



Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10875

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Using Marine Spatial Planning in the Gulf of Guinea for the implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services and Coastal Nature-based Solutions

Countries

Regional, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo

Agency(ies)

IUCN

Other Executing Partner(s)

Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea - FCWC

Executing Partner Type

Others

GEF Focal Area

International Waters

Sector

Mixed & Others

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Biodiversity, Mangroves, Biomes, Sea Grasses, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Payment for Ecosystem Services, Financial and Accounting, Fisheries, Mainstreaming, International Waters, Large Marine Ecosystems, Mangrove, Seagrasses, Influencing models, Demonstrate innovative approach, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Stakeholders, Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Participation and leadership, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Learning

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

No Contribution 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

Principal Objective 2

Land Degradation

Significant Objective 1

Submission Date

12/8/2022

Expected Implementation Start

8/1/2023

Expected Completion Date

8/1/2026

Duration

36In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

270,000.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
IW-1-1	Sustaining healthy coastal and marine ecosystems	GET	3,000,000.00	15,500,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			3,000,000.00	15,500,000.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Enhance coastal and marine habitat in Ghana, Togo and Cote d'Ivoire through coordinated spatial planning (MSP), economic incentives (PES), and nature-based solutions.

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Marine Spatial Planning in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 1.1 Mapping and management of coastal and marine areas improved by establishing a sub-regional MSP to enhance cooperation and support partnerships for financing.</p> <p>Outcome 1.2 Improved organisation of regional integrated ecosystem services</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1 Review report of current management strategies and identification of elements pertinent for the MSP</p> <p>Output 1.1.2 Established MSP in place at the national and sub-regional levels</p> <p>Output 1.2.1 Regional Accounting Monitoring system in place for ecosystem service</p> <p>Output 1.2.2 Effective financial mechanism for ecosystem services collection in place</p>	GET	962,500.00	5,000,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Payment for Ecosystem Services in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 2.1 ? Improved understanding of the current state of ecosystems pertaining to the provision of ecosystem services</p> <p>Outcome 2.2 ? Establishment of a PES system, increasing the monetary contribution by users for their use of ecosystem services, improved regional cooperation and understanding of PES.</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1 Key ecosystem Services and users identified</p> <p>Output 2.1.2 Ecological condition of coastal and marine ecosystems, their vulnerability and estimation of the differential between their full capacity and their current capacity identified.</p> <p>Output 2.1.3 Monetary valuation report of ecosystem services for the target countries</p> <p>Output 2.1.4 Areas identified and ranked in terms of priority</p> <p>Output 2.2.1 PES pilot schemes for Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire in place as a</p>	GET	398,000.00	1,000,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
			guide for FCWC countries			
			<p>Output 2.2.2 Effective financial mechanism for ecosystem services collection in place</p>			
			<p>Output 2.2.3 Monitoring system of ecosystem services established and socio-economic impacts.</p>			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Coastal and Marine Nature-Based Solutions Scheme in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire	Technical Assistance	Outcome 3.1 Improved management of ecologically important ecosystems for the provision of ecosystem services through NBS.	<p>Output 3.1.1 System for verification of adherence to NbS Standard criteria and IUCN environmental and social safeguards (ESMS) established and functional</p> <p>Output 3.1.2 Stakeholders engaged in determining NBS selections through co-design. Plan in place for NBS projects.</p> <p>Output 3.1.3 NBS pilot projects in place with consistent monitoring</p>	GET	1,246,500.00	4,800,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: Capacity, coordination and knowledge management	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 4.1 Capacity development and Cross-cutting regional institutional arrangements</p> <p>Outcome 4.2 Project knowledge available to stakeholders and partners in the Gulf of Guinea</p> <p>Outcome 4.3 ? Improved regional coordination for scaling up of NBS and PES</p>	<p>Output 4.1.1 Capacity development and leadership training, with specific women centred training sessions.</p> <p>Output 4.1.2 A regional technical working group established for MSP, PES, NBS</p> <p>Output 4.1.3 <u>In-country training and capacity building for MSP taken place</u></p> <p>Output 4.2.1 Knowledge management plan developed, implemented, and evaluated</p> <p>Output 4.2.2 Lessons learned documented, best practice guidance developed, including gender mainstreaming</p>	GET	252,600.00	4,000,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
			g and knowledge disseminated			
			Output 4.2.3 IW Learn linked with stakeholder dialogue platform and updated with best practice materials			
			Output 4.3.1 Funding proposal developed to initiate scaling-up process			
Sub Total (\$)					2,859,600.00	14,800,000.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
	GET				140,400.00	700,000.00
Sub Total(\$)					140,400.00	700,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)					3,000,000.00	15,500,000.00

Please provide justification

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Donor Agency	World Bank - ProBlue	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	14,000,000.00
GEF Agency	IUCN EU mangroves project	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,500,000.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				15,500,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The co-financing from the Work Bank - WACA covers technical assistance in Marine Spatial Planning financed by PROBLUE. This is a fund that focuses on MSPs and advancing the blue economy therefore can leverage knowledge and data for the projects? MSP activities. THE IUCN EU MANGROVES PROJECT FALLS UNDER THE IUCN REGIONAL PORTFOLIO ON NBS, MOBILISED TO BUILD CAPACITY ACROSS WEST AFRICAN COASTLINES TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE, THROUGH ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE.

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	3,000,000	270,000	3,270,000.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					3,000,000.00	270,000.00	3,270,000.00

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 (\$)

100,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

9,000

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	100,000	9,000	109,000.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					100,000.00	9,000.00	109,000.00

Core Indicators

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
350,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
350,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	350,000.00	60,000.00					

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)
25000.00	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)

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

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

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
25,000.00	2,500.00		

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
70,000.00	70,000.00		

Indicator 5.1 Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia

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

LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE
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Indicator 5.3 Marine OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 8 Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
27,000.00	27,000.00		

Fishery Details

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	120,000	14,000		
Male	105,000	11,000		
Total	225000	25000	0	0

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

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

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

The economic, social and environmental context for the project is provided in **Section 3.1 of the ProDoc**. A more detailed description of the environmental problems, root causes and barriers is presented in **Sections 3.2 and 3.3 of the ProDoc**. Here are a large number of issues associated with degrading ecosystems, the provision of ecosystem services, declining food security and livelihood opportunities, habitat functioning, extreme weather and socio-economic issues in the Gulf of Guinea. These can be attributed to four key interlinked, mostly transboundary issues: Ecosystem Degradation; Climate Change; Erosion and Biodiversity Loss.

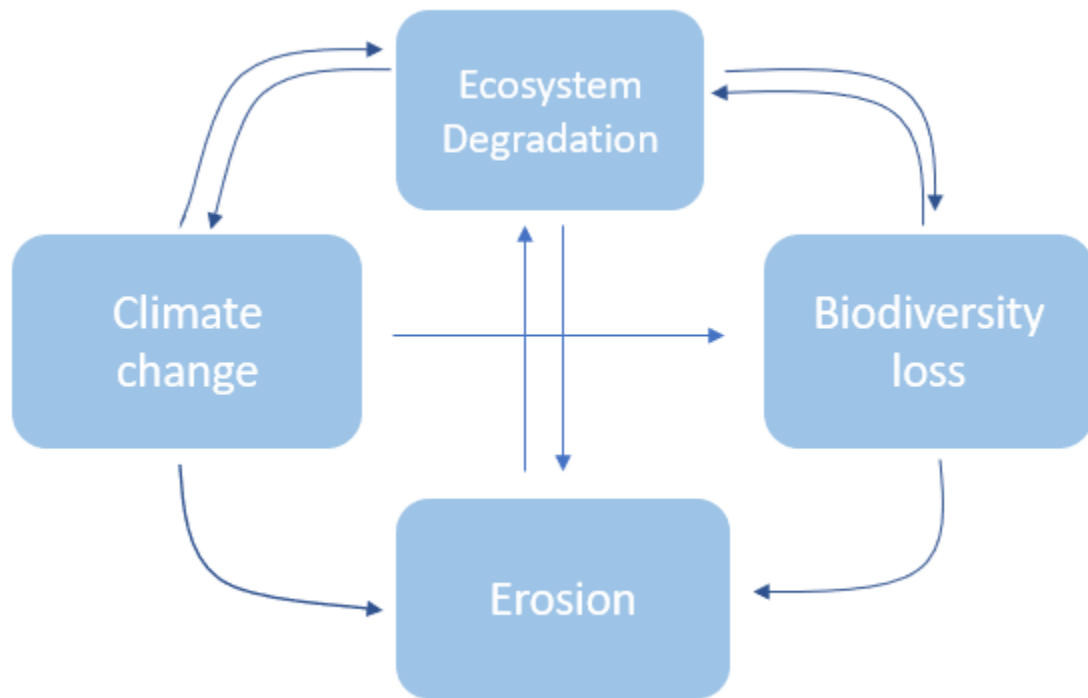


Figure 1. Key regional issues and their interlinked nature. Arrows indicate direct impacts on other key issues by the origin issue.

Figure 1 highlights that these four overarching key issues, which encompass a number of threats and interacting other issues, underpin the regional problem that is driving loss of livelihoods, food security

and coastal stability. They do not act independently, and thus a holistic approach that accounts for the role of ecosystems in the delivery of services is needed.

- The further social, economic and environmental threats have been expanded upon and have taken a more project specific focus since the PIF, and have been reassessed and moved from where they were previously placed in the PIF (as the key issues/transboundary problems) to here, where these are threats that exacerbate the key issues outlined above. These are detailed in **Section 3.3.1 of the Prodoc** but can be summarised as:
 - ? Unsustainable fishing practices
 - ? Uncertainty regarding ecosystem status
 - ? Habitat destruction and alteration
 - ? Decline in water quality
 - ? Climate change
- The root causes have been expanded upon in **Section 3.3.2 of the Prodoc** but can be summarised as:
 - ? Limited knowledge of the dependencies of fisheries and other sectors on healthy ecosystems for the long-term viability;
 - ? Currently, there are limited integrated systems for management of ecosystems, particularly pertaining to the use of resources in a spatial sense;
 - ? Those benefiting from ecosystem services are not paying for them, and there is a lack of stewardship for the coastal and marine ecosystems;
 - ? The current system for management of marine resources is fragmented and conservation efforts seldom operate on the principles of nature-based solutions (NBS), which put ecosystems and societal wellbeing at the heart of resource management;
 - ? Absence of alternative livelihood opportunities;
 - ? Population increase and associated economic development pressures; and
 - ? Weak compliance with environmental regulations.
- The barriers that delay or frustrate progress in overcoming the key issues and addressing the root causes have been further detailed since the PIF. These are presented in **Section 3.3.3 of the Prodoc** but can be summarised as:
 - ? Inadequate policy and regulatory frameworks that incorporate environmental health. As in many countries, the environment often ranks behind many other sectors in the list of decision-makers priorities;
 - ? Technical and financial capacity constraints;
 - ? Inadequate partnerships between public and private sector; and
 - ? Inadequate participation, gender inclusion and social safeguards.

2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

The governments of Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, as well as the other member states of the FCWC have established national and regional policy agendas that integrate transboundary water resource management, institutional development, and capacity building development. The international community has provided support to national and local stakeholders to advance this agenda through a series of transboundary projects targeting different sectors and geographic areas.

A full description of present, past and planned interventions in the target areas at both the national and regional levels, as well as relevant GEF funded projects can be found in **Sections 6.3.1 ? 6.3.3 of the ProDoc**. An analysis of these interventions results in the key gaps identified below.

Regional

For the FCWC region, there is currently no regional level framework for MSP. Through this project, developing a sub-regional level framework for the three target countries will benefit the member countries enormously given the transboundary nature of the majority of the resources in question (to later be used as example for region). With this regional framework, the countries can then fill in their respective parts with national spatial plans to generate a coherent cross-border, collaborative system for management.

At present, there are no well-established PES schemes at the regional level, given the newness of this concept in the region. Regarding NBS, some regional level activities are taking place, even if not always called NBS. These are usually funded by reliance on external donors. This project's proposed PES schemes will fill the gap of in-country generated funds to finance NBS.

Outlined below is the status of MSP, NBS and PES in the three target countries, as well as other areas relevant to this project for which gaps will be filled through its implementation.

Ghana

The MSP process is still in its infancy in Ghana, with initial efforts focusing on the preplanning and analysis stages. This has involved reviewing existing legislation and policies to make recommendations for legislative changes for MSP. So far, there has been only one national MSP project (i.e. the Mami Wata pilot project under the Abidjan Convention)

Ghana piloted the Mami Wata project for 12 months which aimed to strengthen national and regional action to capture the value of marine and coastal ecosystems through a dual approach, building capacity through training and applying State of Marine Environment Assessments, CBD EBSA and MSP, in an IOM framework. The Mami Wata Pilot Project has four main interlinked components which seek to;

- I. Develop capacities on the application of State of Marine Environment Assessments, CBD EBSAs and MSP, in an IOM framework,
- II. Develop tools, methods and processes for its application,
- III. Shape policy frameworks

IV. Create pilot projects serving as hubs for capacity development.

The project was piloted in the Western Region (Jomoro, Ellembele, Nzema East and Ahanta West districts). The scope of the project was 50m contour inland and 200 Nautical Miles offshore (up to the EEZ). The project was funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, and implemented by GRID-Arendal and the Abidjan Convention Secretariat.

The GFRA is currently ongoing and intends to implement MSP in Ghana. The process is still in its infancy. In March 2022, a stakeholders meeting was organised in Ghana on the possibility of implementing MSP.

Ghana does not have any PES.

In terms of NBS, the Pra Estuary Community-Based Fisheries Management Plan of the Western Region of Ghana was developed with funding support from the USAID/ Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project Plan. The Management Plan includes nature based solutions to restore degraded mangrove areas important to the fisheries.

The Integrated Flood and Drought Management and Early Warning for Climate Change Adaptation is being implemented in Ghana (June 2019 to June 2023). The project is being funded by the Adaptation fund.

In 2016, Ghana updated and reformulated the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) with the view to mainstreaming biodiversity in national development and protecting and conserving our valuable biological resources in all the ecological zones. The NBSAP seeks to conserve and manage terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity to ensure sustainable and equitable benefits to all Ghanaians now and in the future. The plan puts strong emphasis on developing systems and technologies that will protect threatened species while promoting sustainable management of the endangered natural environments. The innovative aspects of the plan are measures to safeguard parts of the deep marine environment that are particularly rich in biodiversity. The plan seeks to create MPAs in light of existing protection mechanisms. The NBSAP was funded by the Government of Ghana.

The current project will improve collaboration between fisheries, environment, local government, finance, and traditional authority. It will also improve articulation between research and public policies.

Togo

In Togo, implementation of MSP is still in its early stages. At present, only the MSP Implementation Authority has been designated. This designation is not yet formal. There is not yet a legal act to confirm this designation even if all actors recognize that the High Council for the Sea (an institution attached to the Presidency of the Republic) represents this authority. A training workshop on MSP for the actors of the HCM Service was organised in December 2021. This workshop helped to understand the MSP process and to define an ongoing agenda for the establishment of steering and technical

committees of experts for the development and implementation of the MSP. The texts for the establishment of these two committees are being adopted.

The pilot site for the implementation of the MSP in Togo would be a national level planning as there is only 50 km of coastline. This planning should cover the entire EEZ of Togo. However, Togo is in the process of delimiting its maritime borders with Benin and Ghana. The results of this process are very important for defining the actual limits of the MSP in Togo.

In terms of PES, there are no initiatives related to PES that have been and are being carried out in Togo.

The activities of NBS in Togo concerning the protection of the coast in the framework of the WACA coastal protection project. It concerns the protection of the transboundary coastline segment between Agbodrafo in Togo and Grand-Popo in Benin. Specifically, the project consists in setting up protection infrastructures for the Togo-Benin transboundary coastline segment between Agbodrafo and Grand-Popo. The technical studies proposed various solutions for protecting the coastline. Among the recommended solutions are hard and soft methods, strategic retreat, passive surveillance and mixed solutions. As a result of these technical studies, the overall development solution for the study area includes the following features

- ? Construction and extension of short natural rockfill groynes;
- ? Recharging of the sand traps with sand;
- ? Creation of a sandy barrier at the top of the beach;
- ? Filling and vegetation of the lagoon arm,

Apart from the WACA project, no other activity has NBS-related facilities. It is likely that Lome Terminal Containers will develop NBS-related tools for the management of its terminal, given the requirements of its financial partners. However, we do not have data on this initiative.

In the area of marine fisheries, no NBS-based initiatives are available.

The main gaps that this project will fill are on several levels:

The institutional level: The project will strengthen Togo's institutional framework for the development and implementation of these three tools (MSP, PES and NBS). It is a matter of building, with the actors of the different sectoral ministries, an operational framework for the development and implementation of these tools. To do this, the project will have to set up a federating coordination unit that brings together the three key sectors: the High Council for the Sea, the ministry in charge of the environment, and the ministry in charge of the maritime economy and fishing.

On a technical level: it is necessary to conduct a training process with a technical committee composed of actors whose skills have been identified within the various key sectors. It will not be only an inter-institutional committee, but above all a technical committee. This group should facilitate the development and implementation of the three tools. If necessary, the regional bodies of IUCN and FCWC will have to support Togo in the selection of the members of this committee and ensure not only

impartiality, but also the identification of the skills that will be needed. This committee will then have to develop tools to mobilise all stakeholders in the implementation of the project.

On a financial level: The financial resources currently available will not be able to guarantee the development and implementation of all phases of these three tools. The resources of this project will need to be used as seed money to generate resources to continue the process for all three tools.

Côte d'Ivoire

In terms of MSP, there have been efforts underway by the Mami Wata Project under the Abidjan Convention to evaluate the potential for integrated planning, but as of yet no national scale spatial plan is in place for the entire coastline of the country. As part of the implementation of the project relating to the Integrated Management of the Marine and Coastal Area from Abidjan to Assinie (GIAMAA) that the Ivorian Antipollution Centre (CIAPOL) is carrying out, a Marine and Coastal Spatial Planning of the Grand-Bassam is in progress and will be sanctioned by a spatial management plan for the said area. The MSP pilot project area is bounded to the north by the Abidjan Grand-Bassam highway (A100), to the south at a distance of 10 km from the baseline where the B?lier platform is located, to the west by the village Modest and to the east by the village Mondoukou. It has a total area of 27,500 ha including 20,150 ha of marine waters and 7,344 ha of land and lagoon area. Grand-Bassam is a wetland which has been designated a Ramsar site, in accordance with the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, ratified by Côte d'Ivoire on February 3, 1993. This Ramsar site provides essential benefits to local communities and contributes to the well-being of all the local actors who operate it. The management plan for the marine and coastal space of Grand-Bassam is not intended to divest them of their powers, but to federate them to better coordinate their marine activities, with a view to a structured use of the space and resource sustainability. The GIAMAA project has ended while the MSP process is not yet complete. The proposed project will collaborate closely with the work that has already been undertaken to fill the gaps to ensure the development of a national level MSP.

In terms of PES schemes, there are currently no activities in place in this regard in Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire's NBS activities regarding coastal protection predominantly fall under the WACA Coastal Protection Project. This is the protection of the cross-border coastline segment. More specifically, the project consists of setting up infrastructures for the protection of the cross-border segment of the coast. The technical studies have proposed different solutions to protect the coast. See details above for Ghana regarding the project aims.

The current key gaps regarding the existing status of MSP, PES and NBS are:

- ? The lack of financial resources to complete the MSP process in Grand Bassam.
- ? There is still the development and validation of the management plan by stakeholders as well as its implementation needed
- ? The lack of a legal framework for MSP
- ? Lack of formalisation of the national agency for integrated coastal management.

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

A detailed description of Project Activities is provided in Section 4.3 of the ProDoc, and is summarised in the logframe (Table 1) below.

The specific goal of the project is to strengthen transboundary cooperation and management of fishery and other coastal resources and associated provisioning ecosystems for improved food security and sustainable livelihoods in the FCWC region. The GEF project will collaborate with and base its activities on the baseline projects that are specifically dedicated to coastal and marine resource management and restoration, and associated risks mitigation. The GEF project will consider the management of coastal and marine resources in an integrated manner, with different levels of integration:

- ? Sectoral integration - among the different thematic domains connected to oceans and coasts and represented by line ministries: fisheries, environment and biodiversity protection, other water marine space uses (energy, mines, industry, tourism) and coastal land use through marine spatial planning. (this is specific only to Component 1).
- ? Functional integration - ranging from monitoring to planning, policy-making, development, operation, enforcement
- ? Institutional integration - of different categories of stakeholders: administration, public institutions, research institutes, fishing communities, fisheries organisations, civil society, private sector, etc.

To address the challenges outlined in Section 4.1 above and meet the proposed objectives, the project focuses on 4 technical components:

- ? Component 1 - Marine Spatial Planning
- ? Component 2 - Payment for Ecosystem Services
- ? Component 3 - Coastal and Marine Nature-Based Solutions
- ? Component 4 ? Capacity building, regional coordination and knowledge management

Thus, the project aims to achieve the three following major outcomes:

- ? The relationship between ecological health and the delivery of fishery services is well understood and integrated into local, national and regional management systems in Ghana, Togo and Cote D'Ivoire, and the wider FCWC region.
- ? Improved fisheries and coastal resources management delivers sustainable functions and services to people and nature
- ? National and transboundary capacity is improved for integrated management of the coastal zone of the FCWC

These outcomes will collectively address environmental challenges. All these will be achieved by ensuring gender equality is embedded in all interventions so benefits will reach the population in an inclusive and equal manner. The project will ensure in particular that most vulnerable groups, including women and youths, are benefiting from the implementation of the activities and the project outcomes. The theory of change of the project (figure 6 in prodoc and below the logframe in this document) shows that Component 1 of the project will focus on conducting Marine Spatial Planning in

the three target countries, complementing the work already done in the Mami Wata, WACA and other projects. Through this exercise, the ecosystems most likely to generate payments will be identified targeted and mechanisms will be put in place for funds to be made available in Component 2. The funds available will be invested in priority NBS activities (after initial set up costs by the project) contributing to the protection and conservation of the ecosystems generating the payments (examples of payments are outlined in **Section 4.3ii of the Prodoc**). The areas involved in PES and NBS activities will be together, to highlight the synergies between the environment, its health and the delivery of fisheries resources. Capacity 4 on Capacity Building and Knowledge will support and underpin the activities of the other three component, and likewise Components 1-3 will feed in to the knowledge development and sharing of Component 4. The outputs will be the availability of marine spatial plans, the sustainable use of the ecosystems and enhanced community involvement. It will all contribute either directly or indirectly to the enhanced condition of coastal and marine habitat, provision of services and livelihoods at pilot sites in the three target FCWC countries. Ultimately, the project will also ensure deeper knowledge on ecosystems and socio-economic impacts, as well as monitoring to ensure an effective contribution to global environmental benefit. The components and expected individual outcomes and respective impacts are detailed in **Section 4.3 of the Prodoc**.

Project Components	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Activities
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<p>Component 1: Marine Spatial Planning in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1 ? Mapping and management of coastal and marine areas improved by establishing a sub-regional MSP to enhance cooperation and support partnerships for financing.</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1 Review of current management strategies and identification of elements pertinent for the MSP synthesised</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collection of all existing management strategies, governance arrangements, policies and regulations regarding the use of the coastal zone and maritime area. 2. Conduct a governance assessment following the IUCN Natural Resource Governance Framework (NRFG). 3. Collection of all existing documentation on population vulnerability along the coast. 4. Identifying fish stock distributions. This will allow for linkages with users and ecosystem services to be identified in Output 2.1.1. 5. Use of the ecological assessments in Output 2.1.2 to map ecological condition, ability to deliver services and vulnerability to climate change and anthropogenic impacts. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synthesis of all data into a status report including synergies between ecological condition, social interdependencies and economic structures; and trade-off assessments between these domains based on potential zoning options.
		<p>Output 1.1.2 Established MSP in place at the national and sub-regional levels</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition of MSP system/format to be used to harmonise all existing spatial plans through ongoing projects in each country. 2. Developing a first blueprint through extensive stakeholder consultations and MSP planning sessions. 3. Develop and publish protocol for the MSP practitioners for use and application. 4. Upload to the online platform (developed in Output 4.2.1) an open access MSP interface that allows users to filter the various layers and provide further input.

<p>Component 2: Payment for Ecosystem Services in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire</p>	<p>Outcome 1.2 ? Improved organisation of regional integrated ecosystem services</p>	<p>Output 1.2.1 Regional Accounting Monitoring system in place for ecosystem service</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extract the environmental accounting component from the UNECA BEVTK and apply it at national and regional levels using information from previous activities. 2. Develop guidelines for the use of toolkit. 3. Training sessions on the use of the toolkit. <p>Link the evaluation toolkit to the MSP. This will ensure feedback to the MSP to ensure it is up to date with the latest available data.</p>
	<p>Outcome 2.1 ? Improved understanding of the state of ecosystems pertaining to the provision of ecosystem services</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1 Key ecosystem Services and users identified</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Selection of relevant ecosystem services (linked to fisheries) from the coastal and marine ecosystems. This will use the IUCN ecosystem services nomenclature to define the services most relevant to this project. 2. Determine direct users and users using fish stock distribution and all available information, including use analysis of women. 3. Define linkages and flows between ecosystem services and the users. This will be evaluated fishery by fishery (e.g. pelagics, shrimp, crab, etc.) using the distribution of stocks identified in the previous activity.

<p>Output 2.1.2 Ecological condition of coastal and marine ecosystems, their vulnerability and estimation of the differential between their full capacity and their current capacity identified.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collection of existing documentation on past and existing work on blue ecosystems and ecological health. 2. Collection of all existing documentation at the watershed level on pollution, land-sea interactions, land-sea externalities and different factors of vulnerability. 3. Collection of all existing documentation regarding vulnerability to climate change. 4. Collection of satellite and aerial materials of all defined ecosystems. 5. Define the ecological condition of the various ecosystems using info collected in above activities 1-4 and GMES. 6. Estimation of the full ecosystem services capacity and define differences between current health status with optimal functioning.
<p>Output 2.1.3 Monetary valuation report of ecosystem services for the target countries</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synthesis of monetary valuation report to determine monetary losses due to current ecological health (compared to fully functioning) and monetary gain associated with ecosystem restoration
<p>Output 2.1.4 Areas identified and ranked in terms of priority for intervention, including gender considerations</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of priority areas for intervention report using the information from outputs 2.1.1 to 2.1.3, the NbS Standard criteria (Output 3.1.1) and IUCN ESMS (Appendix G).

Outcome 2.2 ? Establishment of a PES system, increasing the monetary contribution by users for their use of ecosystem services, improved regional cooperation and understanding of PES.

Output 2.2.1 PES pilot schemes for Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire in place as a guide for FCWC countries

1. Identification of site selection criteria using all information generated from the entirety of the MSP component and report of output 2.1.4. This will include extensive stakeholder analysis, and proposition of the site on the stakeholder dialogue platform.
2. Gender, and stakeholder analysis and detailed action plan developed and implemented based on site selection and governance analysis to ensure equal distribution of benefits and involvement in decisions around intervention, through enhanced governance.
3. Identify fisher organisations that wish to collaborate. Using the stakeholder dialogue platform, community groups or organisations can engage to engage in the PES scheme.
4. Development of materials for education around constraints, stages, impacts etc.
5. Learning exchanges with other PES projects with site visits.
6. Development of guidelines for implementation.
7. Define the beneficiaries of the payments (who will conduct future NBS) as in Output 2.2.2.
8. Workshop with each site (3 sites, 1 in each country) and cost-benefit analysis to define PES type (based on context, can be monetary value or effort based).
9. Development of a roadmap for each pilot project including specific activities, coordination, monitoring criteria (Output 2.2.3), financing and formal agreements in line with Output 2.2.2.
10. Implementation of pilot projects led by the RPMU, FCWC coordination unit and PES and NBS WGs. This will need to take place once the monitoring system in Output 2.2.3 has been established.

		<p>Output 2.2.2 Effective financial mechanism for ecosystem services collection in place</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultation with the State Authorities in each country to determine possible mechanisms. 2. Define each possible financial mechanism into practical applications specific to the identified intervention sites in line with Output 2.2.2. 3. Stakeholder consultations with PES pilot sites and associated NBS agencies as identified in Outputs 3.1.1 and 3.2.2 to give the different options, how they could take place, the use of funds generated and determine the practicalities and details including governance arrangements. 4. Formalise the financial scheme document. This will form the annex of the contract between the users, conservation agents, the state and the FCWC. 5. Signing of PES and NBS agreement.
		<p>Output 2.2.3 Monitoring system of ecosystem services established and socio-economic impacts.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of monitoring criteria collectively with all actors involved in the pilot PES schemes. This will take place as is in Activity 9 of Output 2.2.1. 2. Organisation of data collection using fisheries and conservation personnel. 3. Feedback into MSP of selected areas the data of Activity 2 above. 4. Progress report and update of dialogue platform.

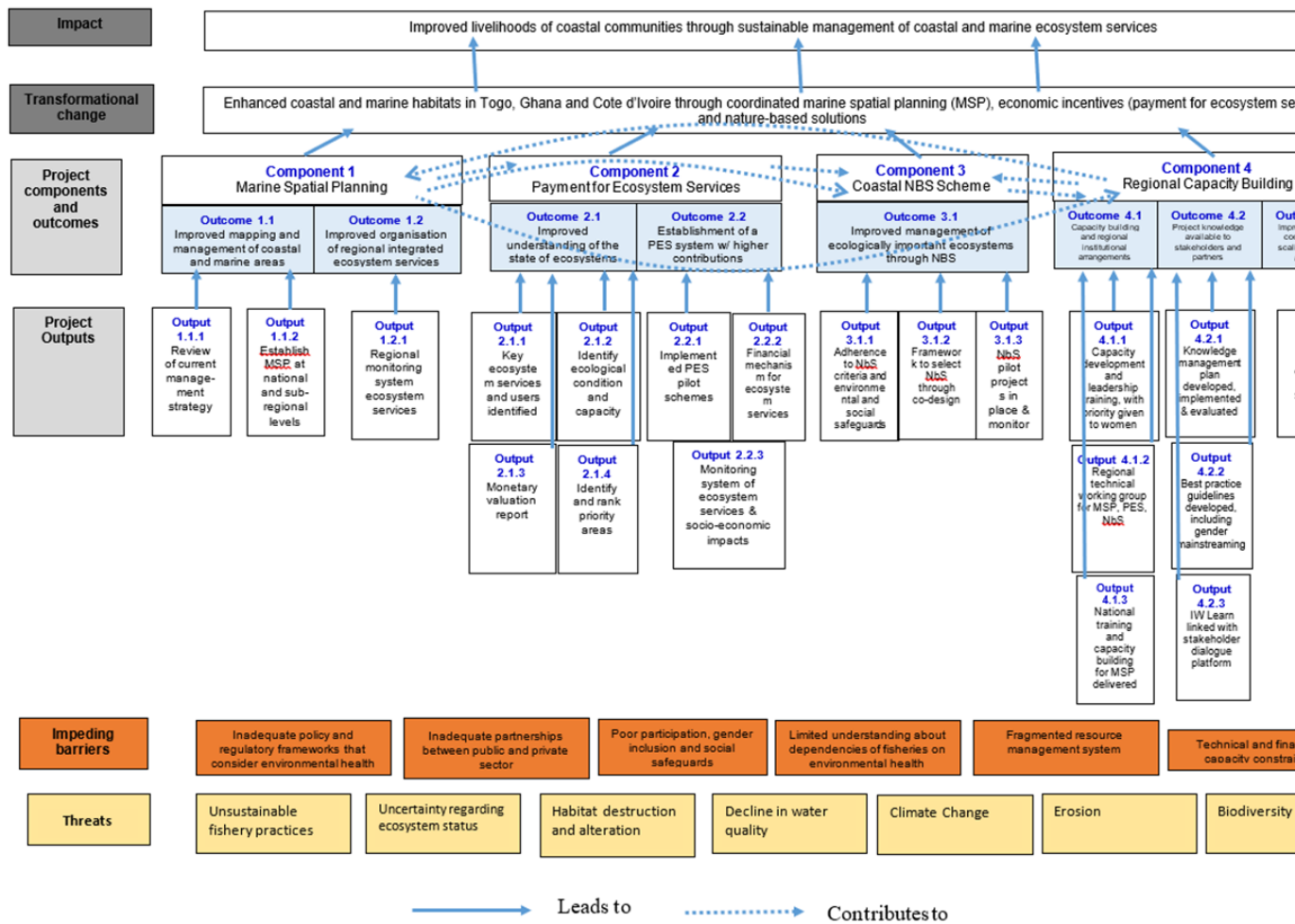
<p>Component 3: Coastal and marine nature based solutions scheme in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1 Improved management of ecologically important ecosystems for the provision of ecosystem services through NBS.</p>	<p>Output 3.1.1 System for verification of adherence to NbS Standard criteria and IUCN environmental and social safeguards (ESMS) established and functional</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop the mechanism for verifying adherence of an intervention to the NbS Standard (by use of the NbS self-assessment tool) 2. Identify level of correspondence between the NbS Standard and the IUCN environmental and social safeguard requirements and identify gaps 3. Expanding the NbS self-assessment tool by establishing additional indicators and criteria to close gaps between NbS standard and IUCN ESMS 4. Specify procedures and responsibilities for ongoing monitoring adherence of interventions against the NbS standard, improving percentage match against the NbS criteria and integrating required improvements and adaptation into intervention.
		<p>Output 3.1.2 Stakeholders engaged and plan designed for determining NBS selections through co-design.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define the co-design process and develop a guidance document. 2. Workshop with stakeholders to define specific NBS activities for critical ecosystems identified in Output 2.2.1. 3. Development of a roadmap for generating future regional NBS programmes or activities.

		<p>Output 3.1.3 NBS pilot projects in place with consistent monitoring.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training seminar with field work on basic technical aspects on NBS for identified communities at intervention sites 2. Implementation of defined NBS activities. 3. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of ecological, economic, and social improvements associated with successful habitat restoration and other NBS activities.
<p>Component 4: Capacity building, regional coordination and knowledge management</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1 Capacity development and Cross-cutting regional institutional arrangements</p>	<p>Output 4.1.1 Capacity development and leadership training, with specific women centred training sessions.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institutional capacity needs assessment and review, synthesis of report, including gender mainstreaming requirements. 2. Training for RPMU, National project coordinators and National focal points on responsible GEF project implementation, including results-based management, safeguards, risks, and adaptive management, with specific focus on the needs of women and approaches to ensure inclusion. 3. Training seminar on leadership for WGs to develop national capacities to ensure efficient multi-sectoral coordination within the FCWC region, with specific focus on ensuring the inclusion of women.
		<p>Output 4.1.2 A regional technical working group established for MSP, PES, NBS and</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Online meetings to define the terms of reference (TOR), scope, and mandate of the WGs. 2. Establish a regional technical working group (WG) for each component.

	<p>Output 4.1.3 In-country training and capacity building for MSP delivered, ensuring inclusivity of women</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. National and sub-regional capacity assessment to determine ability to design and implement national and regional level MSP. 3. Preparation of background documents and training materials for training and capacity building. 4. National training sessions for the WG and key actors in three phases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Theoretical background, how to use tools, learning materials etc. b. Learning by doing where practical development of the MSP will take an iterative approach with documented learning processes to develop further training materials. <p>Follow up capacity building and training.</p>
<p>Outcome 4.2 Project knowledge available to stakeholders and partners in the Gulf of Guinea</p>	<p>Output 4.2.1 Knowledge management plan developed, implemented, and evaluated</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparation knowledge management plan 2. Implementation, monitoring and evaluation of knowledge management plan including ways forward for the stakeholder dialogue 3. Develop an online stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform, hosted by the FCWC for stakeholder dialogue (through forums and postings) and the MSP portal.

	<p>Output 4.2.2 Lessons learned documented, best practice guidance developed, including gender mainstreaming and knowledge disseminated</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synthesis of a progress, monitoring and evaluation report 2. Development of best practice guidance reports for MSP, NBS, and PES, each with specific guidance on gender mainstreaming in the activities 3. Stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform updated with lessons learned, best practice guidance, and monitoring data, including all knowledge products from other outputs, as indicated in Section 4.11 of ProDoc. 4. Dissemination of knowledge products and best practice guidance to communities, and where relevant, in collaboration with existing NBS activities in the region (such as WACA). 5.
	<p>Output 4.2.3 IW Learn linked with stakeholder dialogue platform and updated with best practice materials</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linking of project stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform with IW LEARN, ensuring all knowledge products and best practice guidance are uploaded. 2. IW LEARN webinar on lessons learned and best practice guidance, including gender mainstreaming.
<p>Outcome 4.3 ? Improved regional coordination for scaling up of NBS and PES</p>	<p>Output 4.3.1 Concept note developed to initiate scaling-up process</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using the areas of critical intervention needed at the regional level in Output 2.1.2, the processes applied and lessons learned from the PES and NBS pilots can be used to show the efficacy, benefits and outcomes to encourage further investment from the public and private sectors for a regional scaling up program. This activity will deliver a concept note for regional scale up program.

Figure 6 Theory of Change



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

This proposed project for GEF-7 'International Waters' focal area will be complementary to the above initiatives and projects by specifically providing the tools to integrate coastal planning efforts done under WACA and other initiatives into a broader planning and management of the marine and coastal zone using the Marine Spatial Planning tools. Since WACA focuses on coastal management this project will build upon it to deliver MSP across the entire EEZs, filling the gaps of where existing MSP efforts have already taken place by supporting the development of spatial plans for the areas not already covered at the national level (see Section 3.6.4 of the prodoc). The planning efforts done by WACA on the coastal zone will be complemented by the current project. Ultimately, the proposed project aims at delivering a sustainable new model for the management of natural resources in the Gulf of Guinea, particularly as they relate to coastal fisheries and the delivery of increased availability of fisheries related ecosystem services. The project will facilitate the establishment of a regional marine spatial planning (MSP) process, which will put in place the basis for valuation of fishery services and allow for the set-up of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) at the national level. The establishment of MSP and PES will not take place without the GEF funded project. Once the MSP and PES schemes are in place, this will enable nature-based solutions for the protection, restoration and regeneration of ecosystems that provision services that underpin fisheries service producing ecosystems through the funds generated by

PES. This is a truly innovative approach brought to the FCWC for developing a greater understanding of the ecosystems, their condition, the services they provide, and how to use these to generate financing for the implementation of conservation measures such as NBS. In addition, the project will support the implementation of existing sustainable management plans for coastal and marine areas (those relevant to fisheries), such as those developed by the WACA project and these plans will be integrated into the regional MSP. Based on this, the paragraphs below provide details on the project's four components as they are currently planned.

Keeping in mind that balancing economic development with environmental management of the coastal and marine areas in the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) countries, this proposed GEF 7 funded project main objective will be to support investment opportunities in the sectors relevant to this area, mainly fisheries management, coastal management and biodiversity conservation. It will do this through mobilising the fisheries private sector (such as through fishers organisations at various levels including artisanal, semi-industrial and industrial) (fisheries, tourism, extractive industries, etc.) to invest in the ecosystems from which they receive services are beneficiaries, as well as evolving a sustainable development trajectory for the coast, fisheries and biodiversity, which will ensure the longevity of the products and thus provide grounding for encouraged investment. In that perspective, the project intends to develop a strategy at the FCWC level that will lead to sustainable management of coastal and marine resources in the member countries by mainstreaming environmentally sound practices in sectors that are critical to the regional economy. These investments will address the drivers of degradation and therefore prioritise activities in the sectors related to fisheries and conservation, coastal management and development, extractive industries, shipping, biodiversity conservation, and tourism through the expansion of marine protected areas, payment for ecosystem services and nature-based solutions in general (under the stewardship of the IUCN nature-based solutions standard).

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

The following sections 5.1 and 5.2 are additional information to that provided in the PIF.

5.1 Baseline scenario

Limited knowledge or connection made between the use of resources and the health of ecosystems. There are little to no activities in the three countries that strengthen the understanding of the critical role that ecosystems have in provisioning resources. Some ongoing activities by NGOs and other projects such as WACA generate understanding of the importance of healthy ecosystems, but limited processes are in place to provide the link between resource delivery and restoration efforts. Integrating this into community and national decision making understanding is unexpected without the proposed GEF project.

Limited information, and perpetual gaps in effective monitoring and evaluation on ecosystem health and their capacity to deliver services. Few valuations of the ecosystems in the three countries have been undertaken, with the best estimation of habitat functionally and value only for the wider Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) by Tregarot et al (2020). This LME resolution is good for continental or global monitoring, but lacks the resolution needed to do meaningful local level interventions to increase habitat functionality. At present, there are no identified ongoing or planned projects that do ecosystem valuations or habitat functionality, the closest is the activity by the Mami Wata project to develop capacities on the application of State of Marine Environment Assessments in Ghana.

Implementation of coastal resource management approaches with limited information on ecosystems and the services they provide. There is a wide range of projects in place, or ministerial efforts to manage coastal and marine resources, such as WACA, ResIP, and the work of NGOs, the planning efforts by the Mami Wata Project in Ghana, CIAPOL in Cote d'Ivoire and the High Council for the Sea in Togo. Given the above two points, there is a gap between what is unknown, and what is planned. Without support on understanding where the critical ecosystems for intervention are, and their functionality and vulnerability, the proposed management interventions are not implemented on the basis of best available evidence and might be intervening in the wrong areas entirely.

Patchwork MSP, with borders not integrated. Existing and planned efforts for MSP are, in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire, only at pilot site/local level and do not account for the entirety of the coastal zone. Togo's MSP intentions are at the national level. Even with national scale up in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire, there is a lack of recognition of the transboundary nature of coastal and marine resources and the need to view adjacent coastlines as part of a wider large marine ecosystem to truly harness the benefits they provide. If the proposed plans for MSP delivery in the three countries continue without the support of the proposed GEF project, where one administrative boundary meets another, there will be many inconsistencies (for example, where an MPA might end at the border of Ghana, it could meet an area zoned for infrastructure development, such as a port ? which would have detrimental effects on the MPA and its purpose).

Little, to no understanding or application of payment for ecosystems services. At present, there is a limited understanding at all levels of what PES schemes are, how they work, and their potential to generate funds by involving the private sector in obligatory restoration or conservation activities. Given this, there are no ongoing PES schemes related to coastal or marine resources in any of the countries. The uptake of PES globally has been slow, and is thus expected to remain an underutilised approach without the intervention of the proposed project.

Weak coordination among actors, mostly sectoral. At the national level, Ministries use few platforms to ensure coordination among activities. Nevertheless, there is a lack of coordination of certain activities that are relying on different ministries. Coastal resource use and management is a good example with parallel intervention from the associated Ministries of (i) Environment to restore coastal ecosystems and manage marine environments (ii) of Fisheries managing fishery related resources (iii) of Planning for their identification of specific sites of activities. The current situation will use weak national intergovernmental approaches to support the coordination among multisectoral actors. Through non-dedicated resource to support this process, the business-as-usual scenario will easily fall under a lack or inefficient coordination among actors, reinforce parallel intervention and therefore limited effects of activities on coastal restoration and the delivery of ecosystem services.

Limited sustainability of restoration interventions due to missing local social structures to manage natural resources. Communities' consultation in the PPG stage of the proposed project stressed use conflicts, declining catches due to unregulated fishing activities, and lack of support from the public sector. Little is done on the ground to solve these problems. The project will support the local structure through its sensitization and co-development in coastal restoration and sustainable management.

5.2 Incremental reasoning

Increased connection and understanding between the use of resources and the health of ecosystems, integrated into practice. The proposed project is designed around increasing the connection made by all actors regarding the health of the ecosystems and the delivery of ecosystem services by using pilot PES and NBS schemes to demonstrate the benefits of creating financial incentives to maintain or restore the environment on which activities and livelihoods depend, using fisheries as the pilot and case studies.

Harmonised MSP, with transboundary overlap at sub-regional level to match the transboundary nature of marine ecosystems and associated resources. Building on the existing MSP work in each country, the proposed GEF project aims to harmonise the existing plans, and planned spatial planning initiatives to ensure that a) they are all accessible in the same manner, and therefore can be scaled up evenly, b) all stakeholders and actors can understand local, national and regional plans as they are mapped in the same way and c) that administrative boundaries do not conflict with natural ecosystem occurrences and zoning of activities accounts for transboundary patterns at the regional level.

Improved inter-sector integration and actor cooperation. The proposed project shall strengthen the capacities of the key stakeholders from the equipment and tools, to the integrated management of coastal and marine resources, including data and information sharing procedures at transboundary level. Under this scenario, stakeholders, including vulnerable groups / local communities, will have improved means to coordinate, manage resources and mitigate related risks in the three countries. They will also be empowered to undertake the responsibility as stewards of their environments. The overall impact will be improved local and regional governance and a reduction in the vulnerability to declining fish stocks and climate change.

Deeper knowledge on ecosystems and socio-economic impacts, as well as monitoring to ensure an effective contribution to global environmental benefit. Taking a national and sub-regional approach to identifying critical ecosystems, their vulnerability, and functionality - as well as the role they play in socio-economic systems - will help overcome the existing paradigm of patchwork approaches to ecosystem assessments by projects and activities which have site specific foci. A truly integrated assessment of the social, economic and environmental elements of the ecosystems through the use (and training thereof) of the BEVTK provides a unique opportunity to develop an understanding of the system at play at a much higher resolution than currently exists. It is also a mechanism which can continue to provide this information if those trained in its application apply the newly generated data from the proposed project and beyond. This is a specific opportunity that will allow for well-informed decision making that puts the value of nature at the heart of policy or protection discourse.

PES pilot projects in place that act as lessons learned and examples for the upscaling of PES activities that can support sectors beyond the fisheries. This project can fill an inherent gap and act as the key example for PES activities in the region, and act as a base for learning exchanges for future activities and projects.

Alignment of local restoration activities and livelihoods generation. The project will generate a deeper focus on conservation and sustainable use of coastal resources associated with the fisheries as well as the increase consideration of traditional knowledge. Through the integration of the proposed GEF

project with other ongoing activities, the project will contribute to a better understanding of the role of biodiversity and ecosystem health and its opportunity in improving local livelihoods. The project offers the potential for diversified livelihoods through conservation activities related to the delivery of fisheries services that generate income to communities that may be affected by declining fish stocks, pollution, displacement or the effects of climate change.

Reinforcing innovative approaches for financing conservation activities. The proposed project involves the private sector into the financing of conservation and restoration for their own benefit. The PES schemes will thus continue to generate funds even after the project finishes, which will continue to support the pilot sites' maintenance and restoration. Furthermore, integrating the private sector into conservation activities is a novel approach to financing that can inform future interventions for improved management in at the local and national level.

Scaling up sharing opportunities. The proposed GEF project will support delivering data and strategies to the online platform to make open access (i) local assessment and coastal ecosystems area knowledge; (ii) lessons learned from the project to support other on-going and planned processes in others countries, particularly in Africa..

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

Changes further to the PIF:

The monitoring activities in Outputs 2.2.2 (of PES), 3.1.1 and 3.2.4 (of NBS) are directly related to monitoring the delivery of the effective contribution to Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs), as well as more project specific indicators.

The core indicators have changed slightly from the PIF stage (as described in Section E of this document), thus at this stage, the GEBs that the project will trigger will be the following:

- ? An increase in marine protected areas created and managed for conservation and sustainable use of around 60,000 hectares
- ? An increase in the area of land restored (particularly wetlands and mangroves) of around 2,500 hectares
- ? An increase in the area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity of around 70,000 hectares
- ? The shared water ecosystem of the Gulf of Guinea under new or improved cooperative management.
- ? Increased management of overexploited stocks to bring 27,000 metric tons of commercially important species to sustainable levels.
- ? Multi-state cooperation to reduce threats to international waters.
- ? Reduced pollution load in international waters from nutrient enrichment and other land-based activities through better managed resources and NBS

- ? Restored and sustained freshwater, coastal, and marine ecosystems goods and services, including globally significant biodiversity, as well as maintained capacity of natural systems to sequester carbon through PES and NBS
- ? Reduced vulnerability to climate variability and climate-related risks, and increased ecosystem resilience through all three components of the proposed project.

7) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Additional information since the PIF:

This project is particularly innovative, as there are no PES activities that take place in any of the FCWC countries, especially relating to fisheries. This approach generates the financing needed to maintain the sustainability of local fishery activities through an alternative governance mechanism (see PIF).

The project's potential for successful replication and reoccurrence, within the three countries and to other international water resources is high both at the regional, national, and local levels. It is built around capacity development of the agencies in charge of fisheries and coastal resources management in the participating countries. The project shall also support the baseline project aiming at paving the way towards the establishment of a regional coordination unit that will hold a regional mandate to strengthen integration among the country members not only of the three intervening countries, but the wider FCWC region. At the national level, sites will be selected to facilitate cross-border learning processes among local communities. Particularly, this project intends to disseminate best practices lessons related to production sectors that threaten the coastal ecosystems, and to develop capacities for using those best practices.

At the regional level, the FCWC, whose mandate is to promote regional best practices and institutional development in terms of fisheries management, also targets collaboration with environmental entities, on which the basis of this project has been developed. Through capacity development of the FCWC members and partner organisations to prepare and adopt the novel systems for the protection of international waters and biodiversity, as well as livelihoods and food security, the replication of the project achievements will be taken further as the FCWC becomes an even more established institution. Lessons learned on the transboundary coastal and marine resources will be transferred to other areas within the Gulf of Guinea area through the wider FCWC countries (Liberia, Benin and Nigeria) and notable connection with the GCLME.

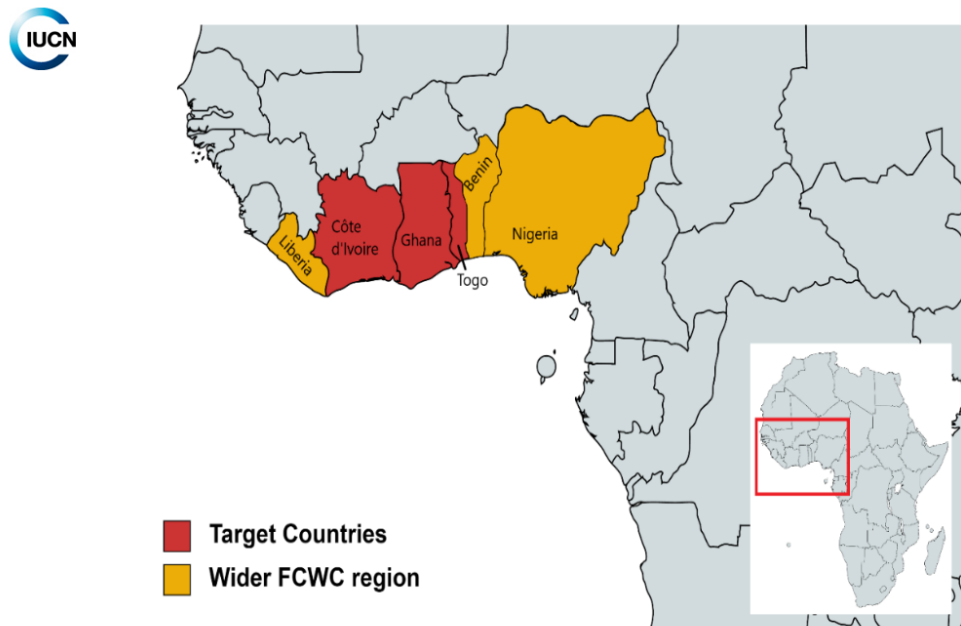
In terms of scaling up opportunities, the proposed GEF project will support delivering data and strategies to the online platform to make open access (i) local assessment and coastal ecosystems area knowledge; (ii) lessons learned from the project to support other on-going and planned processes in others countries, particularly in Africa. A conception note will be delivered as part of the project activities for the scale-up of the project.

Please refer to **Section 4.9 of the ProDoc** for further details on the economic and institutional sustainability of the project.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

The proposed project will intervene in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire at the national level to start, with wider impacts and lessons learned dispersed to the wider FCWC region (Figure 2). Specific site locations for pilot projects will occur along the coastline of the three target countries, but will only be determined within the project implementation phase following extensive stakeholder consultations and analyses of impacts and benefits.



2

Figure 2. Geographical coverage of the target countries and wider FCWC region.

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:

Technical partners will undertake activities under contractual arrangements. The project will coordinate with all the sector initiatives implemented by other agencies in the sub-region.

Successful development and implementation of the project will depend on the active participation of stakeholders. To assure this, stakeholder involvement is recognized as an integral requirement for each project component. In endorsing the project document, the countries of the region recognize and embrace the need for this direct involvement by all stakeholders in the project process. The primary stakeholders in this project include:

? Public Sector: ministries responsible for fisheries, environment, community development, and education;

? Local government authorities;

? Local community-based decision bodies

? Community-based organisations: groups, cooperatives, associations and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO): national trusts, conservation associations, women's organisations, and organisations of fisher-folk

? Local communities: traditional rulers, fishermen, fish traders and processors, women, coastal communities, etc.

? Private Sector: fishing fleets, fisher associations and organisations

Professionals: researchers, sociologists, environmental managers, biologists, teachers, curriculum specialists, media practitioners

The project components design process, during the PPG mission, benefited from a large consultative approach. An inception mission, a field mission and a validation workshop have been led successively in each of the three countries and were occasions to identify and meet potential partners for the project activities implementation. Regional, national and local stakeholders from the national institutions; the private sector and the civil society have been extensively consulted during these missions. All stakeholders provided the project preparation team with ideas, needs and expectations about the project, during the bilateral meetings, the two regional workshops, 3 national workshops and the field missions:

? An inception workshop on 2nd June 2022, enabling to start the discussions about the logical framework, the coordination and correct stakeholders to involve.

? **Three national meetings for discussing the stakeholders and project development details** (June 8th, 10th, and 15th 2022) the stakeholders held work sessions and came up with recommendations for the outcomes, outputs, activities of the two components of the project, as well as for the institutional set-up for the project management and coordination. Their recommendations have been fully incorporated in the results framework.

? **A field mission** held on 19th October to 1st November 2022, that enabled us to get an overview of the local challenges, to visit the pilot sites and meet coastal populations, water users and decentralised administrations.

? **A final validation workshop**, held on 21-22 November 2022, where representatives of the proposed executing agencies and the GEF national focal points reviewed and amended the core contents of the draft Project Document: the logical framework, list of activities and institutional setup. Their recommendations have been incorporated.

The full list of stakeholders engaged throughout the PPG process can be found in Appendix B the Prodoc.

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Analysis of stakeholders, influences and importance to the project. The stakeholder engagement plan can be found in **Section 6.2 of the ProDoc**, and a list of all stakeholders engaged during the PPG stage in **Appendix B of the Prodoc**.

The stakeholder engagement plan developed after the field missions indicates how the various stakeholders will be involved, and at what stages. In order to attain sustainability, the activities are designed to address interests of large groups of stakeholders, and a significant portion of the budget is designated for this task.

The engagement strategy of the project relies on a same 3-step workflow, that shall be implemented whenever stakeholders' participation is expected:

1. Capacity building;
2. Technical support for an accurate diagnostic;
3. Consultation and dialogue involving all the stakeholders towards the elaboration and implementation of development strategies, management plans, adaptation measures, or resilience strengthening activities.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

<u>Country</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Purpose of Engagement</u>	<u>Mechanism / process of Engagement</u>	<u>Responsible Entity</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Frequency and Timing</u>
-	<u>Regional bodies</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Regional</u>	<u>Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC)</u>	<u>Budget Project implementation</u>	<u>IUCN agreement WG and RPMU meetings Publication of quarterly and annual reports Sites visits under WGs</u>	<u>IUCN RPMU</u>	<u>Included in project resources</u>	<u>Project start Monthly Annual Quarterly</u>
-	<u>West Africa Coastal Areas Management Programme (WACA)</u>	<u>Field major implementing partner. Technical capacity building of staff. Harmonising restoration and sensitisation efforts.</u>	<u>NBS activities, WG meetings, stakeholder workshops, site visits.</u>	<u>FCWC RPMU and WGs</u>	<u>Included in project resources</u>	<u>Quarterly Annually</u>
-	<u>Abidjan Convention</u>	<u>Capacity building on MSP and coordination among projects. Ensuring proper consideration of their existing work in the project.</u>	<u>MSP Activities, workshops and WG meetings</u>	<u>FCWC RPMU MSP WG</u>	<u>Included in project activities</u>	<u>Project start Biannually</u>
-	<u>Government agencies (national)</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Ghana</u>	<u>Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development</u> <u>Fisheries Commission</u> <u>Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources</u>	<u>Ensure their agendas and priority areas are considered. Capacity building on all activities through involvement in WGs and</u>	<u>Participation on WGs Capacity building and training exercises Financial agreement</u>	<u>FCWC RPMU WGs</u>	<u>Included in project resources</u>	<u>Project start Monthly Annual Quarterly</u>

<u>Country</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Purpose of Engagement</u>	<u>Mechanism / process of Engagement</u>	<u>Responsible Entity</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Frequency and Timing</u>
	<u>Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development</u> <u>Ministry of Finance</u> <u>Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation</u> <u>Ghana Maritime Authority</u> <u>Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority</u> <u>Land Use & Spatial Planning Authority</u> <u>Ghana Development Planning Commission</u> <u>Ghana Petroleum Commission</u> <u>Ghana Hydrological Services</u> <u>Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture</u>	<u>training activities.</u>				
<u>Cote d'Ivoire</u>	<u>Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research</u> <u>Directorate of Fisheries</u> <u>CIAPOL /Ivorian Antipollution centre (MSP)</u> <u>Maritime Police and Port Security Directorate (DGAMP)</u>	<u>Ensure their agendas and priority areas are considered.</u> <u>Capacity building on all activities through involvement in WGs and training activities.</u>	<u>Participation on WGs</u> <u>Capacity building and training exercises</u> <u>Financial agreement</u>	<u>FCWC</u> <u>RPMU</u> <u>WGs</u>	<u>Included in project resources</u>	<u>Project start</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Annual</u> <u>Quarterly</u> -

<u>Country</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Purpose of Engagement</u>	<u>Mechanism / process of Engagement</u>	<u>Responsible Entity</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Frequency and Timing</u>
	<u>Directorate General of the Autonomous Port of Abidjan and San Pedro PAA</u> <u>The Ministry of Interior</u> <u>Ministry of Water and Forests</u> <u>Ministry of Tourism Spatial Management</u> <u>Ministry of planning</u>					
<u>Togo</u>	<u>Haut Conseil pour la Mer (HCM) / High Council for the Sea</u> <u>Le Ministère de l'Environnement et des Ressources forestières (MERF) / The Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources</u> <u>Le Ministère de l'économie maritime, de la pêche et de la protection côtière / The Ministry of Maritime Economy, Fisheries and Coastal Protection</u> <u>Ministry of Culture and Tourism</u>	<u>Ensure their agendas and priority areas are considered.</u> <u>Capacity building on all activities through involvement in WGs and training activities.</u>	<u>Participation on WGs</u> <u>Capacity building and training exercises</u> <u>Financial agreement</u>	<u>FCWC</u> <u>RPMU</u> <u>WGs</u>	<u>Included in project resources</u>	<u>Project start</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Annual</u> <u>Quarterly</u> -

<u>Country</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Purpose of Engagement</u>	<u>Mechanism / process of Engagement</u>	<u>Responsible Entity</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Frequency and Timing</u>
	<u>Minister of Grassroots Development, Youth, and Youth Employment</u>					
	<u>Minister of Commerce, Industry and Local Consumption</u>					
	<u>Prefecture Maritime</u>					
-	<u>Local decision making bodies</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Ghana	<u>Coastal Development Authority</u>					
	<u>Regional House of Chiefs</u>					
Cote d'Ivoire	<u>FENASCOOPCI (National Federation of Cooperative Societies and Actors in the Fishing from Ivory Coast)</u>					
	<u>USCOFECI Union of women's fishing cooperatives in C?te d'Ivoire</u>	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>Decentralized structure</u>					
Togo	<u>The Parliamentary Committee on the Environment and Climate</u>					
	<u>Municipalities in coastal areas (represented by Municipality of Gulf 1, Lacs 1 and Lacs 3)</u>					

<u>Country</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Purpose of Engagement</u>	<u>Mechanism / process of Engagement</u>	<u>Responsible Entity</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Frequency and Timing</u>
-	NGOs	-	-	-	-	-
Ghana	<u>Environmental Justice Foundation</u>	Informed and ensure coherency of activities with national NGO standards. Field activities support and training	Mass media information Public disclosure on website (SEP, stakeholder consultation, project document)	IUCN FCWC RPMU WGs Field Staff	Included in project activities	Quarterly Annually
	<u>Hen Mpoano</u>					
	<u>Development Institute</u>					
	<u>A Rocha</u>					
	<u>Global Fishing Watch</u>					
Cote d'Ivoire	<u>Conservation des Especies Marines</u>	Field activities support and training	-	-	-	-
	<u>NGO WASTCON</u>					
Togo	<u>Togolese Society for Nature Conservation (AGBO-ZEGUE NGO)</u>					
-	<u>Research institutions & universities</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Togo	<u>University of Lom? (Research institution)</u>	Providing high-level scientific personnel for the WGs	Technical support to WGs	RPMU WGs	Included in project resources	Regular WG meetings Annually At reporting and publication stages particularly
Ghana	<u>Ghana Meteorological Agency</u>		Mass media communication			
	<u>Ghana Space Science and Technology Institute</u>		Publication of job opportunities for technical consultants and national coordinators			
Cote d'Ivoire	<u>Abidjan Oceanological Research Centre (CRO)</u>		Lessons learned publications developed and shared			
	<u>University of San Pedro</u>					
Private sector						
All countries	<u>Tourism operators and cooperatives</u>	Engaging in MSP consultations	MSP Consultations and workshops.	RPMU MSP WG FCWC IUCN	Included in project activities	Project start, All MSP Consultations MSP revisions associated with
	<u>Oil and gas</u>		Precise actors			
	<u>Coast guard</u>					

<u>Country</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Purpose of Engagement</u>	<u>Mechanism / process of Engagement</u>	<u>Responsible Entity</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Frequency and Timing</u>
	<u>Maritime transport companies and ports</u> <u>Other identified private sector actors</u>		<u>to be determined in project activities.</u>			<u>project activities</u> <u>Component 4 on lessons learned</u>
<u>Cote d'Ivoire</u>	<u>FENASCOOPCI</u> <u>COAPA Cote d'Ivoire</u> <u>USCOFECI Union of women's fishing cooperatives in C?te d'Ivoire (Abidjan)</u>					
<u>Togo</u>	<u>FENUCOOPET O</u> <u>Fishermen's Association of the coastal lagoon system of Togo</u> <u>COAPA Togo</u>	<u>Engaging fisher organisations and actors to establish viable PES schemes</u>	<u>PES activities, stakeholder workshops, site selection process</u>	<u>RPMU</u> <u>PES WG</u> <u>FCWC</u> <u>IUCN</u>	<u>Included in project activities</u>	<u>Project start</u> <u>Annual</u> <u>At decision, implementation and monitoring of PES schemes</u> <u>Component 4 on lessons learned</u>
<u>Ghana</u>	<u>COAPA Ghana</u> <u>National Fish Processors and Traders Association</u> <u>Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council</u> <u>National Fisheries Association of Ghana (NAFAG)</u>					
				-	-	-

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

please see Stakeholder engagement plan.

Table 2. Analysis of stakeholders, influences and importance to the project. The stakeholder engagement plan can be found in **Section 6.2 of the ProDoc**, and a list of all stakeholders engaged during the PPG stage in **Appendix B of the Prodoc**.

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Regional	Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea	Regional fisheries organisation that facilitates cooperation in fisheries management between the member countries.	Will facilitate fisheries management between Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo Assist in implementation and benefits from activities	Facilitate the activities of FCWC in managing fisheries in the region Benefit from data for policy decision	5
	West Africa Coastal Areas Management Programme(WACA)	A programme that supports studied countries to improve the management of the shared coastal resources and reduce the natural and man-made risks affecting	Assist in transfer of knowledge, foster political dialogue and will benefit from the project	Will provide data and information to improve the management of the shared coastal resources	5
	Abidjan Convention	Regional body with the aim to Protect, Conserve and Develop the Abidjan Convention Area and its Resources for the Benefit and Well-being of its People	Advisory and engagement regarding existing work and enhancing synergies for the project	Project will build on existing work done by the Abidjan convention and strengthen their synergies with national and local bodies	5
State national services					

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Ghana	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development	National policy and planning oversight of the fisheries sector	Assist in implementation and benefits from activities May influence policy formulation	Influence policy direction	5
	Fisheries Commission	Agency behind policies and regulations established by MoFAD. Responsible for all monitoring, control, surveillance, evaluation, and compliance functions in all areas of fisheries and management in Ghana	May influence the type of data needed to be collected and made available Provision of data and information on monitoring, control and surveillance, fishing vessels, oceanographic data, fish production data, closed areas	Will improve data collection and data available to the commission	5
	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	National policy and planning oversight of land and natural resources	Data and information on land and natural resources will easily be made to the project Assist in implementation and benefits from activities	Improve policy and planning of land and natural resources	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development	Local authority issues	<p>May mobilize Districts, Municipal and Metropolitan assemblies to support the project</p> <p>Liaise with local assemblies that will benefit from the project</p>	Districts, Municipal and Metropolitan will benefit in terms of spatial planning and revenue	5
	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation	National legal, policy and planning oversight of the environmental sector	<p>Intervention in line with national policies and strategies for environmental management</p> <p>Provision of biodiversity information</p>	<p>Provide information for sustainable management of marine environment</p> <p>Provide data for management of biodiversity</p>	3
	Ghana Maritime Authority	Responsible for enforcing international maritime conventions	Assist in implementation	Provide information for protection of marine environment	3
	Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority	Ship and port issues	Provision of data and information on shipping vessels, ship positions for MSP component	Improved shipping and port management through the MSP	2

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority	Agency responsible for financial regulation and management	Ensure and manage payments from the ecosystem services	Additional source for revenue mobilization	5
	Land Use & Spatial Planning Authority	Responsible for physical planning	Provision of data on human settlement, and plan extracts	Improve capacity building Tools for MSP	4
	Ghana Development Planning Commission	Responsible for social, economic and environmental development as well as institutional development and governance	Liaise with Ministries and agencies that will benefit from the project	Data and information for national planning	2
	Ghana Petroleum Commission	Regulate and manage petroleum resources	Potential petroleum resources	Information for management of petroleum resources	2
	Ghana Hydrological Services	Stakeholder engagement	Hydrological issues	Participates in the identification of sites of hydrological issues	4
	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture	Stakeholder engagement	Facilitates the interface between the project and stakeholders in tourism, culture and creative industry	Improved natural environments for fisheries also have knock on benefits for tourism sites	1

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Cote d'Ivoire	Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research	Intervenes in the environment sector through the research structures placed under its supervision, in particular the National Centre for Agronomic Research (CNRA), the Centre for Oceanological Research (CRO) It is also involved in the issue of environmental management through its universities and laboratories.	Facilitates interface between project and stakeholders and environmental research.	Project can contribute to significant data and research opportunities.	2
	Directorate of Fisheries	Technical Directorate of the Ministry of Fisheries and Animal Resources	Implementation of fisheries policy and management of fisheries resources	Sustainable and rational management of fisheries resources as a national heritage Management of fisheries stakeholders Data collections of fish production Make agents available on pilot sites	5

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	CIAPOL /Ivorian Antipollution centre MINEDD	Technical Department of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development	<p>Management and preservation of the marine and coastal environment</p> <p>Support for the preparation and development of training on MSP tools</p> <p>Synergy of previous activities on MSP in Cote d'Ivoire</p> <p>Contribute to the implementation of the Marine Spatial Planning component (MINEDD has initiated an experimental msP process at Grand Bassam where a management plan is being developed)</p> <p>-Set up a payment mechanism for the ecosystem services defined in the management plan at the level of the Grand Bassam area for the preservation and management of the environment</p>	<p>Formation on the tools of the PSM of which micro and Seaskeatch could help the actors in the implementation of the project</p> <p>Contribute to Capacity Building</p> <p>Exchange of data and information</p> <p>Sharing of experiences</p>	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Maritime Police and Port Security Directorate (DGAMP) (Abidjan)	Marine Safety	Securing activities on goods and services at marine and coastal level Monitoring the payment of ecosystem goods and services Safety	Exercises its powers along the maritime coast through external services that are the Maritime Arrondissements including that of Sassandra	3
	Directorate General of the Autonomous Port of Abidjan and San Pedro PAA	Maritime transport	Movement of ships	Management and Reception of ships Compliance with environmental standards Strict test applications Disposition	2
	Inter Regional Maritime Security Institute	Protection of marine resources and the EEZ	Security of the maritime space of the Coastal States(piracy)	Project implementation	3
	CRESMAO West Africa Regional Safety Centre	S?ret? Maritime	Intervention on the plundering of protected aquatic resources	Project implementation	3
	General management of the fishing port of Abidjan and San Pedro	Trawling handling of marine species	Shipping management information for the MSP Follow-up of landing operations of fish species	Legislative issue Compliance with the rules, ensuring the standards established in fishing (Violation of fishing laws respect for protected species)	5
	The Ministry of Interior	Administrative authorities	Facilitate project implementation	A leading role for local and regional authorities in the management of the environment and the coastal area.	3

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Ministry of Water and Forests	implement national policies relating to the sustainable management of forests, flora, wildlife and their rational exploitation	Facilitate project implementation	Project implementation Has a Directorate in charge directly of Ramsar sites including that of Sassandra-Dagbego Protection of species and protected areas	4
	Customary authority	Know about the uses and customs of the region (village chief and Niattabe)	Project support in the region Ensure that the process is completed. Consolidate structures and systems within the sector	Influence decision-making and the implementation of decisions at the local level	5
	Ministry of Tourism Spatial Management	Space management	Design and implementation of the Marine Spatial Plan Promoti on of tourist sites Enhanc ement of tourist areas	Development of national parks and nature reserves for fisheries can have knock on impacts for tourist purposes Ensures the rational use of tourist facilities in protected areas assigned to the fisheries. Monitoring ecosystem services and goods	1
	Ministry of planning	Management of space occupied by goods and services	Implement the results of the Marine Spatial Plan	Popularising ecosystem goods and services	5

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Togo	Haut Conseil pour la Mer (HCM) / <i>High Council for the Sea</i>	HCM is a coordination body for the efficiency of the State's action at sea. It is a unique inter-administration structure federating all the administrations concerning the action of the State at sea. Currently, it is the HCM that ensures the implementation of MSP in Togo.	The HCM has been designated as the implementing authority for MSP in Togo under the WACA project. In this sense, within the framework of the present project, the HCM must be strengthened in its role as the MSP implementing authority. All MSP implementation activities must be entrusted to the HCM	Ensures the coordination of the implementation of the MSP Facilitates the involvement of the different stakeholders in the implementation of MSP Supports the development and implementation of the legal and institutional framework in the MSP process	5
	Le Ministère de l'Environnement et des Ressources forestières (MERF) / The Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources	It ensures the management of protected areas in Togo. Initiatives are underway within the Ministry in charge of the environment for the creation of a marine protected area in connection with the Mono transboundary biosphere reserve. Workshops to identify needs have already been organized.	Within the framework of this project, all activities related to the creation and management of MPAs and PSE must be implemented by this ministry in order to maintain the dynamics and create synergy between actions.	Develops and ensures the management of the project related to the creation of the MPA in Togo Implements the PES procedure in Togo, Ensures that PES mechanisms are taken into account in projects and programs at the national level. Participates in the identification of project sites	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
		<p>The Office of the Environment of the Ministry of the Environment and Forestry Resources. It ensures the implementation of the environmental policy of Togo. It works mainly on the issue of climate change and pollution.</p>	<p>Within the framework of this project, all the tools related to the nature-based solution (NBS) are to be entrusted to office in charge of the environment</p>	<p>Develops and implements Nature Based Solutions procedures in projects and programs at the national level</p>	4
		<p>Through the National Environmental Management Agency (ANGE), the Ministry in charge of the environment ensures the procedures for the elaboration of Environmental and Social Impact Studies, environmental and social management plans and their implementation.</p>	<p>Within the framework of this project, the National Agency for the Environment (ANGE) would participate in order to include the tools developed in the environmental and social impact studies.</p>	<p>ANGE is the institution that develops and ensures the implementation of the ESIA and ESMP procedures.</p> <p>Ensures that NBS and PES procedures are taken into account in projects and programs at the national level</p>	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Le Minist?re de l'?conomie maritime, de la p?che et de la protection c?ti?re / <i>The Ministry of Maritime Economy, Fisheries and Coastal Protection.</i>	Through the office of Fisheries and Aquaculture, this ministry ensures the management of artisanal and industrial fishing, including aquaculture.	The office is the implementing institution for fisheries management activities. Within the framework of this project, all activities related to fisheries management are to be implemented by this office.	<p>Ensure that the NBS and PES integrate the sustainable management of fish stocks</p> <p>Ensure that the MPA establishment process takes into account the objectives of sustainable fisheries management.</p> <p>Ensure that the MSP equitably includes the place and role of fisheries stakeholders to guarantee the sustainability but especially the economic development of coastal fishing communities.</p> <p>Participates in the identification of project sites</p>	4
		Office of the Coastal Protection	To date, the office of Coastal Protection has not yet been created within The Ministry of Maritime Economy, Fisheries and Coastal Protection. If this service is created, it should play an important role in the implementation of this project.	Ensure that the MSP incorporates assessments of the vulnerability of the coast to climate change and human activities.	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Prefecture Maritime	The Maritime Prefect is vested with the general administrative police power at sea (Maritime security)	Organization of the security and safety at the sea. One of the key stakeholders for the MSP, the creation and the management of the AMP.	Participates in the consideration of security and defence issues in the MSP. Facilitates the implementation of MSP by ensuring accessibility to the marine and coastal space for all users. Participates in the identification of project sites	5
Local decision and management bodies					
Ghana					
	Coastal Development Authority	Focal point on coastal issues, facilitate stakeholder engagement	Help in identification of project sites	Ensures that the needs of coastal regions are reflected in MSP, NBS and PES	5
	Regional House of Chiefs	Facilitate stakeholder engagement regarding traditional issues	Help in identification of project sites	Ensures that the needs of local communities are reflected in MSP, NBS and PES	5
Cote d'Ivoire					

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Decentralized structure	Regional council town hall	Facilitate project implementation	Implementation a strong local influence on the actors in the implementation	5
Togo	The Parliamentary Committee on the Environment and Climate	Stakeholders participation	Contribute to the development of the legal framework within the implementation of the project.	Participate in the development and adoption of the legal framework for the implementation of SHP, NBS and PES.	5
	Municipalities in coastal areas (represented by Municipality of Gulf 1, Lacs 1 and Lacs 3).	Stakeholders participation	Focal point of the Coastal Municipalities for the marine and coastal resources management.	Participate in the development and implementation of SHP, NBS and SEP procedures within the project. Organize a regular monitoring of the tools put in place within the framework of the project.	5
NGOs					
Ghana	Environmental Justice Foundation	Biodiversity conservation	Interested in environmental issues, can provide essential stakeholder insights	Ensures that the local environmental needs are reflected in MSP, NBS and PES	5
	Hen Mpoano	Fisheries resources conservation, management and governance	Interested in fisheries issues, can provide essential stakeholder insights	Training and education on NBS and PES	5

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	Development Institute	Community based natural resources management	MPAs and CREMAs	Training and education on PES	3
	A Rocha	Natural resources management	Income generating activities	Help in awareness creation Training and education on PES	4
	Global Fishing Watch	Ocean governance	Interested in ocean governance and equity, can provide essential stakeholder insights	Improved ocean equity	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Cote d'Ivoire	Conservation des Espèces Marines	<p>Community based natural resources management, eco-tourism, MPAs, income generating activities</p> <p>-Conservation of animal species living in the marine environment</p> <p>-Community management of natural resources, ecotourism</p> <p>- Contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of women on the creation of basic infrastructure</p>	<p>Promote ecotourism in the region and benefit local populations</p> <p>Assist the team in the implementation of the project</p> <p>Creation of a marine protected area of Grand Béréby in July 2022</p>	<p>Carry out visits to communities and nesting and feeding sites of hawksbill turtles, leatherbacks, green and olive trees on a large area around Grand Béréby on 54 km of beaches</p> <p>Assist in the creation of a marine area at the end of the project</p>	4
	NGO WASTCON Network of marine turtle conservation and biodiversity stakeholders in West Africa	Co-management	Contribute to identifying priority areas for intervention.	<p>Raise awareness of the project in coastal communities by organizing community events, etc.</p> <p>Establish and maintain strong relationships with communities as part of the project.</p> <p>Coordinate community training on payment for ecosystem services and nature-based coastal solutions</p> <p>Assist the teams in the implementation of the project</p>	4

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	SOS Forests	Management of forest resources, and prevention of degradation of forest environments (including mangroves).	Resources and support particularly regarding mangrove ecosystems. Contribute to identifying and managing engagements at priority areas for intervention.	Raise awareness of the project in coastal communities by organizing community events, etc. Establish and maintain strong relationships with communities as part of the project. Coordinate community training on payment for ecosystem services and nature-based coastal solutions Assist the teams in the implementation of the project	4
Togo	Togolese Society for Nature Conservation (AGBO-ZEGUE NGO)	Marine and coastal natural resources management and conservation. Interested in mangroves restoration, fishing issues, marine turtles and marine mammals monitoring	Participates in the identification of project sites; Mobilize stakeholders at the local level for their effective participation in the different steps of the project.	Ensures that the needs of local communities are reflected in MSP, NBS and PES tools. Ensures that mangrove and biodiversity conservation sites are taken into account in the MSP Participates in the monitoring of the implementation of NBS and PES in the projects in the coastal zone.	4
Research institutions					

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Togo	University of Lomé (Research institution)	Conducting research activities, data collection on marine and coastal area	Support the project by providing data for the implementation of the project. Participates in the identification of project sites	Ensures that mangrove and biodiversity conservation sites are taken into account in the MSP Participates in the monitoring of the implementation of NBS and PES in the projects in the coastal zone.	4
Ghana	Ghana Meteorological Agency	Weather issues	Provision of weather information	Ensure timely provision of weather information	3
	Ghana Space Science and Technology Institute	satellite information	Provision of satellite communication and environmental variable obtained from satellite images	Enhanced provision of satellite images	2

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
Cote d'Ivoire	Abidjan Oceanological Research Centre (CRO)	Ocean Research Centre for Sustainable Management of Marine and Coastal Environment and Resources Mission to carry out the research necessary for the aquatic environment with a view to its preservation and the implementation of a rational management of natural aquatic resources	Scientific monitoring	Provide experts on the project. Participate in the collection of data for the implementation of the project Map the target spaces Technical and scientific support in the implementation of the project	5
	University of San Pedro	University in Oceanography	Thematic University on the Marine Environm ent	Proximity to some marine protected areas in the south-west of Cote Ivoire Follow-up of data collection activities Conduct research activities	4
Private sector					
Cote d'Ivoire	FENASCOOPCI (National Federation of Cooperative Societies and Actors in the Fishing from Ivory Coast)	Maritime artisanal fishing	Can provide essential fisheries data for the MSP and PES components. Provision of information on gear fishing areas , locations, species caught	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	USCOFECI Union of women's fishing cooperatives in Cote d'Ivoire (Abidjan)	Artisanal maritime fishmongers	Effective public awareness of the importance of payment for ecosystem goods and services	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5
	COAPA Cote d'Ivoire	Small scale fisheries professional association	Mobilize the artisanal fishermen for their effective participation in the different steps of the project, especially PES scheme	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5
Togo	FENUCOOPETO	Marine fisheries resources management	Participates in the identification of project sites Mobilize the artisanal fishermen for their effective participation in the different steps of the project, especially PES scheme	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5
	Fishermen's Association of the coastal lagoon system of Togo	Coastal lagoon system fisheries management and mangroves restoration. Involved in Fisheries and mangroves restoration issues	Participates in the identification of project sites Mobilize stakeholders for mangrove restoration for their effective participation in the different steps of the project.	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	COAPA Togo	Small scale fisheries professional association	Mobilize the artisanal fishermen for their effective participation in the different steps of the project, especially PES scheme	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5
Ghana	COAPA Ghana	Small scale fisheries professional association	Mobilize the artisanal fishermen for their effective participation in the different steps of the project, especially PES scheme	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5
	National Fish Processors and Traders Association	Association of fish traders and processors, including women	Mobilize the artisanal fishermen for their effective participation in the different steps of the project, especially PES scheme	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5
	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council	Focal point on issues bordering on artisanal fishers, facilitate stakeholder engagement	Provision of data and information on artisanal fishing gears, fish production and value addition	Impact of PES schemes User of services Improved delivery of fisheries resources	5

Country/ Region	Name of the organisation	Main activities in relation with the project	Potential influence of stakeholder on the project	Potential influence of the project on the stakeholder	Importance of stakeholder (1-5)
	National Fisheries Association of Ghana (NAFAG)	Focal point on issues bordering on Ghana Tuna Association (GTA), Ghana Inshore Trawlers Association (GITA), Ghana Inshore Fishermen Association (GIFA), facilitate stakeholder engagement	Provision of data and information on tuna and inshore fishing gears, fish production and value addition	Ensures that the needs of tuna and inshore fishers are reflected in MSP, NBS and PES	5

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier; Yes

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

During the PPG, a gender analysis ? available in **Appendix A of the ProDoc** - at the level of the three countries was carried out with in-country consultants and based on the existing literature. The gender analysis at the level of site interventions is part of the project implementation. Indeed, under the output 2.2.1 where a gender strategy is developed and implemented, one activity is to develop and implement

a gender strategy by producing a gender analysis and a detailed gender action plan at the beginning of the project. The gender action plan proposed below (Table 3) will serve as a basis for the production of a more detailed action plan at the beginning of the project.

Concerning the objectives and components of the project, the gender issue will be addressed by empowering and enhancing the well-being of women. In this sense, the project will implement different activities with a socio-economic focus and awareness raising and advocacy activities to change negative view and treatments. Regarding socio-economic activities, priority will be given to income-generating activities where women, organized in associations or cooperatives in each of the pilot villages, will have specific support from the project in technical, financial and organizational aspects.

Table 3. Gender Action Plan for the proposed project outcomes and outputs.

Gender Action Plan					
<u>Project's Impact Statement:</u>	<u>Enhance coastal and marine habitat in Ghana, Togo and Cote d'Ivoire through coordinated spatial planning (MSP), economic incentives (PES), and nature-based solutions.</u>				
<u>Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):</u>	<u>Benefits and opportunities for women are increased through participatory involvement in the design and implementation of project activities.</u>				
<u>Project activities</u>	<u>Gender equality aspects or objective(s) within each activity **</u>	<u>Indicator ***</u>	<u>Target mid-term</u>	<u>Final Target</u>	<u>Responsible institution</u>
<u>Project's Outcome 1.1 Statement:</u> -	<u>Mapping and management of coastal and marine areas improved by establishing a sub-regional MSP to enhance cooperation and support partnerships for financing.</u>				
<u>Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):</u>	<u>Women's active collaboration in the development and management of MSP from varying sectors, through participatory approach and based on monitoring scheme that promotes an adaptive and anticipatory management.</u>				
<u>Output 1.1.1 Review report of current management strategies and identification of elements pertinent for the MSP</u>	n/a	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-

Output 1.1.2 Established MSP in place at the national and sub-regional levels	Participation of women across all relevant sectors (including fisheries, tourism, transport and others) in the drafting process of the MSP	% of women among all participants of the project activities	-	Minimum of 40% of staff and 50% of stakeholders involved are women	FCWC and RPMU
Project's Outcome 2.1 Statement: -	Improved understanding of the state of ecosystems pertaining to the provision of ecosystem services				
Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):	Improved understanding of the use and provision of resources by and to women				
Output 2.1.1: Key Ecosystem Services, users, and viable compensation systems identified -	Specific identification of use of resources by and services provided to users disaggregated by gender to have a clear assessment of the balance of use and benefits.	Presence of use and benefits of resources provided to women in report	-	Use and benefits of resource provided to women evaluated and included in report	RPMU and PES WG.
Output 2.1.2: Ecological condition of coastal and marine ecosystems, their vulnerability and estimation of the differential between their full capacity and their current capacity identified -	n/a	-	-	-	-
Output 2.1.3: Monetary valuation report of ES for the target countries	n/a	-	-	-	-

<p><u>Output 2.1.4 Areas identified and ranked in terms of priority for intervention</u></p>	<p><u>Specific identification of roles and needs of women at sites. Full gender analysis of selected sites.</u></p>	<p><u>Presence of gender analysis in site selection</u></p>	<p>-</p>	<p><u>Use and benefits of resource provided to women evaluated and included in report</u></p>	<p><u>RPMU and PES WG.</u></p>
<p><u>Project's Outcome 2.2 Statement:</u></p> <p>-</p>	<p><u>Establishment of a PES system, increasing the monetary contribution by users for their use of ecosystem services, improved regional cooperation and understanding of PES.</u></p>				
<p><u>Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):</u></p>	<p><u>Income-generating activities are designed to specifically tackle women's need and aspirations</u></p>				
<p><u>Output 2.2.1: PES pilot schemes for Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire in place as a guide for FCWC countries</u></p>	<p><u>Gender strategy specifying the different steps and resources needed for its implementation</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Active women participation in the development of funding mechanism in order to ensure that it takes into consideration women needs</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Income-generating activities are promoted based strongly on women needs and aspirations</u></p> <p>-</p>	<p><u>Number of activities developed and implemented based on gender equality</u></p> <p><u>% of women among all participants of the project activities, including M&E</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>% of Income-generating opportunities for women among all activities</u></p>	<p>-</p>	<p><u>Minimum of 80% of designed activities are successfully implemented</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Minimum of 40% of staff involved are women</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Minimum of 50% of the income generation activities support are owned by women</u></p>	<p><u>IUCN and FCWC</u></p>

<p><u>Output 2.2.2</u> <u>Effective financial mechanism for ecosystem services collection in place</u></p>	<p><u>Active women participation in the development of funding mechanism in order to ensure that it takes into consideration women needs</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Income-generating activities are designed to specifically tackle women need and aspirations</u></p>	<p><u>% of women among all participants of the project activities, including M&E</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>% of Income-generating opportunities for women among all activities</u></p>	<p>-</p>	<p><u>Minimum of 40% of staff and 50% of stakeholders involved are women</u></p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Minimum of 50% of the income generation activities support are owned by women</u></p>	<p><u>IUCN and FCWC</u></p>
<p><u>Output 2.2.3:</u> <u>Monitoring system of ecosystem services established and socio-economic impacts.</u></p>	<p><u>Specific gender monitoring & evaluation to measure progress, benefits and impacts to women, and outcomes.</u></p>	<p><u>M&E sensitive to gender aspects, including qualitative set of indicators</u></p>	<p>-</p>	<p><u>Indicators in place and monitored within monitoring system</u></p>	<p><u>RPMU</u></p>
<p><u>Project's Outcome 3.1 Statement:</u></p> <p>-</p>	<p><u>Improved management of ecologically important ecosystems for the provision of ecosystem services through NBS.</u></p>				
<p><u>Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):</u></p>	<p><u>Women's active collaboration in the development and management of NBS processes, through participatory approach and based on monitoring schemes that promote an adaptive and anticipatory management that delivers equal benefits to women</u></p>				
<p><u>Output 3.1.1 System for verification of adherence to NbS Standard criteria and IUCN environmental and social safeguards (ESMS) established and functional</u></p>	<p><u>n/a ensures women included in safeguards and standards</u></p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>

Output 3.1.2: Stakeholders engaged in determining NBS selections through co-design. Plan in place for NBS projects.	Active women participation in the development of NBS activities in order to ensure that it takes into consideration women needs	% of women among all participants of the project activities	-	Minimum of 50% of stakeholders involved are women	FCWC and RPMU
Output 3.1.3: NBS pilot projects in place with consistent monitoring.	Income-generating activities are promoted based strongly on women needs and aspirations	% of Income-generating opportunities for women among all activities	-	Minimum of 50% of the income generation activities support are owned by women	FCWC and IUCN
Project's Outcome 4.1 Statement:	Capacity development and Cross-cutting regional institutional arrangements				
Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):	Women's? active collaboration in the delivery of the project both in technical roles and as stakeholders				
Output 4.1.1 Capacity development and leadership training, with specific women centred training sessions.	Participation of women in training sessions and capacity development and leadership training Gender mainstreaming and sensitivity included in all training and capacity development	% of women engaged in training and capacity development	-	Minimum 50% women to receive capacity development and training	FCWC RPMU IUCN
Output 4.1.2 A regional technical working group established for MSP, PES, NBS	Participation of women in support of the project and in the process of all activities	% of women in advisory roles and in identified stakeholders	-	Minimum of 40% of advisory roles and staff are women and 50% of stakeholders identified make up women	FCWC

Output 4.1.3: In country training for MSP taken place	Capacity building and training to prioritise the needs of women and to provide increased opportunities for development.	% of women to receive training and capacity building support	-	Minimum of 50% of participants and 40% of staff to be given training are women	FCWC and RPMU
Project's Outcome 4.2 Statement: -	Project knowledge available to stakeholders and partners in the Gulf of Guinea				
Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):	Knowledge products specifically designed to account for the roles and needs of women and ensure gender mainstreaming.				
Output 4.2.1 Knowledge management plan developed, implemented, and evaluated	Participation of women in monitoring activities Targeting of women in knowledge management strategy	% of women engaged in monitoring and evaluation activities Women included in knowledge management strategy	-	50% women engaged in monitoring and evaluation activities	RPMU M&E Unit IUCN
Output 4.2.2 Lessons learned documented, best practice guidance developed, including gender mainstreaming and knowledge disseminated	Participation of women in lessons learned sessions Gender mainstreaming and sensitivity included in all guidance, reports and lessons learned	% of women engaged in lessons learned sessions - Gender mainstreaming included in reports	-	50% women engaged in lessons learned sessions	IUCN RPMU FCWC
Output 4.2.3 IW Learn linked with stakeholder dialogue platform and updated with best practice materials	n/a	-	-	-	-

<u>Project's Outcome 4.3 Statement:</u> -	<u>Improved regional coordination for scaling up of NBS and PES</u>				
<u>Gender-related aspects (e.g. specific indicators/targets):</u>	n/a				
<u>Output 4.3.1 Funding proposal developed to initiate scaling-up process</u>	n/a	-	-	-	-

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.

The private sector will be engaged in the processes of MSP mainly as a stakeholder role active in the region. This will include private sector actors from the various sectors relevant to MSP, including inter alia, tourism, transport, resource extraction, shipping). The private sector in Components 2 and 3, and particularly in the PES component, will be from the fisheries, whereby the private sector is involved as the beneficiary/user of the services provided by the ecosystems (in this instance of PES it will only constitute the private sector associated with the fisheries including large industrial companies which fish within the national EEZs and fisher organisations from the artisanal, semi-industrial and industrial sectors. The PES will be restricted in the project to the private sector acting on one side on the fisheries (from small-scale fishery organisations to large tuna fishing companies operating in the Gulf of Guinea and more particularly in Ghanaian waters as well as the large international fishing companies that have to invest for their Environment and Social Responsibility and to compensate for their carbon emission) and on the other side NGOs and private entrepreneurs acting into restoration and conservation (trees and plants nursery, planting, etc.).

The project will be innovative in that sense as up to date, support to ecosystems and the management of fisheries has mainly been done through public sector support and the strengthening of governments and public organizations, including the institutions in charge of fisheries management and the conservation of ecosystems. As awareness increases and corporate environmental and social responsibility are on the rise, the private sector is under pressure to offset, minimise or contribute to the amelioration of environmental harm. New markets and business models that focus on biodiversity, sustainability and social development are increasingly being developed, thereby offering investment opportunities and contributing to nature and society at the same time. Large international fishing companies with strong Environment and Social Responsibility (ESR) agendas may be particularly keen to secure co-benefits. This project will engage with the private sector by providing direction on how to prioritize investment in ecosystem services and consider trade-offs that encourage economic development while maintaining ecosystem integrity. Furthermore, PES schemes can also innovatively marry public and private money to provide enhanced funding for future projects, implementation strategies and social development, such as the NBS proposed in component 3, which would further engage the private sector in cooperating with NBS.

Given the limited capacity in the countries, the project will continue to strengthen these capacities, especially in light of the need for cooperation among various stakeholders and partners. However, the project will bring work with government institutions and partners to expand the scope of intervention and support to the private sector. For doing so, the project will support the enabling environment for having more investments and opportunities for partners to invest into the sustainable development of the Blue Economy. During PPG, a more thorough assessment of the private sector partners active in the area and how they could partner in the project activities will be undertaken, considering their involvement is critical for achieving sustainable impact in the area while at the same time maintaining livelihoods.

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):

The key risks posed to the delivery of this project are highlighted in Table 4. Mitigation measures are provided for these, but the project should also adapt and respond to any unforeseen risks that may arise during implementation.

Table 4. Risks, their categories, level of impact and mitigation measures

Risk/External Factor	Risk Category	Level of Impact	Risk Mitigation Measures
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Insufficient inter-institutional cooperation	Institutional	M	Through component 1, the project will seek to improve legal instruments and inter-institutional coordination pertaining to mangrove ecosystems management. The project will ensure that a close collaboration between the relevant stakeholders is fostered.
This is an innovative project, which covers a large landscape, and requires the engagement of an array range of stakeholders with different views/interests. Adequate project management and multi-sectoral management will be a key challenge	Operational and Institutional	M	<p>The process recruitment will be carefully done to select the best profile project coordinator to carry out the day-to-day project (terms of references whilst prepared by IUCN will also be reviewed by FCWC and project board). Among the key required assets: the project will recruit a technical advisor for each component with strong experience in stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>The project will also support the creation of 3 working groups, which will facilitate collaboration between ministries and stakeholders.</p>
Climate change impacts may constitute a threat to conservation and restoration efforts and impact the planning and implementation of activities	Climate change	M	The conservation and restoration planning processes in components 2 and 3 will take into account climate change projections in order to mitigate risks associated with such activities. All project activities will aim at strengthening the resilience of human and natural systems to the impacts of climate change. Activities undertaken as part of the project will account for climate change in their planning. For example, the zoning of activities will consider the potential necessity to adapt to shifts in uses (such as the need for fishing grounds to move as fish populations migrate with warming waters), and restoration of essential coastal ecosystems will generate resilience in coastal communities.

Disagreement or conflict between stakeholders of the pilot sites	Social	M	Regular workshops and moderated conversations will help manage conflicts. Furthermore, often the conflicts result from a lack of information or incorrect information. All of the awareness, sensitisation and educational activities will help to mitigate this to ensure actors of the pilot sites are all fully informed and aware of the process, the benefits, the potential challenges etc.
Limited interest or involvement by target communities in restoration/conservation activities and implementation of alternative livelihoods	Social	L	The project will seek permanent participatory approach from communities and local stakeholders for the implementation of all components, particularly components 1 and 3. The involvement and subsequent investments by the private sector in the local public-private partnerships platform will help maintain the involvement of stakeholders in alternative livelihoods through stimulation of entrepreneurship.
Chronic illegal mangroves deforestation may jeopardise the project conservation efforts	Social	M	As part of component 1, the project will build capacity of local stakeholders to set up monitoring and surveillance, communities-led committees in target sites. In addition, awareness-raising efforts are expected to help change behaviours toward more sustainable mangrove management.
Lack of political support to enhance inter-institutional strengthening for resilient mangrove ecosystems management	Political	L	Key decision-makers will be involved in the project implementation. The project will maintain close relationships with key authorities and update them about the progress made towards the project milestones. The project platform designed in Output 1.1.2 will provide a critical engagement point to generate political buy-in.

<p>High staff turnover within the project steering committee, project management team and line ministries</p>	<p>Institutional</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>A main focal point and a substitute will be identified in each government institution concerned during the start-up phase of the project. Dialogue between stakeholders will be promoted during the implementation phase. The decision-making, design and implementation processes within the framework of the project will be well documented, especially through the engagement platform designed in Output 1.1.2</p>
<p>Countries? vulnerability to exogenous shocks and poverty could hinder the project diversification efforts (alternative livelihoods) and result in continuous degradation</p>	<p>Economic</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>The socioeconomic assessment planned under component 2 will provide a comprehensive overview of local communities? situation from a social and economic standpoint. Taking into consideration local knowledge, it will provide key insights into economic vulnerability drivers, hence allowing the market and value chains study to consider communities? socioeconomic situations. Alternative livelihoods will be identified on an economic profitability basis to incentivize economic change and reduce poverty. In addition, public-private partnerships will aim at catalysing private investments in profitable livelihood, thus contributing to reducing poverty. The project will complement such efforts in facilitating communities? access to initial investments and creating shared investments schemes.</p>

<p>National execution partner(s) are assessed to have moderate or high risks on a selection of operational standards, making the operationalization of the project more costly and complex</p>	<p>Fiduciary</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>Before engaging partners as operational partners in project execution, micro-assessments of the operational capacity of the partner will be carried out. This is done either at the PIF or PPG stage. The partner will only be engaged if risks are low or moderate. A detailed risk mitigation plan is developed and is part of the operational partner agreement (OPA) with the national execution partner.</p> <p>It is the intention to work with national execution partners, as the project partnership can help develop operational capacities of the partners. Still, if no suitable national execution partner can be identified during PPG (meaning that the micro-assessment indicates high risk and OPA is not an option), an international partner will be engaged in the project execution.</p>
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<p>Local, regional and/or global measures to contain impacts from pandemics (such as Covid-19) and their repercussions on availability of technical expertise, engage stakeholders, and secure financing</p>	<p>Health</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>Given the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the probability of epidemic or pandemics threatening the advancement of the project is not unlikely. In case of COVID resurgence during the project, measures will be taken to ensure smooth implementation through virtual meetings, and delegation in the implementation of activities. Resilience in the project intervention logic is interpreted in a rather comprehensive fashion, and therefore includes building less vulnerable communities to pandemics, putting in place the infrastructure to build back better, such as short value chains for local markets, extension services that easily and promptly address health related concerns, so they do not become social, economic and environmental crises, etc. The project intervention logic has the potential to address critical issues around human-wildlife interaction (including increased exposure to viruses), and the landscape management plans will explicitly integrate this concern.</p> <p>To overcome concerns in mobilising the technical expertise to support project design and implementation, the project will work as much as possible with locally rooted (CSOs, NGOs, government institutes, extension services, ?) organisations and realities in order to minimise the impacts of limitations on mobility at the national and international level. Technological alternatives to face-to-face consultations will be deployed, securing proper participation and engagement of all relevant stakeholder groups, including women and youth.</p> <p>As government priorities potentially shift to address crises (health or other), the project will deliver evidence and increase its sensitization and awareness raising and capacity development efforts in order to advocate for continued</p>
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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.

Regional Decision making and planning

Steering Committee (SC): The SC will serve in an advisory capacity for project implementation activities. Proposed Steering Committee members would include the FCWC Executive Secretariat as the Secretariat. High level government representatives from participating countries would assure the Chair on a rotational basis. Representatives from national executing agencies (National Focal Points), representatives of the National Inter-governmental Committees, and major projects intervening in the FCWC countries and IUCN will be members or observers of the steering committee. The finalized list of the Steering Committee members will be completed during the project inception phase, but no later than three months. The Steering Committee will meet annually to monitor past progress in project execution, and to review and approve annual work plans and budgets. It will also be responsible for validating project's orientations, ensuring the smooth running of the project, measuring the degree of implementation of the actions planned and validating the reports. of consolidated activities and the annual assessment of the grant fund, to plan the activities for the coming year and to make recommendations to the partners.

For project implementation at regional level, FCWC will be the Regional Executing Agency and will be assisted by a Regional Project Management Unit (RPMU), hosted at FCWC Secretariat. In collaboration with the National Project Coordinators, the National Focal Points and IUCN, the RPMU will draft plan yearly plan of action and budget to be presented and approved by the Steering Committee.

National decision making and planning

The Fisheries Committee for the Central West Gulf of Guinea will be supported for project activities implementation by a lead agency representing the government in the three countries of intervention, the National Executing Agencies. In each country, the National Executing Agency shall designate a high-level representative as National Focal Point for the project. The National Focal Points will help assure intersectoral coordination within their country, as a step towards sustainability. The National Focal Point will represent the National Executing Agency in the Steering Committee meetings at regional level.

The following institutions will act as National Executing agencies:

- Côte d'Ivoire: Ministry of Animal and Fish Resources
- Ghana: Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
- Togo: Maritime Economy, Fisheries and Protection of the Coast (MEMPCC)

The National Executing Agency shall facilitate the setup of a National Inter-ministerial Committee (NIC) for the project, gathering the different sectorial institutions involved in fisheries and coastal resources management at national and local levels. The National Focal Point will be the chair of this duly appointed National Inter-ministerial Committee of the project. The committee will oversee a network of national research, governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations, which will be responsible for review project's progress and advise on the implementation of project activities at national and local levels. Through the establishment of interministerial dialogue, it is anticipated that wide involvement of many ministries and government departments as stakeholders will be assured. The meetings and work/decision of the National Inter-ministerial Committee will be supported and implemented by National Executing Agencies.

Project coordination and management

IUCN will be the implementing agency for the Project. IUCN will support FCWC to ensure execution of administrative and financial matters and will assist in key technical and scientific issues. The IUCN role will also be to consolidate results with FCWC, assist in the facilitation workshops and the convening of key stakeholders consistent with its comparative advantage in capacity building. Wherever possible, the project will take advantage of the opportunities for synergy and complementarities with other project or other GEF Agencies. Especially, the opportunities for involving the World bank funded WACA project and other projects implemented by IUCN in the target countries. and other relevant technical and financial partners in potential investment opportunities will be explored during project implementation to have a partner for follow up investments for on-the-ground activities. Specifically, it will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Supervise project implementation
- Monitor and evaluate project performance, prepare implementation review
- Provide technical backstopping to executing agencies at national and regional level
- Ensure quality control of the project workplans, budget and reports
- Liaise with the donor when necessary and to submit yearly technical and financial reports

Fisheries Committee for the Central West Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), based on its goal ?to ensure the sustainable development of the fisheries resources in the FCWC Convention Area? is entitled and has the leverage to serve as the Regional Executing Agency. Its core function will be the facilitation of the project activities and it will provide a management structure for the development and implementation of the project in accordance with the rules and procedures of IUCN and FCWC and consistent with directions provided by the Steering Committee. Its role will also be to undertake coordination with regional institutions, governments, national executing agencies and IUCN, the implementing agency. For this purpose, a contract will be signed between IUCN and FCWC Secretariat

Under FCWC, a Regional Project Management Unit (RPMU) will be established with the help of the Implementation Agency (IUCN) and staffed with a Regional Project Coordinator and an Administration /Finance Specialist

The RPMU will be responsible for:

- Provide technical guidance to national project management Units for the annual workplan and budget preparation;
- Ensure proper M&E and communication of the project progress and achievements;
- Ensure financial control and management of project budget and expenditures and reporting of the project resources;
- Ensure fluid communication between the executing and implementing agencies;
- Ensure compliance with GEF and IUCN project management procedures and standards;
- Consolidation of regional workplan and budget from national project management units;
- Procurement for the national and regional component of the project;
- Contracts administration;
- Organised trainings as planned;
- Participate in project's evaluation and audits

In collaboration with the National Focal Point and IUCN, FCWC will recruit a project coordinator in each country of intervention. The National Project Coordinator (NPC) will collaborate closely with the National Focal Point and will be in charge of project implementation under the guidance and supervision of the RPMU. The National Project Coordinator will be based in the National Executing Agency which will provide office space.

The NPC will be responsible for implementing the Project at the national level. The NPC will provide a critical link between the RPMU, other Project resource persons and the various national specialists, technical services, and organizations involved in implementing the various project components within the respective countries. He/she will undertake all day-to-day interventions, inputs and communications at the respective national level.

The role of the NPC is :

- Ensure proper implementation and follow-up of project activities ;
- Liaise with project's partners and ecosystem services users for technical and financial support and advice on implementation of activities ;
- Preparation of national workplan and budget;
- Preparation of bid document for national component of the project;
- Prepare technical reports and provide adequate financial documents to the RPMU to draft financial reports ;
- Assist with the production of tools and communication materials .

- Assist in gathering information and data for the monitoring and evaluation framework.

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.

In signing the GCLME Strategic Action Plan (SAP), the three countries of this project have agreed to actions to develop and strengthen at national and regional level policy, regulations and institutional arrangements; management measures; knowledge, awareness raising and communications; and capacity development. The proposed project components have been designed to strengthen these priority actions identified in the SAP.

The National strategies and plans under relevant conventions for each country have been outlined in Table 5 below.

Table 5: The National strategies and plans under relevant conventions for each country

Country	National plans, reports, strategies or assessments with which this project aligns
Cote d'Ivoire	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP): The project is aligned with several of Cote d'Ivoire NBSAP's priorities, including (i) Safeguarding natural environments, their functions and services, (ii) Strengthening conservation infrastructure, (iii) protection and sustainable use of biological diversity, (iv) citizen mobilization and dissemination of knowledge about living things, (v) strengthening national coordination, resource mobilization and international cooperation.
	The Cote d'Ivoire Ministry for Animal and Fishery Resources' Strategic Plan for the Development of Livestock, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PSDEPA,) alongside the National Agriculture Investment Programme, aims to mobilise resources for the sustainable development of fisheries resources particularly in areas of ensuring food security and governing the use of fishery resources. This aligns to the work of this proposed project through its potential to improve management of fishery resources and contribute to the longevity of food/fish producing ecosystems.

The project is in line with the Abidjan Action Plan for the protection and enhancement of the marine environment and coastal areas of the West and Central African region, the Convention relating to the cooperation for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Zones and the Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution in Cases of Emergency. The Abidjan Convention has emphasized regional cooperation for the protection of the marine and coastal environment as a whole. Indeed, the Abidjan Convention is a framework agreement dealing with the fight against coastal erosion, the creation of marine protected areas, the fight against marine pollution in the event of a critical situation, the assessment of the impact of activities on marine and coastal environment, sustainable development and integrated coastal zone management. As for the Protocol, it specifically deals with critical situations at sea and coordinates activities practised at sea.

Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals of 1987 including the Memoranda on marine turtles of the Atlantic coast of Africa and on West African populations of the African elephant.

The Department of Wildlife and Hunting Resources of MINEF has been retained as the designated administrative authority for the monitoring of Ramsar sites in Cote d'Ivoire, including the Ramsar site of Sassandra Dagbego. Overall, with regard to the mangroves of the Sassandra Dagbego complex, the State has set up institutions to manage them according to the rules of the art.

Ghana

NBSAP: The project is aligned with all of Ghana's NBSAP's priorities, including (i) to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity into all sectors of government and society programmes; (ii) to improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity; (iii) to enhance the benefits of biodiversity to all sectors of the economy; (iv) to enhance implementation of national biodiversity action plan through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

The government of Ghana has produced a comprehensive national plan: Fisheries Management Plan of Ghana: A National Policy for the Management of the Marine Fisheries Sector. It aims to provide a strategic framework for reversing the declining trend of fish resources and establish a sound management regime to ensure that fish stocks are exploited sustainably in an enhanced environment. This project aligns to several of its objectives including (i) to protect marine habitats and biodiversity; (ii) to strengthen participatory decision making in fisheries management(co-management); (iii) to reduce the excessive pressure on the fish stocks.

Manual for the preparation of Spatial Plan:

The project perfectly aligned with the Manual for the preparation of Spatial Plan that was developed in 2011 and is currently official manual for preparation of spatial planning. The manual presents the planning processes and approaches involved in the preparation of the three levels of spatial plans namely, Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs), Structure Plans (SPs) and Local Plans (LPs). It gives indications of plan initiation processes, roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders, resources needed including data requirements and data sources for the various levels of plans, approaches to stakeholder consultations, approval processes and monitoring and evaluation processes. The manual seeks to ensure that there is consistency in the plan preparation processes for the three levels of plans in the country.

	<p>Ghana Medium-Term Development Plan ? Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All: The project is aligned with the Ghana Medium-Term Development Plan ? Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All: This is the sixth in the series of development policy frameworks prepared over the past two decades. The framework builds on the successes and addresses the challenges of its immediate predecessor, the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA II). The purpose of the policy framework is to operationalise the vision, policies and programmes outlined in the President?s Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP) presented to Parliament in fulfilment of Article 36, Clause 5 of the Constitution. It becomes the implementation framework to guide the overall economic and social development of the country.</p>
	<p>Coastal and Marine Conservation Drive Project (COMADRIP) The project is aligned with the Coastal and Marine Conservation Drive Project (COMADRIP) COMADRIP seeks to create a pilot site for the design and development of a Marine Protected Area (MPA) management strategy for the Greater Cape Three Points area that feed into the national process for coastal conservation in Ghana. COMADRIP in collaboration with local communities, NGOs and state actors will promote local economic development, nature protection and will contribute to the achievement of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The project will work with local communities to conserve critical coastal habitats and promote coastal livelihoods. It will also contribute to important policy outcomes on MPAs at the local and national scale.</p>
Togo	<p>National Action Plan for Adaptation (NAPA): The project is aligned with Togo?s NAPA in terms of climate change adaptation, specifically natural resources long term access, resilience of ecosystems. This GEF project will contribute to reduce the pressure on natural resources and loss of habitats and biodiversity. Finally, it will capitalize lessons-learned and good practices generated by projects implemented under the NAPA.</p> <p>NBSAP: The project is aligned with several of Togo?s NBSAP's priorities, including (i) Strengthening the benefits for all of diversity biological and ecosystem services; (ii) Improve the legal and institutional framework, and governance; (iii) Develop knowledge about national biological resources; (iv) Strengthen technical and human capacities.</p> <p>Government Roadmap 2020-2025: The project is aligned to the Government Roadmap 2020-2025 which details the programme of government. Under strategic objective 3 and priority action 10 the government seeks to reform the existing environmental legislation to further consider issues of restoration, fisheries measures, climate change, coastal erosion, and the blue economy.</p> <p>National strategy for the sea and coastal region (SNML 2016-2020) is currently in the process of being updated in alignment with SDG14. Section 3 of the strategy highlights the importance of sustainable protection of the marine and coastal environment including MPAs.</p> <p>Togo?s Blue Economy Strategic Framework recommends the designation of MPAs, as one of the ecosystem-based management approaches to improve Togo?s Environmental Performance Index and actions towards sustainable development. It also recommends the implementation of fisheries measures to protect fish and juvenile species and the promotion of alternative activities for fishermen and users.</p>

Strategic investment framework of the environment and natural resources in Togo (CSIGERN 2018-2022) defines strategic areas for investment for Togo's 2050 horizon vision for the management of the environment and natural resources (PNIERN 2011-2025). Strategic objective 2 targets the sustainable management and protection of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. The objective also identifies the conservation, restoration and enhancement of protected areas and management as a priority area for investment.

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.

Please refer to **Section 4.11 of the ProDoc** for the full knowledge management information and framework including the roles and timelines.

Knowledge management will be structured primarily through a two-way sharing system, where much of the activity will be built upon the learning experiences of the relevant projects with which this proposed project is aligned and connected. Engagement with the other projects provide valuable information, lessons learned and data to progress the development of this project.

The project will generate knowledge as a key part across its four components. Such knowledge will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention areas through existing information sharing networks and forums. The key manner in which this project will enhance communication and knowledge dissemination is through the development of an online stakeholder engagement platform, which even if direct community members choose not to engage in due to technological constraints, they can liaise with community group leaders to represent their voices. The project components all have elements which focus on updating this platform with not only progress on the project's activities and outcomes, but new knowledge and lessons learned. Furthermore, the project will utilise the considerable expertise and information sharing tools of GEF IW: LEARN as another platform for information exchange (in output 4.2.3 with a budget allocation of 1%). In addition, the project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based, and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation through lessons learned from other networks. Experiences and lessons learned from the project will be used in the compilation of knowledge products approved by IUCN. These will be used as tools to build capacity within the region towards sustainable practices in the coastal, marine and blue economy sectors. Based on studies, but also from the experience of member countries, these knowledge products will support local and regional authorities in playing a greater role in promoting MPAs and EBSAs in the protection and conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems. Issues addressed will be fisheries management, coastal erosion control, water quality, and biodiversity conservation.

The project will generate and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in replicating the project outcomes in other countries across Africa. A focus will be on the knowledge generated from local communities on fishing practices, ecosystem service management and carbon compensation.

The project will design a knowledge management strategy (in output 4.2.1) aiming at promoting the lessons learned from the project and benefits provided by marine spatial planning, payments for ecosystem services and nature-based solutions for the fisheries and wider ecosystems. This will encompass organising awareness-raising campaigns, undertaking south-south knowledge sharing activities with countries in the sub-region and organising national and local communication activities in the FCWC Countries? coastal areas.

Internally, knowledge management will be strongly linked to the project monitoring and evaluation to ensure that all collected M&E data are processed into knowledge and shared with the project staff through the most appropriate communication tools. The objectives of this internal knowledge management process are twofold (i) delivering the preliminary knowledge generated by the project to the main stakeholders; and (ii) improving this knowledge with individual know-how. This enriched operational knowledge through internal processes will serve as inputs to the external processes of knowledge management. External knowledge management will be geared towards outreaching the project achievements and lessons to external partners at local, national, regional and international levels.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

Please refer to **Section 8 of the ProDoc** for the full Monitoring and Evaluation framework including the budget.

The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results. Project M&E will be conducted in accordance with established IUCN/GEF procedures and will be led by the PMU located at FCWC - the executing agency - with support from IUCN. Project M&E will be carried out following the activities and the budget presented in the table below. The project document, GEF tracking tools, results framework and associated indicators and targets, will form the basis on which the project's M&E system will be developed.

Key project executing organisations will be directly involved in monitoring and evaluating activities, outputs and outcomes, and all beneficiary and stakeholder groups will be consulted, using a gender sensitive approach. The monitoring process itself will serve as a learning and capacity building platform for the project's executing agency. Adaptive management principles will be applied in undertaking regular reviews of the effectiveness of project implementation mechanisms. The standard M&E reports and procedures required for all IUCN/GEF projects will apply to the M&E plan for the proposed project, including the following:

Inception Workshop and Report: The Inception Workshop gathering the stakeholders involved in the project, and resulting Inception Report are the venue and means to finalise preparations for the implementation of the proposed project, involving the formulation of the first annual work plan, detailing of stakeholder roles and responsibilities, and of reporting and monitoring requirements. As the Project Document was developed based on a consultative process that integrated both scoping and field missions

as well as stakeholder workshops, it is anticipated that the inception workshop and the resulting report would result in only minor adjustments to the provisions in the original Project Document.

Strategic Result Framework: Monitoring and evaluation begins with preparation of the Project Document, including a logical framework matrix based on indicators of implementation progress and means of verification. This Log Frame will underpin a results-based M&E system for the proposed project.

Quarterly Progress Report: Each quarter, the PMU will prepare a summary of the project's substantive and technical progress towards achieving its objectives. The summaries will be submitted to GWP, and will be reviewed and cleared by IUCN before being sent to the IUCN/GEF Coordinator.

The Annual Project Report (APR) / project implementation review: This is designed to integrate the independent views of the main stakeholders of a project on its relevance, performance and the likelihood of its success. 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. The APR will be prepared by the Project Coordinator after consultation with the relevant stakeholders, and will be submitted to the GWP. The stakeholder review will be framed by the logical framework matrix and the performance indicators. A Terminal Project Report will be prepared for the terminal meeting.

Tripartite Review (TPR) (Steering committee): The Tri-Partite Review (TPR) is a policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. The same parties involved in the prior Inception Workshop will participate in the TPR (i.e., the members of the Steering Committee, including the regional and national executing agencies, IUCN, local partners, **direct users and other stakeholders**). It will assess the progress of the project and make decisions on recommendations to improve the design and implementation of the project in order to achieve the expected results. On these occasions, the Project Coordinator will submit an updated work plan (if required) and the latest Annual Project Report (APR), and formulate recommendations for eventual adjustments of strategies and activities. A draft APR shall be prepared at least two months in advance of the TPR to allow for review by IUCN prior to the meeting. The Executing Agency will make sure that the recommendations of the TPR are carried out. Annual TPRs are not required as the Steering Committee meetings are expected to address many of the issues that would normally be addressed in a TPR.

Independent External Evaluation at mid-term and termination of the project: A mid-term project evaluation will be conducted during the third implementation year, focusing on relevance; performance (effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness); issues requiring decisions and actions; and initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. A final evaluation, which occurs three months prior to the final TPR meeting, focuses on the same issues as the mid-term evaluation but also covers impact, sustainability, and follow-through recommendations, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals.

Budget Revisions: Project budget revisions will reflect the final expenditures for the preceding year, to enable the preparation of a realistic plan for the provision of inputs for the current year. Other budget revisions may be undertaken as necessary during the course of the project. It is expected that significant

revisions will be cleared with the IUCN/GEF Coordinator for consistency with the GEF principle of incrementality and GEF eligibility criteria before being approved;

Corresponding budget: The corresponding budget for the M&E plan is USD 74,500 which includes costing for the Mid Term Review (MTR) and Terminal Evaluations (TE). The detailed budget of the M&E plan is provided within the detailed budget of the overall GEF project and in [section 8 of the ProDoc](#).

<u>M&E activity</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Responsible</u>	<u>Budget (GEF funded)</u>
<u>Inception Workshop (IW)</u>	<u>Within two months of project start up</u>	<u>PMU / FCWC Support from IUCN</u>	- <u>As part of PMC</u>
<u>Project Inception Report</u>	<u>No later than one month post IW</u>	<u>PMU</u>	<u>As part of PMC</u> <u>USD 0</u> <u>Reports developed by project staff</u>
<u>Development of an M&E system and</u> - <u>Baseline assessment</u>	<u>Within 6 months of project start up</u> - <u>Within 6 months of project start up</u>	<u>PMU</u> <u>M&E Consultant (15 days)</u> <u>National consultants 20 days</u>	<u>Estimated cost:</u> <u>USD 24,500</u>
<u>Analysis of progress made in terms of the project outputs and implementation</u>	<u>Annually, before the PIR and in the annual work plans</u>	<u>PMU</u>	<u>As part of PMC</u> <u>To be determined in the annual Work Plans</u> - <u>Reports developed by project staff</u>
<u>Quarterly Progress Reports</u>	<u>Quarterly</u>	<u>PMU</u>	<u>As part of PMC</u> <u>USD 0</u> <u>Reports developed by project staff</u>
<u>Annual Project Report</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>PMU</u> <u>IUCN</u> <u>FCWC</u>	<u>As part of PMC</u> <u>USD 0</u> <u>PIR to be developed by project staff</u>
<u>Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant</u>	<u>On-going</u>	<u>Project Manager, TA, IUCN</u>	<u>None. Pro rata of PM salary & TA fee & IUCN staff not counted</u>
<u>Addressing environmental and social grievances</u>	<u>On-going</u>	<u>Project Manager, IUCN</u>	<u>None</u>
<u>Knowledge Management</u> -	<u>On-Going</u>	<u>Independent consultant</u> <u>FCWC</u> <u>IUCN</u>	- <u>Included in budget for component 4</u>
<u>Supervision missions</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>IUCN</u>	<u>None</u>

TPR (SC)	Annual	Project SC	As part of PMC (USD 15 750 - Estimated cost per meeting: USD 4000) -
Midterm evaluation	Mid-term (MTE) - -	Independent evaluators PMU IUCN FCWC	USD 25,000 - -
Final evaluation	3 months before the end of the project (TE)	Independent evaluators PMU IUCN FCWC	USD 25,000
End of Project report	3 months before project end	PMU IUCN FCWC	USD 0 Report developed by project staff As part of PMC
-	-	-	-
Total estimated costs (Excluding project personnel and IUCN agent costs and travel expenses)			USD 74,500

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 (LDCE/SCCF)?

Social:

During the first two years of the implementation of the project, technical and socio-economic baseline studies will be produced, and particularly applied through the use of the BEVTK. This collection of updated data on biodiversity, land-use and the socio-economic situation of inhabitants located within sub-region will be used to develop a better spatial planning and an integrated management of the three countries, specifically at the local level, taking into account the needs of coastal communities.

One activity of the project is to strengthen the involvement of communities in the management of the coastal zone and its resources. The project will finance a technical consultant to support and train the communities? members to properly co-manage the NBS activities, by collecting needs and key issues within their communities. this way, they will strengthen their control over their living space and contribute to the long-term safeguarding of their livelihoods.

The project will also focus on developing community-based income-generating activities in the determined coastal communities. The project will pay particular attention to women and youth and will gather information about differently abled people in the communities where PES and NBS are implemented. A

gender strategy will be established during the project implementation for the systematic inclusion of gender into project strategy and implementation through all project components with a site specific focus.

Economic:

The project aims to promote sustainable income-generating activities and secured livelihoods. This will allow the populations to increase their income, and reach a more stable economic situations through their livelihood activities. By doing this, the project will release pressure on natural resources and allow a better protection of it.

The national state funds are limited and international funding opportunities will not allow for the long-term coverage of all costs. Other key sources of funding generated through this project: investment by the private sector into conservation and livelihood generating activities and mobilisation of funds from neighbouring economic actors.

Specific contributions to Global Environmental Benefits are:

- ? Enhanced sustainable livelihoods for local communities and fishery-dependent peoples.
- ? Sustainable use of the components of globally significant biodiversity
- ? Conservation of globally significant biodiversity
- ? Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in productive landscapes
- ? Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources

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/Approva I	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate	Low		

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 at enhancing the benefits to the fisheries and coastal communities through improved ecosystem management, and funds generated through a payment for ecosystem services that can be used to improve livelihoods and contribute to coastal and marine restoration and protection. Outcome 1 focuses on conducting a marine spatial planning process within the coastal zone of Togo, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, including mapping, capacity building and establishing a sub-regional MSP to enhance cooperation and support partnerships for financing. Under outcome 2 the project analyse ecological condition of coastal and marine ecosystems, their vulnerability and the full the ecosystem services capacity will be estimated as well as their monetary valuation which is the foundations to be able to design the PES pilots. This is combined with planning of PES pilots in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire together with the relevant stakeholders. The schemes will allow funding and implementation of nature-based solutions (NBS) for the protection, restoration and regeneration of service producing ecosystems. Outcome 3 is aiming at using Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to expand and protect healthy functioning ecosystems; and restore and regenerate those which are degraded or under severe anthropogenic pressure. To achieve this the project will improve the organization and regional integration of ecosystem services including through the establishment of an accounting system, the establishment of the financial mechanism in each country and the actual implementation of NbS pilots (output 3.2.3) selection of priority NbS interventions. It also involves improving regional coordination and initiating the mobilizing funding for regional scaling up.

The project is expected to lead to environmental and social impacts that are overall highly positive in line with its objective to promote NbS interventions that protect, restore or regenerate ecosystems while enhancing benefits to fisheries and coastal communities. The impacts on the ground are expected to unfold on two levels: through pilot projects funded under Output 3.2.3 where NbS investments are implemented in selected sites and by setting up regional PES mechanism to enable future funding stream into NbS investments in the region.

While investments for protecting, restoring or regenerating ecosystems are expected to lead to social and environmental benefits, unintended impacts might occur. However, through the use of the NbS Standard and adherence to the 8 criteria, the project will ensure that the NbS interventions will turn into the expected positive environmental and social impacts. As such and as demonstrated in the analysis about E&S risks and ESMS standards above, it will be ensured that potential environmental and social risks of NbS interventions are identified and either avoided, reduced or appropriately managed. And the NbS Standard will not only be applied to the pilots funded directly by the project, but also to the

regional PES scheme developed by the project that will contribute to mobilizing future NbS investments.

It is important to note that the NbS Standard and the ESMS Standards and principles are comparable, however, they do not fully correspond. In order to be able to use the NbS standard as substitute for ESMS risk identification and management, the project will include a gap analysis to identify areas where the analytical process and in particular the NbS self-assessment tool need to be enhanced to be fully compliant with the ESMS requirements. The NbS self-assessment tool will be expanded by adding indicators and/or criteria to close existing minor gaps between the NbS standard and IUCN ESMS ? as flagged in the above assessment on the ESMS risk areas and ESMS standards.

This enhanced self-assessment tool will not only be applied for the pilot funded under the GEF intervention, but also for all NbS investments funded by the future PES mechanism. This will need to include procedures and responsibilities for ongoing monitoring adherence of interventions to the enhanced NbS standard, improving percentage match against the NbS criteria and integrating required improvements and adaptation into the intervention. It can provide a new benchmark for countries to ensure adherence to the standard and ensuring reduced E&S risks.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
GEF ID 10875 ESMS screening and clearance GEF7 Gulf of Guinea Dec 2022	CEO Endorsement ESS	
ESMS preliminary Screening	Project PIF ESS	
Theory of Change	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).

Objective /Outcome	Outputs	Indicators	Baseline	Target(s) for end of project	Source of verification
Project Objective:	Enhance coastal and marine habitat in Ghana, Togo and Cote d'Ivoire through coordinated spatial planning (MSP), economic incentives (PES), and nature-based solutions.	- Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	0	27 000 metric tonnes	National fisheries monitoring and reporting
Outcome 1.1 ? Mapping and management of coastal and marine areas improved by establishing a sub-regional MSP to enhance cooperation	Output 1.1.1 Review of current management strategies and identification of elements pertinent for the MSP synthesised	- Institutional map of management strategies and planning activities Synthesis report of data collected and current state of the ecosystems	0 0	100% coverage of institutional management structure 1	Institutional map Annual Report Mid-term Evaluation

<p>and support partnerships for financing.</p>	<p>Output 1.1.2 Established MSP in place at the national and sub-regional levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional MSP in place and fully functioning (Number of shared water ecosystems (marine) under new or improved cooperative management) 0 - National MSP in place and fully functioning 0 - Monitoring system in place for coastal ecosystem condition - - Monitoring system in place for fish biomass - 	<p>0 - - - 0 - 0 -</p>	<p>1 - - - 3 (1 each country) - 1 1</p>	<p>MSP on platform - Annual Report - Mid-term Evaluation</p>
<p>Outcome 1.2 ? Improved organisation of regional integrated ecosystem services</p>	<p>Output 1.2.1 Regional Accounting Monitoring system in place for ecosystem service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accounting at national and sub-regional level applied 0 - Number of people in national institutions provided training on the BEVTK 0 - MSP updated with BEVTK Outcomes 0 	<p>0 - 0 - 0</p>	<p>4 (1 each country, 1 regional) - 46 (26 female, 20 male) - 1</p>	<p>- BEVTK system - Training reports - Platform showing updates Annual Report - Final Evaluation</p>

Outcome 2.1 ? Improved understanding of the state of ecosystems pertaining to the provision of ecosystem services	Output 2.1.1 Key ecosystem Services and users identified	- Key ecosystem areas identified	TBD	Min 5 for each country	Synthesis report
		- Number of key ES identified	TBD	Min 10 for each ecosystem above	Annual Review
		- The number of beneficiaries in key ecosystems has been identified	0	1	
		- Compensation systems identified	0	1	
	Output 2.1.2 Ecological condition of coastal and marine ecosystems, their vulnerability and estimation of the differential between their full capacity and their current capacity identified.	- Health of ecosystems identified	0	1	Monetary Valuation Report
		- Level of services provided by ecosystems with 100% fully functioning identified	0	1	Mid-term Evaluation
		- Vulnerability index for each ecosystem defined	0	100% ecosystems identified	
		- Comprehensive representation of the coastal ecosystem functioning in the FCWC region			

	<p>Output 2.1.3 Monetary valuation report of ecosystem services for the target countries</p>	<p>- Delivery of Monetary Valuation Report Report uploaded to stakeholder platform: number of people who have read</p>	<p>D 0 0</p>	<p>1 100, with representation across all involved actors, 50% women</p>	<p>Monetary Valuation Report Mid-term Evaluation Web platform Analytics</p>
	<p>Output 2.1.4 Areas identified and ranked in terms of priority for intervention</p>	<p>- Priority areas identified (in line with activities of Output 2.2.1) - Workshops with intervention site stakeholders</p>	<p>P 0 0</p>	<p>1 3</p>	<p>Area identification report Annual Report Final Evaluation</p>

<p>Outcome 2.2 ? Establishment of a PES system, increasing the monetary contribution by users for their use of ecosystem services, improved regional cooperation and understanding of PES.</p>	<p>Output 2.2.1 PES pilot schemes for Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire in place as a guide for FCWC countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot sites identified P - Site specific stakeholder and gender analysis and engagement plan S - Number of people reached by education and information activities N - Area of marine habitat under improved practices (excl MPAs) due to PES A - Number of beneficiaries (NGOs, conservation groups etc.) to receive support for activities N <p>Number of beneficiaries of improved ecosystem services delivery</p>	<p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3 (1 for each site)</p> <p>160 female, 140 male</p> <p>20 000 ha</p> <p>500 female, 450 male</p> <p>2250 female, 1800 male</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mid-term evaluation - Analytics from web platform - Reports of education outreach - Workshop reports <p>Annual Report</p> <p>Mid-term Evaluation</p>
	<p>Output 2.2.2 Effective financial mechanism for ecosystem services collection in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot PES scheme formal agreement signed P 	<p>0</p>	<p>1 for each country</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signed agreements <p>Annual Report</p>

	Output 2.2.3 Monitoring system of ecosystem services established and socio-economic impacts.	- Monitoring plan implemented - Indicators for impacts and benefits to women included in monitoring and evaluation framework	0 0	1 1	Monitoring updates to online platform. Annual Report Final Evaluation
Outcome 3.1 Improved management of ecologically important ecosystems for the provision of ecosystem services through NBS.	Output 3.1.1 System for verification of adherence to NbS Standard criteria and IUCN environmental and social safeguards (ESMS) established and functional	- BS Standards and safeguards verification system in place ^N	0	1	- Safeguards and standards framework Annual Report
	Output 3.1.2 Stakeholders engaged and plan designed for determining NBS selections through co-design.	- Co-designed roadmap for activities ^C	0	3 (1 for each site)	- Stakeholder workshop reports - Guidance document - Roadmap Annual Report

Output 3.1.3 NBS pilot projects in place with consistent monitoring.	-	N	0	60 female, 40 male	-
	umber of people to receive NBS training activities		0	3	Monitoring reports
	-		0	-	Annual Review
	Well established NBS activities		0	1	Final Evaluation
	-		0	-	
	Monitoring plan implemented		0	20%	
	-	N	0	20%	
	et variation of intact and restored coastal ecosystem area		0	60 000 ha	
	-	N	0	-	
	et variation of biomass of fish production		0	2 500 ha	
-	N	0	-		
umber of hectares of created or improved MPAs		0	50 000 ha		
-	A		-		
rea of restored coastal land			8000 female, 6500 male		
-	A				
rea of marine habitat under improved practices (excl. MPAs) due to NBS					
-	N				
umber of beneficiaries of improved ecosystem services delivery					

Outcome 4.1 Capacity development and Cross-cutting regional institutional arrangements	Output 4.1.1 Capacity development and leadership training, with specific women centred training sessions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity needs assessment - Number of people to receive responsible project management training, with focus on gender mainstreaming - Number of people to receive leadership and cross-sectoral training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 0 0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 15 female, 15 male 15 female, 10 male 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutional capacity map - Monitoring reports - Annual reports
	Output 4.1.2 A regional technical working group established for MSP, PES, NBS and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional working group in place - Number of people involved in each of the three WGs - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 0 0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 10 each WG, with at least 40% women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record of working group meetings, discussions and decisions - Annual Report
	Output 4.1.3 In-country training and capacity building for MSP delivered, ensuring inclusivity of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of national technicians and officers trained in each national institution related to blue ecosystems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 per institution (roughly) trained by WACA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 per institution, 4 female, 2 male. (Total 24 female, 10 male) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record of training sessions - Certifications for trained technicians and officers - Annual Report

Outcome 4.2 Project knowledge available to stakeholders and partners in the Gulf of Guinea	Output 4.2.1 Knowledge management plan developed, implemented, and evaluated	- Knowledge management plan in place	0	1		
		- Stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform in place and fully functional	0	1		
		- Stakeholder dialogue platform ways forward plan in place				

Output 4.2.2 Lessons learned documented, best practice guidance developed, including gender mainstreaming and knowledge disseminated	- Progress, monitoring and evaluation report in place	0	1	- progress, monitoring and evaluation report
	- Lessons learned report in place for each component	0	4	- Lessons learned reports
	- Best practice guidance reports in place for MSP, NBS, and PES, each with specific guidance on gender mainstreaming in the activities	0	3	- Best practice guidance reports
	- Number of people reached by the updated stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform	0	1200 female, 1000 male	- Educational materials
	- Number of people at webinar to disseminate lessons learned with other agencies and institutions, especially WACA	0	100 (50% women)	- Final Evaluation

	Output 4.2.3 IW Learn linked with stakeholder dialogue platform and updated with best practice materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link made between IW Learn and the stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform - All knowledge products uploaded to IW Learn - Number of people reached by IW Learn lessons learned and best practice (including gender mainstreaming) webinar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> L A N 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 0 0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1500 female, 750 male 0 76 (50% women) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
Outcome 4.3 ? Improved regional coordination for scaling up of NBS and PES	Output 4.3.1 Funding proposal developed to initiate scaling-up process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concept note and proposal for scaling up process 	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concept note and proposal - Final Evaluation

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 Comments			
Project Info	What STAP looks for	STAP Response	Author/Proponent Response

Project Objective	Is the objective clearly defined, and consistently related to the problem diagnosis?	<p>Yes. The objective of this project is "to implement a regional mechanism for nature-based solution implementation for habitat restoration and maintenance using payment for ecosystem services in the countries of Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana(Gulf of Guinea). The stated objective reflects the main thrust of the project. However, it could be improved by beginning with the goal of the project rather than the mechanisms for achieving the goal. For example, the outcome highlighted in the TOC is a good place to start. It states: "Enhanced coastal and marine habitat, provision of services and livelihoods in the three FCWC target countries." The objective could therefore be re-written to say something like: "Enhance coastal and marine habitat in x countries through coordinated spatial planning (MSP), economic incentives (PES), and nature-based solutions.."</p>	The objective has been rewritten to reflect this outcome.
Project components	<p>A brief description of the planned activities. Do these support the project's objectives?</p>		N/A

Outcomes	A description of the expected short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention. Do the planned outcomes encompass important adaptation benefits?	Yes. Nature based solutions in particular are meant to provide benefits to people, including adaptation to climate change.	N/A
	Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated?	Yes.	N/A
Outputs	A description of the products and services which are expected to result from the project. Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes?	Yes (MSP + PES + NBS)	N/A
Part II: Project justification	A simple narrative explaining the project's logic, i.e. a theory of change.		N/A
1. Project description. Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)	Is the problem statement well-defined?	Yes, and well differentiated between negative trends and root causes. Exceptionally clear and concise.	N/A
	Are the barriers and threats well described, and substantiated by data and references?	Yes, barriers are well described and categorized.	N/A

	<p>For multiple focal area projects: does the problem statement and analysis identify the drivers of environmental degradation which need to be addressed</p> <p>through multiple focal areas; and is the objective well-defined, and can it only be supported by integrating two, or more focal areas objectives or programs?</p>	N/A	N/A
2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects	Is the baseline identified clearly?	Yes in terms of past and ongoing relevant projects in this area. Data on environmental trends is also good at this stage.	N/A
	Does it provide a feasible basis for quantifying the project's benefits?	Yes.	N/A
	Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project?	Yes,	N/A
	For multiple focal area projects:		N/A
	are the multiple baseline analyses presented (supported by data and references), and the multiple benefits specified, including the proposed indicators;	N/A	N/A

	are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described; and	N/A	N/A
	how did these lessons inform the design of this project?	N/A	N/A
3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project	What is the theory of change?	The TOC is provided in a separate document. It is simple but clearly lays out the logic of the separate components and how they will combine to contribute to the overall outcome of ?Enhanced coastal and marine habitat...? It could be improved, however, with additional information on underlying assumptions. See STAP Primer on Theory of Change.	The TOC has been revised slightly to match the wording of the updated outcomes.
	What is the sequence of events (required or expected) that will lead to the desired outcomes?	MSP + PES + NBS	N/A
	What is the set of linked activities, outputs, and outcomes to address the project's objectives?	Components are exceptionally well explained.	N/A

	Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions?	Yes, although PES schemes are varied and complex and there are several barriers to PES effectiveness that should be carefully researched prior to engaging in discussions with stakeholders. See PES and the GEF (dated, but still relevant).	The varied nature of the PES schemes has been accounted for and indicated in the project description. The sensitisation learning materials and activities in Component 2, ahead of implementation will fully educate all stakeholders on the potential outcomes. The most relevant type of PES scheme will be selected through a co-development natured activity most suited to the site selected.
	Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes?	Not explicit.	The assumptions in the results framework indicate the elements expected to be stable for delivery of the outcomes. The risk analysis and risk management measures also deal with potential risks to project delivery, and therefore associated outcomes.
5) incremental/ additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing	GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits?	Yes.	N/A
	LDCF/SCCF: will the proposed incremental activities lead to adaptation which reduces vulnerability, builds adaptive capacity, and increases resilience to climate change?	N/A	N/A

6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)	Are the benefits truly global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits, and are they measurable?	Yes.	N/A
	Is the scale of projected benefits both plausible and compelling in relation to the proposed investment?	Yes.	N/A
	Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits explicitly defined?	Yes.	N/A
	Are indicators, or methodologies, provided to demonstrate how the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits will be measured and monitored during project implementation?	Yes.	N/A
	What activities will be implemented to increase the project's resilience to climate change?	The NbS envisioned for this project should in theory contribute to the project's increased resilience to climate change.	N/A

<p>7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up</p>	<p>Is the project innovative, for example, in its design, method of financing, technology, business model, policy, monitoring and evaluation, or learning?</p>	<p>Yes. Though each of these components (PES, MSP, and NbS) are not new, they offer the potential to develop innovative solutions within the broader framework of the DA/SAP and alongside numerous other ongoing, related projects in the region. There is promise of learning related to the flexible mechanism of cooperative governance proposed.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors?</p>	<p>The scaling up is embedded in this project; there is some discussion of how if successful lessons could be applied to other parts of Africa.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability?</p>		<p>N/A</p>
<p>1b. Project Map and Coordinates.</p> <p>Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.</p>		<p>A map is provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>2. Stakeholders.</p> <p>Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase: Indigenous people and local communities; Civil society organizations; Private sector entities. If none of the above, please explain why. In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project reparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.</p>	<p>Have all the key relevant stakeholders been identified to cover the complexity of the problem, and project implementation barriers?</p>	<p>This project effectively incorporates stakeholder engagement from the beginning and for each component. Notably, local communities and the private sector are the main focus of this project, which is appropriate given the focus. However, in addition to national institutions, it seems likely that local government will also need to play an important role if implementation of MSP, PES and NBS is to be effective.</p>	<p>The local institutions have been included in the stakeholder analysis and stakeholder engagement plan, although the exact institutions cannot yet be identified (due to project design determining sites).</p>
	<p>What are the stakeholders? roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge?</p>	<p>Roles described for broad stakeholder categories.</p>	<p>These have been enhanced in the stakeholder analysis.</p>

<p>3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.</p> <p>Please briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes/no/tbd.</p> <p>If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: access to and control over resources; participation and decision-making; and/or economic benefits or services.</p> <p>Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? yes/no/tbd</p>	<p>Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences?</p>	<p>Information is preliminary but appropriate with reference to community-level concerns. Further attention is suggested with regards to decision-making and governance.</p>	<p>Gender has carefully been considered in project activities, a full gender analysis has been completed and a gender action plan in place for the project.</p>
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	Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed?	Not yet explained.	Not particularly, but a gender action plan is in place for the project to account for all gender related sensitivities.
<p>5. Risks.</p> <p>Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design</p>	<p>Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project's control? Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project? For climate risk, and climate resilience measures: ? How will the project's objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately? ? Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed? ? Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with? ? What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures?</p>	Climate change impacts are noted as a medium risk with mitigation measures embedded in Components 2 and 3 of the project.	N/A

<p>6. Coordination.</p> <p>Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other related initiatives</p>	<p>Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them?</p>	<p>There is adequate recognition of previous projects and recognition that this project will build on lessons learned from previous and ongoing activities.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>8. Knowledge management.</p> <p>Outline the ?Knowledge Management Approach? for the project, and how it will contribute to the project?s overall impact, including plans to learn from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations.</p>	<p>What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used?</p>	<p>KM will take a ?two way sharing system? approach which seeks to learn from past and ongoing projects and also generate new knowledge from the results of this effort. Strong focus on the knowledge generated from local communities on fishing practices, ecosystem service management and carbon compensation.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience?</p>	<p>IW:Learn and LME:Learn</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Council Comments</p>			
<p>Comment</p>		<p>Author/Proponent Response</p>	

<p>Canada</p> <p>Canada supports this project. For effective project implementation, we encourage broad stakeholder consultations, including with local communities and territorial authorities (mutual development organizations, traditional chieftainships, foreign communities, etc.) in support of data for the relocation of villages disappearing due to rising sea levels (Grand Lahou, Jacquville, Fresco, Sassandra, Grand Bereby, San Pedro, Tabou, Assinie, Grand Bassam, etc.).</p>	<p>As part of the PPG, extensive stakeholder consultations and site visits took place, including 1 regional workshop, 3 national workshops, site visits in each country including stakeholder consultations with most of the suggested stakeholders on site, and 1 regional validation workshop. Further details can be found in Sections 3.4 and 6.1, and Appendix B of the ProDoc.</p>
<p>Canada</p> <p>We would encourage the project to strengthen its gender approach and the involvement of women as economic, social and environmental actors.</p>	<p>A full gender action plan has been developed, and gender specific activities integrated to support this.</p>
<p>Canada</p> <p>We note there is a great risk of land conflict that would result from the sudden displacement of populations from the coast to the hinterland. The project should demonstrate a plan to reduce such risk.</p>	<p>This project is designed to increase the resilience and ability of coastal communities to adapt to coastal living in response to climate change ? and the suggestion is beyond the scope of the project.</p>
<p>Canada</p> <p>Our understanding is that the management of maritime resources coupled with oil exploitation in certain coastal localities (Jacquville) is likely to have a negative impact on certain village communities with recurrent conflicts and disputes. We would urge that the project look at this aspect and follow a framework for consultation with the authorities and the communities concerned, including the impact on women.</p>	<p>MSP is designed to manage this conflict through extensive stakeholder engagement and zoning of activities to ensure equal distribution of benefits and is the core of this project.</p>
<p>Germany</p> <p>Germany approves the following PIF in the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account:</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Germany</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>While component 1 provides a good description of how an MSP approach should be developed, it lacks a conception of how the MSP results should be integrated into the overarching national planning system. It also remains open how the spatial planning results are to acquire a formal legal character. A clear analysis of the existing planning laws and systems would be desirable, on which basis then a concept can be worked out how MSP fits into the overall concept of the respective planning system.</p>	<p>The MSP will be developed by the Ministry of each country associated with planning alongside other ministries such as that of the environment, transport, fisheries etc. In this regard, they will have ownership of the spatial plans. The analysis of existing planning laws and systems is included as part of the MSP process ? furthermore it is important to highlight that the proposed MSP component, will look to pull together all local level MSPs to harmonise them all and use what is already there to generate the national plans. This type of analysis has also already been done for some of the countries within the WACA project.</p>
<p>Germany</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Another aspect is the question of how the results of the MSP can be integrated into existing regional development plans and through which line ministries budget can be allocated on national level for measures stipulated in the spatial plans. Therefore, it would be good to examine how local development plans are harmonised with national- and regional development plans and how the corresponding sectoral budget cycles are designed. Based on that, a concept should be developed on how the MSP approaches can be integrated into these formal planning cycles.</p>	<p>Local, national and regional MSP will be fully integrated into the current planning mechanisms and work will be done in order to ensure that financial budgeting is done for following cycles. Since countries are working on problem budget schemes, MSP budget can be defined and allocated without significant constraints.</p>
<p>Norway and Denmark</p> <p>This is very interesting and important project which we would like to follow closely.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Norway and Denmark</p> <p>We support STAP's recommendation to include a more detailed risk analysis in the project document for the individual components of the project.</p>	<p>We attempted a component specific risk analysis, but it was repetitive for each component and we have reverted back to a wider project risk analysis that has been enhanced and deepened. The mitigation measures column details where component specific activities are required.</p>
<p>Norway and Denmark</p> <p>The suggestion to increase the focus on gender is also something we support.</p>	<p>A full gender action plan has been developed, and gender specific activities integrated to support this.</p>

Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency response
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<p>Part I ? Project Information Focal area elements</p> <p>1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023)</p> <p>1. The focus on fisheries is not consistent in the Pro Doc. For example, Section 4.2 third paragraph still discusses working across sectors, including energy, mines, industry and tourism.</p> <p>2. In component 1, the MSP is still planned, which by its definition requires working with multiple sectors. If you are only interested in fisheries, then you need to call it ?fisheries zoning?, not ?marine spatial planning.? If you really are going to do MSP managing multiple uses, then the range of sectors (i.e. fisheries, energy, mining, industry, tourism, shipping and conservation) need to be noted and the relevant government agencies, private sector actors, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders need to be engaged in this first component. The mapping of activities beyond fisheries can?t be determined only by the ministry of fisheries and environment, but need to engage the other ministries, private sector players and CSOs related to the other previously noted sectors of energy, mining, industry and tourism.</p> <p>Table 7 needs to be clear that the PES will focus on fisheries PES.</p> <p>3. Since you added a new component 4, which includes capacity building across the project for the range of topics, you need to remove capacity building in component 1 since duplicative and it is inconsistent to only have in component 1 but not in 2 or 3.</p> <p>4. Regarding the theory of change, there are 2 different diagrams. The first seems to be a copy and paste of the components, outcomes and outputs plus the barriers and threats. Then the second is somewhat similar, but not exactly (e.g. the ?outputs? are different) and conveys the real connections between the pieces. These need to be merged so there is one clear TOC. As noted</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>Thanks for raising this. This project will engage other sectors in Component 1, MSP, <i>only</i>. To keep MSP as it is, (and true to what was conveyed the the governments and stakeholders of each country), this component will remain as MSP and not fisheries zoning and will stay multisectoral. The other intervention areas (components 2 and 3) focus on fisheries related resources.</p> <p>The third para in Section 4.3 has been clarified that sectoral integration only occurs in the first component through MSP. We note that at the workshops and consultations in-country, there were representatives of the relevant spatial planning departments/ministries in each country. Their attendance / department has been better indicated in the stakeholder list in Appendix B to reflect this.</p> <p>The stakeholder engagement plan has been updated to include that the inception phase of the project will engage all relevant MSP actors, and this is also clarified further in the activities of the MSP which includes stakeholder consultations as a natural course of MSP. The private sector actors will be expanded from a fisheries focus to other areas to ensure appropriate engagement. The Gender Action Plan has also been edited to ensure that in Component 1 it reflects women in sectors beyond the fisheries.</p> <p>The title of Table 7 has been updated to include ?fisheries PES interventions? and one of the interventions made more fisheries specific to avoid overlap with other sectors.</p> <p>The capacity building elements of component 1 have been moved to component 4.</p> <p>Regarding the Theory of Change, there are not two different diagrams. On the track changes version of the</p>
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previously, the ?outputs? noted in the second diagram are more like sub-objectives. The text following the TOC diagrams needs to be revised for accuracy.

(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) No.

1. All sector or fisheries focus

- The CER is unclear in terms of its focus ? whether it will address the range of sectors or it will focus on fisheries. For example the second paragraph in the ProDoc section 4.1 notes addressing ?activities in the sectors related to fisheries, coastal management and development, extractive industries, shipping, biodiversity conservation, and tourism through ?MPAs, PES and NBS?? Similarly Section 4.2 notes sectoral integration including not only fisheries, but also energy, mines, industry, and tourism. Component 1 (MSP) is planned to enhance a range of issues including equity, low carbon development and more. Component 2 (PES) will address ecosystems ?linked to fisheries, tourism and recreation, storm protection, sediment stabilization, water purification, and carbon sequestration?? These statements imply all the components will work on the range of sectors, threats and services.

In contrast other text indicates the project will focus on fisheries. For example, ProDoc Section 4.2 institutional integration lists categories of stakeholders that are focused on fisheries. Outcome 1.2 focuses on fish stock distributions without mention of examining other sectors. Outcome 2.1.1 notes ?ecosystem services (linked to fisheries) and determining users and beneficiaries using fish stocks?. Similarly Output 2.1.3 is focused on the economic value of the fish provisioning service.

The scope of the project indicates a need to address the breadth of sectors. Given the nature of MSP, it would seem all sectors need to be addressed

previous submission, you can see the old version that was removed (it is indicated by a red line through it) and replaced with the new one. We have updated the new one to include the connections between relevant elements.

12 April 2023

1. This project has a focus on fisheries, given that the executing agency (the FCWC) is a regional fisheries body. Throughout both the CEO and ProDoc, the references to addressing other activities have been removed, or better clarity has been provided as to how they will be impacted. In more detail:

Component 1 on MSP will naturally have impacts on sectors other than the fisheries, but is designed to highlight areas that are currently weak in terms of fisheries practices, where conflicts occur that affect the fisheries and associated communities, or where ecosystems essential to the delivery of fisheries services are vulnerable and require intervention.

Component 2 on PES has been revised to focus only on fisheries as this is what will be most efficient under the executing agency.

Component 3, while having various benefits to other sectors and communities, will focus on coastal ecosystem important to the delivery of fishery services that contribute to the provision of resources predominantly through their role in acting as nurseries, feeding grounds, and breeding grounds.

Throughout the project documents, this has been harmonised for clarity and consistency.

since the idea of MSP is to spatially designate uses. For PES, if the focus is only on fisheries, then opportunities for PES from other beneficiaries, particularly hotel industry, insurance, and coastal developers who benefit from shoreline protection and recreational services, will be missed. And for NBS, if the focus is only on fisheries, then the various major threats to the ecosystems (and consequently to fish stocks) will not be adequately addressed, such as dredging and wastewater pollution from hotel development.

The project needs to be edited for consistency. This comment was made during the PIF final review when the Agency was requested to address these inconsistencies throughout the project plans during PPG. Please also be consistent in which sectors. In reading through the document, the sectors noted are: fisheries, aquaculture, energy, tourism, recreation, ports, shipping (or transport and trade), and extraction of non-living resources (or mining). Sometimes a few of these sectors are noted, but not all. Please be consistent? decide which will be addressed and consistently note those.

2. **Which habitats** There is a lack of explanation as to which coastal and marine habitats will be addressed by this project. Will *coastal* ecosystems, including mangroves, wetlands and beaches be included? Or will the project only focus on *marine* ecosystems (below high tide), such as seagrass beds, coral reefs, pelagic fisheries, others? Please clarify.

3. **Project wide governance capacity building, knowledge sharing.** Capacity building is only provided for MSP related activities (Output 1.2.2), not for PES or NBS. Please add for the other components. Alternatively, capacity building could be included as a new component that

2. The project will focus predominantly on coastal ecosystems, which include in this project: mangroves, wetlands, beaches and seagrass beds (seagrass beds are more commonly understood to be coastal ecosystems). This is due to the critical role that these ecosystems play in the provisions of fisheries related services, particularly the coastal/inshore fisheries with which this project will have the most impact. This has been clarified in the Prodoc.

3. At present, capacity building makes up the majority of the budget, including the activities that make up Components 2 and 3 (PES and NBS). This is in the form of educational/sensitisation workshops at the start, training throughout, and knowledge sharing workshops at the end of each component. This has been better clarified in the description of activities. A further component 4 has been added to increase the presence of capacity building and knowledge sharing activities. This component will further disseminate the experience and lessons learned on MPS, NBS and PES in the region.

4. The TOC has been revised completely to reflect the updated logframe.

5. The MSP provides a clear indication of the types of ecosystems, their location and surface area, ecological condition and vulnerability. The MSP also provides information on the link between the watershed and all the external impacts (including pollution and conflicts with other sectors). Ultimately it will contribute to identify areas that are either in good shape, or severely threatened, through the use of ecological

includes plans for an institution and for knowledge sharing.

4. **Theory of Change (TOC)** The logic for the TOC is not sufficiently explained. The Theory of Change in the Pro Doc, particularly the component lists and the outputs, are not consistent with the project plans in the Log Frame. The 'outcome' in the TOC is part of the 'objective' in the Log Frame. The TOC 'outputs' are not consistent with the 'outputs' in the Log Frame. The components are also inconsistent. For example, the TOC Component 3 only lists MPAs, EBSAs, and restoration; whereas the text notes broader management measures (this point was noted in the final PIF review to address during PPG). Further, the connections between the noted outputs and outcome are not adequately explained. For example, it is hard to understand how Component 2 (PES) will lead to improved ecosystems when it's a payment system, not actual management of threats. The barriers and assumptions are not reflected in the graph nor are they explained in the text. The second output is documents whereas the other outputs are broader achievements.

5. **MSP v. NBS.** Please clarify how the MSP, which will assess the ecological and socioeconomic context and determine a marine zoning strategy, relates to the NBS measures. How will these measures complement each other and be integrated? The MSP seems focused only on marine-based activities (e.g. fishing, mining) whereas the NBS seems more focused on the range of sea and land-based threats to the marine and coastal ecosystems. Please explain how the MSP zoning fits with the NBS, which similarly includes site selection for management measures. Why are both needed when the NBS is broader in scope and would seem to suffice.

condition indicators? this identified the areas in need of restoration through NBS, or protection through NBS supporting activities. The MSP provides a good basis for defining the type of NBS to be used or the management that needs to take place at the watershed level. Simply doing NBS scoping exercises is insufficient as it is less integrated and doesn't take into account the externalities on the ecosystems (the site selection in the NBS component is done based on the outcomes of the MSP, but still requires community engagement to determine the viability of intervening in that area particularly from a social and practicality perspective). Furthermore, MSP is necessary as it provides a tool to monitor progress (which in this project will be open and transparent through the online platform). All in all, MSP is a robust foundation for the implementation of NBS. This has been clarified in the components' descriptions, and the activities for site selection in the NBS component made more specific.

6. Given that project approval is only expected in June 2023, the start date for the project was set at January 2024 to allow sufficient time for preparation, contracting and coordination with the executing agency. For reference, the agency (IUCN) usually only considers project commencement upon signing with the executing agency. However, project start date has been updated to August 2023 if this is more reasonable to the GEF SEC.

	<p>6. (PPO) Implementation Start seems to be quite far away, one year from now ? please inquire with the Agency whether this is a mistake.</p>	
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<p>Project description summary</p> <p>2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023).</p> <p>d) Contrary to the response, Outcome 3.1 and related outputs were not moved to Component 2; instead, they are now Outcome 1.2. Please revise.</p> <p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>Please note the online version of the CER is readable; however, when saved the pdf version tables overlap with the text. Please resolve.</p> <p>Component 1 (MSP):</p> <p>a) The new Outcome 1.1 for a regional body makes sense, but is not specific to the MSP component. Therefore, please consider creating a new component for overall activities, including the establishment of a regional body. Relatedly, <i>Outcome 3.3 Strategy for improved regional coordination for scaling up of NBS and PES synergies</i> is not specific to NBS so suggest moving to overall component and noting for MSP too.</p> <p>Component 2 (PES):</p> <p>b) Please explain why the budget was reduced by almost ?</p> <p>c) It is unclear who is anticipated to pay as beneficiaries. There is brief mention of ?mobilizing the private sector, including fisheries, tourism, extractive industries, etc? as beneficiaries,? but who exactly these are is unclear. There is mention of shipping industry as a benefactor, yet, shipping does not require healthy ecosystems so why would they pay?</p> <p>Component 3 (NBS):</p> <p>d) Outcome 3.1 (Improved organization of regional integrated ecosystem services) and related outputs seem duplicative with PES plans in Component 2. Output 3.1.1 focuses on an accounting system and Output 3.1.2 focuses on financing ecosystem system collection, which suggests a PES scheme. Why is this separate from Component 2?</p> <p>e) The ProDoc overview of Component 3 indicates that the activities will address the breadth of threats including fisheries, pollution,</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>This was a writing error. It was moved to Component 1, where it sits best as a more comprehensive accounting measure that is synergistic with MSP.</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>The formatting of the tables has been revised to the best of our knowledge. The portal sometimes renders things differently to how we see them our side. We hope that it reads correctly now.</p> <p>a) These have been moved to the new component 4 on project organisation and knowledge management.</p> <p>b) The PES budget in the PIF is 400 000 \$US. In the budget submitted it is 423 000 \$US</p> <p>c) The beneficiaries are the organisations who work for rehabilitation and conservation that will <i>receive</i> the money from the PES. The people paying will be the people in the fisheries sector (reference to the other sectors has been removed as we have refined this project to focus on the fisheries as earlier indicated) ? we discussed this with the fisheries organisations in the workshops ? the organisations are keen to be involved (at different levels, artisanal, semi-industrial and industrial) especially indicated by the small-scale fisheries organisations in the workshops. Overall, however, the people who receive the benefits will be the fishers (through the rehabilitation of the ecosystems that provide fisheries services). This was conflated in the project design, and has been updated throughout to refer to users (fishers) and beneficiaries (NBS actors).</p> <p>d) These have been moved to component 2, and the synergistic</p>
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	<p>climate change and habitat destruction. A range of possible activities are noted including habitat restoration, fisheries regulations, floor plan measures, tourism destination regulations, coastal land use and waste management regulations, pollution measures, and adapting to sea level. However, the Output 3.2.3 Pro Doc text possible activities are focused on MPAs. Please clarify as the intent is to pursue a range of activities as needed not only establishing MPAs.</p>	<p>activities between components 1 and 2 more clearly indicated.</p> <p>e) The entire project has been revised for clarity to ensure that the focus is on fisheries, and ecosystems associated with the delivery of fisheries related services. In output 3.2.3 the activities are indicative, but have been updated to also include habitat restoration, such as mangrove or seagrass planting/maintenance. MPAs are not an NBS activity when standalone, therefore we only include the setup of MPAs where there is existing NBS activity taking place (through other projects). We highlight again that these are indicative and that the final activities chosen will be determined by the MSP and by communities and stakeholders, and therefore might vary from the indicative activities.</p>
<p>3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Co-financing</p> <p>4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023) No. Please modify Table C. Sources of Co-financing so clear funds are from WACA and from ProBlue.</p> <p>IWLEARN engagement is highlighted; however, please note 1% of the project budget will go toward these activities (e.g. contributing to global synthesis documents, sharing experiences through webinars and in-person fora, etc).</p> <p>The lack of government co-financing is disappointing as it reflects lack of commitment. During project implementation, it will be important to prioritize developing government long-term commitment to this work.</p> <p>(Karrer 1&2, Parhizkar 3&4, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>1. Please explain the changes in the co-financing, particularly how the WACA contribution increased from \$4M to \$14M. Also, please explain the complete lack of any government co-financing even in-kind. The lack of co-financing from the government indicates a lack of commitment and questions the long-term sustainability of the project.</p> <p>2. Please explain why the co-financing specifically for Component 1 increased from \$2M to \$9M.</p> <p>3. On the co-financing provided by the World Bank, the letter is signed by a <i>Lead Environmental Specialist</i>. Please obtain a co-financing letter that includes details of the person signing the letter.</p> <p>4. It seem that the 14 million co-financing provided by the WB includes technical assistance but also a mix of investments. If this is the case this needs to be reflected in table C of the Portal. Please provide one line for the co-financing provided as in-kind and another line for the co-financing provided as investments</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>This has now been updated on the portal to make it clear funds are from ProBlue.</p> <p>Noted regarding IWLEARN and the 1% budget. This has been added to the text in the communication and knowledge section and is included in the Budget.</p> <p>Regarding national interest and co-financing, national institutions will be heavily involved in the design of the Payment for Ecosystem Services. Given that through this mechanism, it is likely that national authorities will be able to mobilise funds for conservations purposes, it is likely it will generate and interest and leverage further co-financing throughout the project cycle (which will be monitored and reported).</p> <p>1. Some sources of co-financing mentioned in the PIF such as EU PESCAO and EU Fishgov proved impossible to mobilize. Through our discussions with the World bank it appeared that not only WACA funds could be mobilized as a source of funding but also Problue.</p> <p>The inception workshops carried over in the three countries showed a great interest in the project. However, the thematics (MSP, PES and NbS) were quite new for the audience, hence for the countries of project implementation. Given the scarce resources the administration can rely on to manage the coastal resources, the concepts have to first show their relevance before government invest in it.</p> <p>2. As mentioned in the co-financing letter, "World Bank-executed technical assistance in Marine Spatial Planning financed by PROBLUE" is a fund that focusing on MSP, which explains the increase in available funding.</p>
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	<p>mobilized. Please remember to include a description on how the investment mobilized was identified below table C.</p>	<p>3. please find a revised letter in the CEO endorsement package, indicating the details of the person signing.</p> <p>4. The Co-financing covers technical assistance in Marine Spatial Planning financed by PROBLUE. As mentioned above, this is a fund that focuses on MSPs and advancing the blue economy therefore can leverage knowledge and data for the projects MSP activities. Investments mobilised have been updated in the CEO endorsement.</p>
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<p>GEF Resource Availability</p> <p>5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?</p>	<p>(Karrer 1, PPO 2, May 5, 2023) No.</p> <p>1. Please consider how the vehicle can be further co-financed by other sources.</p> <p>2. Now the M&E budget under section 9 is missing make it impossible to compare the originally \$111,000 with the budget table of Annex E is \$163,500 ? please amend.</p> <p>(Karrer 1,2, 3; Salazar 3, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>1. The PMC is not justified to exceed 5%. Please revise. By creating a separate overall regional coordination, KS, scaling component (suggested in previous comments) some previously PMC-type activities may be funded there.</p> <p>2. The ProDoc budget for M&E etc notes \$33,500 for knowledge management. Presumably this will include engagement in IWLEARN activities, which we typically request be allocated 1% or more of the budget (\$30,000). Please confirm.</p> <p>3. The budget in CER Appendix E notes a budget for vehicles purchase (car, boat, motor bikes) that totals 5% of the project budget. Vehicle purchase is generally not encouraged under GEF financing, please explore co-financing to finance for this expenditure.</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>1. FCWC currently has several projects. Contacts will be made to explore co-financing of the vehicles. The vehicle (car) related budget was already reduced from 45 000 \$US to 28 000 \$US and for the remaining modes of transport this is essential across such a large marine area.</p> <p>2. This is not missing, it was in the prodoc as indicated on the portal entry. It is now in the portal in addition to this. The M&E budget had changed from \$111,000 to \$74,500. This is reflected in Annex E and in the M&E budget, as was in the previous submission. This was correct at \$74,500.</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>1. The PMC does not exceed 5%</p> <p>2. We have revised all knowledge management to fall under Component 4 and adequate resources have been allocated to IW:LEARN.</p> <p>3. The car price was reduced from 50 000 \$US to 30 000 \$US, making it necessary to co-finance the purchase of a robust vehicle</p>
<p>Project Preparation Grant</p> <p>6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?</p>	<p>(Karrer, Feb 3 2023) Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Core indicators</p> <p>7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E? Do they remain realistic?</p>	<p>(Karrer 1 and Parhizkar 2, 3, May 5, 2023). No.</p> <p>1. Please add the explanation for the calculation of Core indicator 8 (Sustainable fisheries).</p> <p>2. The targets for core indicator 5 and 11 are not consistent in the results framework and the core indicator table.</p> <p>3. There is a significant reductions in target from PIF to CEO endorsement. Please provide further justification. ie., CI.2?s target reduced from 350,000 ha to 60,000 ha. CI. 3?s target reduced from 25,000ha to 2,500 ha.</p> <p>(Karrer 1&2 and Parhizkar 3, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>1. There are three new indicator targets for Indicator 3 (area of land and ecosystems under restoration), Indicator 5 (marine habitat under improved practices) and Indicator 8 (sustainable fisheries). Please explain the basis for the target amounts noted.</p> <p>2. The PIF review noted, ?during PPG consideration needs to be given as to whether it is realistic for the project to develop new MPAs?. Please clarify if this request was addressed and how as new MPAs are not reflected in the indicators table.</p> <p>3. Core indicators are missing in the results framework. Core Indicators targets need to be aligned with Results Framework (Annex A). GEF Core Indicators should be explicitly mentioned in the Results Framework.</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>1. This explanation has been added to the portal.</p> <p>2. The indicators for 5 and 11 are disaggregated. If the values in the results framework are summed, you?ll find that they add up to what is in the core indicators table. For indicator 5, there are 20thousand ha in output 2.2.1, and 50thousand ha in 3.1.3 ? totalling the 70 thousand ha. For indicator 11, clarity has been provided on the disaggregation where previously not well represented.</p> <p>The justification for the reduction in targets 2 and 3, as provided in the previous submission, has been added to further. This justification in reduction in targets is due to a revised focus and scale of project interventions as mentioned in the previous submission.</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>1. We highlight that this must be a portal error, as on our side of the portal, and in the PIF and CEO documents we have the same values for Indicators 5 and 8 (70 000ha and 27 000tons respectively) at both the PIF and CEO stage. Indicator 3 has changed since PIF stage (25 000ha to 2 500 ha) and this was detailed and explained underneath Table E in the CEO.</p> <p>2. This must also be a portal error as our CEO (unchanged since submission) notes 60 000ha of MPAs either introduced or under improved management under indicator 2.2. Again we highlight that MPAs are not NBS but can be useful to support NBS activities.</p> <p>3. The core indicators have been added to the results framework. Gender has been disaggregated to reflect the beneficiaries across the</p>
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		activities. The Area of marine habitat under improved practices (excl. MPAs) has been split between the implementation of PES and NBS activities as these will both contribute to improved practices, although NBS will directly do this more. The rest of the core indicators have remained aggregated at the most suitable points in the outcomes.
Part II ? Project Justification	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?		
2. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
3. Is the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there sufficient clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) No. See previous comments.	12 April 2023 These have been addressed in response to the earlier comments, see above.
4. Is there further elaboration on how the project is aligned with focal area/impact program strategies?	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
5. Is the incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing clearly elaborated?	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
6. Is there further and better elaboration on the project?s expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A

<p>7. Is there further and better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?</p>	<p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Project Map and Coordinates</p> <p>Is there an accurate and confirmed geo-referenced information where the project intervention will take place?</p>	<p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Child Project</p> <p>If this is a child project, is there an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Stakeholders</p> <p>Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023).</p> <p>The addition of the private sector stakeholders is appreciated; however, only fisheries-related stakeholders are noted. The project includes developing marine spatial plans (Component 1), which require working with a range of sectors, including tourism, mining, energy (oil & gas), shipping, and conservation. Please add these. As noted in the first comment, the alternative is to focus Component 1 only on zoning fisheries in which case the other stakeholders would not be as engaged.</p> <p>Regarding engaging the coastal communities, these were consulted during PPG for Togo and Cote d'Ivoire, but not Ghana. To rectify this situation, consulting with the Ghana coastal communities will need to be a priority during early implementation.</p> <p>(Karrer, Feb 3 2023) No.</p> <p>The ProDoc stakeholder section provides a detailed account of the relevant government agencies, NGOs and research institutions that will be engaged. These cover a range of sectors beyond fisheries, which is encouraging. How they will be engaged is also noted. However, the private sector is not listed. This group is important for the project activities. Please add this list and ensure it reflects the breadth of sectors relevant to the project as discussed in the first comment.</p> <p>Appendix B lists the stakeholders engaged during PPG; however, most of the organizations noted are unknown acronyms. Please add a column indicating the type of stakeholder ? e.g. fisheries organization, private shipping business, etc. so that we can understand who was consulted.</p> <p>Note that Canada Council member specifically requested consultations</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>These stakeholders have been added as part of the MSP activities (full response above to similar comment).</p> <p>This is duly noted, we have specified in the SEP in inception phase of the project the engagement with coastal communities in Ghana.</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>Section 3.4 has been updated to include the private sector stakeholders that will be engaged. These will be the national fisheries organisations and associations, small scale fisher associations, and tuna associations. Most of these were there already, but not properly indicated as private sector and this has since been updated. Section 4 of the CEO doc has been updated too to reflect this.</p> <p>In Annex B of the ProDoc, a column indicating the type of stakeholder engaged during PPG has been added, and the acronyms expanded too for clarity.</p> <p>Regarding the communities affected by sea level rise, please see response below in the council comments section.</p>
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	with coastal communities affected by sea level rise. Please ensure this request was addressed.	
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<p>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</p> <p>Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023). Yes. As explained in the response, the gender aspects will be further analyzed and addressed during implementation as plans evolve and progress.</p> <p>(Karrer 1 Le bale 2, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>1. A gender analysis and action plan was conducted during PPG. The resulting plan for the project provides useful guidance indicating that women need to be engaged in the project activities, that the impacts to them need to be considered and that alternative livelihoods need to be identified to fit their interests. However, the gender analysis was too limited and did not adequately address the project activities. It focused on national-level information (e.g. education levels, access to healthcare, engagement in decision-making). Related to the project, the focus was very much on the role of women related to fisheries and to a limited extent mangrove resource extraction (e.g. oyster harvesting). There was no analysis of how women relate to the other activities that impact or benefit from coastal and marine ecosystems, which were identified by the project as fisheries, aquaculture, energy, tourism, recreation, ports, shipping (or transport and trade), and extraction of non-living resources (or mining). Consequently there were no insights into how women would be affected by (positively or negatively) the proposed activities around MSP, PES and NBS. There needs to be an understanding as to the role of women, how they will be affected, and recommendations to the project. In the final PIF review this point was made. Specifically, "During PPG consideration will be needed regarding the role of women related to the various threats that are managed by the project, which are not all reflected in the gender section. For example, agriculture, wood exploitation, plastic pollution, mineral extraction, oil exploration, shipping, ports and harbor construction."</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>1. Given that the project has been refined to focus only on the fisheries these other sectoral areas have not been addressed. Because the exact schemes that will be applied for NBS and PES are not yet identified and are only indicative since they need to be consulted with stakeholders, including women, this type of analysis has rather been designed in to the activities as a necessary first step prior to intervention. As such, there is already a site-specific gender analyses in the project prior to NBS and PES pilots. The provision of gender based results has also been updated to ensure it is included in the results framework.</p> <p>We have left in the national level context on health, education etc as it does provide useful knowledge to support the implementing actors at a later stage.</p> <p>2. The project design has been updated to include gender based activities where relevant, and the results framework also updated to reflect this.</p>
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	<p>Consequently, the gender analysis needs to be redone to address the breadth of activities relevant to the project.</p> <p>2. In addition, as a good gender mainstreaming practice, it is recommended to reflect/weave in gender equality considerations in the project components, whenever relevant (i.e., not to confine gender perspectives in the Gender Action Plan).</p>	
<p>Private Sector Engagement</p> <p>If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023). Yes.</p> <p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>Please revise to specify the private sectors engaged in PPG. Ensure financiers are included.</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>Section 3.4 has been updated to include the private sector stakeholders that will be engaged. Some were already on there, but more have been added ? essentially these will be the national fisheries organisations and associations, small scale fisher associations, and tuna associations. Section 4 of the CEO doc has been updated too to reflect this.</p> <p>A column indicating the type of stakeholder engaged during PPG has been added to Annex B of the ProDoc.</p>
<p>Risks to Achieving Project Objectives</p> <p>Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?</p>	<p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Coordination</p> <p>Is the institutional arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023). Yes. The response ?the FCWC contact Ministries in each of the 3 countries is the Ministry of Fisheries. However it is foreseen the Ministry of Environment will be very much involved? indicates a very limited scope for engagement. While that may be fine for the NBS and PES activities, for the MSP a wide range of ministries will need to be engaged related to tourism, mining/energy, etc. Fortunately, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan notes a range of government agencies for each country indicating the breadth will be engaged.</p> <p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>The EA for the project is the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC). Given the importance of other sectors beyond fisheries and given the focus on only 3 countries, it would seem the EA would need to have a broader mandate and broader expertise. Further, given the focus on the 3 countries and activities within each, it would seem that the national government agencies from the 3 countries would be engaged, particularly agencies beyond fisheries.</p> <p>The relationship between this project and the GCLME activities, including the proposed Guinea Commission, need to be explained. The GCLME project is in flux; however, it still needs to be considered. The final PIF comments noted, ?The project will ensure it has all the deliverables of the GCLME and based on the documents, will consider to follow-up and/or strengthen the initiatives and activities already developed. This assessment needs to occur during PPG and the relationship with GCLME and the proposed Guinea Commission clearly explained in the CER. This point will be carefully reviewed for CER.?</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>Duly noted. The Ministry of Environment will be fully engaged in the MSP process, as will the other ministries indicated on the SEP.</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>The FCWC contact Ministries in each of the 3 countries is the Ministry of Fisheries. However it is foreseen that the Ministry of Environment will be very much involved in the process as PES and NbS are concepts that should be integrated by the Ministry</p> <p>As mentioned in 5.2, an inter-ministerial committee will be set up in each of the three countries gathering the different sectorial institutions involved in fisheries and coastal resources management at national and local levels. Moreover, representatives of the national inter-ministerial committee will be participating in the steering committee. Finally, the list of participants in the national inception workshops shows the diversity of the audience.</p> <p>GCLME is currently non functional, the Guinea Commission has not been established and as such it difficult to develop collaboration. GCLME is to hosted by the Abidjan Convention, and currently the letters of endorsement of the countries parties to the project are awaited as well as letters from the partners agreeing on the new role of the Abidjan Convention. However, once the current projet is in the course of implementation and hoping the GCLME is functional, links on subjects such as the maintenance of ecosystem health and protection of biodiversity, and collaborate to integrate MSP, NbS and PES in the regulatory and institutional framework of the three countries</p>
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Consistency with National Priorities	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?		

<p>Knowledge Management</p> <p>Is the proposed Knowledge Management Approach for the project adequately elaborated with a timeline and a set of deliverables?</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023). Yes. The knowledge management is intended to share experiences in <u>how</u> the project activities were undertaken, including lessons learned on what worked or not. From the 4.11 Communication and KM text and Table 12, this will occur in Component 4.</p> <p>(Karrer 1&2; Biro 3-, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>1. The ProDoc section on knowledge management emphasizes sharing lessons learned; however, the table does not include activities related to synthesizing and sharing lessons learned from the project. Please revise to indicate these plans.</p> <p>2. These knowledge management plans are not reflected in the actual project components all of which need to include knowledge and experience synthesis and sharing with relevant stakeholders related to the project and with other relevant projects. Currently some outputs note sharing experiences between pilots, others note synthesizing data, training and creating a shareholder dialogue platform. There need to be more consistent plans throughout the components, particularly for synthesizing and sharing knowledge and experiences</p> <p>3. The project's KM Approach and communication plan could be better elaborated, especially in terms of how the project will participate in IW:Learn. While there is mention of knowledge dissemination through the platform and IW:Learn, there is no clear description of a communication plan/strategy for the project.</p> <p>Please revise the KM approach to better explain how the project will engage with IW:Learn, what the project's communication strategy/plan is and how the platform fits in. Also please provide a clear budget for implementing planned knowledge management activities,</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>1. The existing activities on lessons learned that were in the logframe have been added to a new KM table in section 4.11 of the prodoc indicating all of the relevant KM activities across the project, and the associated knowledge outputs.</p> <p>2. The activities from the knowledge management section have been added to the new component 4.</p> <p>3. The KM approach has been revised to do include a knowledge management strategy that includes monitoring thereof. IW:Learn has been better incorporated by adding 2 activities that address this, 1 is on linking the stakeholder dialogue and lessons learned platform to IW Learn and the other is hosting an IW Learn webinar on the outcomes of the project.</p> <p>The KM plan has been revised to indicate where knowledge management and communication activities take place across the components and activities. Because there are now outputs within the project design that cover knowledge management, these are all incorporated in the revised budget for the components.</p> <p>4. See above the responses to points 2 and 3. The cost of building the platform has also been reflected in the budget.</p>
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	<p>including the development of the platform, participation in IW:Learn and implementation of the communication plan/strategy.</p> <p>4. A timeline related to KM activities has been provided in the prodoc; but the project document does not seem to specify a KM budget, other than listing the cost of KM elements as part of the M&E budget. It is also not clear how much the platform will cost to build. Please revise.</p>	
<p>Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)</p> <p>Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?</p>	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
<p>Monitoring and Evaluation</p> <p>Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?</p>	<p>(Salazar, Feb 3, 2023) No.</p> <p>M&E budget under section 9 ? Monitoring and Evaluation is \$111,000, while under the budget table of Annex E is \$163,500.</p>	<p>12 April 2023</p> <p>The M&E costs have been updated to total \$74,500. This has been updated in the Prodoc (section 8) and the budget table (Annex E).</p>
<p>Benefits</p> <p>Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?</p>	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A

Annexes	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) Yes.	N/A
Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?		
Project Results Framework		N/A
GEF Secretariat comments		N/A

<p>Council comments</p>	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023). Yes.</p> <p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023)</p> <p>1. Canada requested consideration of how coastal communities will be affected by sea level rise, particularly displacement. In the response you noted, "This project is designed to increase the resilience and ability of coastal communities to adapt to coastal living in response to climate change." However these aspects do not seem addressed in the plans, particularly NBS plans. Please clarify.</p> <p>Canada's comments to engage with stakeholders related to the MSP and gender aspects are reflected in previous comments related to stakeholder engagement and gender plans.</p> <p>2. Germany raised concerns regarding the MSP process. Please incorporate response points into the Pro Doc and CER, particularly regarding plans to work with the various government agencies and plans to legalize and enforce the MSPs.</p> <p>3. Norway and Denmark's comments regarding a deeper risk analysis and gender analysis were addressed.</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>12 April 2023</p> <p>1. There was an error in the response to the council comments. We've reconsidered the impact of the project to be a co-benefit to climate change adaptation and mitigation, but not a primary benefit. This project will naturally enhance the resilience of coastal communities affected by sea level rise through the implementation of NBS, which we expect will predominantly be restoration of coastal ecosystems. However, this project is not an entirely climate project and focuses primarily on fisheries. The fisheries focus will benefit those affected by the impacts of climate change on declining and migrating fish stocks in terms of livelihoods and food security in the face of climate change too. As such, the communities engaged were not consulted on sea-level rise specifically but rather the issues related to ecosystem service deliver (related to fishing), what PES might look like in their communities, and potential NBS solutions that would be most feasible or rewarding to them.</p> <p>2. We acknowledge the need to ensure that MSPs are legalized and enforced to be effective. However, it is beyond the scope of the project to ensure enforcement and legalization, especially given that the FCWC (the executing agency) is a regional body that has limited influence, and can't force, the integration of spatial plans into national law. The project demonstrates what can work in practice, and provides tools to support national institutions, but there are no funds, nor the political will, to ensure institutions apply these. The intention is that through capacity building and training of</p>
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		<p>national officials in the MSP component, and through the stakeholder workshops, that the countries take ownership of the tools given to them. They are on board with developing MSPs (as identified in our workshops), however whether or not they are used in practice is beyond the remit of this project.</p> <p>3. N/A</p>
STAP comments	<p>(Karrer, May 5, 2023). Yes.</p> <p>(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023)</p> <p>STAP suggested a revised objective, which the Agency responded they adopted; however, this is not the case. Please revise the objective to be, ?Enhance coastal and marine habitats in Togo, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire through coordinated marine spatial planning (MSP), economic incentives (payment for ecosystem services), and nature-based solutions.?</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>12th April Please indicate where this still needs to change, as we did adopt this, and currently it reads as requested on the first page of the CEO doc, as well as in the the gender action plan, and the project results framework.</p>
Convention Secretariat comments		N/A
Other Agencies comments		N/A
CSOs comments		N/A
Status of PPG utilization		N/A
Project maps and coordinates		N/A
Does the termsheet in Annex F provide finalized financial terms and conditions? Does the termsheet and financial structure address concerns raised at PIF stage and that were pending to be resolved ahead of CEO endorsement? (For NGI Only)		N/A

Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)		N/A
Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)		N/A
GEFSEC DECISION RECOMMENDATION Is CEO endorsement recommended? (applies only to projects and child projects)	(Karrer, Feb 3, 2023) No.	

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

<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>
Consultancy	89 916	89 916	0
Workshops	10 000	2 842	7 158
Agency fees	9 000	9 000	0
Total	108 916	101 758	7 158

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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

please see previous section in the CER submission for the relevant map.

ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Expenditure category	Details	Overall Project budget (US\$eq)											
		Component 1		Component 2		Component 3			Component 4			Sub-Total	
		1.1	1.2	2.1	2.2	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2	4.3		
Goods												542,000	
02.Goods	NbS pilot scheme Togo - mangroves restoration (3.2.3)					40,000	40,000						80,000
02.Goods	NbS pilot scheme Togo - mangroves area demarcation (3.2.3)					25,000	25,000						50,000
02.Goods	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - MPA demarcation equipment (3.2.3)					28,000	28,000						56,000
02.Goods	NbS pilot scheme Côte d'Ivoire - MPA demarcation equipment (3.2.3)					28,000	28,000						56,000
02.Goods	NbS pilot scheme Côte d'Ivoire - MPA surveillance equipment (3.2.3)					75,000	75,000						150,000
02.Goods	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - MPA surveillance equipment (3.2.3)					75,000	75,000						150,000
Vehicles												136,000	
03.Vehicles	Vehicle	28,000											28,000
03.Vehicles	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - boat (3.2.3)					30,000							30,000
03.Vehicles	NbS pilot scheme Côte d'Ivoire - boat (3.2.3)					30,000							30,000
03.Vehicles	NbS pilot scheme Côte d'Ivoire - engine (3.2.3)					9,000							9,000
03.Vehicles	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - engine (3.2.3)					9,000							9,000
03.Vehicles	NbS pilot scheme Côte d'Ivoire - motorbikes (3.2.3)					15,000							15,000
03.Vehicles	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - motorbikes (3.2.3)					15,000							15,000
Contractual Services – Company												-	
08.Contractual Services – Company	Audit												-
08.Contractual Services – Company	Mid Term Review /Final Evaluation												-
International Consultants												269,100	
09.International Consultants	Consultant MSP Component 1	89,500											89,500
09.International Consultants	Consultant PES Component 2 + 3.1.2			72,500						13,500			88,000
09.International Consultants	Consultant BEVTK			15,000									15,000
09.International Consultants	Consultant NbS Component 3					55,000				13,600			68,600
09.International Consultants	ESMS Consultant			10,000									10,000
Local Consultants												735,000	
10.Local Consultants	MSP Consultants (3)	378,000											378,000
10.Local Consultants	Consultant Web design (1.1.1)	7,000											7,000
10.Local Consultants	GIS Consultants (3)	31,500		21,000									52,500
10.Local Consultants	PES Consultants (3) (2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1, 3.1.2)					84,000							84,000
10.Local Consultants	Communication & Knowledge management consultant (2.2)								30,500				30,500
10.Local Consultants	NbS Consultants (3)					94,500							94,500
10.Local Consultants	PES Law consultant (3)						35,000						35,000
10.Local Consultants	SAPAS/SAGE consultant			7,000									7,000
10.Local Consultants	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - Management plan consultant (3.2.3)							28,000					28,000
10.Local Consultants	NbS pilot scheme Togo - Mangroves management plan (3.2.3)							17,500					17,500
10.Local Consultants	Knowledge Management/W Learning									41,500			41,500
Salary and benefits / Staff costs												-	
11.Salary and benefits / Staff costs	PMU Coordinator												-
11.Salary and benefits / Staff costs	PMU Admin/Finance												-
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings												777,000	
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Inception workshop												-
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Project Steering Committee												-
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National MSP information collection workshops (1.2.1)	30,000											30,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National MSP training workshops (3 x 3 countries) (1.2.2)	90,000											90,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National MSP documents workshops (3 x 3 countries) (1.2.3)	135,000											135,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Regional MSP workshops (2)	70,000											70,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National PES data collection workshops (2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3)			45,000									45,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National PES information sharing workshops (2.2.1)			45,000									45,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National PES technical workshops (2.2.1)			30,000									30,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	PES stakeholders workshops (2 sites x 3 X 3 countries) (2.2.1)						27,000						27,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National NbS Workshops (3.1.1)					50,000							50,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	National meetings PES with Ministries (5 x 3 countries) (3.1.2)					15,000							15,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Stakeholders consultation NbS workshops (2 sites x 6 x 3 countries) (3.1.2, 3.2.3)					51,000							51,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Consultative working groups PES (2.2.1)					48,000							48,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	NbS pilot scheme Côte d'Ivoire - meetings (3.2.3)					20,000							20,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	NbS pilot scheme Ghana - meetings (3.2.3)					40,000							40,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	NbS pilot scheme Togo - meetings (3.2.3)					18,000							18,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	RPMU and stakeholders trainings (4.1.1)								18,000				18,000
12.Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Thematic workshops (MSP, PES, NbS) (4.1.2)								45,000				45,000
Travel												119,500	
13.Travel	International travel international MSP consultant	4,500											4,500
13.Travel	Per diems international consultant MSP (1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4)	28,000											28,000
13.Travel	Regional travel international MSP consultant	6,000											6,000
13.Travel	International travel international PES consultant			4,500									4,500
13.Travel	Per diems international consultant PES (2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1)			18,000									18,000
13.Travel	Regional travel international PES consultant			3,000									3,000
13.Travel	PES exchange visits (2.2.1)					30,000							30,000
13.Travel	International travel international NbS consultant					4,500							4,500
13.Travel	Per diems international consultant NbS (1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4)					18,000							18,000
13.Travel	Regional travel international NbS consultant					3,000							3,000
Office Supplies												-	
14.Office Supplies	Office hardware												-
14.Office Supplies	Office maintenance												-
Other Operating Costs												150,000	
15.Other Operating Costs	Printing work MSP	15,000											15,000
15.Other Operating Costs	Communication/visibility material		20,000		20,000			20,000					60,000
15.Other Operating Costs	Translation/interpreters	30,000		15,000		30,000			16,000				75,000
		942,500	20,000	343,000	55,000	531,000	424,500	291,000	79,000	72,000	27,100		
		962,500		398,000		1,246,500			178,100			2,785,100	

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 Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

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

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