inclusion of larger regional projects driven by multi-lateral donors. Many of these projects and programs have similar types of interventions and objectives, yet there is an overall lack of long-term development vision and strategy for the basin, based on previous experiences in the basin, sound scientific data and stakeholder participation.

While it has been almost 10 years since the need for cooperative management of the basin and its resources was recognized, currently the Mono Basin Authority (MBA) still lacks the institutional and political bases to become the universally recognized coordinator of development actions in the basin. Currently the MBA functions at low capacity, whether it be human or financial, and requires additional input to ensure that it is a fully functional, nationally and internationally legally recognized entity, recognized by stakeholders at local, national and regional levels. Many of the activities that are required to achieve this are fully recognized and detailed in the MBA's Annual Workplan, yet remain unfunded.

The projects presented below are past, on-going and planned projects in the basin, promoting similar approaches, and mainly focusing on the socio-economic and ecological sustainability of the basin. Coordination with these projects will be crucial to make sure the present project capitalizes on the results achieved by the past projects and ensure a complementarity with on- going and planned project.

Past national actions and projects

Multifunctional Hydraulic Infrastructure Development and Sustainable Management of Water Resources Project (PDIHM / GDRE) - Benin

The Multifunctional Hydraulic Infrastructure Development and Sustainable Management of Water Resources Project (PDIHM / GDRE) was one of the flagship projects of the government program of "universal access to drinking water by 2021". It was rolled out in all hydrographic basins of Benin, including the Mono River, costing just over 100,000,000 USD. The general objective of the project is to promote the integrated management of water resources at the level of hydrographic basins and to build multifunction hydraulic infrastructures. Specifically, it sought to:

- ? Improve knowledge of Water Resources by strengthening observation networks and consolidating monitoring of piezometric, hydrometric and water quality networks;
- ? Increase the economic valuation of water by guaranteeing its availability in quantity and quality for production activities through research and identification of surface water mobilization and storage sites (site of dams) in the areas where groundwater resources are insufficient or inaccessible to meet drinking water needs;
- ? Improve the performance of the legal, institutional and organizational framework for governance of the water sector.

The project had 3 components:

- ? Component 1: Knowledge of Water Resources through the strengthening of observation networks and consolidation of the monitoring of piezometric, hydrometric and water quality networks;
- ? Component 2: Economic valuation of water by guaranteeing its availability in quantity and quality for production activities through research and identification of surface water mobilization and storage sites (dam site) in the areas where groundwater resources are insufficient or inaccessible to meet drinking water needs;

? Component 3: Improvement of the institutional and organizational legal framework with a view to improving the governance of the water sector.

Lessons learned: This program has allowed to introduce the concept of IWRM throughout the country, and in particular in the Mono Basin. While the efforts are laudable, it is a process that requires sustained support, namely in ensuring that water resources are adequately monitored ? whether through scientific methods or through local management.

Support Program for Water, Hygiene and Sanitation sector (ProSEHA) - Benin

This GIZ project was funded by the GIZ (?5,000,000) and designed to improve access to drinking water and sanitation, while respecting hygiene standards. It also provided interventions with regards to sustainable management of water resources, food security and climate change. ProSEHA?s intervention approach was based on the strong collaboration between the General Directorate of Water of Benin, focal point of MBA and the Executive Directorate of the same institution.

Three basins were targeted by the project, including the Mono River basin. In total, about ?400,000 were invested into activities undertaken in the Mono Basin. Some of the key outputs from the project were:

- ? A baseline report on the Mono basin, which was finalized in May 2021;
- ? MBA Executive Directorate capacity building;
- ? IWRM training in the basin, including establishing CLEs;
- ? Creation of a transitory strategic plan to bridge the gap between the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan and the future basin SAP.

The project itself wrapped up in 2022; the follow-up project, AGIREau, was launched early 2023 and is described below (3.5.2)

Lessons learned: Many of the ProSEHA interventions were focused on drinking water and hygiene, but there were also elements of institutional building and IWRM training in 3 basins. The ProSEHA project clearly provided support to the MBA, helping it deliver its 2016-2020 strategic plan. This included building capacity in the MBA itself, as well as continuing to ensure that IWRM was promoted in key basins. However, the efforts were relatively localized, as two other basins were also targeted. Furthermore, while there was support to the MBA, the focus remained on strengthening national level institutions and policy.

Support Program for Vulnerable Populations (PAPV) - Togo

The intervention of the PAPV in the water and sanitation sector pursues the same objectives as the community development emergency program (PUDC), namely to contribute to the significant improvement of the living conditions of the populations living in the areas little or poorly served by drinking water infrastructure through the restoration of drinking water supply in localities where boreholes have failed, but also through the extension of the drinking water network and distribution points. The program was rolled out in two phases: 2017-2018, (EUR 1,092,348,405) and 2019-2020 (1,073,000,000 EUR).

The overall goal was to improve the living conditions of the populations through the population's drinking water access. This involves the construction of 15 new boreholes equipped with human-powered pumps (HPP), extension of the network over 15 km, creation of 11 standpipes and rehabilitation of 1,143 former HPP throughout the territory including the basin of the Mono River covering an area of 21,300 km² with a population of approximately 2 million.

Lessons learned: the construction of boreholes is a key effort to improve the health and economic security of populations; however, it also requires increased capacity in water resource management, whether at the local level, basin level or national ? including the development of tools and databases.

Rural and semi-urban water and sanitation project IDB-WAEMU

The objective of this program is to supply rural and semi-urban localities with drinking water through the construction of drinking water and sanitation infrastructure (HPP boreholes, Mini-DWS equipped with solar panels, community latrines and family latrines). There have been multiple phases to this, which focuses; previously, work was centered in Savannas and Kara (USD 37 million); however more recently 22 million USD has been provided by IDB to focus on the Central, Plateaux and Maritime regions (partially covering the basin).

Lessons learned: similarly, to the program above, the provision of safe sources of potable water is essential to improve the socio-economic situation of populations. However, ensuring that there is also appropriate management of water resources, from local to regional level, is equally as important and requires building adequate institutions and capacity.

Current and planned national actions

Appui ? la Gestion Int?gr?e des Ressources en Eau dans le contexte du Changement Climatique - AGIR-Eau - Benin

The AGIR-Eau project is a two-year project (2022-24), funded by GIZ (?10 million). The project acts as a follow-up to ProSEHA (see above) and is focused on addressing current challenges in the water sector with the integration of wastewater management, gender, and climate change issues. The project is built around three pillars, namely:

? Policy framework: providing advice on the implementation and monitoring of NDC and NAP contribution in the water sector, as well as on integrating wastewater management, gender and climate change issues in the PANGIRE.

? Furthering the implementation of IWRM: Providing technical advice for the development of SAGE measures that strengthen climate resilience and gender equality in local communities; establishing and strengthening CLEs.

? Wastewater and Fecal sludge.

The Mono basin is one of the target areas, in addition to the Pendjari, Mekrou, and Ou?m? basins. In particular, this project will be providing support to the development of the Mono Basin Observatory. Two hundred thousand euros (?200,000) will be allocated for the acquisition of computer equipment, the acquisition and installation of one (01) Data Collection Platform (DCP) and capacity building of a

core group of the observatory on "Management of hydrological databases using HYDROMET software", "Use of satellite information for water resources planning and management"; as well as the organization of the follow-up of the data collection and valorization.

Gap analysis: This project is working at a national level to ensure Benin's adherence to IWRM principles in a variety of basins. However, as a transboundary basin, there is a need to ensure that efforts on the Beninese side are mirrored on the Togolese side, and for sustainability, a proper strategic framework is developed.

Support for the management of the Mono biosphere reserve and the Bouche du Roy marine protected area for sustainable inclusive economic development - Benin

This project is being developed by IUCN with financial support from the European Union (5.9 million euros) and will mainly cover the Benin side of the Mono Biosphere reserve. The objective is to strengthen the management measures of the Mono MAB UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and the development of the contiguous Marine Protected Area of Avl?k?t?-Bouche du Roy, using an integrated approach to sustainable territorial development that is resilient to climate change. Major actions include, strengthening capacities of the Biosphere institutions, support the revision/implementation of the Biosphere reserve management plan, facilitating the implementation of management measures, support professional training for conservation and ecotourism, develop financial mechanism for conserving and sustainably using natural resources in the biosphere reserve. It is expected to kick off by end of this year early 2024.

Gap analysis: This project has a specific focus on the Beninese portion of the Mono basin, supporting the participative management frameworks, and helping to ensure their sustainability. However, it is vital to ensure that there are complementary and cohesive efforts upstream in order to ensure that the ecosystems in the estuary feel the full benefits of this project's efforts.

Program d'Appui ? la Lutte contre le Changement Climatique, et la Protection de la Biodiversit? et Agro?cologie (PALCC+) - Togo

The PALCC+ is a European Union (EU) funded project, which started in 2021, and will run until 2025. With a budget of over ?10 million, the PALCC+ project is positioned as a promoter of long-term initiatives by exploiting national governmental provisions that are already very favorable to the green economy and by promoting energy efficiency as well as environmental interventions that can benefit from the support of carbon credits and the convergence of interventions of technical and financial partners and private partnerships.

To this end, the PALCC+ project includes interventions for the preservation and regeneration of natural resources, particularly in protected areas. In order to avoid rural exodus and to counter the pressure on natural resources, the communities living in the intervention areas, as essential stakeholders in climate change resilience actions, must be able to contribute to the development of their territories and benefit from the results obtained, in particular by improving their living conditions. Two particular landscapes are targeted: Fazao-Malfakassa-Abdoulaye and Togodo-Mono. Here, environmental governance will be promoted, likely to support a green economy supported by the convergence of other initiatives for the benefit of the well-being of communities through their opening up, the availability of drinking water, security, social peace, basic social services, etc.

The PALCC+ intervention will also combine long-term EU domestic and foreign policy approaches with rapid response capacities to support stabilization and conflict prevention, strengthening the links between humanitarian action and development and responding to more immediate community needs.

The approach to intervention will also need to take into account the new political momentum that underscores the importance for the EU and member states, in the specific case of German and French cooperation, to work better together and through increased coordination and complementarity of their development cooperation.

Gap Analysis: this project is focused protected areas and their surrounding zones. The overall benefits of the intervention include sustainable management of water and land resources, as well as improved integration of climate change in policy and improved climate change resilience for local communities, are key elements for the overall sustainability and development of the basin as a whole. As such, there is a need to ensure that there is a way to capitalize on these efforts and develop a plan to roll them out in similar areas in the basin.

Past regional actions and projects

Partenariat régional sur l'Eau et l'Environnement en Afrique Centrale et Occidentale (PREE)/IUCN Between March 2020 to September 2022, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) was implementing, in collaboration with its strategic partners and with the financial support of the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), a project called the "Regional Partnership on Water and the Environment in Central and West Africa - PREE ACO". The project aimed to strengthen the resilience of the natural ecosystems of local communities in the river and lake basins of West and Central Africa. The IUCN Central and West Africa Program (IUCN PACO) integrated the MBA in the implementation of the PREE ACO to take into account urgent measures to be implemented in the basin. These measures included:

- ? Institutional capacity building of MBA;
- ? Operationalization of integrated water resources management (IWRM) in the basin;
- ? Management of risks and opportunities of conflict sensitivity in the basin;
- ? Increasing the adaptation capacities to climate change of local communities and strengthening the resilience of ecosystems.

Lessons learned: While this project was terminated pre-emptively, there are tangible benefits that remain on the ground on which there is a need to capitalize. In particular, there were gains in the implementation of IWRM, namely training of local populations, institutional capacity building of the MBA, which will provide a solid basis for further, wider ranging activities in the basin.

CLIMAFRI

The CLIMAFRI project was a German-African inter- and transdisciplinary research project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) from 2019 to 2022. The project

aimed to co-develop and co-implement adaptation strategies to efficiently manage current and future flood risk in the transboundary Lower Mono River Basin of Togo and Benin.

The CLIMAFRI project sought to address the data and information gap and to support the Mono River Basin Authority with science-based information for decision-making to reduce the negative impacts of flood. This included the generation of hydrological tools and data for the basin, providing training for local technicians and experts, as well as publications and teaching materials which can be utilized by students and trainees in country.

Lessons learned / Gap analysis: the ClimAFRI project allowed to specifically target the need to collect ecological data (mainly hydrological) data for the basin. However, there is a need to ensure that there is a continued strategy and plan for the continued collection of similar and related ecological and hydrological data, as well as continue promoting scientific/learning opportunities in the basin and the dissemination of the results obtained through such efforts.

West African Scientific Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL)

The WASCAL is an initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research to create, together with partner countries of West Africa, an adapted land use centre in West Africa. It currently supports knowledge creation and developing analytical capacity in the region to address current and future land management issues caused by climate change and weather conditions. WASCAL, within the framework of the Hydrometeorological Observation project in the transboundary basins of West Africa, has supported the MBA by donating hydrological and water quality measurement equipment, through a variety of projects (e.g. CLIMAfri). In addition, through its focus on research and supporting capacity in the area, WASCAL has provided a certain number of tools, data and reports on the basin such as flood assessments and building data on flooding in the basin, with a focus on Togo, or the analysis of the extreme rainfall at Sokodé and Atakpamé in the Upper part of the Mono River Basin using extreme climate indices and the Mann-Kendall method

Lessons learned/Gap identified: partnership with the ongoing WASCAL program was secured through the ClimAFRI project. There was and is scope to engage with this regional education centre, as it not only is a means to undertake research but is also a way to increase national level capacity through trainings and knowledge exchange.

Current and planned regional actions and projects

Mono River Basin Observatory Project

The Mono River Basin Observatory is an ongoing initiative of the MBA, as it is recognized as a key aspect of its mandate. The overall initiative has three specific objectives.

? Allow the Mono Basin Authority to establish a diagnosis of water needs and the resources actually available, as well as the environmental situation of the basin and its challenges;

? Support the emergence of the Mono Basin Authority by making the Observatory of Water Resources and associated ecosystems the Authority's first operational and unifying tool;

? Help set up an inter-state information, communication and decision-making support tool for the management of water and associated ecosystems, with a view to defining priorities and options for the sustainable management of the basin and ?? anticipate the negative impacts of water management.

For this, there are three main steps:

? Component 1: Carrying out an inventory of the environmental situation in the Mono basin: data relating to the management of water resources and associated environments in the Mono basin are limited and do not allow decision-making. Consequently, this component provides for the division of the basin into homogeneous zones with regard to hydrology and uses, and the diagnosis of the data collection network. It also provides for a diagnosis by zone of the environmental situation and the challenges;

? Component 2: The establishment of an Observatory of water resources and associated environments, an information, communication and decision-making aid tool. The activity must set up the project website and must build the Observatory as a computerized data management tool;

? Component 3: Involvement of parties concerned in water management and environmental management: to promote the implementation of integrated water resources management, the Mono Basin Authority must involve all stakeholders, from grassroots populations to national and regional authorities, in each of its actions. Thus, this component supports the Authority by carrying out an audit of organized representations of civil society, by informing and consulting local actors and by involving them in monitoring the state of water resources and in the dissemination of results.

Up to now, there are a variety of elements from each of these components that have been put in place, partially or in their entirety: for instance, there have been some studies done on the overall hydrography of the basin (under ProSEHA, ClimAfri). Through funding provided by the AgirEau project (see above), there will also IT equipment to establish the observatory, the acquisition of some hydro-monitoring equipment, and training provided.

Gap analysis: this initiative has many elements to it, with some already being targeted by other projects; however, for it to become a fully-fledged tool, it is necessary to ensure that all components are being targeted, including the regulatory framework for data collection and sharing, the infrastructure for the housing of the data, as well as the capacity for sustainable management of the observatory.

Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE-5)/IUCN

This is the fifth phase of an internationally recognized and successful program, which will run between 2022 and 2025, in fourteen transboundary basins worldwide. In this phase,

Benin and Togo will be supported in the implementation of effective water management. Based on over 10 years of experience in transboundary river systems, it advocates a shared vision of the principles of distribution and benefits drawn from water, as well as transparent and coherent institutional frameworks. It is in line with this vision that, as part of the reform of water governance at the level of the Mono basin, the emphasis will be on promoting and supporting the establishment of legal frameworks. This project will allow the development of water management tools that will serve, on the one hand, as a basis for dialogue in the development of the ?Shared Vision?, and on the other hand, in

the establishment of cross-border committees in the selected areas. The Bridge project will support existing initiatives and strengthen the institutional arrangements already in place, including the MBA and CLEs. The Bridge project is built around five pillars, namely demonstration, learning, dialogue for consensus building, leadership development, and facility support.

Gap analysis: this global program brings with it a wealth of experience in supporting cooperative management of transboundary basins. As a global program, its focus and support to the basin is specific and punctual, while the Mono basin still requires specific sustained support to ensure that all the elements for long-term sustainable development is possible.

Towards a climate risk shield in the Mono River Basin (Projet bouclier-climat)/AF-OSS

This five-year project, to be funded by the Adaptation Fund, and spearheaded by the same co-executing agencies (OSS lead), is expected to start early 2024. With a budget of USD 14,000,000, this project has four specific objectives:

- ? Ensure the long-term monitoring of climate risks through the production of reliable scientific data and information, at local, national and transboundary levels in the Mono River Basin;
- ? Develop and implement a regional flood early warning system for vulnerable community's disaster risk reduction;
- ? Implement concrete adaptation actions to build the resilience of the most vulnerable communities;
- ? Strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of the MBA and its stakeholders.

The project is built around 3 components:

? Component 1: Setting up/strengthening tools for climate change resilient management of the Mono River basin ? this component is centered around designing and implementing a regional early warning system for effective flood management in the basin;

? Component 2: Improving the resilience of the most vulnerable ecosystems and people in the basin to the impacts of Climate Change through concrete adaptation measures ? this component is about on the ground investments, with concrete actions to strengthen communities' adaptation and resilience. The priority proposed actions include the rehabilitation and protection of about 500 ha of land (headwaters of rivers and degraded river banks) by biophysical protection means (reforestation, agroforestry, Assisted Natural Regeneration, etc.), the installation of about 2000 linear meters of mechanical bank protection, the implementation of income generating activities (IGAs) and capacity building actions targeting at least 6500 direct beneficiaries in vulnerable areas.

? Component 3: Strengthening the capacities of different actors, share knowledge and raise awareness among all beneficiaries at different levels ? this component looks to consolidate the MBA institutional and technical capacities linked to climate change, as well as to ensure dissemination of lessons learned through capacity building, communication and training., dissemination and capitalization of best practices.

Gap analysis: This concurrent project holds many similarities and complementarities with the project. As a concept, like this proposed project, it looks to better the institutional and data frameworks of the basin, however its focus is specifically linked to flood management and climate change. These two themes are clearly crucial as they remain some of the larger, longer term, and widespread issues for the basin. However, just as many other projects described here, they largely will depend on the wider management framework in the basin, and cooperation between the various stakeholders. The ability of the MBA and other basin actors to properly engage in this project, both as beneficiaries and executing agencies (e.g. NGOs, CBOs, government) will largely be dependent of having baseline capacity in terms of international basin management and its resources.

Africa Water Investment Program

The Africa Water Investment Program is running between 2020 and 2025, and funded by the Austrian Agency for Development (*Agence Autrichienne de Développement - ADA*). This program is being implemented throughout Africa ; the Western African portion is being led by the GWP-WA (78 million). Its goal in this area is to ensure that the development and implementation of policies, strategies, plans and programs in water security and climate resilience development in Benin and in the West Africa region advance gender equality. The overall objective is to catalyze gender transformative change for implementation of Climate Resilient Water Investments by leveraging partnerships, knowledge, capabilities, and opportunities for transforming unequal structures, relations & agencies, and demonstrating gender transformative actions and facilitating active learning to influence policies and practices at national, basin and regional levels.

The project is centered around 3 components :

? Component 1 ? catalyzing transformative gender change in power relations and institutional structures for the implementation of climate-resilient water sector investments, policies, plans and jobs : this component will work on mobilizing political commitment for transformational gender action, including creating a cost-effective plan for institutional change in decision-making and financing for water investments and jobs.

? Component 2 - Mobilize partnerships and build motivation, capacity and opportunities to transform structurally embedded unequal power relations : activities under this component focus on understanding how gender and social norms are taken into consideration for water management, in order to develop strategies to increase women's individual empowerment and decision-making power.

? Component 3 - Accelerate agile learning from the implementation of local pilot projects addressing the practical needs and vulnerabilities of marginalized groups induced by climate

Gap analysis : this project is specifically focused on Benin ; however, with the Mono Basin being a transboundary basin, it is necessary to ensure that there is similar developments on both sides of the border. One of the strong suits of this project is the focus on gender aspects, namely how to ensure that transformational gender actions are incorporated into water management, policy and M&E, which can strongly complement and benefit the Mono Basin.

GEF Interventions

There have been several GEF interventions in the last 10 years which have direct and indirect links with the proposed project, notably working on international waters, climate change adaptation and mitigation, combatting land degradation and natural resource governance. In particular, it is worth highlighting a regional West Africa Coastal Areas Management Program. This is a Coastal Zone Resilience Investment Project in West Africa, funded by a number of development partners including the World Bank (via IDA), the Nordic Development Fund (NDF), the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) and the Global Environment Fund (GEF ? Project 9906), to name a few. It is a multi-country and regional response to support the strengthening of resilience of coastal communities and assets in 17 western African countries particularly vulnerable to erosion, flooding, and pollution. Countries have a degree of readiness through multi-sectoral investment planning processes. Currently, the program has projects in 10 of these countries, including Togo and Benin.

The objective of WACA is to improve the management of shared resources and risks, integrating climate change, affecting communities and coastal areas in the West African region. In Benin and Togo, the WACA project mainly concerns the southern part of the Mono basin and takes into account the strengthening of the sustainable management and protection of the Mono Transboundary Biosphere Reserve whose activities are financed by the GEF. Scheduled from 2018 to 2023, this regional project from which Togo and Benin benefits is implemented through an integrated and multisectoral approach combining technical assistance and grey and green investments to reduce the risks faced by millions of inhabitants. Sides.

The implementation components of WACA are:

? Component 1: Strengthening regional integration; Strengthening strategic leadership and preparing financial and technical instruments and solutions for the fight against coastal risks; Support for the implementation of regional conventions and protocols on integrated coastal management of the Abidjan Convention; The operationalization of a regional coastal observatory through the strengthening of the West African Coastal Observation Mission led by the Dakar Ecological Monitoring Center (EMC); The establishment of a regional unit to support the implementation of the project by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

? Component 2: strengthening policies and institutions; Creation and operationalization of the Benin-Togo joint committee; Restructuring of the Benin Environment Agency; Establishment and operationalization of a specific coastal management framework; Development and implementation of a research and environmental monitoring program for the cross-border area.

? Component 3: Investment; Works to protect the cross-border segment of the Agbodrafo coast: 18 km (Togo) ? Grand-Popo: 23 km (Benin); Development and rehabilitation of the Chenal Gbaga lagoon; Design of a 6.5 million cubic meter sand engine in Hilacondji; Technical feasibility study for setting up settling ponds and waste management from phosphate treatment; Stabilization and development of the south bank of the Mono river in Gb?kon and restoration of the H?tel de Grand-Popo / Avlo track.

Gap analysis: The WACA-funded efforts in the Mono Basin mostly relate to the dredging of lagoons, riverbank restoration, and revegetation of shores. Efforts are mostly based in the lower reaches of the basin. It should be noted that all the efforts at the coastal level are highly influenced by efforts (or lack

of effort) upstream as environmental degradation has critical consequences on the coastal environment and its functioning. As such, there is a need to ensure that efforts are also pursued in the upper sections of the basins to ensure that the efforts in the coastal areas are efficient and sustainable. This is particularly of interest in terms of the buy-in of local communities.

Gap Analysis

? While there are numerous efforts throughout the basin focusing on water resource management, there is a need to ensure that there is a recognizable and permanent structure in the basin which can focus on the durability of all the various efforts. The MBA is the natural candidate for this role, and there is need to fill technical and institutional gaps so as it can be fully functional, institutionalized, and recognizable by local, national and regional stakeholders.

? Linked to this, is the need to strengthen data collection and sharing about the basin, whether the ecological, hydrological, social, economic? Such data is vital to ensure that there is adequate monitoring of resources and development, to not only provide reliable baselines for future development but also assess the impacts and changes that are occurring in the basin.

? Similarly, there is also a need for a structured, long-term, community-endorsed strategies and action plan for the basin, based on current and reliable data and stakeholder participation. Such documents will allow for better planning and development of the basin as a whole, as well as ensure more active stakeholder participation and consistent, comprehensive efforts with a similar goal.

? The Mono is a recognized transboundary basin in Africa, with issues and opportunities that are in some cases unique to its area, and others similar to other basins; currently, its representation at a regional and international level are inconsistent. This not only cause a disservice to its own populations, but also to the wider community of populations living in transboundary basins in the region.

3) Proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project;

The project objective is *?sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono Basin ensured through the strengthening of IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Benin and Togo?*. In fact, improved capacity and coordination at transboundary level is needed for the sustainability of future basin developments and for the shared benefits of these developments to be realized by both Togo and Benin. With basin challenges including flooding, pollution, and degradation of ecosystem services, it is critical that future national level developments are aligned and planned in a collaborative manner at the transboundary level. With the assistance of GEF, this project will bring together the main actors and partners (donors, private sector, technical and financial partners, and civil society organizations etc.) to provide the

Mono Basin Authority with the capacity to drive the management of shared resources at the appropriate scale. Considering the institutional challenges required in terms of disparities in political, legal and legislative frameworks, as well as the degradation of the environmental resources of the basin, the project will centre around three specific components, delivering:

? The development and endorsement of a transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) of the basin and associated strategic action plan (SAP) for 2024-2038, using the GEF best practices and first hand data ; a first investment plan for the first five years (2024-2028) will also be developed with associated investment plan, promoting multi-state cooperation in the basin;

? Strengthened technical and institutional capacities of the Mono Basin Authority and other key stakeholders in the basin, such as CLE, ACP, POSC/Mono, women's associations and youth groups;

? Improved knowledge management and dissemination within the basin and its stakeholders, including the monitoring and evaluation of project activities.

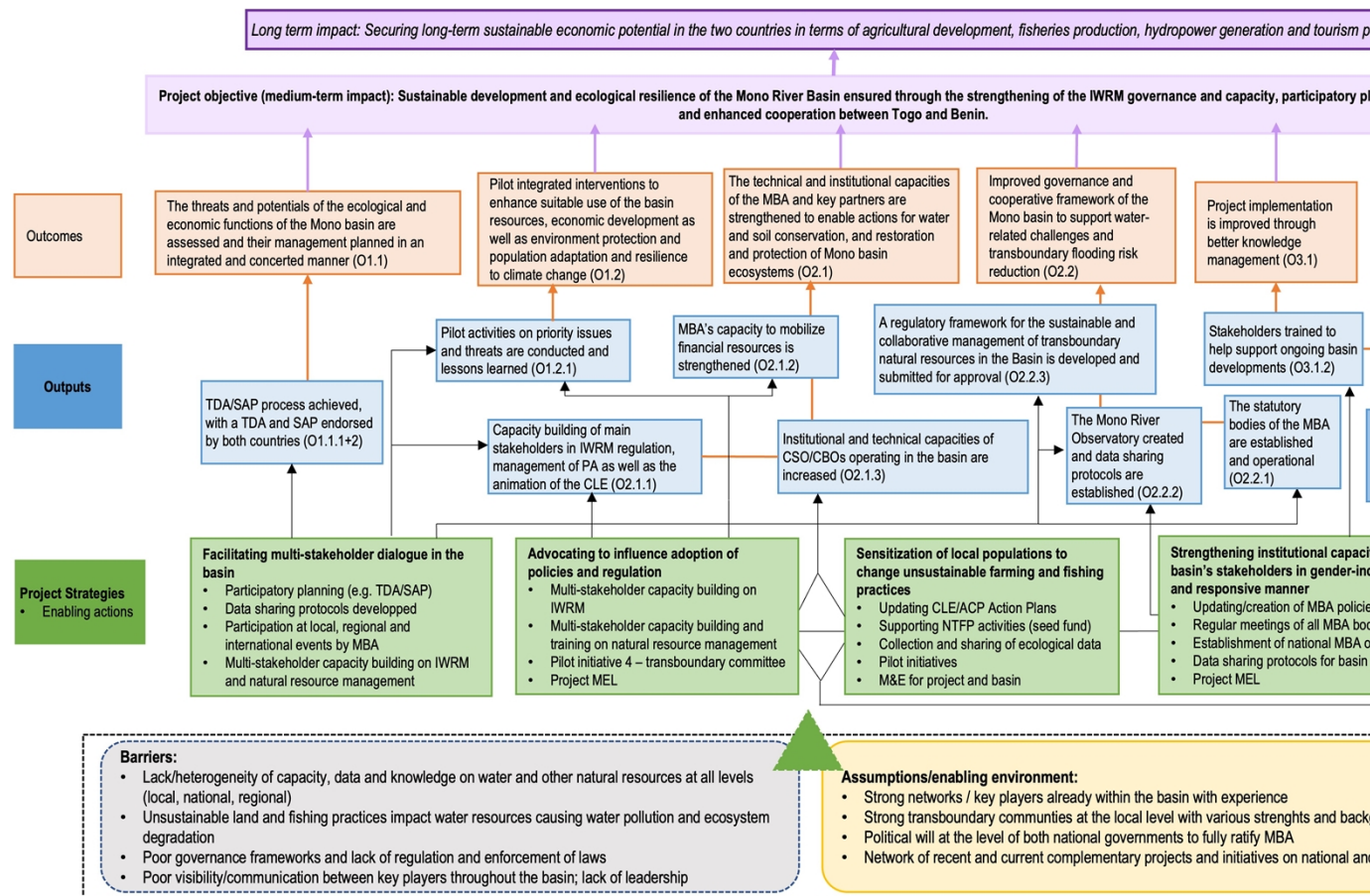


Figure 1: proposed Theory of Change

During the implementation phase of the PPG, namely during the project launch workshop and field stakeholder consultations, the results framework and institutional arrangements for project implementation were discussed. A wide range of stakeholders were engaged to provide feedback on the project design and project activities to ensure relevancy and ownership. Stakeholders engaged include government officials from both countries (Benin and Togo), project co-implementing entities (ABM, OSS, GWP/AO), technical and financial partners, the Mono NGO platform (POSC-Mono), local communities through the local water committees (CLE), as well as through the Community Biodiversity Conservation Areas (CBAs). These consultations resulted in several changes to the project design, which are detailed below.

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
Component 1: Mono River Basin water resources, ecological and economic development assessment and planning		
Component 1: Mono River Basin development assessment and planning	Component 1: Mono River Basin water resources, ecological and economic development assessment and planning	Reformulation to emphasize water resources, ecological and economic aspects of the project? interventions in the Mono River basin

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
<p>Output 1.1.2: A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is developed for 2024- 2038, approved and signed at relevant Ministerial level by the two countries, together with an investment plan for the SAP horizon;</p>	<p>Output 1.1.2: A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is developed for the period 2024-2038, followed by the first Strategic Plan (SP1) 2024-2028, approved and signed at the appropriate national ministerial level by both countries, as well as an investment plan for the SAP horizon (over 15 years) and an investment plan for SP1 (over 05 years);</p>	<p>It is envisioned a program approach for 01 long-term SAPs (15 years) and 03 SPs (05 years each) that allow alignment with donor programs and other major IWRM actors.</p>
<p>Output 1.1.3: Common scientific water and environment management tools (Database, GIS, etc.) developed and water balance and hydraulic functioning (ground and surface waters) established for the Mono river basin</p>	<p>Merged with Output 2.2.2 ? activity under Output 2.2.2</p>	<p>This change was made after consideration of the comments provided at the PIF stage, which noted that</p> <p>For clarity, the output was simplified as an activity under the Output relating with the development of the Mono Basin Observatory, under Component 2.</p>

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
<p>Output 1.2.1. Pilot activities prioritized from the TDA/SAP process which tackle key highlighted ecosystem degradation issues.</p>	<p>Output 1.2.1: Pilot activities on the integration of CC into IWRM, pollution control at source, co-management of transboundary protected areas, conservation of biodiversity of global interest, local community mobilization and knowledge management for IWRM in the Mono River Basin are being conducted and lessons learned.</p>	<p>This change specifies pilot activities that had been identified during PPG. It is to address key indicators 1 (Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use-261,150ha), and 3 (area of land restored-2500ha), which cannot be achieved without concrete field activities.</p> <p>The implementation of field activities at the initial stage of the project is a very strong demand from all project stakeholders, and that its non-fulfillment would be a major risk to the acceptability of the project.</p> <p>In addition, the lessons learned from their implementation will feed into the SAP</p>
<p>Component 2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthening</p>		
<p>Output 2.1.1: Capacity building and training of MBA Executive Directorate and various basin stakeholders in the agriculture, water resources management, the energy and the fishing sectors.</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1: Capacity building and training of MBA Executive Directorate and main stakeholders in IWRM regulation, management of Protected Areas as well as the animation of the CLE</p>	<p>Reformulation into an output based on capacity building needs identified during the PPG phase</p>

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
Output 2.1.2: A resource mobilization strategy for the basin, including the Mono Basin Climate Investment Plan is developed and implemented across the various sectors relevant to the Basin	Output 2.1.2: MBA's capacity to mobilize financial resources is strengthened, specifically through the upgrading of fiduciary, environmental safeguard and gender equality policy documents.	<p>The development of a resource mobilization strategy is more relevant under Component 1 and is already addressed under Output 1.1.2.</p> <p>This reformulation into an output takes into account the institutional compliance needs of the MBA, including the three main eligibility criteria for funding from most donors, which are fiduciary, environmental and gender.</p>
Output 2.1.3: Capacities of socioprofessional groups (women, youth, etc.) improved and their livelihoods enhanced	Output 2.1.3: Institutional and technical capacities of CSOs/CBOs operating in the Mono Basin are increased for better engagement in transboundary management of shared resources	<p>The first formulation of this output refers to an outcome, which moreover, may suggest income-generating activities.</p> <p>This reformulation addresses the specific IWRM capacity building needs of CBOs</p>
Output 2.2.1: Management structures for each sub-basin of the Mono River basin established and strengthened	Output 2.2.1: The statutory bodies of the MBA are established and operational	<p>The Mono River management system is structured through the statutory bodies of the MBA and not by sub-basin. The reformulation is to take charge of these institutional needs, in particular with the setting up of the Concertation Framework of the Basin Stakeholders, and the support to the operationalization of the other existing bodies.</p>

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
Output 2.2.2: Improved Water Resources information system in support of improved flood risk reduction and flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems	Output 2.2.2: The Mono River Observatory for ecological monitoring of the basin and flood risks is created and data sharing protocols are established	The baseline analysis indicates that the MBA is working to establish a basin-wide observatory, and has secured some finance from other sources. This is an important baseline on which the project can incrementally develop the Early Warning System. This output has therefore been reformulated accordingly
Output 2.2.3: Interministerial Committees created and/or strengthened and data sharing protocols developed and presented for endorsed	Output 2.2.3: A regulatory framework for the sustainable and collaborative management of transboundary natural resources in the Mono River Basin is developed and submitted for approval	An inter-ministerial committee has already been which makes this output obsolete. It has been replaced by the development of a collaborative cross-border natural resource management framework, which links back to the output above and overall cooperation in the basin.
<p>Component 3: Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communication</p> <p>The two outcomes of this component have been rephrased to clearly differentiate its main activities: Knowledge Management and Communication. Related outputs have been reformulated and numbered accordingly</p>		
Outcome 3.1: Project results are known and disseminated at the national, basin and regional level	Outcome 3.1: Project implementation is improved through better KM	Specific reformulation about knowledge management
Outcome 3.2 Project lessons learned and best practices are consolidated and disseminated for replication	Outcome 3.2: Project? stakeholders are informed and engaged	Specific reformulation about communication

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
Output 3.1.1. A project monitoring evaluation system is developed and implemented	Output 3.1.1. A project monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system is developed and implemented	The monitoring, evaluation, and learning approach is more appropriate for achieving the outcomes targeted under this component
Output 3.1.2. A Communication strategy developed and implemented	<p>Output 3.2.1: A communication plan for stakeholder engagement is developed and implemented</p> <p>Output 3.2.2: Targeted communication materials (reports, case studies, podcasts, flyers, etc.) are developed and disseminated in appropriate channels</p>	<p>This output has been reformulated both in form and in content to better reflect the purpose of the communication activities to be carried out.</p> <p>It has therefore been split into two outputs; one (3.2.1) for the development of a plan and another (3.2.2) for the development of communication materials and their dissemination.</p>
Output 3.1.3: A gender action plan is developed	/	The project gender action plan will be reviewed as part of the MEL (Output 3.1.1)
Output 3.2.1. A knowledge management strategy developed and implemented, including information sharing	Output 3.1.1. A project monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system is developed and implemented	This product is taken into account under the new formulation of the product 3.1.1
Output 3.2.2. Best practice guidelines for IWRM, including guidelines for water ow management and regulation, adaptation and resilience of population and ecosystems to climate change, erosion control, pollution reduction, and protection of critical flora and fauna	Output 3.1.3: Knowledge management products (Studies, Maps, IWRM Best Practice Guide, Posters, Video reports, Photos,	These two products have been reformulated in terms of the knowledge management products to be developed and the stakeholder capacities to be developed for this purpose, all in relation to the GEF IW-LEARN platform.

PIF Version	CEO Endorsement version	Comments/Justifications
Output 3.2.3. The project contributes to the GEF IW-LEARN platform (1% of the project)	<p>Concept papers, etc.) are developed and contribute to the GEF IW-LEARN platform</p> <p>Output 3.1.2: Stakeholders in the Mono Basin IWRM innovation system are trained and supported to tailor capacity building actions in response to specific needs and thus achieve greater impacts</p>	

Component 1: Mono River Basin water resources, ecological and economic development assessment and planning

This component will address this gap, especially highlighting the issues that the basin is facing from a climate change perspective ? assessing the current and future impacts. The project will finance the realization of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis/Strategic Action Plan process. This GEF endorsed process is a highly collaborative two-step process. The TDA is to identify, quantify, and set priorities for environmental problems that are transboundary in nature, while the SAP establishes clear priorities for action to resolve the priority transboundary problems identified in the TDA. Additionally, there will also be a rolling out of five pilot initiatives on the ground, which will allow to gather data on pre-identified projects and initiatives which have not yet been funded. These will serve three main purposes: a) providing data and lessons learned for the SAP, b) enable communities and grassroots organizations to more easily engage in the TDA/SAP process, and c) provide concrete entry points and strategies for other complementary projects (e.g. Bouclier/Mono).

The two main outcomes expected under this component are:

- ? Outcome 1.1: The threats and potentials of the ecological and economic functions of the Mono basin are assessed and their management planned in an integrated and concerted manner; and
- ? Outcome 1.2: Pilot Integrated interventions to enhance suitable use of the basin resources, economic development as well as environment protection and population adaptation and resilience to climate change.

Outcome 1.1: The threats and potentials of the ecological and economic functions of the Mono basin are assessed and their management planned in an integrated and concerted manner

Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) will be achieved through this outcome. The TDA will be piloted by the OSS given its extensive experience in this domain. Based on this TDA, OSS will also develop the SAP with the support of the Regional Coordination Office (RCO). The TDA provides the technical basis for development of a Strategic Action Program (SAP) and justifies the two related outputs.

Output 1.1.1: Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), including groundwater, is performed, published and agreed by the two countries

The main technical role of a TDA is to identify, quantify, and set priorities for environmental problems that are transboundary in nature. TDA provides the factual basis for the formulation of an SAP. This output is to assess the relative importance of sources and causes, both immediate and root, of transboundary waters problems at Mono river basin scale, and to identify potential preventive and remedial actions. In addition to IWRM, the water-food-energy-ecosystems NEXUS approach will be used because it has a broader analytical scope by moving away from the water sector. The value of the nexus approach is aiming to change the vicious circle of increasing competing demands to a virtuous one of dialogue, trust, and cooperative development leaving all countries with greater benefits than if pursuing unilateral action.

The specific activities under this output will be under the responsibility of the OSS, and will follow TDA best practices, as outlined by the IWLearn website and OSS experiences. A number of consultants will be required to deliver this output,. They will be hired through a competitive process, and managed by the OSS; some of the expertise needed includes:

- ? Transboundary Water Resources/River Basin specialist
 - ? Socio-economic specialist
 - ? Environmental specialist
 - ? Climate Change specialist
 - ? Legal, institutional and policy specialist,
 - ? GIS and modelling specialist
 - ? Gender specialist.

Output 1.1.2: A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is developed for the period 2024-2038, followed by the first Strategic Plan (SPI) 2024-2028, approved and signed at the appropriate national ministerial level by both countries, as well as an investment plan for the SAP horizon (over 15 years) and an investment plan for SPI (over 05 years).

The SAP is a negotiated policy document that should be endorsed at the highest level of all relevant sectors of government. This is to establish clear priorities for action at policy, legal, institutional reforms, and investments levels to resolve the priority transboundary problems identified in the TDA. It will be developed on a tri-quinquennial basis (SAP 2024-2038) with a quinquennial phasing (SP-1: 2024-2028, SP-2: 2029-2033, SP-3: 2033-2038). This project and specific output will focus on the development of the overall strategy and the first five year action plan SP-1. This iterative, consultative process will require hiring of a consultant team, experienced in the development of SAPs in transboundary settings. The specific activities under this outcome will also be under the responsibility of the OSS, namely the Lead Technical Officer, and will follow SAP best practices, as outlined by the IW:Learn website and OSS experiences, as well as integrate lessons learned from the pilot initiatives implemented under Outcome 1.2.

Outcome 1.2: Pilot Integrated interventions to enhance suitable use of the basin resources, economic development as well as environment protection and population adaptation and resilience to climate change.

Output 1.2.1: Pilot activities on the integration of CC into IWRM, pollution control at source, co-management of transboundary protected areas, conservation of biodiversity of global interest, local community mobilization and knowledge management for IWRM in the Mono River Basin are being conducted and lessons learned.

The pilot interventions are an opportunity to further engage populations and grassroots organizations in the overall process of the TDA/SAP and the collaborative and integrated management of the basin. By engaging communities and grassroots organizations in on-the-ground pilot interventions will provide a natural way for them to engage at the TDA/SAP table in a tangible manner as they will be able to provide clear feedback and data on types of interventions and initiatives that should or should not be championed in the SAP. The SAP formulation depends on the relevant results/products provided from the pilot sites innovative field actions. During the project preparation phase, five pilot projects were chosen by stakeholders. They were chosen as they represented priority areas with urgent requirements and are below.

Pilot initiative 1: Strengthening capacities and skills through information and training of actors, local communities, management personnel of Ramsar sites 736 (Togo) and 1017 (Benin)

The evaluation of the management effectiveness of Ramsar sites 736 (Togo) and 1017 (Benin) shows that they are very vulnerable (because of their location, level of poverty of surrounding communities, land issues...) and exposed to many pressures and threats: deforestation, over-exploitation of natural resources, pollution, encroachments, mining, fishing, and hunting. Thus, their ecological value (for instance rare or endangered fauna or flora) and their specific ecosystems (mangrove swamps, lake systems, floodplains) are threatened.

The lack of information and the absence of accompanying measures at the level of Ramsar sites 736 and 1017 constitute barriers to the effective participation of local stakeholders in the various stages of development and implementation of their management plans. The removal of these constraints will increase the support of the local communities for all the objectives of the site. It is in this perspective that this initiative was conceived. It is an initiative to strengthen the capacities of the actors of these Ramsar sites in information management and communication, at the systemic, organizational, and individual levels. It is strongly linked to the observatory that is going to be set up, whose main issue will be to mainstream the specific information and communication needs of the two Ramsar sites of the Mono Basin. It will support activities such as; the identification of specific needs of the Ramsar sites, the elaboration of the theory of change, the elaboration of a communication plan, the training of the stakeholders in the use of the observatory databases, the integration and the coherence of the information and communication issues in the regulatory texts of the Ramsar sites with those of the MBA. The lessons

learned from the implementation of this initiative will be integrated into the SAP and replicated in all the Ramsar sites of the Basin.

Pilot initiative 2: Restoration of degraded lands in the head of source of the Mono and in the forest land of 2,500ha (Reforestation and restoration of degraded soils).

The strategy for implementing restoration activities is based on all stakeholders, but especially on local communities. This strategy allows the concerns of local populations to be considered. It relies on the involvement of local communities before, during and after the implementation of the project to ensure the success of reforestation. Before implementation, sites must be identified, and their status clearly defined with all stakeholders. This definition of status considers the characterization of conflicts of interest of users of natural resources and occupation of space. For the implementation of reforestation activities, contracts will be developed and signed with reforestation groups. A POSC/Mono NGO will be recruited to organize reforestation activities and monitoring. The restoration of 2,500ha of degraded land is planned in the localities of Assoli 3 and Tchamba 1 in Togo and Aledjo in Benin.

Pilot initiative 3 : Development of an inter-communal framework to support cross-border Community Cooperation for concerted management of transboundary resources

Decentralized cooperation in transboundary water resources management and development is the cornerstone of regional integration. Inter-municipal, regional and cross-sectoral adaptation approaches to address the negative impacts of climate change have the potential to strengthen cooperation to improve the effectiveness of water resources management. This cooperative approach can lead to more collaboration and joint action beyond water, contributing to regional peace, stability and integration. The project will finance capacity building activities for the new community-based decentralized cooperation body between the local authorities of Benin and Togo, newly created in March 2021. This includes, in particular, the development of legal texts of cooperation in phase with those of the MBA, the development of a strategic plan, the training and sensitization of the main actors of decentralized cooperation in IWRM, in the three communes of Benin (the commune of Grand-Popo, the commune of Lokossa and the commune of Athieme) and the five communes of Togo (the commune of Lac-1, the commune of Lac-2, the commune of Lac-4, the commune of Bas-Mono-1 and the commune of Bas-Mono2). This pilot project will be implemented based on a memorandum of understanding between the MBA and the community body.

Pilot initiative 4 : Support implementation of nature-based solution for restoration and sustainable management of productive landscape

The protection and restoration of the edges of rivers, their tributaries and mainly the heads of sources and buffer zones that have been put in cultivation or for other socio-economic activities by the riparian population, consists of the stabilization of the edges by biological methods. These include: the planting of herbaceous species to fix the soil and the planting of forest species appropriate to the area to be protected. The introduction of agroforestry in these farming systems would also reduce soil and edges erosion.

Overall, all the intervention sites selected for the pilot initiatives, i.e., the selected edges, the selected source heads, the selected cropping transects including their servitude areas, will be applied the nature-based solutions approach through water and soil conservation/soil defence and restoration actions.

Pilot initiative 5 : Characterization of aquatic ecosystems and development of a monitoring and warning system on water quality, for the productivity of Lake Nangbeto and Lake Toho

The lake of Nangbeto undergoes sedimentary contributions which entails enormous disturbances in the production of electric energy. In parallel, Lake Toho is subject to a number of anthropogenic disturbances, from surrounding communities as well as land degradation upstream. However, information regarding the two ? current conditions (qualitative and quantitative) and threats ? is lacking. Similarly, a monitoring and warning system on water quality is also lacking, leaving the populations vulnerable and underequipped to manage their resources. This pilot study would therefore offer an opportunity to assess these two water bodies and develop an effective water quality monitoring and early warning system, preferably utilising and showcasing local knowledge and capacity.

In order to fairly decide on the implementers of these initiatives, as well as increase the visibility of the MBA within the basin, the project implementation will be decided through a competitive tendering process. This means that, with the help of a consultant (Activity 1.1.2.1), the RCO will draw up ToRs for each of these projects. These ToRs will be based on project concepts outlined above, and will also need to include clear instructions and expectations in terms of budget, ESMS development, gender inclusivity and responsiveness, as well as GEF/IUCN standards and procedures.

The ESMF provides further guidance on elements that will need to be considered and integrated into the ToRs. Two of the initiatives ? PI 2 and PI 4 ? will require additional ESMS assessments, which are budgeted for separately from the grants. The final selection for project implementation will be decided during a series of workshops. These workshops will include shortlisted candidates (up to 3 per project) and double up as a training workshop on reporting and fiduciary requirements of undertaking such projects; as such, it will require inputs from the M&E specialist, Gender specialist, and Finance and Administration Experts of the project. It will also the various project implementers to meet each other as well as the project management teams.

The implementation will be under leadership of the respective NCO or RCO, and support from the OSS and MBA (through the Technical Leads). The grant values are comprehensive, including pilot activities, supervision costs, M&E, etc.

Component 2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthening

This component is centered around the development and structure of the institutions and governance frameworks of resources in the basin ? at the regional (MBA, POSC/Mono) and local (CLE, ACP, CBOs) scale. It comes as a complement to the TDA/SAP process described in Component 1, as it ensures that the structures and capacity needed to successfully undertake the TDA/SAP process ? in the short and medium term ? are in place and functional.

Outcome 2.1: The technical and institutional capacities of the MBA and key partners are strengthened to enable actions for water and soil conservation, and restoration and protection of Mono basin ecosystems

This outcome addresses the needs for systemic, institutional, and individual capacity building of both the MBA and its key partners ? including community resource management groups.

Output 2.1.1: Capacity building and training of MBA Executive Directorate and main stakeholders in IWRM regulation, management of Protected Areas as well as the animation of the CLE

Under this output, the main texts governing the concerted management of the shared natural resources of the basin will be negotiated and drafted. These include the Mono River Water Charter, the main objective of which will be to promote cooperation based on solidarity and reciprocity for sustainable, equitable and coordinated use of the water resources of the Mono River Basin (Activity 2.1.1.1). A data sharing protocol will also be developed and signed (Activity 2.1.1.2), which will relate back to the Mono Basin Observatory (Output 2.2.2) and be a basis for the development of the regulatory framework for sustainable management of natural resources (Output 2.2.3). Both of these activities will require the input from consultants, as well as input from the GWP-WA Technical Lead.

From the institutional point of view, two (02) national offices for the coordination of field activities will be set up; one in each country. The establishment of these national offices, which will be permanent, responds to the need to increase the means of action of the Executive Management of the MBA, through interventions in the field. These coordination offices will be adequately staffed and equipped with appropriate logistics, through co-financing from MBA, Government of Togo and Government of Benin, as well as provided with IT equipment and a vehicle for the Togo National Office by the project budget (Activity 2.1.1.3), to facilitate site visits on the Togolese portion of the basin.

In the same line of thought, at least five (05) new CLEs will be set up, especially in Togo where the need is felt, and the action plans that will guide their interventions will be developed (Activity 2.1.1.4, Activity 2.1.1.5). These activity will be facilitated by consultants, including the GWP-WA Technical Lead, based on the prior experience and expertise of this organization in these matters. The networking and capacity building of the MBA will also be supported through its participation in the events and training of the Basin Organizations networks (Activity 2.1.1.6)

Output 2.1.2: MBA's capacity to mobilize financial resources is strengthened, specifically through the upgrading of fiduciary, environmental safeguard and gender equality policy documents

The capacity of the MBA to mobilize resources depends first and foremost on the compliance of its main governance instruments with established international standards in this domain. Thus, under this product, the MBA Administrative and Financial Management Manual will be evaluated and upgraded (Activity 2.1.2.1), an environmental and social safeguard policy document will be developed (Activity 2.1.2.2), and a Gender Policy document with an action plan will be developed (Activity 2.1.2.4). These documents will be critical for MBA's accreditation and eligibility to many international institutions and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and will significantly improve MBA's governance. The MBA will also be supported to participate in international water related COPs and fora, to strengthen its network, intervention and resource mobilization capacities through strategic partnerships (Activity 2.1.2.5). The members of the Technical Committee of Experts as well as the members of the POSC/Mono will be trained in the formulation of projects eligible for GEF, GCF and AF (Activity 2.1.2.6), which will help key stakeholders of the basin to increase their ability to raise funds for projects and initiatives in the basin, in an effort to improve sustainability of this project after its closure.

Output 2.1.3: Institutional and technical capacities of CSOs/CBOs operating in the Mono Basin are increased for better engagement in transboundary management of shared resources

The level of commitment of stakeholders at the grassroots level will largely determine the success and sustainability of the project. In complement to other initiatives undertaken in complementary projects (e.g. Bouclier Mono, Agir Eau), this output will focus on ensuring that the CSOs and CBOs have continued support to continue the local transition to IWRM of the basin and its water resources, with a particular focus on women and youth. This output will be supported by the Lead Technical Officer from GWP-WA, as they have considerable experience and expertise in IWRM and transboundary basin management training.

It is to this end that CLE, ACP and other CBO members will be trained in IWRM (Activity 2.1.3.1). In connection with the establishment of the Basin Development Stakeholder Forum (see Activity 2.2.1.3), the POSC/Mono will be supported as a transboundary organization of civil society organizations for effective participation (Activity 2.1.3.3), which includes ensuring that they also have sufficient training in IWRM (Activity 2.1.3.2).

Furthermore, this output includes small funds for the implementation of CLE and ACP action plans (Activity 2.1.3.4), mainly in terms of purchasing equipment necessary to undertake restorative activities, IGAs, etc. ; like the pilot projects, this is important in order to engage the local populations, ensure that there is follow-through and buy-in to trainings and action plans, as well as provide examples for best practices and success stories to be documented under component 3. It is envisaged that CLE and ACP which have engaged with the project under activities 2.1.1.4 and 2.1.1.5 will be prioritized.

In parallel, there will be an additional seed fund that will be made available to women groups and/or youth groups. This is to further encourage the participation of women and youth in basin activities; as noted during the PPG phase and documented in the Gender Analysis, there already are women's group that are organized, though not specifically through the same groupings (e.g. ACP/CLE). The focus on NTFP was chosen through consulting with groups, as well in an effort to divert attention from charcoal activities, which were identified as primarily women-associated tasks. As such, these funds will help engage with women and youth more (12 groups), and further build awareness and networking in the basin. This activity 2.1.3.5 will also be supported by the Gender Consultant and the GWP-WA Technical Officer, and provide ongoing support and training for selected women and youth over the course of the project.

Outcome 2.2: Improved governance and cooperative framework of the Mono basin to support water-related challenges and transboundary flooding risk reduction

As a newly created basin organization, the MBA has already put a lot of effort into the establishment and operationalization of its statutory bodies, but it still needs support. This includes ensuring that it has the proper structure and tools to continue generating, managing and distributing data and information regarding the shared natural resources of the Basin. To achieve this result, the following three outputs are needed.

Output 2.2.1: The statutory bodies of the MBA are established and operational

Under this output, the activities related to the good functioning of the statutory bodies already created such as the Council of Ministers, the Technical Committee of Experts and the Executive Directorate of the MBA will be supported especially for the preparation and holding of meetings.

The scope of the activities under each MBA body will vary based on its current operation. For the Council of Ministers and Technical Committee of Experts, which are clearly established and functioning, it will provide financial support for meetings over the course of the project (Activities 2.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.2). This will help ensure that there are sufficient opportunities for these bodies to meet, familiarize themselves with and approve the various plans, frameworks and other documents that will be developed over the course of the project.

The project will allow to support the establishment and first meetings of the Stakeholders Forum for the Development of the Basin, therefore ensuring that all of the statutory bodies of the MBA are in place (Activity 2.2.1.3).

Output 2.2.2: The Mono River Observatory for ecological monitoring of the basin and flood risks is created and data sharing protocols are established

The availability of data and information is crucial for sound decision making for river basin management. The setting up of an observatory is essential for any basin organization as it represents a strategic monitoring tool for the follow-up of the basin environmental status. It will be a matter, among other things, of monitoring the indicators that provide information on the following ecological parameters: surface water ? groundwater ? water-related diseases ? wetlands ? fishery resources ? climatology ? terrestrial and aquatic fauna ? socioeconomic situation ? invasive plants ? plant cover ? soil ? fertilizers and pesticides ? quarries and mines. This is what the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), which the MBA will join, recommends it to its members. It is particularly important as it will allow to detail the stakes in the basin, to anticipate its future exploitation and the implementation of mitigation measures. It also makes it possible to monitor the impacts induced by the SAP initiatives or other development project and to be able to propose adjustments in the short, medium or long term.

This output will therefore help establish the Mono Basin Observatory, as detailed in the MBA strategic plan. It will come complement the activities[1] supported by the AgirEau project. This output will be centered around:

- ? The provision of IT equipment[2] and software for the databases, including installation and training of staff (Activity 2.2.2.1),
- ? the development of a periodic strategic framework for ecological monitoring of water (surface and groundwater) in the Mono basin (Activity 2.2.2.2); this will be delivered by a consultant with the support of the OSS lead technical officer,
- ? the collection of data and development the observation database (Activity 2.2.2.3),

- ? Training of the main stakeholders in the use of the Observatory database, including the development and use of ecological indicators (Activity 2.2.2.4) (to complement the technical trainings provided by the other project).

Output 2.2.3: A regulatory framework for the sustainable and collaborative management of transboundary natural resources in the Mono River Basin is developed and submitted for approval.

The development of a regulatory framework for the sustainable and collaborative management of transboundary natural resources in the Mono River Basin is paramount, and complementary to other efforts such as the TDA/SAP process (Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.2) and establishment of the Observatory (Output 2.2.2). The development of such a legal and institutional framework will be based on the key principles of internal water law, including the obligation to cooperate in good faith, the principle of equitable and reasonable utilization, the principle of no significant harm that involves the obligation of prior notification. Dispute resolution, consultation and notification mechanisms, as well as data collection, management and sharing arrangements, will be the pillars of this framework. Under this output, all activities of the process will be funded. They include stakeholder consultations, mainly through information, consensus-building and awareness-raising missions (Activity 2.2.3.1) and workshops, as well as the development of the regulatory framework; national (Benin, Togo) and sub regional (WAEMU) workshops to validate the regulatory framework (Activity 2.2.3.3); and the production and dissemination of the regulatory framework document (Activity 2.2.3.4). Under the responsibility of the RCU, these activities will be led by a consultant with experience in regulatory framework development.

Component 3: knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation and communication

This component serves a dual purpose of increasing the knowledge management and sharing in and around the basin, as well as supports the MBA's effort to reach international standards, namely in knowledge management and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL). It aims to strengthen the organizational MEL practices; enhance its capacity to become more effective and maximize the project's impact through review and learning with partners and the communities that MBA works with. Additionally, it will equip the MBA's Executive Directorate to meet funders' requirements on MEL. It covers both organizational and project levels. Component 3 is summarized in the table below.

The project will ensure that knowledge is generated and disseminated at the local, national and regional levels. The primary goal of knowledge management is facilitating the connection of staff looking for information, or institutional knowledge, with the people who have it. With practical knowledge management in place, the MBA can spread information and raise the level of expertise held by specific individuals or teams to improve the efficiency of their practices. It consists of a cycle of creating, sharing, structuring, and auditing knowledge to maximize the effectiveness of MBA's collective expertise. To this end, this component will ensure that after not only involving the main stakeholders in the decision making related to the planning elements of the project (TDA and SAP), the project disseminates results and best practices at the level of communities but also towards other countries in the region and beyond. The latter will be done by having the project contribute to the IW: LEARN. This will be critical for ensuring local ownership but also creating the opportunity for replication in other basins. Furthermore, it ensures that the development and implementation of a gender-responsive action plan, which will actively engage women in the implementation of the project activities and

decision-making processes linked to project activities, as well as, more broadly, around the management of shared water resources in the Mono Basin. Sharing through IWLEARN, either virtually on the platform or through workshops organized, also provides the opportunity for exchange with other projects, programs and initiatives, increasing learning on best practices. The two expected outcomes are detailed below.

Outcome 3.1: Project implementation is improved through better Knowledge Management (KM)

The purpose of monitoring, evaluation and learning practices is to apply knowledge gained from evidence and analysis to improve development outcomes and ensure accountability for the resources used to achieve them. Generating buy-in from relevant stakeholders (including regional and national coordination offices of MBA, local communities, implementing partners, host government, and other donors) early and often will improve the ability of the MBA? Directorate to adapt based on learning generated by its M&E systems. Open conversations about the findings of monitoring and evaluation efforts will build trust and provide a foundation for stronger collaboration. This outcome will be achieved through the following three outputs.

Output 3.1.1: A project monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system is developed and implemented

This output centers around putting in place a comprehensive and effective monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system, based on the framework provided in the project document, IUCN/GEF guidelines, and best practices. The first step will be one of the first activities of the inception phase: a needs assessment and baselines, including consultations with communities will be conducted to lay the ground for the development of a comprehensive MEL strategy and action plan (Activity 3.1.1.1). The data generated through this process will allow to revise the results framework of the project at the start of the project and determine the best ways of delivering the M&E portion (a consultant will assist this process) (Activity 3.1.1.2). The latter includes the implementation of the standard monitoring and evaluation plan of the project, consultations with communities, analysis of findings with communities, and presentation of preliminary/final findings to communities for final feedback and input. Specific reflection and learning events with partners, communities and funders will be supported during side events of major events (COP, World Water Day, etc.) will also be developed. Finally, the project will support review sessions by the national and regional executing agencies which will be held annually to assess progress and take corrective measures if needed. Workshops to review and update the MBA's main management and governance instruments and regulatory texts will be held, back-to-back with statutory meetings of the Council of Ministers.

Output 3.1.2: Stakeholders in the Mono Basin IWRM innovation system are trained and supported to tailor capacity building actions in response to specific needs and thus achieve greater impacts

In order to build capacity of stakeholder at community level to implement and actively participate to the MEL process, training sessions for community relays and eco-guards on information, awareness and mobilization techniques for local communities (Activity 3.1.2.1). This will enable them to facilitate information/awareness talks about IWRM at community level, which will benefit not only project implementation, but communication and mobilization in basin communities as a whole. The project will support regular meetings throughout the basin, which will help identify IWRM innovations and

best practices in the basin. These will be collected through restitutive workshops, and their diffusion ensured by activities under Output 3.1.3 (IWRM guides, photo/audio/visual reporting, annual activity report) and 3.2.2 (MBA website, creation of communication materials, diffusion).

In addition, the project will also provide awareness campaigns for decision makers at national (including inter-ministerial committees) (Activity 3.1.2.2) and local levels (e.g. prefects, local authorities, etc.) (Activity 3.1.2.3) which will continue building awareness and capacity around IWRM at all levels of governance, both for the basin as well as the wider region. All training activities under this output will benefit from technical support and overview from the GWP-WA.

Output 3.1.3: Knowledge management products (Studies, Maps, IWRM Best Practice Guide, Posters, Video reports, Photos, Concept papers, etc.) are developed

This output focuses on the production of all knowledge products developed during the project. These will include:

- ? Activity 3.1.3.1: the development of thematic maps at basin scale (e.g. temperature vegetation, vulnerability) using data gathered through the Mono Basin Observatory (Output 2.2.2), partnerships with local university/projects (e.g. WASCAL), and open-source material; this activity will require input from the technical officer from the OSS and an external consultant;
- ? Activity 3.1.3.2: The commissioning of concept papers regarding key themes of the project (for example, landscape restoration, gender inclusion) in the Mono basin;
- ? Activity 3.1.3.3 and 4: the development of IWRM guides for the basin, including at least one focused on women engagement and empowerment. These will include technical support from the GWP-WA Technical Lead and the Gender Specialist;
- ? Activity 3.1.3.5: the creation of audio-visual supports for the Mono River Basin, which can include learning aides for communities, documentation of case studies, general presentation of the basin; the specific supports needed will be defined in the communication plan (Activity 3.2.1.3) and MEL plan (Activity 3.1.1.2),
- ? Activity 3.1.3.6: the editing and printing of the MBA annual activity report for distribution digitally and in print in relevant ministries, the wider IRBO network, IWLearn platform, donor agencies, etc.

Outcome 3.2: Project stakeholders are informed and engaged

Communication is seen as a means of engaging stakeholders for active participation and for the sustainability of the project. The goals are to simplify stakeholder communications and ensure that communication resources are used efficiently and effectively. The communication plan developed under this outcome supports the implementation of the project, but also kick-starts the implementation of the SAP developed in Component 1 of the project. The communication plan will include different tactics to engage different stakeholder groups, depending on their interest and influence. This outcome will be achieved through the following two outputs.

Output 3.2.1: An MBA communication strategy with a communication plan for the ERI project is developed

The communication strategy development will start with a stakeholder mapping exercise and during the inception phase of the project, using the stakeholder analysis and stakeholder engagement plan presented in the project documents (Activity 3.2.1.1; budgeted under Activity 3.1.1.1 ? Inception Workshop). This exercise will allow for a detailing of a communication strategy and action plan, based on the needs of specific activities and stakeholder engagement plan. This communication strategy, whose development will be led by the RCO, NCOs, and co-executing agencies, will be validated by key stakeholders at the end of the project inception meeting (Activities 3.2.1.3 and 4), and also serve as an opportunity to present the full updated project details.

Output 3.2.2: Targeted communication materials (Web site, podcasts, learning videos, flyers, etc.) are developed and disseminated in appropriate channels

This output is closely related to the production of knowledge materials under output 3.1.3 but specifically related to the MBA itself as well as additional support for the dissemination of materials, including on social networks. It will be further detailed and oriented by the communication strategy developed in output 3.2.1. Specifically, it will include:

- ? Activity 3.2.2.1: The creation of an MBA logo and graphic identity which will be used for all publications, promoting a recognizable visual identity;
- ? Activity 3.2.2.2: The development of an MBA website which will become the portal for all of MBA activities and news, including links to databases (e.g. Mono Basin Observatory), project updates, links to social media, etc.;
- ? Activity 3.2.2.3: The budget for dissemination of print materials ? such as posters, flyers, kakemonos, etc.;
- ? Activity 3.2.2.4: The budget for distribution of audio-visual supports (e.g. national/regional tv, radio, hosting fees) developed under Output 3.1.3;
- ? Activity 3.2.2.5: The animation of social networks, which will include a training and support network for community managers in charge of their own networks.

Most of these activities will require the hiring of consultants or companies.

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

The project is in line with Objective 3 of the International Waters focal Area, namely *Enhance water security in freshwater ecosystems*. In particular, the project aligns itself with:

- ? Objective 3-5: Advance information exchange and early warning. This project looks help establish the Mono Basin Observatory which will allow to better monitor the ecological state and water resources in the basin, as well as produce a number of key knowledge products (e.g. thematic maps, best practices, IWRM guides) under Component 3, which will allow to improve the management of the basin, namely in the face of climate change.
- ? Objective 3-6: Enhance regional and national cooperation on shared freshwater surface and groundwater basins. This project supports the development of a TDA and SAP for the Basin (Outcome 1.1), involving local, national and regional stakeholders. In addition, this project will help to ensure that the MBA can fully take its role as river basin organisation at a national and regional level (Outcome 2.1.1; 2.1.2, 2.2.1). It also helps to further institutionalise the management of the basin at a local and national level, by including stakeholders at multiple levels, and developing additional regulatory frameworks (e.g. Output 2.2.3).

? Objective 3-7: Investments in water, food, energy and environment security. This project, through its pilot initiatives (Outcome 1.2), allows to introduce and support various initiatives that will improve the overall socio-economic and environmental development of the basin.. It also provides support to local communities to better plan and implement their own action plans related to natural resource use and sustainable management (Output 2.1.3).

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

Current scenario	Scenario with GEF financing
1. Mono River Basin water resources, ecological and economic development assessment and planning	
<p>The governments of Benin and Togo have both adopted PANGIREs to serve as instruments for operationalizing their respective national water policies. These PANGIREs are developed and implemented from a national perspective, and the legal and institutional frameworks for their implementation are not adapted to the management of the transboundary natural resources of the Mono River. As a result, there are many uncoordinated interventions at the basin level, which exacerbates competition over the use of natural resources, which continue to deteriorate.</p> <p>In addition, the development and implementation of PANGIRE suffer respectively from a good knowledge of the state of natural resources and a lack of funding.</p> <p>In addition, there are a number of independent projects throughout the basin working on the sustainable development, environmental resilience and improved natural resource management, though no centralized, universally endorsed strategy document for the basin or the systematic monitoring of its ecosystems.</p>	<p>Under Component 1, the GEF funding will allow to ensure that the basin has the necessary tools in place to develop the basin in a data-driven and integrated manner, endorsed by both countries.</p> <p>This will be done by using the GEF endorsed TDA/SAP process, supported by the implementation of pilot projects in both countries which will provide data to use in the development of the SAP, but also further build the relationship between the MBA and the basin communities and encourage the buy-in to the aforementioned documents.</p>
Co-financing: USD 18,759,073	GEF Funding: USD 2,345,450
2. Institutional and technical capacity strengthening	

Current scenario	Scenario with GEF financing
<p>The MBA was created to strengthen the coordination of transboundary resource management of the Mono River between Benin and Togo. However, due to its relative youth, the MBA has limited institutional and financial capacity to fully play its role in preserving the ecosystem services of the international waterway that is the Mono River.</p> <p>Currently, the financing of the MBA relies largely on the contributions of states. While these are necessary and will allow for the functioning of the MBA in the long-run, certain exceptional costs to fund basic institutional frameworks and capacity are lacking ? this includes having national offices, institutional recognition and ability to raise funds, effective and inclusive policy documents,?.</p> <p>There are several projects that have focused on/are focusing on the capacity in the basin; however, due to the various objectives or themes of the projects, it is not a systematic covering of the basin, and creates a patchwork of capacity, tools and training throughout the basin. This is made worse by the lack of the coordination which should be provided by the MBA.</p> <p>Similarly, there are efforts to ensure that the Mono Basin is equipped with its own data repository, but not sufficient to ensure a fully functioning observatory in the short/medium term.</p> <p>Initiatives are also underway at the level of the Mono Biosphere Reserve to create institutional, technical and financial capacities and to generate scientific information for improved management of the reserve for the benefit of nature and humanity. Thus, IUCN with the support of the European Union is developing a project in this direction which will start between the end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024. This project focuses mainly on the Benin portion of the biosphere reserve and offers an opportunity to build the expected results of the GEF project.</p>	<p>This second component is designed to ensure that the MBA and other institutional organizations in the basin are strengthened and up to par in their systemic, organizational and individual capacities. This means ensuring that the MBA has all the policy framework and capacity to be fully recognized in the basin and at the international scale, that the community-based natural resource management systems are strengthened homogenously in the basin.</p> <p>In addition to strengthening the structures, it also means ensuring that there is access to key data in the basin, by further developing the Mono Basin Observatory, including initiating first data collection missions. It also includes having the strategic framework in place for ecological monitoring of water will also be proposed, which will facilitate the future monitoring of such resources, as well as the monitoring and development of projects and initiatives related to their management.</p>
<p>Co-financing: USD 2,034,000</p>	<p>GEF Funding: 1,456,450</p>

Current scenario	Scenario with GEF financing
3. Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communication	
<p>Most of existing initiatives include a knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation and communication component to gather and share information about the project achievement and best practices. However, this knowledge and information remain scattered and do not necessarily cover all aspects needed for sustainable and concerted management of the transboundary water and related ecosystems of the Mono Basin.</p>	<p>The project will allow to increase and centralize knowledge products for the basin. This will be done systematically, through the creation of a communication plan and stakeholder analysis (for use for TDA/SAP process as well).</p> <p>The development of the MBA website will allow for further recognition of the basin organization, as well as become a central repository for information, data and lessons learned in the basin.</p> <p>Many of these products will also become a part of the IWLearn platform, cementing the Mono Basin into the wider network of transboundary river basin networks. Other means will also be utilized, including community radios, social media and national TV, in order to have a wide-ranging set of tools to use, ensuring various categories of stakeholder are targeted.</p>
Co-financing: USD 1,450,000	GEF Funding: USD 957,500
Project Management	
<p>At this time, the MBA has its executive office set up in Cotonou, Benin, but no permanent representation in Togo, nor specific teams coordinating efforts and activities in either state.</p> <p>Furthermore, many of the projects and efforts in place at the moment in the basin are organized by project management units outside of the MBA, which makes the coordination during project implementation more complex and without proper follow-up at a basin level.</p>	<p>The GEF funding will allow for the creation of a regional coordination office, directly within the MBA. Two national offices will also be created, which will act as national focal points to facilitate activities taking place on either side of the border. These national offices will remain at the end of the project to promote better basin-level communication and coordination.</p>
Co-financing: USD 1,208,830	GEF Funding: USD 240,600

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

The Mono Basin is one of the 63 transboundary basins in Africa, yet it is not being managed fully as such. While there has been recognition of the need to develop unified and coordinated resource management, through the creation of a basin authority in 2014, the rolling out of this process has been slow, resulting in visible gaps in resource management and sustainable development throughout the basin.

As such, the project will strengthen institutional capacity of the basin's stakeholders in a gender-inclusive and responsive manner, to ensure that there is a strong and progressive regulatory and

strategic framework to guide basin development. This will also require the project will promote and facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue in the basin, ensuring that participatory planning is at the heart of development as well as providing various players with the knowledge and tools to engage in meaningful and transparent ways. An emphasis will be put on sensitizing local populations to changes in unsustainable farming and fishing practices, to promote bottom-up transformational change and offer opportunities to take ownership of various actions and initiatives. Linked to both, the project will focus on advocating to influence the adoption of policies and regulations, at local, national and regional level, to ensure that best practices. These various strategies are depicted in the project theory of change (Figure 4?1).

The main expected global environmental benefits are as follows:

? 2,500 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems in the basin, and 2,500 ha of restored forest in the forested headwater areas of the Mono basin, as a result of a pilot projects engaging local communities and local CSO/CBOs ;

? Over 200,000 ha of protected area (two Ramsar sites) under improved management, through updating of action plans, community training, namely in the monitoring and use of ecological data;

? The strengthening of institutional and regulatory frameworks and capacity at local and regional level to ensure multi-stakeholder cooperation in this transboundary basin. This specifically includes ensuring that the Mono Basin Authority is a fully functional and locally, nationally and internationally recognized basin management institution; it also means promoting and supporting the implementation of IWRM principles, namely through the creation and support of CLEs;

? Over 20,000 people in the basin will benefit directly from the project, either through awareness raising campaigns and other knowledge/communication products or training in natural resource management (e.g. IWRM, sustainable land management, IGAs); local and national policy makers, as well as technicians and CSO will also be trained and targeted by awareness campaigns, creating homogenous national and regional understanding of joint basin management and its benefit;

? Long-term, all of the above will allow to also decrease the pollution and siltation of this international river basin, promote the ecological resilience of the basin, as well as allow the long-term restoration of the basin and associated coastal ecosystems. This will in turn, benefit the socio-economic development of the basin, offering increased opportunities for food security, energy and livelihoods, including agriculture, fisheries and tourism.

7) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up. ?

The financial and economic sustainability is one of the key issues of the project. Currently, the Mono Basin's development is reliant on national subsidies and regional projects, which are not necessarily cohesive nor continuous, nor specifically tailored for the characteristics of the basin and its hotspots (in

the case of regional programs, for instance). This project addresses this in a few ways. Firstly, the TDA/SAP process, and associated investment plans give a clear roadmap for priority actions in the basin, which will be determined in a participative and data-driven way, which should ensure the buy-in of local communities, private and public sectors and other stakeholders as well. Importantly, it will be paired with a long-term and short-term budget to provide a clear and realistic financial ambition to ensure sustainable management of the Mono Basin water and related ecosystems.

Furthermore, the project also draws a focus on ensuring that the MBA is a well established and functional river basin organization, meeting international standards and requirements, and with a fully capacitated for fund-raising. This means that MBA will face more opportunities to ensure its financial sustainability. These efforts are mirrored at the local level as well, with the project supporting the updating and development of action plans for natural resource management groups, as well as providing seed funds for their implementation. An effective use of the seed funds will yield benefits for local communities to reinvest into sustainable use of natural resources within the Mono Basin. Within these action plans, there will be a focus on alternative IGAs, which will also provide impetus to selected communities and groups to harness more sustainable and climate change resilient economic activities.

Finally, having a basin with engaged stakeholders at the local, national and regional level, who have been included in the development of a strategic plan for the basin and increased awareness about IWRM, will also allow for more systematic and better engagement with future development in the basin (e.g. hydropower).

The project directly works with and builds on existing regional (MBA) and community-based institutions (CLE and ACP) and processes for natural resource management. It is designed to ensure that Togo and Benin are contributing to their commitments towards sustainable development of a shared basin and to improve the enabling conditions to achieve these commitments.

The institutional sustainability is multilevel. At the national government and regional level, it is reliant on the MBA becoming fully functional to play its coordination roles of the use of the shared resources within the Mono Basin. The project enables this by providing support to establish all regulatory and policy documents for the internal functioning of the MBA, to allow for all statutory bodies to be fully functional and meeting regularly, as well as formalizing the cooperation of the interministerial committees. From an operational point of view, the project national offices (NCO) will become the national offices for the MBA once the project closes. It also focuses on the international recognition of the MBA, increasing its capacity for international fund-raising, its visibility at the international level. All of this will help create the evidence necessary to ensure that its ratification at national levels becomes a political priority.

At the local level, the project will help continue the process of capacitating of local communities and the natural resource management groups; it builds on previous gains of other projects, as well as sets the scene for concurrent projects, like Bouclier Mono. A multipronged approach at this local level, which includes creating new CLE, updating action plans, as well as seed funds for implementation, will create a more dynamic local management landscape, which will promote cooperation and institutional memory, as well as entry points for other projects and initiatives.

The project's simultaneous focus on the regional and local institutions allows to create the multilevel institutional framework and network on which development actions in the basin can rely. This multimode network will ensure that there is not overreliance on single institution, therefore providing better resilience.

The project is set up to provide an enabling environment to allow to scale up and out initiatives that promote the sustainable development of the basin ? much of this is linked to the multilevel, integrated, established institutional framework which is strengthened through the project activities.

In addition, the project looks at providing documentation of best practices, case studies and concept papers. These learning documents will enable the MBA, its current and future partners to continue building on project gains, especially as these will be in line with the strategic action plan for the basin, also developed during the project with all stakeholders in the basin and according to best practices.

In a more immediate way, one of the co-financing projects, Bouclier Mono, has provisions to scale up the pilot initiatives under Outcome 1.2, in order to roll out further landscape restoration and sustainable land management activities. Thanks to the extensive awareness raising activities and information sharing initiatives of this project, it will also be easier to promote the buy-in and uptake of said activities and practices by communities in the basin.

Finally, the impact of the establishment of the Mono Basin Observatory, the basin monitoring strategy and data sharing protocols should not be overlooked. Indeed, having access to varied and current data on multiple aspects of the basin will also allow to bring about additional data-driven initiatives to the basin.

[1] These include: the acquisition of computer equipment, the acquisition and installation of one (01) Data Collection Platform (DCP) and capacity building of a core group of technicians on "Management of hydrological databases using HYDROMET software", "Use of satellite information for water resources planning and management"; as well as the organisation of the follow-up of the data collection and valorisation.

[2] 10 laptops, 1 computer cabinet, 2 desktop PCs, 2 GPS units, 2 UPS units, a digital camera

[1] <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/ijbcs/article/view/214160>

O.B.M. Lucinde Bocodaho, Waris K?wouy?mi Chouti, R. Arthur Cakpo, Daouda Mama (2021). South-West Benin Coastal Lagoon: Waters and sediments? toxicity and contents in heavy metals during high water period (Togbin to the Mono Mouth). International Journal of Biological and Chemical Sciences, 15(3). DOI: 10.4314/ijbcs.v15i3.29

[2] A WB mining governance project closed in June 2022: <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P149277>

[3] <https://eqa.unibo.it/article/view/13435/14621>

Dzagli, M. M., Amouzouvi, Y. M., Sesime, K., & Afoudji, K. B. R. (2022). Heavy Metal Pollution Assessment in Phosphate Mining and Processing Sites. Hahoto? and Kp?m? in Togo. EQA - International Journal of Environmental Quality, 47, 9?21. <https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2281-4485/13435>

[4] Benin: (GoB, 2018); Togo:
https://energypedia.info/wiki/Togo_Energy_Situation#Energy_Situation

[5] These associations have been put in place in Community Managed Biodiversity Conservation Areas (ACCB) within the UNESCO MAB Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

Four Maps are provided in the CER word document and Prodoc

-Overall hydrographic map of the basin (Map1);

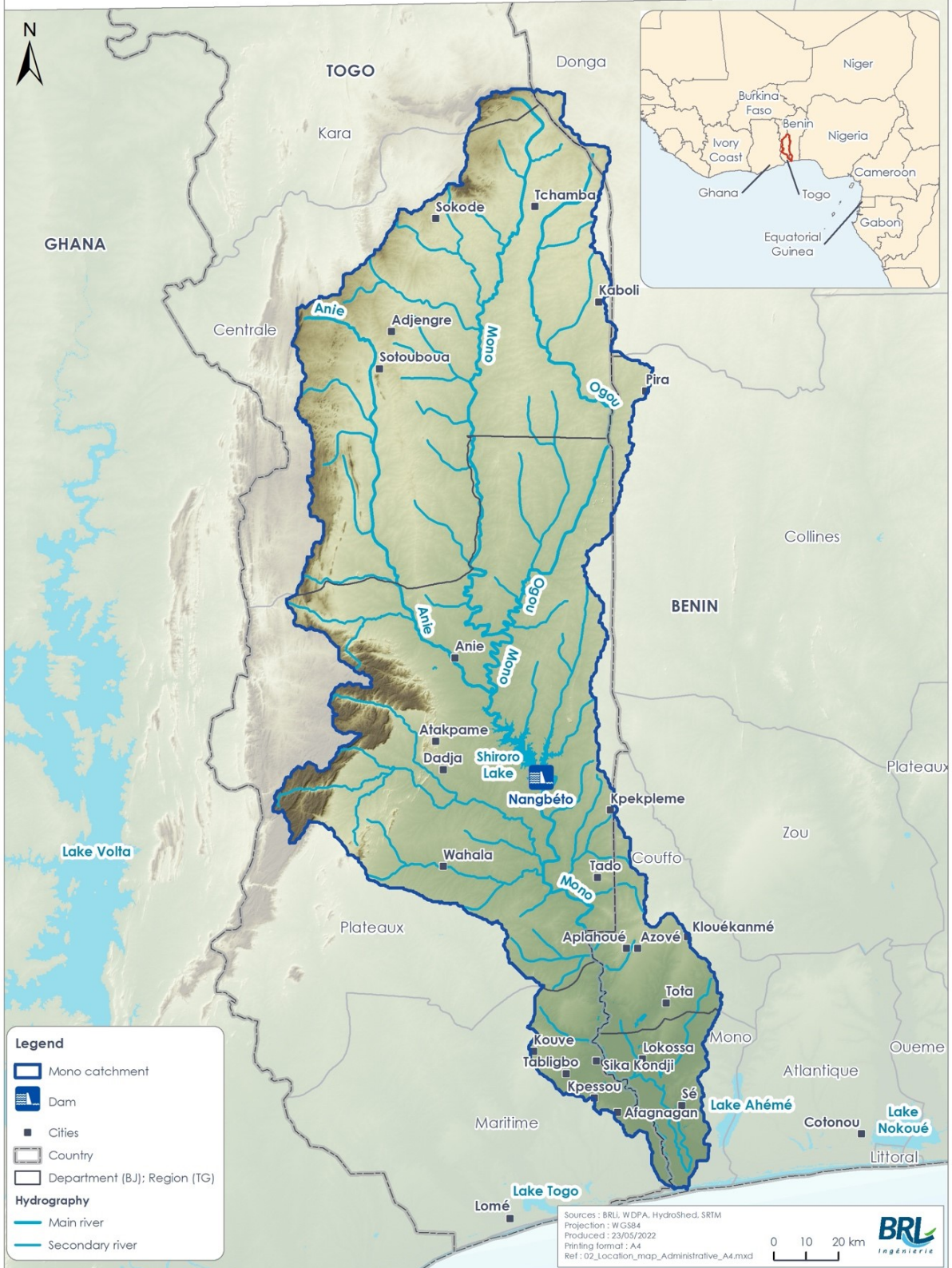
-Overall map of the basin with protected areas (Map2);

-The headwater area (Map 3a) ? the prefectures(TG)/commune(BJ) where the targetted communities are, namely the communes of Tchamba 1 (Tchamba prefecture, Centrale Region) and Assoli 3 (Assoli prefecture, Kara region) in Togo, and Aledjo (Basilla commune, Donga department) in Benin. In addition, the location of the source of the Mono in Benin is provided (Map 3b);

-The Ramsar sites in the estuary (Map 4).

**Regional Initiative for Water and Environment
in the transboundary basin of the Mono River**

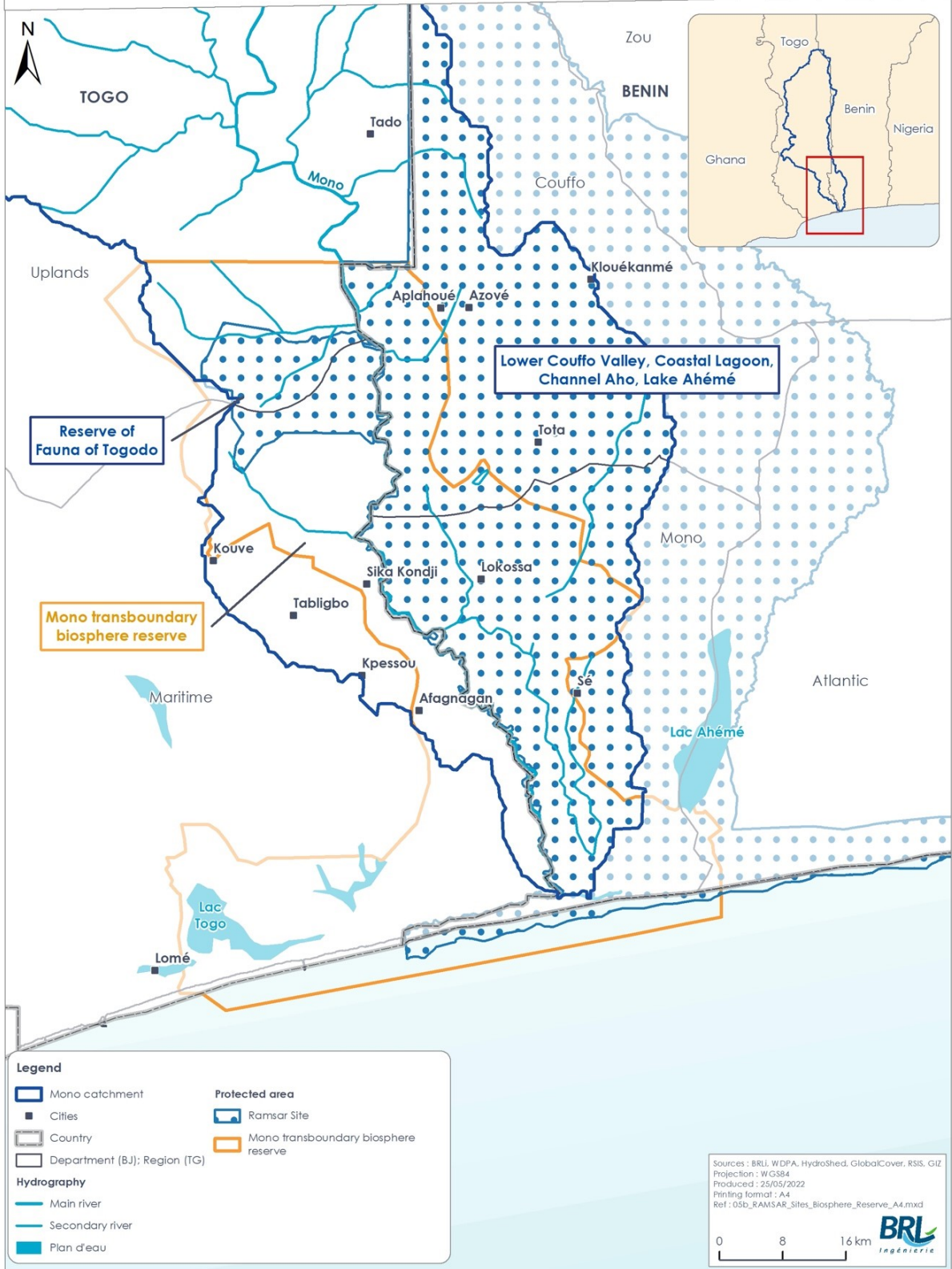
Location map





**Regional Initiative for Water and Environment
in the transboundary basin of the Mono River**

Pilotes sites - Ramsar sites
736 and 1017 within
the Mono Basin



1c. Child Project?

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

2. Stakeholders

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

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

The overall project is heavily reliant on stakeholder engagement ? whether through information sharing and awareness sharing, consultation and participatory planning, or capacity training and direct support of activities. The stakeholder engagement plan has been built using the stakeholder analysis, information gathered during the consultation phase and the project framework. This section details some of the specifics of the plan, while a table summarizing the SEP was developed. The SEP is expected to be reviewed and updated during the inception phase of the project (as per output 3.2.1), as well as during the annual review and planning process, and as needed. The RCO will be responsible for the overall SEP plan, with input from the co-executing agencies and Steering Committee. Stakeholder engagement has been considered within the overall budget, built into specific activities (stand-alone ? e.g. A3.1.2.2, A.2.1.1.6 ? or inclusive ? A 1.2.1.1).

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Stakeholder	Purpose of Engagement	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible Entity	Frequency and Timing
Regional / sub-regional organizations				
Mono Basin Authority	Lead Executing Agency with overall executing and technical responsibility for the project Key beneficiary of component 2 - capacity building, tool development, etc.	Co-executing entity (lead - regional) Secretariat for Steering Committee	IUCN	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement

Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel (OSS)	Co-executing agency; technical responsibility for Outcomes 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 (TDA/SAP process)	Co-executing agency (regional) - lead for the TDA/SAP process (Output 1.1.1)	IUCN	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement
Global Water Partnership - West Africa	Co-executing agency; technical responsibility for things related to IWRM	Co-executing agency (regional) - lead for all IWRM training, through its national representation (NGOs) (specifically under Component 2)	IUCN	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement
Communauté Électrique du Bénin (CEB)	Owner of Nangbeto Dam and main stakeholder in hydropower development in both countries	Access to sites and data Partner for pilot project (PA5) on Nangbeto Reservoir Informed of project implementation Key stakeholder in TDA/SAP process	Regional Coordination Office (RCO)	As and when needed Individual consultation (TDA/SAP)
ECOWAS	Partner for coordination of knowledge sharing activities to improve coordination and scale out lessons learned at the regional level (under component 3)	Informed of project implementation One-on-one communication as relevant	Steering Committee (SC)	As and when needed
West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA)	Partner for coordination of knowledge sharing activities to improve coordination and scale out lessons learned at the regional level (under component 3)	Informed of project implementation One-on-one communication as relevant	SC	As and when needed
Central Government structures				
Benin				

Ministry of Energy, Water and Mines (Ministère de l'Énergie, l'Eau et des Mines)	Parent ministry for all related to water	Part of SC National Executing agency Manning of National Coordination Office (NCO)	IUCN and SC	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement through NCO
Direction Générale de l'Eau (DGEau)	Department in charge of water resources in Benin	Consulted under TDA/SAP process Beneficiary under Output 3.1.2 Point of Contact for IWRM issues in Benin National Focal Point	SC, RCO, NCO-BJ	Sustained engagement for activities linked to IWRM capacity building or awareness raising in Benin (Component 3)
Ministry for the Living Environment and transport, in charge of Sustainable Development (Ministère du cadre de vie et du transport, en charge du développement durable)	Parent ministry for all related to environment (bar water resources)	Part of SC Beneficiary under Output 3.1.2 Kept informed of progress as GEF OFP for BJ Interministerial Committee	IUCN and SC	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement through NCO and RCO
Departement générale de l'environnement et du climat	Department in charge of environmental issues (incl. CC) in Benin	Information source for matters relating to environment and climate change	RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
Centre Nationale de Gestion des Réserves de Faune (CENAGREF)	Department in charge of protected areas	Information source for protected areas within BJ Informed of engagement with protected areas (ACCB and Ramsar sites), namely under Output 1.2.1 and Output 2.1.1	RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific assistance - including pilot activities related to protected areas (Y1, Y2)

Agence Béninoise pour l'Environnement (ABE)	Agency in charge of environmental and social assessments	Information source for matters relating to environmental matters, incl. legislation in Benin Point of contact during ESMS process for Pilot Activities (BJ side)	SC, RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise (Y1, Y2)
Fonds National pour l'Environnement et le Climat (FNEC)	Agency in charge of finding and managing funds for sustainable development projects, incl. CC	Point of information relating to fundraising for development projects - including under Output 2.1.2	RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific assistance (funding, fundraising, etc.) (Y2)
Direction Générale des Eaux, Forêts et Chasse (DGEFC)	Agency in charge of water, forest, and hunting policy	Informed of progress of project Source of information for matters relating to water, forest and hunting in Benin	RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
Ministère des affaires étrangères et de la coopération	Ministry in charge of foreign affairs, incl. transboundary bodies	Informed of progress of project, namely in terms of development of MBA (under component 2) Interministerial Committee	SC, RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
Ministère des affaires sociales et microfinance	Parent ministry for gender	Point of information issues relating to gender in the Beninese context, including drafting of MBA Gender Policy (Output 2.1.2) and Component 3 Interministerial Committee	SC, RCO, NCO-BJ	Email/meetings As and when needed for consideration of gender issues in activities (Y1)
Togo				

Ministry of Water and Village Hydraulics (Ministère de l'eau et de l'hydraulique villageoise)	Parent ministry for all related to water	Part of SC - National Executing Agency Co-financing - activities and providing of locals for National Coordination Office (in Togo)	IUCN and Executing Agencies	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement through NCO
Direction des Ressources en Eau (DRE)	Department in charge of water resources in Togo	Point of reference for IWRM in Togo National Focal Point - manning of NCO Beneficiaries of Component 3	SC, RCO, NCO-TG	Sustained engagement for activities linked to IWRM capacity building or awareness raising in Togo (Component 3)
Ministry of the Environment and Forest Resources (Ministère de l'Environnement et des ressources forestières)	Parent ministry for all related to environment (bar water resources)	Part of SC Beneficiary under Output 3.1.2 Kept informed of progress as GEF OFP for TG Interministerial Committee	IUCN and SC	Part of annual planning and review process Sustained engagement through NCO and RCO
Direction de l'Environnement (DE)	Department in charge of environmental issues	Informed of project Point of contact for environmental policy in TG	RCO, NCO-TG	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
Direction des Ressourcé Forestière (DRF)	Department in charge of forest resources	Informed of project Point of contact for forestry policy in TG	RCO, NCO-TG	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
National Agency for Environmental Management (Agence national de Gestion de l'Environnement (ANGE))	Agency in charge of environmental and social assessments	Information source for matters relating to environmental matters, incl. legislation in Togo Point of contact during ESMS process for Pilot Activities (TG side)	SC, RCO, NCO-TG	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise, including ESMS for Pilot Activities (Y1, Y2)

Inspection des Ressources Forestières (IRF)	Agency in charge of forestry	Informed of project Point of contact for contacting IRF in areas with pilot activities	RCO, NCO-TG	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific assistance - including pilot activities related to forestry (Y1 and Y2)
Agence Nationale de la Protection Civile (ANPC)	Agency in charge of managing national crises (incl. flooding)	Informed of project Point of contact for data regarding natural disasters	NCO-TG	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
Ministry for foreign affairs, regional integration and external Togolese (Ministère des affaires étrangères, de l'intégration régionale et des togolais de l'étranger)	Ministry in charge of foreign affairs, incl. transboundary bodies	Informed of progress of project, namely in terms of development of MBA (under component 2) Interministerial Committee	SC, RCO, NCO-TG	Meetings and Consultations Email/meetings as and when needed for specific assistance relating to international cooperation
Direction Générale de la Météorologie Nationale (DGM)	Agency in charge of weather and climate	Informed of project Point of contact for data regarding weather and climate	NCO-TG	Email/meetings as and when needed for specific expertise
Minister of Social Action, Promotion of Women and Literacy (Ministère de l'action sociale, promotion de la femme et alphabétisation)	Parent ministry for gender	Point of information issues relating to gender in the Beninese context, including drafting of MBA Gender Policy (Output 2.1.2) and Component 3 Interministerial Committee	SC, RCO, NCO-TG	Email/meetings As and when needed for consideration of gender issues in activities (Y1)
Local governance structures				
Benin				
Departmental representation of relevant ministries - water and mines; living environment and sustainable	Regional representatives of government for key thematic areas	Government representatives in basin - specific technical expertise for awareness raising or pilot activities	NCO, Line ministries	Meetings as and when needed for organizing activities - consultations, capacity building, pilot projects

Préfets	Administrative authorities of the project target and implementation sites that will be beneficiaries of the project	Facilitate implementation of project activities in pilot sites (Outcome 1.2.1), as well as awareness raising activities and consultations (e.g. TDA/SAP process)	NCOs	Meetings and consultations (TDA/SAP process) As and when needed for organizing activities - consultations, capacity building, pilot projects
Chef de commune and Conseil communal		Facilitate implementation of project activities in pilot sites, as well as awareness raising activities and consultations Members may be part of capacity building (e.g. under component 2 and 3)	NCOs	Meetings and consultations (TDA/SAP process) As and when needed for organizing activities - consultations, capacity building, pilot projects
Togo				
Regional and prefectural representatives of relevant ministries - environment, forest resources, water, etc.	Regional representatives of government for key thematic areas	Government representatives in basin - specific technical expertise for awareness raising or pilot activities when and if necessary	NCO-TG, Line ministries	Meetings as and when needed for organizing activities - consultations, capacity building, pilot projects
Inspection forestière départementales	Local representation of Inspection Forestière	Facilitate implementation of project activities in implementation sites - mainly for pilot activities relating to forests (PA2 and 4)	NCO-TG, IRF	Meetings - as and when needed for PA linked to forestry (Y1, Y2)
Gouverneurs	Administrative authorities of the project target and implementation sites that will be beneficiaries of the project	Facilitate implementation of project activities in pilot sites, as well as awareness raising activities and consultations (TDA/SAP process) Capacity building in IWRM (e.g. under 3.1.2)	NCO-TG	Meetings and consultations (TDA/SAP process) As and when needed for organizing activities - consultations, capacity building, pilot projects

Municipal Councils		Facilitate implementation of project activities in pilot sites, as well as awareness raising activities and consultations (TDA/SAP process) Members may be part of capacity building (e.g. under 3.1.2)	NCO-TG	Meetings and consultations (TDA/SAP process) As and when needed for organizing activities - consultations, capacity building, pilot projects
Local communities				
Association de Conservation et de Promotion des ACCB	Key beneficiaries Key sources of information for TDA/SAP process	Beneficiaries for Component 2 - capacity building (2.1.3), updating of strategies (2.1.1), support for implementation of plans (2.1.3) Beneficiaries for Component 3 - training for mobilization (output 3.1.2), training for IWRM awareness (output 3.1.2) Subject of case studies (under component 3) [TBD] To be consulted as part of TDA/SAP process Individuals part of the pilot activities - headwater, productive landscapes and Ramsar sites	NCOs, RCO	Sustained communication during activities (mainly Y1, Y2)-workshops, group consultations with NCO and partners

Comit? Local de l'Eau (CLE)	Key beneficiaries Key sources of information for TDA/SAP process	Beneficiaries for Component 2 - capacity building (2.1.3), updating of strategies (2.1.1), support for implementation of plans (2.1.3) Beneficiaries of IWRM awareness (output 3.1.2) Subject of case studies (under component 3) [TBD] To be consulted as part of TDA/SAP process Individuals part of the pilot activities - headwater, productive landscapes	NCOs, RCO	Sustained communication during activities (mainly Y1, Y2)-workshops, group consultations with NCO and partners
Local communities	Key beneficiaries - direct and indirect Key sources of information for TDA/SAP process	Informed of project implementation To be consulted as part of TDA/SAP process Individuals part of the pilot activities (Output 1.2.1) - headwater, productive landscapes and Ramsar sites (TBD) Target for awareness campaigns (Output 3.2.2) - radio, printed campaigns, meetings (TBD)	NCOs, RCO	Sustained communication during activities (mainly Y1, Y2)-group consultations, awareness raising meetings through NCO and partners (incl. POSC-Mono, local government, etc.).
Women's associations	Key beneficiaries Key sources of information for TDA/SAP process	Beneficiaries for Component 2 (Output 2.1.3) Consulted as part of TDA/SAP process Individuals part of the pilot activities - headwater, productive landscapes	NCOs, RCO	Sustained communication during activities (mainly Y1, Y2)-group consultations, awareness raising meetings through NCO and partners (incl. POSC-Mono, local government, etc.).

<p>Vulnerable groups, including but not limited to women and youth</p>	<p>Key beneficiaries Key sources of information for TDA/SAP process</p>	<p>Stakeholder to consider in awareness raising and information sharing as well as consultations (TDA/SAP process) Individuals part of the pilot activities - headwater, productive landscapes and Ramsar sites Beneficiaries under Output 2.1.3 Targeted awareness campaigns under Output 3.2.2 Subject of case studies (Output 3.1.2)</p>	<p>NCOs, RCO</p>	<p>Sustained communication during activities (mainly Y1, Y2)- group consultations, awareness raising meetings through NCO and partners (incl. POSC-Mono, local government, etc.).</p>
<p>Civil society</p>				
<p>Plateforme des Organisations de la Soci?t? Civile du bassin du Mono (POSC Mono) Benin and Togo</p>	<p>Partnership to help reach communities in the basin Beneficiaries to build durable capacity in the basin Key sources of information for TDA/SAP Process</p>	<p>Part of SC (1 member per country) Individual members to be implementation partners for Pilot Activities under Output 1.2.1 - TBD during implementation Beneficiary of capacity building under Output 2.1.3 (institutional and IWRM)</p>	<p>RCO, SC, IUCN</p>	<p>Part of annual planning and review process Sustained communication Meetings, workshops (1.2.1, 2.1.3) and consultations (TDA/SAP)</p>
<p>Cross-border Community Cooperation Benin (Grand-Popo, Lokossa, Athieme) and Togo (tLac-1, Lac-2, Lac-3, Bas-Mono-1, Bas-Mono2).</p>	<p>Community based organization supported during project (Output 1.2.1) Consulted during TDA/SAP process</p>	<p>Capacity building and workshops under Pilot Activity 3 Documented as part of Component 3 (case studies, lessons learned)</p>	<p>RCO, NCOs</p>	<p>Sustained communication - mainly Y1,Y2 Workshops and consultations</p>

Partenariat National de l'Eau (PNE) B?nin and Togo	Partnership to help reach communities in the basin Beneficiaries to build durable capacity in the basin Local representation of GWP-WA in TG	Implementation partner for IWRM awareness activities (under C2 and C3), as GWP representatives	NCOs, GWP-WA	Meetings and communication for IWRM related activities, incl. as GWP-WA representatives
Association des Consommateurs d'Eau Potable B?nin	Partnership to help reach communities in the basin in matters of IWRM	Informed of project implementation Consulted as part of TDA/SAP process [TBD] Target of awareness campaigns under C3	NCO-BJ	Awareness campaigns Written communication to secretariat
Local NGOs (ex. EcoB?nin, Africa Nature Mobile, Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement, Viviamiel, REPFED, WASH Volunteers, AGBO ZEGUE)	Partnership to help reach communities in the basin Beneficiaries to build durable capacity in the basin	Implementation partners (mainly for pilot projects and capacity building) Target of awareness campaigns Consulted as part of TDA/SAP process	NCOs, RCO	Sustained communication if partner for specific activities Target campaigns
Research institutions				
Institut National de l'Eau (Benin)	Technical partnership/source of knowledge for IWRM	Partner for PA5	NCO, RCO	Direct communication and meetings As and when needed for rollout of PA5, as well as information relating to IWRM (capacity building, awareness raising) (Y1, Y2)
National research institutions (e.g. Universit? de Lom?)	Technical and Implementation partnership/source of knowledge for ecology throughout the basin	Partners for PA5	NCO, RCO	Direct communication and meetings As and when needed for rollout of PA5 (Y1, Y2)
Other projects				

Bridge	Co-financing project - program with regional and international scope	input from global Support Facilities of the BRIDGE program Regional activities supporting RIWE project	SC	Regular meetings Direct communication with SC and RCO
Towards a Climate Risks Shield in the Mono River Basin: Strengthening Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change through Integrated Water Resources and Flood Management (BOUCLIER-CLIMAT/Mono)	Project with main objective to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities in the Mono catchment through the development of adaptive capacities to recurrent floods risks and promotion of sustainable and equitable water resources and related ecosystems uses and management; co-financing	Co-financing opportunities in terms of landscape restoration (scaling up of pilot activities), MBA capacity building, developing monitoring networks and data Lessons learned and knowledge exchange	SC	Regular meetings Direct communication with SC and RCO
Agir Eau	Follow-up to ProSEHA, focused on addressing current challenges in the water sector with the integration of wastewater management, gender, and climate change issues. Mono Basin a target basin.	Coordination on support for Mono Basin Observatory Knowledge exchange for capacity building and beneficiaries	SC	Regular meetings Direct communication with SC and RCO
Africa Water Investment Program	Africa wide program with activities in Benin, to ensure that the development and implementation of policies, strategies, plans and programs in water security and climate resilience development with focus on gender.	Complementary capacity building supporting project	SC	Regular meetings Direct communication with SC and RCO

National baseline projects and programs (e.g. PALCC+)	Partnerships to help reach beneficiaries, complement projects with similar goals and targets	Informed of project implementation Target for awareness campaigns in Component 3	SC	As and when needed (focus on implementation of project - annual reviews)
International Organisations				
IUCN	Implementing agency	Project management (through West Africa Office), technical support to co-executing agencies Liaise with GEF	SC	Part of the annual review process Regular written communication and meetings with RCO
World Bank	Responsible for WACA project Important funder in Basin	Informed of project Engaged in order to share lessons learned, project strategies, knowledge management	RCO, SC	Email exchange, calls with RCO/SC As and when needed
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Involved in a number of projects in basin [past and current] - creation of MAB (2018), ProSEHA (BJ), ProDeGol (TG), etc.	Informed of project Engaged in order to share lessons learned, project strategies, knowledge management	RCO, SC	Email exchange, calls with RCO/SC As and when needed
European Union	Funding partner for IWRM projects in both countries	Informed of project Engaged in order to share lessons learned, project strategies, knowledge management	RCO, SC	Email exchange, calls with RCO/SC As and when needed
Private sector				
Société Béninoise des Brasseries (SOBEBRA) avec sa filiale d'eau minérale POSSOTOME (Bénin)	Important water user in basin	Informed of project Target for awareness campaigns (Component 3) Consulted for TDA/SAP [TBD]	NCO, RCO	As and when needed, in particular during the TDA/SAP process (Y2, Y3) - group consultation throughout basin

Association des exploitants des carrières de sable (Bénin)	Association representing an activity with negative impacts on the river banks and water quality	Informed of project Target for awareness campaigns (Component 3) Consulted for TDA/SAP [TBD]	NCO, RCO	As and when needed, in particular during the TDA/SAP process (Y2, Y3) - group consultation throughout basin
Centrale hydroélectrique de NANGBETO (Togo)	Main infrastructure on the Mono	Informed of project Consulted as part of TDA/SAP process Partner for pilot project on Nangbeto Reservoir (PA5)	NCO, RCO	Meetings, as and when needed Sustained throughout development of pilot activity on Nangbeto Reservoir (planning, rollout, etc.) (Y1, Y2) Individual consultations (TDA/SAP)

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

Consultations are a large part of stakeholder engagement; they are a key part of the TDA/SAP process (Output 1.1.1), vital for the rolling out of the pilot activities (Output 1.1.2), as well as for the development of the MEL plan (Output 3.1.1) and communication strategy (Output 3.2.1). These consultations are linked with participatory planning, which will help fully develop the sense of ownership of the project and of the tools and strategies it develops. Consultations at the local level will be organized within the communities themselves, while at the national and regional level, workshops will be prioritized, which can also double up as awareness raising and capacity building sessions. The project also supports several important meetings, such as the meetings of MBA statutory bodies and the inter-ministerial committees (Output 2.2.1), which are vital to jump-start and ensure cooperative and integrated management of the basin.

Information and knowledge sharing are central to the whole project, namely through component 3, which is focused on the knowledge management and communication. Several tools will be used, including workshops, website, posters, videos, information sessions/awareness days, community debates, etc. These will convey information about the project, but also wider themes such as IWRM, natural resource management (including the MBA), IGAs, and other themes central to the Mono Basin and its development. Part of the development of the communication strategy will be an evaluation of the best tools to use for various stakeholder groups, with a specific emphasis on women's groups, vulnerable or marginalized groups. Further information on information sharing can be found in section 4.11.

Stakeholder involvement is also central to the overall project governance, as described in the institutional set-up. Project management will be split between a regional and two national offices in order to ensure regular and equal engagement with stakeholders in both countries. The RCO and Benin national office, will be housed within the current MBA premises, while the Togo National Office will have premises provided by the Togolese government. Encompassing it all under the MBA will facilitate its supervisory role, as well as build on their visibility in the basin which is of crucial importance for the sustainability of the project efforts and results. Implementing partners will include local NGOs, government officials (including the interministerial committees), and research institutions (ex. University of Lomé) in order to promote close coordination with the local beneficiaries (including feedback) as well as continue fostering a network of partners in the basin. Finally, the Steering Committee will offer additional expertise and support for planning and strategic purposes.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

Civil society is a key stakeholder in this project with multiple roles. Due to the importance of civil society in the development of the basin, there will be two representatives of civil society on the steering committee of the project. Furthermore, several members of civil society will be implementation partners ? for instance, through the pilot initiatives (Outcome 1.2.1) (POSC Mono). Their consultative role is not to be diminished, namely for the development of the TDA/SAP, but also as best practices and lessons learned are documented for the basin (Component 3). Finally, they will be key beneficiaries as well ? through various trainings and capacity building, mainly under component 2.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

A full gender report was developed during the PPG phase and provided as an Annex. Women represent over 50% of the population in both countries, as well as are key stakeholders in the use of natural resources. They remain the main actors concerned with water related chores, are responsible for food and energy (biomass) security at household level, provide work in the agricultural sector, as well as engage in other activities linked to fisheries, gravel/sand mining, NTFPs?. Despite this, their representation in decision making bodies, whether at the household, community or national level, is still limited.

Furthermore, while gender equality is increasingly being recognized in national texts and agencies, perhaps more pointedly so in Togo, there is still very heterogeneous appliance of these texts at a local level. Instead, there are still many customary laws that remain, which can impede women's ability to engage with resource management, including right to own land.

The project recognizes the importance of engaging with women as key stakeholders in the basin; this is as much as a single group within communities, but also highlights their representation in CBOs as potential implementation partners, and government (e.g. ministries), where they can provide input for project management via the steering committee. Women are also targeted by certain activities, and disaggregated targets are provided in the project framework, namely capacity building of CSOs, POSC Mono members and MBA; while the latter currently remains theoretical as the technical team does not include any female employees, it is envisaged that the expansion of the team should include female members (activity 2.1.1.3). In addition, the MBA will also be developing a gender policy during the project (activity 2.1.2.3) which will help bring forth and perennialize this cross-cutting development issue in the organization. It is also suggested that these disaggregated targets be maintained at a national level rather than project to encourage meaningful gender representation at national levels. The Gender Action Plan also encourages the inclusion of gender in ToRs for consultancies, providing gender insights in awareness campaigns, and using the project as a learning opportunity between the two countries.

As with the other tools provided at this stage, it is expected that the Gender Action Plan will be reviewed during the first few months of the project, as well as throughout the annual review process, in order to ensure that it is both adhered to and kept relevant to the project development.

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

Yes

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

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

One of the main private sector stakeholders will be the Nangbeto Dam hydroelectricity operators, as they will need to be considered for the development of the pilot project in the Nangbeto Reservoir. Other private sector stakeholders identified include the Beninese beverage company SOBEBRA, who

should take part in the TDA/SAP process as well as be target stakeholders in some of the awareness raising and information sharing activities.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

A number of risks have been identified ? external, technical and operational. Measure to mitigate these risks are included in the project design, as outlined in the table below. As such, the risk level refers to the residual risks when the mitigation measures are correctly implemented.

Risk Description	Level	Description and Mitigation measure(s)
External risks		
Low Political engagement between two countries	Medium	<p>The final steps of creation of the Mono Basin Authority [ratification] are still pending[1], which leaves a technical but legally recognized gap at the international level in terms of the existence of this regional body. Any source of tension could delay or derail this effort, which would impact the project management and implementation.</p> <p>One of the key mitigation efforts lies simply in solidifying the MBA efforts in the basin, in order to ascertain the role and need for such an institution in the basin. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the development of the TDA/SAP which requires the input and endorsement of all stakeholders of the basin under Component 1; solidifying the institutional framework of the MBA (ensuring all instances are functional) and building the capacity of key stakeholders (incl. MBA), so that the necessary tools are in place to be functional and fundable at national, regional and global levels under Component 2; Increasing the visibility of the MBA at local, regional and international levels, as the main point of contact for information relating to water (and other natural resources) and development in the basin. <p>Furthermore, government stakeholders are fully incorporated into the stakeholder engagement plan ? some ministries are present in the steering committees, other considered technical partners ? which should further help cement the utility of the transboundary institution for both countries, and help fast-track the final legal procedures.</p> <p>The overall cooperation between the two countries is positive, but there is always scope for political dissonance, namely as there may be certain issues and tensions that relate to the Mono Basin, such as hydropower and pollution. However, at the local level, there were no tensions reported during the PPG phase. Based on inputs from key stakeholders at the national and regional levels, the project seeks to strengthen the agreed upon initiatives (e.g. ACCBs, the cross-border community committee, the establishment of the MBA), in order to cement and develop these important platforms from which contentious topics can be tackled in the future.</p>

Risk Description	Level	Description and Mitigation measure(s)
Unstable global economy and health situation	Medium	<p>While the COVID-19 global health crisis seems to be better controlled in 2023, its impacts are still noticeable, and a resurgence possible. The impacts have been further compounded by global events in the last six months. At a global level, inflation is rife, energy/fossil fuel supply are unpredictable and global food shortages are predicted, particularly in Africa. These issues, especially the two formers, were already at the forefront during the PPG mission.</p> <p>One of the key mitigation efforts is the development of adaptive management instruments which will allow to adapt as necessary to this risk. These tools include regular review of project documents and tools, such as project framework, budget, stakeholder engagement plan, etc. from the inception phase of project implementation, all the way through to closure. This includes the development of annual workplans and budgets. While this may mean a need to scale back on some of the project activities and outputs, the use of such tools should allow to ensure that as a whole, the project remains on track and effective in its objectives.</p> <p>The integration of this project within the development context of the basin, whether it be through national or regional initiatives, is key</p> <p>Furthermore, there has already been a consideration of the rising prices in the proposed budget, to help cushion some of the predicted economic turmoil.</p> <p>Finally, a more detailed risk analysis and action framework related to COVID-19 and/or other potential health crises is provided below.</p>
Technical & operational risks		
Low level of cooperation and coordination between stakeholders and across countries	Medium	<p>Stakeholder cooperation is already a difficult task for environmental projects at a national level; with a transboundary project, the number of stakeholders all but doubles. The project has already identified many of these stakeholders and developed a SEP. This SEP is to be revised during the inception phase of the project, but also throughout implementation, based on the adaptive management tools that are to be adopted.</p> <p>The development of a TDA/SAP (Outcome 1.1.1 and 1.1.2) are also key tools in order to increase the cooperation and coordination of stakeholders in the basin. While the SAP will not be implemented under this project, it will create a universally endorsed strategic document for the basin.</p> <p>However, the MBA, and some of the other key stakeholders, such as the POSC Mono, are relatively young organizations, which are still building their networks and visibility throughout the basin and at the national level. While this is a risk, it can also be turned into an opportunity. By focusing on these young institutions, there is a chance to forge their partnerships and cooperation and all but ?institutionalize? it. This will be facilitated through a number of activities, such as the TDA/SAP process and activities under component 3. There is also an additional committee that is to be supported under Pilot Activity 3, which will develop a communal level cross-border committee, which should help better manage basin level issues at the governmental level.</p>

Risk Description	Level	Description and Mitigation measure(s)
<p>Limited capacity of local or technical institutions to support communities in implementing ecosystem restoration and natural resource management</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>As seen in the baseline, the issues of natural resource management and ecological restoration is not new in the basin, and there are a number of stakeholders working on such issues. However, their capacity is not always equal, whether internally (financial, human, knowledge), but also amongst areas (north versus south of the basin) and between countries. For efforts to be visible and sustainable in the long run, it is vital to ensure that similar capacity is available throughout the basin, and is commensurate to the activities being undertaken.</p> <p>Use of organizations as implementation partners who know the basin and its stakeholders;</p> <p>Three executing agencies and their networks, as well as extensive co-financing projects network;</p> <p>TDA/SAP process should also help identify further areas that can be worked on, and incorporated into the project and future projects ;</p> <p>A project coordination unit declined into a regional and two national offices in order to ensure that while information and management is centralized, there are equal resources and capacity to implement the project in each country (see section 5).</p>
<p>Limited capacity, willingness or commitment (i.e., low uptake tools, techniques) among communities targeted for ecosystem restoration or sustainable practices</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>During the consultation phase of the PPG, stakeholders all seemed interested in the development of this project and keen to be included. However, it was also clear that in some areas, there has been a level of disappointment and/or distrust in the implementation of similar projects, which do not always deliver the expected outcomes.</p> <p>Under components 1 and 2, there is a strong reliance on stakeholder participation, particularly in terms of stakeholder driven activities ? this includes the TDA/SAP process (Output 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, Activity 1.1.3.4), the development of pilot projects (Output 1.2.1 and associated appendices), the development and validation of strategies and frameworks (e.g. Activity 2.2.2.3) This method should help create a sense of ownership of the project activities, which has been shown to increase the uptake of these by communities during but also after project implementation.</p> <p>Furthermore, there is an onus on building upon past initiatives, rather than trying to create new structures or groupings (e.g. MBA, POSC Mono, CLE, ACP?). This should also increase the level of trust with community stakeholders, by emphasizing on continuity and past efforts and commitment. This will further be enhanced by focusing on implementation partners who have previous experience with specific communities.</p> <p>Component 3 allows to help build on past experiences as well as on new lessons arising from the proposed project (activity 3.2.1.3, 3.1.3.5), as well as make these available through a variety of supports, including the new MBA website (activity 3.2.2.2).</p>

Risk Description	Level	Description and Mitigation measure(s)
Limited Private sector engagement	Medium	<p>The engagement of the private sector can be tricky at times, due to the potential costs arising and low benefits perceived by the stakeholders. However, as they are an integral part of the development of the basin, this project offers the opportunity to create solid bases for their engagement in this endeavor.</p> <p>The project is mainly planning on engaging the private sector in ways that limit the risks incurred by themselves ? this means targeting them in information sharing and awareness raising under component 3, as well as consulting them during the TDA and SAP process under component 1. This should allow to develop a sense of relationship, role and responsibility with other stakeholders in the basin, (including the MBA), demonstrate the importance of engaging with stakeholders in the basin for the private sector, as well as allow to keep a close eye on the stakeholder landscape and relationships in the basin.</p> <p>However, it is also key to note that one of the pilot activities (Pilot activity 5) will require further engagement and involvement by key private sector actors ? namely energy and fisheries. This pilot activity will therefore also provide feedback on how to better engage with such entities, as well as provide the information relating directly to fisheries.</p> <p>The integration of the private sector into the TDA/SAP process will be vital as it will show the private sector (esp. energy, agriculture and fisheries) that there is an active and vested community in the area.</p>
Failure to deliver on time/ budget	High	<p>While this remains a risk in all projects, the executing agencies and PMU will have the support of the IUCN as the implementing agency providing oversight (both West Africa and Switzerland office) for the implementation of administrative and financial matters, and adherence to GEF and IUCN guidelines. The IUCN will have a project manager assigned to the project in the West Africa office, while the main office has an overall view of the GEF portfolio. This network of IUCN staff be a point of reference for the project coordination unit for specific expertise or knowledge regarding the implementation and process of GEF funded projects. The IUCN will also be involved in M&E, with yearly supervisory missions.</p> <p>In addition, the M&E plan specifically integrates regular progress and budgetary reviews, which are used both to track as well as adjust the project as necessary.</p> <p>Regardless of the mitigating and safeguarding efforts undertaken by the project, it is necessary to recognize instability of the current regional and global contexts, which keeps the rating at high.</p>

Covid-19

1. As mentioned above, while the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has stabilized, it has nonetheless highlighted a new series of risks and opportunities for projects. Furthermore, some of the risks and/or opportunities are also relevant for other global issues (e.g. fuel shortages constraining travel). As such, in addition to the mitigation measures presented in the table above, a specific Covid-19 action framework is presented below in order to better respond to these novel risks and opportunities.

Analysis of risks

2. As an overall approach, the project will adhere to national and international guidelines related to the Covid-19 pandemic (or any subsequent health crisis). The table below outlines additional specific risks relating to project activities, and the mitigation measures that have been considered.

Risks	Mitigation measures
Travel restrictions make activities requiring joint action across the border, and monitoring by the PMU difficult to organize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Facilitate digital communication between implementation partners on either side of the border ? For work at national or regional level, focus on digital solutions ? virtual workshops, email/phone communication, remote access to information sources ? If possible, postpone activities to a later date (part of the adaptive management strategy) ? Focus on empowering local implementation partners for implementation, through providing necessary sanitary equipment, digital support/capacity, to carry out field work safely. This will also allow to further build capacity of local experts.
Sanitary and health protocols make travel within country and group meetings difficult to organize (e.g. stakeholder consultation for the TDA/SAP process and capacity building)	<p>The project will implement adaptive management, and the stakeholder engagement plan will be adjusted, as necessary, to reflect any changes in internal travel guidelines.</p> <p>According to the situation, additional measures could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Postpone activities to a later date in project, when restrictions are lifted ●The option of socially distanced, outdoor meetings; work with local facilitators and limit group sizes; provide additional sanitary protocols[2].
Changes in co-financing due to changed government/project partner priorities	Co-financing commitments are signed and confirmed as part of the project development process. Furthermore, coordination during project implementation is envisaged and outlined in the SEP, which will allow for further project alignment should changes arise from either party.

Analysis of opportunities:

The Covid-19 crisis also highlights the importance of reducing the risk of future zoonotic and infectious disease outbreaks; the promotion of sustainable management of natural resources, reducing land degradation are key efforts in this endeavor[3]. This project in particular includes interventions that will directly contribute to the reduction of this risk within the Beninese and Togolese contexts:

- ? Encourage the inclusion of the topic of invasive species in activities related to capacity building, but also studies (e.g. Nangbeto reservoir);
- ? Supporting the development of community led protected areas;
- ? Supporting ecological restoration outside of protected areas, enhancing ecosystem health and resilience;
- ? Supporting communities of the basin after the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- ? Promotion of IWRM principles, from policy to local level, which supports healthier, more resilient ecosystems. Specifically, focusing on sustainable land management and resource management to protect both ecosystems and livelihoods upstream and downstream in targeted catchments;
- ? Awareness raising of the water-food-ecosystems nexus through the engagement of stakeholders in fisheries, forestry, agriculture and water sectors.

Overall, the project's focus on the basin as a whole, including both countries, offers a chance to develop the ecological resilience and institutional capacity which will indirectly benefit the fight against Covid-19 and any future zoonotic and infectious disease. It provides pathways to support more sustainable, community-led management of the basin and its resources, which will provide resilience to the ecosystems and

communities to a range of threats, including biodiversity loss, climate change, loss of ecosystem function and diversity, all of which are factors in the rise and spread of zoonotic and infectious diseases.

Climate risk screening

Climate and climate change projections

As noted above in section 3.1.1, the basin is governed by two climatic regimes: a subequatorial one in the southern part of the basin (2 dry and 2 wet seasons), and a tropical one in the north (one dry, one wet season). In the south, mainly the plains in southern Togo, rainfall averages 900mm per year, falling mainly between March and July, reaching on average 1,200mm in the northwestern highlands (over 50% occurring during the long wet season, from April-July). In the past twelve years, there has been an increase in severe flood events in the lower Mono basin. These have been driven by a number of things, including the current climate patterns (alternating dry and wet season, intense rainfall events) and anthropogenic disturbances such as increased riverine populations and poor land management (increasing runoff) (Amoussou, et al., 2022).

Recent studies confirm the difficulty of modelling in this area, notably in terms of precipitation (Portner, et al., 2022; Lamboni, Emmanuel, Manirakiza, & Djibib, 2019); however, a 2020 study specifically focusing in on the basin and the reliability of various climatic models, estimated that from 2028-2050, there will be a temperature increase in the sub-region (i.e. the Mono basin) of 1-1.5°C (as compared to 1988-2010). Still noting the difficulty to assess precipitation, it is projected that while there will not be an overall significant change in rainfall in the basin, it is highly likely (based on the two most reliable regional climate models) that there will be a significant increase of extreme rainfall event intensity in the next 2 decades. These intense rainfalls are projected to continue happening during the July to September period, and most likely result in increased flood risk in the lower half of the basin (Amoussou, et al., 2022). It is of course worth noting that based on the various scenarios and models used, the increase in temperature could be as high as 5°C (RCP 8.5) by 2071, while some projections see up to 20% less precipitation, mainly led by decreased rainfall in the upper parts of the basin (CLIMAFRI, 2021).

Climate risks

Based on the above information, and on the current knowledge of the socio-environmental context of the basin, some of the expected impacts of these changes include:

- ? **Continued degradation of arable land** ? this will be due to increased erosion pressure brought on by anthropogenic pressure (increased population, poor agricultural practices, etc.) compounded by increased intensity of extreme rainfall and increased flood risks.
- ? **Decline in river and reservoir levels, and increased duration of the dry season.** This can also lead to drinking water shortages, increase pressure on crops, as well as impact fishing, navigation, etc.
- ? **Higher intensity rain and enhanced droughts** pose significant challenges to water supply infrastructure and water quality.
- ? **The rising temperatures and increased duration of dry spells** are already resulting in warmer surface temperatures, accelerating bacteria growth and reducing water quality.
- ? **The increase in the proportion of annual precipitation falling in heavy rainfall events** leading to rapid runoff and flooding, reducing groundwater recharge because too much rain at once can exceed soil absorption capacity. Heavy rainfall may also lead to increased siltation of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, and contaminate industrial, agricultural, and domestic sources. Siltation is already

an ongoing issue at the Mono estuary, impacting the estuarine biodiversity and fishing communities.

- ? **Hydropower production is at risk** from increased flood damage to dams and turbines, reservoir siltation, and river flow variability during longer dry spells.

Climate risks mitigation measures

The project, while not specifically climate-change centric, does take climate change as a factor and will contribute to addressing some of the climate risks. Specifically:

- ? Under Component 1, the development of the SAP will include climate change, climate resilience and adaptation. In addition, the actions piloted under Outcome 1.2.1, namely the landscape restoration in the highlands (PA2) and productive landscapes (PA4), should provide concrete evidence of sustainable land and water management practices and techniques that are efficient and can be integrated into the various communities, through the SAP or other initiatives, such as the Bouclier/Mono project. These should help alleviate anthropogenic pressures on the land and extreme event resilience (e.g. droughts, floods, landslides?).
- ? While this element is found throughout the project, Component 3 specifically focuses on the increase of information sharing throughout the basin, across the two countries, as well as enhanced cooperation on the regional and international level. This specifically should help secure a more complete and transparent database for climate scientists and researchers, which is crucial in a region notorious for its unpredictability in terms of climate change.
- ? In addition to stand-alone actions, the project contributes to a larger consortium of projects and initiatives looking to ensure that the Mono Basin ecosystems and its population are more resilient to climate change. Some of these projects include CLIMAFRI, WASCAL, and the Mono Basin Observatory, as well as the upcoming Bouclier-Climat project, one of the co-financing projects.

[1] The MBA Member States reaffirmed their commitment to the ratification process of the Convention on the Statutes of the Mono River and the creation of the Mono Basin Authority by their respective parliaments, through a resolution of the Council of Ministers of 19 January 2023 inviting them to accelerate the completion of the said ratification (Resolution n°8). As of May 8 2023, the national Parliament of Togo has approved ratification of the MBA Convention.

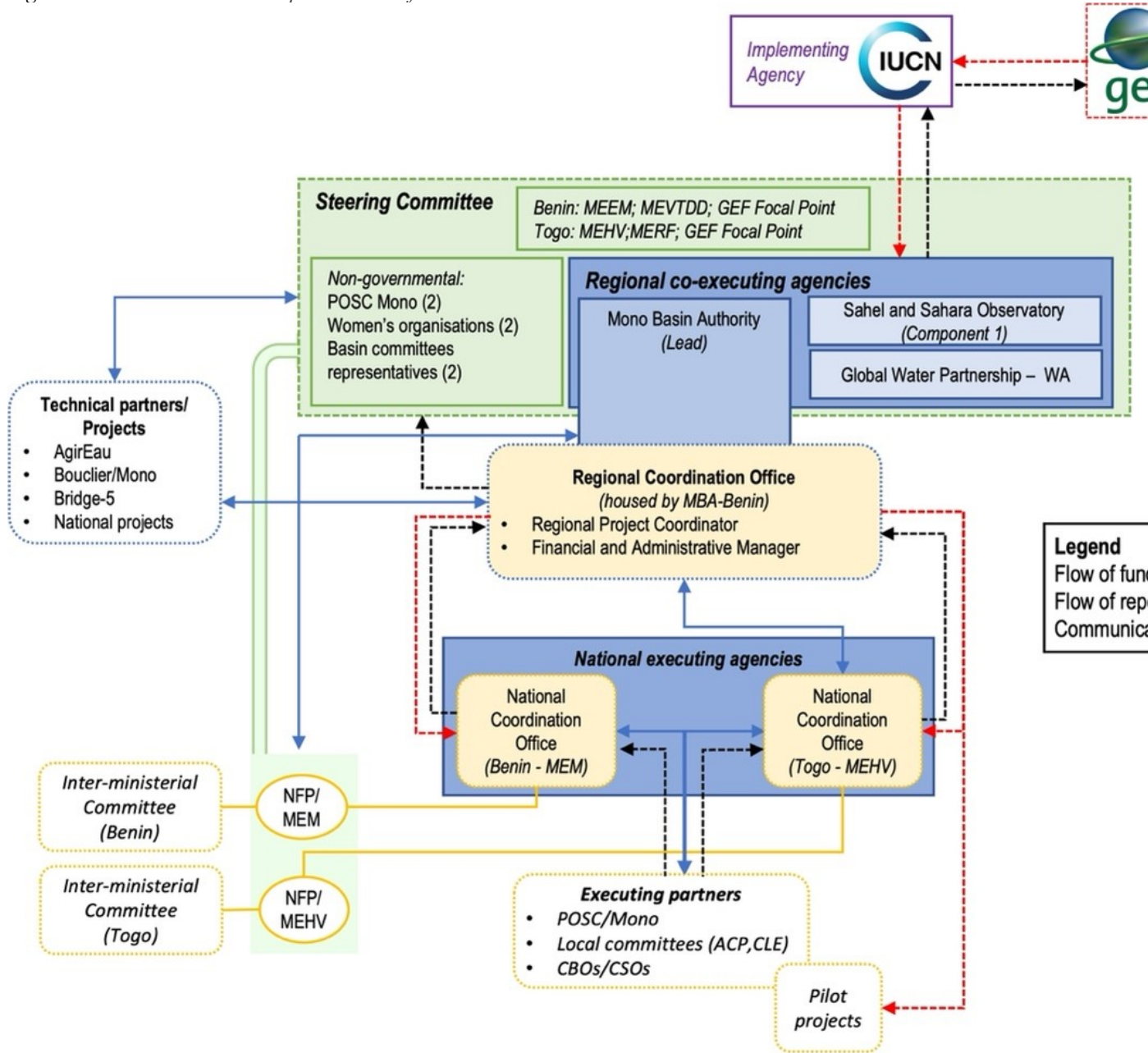
[2] There is also the opportunity to use such meetings as awareness raising events, by always providing reminders of prescribed health guidelines.

[3] GEF (2020) White Paper on GEF Covid-19 Response Strategy. GEF/C.59/Inf.14

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

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

Figure 5?1: Institutional and implementation framework



The overall institutional and implementation framework is presented in the diagram above (Figure 5?1).

Regional Decision making and planning

Steering Committee

The project will set up a task force to assist in facilitating the project implementation in the two implementation countries, the Steering Committee (SC). The Steering Committee is the supreme decision-making and strategic guidance body of the project, providing advice for project implementation activities. It will meet annually to review and monitor project execution progress (including work plans and budgets), provide strategic advice, facilitate coordination between project implementing partners, provide guidance,

ensure transparency, ownership and sustainability of the project results. It will be composed of 15 members as follows:

- ? 01 Representative of the MBA (secretary of the SC)
- ? 01 Representative of the OSS (secretary of the SC)
- ? 01 Representative of the GWP-WA (secretary of the SC)
- ? 02 representatives of Ministries in charge of water[1] (1 from each country)
- ? 02 representatives of Ministries of Environment[2] (1 in each country)
- ? 02 representatives of POSC-Mono (1 in each country)
- ? 02 representatives of women's organizations (1 in each country)
- ? 02 GEF focal points (1 from each country)
- ? 02 representatives of the basin committees (1 in each country)

It is chaired by the Minister of one of the sector-based ministries (Water or Environment), alternating between Benin and Togo. In addition, observers or resource persons may participate in steering committee meetings by invitation and according to the information needs of the agenda; the IUCN will participate as an observer.

Furthermore, key members may meet as needed for activity specific guidance, for instance to:

- ? Help align the Project with other Basin-wide initiatives;
- ? Monitor Project progress and take timely actions to resolve implementation constraints;
- ? Liaise with a National Coordination Office to ensure proper coordination with the Regional Coordination Office;
- ? Ensure monitoring and evaluation of project activities.

Regional executing agencies

The MBA was created specifically to coordinate the sustainable development of the basin and its water resources and to coordinate and mobilize the human, financial and technical means to undertake studies and works relating to the development of water resources. As such, it is the natural candidate to serve as regional executing agency for the project. Nevertheless, since the project is focused on improving the capacity of the MBA in some of these aspects, it was deemed important to support its role as executing agency. As such, for this project there will be more than one regional executing agencies ? the MBA as the lead, with the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) and Global Water Partnership-West Africa (GWP-WA) as co-executing agencies. This set-up will allow for the MBA to establish its visibility within this role all while learning from its co-executing agencies, and being a key beneficiary of the project, increasing its capacity throughout the project to be able to undertake this role in its entirety in the future. The Regional Executing Agencies will be contracted by the IUCN.

The Mono Basin Authority, whose regional office is found in Cotonou (Benin), will also host the Regional Coordination Office (RCO) (see section 5.3). The MBA, will lead the following activities:

- ? Recruitment of project staff;
- ? Management of the RCO staff;
- ? Financial control and management of project budget and expenditures
- ? Management of sub-contracts
- ? Arrangement of training components
- ? Procurement of equipment
- ? Periodic reporting to IUCN as required.

The two other regional executing agencies will have more pointed responsibilities, relating to their areas of expertise. In particular, the OSS will specifically be responsible for the aforementioned tasks for all activities falling under Component 1 and also provide technical support and advice for activities relating to the pilot activities (Outcome 1.2) and Mono Basin Observatory (Output 2.2), through an appointed Lead Technical Officer.

Global Water Partnership-West Africa (GWP-WA) will be responsible for the activities relating to IWRM under Component 2 and 3. In particular, through its institutional structure, GWP-WA will intervene from the regional level to the countries through its respective national representations in Benin (Partenariat National de l'Eau (PNE)) and Togo (the NGO Eau Vive) to provide support and advice for activities relating to IWRM capacity building (namely under Output 3.1.2).

Implementing Agency

IUCN is the Implementing Agency for the project, providing fiduciary and technical oversight for the project. It will play a key role in convening of stakeholders and consolidating results, including in areas of landscape approaches to restoration and land management. Wherever possible, the project will take advantage of the opportunities for synergy and complementarities with other projects or other GEF Agencies. Opportunities will be explored during project implementation to secure partnerships for follow up investments for on-the-ground activities. Key responsibilities include:

- ? Providing fiduciary and technical oversight on behalf of GEF Secretariat and GEF Trustee;
- ? Ensuring project compliance with GEF policies and standards;
- ? Monitoring and evaluating project performance, and prepare implementation review;
- ? Providing technical backstopping to executing agencies and partners; and
- ? Ensuring quality control of the project workplans, budget and reports.

A specific Project Manager will be appointed at the IUCN West Africa regional office to oversee the implementation of the project and may also provide in-country support.

Other technical and financial partners

Numerous technical and financial partners (TFPs) have been identified as active in the basin, and important stakeholder for this project, given the complementarities of their interventions with that of the project. These TFPs are implementing projects, which for the most part serve as a baseline, as seen in section 3.5. Some of the current projects have agreed to co-financing agreements at the CEO stage. These highlight the complementarity of their interventions with those of the proposed project. These TFPs (and others identified at the implementation phase of the project) will engage with the project through the steering committee and the RCO. MOUs will be signed when necessary with the RCO, if joint activities are carried out with these TFPs.

National decision making and planning

In both countries, the National Executing Agencies will be ministries under which the MBA operates ? that is the Ministry of Energy, Water and Mines (MEEM) in Benin and the Ministry of Water and Village Hydraulics (MEVH) in Togo. Other relevant agencies in the countries (e.g. Ministries responsible for environment, energy, forestry?) may give their support to the project through the inter-ministerial committees.

The inter-ministerial committees will be the interface between the various government agencies with an interest in the development of the basin, the MBA and the project. It is proposed that the representatives from both the MEEM and MEVH become the National Focal Point (NFP) for the project, and that they also represent the ministries at the Steering Committee. There will be close collaboration between MBA, RCO and National Executing Agencies, through the NFP. Utilizing this entry point will allow for a better integration of the national ministries into both the steering and execution of the project, further aiding the political visibility of the MBA and the sense of ownership of the project by the two countries.

The National Executing agencies, along with the inter-ministerial committees, will help advise and guide the network of national, educational, research, governmental and non-governmental agencies, and organizations responsible for the implementation of the project. It will also allow for facilitated involvement of the various ministries and governmental departments and their networks, as identified in the SEP. The National Executing Agencies will be contracted by the IUCN, and responsible for National Coordination Offices.

The manning of the NCOs will remain under the responsibility of the National Executing Agencies, in close partnership with the MBA and IUCN; a Technical Coordinator (IWRM specialist) will be assigned full time by the respective governments, while the RCO's Financial and Administrative Manager will be the point of reference for all budgetary matters.

These National Coordination Offices (one in each country) will be established during the project but are intended to be permanent operating entities of the MBA at the end of the project, which will reinforce the MBA focal points in the countries, giving them increased capacity to intervene in the field. Office space will be made available to the MBA to host these two entities for coordinating the project's field activities in Benin and Togo. The governance instruments of the MBA will be updated during the implementation of the project so that they can be integrated into the MBA's legal institutional framework.

Project coordination and management

The Management and Coordination Unit is the main operational body for the implementation of the project. It is composed of a **Regional Coordination Office** (RCO) based in Cotonou at the MBA headquarters and two **National Coordination Offices**, based in Benin and Togo, respectively.

The RCO responsibilities included but not limited to:

- ? Planning, assignment, and supervision of project activities of the two national coordination offices,
- ? Recruitment of consultants;
- ? Coordination with stakeholders, donors, relevant national agencies and the private sector;
- ? Preparation of terms of reference (TORs) for project activities;
- ? Re-view of project progress reports and ESEM data,
- ? Supervising project procurement and financial resources
- ? Organizing and convening project coordination stakeholder meetings, and
- ? Review of project outputs and outcomes, and other tasks as may be required by the project.

The RCO will be staffed full-time with a Regional Project Coordinator and a Financial and Administrative Manager who will be recruited through a competitive process. Other supporting staff such as

administrative assistants or drivers, will be brought on board by the MBA office as in-kind co-financing. The Coordinator of the RCO will report to the Executive Director of MBA, and closely collaborate with the other regional and national executing agencies whenever relevant (see section 5.2). The RCO function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report, and other documentation required by the GEF and IUCN have been completed and submitted to IUCN.

The National Coordination Offices, as introduced above, will be responsible on implementing activities on the ground. They will work closely with the national and regional executing partners to implement the approved annual work plans. These NCOs are under the responsibility of the MBA line ministries ? the MEM (Benin) and the MEVH (Togo).

In addition, the RCO and NCOs will be supported by long-term technical assistance - these will include Lead Technical Officers from GWP-WA and OSS, and MEL specialist. These roles were determined as necessary support to achieve various outputs and are further detailed in the draft ToRs found under Appendix 9.6.

To fully involve grassroots communities, several implementing partners will be involved in carrying out project activities on the ground. These include civil society organizations (e.g., Eau Vi, community-based organizations, research institutes, private sector companies, women's organizations, and consultants. These partners will also benefit from capacity building activities, some of which are specifically dedicated to them. In the case of the pilot activities, these partners will be members of the POSC-Mono, and chosen through a competitive process (described under section 4.2.1) and the partnerships will be contractual as per IUCN and GEF guidelines and standards. They will receive guidance from and report back to the NCOs and RCO; in particular, the Financial and Administration Officer will provide budgetary support (included in budget).

[1] Ministry of Energy, Water and Mines (MEEM); Ministry of Water and Village Hydraulics (MEHV)

[2] Ministry for the Living Environment and Transport, in charge of Sustainable Development (MCVTCC); Ministry of the Environment and Forest Resources (MERF)

7. Consistency with National Priorities

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

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

National Priorities	Project Consistency
Benin	
<p>National Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (PANGIRE) ? currently: 2016-2020</p>	<p>The current national water action plan (though lapsed) is the second under the 2009 water policy, and the 3-phase action plan 2011-2025. The overall plan contains 55 actions, under 7 priority areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Action Area 1: Reforming the water governance framework ; ? Action Area 2: Strengthening human, organizational and physical capacity for water resources management; ? Action Area 3: Integrating economic and financial aspects into water resources management; ? Action Area 4: Knowledge and monitoring of water resources; ? Action Area 5: Mobilization and valorization of water resources in a IWRM framework; ? Action Area 6: Conservation and protection of water resources and the environment; ? Action Area 7: Implementing measures for prevention, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and other water-related risks. <p>The second phase is based on the lessons learned of the first AP, and structured along five strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? SO 1: Ensure the coherent and efficient implementation of the PANGIRE ; ? SO 2: Consolidate the water resources management framework at the central level for the operationalization of IWRM throughout the country; ? SO 3: To make operational the integrated water resources management framework in the river basins and promote water valuation; ? SO 4: Improve knowledge, planning and management of Benin's water resources through an operational National Water Information System (NWIS); ? SO 5: Develop the skills required to operationalize IWRM. <p>This project is directly feeding into SO 3 and 5, specifically targeting the improved water resource management in the Mono basin both through the implementation and diffusion of IWRM principles and framework, as well as increasing the capacity of key stakeholders in the basin. More specifically, output 3.C is ?operationalizing IWRM in the mono-couffo river system?, which includes strengthening the institutions and frameworks (incl. MBA, CLE, etc.), and focusing on transboundary cooperation.</p> <p>The third iteration (2021-2025) is in development, with workshops on the appraisal of phase 2 and strategic orientation for phase 3 having started in September 2022.</p>

National Priorities	Project Consistency
National Development Plan 2018-2025	<p>This national action plan, the last of the Vision 2025, seeks to deliver the long-term vision of "Benin is, in 2025, a flagship country, a well-governed country, united and peaceful, with a prosperous and competitive economy, cultural influence and social well-being". The plan itself is centered around four strategic objectives: develop a healthy, competent and competitive human capital; successfully increase the productivity and competitiveness of the Beninese economy; ensure the sustainable management of the living environment and the emergence of regional development clusters; consolidate the rule of law and good governance.</p> <p>The project feeds directly into the NAP, mainly in terms of strategic objective 3. This SO prioritizes 1) ensuring better management of the environment and climate change (the promotion of sustainable development, valuing natural capital, building resilience to climate change and other disaster risks, strengthening mitigation measures), and 2) improving human settlements (working on developmental plans, incl. transboundary areas; capacity building of local stakeholders, improving land management), which are both directly reflected in the project objective.</p>
Land Degradation Neutrality	<p>This project will contribute to the voluntary LDN commitments made by Benin in 2017, namely to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? reduce from 21% (1,460,000 ha) to 5% (160,640 ha) the conversion of natural forests and savannahs to other land uses, in this case agricultural land and housing; ? increase the area of forests by 5% (i.e. 155,000 ha) through reforestation and the establishment of new plantations; ? reduce by half (i.e. about 350,000 ha) the area of forests with a net decline in productivity; ? to increase productivity on all agricultural lands that are declining in productivity (631,400 ha) and those on which productivity remained weakly stable (1,8 million ha) during the period 2000-2010; ? to maintain wetlands by stopping conversion to other forms of use. <p>This will be done directly through the pilot activities in output 1.2.1 (esp. actions 1, 2 and 4), as well as indirectly through the creation of the SAP which will provide a road map for improved management in the basin, which includes improved land management, restoration and wetland preservation.</p>

National Priorities	Project Consistency
<p>National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2020</p>	<p>While currently lapsed, the NBSAP has some key targets and objectives to which the current project can still contribute. The overall vision is, "By 2020, decentralized local authorities, the state and civil society are more involved in concrete and become more involved in concrete and concerted actions for the knowledge enhancement, conservation and restoration of biological diversity for the socio-economic development and well-being of the people of Benin". Similarly, the project has a dual objective to ensure the environmental sustainability of the basin, as well as the socio-economic development and well-being of the population.</p> <p>The main axes of the project mirror those of the strategy, namely increased knowledge and capacity of stakeholders (including for management), creation of favorable framework (institutional, financial, political?) for the current and future action plans and ensuring the continued productivity and existence of natural resources (specifically biodiversity for the NBSAP, and water for the current project).</p> <p>It is clear that there will be continued coherence in the next iteration of the NBSAP which should be developed during the course of the project.</p>
<p>National Strategy for the Reduction of Disaster Risks 2019-2030</p>	<p>This policy looks to ensure that Benin has a cohesive policy to significantly and sustainably increase the resilience of Benin's communities, national institutions and local authorities to disasters. Three of the six action areas are targeted at the strengthening of institutional, legislative, political and financial frameworks of disaster preparedness and the increased capacity, knowledge and awareness of stakeholders of disasters, their risks and impacts.</p> <p>Through its focus on water resources, this project will feed directly into improving the local knowledge, capacity and institutional organization of water management, and implicitly, disaster preparedness linked to water resources, which remain at the root of many natural disasters in the basin (floods, landslides, drought, etc.).</p>
<p>National Climate Change Management Policy (PGNCC) 2021-2030</p>	<p>The overall vision of this policy is "in 2030, Benin is a climate-resilient country with sufficient adaptive capacity and appropriate mechanisms for anticipating and responding to climate risks, low-carbon growth, and whose institutions, organizations, businesses and citizens adopt climate-sensitive practices, attitudes and behavior". While the project is not specifically focused on climate change adaptation itself, the reality of the climate change crisis and its complementarity with the sister project "Bouclier/Mono" allows for several of its actions to fall in line with this policy.</p> <p>Under strategic action 2, which focuses on climate change resilience in all economic sector, there is a focus on the management of natural resources, including water. The policy directly supports the implementation of the IWRM framework, as well as the inclusion of climate change adaptation and resilience capacity building in formal and non-formal educative sectors, as promoted in the current project.</p>

National Priorities	Project Consistency
National Adaptation Plan to Climate Change (2022)	<p>The NAP is part of the PNGCC, and was adopted in 2022. The overall objective is to increase Benin's climate change resilience and adaptation capacity to climate change. The actions are structured around 3 axes: (1) promote sustainable consumption and production patterns; (2) promote the rational and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems; and (3) to establish a multi-hazard system for the early warning and effective management of natural disasters and calamities, including floods and sea level rise.</p> <p>The project fits well within the remit of this NAP through its support of the sustainable management of the Mono basin. It targets 9 of the 14 actions under axis 2, particularly through its pilot activities and the development of the TDA/SAP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? the management of agro-sylvo-pastoral resources; ? the promotion of sustainable management of forests and protected areas; ? the improvement of the conservation of biodiversity, forests, indigenous and community heritage areas and other fragile ecosystems; ? the development and implementation of an inclusive strategy for the development and safeguarding of fauna and flora; ? the mobilization and sustainable management of water resources; ? the improvement of knowledge of water resources and the management of hydro-climatic risks; ? strengthening the capacity of stakeholders.
Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC)	<p>The project falls within the scope of areas addressed through Benin's INDCs, which integrates the themes of adaptation and mitigation across multiple sectors. Specifically, the project is in line with its support of the actions under agriculture and Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), through its support of pilot activities improving land management.</p>
National Agricultural Sector Development Strategy (PSDSA) 2017-2025.	<p>The overall objective is to improve the performance of Benin's agriculture, to make it capable of ensuring food sovereignty, food and nutritional security in a sustainable manner, and to contribute to the economic and social development of the men and women of Benin in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is organized around five action areas, namely, "strengthening the resilience of farms (sustainable land management and adaptation to climate change, risk management) to climate change and improving the food and nutritional security of vulnerable populations".</p> <p>The project, through its development of the TDA/SAP and pilot activities focusing on the restoration and improved management of agricultural land, will directly feed into the aforementioned action area.</p>

National Priorities	Project Consistency
National Gender Policy 2008	<p>The overall vision for the national gender policy is, "by 2025, Benin is a country where equality and equity promote the participation of men and women in decision-making, access to and control of productive resources for sustainable human development". For this, five strategic areas were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Put in place measures to ensure equality and equity between men and women in access to education, literacy and decision-making structures in all spheres (individual, family, community, national and international); ? Strengthen gender mainstreaming at all levels, as well as the effective implementation of national and international conventions and texts favorable to gender equality and equity between men and women; ? Strengthen the commitment of civil society and the awareness of women and men for the promotion of gender while ensuring a good involvement of men in the process; ? Ensure women's empowerment and better gender mainstreaming in Communal Development Plans; ? Reduce women's income poverty and ensure their equitable access to and control over resources. <p>The project is aligned with this policy, as it actively looks to ensure that women are included in activities, as well as responding to their particular needs and paradigm, in particular thanks to the gender action plan. Some outputs/activities to highlight include the creation of a gender policy for the MBA, specifically targeting women in pilot activities, and the focus of IGAs for women.</p>
Togo	
National Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (PANGIRE) ? currently: 2016-2020	<p>The overall vision for this IWRM policy is, "By 2025, Togo's water resources will be mobilized, exploited and managed in such a way as to guarantee social equity and peace, environmental sustainability and economic efficiency for all its sons and daughters." It is built around four pillars: to promote an enabling framework for good water governance based on the IWRM approach; to ensure equitable and sustainable access to drinking water and sanitation for the population; to guarantee the availability of water in quantity and quality for all economic activities, and to ensure health, public safety and conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity. This project directly contributes to axes 1 and 4 through its support of the development of the institutional framework to sustainably manage the Mono basin. This not only includes the development of the various management structures and individual capacity, but also improving financial viability.</p>
National Development Plan 2018-2022	<p>The overall objective of the NDP is to structurally transform the economy for strong, sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth that creates decent jobs for all and improves social welfare. To achieve this, the NDP is centered around 3 axes: establishing a logistics hub of excellence and a first-rate business centre in the sub-region (Strategic Axis 1); developing agricultural, manufacturing and extractive industry poles (Strategic Axis 2); and consolidating social development and strengthening inclusion mechanisms (Strategic Axis 3).</p> <p>The activities in this project are in line with strategic axis 3, by improving the capacity of the stakeholders in the basin, specifically by focusing on the inclusion of vulnerable people (incl. women and youth) in IWRM awareness and decision making structures, as well as the promotion of alternative IGAs.</p>

National Priorities	Project Consistency
Land Degradation Neutrality	<p>This project will contribute to the voluntary LDN commitment made by Togo in 2018: restore by 2030, at least 80% of degraded land (i.e. 187,920 ha) and limit to 2% (i.e. 108,802 ha) the degradation of land not yet degraded in order to strengthen the preservation of terrestrial ecosystems compared to the reference situation (2010). The two specific targets are to increase forest area by 4% (43,557 ha) and to reduce to 1/3 (73,260 ha) the land with negative productivity trends.</p> <p>This will be specifically targeted by the pilot activities under outcome 1.2.1, and indirectly through the SAP which will provide a roadmap for the Mono Basin on how to improve its overall basin management, including forest and land management.</p>
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2020	<p>The NBSAP's overall vision states, "By 2025, the biological diversity of Togo's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems is valued, conserved, restored, sustainably used by stakeholders, and is resilient to all forms of threats including the negative effects of climate change in order to achieve a new balance between economic, social and environmental development, for the benefit of current and future generations". To achieve this, the policy is built around five strategic objectives, all of which are pertinent to the current project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? SO1 - Create a common environment: the current project looks to increase awareness and knowledge of the Mono basin stakeholders. ? SO2 - Enhancing the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services: the project looks to ensure that the ecological integrity of the basin is well managed, including through direct action (pilot activities) and development of strategic framework (SAP). ? SO3 - Improving the legal and institutional framework and governance: the support of local water management groups will support directly and indirectly the governance of biodiversity. ? SO4 - Developing knowledge of national biological resources: the project, through its support of local resource and knowledge management, will further this objective. ? SO5 - Building technical and human capacity: the project provides a variety of capacity building activities, mostly geared towards IWRM.

National Priorities	Project Consistency
Forestry Policy 2011	<p>Togo's forestry policy seeks to, by 2035, achieve 20% forest cover, fully covers its wood product needs, conserves its biodiversity and ensures sustainable protection of risk areas and wildlife habitats. There are five strategic areas, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? SO 1-Promotion of sustained forestry production ? SO2 - Restoration of degraded stands and conservation of biodiversity ? SO3 - Development of an effective partnership around forest management ? SO4 - Improving the institutional, legal and legislative frameworks of the forestry sector ? SO5 - The development of forestry research. <p>Some of the main actions in line with the policy include increasing forest cover, participatory planning and management, and increased knowledge generation, management and dissemination.</p>
National Reforestation Program of Togo 2017-2030	<p>The National Reforestation Program is part of the Togo 2030, contributing to 2050 goal of forest cover extending to 30% of the territory increasing the productivity of existing forests. The main objectives/means to achieve include the empowerment of stakeholders, effective organizational capacity, applying performative technologies, intensification of reforestation and ethics in seedling production, creating an enabling environment for program, and a sense of ownership by the stakeholders. These are many of the same principles being used in the project itself, or to be incorporated in some of the key outputs such as the SAP, which will link to the overall reforestation goal.</p>
National Adaptation Plan to Climate Change (20)	<p>The NAP process debuted in 2014, with the document approved at a national level in late 2016 submitted to the UNCCC in 2017. Six sectors are prioritized in the NAP - agriculture, water, coastal erosion, human development and health, land use, land-use change and forestry, and energy.</p> <p>The project directly feeds into several priorities identified by the NAP, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Development and promotion of sustainable and improved soil and water management techniques (Agriculture); ? Improving water resource knowledge (Water) ? Reforestation and increased protection of fragile landscapes, namely riparian zones and hillsides (LULUCF). <p>This first phase of the NAP was scheduled over a period of 5 years, 2017-2022, and will be updated during the project.</p>
Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC)	<p>The project falls within the scope of areas addressed through Benin's INDCs, which integrates the themes of adaptation and mitigation across multiple sectors. Specifically, the project is in line with its support of the actions under agriculture and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry, through its support of pilot activities improving land management.</p>

National Priorities	Project Consistency
National agricultural, food security and nutrition investment program 2017-2026	The project relates to the national agricultural food security and nutrition investment program primarily through its third strategic axis, which focuses on vulnerable populations ? in particular women and youth. This strategic axis focuses on including women and youth in awareness raising and training regarding resilience, social inclusion, good farming practices and sustainable agriculture, themes that are echoed in the current project.
National Gender Policy 2011	The overall vision of the NGP is ?to make Togo an emerging country, without discrimination, where men and women will have equal opportunities to participate in its development and enjoy the benefits of its growth?. Five strategic objectives are identified: ? SO1: Enhancement of the position and potential of women in the family and community; ? SO2: Increase women's productive capacity and income level; ? SO3: Improved equitable access of women and men to social services; ? SO4: Promotion of equitable participation of men and women in power management, respect for the law and elimination of violence in all its forms; ? OS5: Strengthening the intervention capacities of the institutional framework for implementing the PNEEG.

8. Knowledge Management

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

Much of this project is rooted in communication and knowledge management, with the main elements being developed in Component 3 of the project, which is dedicated to the Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation of the project.

It is under this component that the overall communication strategy will be refined during the inception phase of the project (Y1, Q1) (Activity 3.2.1.3). This communication strategy will be used throughout project implementation and will be part of the elements reviewed during annual project reviews, as well as the review sessions (Activity 3.1.1.5). The project recognizes the importance to ensure that stakeholders at multiple levels are engaged, including national decision makers, local governments, and communities. For this, IWRM awareness raising sessions are planned (3.1.2.2 and 3.1.2.3). It is envisaged that some, particularly towards the end of the project, will be based around the case studies and best practices documented within the basin (Activity 3.1.2.4). Furthermore, it is vital to ensure that there are respected community members trained in awareness raising and mobilization, not only for the purpose of this project, but also for future efforts and actions; as such, as part of the communication strategy, the project will provide training sessions to community relays and eco-guards in awareness and community mobilization techniques (Activity 3.1.2.1).

One of the key parts of this project will be to generate information about and for the basin. This includes documenting best practices and case studies (Activity 1.2.4), developing IWRM guides for targeting the basin, including women (Activities 3.1.3.3 and 4), producing annual activity reports for the MBA (Activity 3.1.3.6), and publishing thematic concept papers (Activity 3.1.3.2). These products will be disseminated

both digitally (MBA website, social media) and in print (Activity 3.2.2.3), broadcast on national/regional media (Activity 3.2.2.4), or locally used as educative purposes (including discussion groups). In addition, the project will support the participation of stakeholders at a variety of events to promote knowledge exchange and network building (Activity 3.1.1.4). As an International Waters project, it is vital that the main outputs of this project, including TDA/SAP, IWRM guides, best practices, case studies and concept papers be made available on the IW-Learn platform. This is anticipated under Component 3, as and when the various products are created.

While the strategy will be fully detailed at project inception, the table below presents some of the communication actions and materials that will be promoted according to target audiences.

Table 4?6: Target stakeholders and types of communication tools to be used.

Scale	Target	Examples of communication tools
Regional / international	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional organizations (e.g. UEOMA) - International Basin Organisations - Bilateral and Multilateral donors - Regional bodies/initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project publications - MBA website - IWLearn website
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centralized government staff/agencies - Other decision and policy-makers - Civil society, including notably national leaders, influencers, organizations active at the national scale - National & international NGOs - Other national level projects - Technical & research institutions/initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project publications, leaflets, case studies, technical briefs, best practice documents - Videos, including participatory video or other media content (e.g., radio shows) - Basin ecological/hydrological/GIS databases - Social networks - Awareness raising events - Concept notes, research papers, maps - Executive summaries / infographics of policies/strategies

Scale	Target	Examples of communication tools
Basin level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decentralized government staff/agencies - District decision and policy-makers (DEC, District council) - Civil society, including notably leaders, influencers and organizations - Professional/smallholder associations - National & international NGOS - Baseline projects in the district - Private sector actors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National and regional workshops - Publications, leaflets, case studies, technical briefs, best practice documents - Local consultations, meetings, workshops - Project posters and signs - Social networks - Awareness raising events - Executive summaries / infographics of policies/strategies
Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local administrative authorities - Village level institutions (CLE, ACP) - Community members, including vulnerable groups - Local CSO/smallholder associations - Local projects and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publications, leaflets, pamphlets briefs, best practice documents - Local radio shows or newspapers (or other media outlets, including social media) - Trainings and learning visits, including films and debates - Project posters and signs

In addition, there are other elements linked to communication and the sharing and management of knowledge. In particular, under Component 2, the improvement of the institutional and political framework includes the creating and signing of data sharing protocols between the two countries (Activity 2.1.1.2) as well as the establishment of the Mono Basin Observatory which promotes the management and sharing of ecological data in the basin (Output 2.2.2).

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The Monitoring and Evaluation plan proposed here follows the requirements for internal IUCN as well as GEF funded projects[1]. The main tools to evaluate project performance will include the project results framework with the targets and indicators, as well as the annual workplans and budget. The first working version of these will be defined during the project inception workshop, which will happen during the first

quarter of the project, to review, update and refine the project documents, including but not limited to, project Theory of Change, results framework, project risks, ESMS framework, and gender action plan. This will allow not only to ensure that the baseline situation is still relevant, but also to fill out any missing or changed information regarding in It is also during this phase that the detailed M&E plan will be finalized, taking into consideration the above documents as well as the main M&E reports listed below. This will be done by Regional Coordination Office (RCO), and reviewed by the SC.

In addition, the project will be monitored by the RCO, based on the project document and tools cited above. To facilitate tracking during a given year, annual workplans will be developed, outlining the activities and outputs expected to occur. This annual workplan will be updated with monitoring data every six months, allowing updating at least twice a year. In addition to the RCO overview of the project, an annual supervisory mission led by the IUCN will be conducted (3 in total).

The main steps and reports required for the M&E process are therefore:

- ? *Inception workshop and report* ? gathering key stakeholders of the project, the workshop and resulting report are a vital tool for launching the implementation of the proposed project. While the proposed project has been detailed using consultations, field visits, and recent documentation, it will go hand in hand with a field mission to confirm baseline data (Activity 3.1.1.1). It is not anticipated that major changes will emerge from this process, however certain baseline values and stakeholder roles will be better defined based on the most current data. This is a crucial phase to review and update all project documents, formulate the first annual work plan as well as detail the necessary M&E tools.
- ? *Quarterly progress report* ? Each quarter, the RCO will prepare a summary of the project's substantive and technical progress towards achieving its objectives. The summaries will be reviewed and cleared by SC before being sent to the IUCN/GEF Coordinator. Both these and the Annual Project Reports will be supported by Activity 3.1.1.3, which includes budget for additional site visits and staff time from M&E specialist, gender specialist and finance specialist.
- ? *Annual project report (APR)/Project implementation review (PIR)* ? The APR covers performance assessments on project outputs and outcomes, major achievements, evidence of success, constraints, lessons learned and recommendations as well as an overall rating of the project. It will include input from relevant stakeholders, which will be collected by the RCO through consultations, and be reviewed by the Steering Committee once a year. As per GEF guidelines, the APR/PIR will outline the amount of GEF project financing disbursed, the latest development objective rating, the implementation progress rating, and risk rating; the expected dates of submission for Mid-Term and Terminal reviews. These reports need to be provided back to the GEF Secretariat no later than 75 calendar days at the end of each fiscal year (June 30).
- ? *Independent external reviews at mid-term and project completion* ? As per GEF and IUCN guidelines, two external reviews will be conducted on the project. These will, at a minimum, reflect evaluations of the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, monitoring and evaluation implementation, and the likelihood that outputs and outcomes be sustained. Specifically, the mid-term project evaluation should take place at the end of the second year and focus on relevance, performance, as well as first lessons learned in terms of project design, implementation and management. The final evaluation, which should take place in the last quarter of the project (year 4), will include in addition evaluations of the impact and sustainability of the project as a whole,

as well as recommendation on how to further/perennialize the capacity development and global environmental goals.

- ? *Budget revisions* ? at the end of each project year, a final expenditure report will be prepared to be utilized in order to prepare the following year's workplan. In addition, the budget can be revised, if and when necessary, during quarterly reviews. This process will be led by the RCO, with approval and support from the SC. Annual independent financial audits will take place to ensure the good standing of the project expenditures. These will need to take into consideration the rules and regulations of both countries, and included in PMC.

All annual project reviews as well as the mid-term terminal reviews will be made available on the GEF website. The corresponding budget for the M&E activities is USD 230,000 and outlined in the table below.

Table 7?1: Summary of Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

M&E activity	Frequency	Responsible	GEF Budget (USD)
Inception Workshop and Report	Within first quarter of project inception	RCO	20,000 (Activity 3.1.1.2, 3.2.1.2)
Quarterly progress reports	Quarterly	RCO	[no specific budget - part of PMU tasks ^[2]]
Annual Project Progress Report (APRs)	Annually	RCO	
Mid-term Independent External Evaluation	In the 3 rd quarter of the 2 nd year of the project	RCO IUCN's Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit	110,000 (Activity 3.1.1.3)
Final Independent External Evaluation	At least three months before operational closure (expected 4 th year)	RCO IUCN's Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit	
Budget revisions	As required	RCO, SC, IUCN	[no specific budget - included in PMC/progress reports]

[1] GEF Policy on Monitoring (2019) ME/PL/03

[2] Supporting budget (e.g. site visits) under activity 3.1.1.3.

10. Benefits

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

The socio-economic benefits at local and national level will be generated directly and indirectly by the project. Under Component 1, local communities will be engaged in the TDA/SAP process will allow to more pointedly integrate the realities of the local landscapes, and allow to have a SAP that speaks more directly to the specific needs and opportunities of different areas in the basin. This will help secure a short and medium-term future of the basin that is reflective of the local realities and opportunities ? including degraded landscapes and poor catchment management. Additionally, the pilot initiatives will help develop tangible solutions to priority problems, which will not only help create support and buy-in from local stakeholders, but also create awareness and troubleshooting opportunities specific to the basin.

Under component 2, the project actively helps to better integrate local stakeholders in the governance of natural resources of the basin, namely in terms of water resource management. This is done not only through training and supporting CLE and ACP, but also by focusing on specific opportunities for youth and women, by supporting the development of sustainable IGA activities. Furthermore, ensuring that there is capacity to develop and implement IWRM practices and systems from the regional, national and local levels, will facilitate a multi-stakeholder dialogue. As under component 1, the initiatives and action plans are geared towards ensuring sustainable and climate resilient development, that not only benefit the environmental landscapes, but take into consideration the socio-economic well-being of the people who live in the basin.

This approach is only furthered under component 3, which looks to ensure that the appropriate tools, information and data is compiled and communicated with all of the stakeholders in the basin. Again, this allows to facilitate discussion and dialogue, and encourage integration and inclusion for the sustainable development of the basin.

Without the intervention of this project, unsustainable practices and anthropogenic pressures will continue to negatively impact and degrade the area targeted by this project. These negative impacts will put at risk the ecological and livelihood systems upon which local communities directly depend and will increase the stressors confronting thousands of households across the region. This project directly allows to build local capacity, but also to ensure that national and regional structures are in place, with the appropriate frameworks and tools to help navigate the development of the basin in a participatory, sustainable and climate resilient manner.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification *

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate	Medium/Moderate		

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

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

The Project aims to enhance the water security in freshwater ecosystems in the transboundary Mono River basin, situated between Benin and Togo. Component 1 includes a transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) and a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) process for defining priorities for action to resolve the identified key risks/issues. This process will be complemented by pilot activities for ecosystem restoration and for promoting resilience of ecosystems and stakeholders. Component 2 aims at strengthening the institutional and technical capacity of key stakeholders, both governmental as well as local institutions and CSOs. Component 3 is about Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communication.

While the Project is conceived and designed to have significant positive environmental and social impacts, some risks have been identified and the following safeguard considerations will be important to consider:

It is acknowledged that project design gives attention to the need of engaging non-governmental actors by dedicating investments into strengthening their institutional and technical capacities and by improving governance frameworks. However, the prodoc lacks clarity how stakeholders will be engaged and consulted during the analytical process (TDA) and in the planning process (SPA). Engagement in these two processes should be well planned to ensure the process to be inclusive and with transparent and reasonable decisions about participation of legitimate representatives of local communities as well as other non-governmental stakeholders. The stakeholder analysis prepared in the project development phase provides a good starting point but needs to be further fine-tuned at the local scale. This should ensure in particular that the ethnic diversity of the landscape and localities are well

reflected in the engagement strategies. The methodology for the TDA needs to further ensure that gender dimensions and needs of vulnerable groups are appropriately addressed (e.g. water needs, vulnerabilities, health issues etc.). Targeted activities to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment are established in the Gender Action Plan (GAP) but should further fine-tuned at the inception stage as this is considered critical for the SAP development process. The inclusion of local stakeholders, especially women, and representatives of social groups including representatives from the various ethnicities in the SAP consultation process will ensure due consideration is given to rights situation and livelihood concerns that are embedded in decisions about management of water, land and natural resources. It will also need to be ensured that rights-holders will have the capacity to claim their rights if potentially affected by any of such decisions.

Second, outcome 1 foresees the implementation of pilot activities to enhance suitable use of the basin resources, economic development as well as environment protection and population adaptation and resilience to climate change. Pilot initiative 1 (Strengthening capacities and skills through information and training of actors, local communities, management personnel of Ramsar sites 736 (Togo) and 1017 (Benin)), Pilot initiative 2 (Restoration of degraded land in localities of Assoli 3 and Tchamba 1 in Togo and Aledjo in Benin) and 4 (Support implementation of nature-based solution for restoration and sustainable management of productive landscape) might give rise to unintended negative social or environmental impacts if such are not duly assessed during planning. These might include social risks caused by restricting access to land or natural resources, risks related to the introduction of species in case non-indigenous species are required to ensure adaptability to climate change, risk of aggravating gender inequalities as well as occupational health and safety risks. However, as the exact locations and types of activities carried out in each pilot project have not been established prior to the appraisal of the Project, the likelihood and magnitude of these risks could not be established. Therefore an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is needed to define a procedures for identifying risks, once activities and sites are defined. This should include guidance for managing the following already pre-identified risk issues, including:

- ? Development of a transparent and fair procedure for selection of the localities and the specific areas to benefit from investments for their restoration in order to avoid unjustified preferential treatment.
- ? Establishment of a robust baseline assessment of the socio-economic conditions of people affected (positively or negatively) by the project activities in the selected sites.
- ? Establishment of a process for clarifying tenure rights with regards to the sites pre-selected for restoration, including customary rights as well as for identifying potential resource users who have no recognizable rights or claim to the land/resource they occupy but are highly dependent on the land/resource.
- ? Clarification whether specific land-use types and land tenure systems will be preferred, targeted or excluded (e.g. community-owned land, private land etc.). Where private land is concerned, establish that land acquisition is excluded and that procedures for voluntary agreements with private land owner need to be in place prior to restoration.
- ? Standard operating procedures (SOP) to avoid occupational health and safety risks during restoration works for project workers (including people employed or engaged through third parties to perform work related to core functions of the project and individuals engaged as volunteers)

- ? Establishment of a protocol for guiding species selection to avoid the development of invasive behaviors in case non-indigenous species are needed.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
GEF ID 10799 RIWE_Abbreviated ESMF Mono River _Sept 2023	CEO Endorsement ESS	
GEF ID 10799 RIWE_ESMS Screening_SEPT 2023	CEO Endorsement ESS	
GEF ID 10799 RIWE ESMS Screening_Sept2022	CEO Endorsement ESS	
Annex D - esms preliminary screening_Mono_GEF7-V2	Project PIF ESS	
Annex E - GEF 7 IUCN Mono Basin Preliminary Climate Risk Analysis	Project PIF ESS	

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

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.						
Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.						
	Objective/Outcome/Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
Component 1: Mono River Basin development assessment and planning	Outcome 1.1 The threats and potentials of the ecological and economic functions of the Mono basin are assessed and their management planned in an integrated and concerted manner	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation(GEF Core indicator 7.1)	Scale 1: No TDA/SAP is developed. It is Project development stage.	TDA/SAP process expected to be: - at scale 1 by the CEO endorsement (2024) - at scale 2: TDA finalized by the MTR (2025) - at scale 3: SAP ministerially endorsed by (2027)	- M&E reports - TE report - Service contract for TDA/SAP	<u>Assumptions</u> : Suitable data to inform the TDA and to support the SAP process is available. <u>Risk</u> : Low participation, time constraints

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 1.1.1 A transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) of Mono waters, including groundwater, is completed, approved by both countries and published</i>	<p>1.1.a Number of TDA developed and endorsed</p> <p>1.1.b Number of thematic reports on climate change, environment, socio-economics including gender related to water resources</p> <p>1.1.c % of women attending TDA and thematic report workshops</p>	<p>1.1.a 0</p> <p>1.1.b 0</p> <p>1.1.c 0%</p>	<p>1.1.a 1</p> <p>1.1.b 6</p> <p>1.1.c 40%</p>	<p>TDA drafts and final version</p> <p>Annual project monitoring reports</p> <p>Consultant reports (attendance logs)</p>	<p><u>Assumptions:</u> Data available to complete TDA; stakeholder mapping is comprehensive and willing to engage</p> <p><u>Risks:</u></p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<p><i>Output 1.1.2 A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is developed for the period 2024-2038, followed by the first Strategic Plan (SP1) 2024-2028, approved and signed at the appropriate national ministerial level by both countries, as well as an investment plan for the SAP horizon (over 15 years) and an investment plan for SP1 (over 05 years)</i></p>	<p>1.1.d Number of gender responsive and inclusive SAP developed, approved at national levels and published on IW:Learn</p> <p>1.1.e Number of SAP investment plans created - long term; first five years (SP1)</p> <p>1.1.e % of females consulted</p> <p>1.1.f # of consultations centered around women (e.g. based on their schedule/ offered as women only/mediated by woman?.)</p>	<p>1.1.d 0</p> <p>1.1.e 0; 0</p> <p>1.1.f 0%</p> <p>1.1.g 0%</p>	<p>1.1.d 1</p> <p>1.1. 1; 1</p> <p>1.1.f 40%</p> <p>1.1.g 6</p>	<p>SAP and investment plans</p> <p>Annual project monitoring reports</p> <p>Consultant reports (attendance logs)</p>	<p><u>Assumptions:</u> Stakeholder mapping is comprehensive and willing to engage</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Process not sufficiently inclusive to comprehensively draw up strategies and associated costs</p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 1.2: Pilot integrated interventions to enhance suitable use of the basin resources, economic development as well as environment protection and population adaptation and resilience to climate change	1.1.i # of pilot initiatives completed with gender inclusive lessons learned communicated to RCO	1.1.i 0	1.1.i 5	Technical reports Annual project monitoring reports	<u>Assumptions</u> : consider lesson learned from pilot initiatives and agree on their inclusion in the SAP planning process <u>Risks</u> Lack of suitable candidates for project implementation

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 1.2.1</i> <i>Pilot activities on the integration of CC into IWRM, pollution control at source, co-management of transboundary protected areas, conservation of biodiversity of global interest, local community mobilization and knowledge management for IWRM in the Mono River Basin are conducted and lessons learned.</i>	<p>1.1.j Areas (in ha) of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Pilot Activity 1)</p> <p>(GEF Core indicator 1)</p> <p>1.1.k % improvement of R-METT score of Ramsar sites (Pilot Activity 1)</p> <p>Site 736 (TG)</p> <p>Site 1017 (BJ)</p> <p>1.1.l area of land restored as co-benefit of GEF investment (Pilot Activity 2)</p> <p>(GEF Core Indicator 3)</p> <p>1.1.m # of strategic plans for decentralized IWRM</p>	<p>1.1.j 0 ha</p> <p>1.1.k</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>1.1.l 0 ha</p> <p>1.1.m 0</p>	<p>1.1.j 261,150 ha</p> <p>1.1.k</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>1.1.l 2,500 ha</p> <p>1.1.m 1</p>	<p>Technical reports</p> <p>Attendance logs</p> <p>Annual project monitoring reports</p>	<p><u>Assumptions:</u> Implementation partners identified through competitive process</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Partners require different level of support</p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
		cooperation (Pilot Activity 3) 1.1.n # of committee members trained in IWRM (% female) (Pilot Activity 3) 1.1.o # area (ha) of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (Pilot Activity 4) (GEF Core Indicator 4) 1.1.p # of farmers trained in sustainable land management techniques (incl. water and soil conservation practices) (%women) (Pilot Activity 4)	1.1.n 0 (0) 1.1.o 0 1.1.p 0 (0) 1.1.q 0%	1.1.n TBD (0) 1.1.o 2,500 1.1.p TBD (50%) 1.1.q 75%		

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
		1.1.q % of demonstration sites where issues of water and associated ecosystem quality identified at inception have improved (Pilot Activity 5)				
Component 2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthening	Outcome 2. 1: The technical and institutional capacities of the MBA and key partners are strengthened to enable actions for water and soil conservation, and restoration and protection of Mono basin ecosystems	Number of direct beneficiaries* (disaggregated by gender) supported and trained as co-benefit of GEF investment * detailed in outputs below			- Training reports - Project Progress reports	<u>Assumption</u> : Increased Institutional and technical capacity translate into strengthened implementation of, and compliance with MBA regulation and planning.

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 2.1.1 Capacity building and training of MBA Executive Directorate and main stakeholders in IWRM regulation, management of Protected Areas as well as the animation of the CLE</i>	<p>2.1.a Number of gender responsive and inclusive water charters developed</p> <p>2.1.b Number of data sharing protocols drafted and agreed</p> <p>2.1.c Number of project coordination units set-up</p> <p>? women staffing project coordination units (RCO/BJ/TG)</p> <p>2.1.d Number of new CLEs in Togo</p> <p>? % of members who are women</p> <p>2.1.e Number of new or updated gender responsive and</p>	<p>2.1.a 0</p> <p>2.1.b 0</p> <p>2.1.c 0</p> <p>? 0</p> <p>2.1.d 0</p> <p>? 0 %</p> <p>2.1.e 0</p>	<p>2.1.a 1</p> <p>2.1.b 1</p> <p>2.1.c 3</p> <p>? Min 1</p> <p>2.1.d 5</p> <p>? 30%</p> <p>2.1.e 5</p>	Project Monitoring reports	<p><u>Assumptions</u>: stakeholders sufficiently motivated and knowledgeable to participate</p> <p><u>Risks</u>: context remains favorable to the building of institutional framework</p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.						
Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.						
	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
		inclusive management plans for ACCB/CLE				
	<i>Output 2.1.2 MBA's capacity to mobilize financial resources is strengthened, specifically through the upgrading of fiduciary, environmental safeguard and gender equality policy documents.</i>	2.2.f # of MBA governance tools developed/updated (policies and guidelines) to international standards, including gender inclusive and responsive	2.2.f 0	2.2.f 3	Annual project reports Training logs MBA governance tools	<u>Assumptions:</u> international standards compatible with both national standards <u>Risks:</u> internal disparity or disputes

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 2.1.3 Institutional and technical capacities of CSOs/CBOs operating in the Mono Basin are increased for better engagement in transboundary management of shared resources</i>	<p>2.2.h # of CBO/CSO members trained in IWRM (male/female)</p> <p>2.2.i # of POSC members trained in IWRM and increased institutional capacity (male/female)</p> <p>2.2.j # of women/youth groups trained in NTFP IGAs</p>	<p>2.2.h 0 (0/0)</p> <p>2.2.i 0</p> <p>2.2.j 0</p>	<p>2.2.h 450 (225/225)</p> <p>2.2.i 30 (TBD)</p> <p>2.2.j 5</p>	<p>Annual project reports</p> <p>Training logs</p>	<p><u>Assumptions</u>: stakeholders available and interested</p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<p>Outcome 2.2:</p> <p>Improved governance and cooperative framework of the Mono basin to support water-related challenges and transboundary flooding risk reduction</p>	<p>Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institution (MBA) to support its implementation.</p> <p>(GEF Core Indicator 7.2)</p>	<p>Rate 3: The regional legal agreement is signed and MBA is in place</p>	<p>Rate 4: Regional legal agreement ratified and MBA functional</p>	<p>National gazettes</p>	<p><u>Assumption</u> :</p> <p>Better understanding of MBA strategy's benefits for the development of the two countries by officials will lead to increased political support for the adoption of agreements</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> Political discord</p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.						
Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.						
	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 2.2.1 The statutory bodies of the MBA are established and operational</i>	2.2.a Number of annual meetings over course of project for Council of Ministers Technical Expert Committee Development Stakeholder Forum 2.2.b Level of national/local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees (GEF Core Indicator 7.3)	2.2.a 0/0/0 2.2.b Scale 2	2.2.a.4/4/3 2.2.b Scale 4	Annual Project Monitoring reports MBA Activity Reports	<u>Assumption</u> : MBA continues getting national support from both countries

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 2.2.2 The Mono River Observatory for ecological monitoring of the basin and flood risks is created and data sharing protocols are established</i>	2.2.c Number of users trained in database use and ecological monitoring indicators (% women) 2.2.d # of validated monitoring framework and tools for the Mono Basin	2.2.c 0 (0) 2.2.d 0	2.2.c 40 (40%) 2.2.d 1	Technical studies Training Logs Annual project monitoring report	<u>Assumption</u> : Cofinancing initiates Observatory activities <u>Risks:</u> Lack of capacity and / or data to build Observatory and interest in Observatory; unequal capacity/data between two countries

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.						
Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.						
	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 2.2.3 A regulatory framework for the sustainable and collaborative management of transboundary natural resources in the Mono River Basin is developed and submitted for approval</i>	<p>2.2.d Number of gender inclusive transboundary natural resource regulatory frameworks for the basin developed</p> <p>2.2.e % of women consulted for the development of the framework</p> <p>? # of women-centered workshop/consultations offered (based on their schedule, women mediated?)</p>	<p>2.2.d 0</p> <p>2.2.e 0</p> <p>? 0</p>	<p>2.2.d 1</p> <p>2.2.e 50</p> <p>? 6</p>	<p>Regulatory framework</p> <p>Attendance sheets</p> <p>Consultant reports</p> <p>Annual project monitoring reports</p>	-

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
Component 3: Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communication	Outcome 3.1: Project implementation is improved through better knowledge management	Level of engagement in IW: Learn through participation and delivery of key products (GEF Core Indicator 7.4)	Scale 1: No participation	Scale 3: website in line with IW:LEARN guidance active, plus strong participation in training/twinning events and production of at least one experience note and one results note	- MEL document - KM products - Back to office reports - MBA web site visits	<u>Assumption</u> : Increased knowledge about IW will increase political support for uptake of IWRM principles <u>Risk</u> :

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	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 3.1.1 A project monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system is developed and implemented</i>	<p>3.1.a # of gender aware MEL system</p> <p>3.1 b # of evaluations including detailed analysis of gender aspects</p> <p>3.1.c % of events focused on gender specific lessons/results</p> <p>3.1.d Number of inter-ministerial meetings to direct project</p>	<p>3.1.a 0</p> <p>3.1.b 0</p> <p>3.1.c 0</p> <p>3.1.d 0</p>	<p>3.1.a 1</p> <p>3.1.b 2</p> <p>3.1.c 20</p> <p>3.1.d 8</p>	<p>MEL plan</p> <p>Annual project monitoring reports</p>	<p><u>Assumption</u>: ME project staff can lead ME process</p> <p><u>Risks</u>:</p>

Overall Goal: Securing long-term sustainable economic potential in the two countries in terms of agricultural development. Fisheries production, hydropower generation and tourism potential.

Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	<i>Output 3.1.2 Stakeholders in the Mono Basin IWRM innovation system are trained and supported to tailor capacity building actions in response to specific needs and thus achieve greater impacts</i>	3.1.d # of training sessions focusing on IWRM and gender (Local/National) 3.1.e # of case studies produced ? # specifically covering gender specific issues and achievements	3.1.d 0 (0/0) 3.1.e 0 ? 0	3.1.d 10 (8/2) 3.1.f TBD ? 30% (TBC)	Knowledge products Attendance logs Project monitoring reports	<u>Assumptions</u> : stakeholders ready to engage <u>Risks</u> : poor success rate of initiatives in basin
	<i>Output 3.1.3 Knowledge management products (Studies, Maps, IWRM Best Practice Guide, Posters, Video reports, Photos, Concept papers, etc.) are developed</i>	3.1.f # of basin-specific IWRM guide developed and disseminated 3.3.g # of MBA annual activity reports published	3.1.f 0 3.3.g 0	3.1.f 2 3.3.g 4	Knowledge products Project Monitoring reports	-

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Project Objective: Sustainable development and ecological resilience of the Mono River Basin ensured through the strengthening of the IWRM governance and capacity, participatory planning by communities and enhanced cooperation between Togo and Benin.

	Objective/Outcome /Output	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s)	Source of verification	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 3.2: Project stakeholders are informed and engaged	Number of direct beneficiary from project (M/F) ? trained or increased awareness of IWRM issues	0 (0,0)	20,665 (10,465/10,200)	- Project Progress report - M&E reports - Web site visits and statistics	<u>Assumption</u> : Targeted audiences have an interest to increase their understanding of IWRM and are willing to invest time to participate to workshops and fora
	<i>Output 3.2.1 An MBA communication strategy with a communication plan for the ERI project is developed</i>	3.2.a Number of gender sensitive/aware stakeholder engagement plan	3.2.a 0	3.2.a 1	SEP Project annual monitoring reports	<u>Assumption</u> s: previous stakeholder analyses are accurate
	<i>Output 3.2.2 Targeted communication materials (reports, case studies, podcasts, flyers, etc.) are developed and disseminated in appropriate channels</i>	3.2b MBA website live and managed ? # of pages dedicated to gender issues on the MBA website	3.2b 0 ? 0	3.2 1 ? 1	Knowledge and communication products Annual project monitoring reports	-

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

STAP Review	Response
<p>Given the policy priority of hydropower development, it will be important to better articulate how improved coordination will address this and ensure that it doesn't exacerbate environmental and social problems in the basin. At the local level, attention should be given to incentives for people to change practices leading to overfishing, erosion, pollution, etc.</p>	<p>The project focuses on ensuring that there is a clear development strategy for the basin, developed with the stakeholders (including hydropower stakeholders), through the development of the SAP (Output 1.1.2). In addition, it provides the institutional backbone for basin management, whether through the support to the MBA (Output 2.2.1) or local management groups (e.g. POSC Mono; Activity 2.1.3.2), which will allow to better coordinate dialogue as and when hydropower development plans take shape. These same institutional backbones and strategic documents will help at a local level to promote and adopt new practices related to natural resources, namely in conjunction with other projects and initiatives in the basin which include more on the ground investments (such as Bouclier Mono).</p>
<p>There is some confusion between outputs and outcomes (i.e. Output 2.1.3 relates to improved capacities and enhanced livelihoods which seem more like outcomes and there is little detail provided on how the latter (enhanced livelihoods) will be accomplished.</p>	<p>The log-frame has been revised taking into consideration the comments provided by STAP and GEF Sec; all changes are documented in the CEO Endorsement form.</p>
<p>Baseline: though there appears to be considerable overlap between the objectives of this project and other initiatives. It will be important to delineate and communicate the differences and how they complement and not duplicate each other.</p>	<p>The project baseline has been updated, based on the actual situation on the ground during the PPG implementation ? this means identifying projects that have closed and lessons learned, identifying on-going and planned projects and providing a gap analysis. This has allowed to better structure the proposed project to ensure no duplication of efforts and the best complementarity with the aforementioned efforts as possible. See Baseline in the Prodoc and CEO endorsement form.</p>
<p>Project proponents are aware of all relevant activities ? describing the lessons learned would be very helpful to justify the merits of this project and how it will add value.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, the baseline has been reviewed ? this includes the addition of lessons learned and/or gap analysis for past and current projects presented. See Baseline in the Prodoc and CEO endorsement form.</p>

<p>What is less clear is what the incentive will be for people to change practices leading to overfishing, erosion, pollution, etc. There is language about alternative livelihoods but little detail. These aspects should be developed prior to CEO endorsement stage.</p>	<p>This has been better explicated in the narrative, namely that this project will provide some support through pilot activities (Outcome 1.2), implementation support for established CLE and ACP action plans (Activity 2.1.3.4), as well providing support for particular IGA activities focusing on youth and women (Activity 2.1.3.5). This will help engaging communities on best practices, as well as building community level networks within the basin for peer-peer learning (incl. the cross-boundary committee in pilot activity 3).</p> <p>In addition, one of the main co-financing projects, Bouclier/Mono will offer the opportunity to expand on pilot projects, namely through replication and adapting to the rest of the basin through lessons learned.</p> <p>Finally, the project has a strong link to the creation of knowledge and communication products (including guides, audio visual, social media, etc ? see component 3), to increase engagement at all levels, providing better awareness around the issues and solutions around the basin, namely documenting best practices, success stories, etc.</p>
<p>The TOC would be strengthened with more information about underlying assumptions and alternative pathways.</p>	<p>The ToC has been redrawn, adding assumptions and increased depiction of how the various strategies and enabling actions feed into the outputs and outcomes.</p> <p>See ToC in the Prodoc .</p>
<p>GEB: Yes, with measurable targets included re hectares of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use; area of land restored; landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) and under improved management. Unclear, however, how the estimates were derived.</p>	<p>An explanation regarding the estimation of the targets is included in the CEO endorsement form. Indicator 1 and 11 have been recalculated based on further detailing of the associated activities during the PPG phase.</p>
<p>Resilience to CC: Assuming that flooding is the result of changing climate conditions, the flood management plan could be viewed as one activity, though this link could be made more clear.</p>	<p>During the PPG phase, it became clear that there were already initiatives in place specifically focused on this activity (e.g. ClimAFRI, WASCAL projects, etc). Instead, the proposed project looks to reinforce the institutional structures which will help put in place the management plans in the Basin (MBA, CLE, etc), the overall development strategy of the basin, as well as the monitoring, storing and sharing of ecological data which will help inform on flood risks.</p>

<p>Innovation, scaling up, etc: A potentially innovative feature of this project is an ?innovative financing mechanism? which will ?mobilize private sector investments and opportunities.? However, without any details on what type of mechanism or how it will work, innovation is difficult to assess.</p> <p>The project states that sustainability will be achieved as a result of the financial mechanism as well as knowledge management activities. More detail is needed.</p> <p>Given the weak institutional and governance situation and threats, transformational change is likely needed.</p>	<p>During the PPG phase, the realities of the basin, of the various initiatives and institutions were assessed. As such, the innovation/scaling up/replication section of the project was reworked (see 1.7 Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up).</p> <p>One of the keys to the project is to strengthen the existing players, networks and mechanisms in the basin, in order to provide a stronger framework on which future initiatives can rely on. Specifically, this means having collaborative mechanisms in place that recognize that different players may require different types of inputs, and that there needs to be a strong hand in the stabilization in the various institutional frameworks in the basin, from local natural resource management groups, all the way to the MBA. It is by solidifying the existing tools and networks, and providing them with the data and training to further advocate and train, that transformational change will ensure.</p>
<p>Stakeholder roles: More information needed. Would benefit from a table relating stakeholders to roles anticipated.</p>	<p>Stakeholder roles are provided in Chapter 6 of the Prodoc (Section 2 of CEO Endorsement), which includes the consultation process during the PPG phase, as well as the SEP for the overall project.</p>
<p>Gender: multiple entry points noted for gender-responsive planning, accountability and benefit sharing. Importantly, there is recognition of the potential for conflict over roles and sharing of project-related benefits. These should be further addressed when Gender action plan is developed.</p>	<p>A gender analysis was undertaken during the PPG phase to better understand the situation in the basin and both countries. The gender action plan was developed and integrated into the project results framework.</p> <p>See attached the gender plan</p>
<p>Coordination:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recogniton and lessons learned not clear 2) Lessons learned should be better specified prior to CEO endorsement, particularly given IUCN?s own past engagement through BRIDGE and other initiatives ? in West Africa and beyond. 3) How lessons learned will be integrated needs specification 	<p>Lessons learned/gap analysis has been clearly outlined in the baseline (Prodoc: Chapter 3.5; CEO endorsement 1.2).</p>
<p>Knowledge management ? acknowledged but only broadly defined.</p>	<p>Knowledge management is at the heart of component 3, where the emphasis on a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning system for the project has been made. Chapter 4.11 of the ProDoc summarizes the main products and associated timelines of the strategy (Section 8 CEO Endorsement).</p>

<p>In the PIF Core Indicator explanatory section titled ?provide additional explanation of targets?: specific to Indicator 4, please indicate the land area category that is in production and that will be more sustainable managed. Please also include details of the management practices and where possible include GIS les showing the extend to the land under sust. land management.</p>	<p>Core indicator 4 has been specified to 4.3 - Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems. These landscapes will be chosen at a later date, as part of Output 1.1.2.</p> <p>Pilot Activity 4 (Activity 1.1.2.6) focuses on this core indicator. Currently there is a shortlist of communes in both Togo and Benin where the activities could take place. However, the specific sites where the restoration activities will take place will be determined during project implementation. The sustainable land management practices will be focused on Nature Based Solutions, promoting effortst such as farmer led regeneration and other efforts with a proven track record in the region. Criteria for site selection are described both in the ProDoc and in the ESMS procedures.</p>
<p>In the PIF Core Indicator explanatory section titled ?provide additional explanation of targets?: specific to indicator 3 and 4, please provide either georeferenced codes or names specific to the areas being brought under improved practices and/or restored.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, the specific areas pertaining to indicators 3 and 4 will be determined during project implementation, after a systematic choice of pilot sites. However, the total area being restored was determined through consultation between the executing agencies and local populations, taking into consideration the nature of the activities (pilot sites) and the overall focus of the project.</p>
<p>4. Core indicator 11: Please provide a tentative estimate of real, direct and quantifiable (countable and verifiable) numbers of beneficiaries. This means that direct beneficiaries should be defined narrowly as those that are directly (physically/income) impacted by the project ? so this would usually be participants in pilots such as communities/families living in pilot (watershed mmgt etc.), people living in floodplains (for flood early warning systems), and so on.</p>	<p>Core indicator 11 was revised taking into consideration this comment.</p>

<p>By CEO Endorsement the PRO DOC should make clear the distinct difference between the work of interministerial committees (Output 2.2.3) and Output 2.2.1 specific to the setting up of management structures for each sub-basin.</p> <p>Further, GEF notes that the anticipated Output 2.2.3 will facilitate the endorsement of basin data sharing protocols. This is a key output in enabling an improved food management systems (output 2.2.2) and in framing the work of output 1.1.3 (tools and databases developed). During PPG, the complementarities, and interdependencies between these three outputs should be made more explicit, while the anticipated pilots should be refined to support needed capacity building at various levels. Further, MBA/IUCN should consider if outputs can be merged to simplify the execution of the project.</p>	<p>Taking into consideration this comment and analyzing the current activities in place in the various bodies and institutions linked to the MBA, the project framework was revised.</p> <p>The statutes of the MBA do not call for independent interministerial committees, however there are technical committees with representation from various ministries; the project will support its meeting for the duration of the project (under component 2). The project will also have its own national interministerial committees to help steer and implement the project as described under the institutional set-up.</p> <p>As suggested, outputs 1.1.3, 2.2.2, and 2.2.3 were consolidated under Component 2, to streamline the activities, highlight complementarities within the project and with cofinancing opportunities. Output 1.1.3 was integrated as an activity under 2.2.2 (Mono Basin Observatory), while 2.2.3 remained the same.</p>
<p>Please also indicate how stakeholders will be engaged during project preparation and their expected roles. Finally, please make clear in the stakeholder's section that IUCN will handle all responsibilities specific to its role as implementing agency, while IUCN will not be executing any project activities.</p>	<p>The Stakeholder Engagement Plan is provided in the ProDoc and highlights the roles of each, as well as the responsible entities.</p> <p>In addition, the specific role of the IUCN as implementing agency is clarified in the text.</p>
<p>Please be clear in the text that a gender analysis will be completed prior to CEO endorsement. The GEF highly encourages that a draft gender action plan is developed by CEO End stage and which project stakeholders can then elaborate on further during project inception phase. Please include language to this effect.</p> <p>It is well noted that the project describes plans to carry out gender analysis during the PPG phase to deepen the understanding of power dynamics in the basin and identify measures to empower/integrate women in water resources management and decision-making processes. It seems, however, that no gender dimensions related to the project context has been considered (e.g. demographics, differential impact of environmental degradation/climate change on women and men, and or related to the described barriers to be addressed by the project.) Please provide some indicative information on specific gender dimensions related to the project and complete the gender tags as appropriate.</p>	<p>A gender analysis was completed during the PPG phase, which also included a gender action plan that has been incorporated into the project results framework.</p> <p>However, as the specific sites are yet to be determined, there remains work to be undertaken at the inception phase and during pilot project setting up.</p> <p>The gender plan is attached.</p>

Council Comments	
<p>United States Comments:</p> <p>The project team may want to consider risk mitigation for the possible dissolution of the Benin Electric Community (CEB), one of the Mono Basin Authority's stakeholders.</p>	<p>At the time of project elaboration, MBA and others key stakeholders affirmed the continuing role of the CEB in hydropower.</p> <p>However, due to the possibly volatile situations, the main risk mitigation linked to the CEB is by ensuring that communication is open throughout key processes, as the TDA/SAP and Pilot Initiative 5. This will allow to keep a close understanding of any situations that arise, while limiting their role in the undertaking of key activities.</p>

Germany comments:

Germany approves the following PIF in the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account:

Germany welcomes this relevant support for the MBA. The described activities and objectives are fully supported.

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

? The listed co-finances give the potentially misleading impression that these amounts are available for activities in the components 1-3 from this project. Please clarify which funds are merely levered, and which are available for project activities.

? The under ?C. Indicative sources of Co-Financing for the Project by name and by type? (p.8) references GIZ project ProSEHA will not support the project defined in this proposal with USD 1 million. GIZ ProSEHA has supported the organisation with 100,000 EUR (approximately 120,000 USD) via a grant agreement for the period of October 2020 to October 2021. In 2022, GIZ ProSEHA may support the organisation again with a maximum amount of 200,000 EUR (approximately 240,000 USD). But only for activities in Benin after the approval of ProSEHA?s new phase and with a reasonable project proposal.

? Clarification of the description of GIZ funded ProSEHA project (p.29): ProSEHA GIZ is not based on the MBA Strategic Plan. ProSEHA supports MBA with 100,000 EUR as contribution to the assessment of the current state of the Mono basin, capacity building and equipment. Pending approval of the new phase ProSEHA may support MBA with a maximum of 200,000 EUR.

? To prevent misinterpretation, submitting proof of commitment by the other co-financing projects is suggested.

Co-financing has been fully reinvestigated and reassessed.

The current co-financing listed are all supported by letters from the relevant institutions.

Additional efforts have been made in the text to clearly identify previous projects (and their lessons learned) and current projects, and how the proposed project?s activities will allow to bridge gaps currently identified in the Mono Basin?s initiative landscape.

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

PPG Grant Approved at PIF:	
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>

	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Firm contract (incl. ESMS, Travels, Meeting cost, Translation)	127,810	76686	51,124
Workshops (inception and validation workshops)	22,190	22,190	0,00
Total	150,000	98,876	51,124

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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

Four Maps are provided in the previous section 1b:

- Overall hydrographic map of the basin (Map1);
- Overall map of the basin with protected areas (Map2);
- The headwater area (Map 3a) ? the prefectures(TG)/commune(BJ) where the targetted communities are, namely the communes of Tchamba 1 (Tchamba prefecture, Centrale Region) and Assoli 3 (Assoli prefecture, Kara region) in Togo, and Aledjo (Basilla commune, Donga department) in Benin. In addition, the location of the source of the Mono in Benin is provided (Map 3b);
- The Ramsar sites in the estuary (Map 4).

GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](#) or [GeoNames](#) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#)

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
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ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Items	Description	Component 1		Component 2		Component 3		Subtotal (USD)	Monitoring & Evaluation	Project Management Costs	Total (USD)	Responsible Entity
		Outcome 1.1	Outcome 1.2	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2	Outcome 3.1	Outcome 3.2					
Goods												
	Hydro-climatic software package	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000	MBA
	Edition of MBA Annual report	-	-	-	-	6,000	-	6,000	-	-	6,000	MBA
	Branding of MBA apparel and items	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	10,000	MBA
	Acquisition and installation of computer equipment for offices	-	-	37,500	-	-	-	37,500	-	-	37,500	MBA
	Acquisition and installation of computer equipment for Mono Basin Observ	-	-	-	40,000	-	-	40,000	-	-	40,000	MBA
	Implementation of CLE and ACCB action plans	-	-	72,000	-	-	-	72,000	-	-	72,000	GWP-WA
Vehicles												
	Vehicle - 4x4 (Togo Office)	-	-	75,000	-	-	-	75,000	-	-	75,000	MBA
Grants/sub-contracting												
	Pilot activity 1 grant	-	120,000	-	-	-	-	120,000	-	-	120,000	MBA
	Pilot Activity 2 grant	-	380,000	-	-	-	-	380,000	-	-	380,000	MBA
	Pilot Activity 3 grant	-	120,000	-	-	-	-	120,000	-	-	120,000	MBA
	Pilot Activity 4 grant	-	280,000	-	-	-	-	280,000	-	-	280,000	MBA
	Pilot Activity 5 grant	-	175,000	-	-	-	-	175,000	-	-	175,000	MBA

Revolving funds/ Seed funds / Equity												
IGA Seed fund	-	-	72,000	-	-	-	72,000	-	-	72,000		GWP-WA
Contractual Services - Companies												
Data collection of the observation database	-	-	-	27,400	-	-	27,400	-	-	27,400		MBA
Pilot activity ESMS assessment	-	80,000	-	-	-	-	80,000	-	-	80,000		MBA
Case studies and best practices in Mono - IWRM	-	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	30,000		MBA
Maintenance of Observatory database	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000		MBA
Graphic Design - MBA	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	15,000		MBA
Webmaster - MBA	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	15,000		MBA
Photo/audio reporting	-	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	20,000		MBA
External project evaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110,000	-	110,000		MBA
Consultancies												
Regional or international consultant - fees	413,000	-	129,500	119,000	112,000	21,000	794,500	-	-	794,500		MBA OSS GWP-WA
National consultant - fees	192,000	4,000	84,000	32,000	28,000	8,000	348,000	-	-	348,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Coordination office, gender specialist	-	6,600	8,800	-	3,300	-	18,700	-	-	18,700		MBA
MEL Specialist	-	1,100	-	-	13,200	-	14,300	-	-	14,300		MBA
Technical Lead Officer - OSS	15,000	1,250	-	2,500	5,000	-	23,750	-	-	23,750		OSS
Technical Lead Officer - GWP-WA	-	-	15,000	-	10,000	-	25,000	-	-	25,000		GWP-WA
Staff costs												
Regional coordinator salary+benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120,000	120,000		MBA
Finance and admin specialist	-	5,000	-	-	8,000	-	13,000	-	83,000	96,000		MBA
Meetings												
Regional meeting	100,000	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	140,000	-	-	140,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
National meeting	40,000	-	-	20,000	80,000	-	140,000	-	-	140,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Local meeting	7,500	-	16,500	-	30,000	-	54,000	-	-	54,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Meetings of the Council of Ministers	-	-	-	64,000	-	-	64,000	-	-	64,000		MBA
Meetings of Technical Committee of Experts	-	-	-	60,000	-	-	60,000	-	-	60,000		MBA
Meeting of Mono Basin Development Stakeholder Forum	-	-	-	40,000	-	-	40,000	-	-	40,000		MBA
Executing review sessions	-	-	-	-	32,000	-	32,000	-	-	32,000		MBA
Steering Committee meeting - annual review	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000	-	100,000		MBA
Workshops												
Regional workshop	160,000	20,000	60,000	20,000	-	-	260,000	20,000	-	280,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
National workshop	110,000	-	60,000	30,000	20,000	20,000	240,000	-	-	240,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Local workshop	15,000	-	26,250	7,500	15,000	4,500	68,250	-	-	68,250		MBA OSS GWP-WA
MBA internal workshop	-	-	5,000	-	3,500	-	8,500	-	-	8,500		MBA
Training (in addition to some meetings above)												
Regional training	-	-	60,000	-	-	-	60,000	-	-	60,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
National training	-	-	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	120,000	-	-	120,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Local training	-	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	15,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Software training	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000		MBA
TDA/SAP team training	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	50,000		OSS
Travel												
Participation in IRBO events	-	-	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	20,000		MBA
Participation in other international events	-	-	25,000	-	30,000	-	55,000	-	-	55,000		MBA
International flight	32,000	-	-	4,000	24,000	-	60,000	-	-	60,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Operating Costs												
RCO office sundries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,600	9,600		MBA
Annual project audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,000	28,000		MBA
Vehicle maintenance (incl. insurance)	-	-	21,000	-	-	-	21,000	-	-	21,000		MBA
Broadcasting fees	-	-	-	-	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	40,000		MBA
Communication/printing	6,000	-	-	16,500	12,000	15,000	49,500	-	-	49,500		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Dissimulation fund	12,000	-	-	6,000	36,000	6,000	60,000	-	-	60,000		MBA OSS GWP-WA
Sub-Total (USD)	1,152,500	1,192,950	847,550	608,900	573,000	154,500	4,529,400	230,000	240,600	5,000,000		

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

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

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agencies is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant

instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

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

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