



# GEF-6 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

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## PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Strengthening of the enabling environment, ecosystem-based management and governance to support implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem		
Country(ies):	Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, and Togo <sup>1</sup>	GEF Project ID: <sup>2</sup>	<b>9911</b>
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP FAO UNDP UNIDO	GEF Agency Project ID:	01609
Other Executing Partner(s):	Abidjan Convention Secretariat, Regional Fisheries Bodies, National Authorities	Resubmission Date:	September 29, 2017
GEF Focal Area(s):	International Waters	Project Duration (Months)	36
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name of parent program:	[if applicable]	Agency Fee (\$)	419,540

## A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES<sup>3</sup>

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
IW-3 Program 5 (select) (select)	GEFTF	1,472,070	4,583,916
IW-3 Program 6 (select) (select)	GEFTF	1,472,070	4,583,917
IW-3 Program 7 (select) (select)	GEFTF	1,472,070	4,583,917
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>4,416,210</b>	<b>13,751,750</b>

## B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

**Project Objective: To strengthen the regional governance and ecosystem-based management of the GCLME through assisting the counties to build capacity for SAP implementation measures related to transboundary fisheries, biodiversity conservation and pollution reduction**

Project Components	Financing Type <sup>4</sup>	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
1. Strengthening of regional governance and regional and national capacities  (UNEP led)	TA	1.1 Regional level <b>governance of GCLME is strengthened</b> through the establishment of Guinea Current Commission (GCC) to support transboundary policy, planning frameworks and tools; and improved institutional capacity	1.1.1 <b>Scope and mandate of the GCC</b> clarified and agreed <i>vis-a-vis</i> existing regional institutions in a protocol to the Abidjan Convention (ABC)  1.1.2 <b>Legal instruments</b> establishing the GCC as a protocol to the ABC developed and operational guidance	GEFTF	1,398,414	4,285,714

<sup>1</sup> Because of the recent elections in Angola, by the time of submission, GEF OFP has not yet been appointed, and LoE has not been secured. It is expected that Angola will be included in the list of participating countries during PPG phase.

<sup>2</sup> Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submissions.

<sup>3</sup> When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](#) and [CBIT guidelines](#).

<sup>4</sup> Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

Project Components	Financing Type <sup>4</sup>	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
		<p>1.2. <b>GCLME adaptive management and SAP implementation</b> actions supported in an integrated and coordinated manner through national policies and effective institutions</p> <p>1.3. Innovative <b>financing mechanisms in place</b> for sustaining GCC operations and SAP/NAP implementation within and beyond the life-span of the Project</p> <p>1.4. <b>An effective platform is developed</b> in GCLME countries, projects and agencies for implementation of the GCLME SAP</p>	<p>adopted</p> <p>1.1.3 <b>Cooperation among regional bodies and initiatives improved</b> by setting up new coordination modalities between ABC) GCC, Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFB)s and WACA<sup>5</sup> (in cooperation with 2.1.1)</p> <p>1.2.1 <b>Inter-ministerial committees strengthened</b> in all GCC 16 member countries</p> <p>1.2.2 <b>Policy reforms</b> at national level <b>initiated</b> to ensure consistency with regionally agreed frameworks and targets on habitat conservation and water quality</p> <p>1.3.1 Sustainable <b>financing mechanism developed and adopted</b> at the regional/national levels</p> <p>1.3.2 National <b>partnership agreements defined</b> within the NAPs to support implementation</p> <p>1.3.3 <b>Partnership established</b> with business community, donors and development partners, including a donor conference (coordinated with 4.2.2)</p> <p>1.4.1 Regional Coordination and <b>Stock-Taking Meetings</b> held (target - annually)</p> <p>1.4.2 Inter-agency <b>working meetings/ consultations</b></p>			

<sup>5</sup> West Africa Coastal Areas (WACA) Resilience Investment Program of the World Bank

Project Components	Financing Type <sup>4</sup>	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
			<p><b>organized</b> (target – quarterly: virtually, annually: in person).</p> <p><b>1.4.3 Coordination tools (also web-based) and procedures are developed, maintained to provide</b> support of SAP implementation (in coordination with Output 3.2)</p>			
<p>2. Strengthening of fisheries governance and management in an ecosystem context</p> <p>(FAO led)</p>	TA	<p><b>2.1 Regional capacity in GCLME enhanced for cross-sectoral cooperation</b> through knowledge and information sharing between fisheries and aquaculture and other sectors on transboundary issues of common concern</p> <p><b>2.2 Fisheries and Aquaculture policies, plans and sector strategies</b>, consistent with modern approaches and guidelines<sup>6</sup> adequately support the implementation of EAF/EAA and use of best practices in fisheries and aquaculture</p>	<p><b>2.1.1 Cooperation modalities between RFBs, ABC and GCC developed</b> and established to strengthen the collaboration among existing regional bodies dealing with fisheries, aquaculture, habitat and pollution management (links to 1.1)</p> <p><b>2.1.2 Information sharing agreement(s) or similar arrangements</b> among key regional and national bodies <b>facilitated</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1 Reviews and strengthening of laws and policies</b> of GCLME member countries</p> <p><b>2.2.2 Capacity Building Programme</b> developed and carried out for EAF/EAA implementation</p>	GEFTF	1,050,000	3,333,333

<sup>6</sup> The Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF), others

Project Components	Financing Type <sup>4</sup>	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
		2.3 Adaptive management in fisheries and aquaculture sectors <b>informed by best available knowledge</b> , science and assessment of key ecosystem components of relevance to fisheries and aquaculture, including impacts of global climate change and variability (link to 3.1)	2.3.1 <b>Study/ies</b> on the potential impacts of climate change and variability on fisheries and aquaculture ecosystems conducted  2.3.2 Fishery <b>policy, management, and adaptation strategies</b> identified and discussed with key stakeholders for implementation			
3. Assessments, stakeholder and inter-ministerial consultations  (UNDP led)	TA	3.1. <b>Enhanced regional knowledge and awareness</b> of environmental variability and change in the region <b>inform</b> adaptive management in all GCLME countries  3.2. <b>Operational Regional knowledge sharing mechanism</b> for decision-making, with links to WB WACA Programme, assist decision makers at national level to translate policies and strategies into actions (in coordination with Output 1.4)	3.1.1 Increased capacity of national stakeholders for EBM  3.1.2 Tailored training <b>programmes of national institutions for EBM of GCLME</b>  3.2.1 Interactive GCC <b>Information Platform and data exchange mechanism</b> on environmental and socioeconomic conditions disaggregated by gender maintained and duly updated (links to 1.4.3) 3.2.2 Spatial monitoring & assessment data <b>management system</b> of the LME and coastal zone 3.2.3 Integration of GCLME regional knowledge-sharing mechanism with IW:LEARN regional and global activities; updated GCC website, experience notes and IW Conferences (bi-annual) and at least 1% of total project funding dedicated to IW:Learn activities	GEFTF	807,500	3,333,333
4. Hot spot analysis of pollution in the GCLME and private sector mobilization	TA	4.1. <b>Pollution</b> in the GCLME <b>assessed and coastal pollution hot spots identified.</b>	4.1.1 <b>Pollution analysed</b> and priority coastal hotspots identified (hot spot	GEFTF	950,000	2,144,524

Project Components	Financing Type <sup>4</sup>	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
(UNIDO led)		4.2 <b>Enhanced capacity</b> to implement Best Environmental Practices ( <b>BEP</b> )/ Best Appropriate Technology ( <b>BAT</b> ) at selected pollution hot spots	analysis), <b>recommendations developed</b>  4.1.2 <b>Capacity built</b> in GCLME countries in applying the integrated hot spots – <b>transfer of environmentally sound technologies (TEST) methodology</b>  4.2.1 <b>Plans for implementation of BEP/BAT</b> developed  4.2.2 Private sector mobilized through specialized training, and awareness raising on the economic and ecologic benefits achievable under PPPs for the application of the TEST methodology			
<b>Subtotal</b>						<b>4,205,914</b> <b>13,096,904</b>
Project Management Cost (PMC) <sup>7</sup>				GEFTF		210,296    654,846
<b>Total Project Cost</b>						<b>4,416,210</b> <b>13,751,750</b>

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (       )

**C. INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	UNEP	In-kind	3,500,000
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	2,500,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	2,500,000
GEF Agency	UNIDO	In-kind	1,200,000
GEF Agency	UNIDO	Cash	51,750
Recipient Government	Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Togo	In-kind	4,000,000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>13,751,750</b>

<sup>7</sup> For GEF Project Financing up to \$2 million, PMC could be up to 10% of the subtotal; above \$2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

**D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS <sup>a)</sup>**

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) <sup>b)</sup>	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	GEFTF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	1,468,335	139,492	<b>1,607,827</b>
FAO	GEFTF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	1,102,500	104,738	<b>1,207,238</b>
UNDP	GEFTF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	847,875	80,548	<b>928,423</b>
UNIDO	GEFTF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	997,500	94,762	<b>1,092,262</b>
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>4,416,210</b>	<b>419,540</b>	<b>4,835,750</b>

a) Refer to the [Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies](#).

**E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)<sup>8</sup>**

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes  No  If no, skip item E.

**PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS**

Project Preparation Grant amount requested: <b>\$150 000</b>					PPG Agency Fee: 14,250		
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee <sup>9</sup> (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	GEF TF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	37,500	3,562	41,062
FAO	GEF TF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	37,500	3,562	41,062
UNDP	GEF TF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	37,500	3,563	41,063
UNIDO	GEF TF	Global	International Waters	(select as applicable)	37,500	3,563	41,063
<b>Total PPG Amount</b>					<b>150,000</b>	<b>14,250</b>	<b>164,250</b>

**F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS<sup>10</sup>**

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	<i>Hectares</i>
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	<i>Hectares</i>
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>Number of freshwater basins</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>Percent of fisheries, by volume</i>

<sup>8</sup> PPG requested amount is determined by the size of the GEF Project Financing (PF) as follows: Up to \$50k for PF up to \$2m (for MSP); up to \$100k for PF up to \$3m; \$150k for PF up to \$6m; \$200k for PF up to \$10m; and \$300k for PF above \$10m. On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

<sup>9</sup> PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the Agency fee over the GEF Project Financing amount requested.

<sup>10</sup> Provide those indicator values in this table to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF, SCCF or CBIT.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
4. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	<i>Hectares</i>
5. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	<i>Hectares</i>
6. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>Number of freshwater basins</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>Percent of fisheries, by volume</i>
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO <sub>2e</sub> mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>metric tons</i>
8. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	<i>metric tons</i>
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	<i>metric tons</i>
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	<i>ODP tons</i>
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries: 16</i>
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries: 16</i>

## **PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

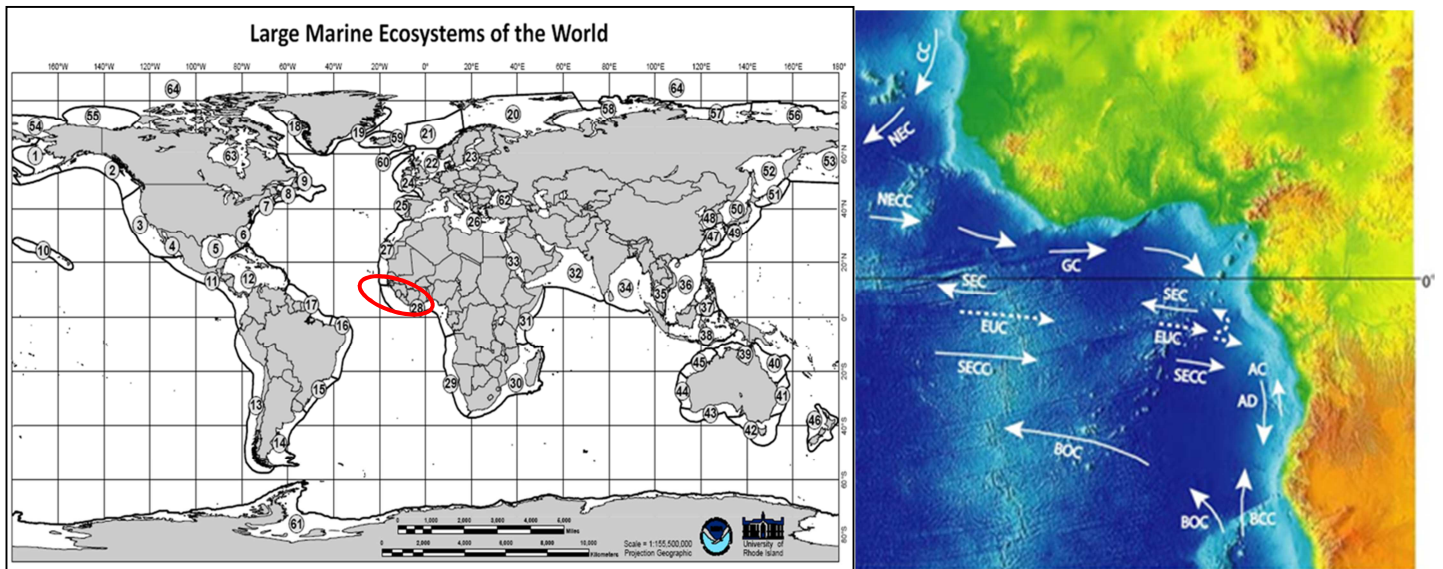
1. *Project Description*. Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area<sup>11</sup> strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

The Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) extends from the Bijagos Archipelago (Guinea Bissau) in the north to Cape Lopez (Gabon) in the south. The ecosystem area is considered to include the exclusive economic zones of 16 countries, namely, Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Togo. The Guinea current region, and in particular its central part, faces a number of challenges involving population growth and urbanization, over fishing, water pollution, public health and sanitation, habitat degradation, coastal erosion, loss of biological diversity and land-use (e.g. conversion of mangroves, etc.). Many of the countries in the sub-region are oil producers, and the region is exposed to oil pollution.

The GCLME is one of the world's most productive marine and coastal areas, with relatively rich fishery resources of significant importance from a nutritional, employment and income perspective, oil and gas reserves, precious minerals, and high coastal tourism potential. The total economic value of the environmental goods and services provided by the GCLME's coastal and marine resources is estimated to be some US\$18 billion per year according to the GCLME TDA. The environmental goods and services of this shared resource support the livelihoods of approximately 40 percent of the region's 350 million people in proximity of, and dependent upon the fisheries and other resources provided by, the lagoons, tidal wetlands, mangroves, estuaries, river deltas, creeks, inshore and coastal waters of the GCLME for their

<sup>11</sup> For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

sustenance, general well-being, and the socio-economic development of their societies. In recognition of its global significance, the GCLME has received GEF support through UNEP and UNIDO since 1995, when a pilot project was approved for the GCLME with only five out of the 16 riparian states participating.



**Figure 1.** Extent and currents of the GCLME

FAO was invited to join after the completion of the TDA and SAP. More recently, UNDP has also joined as a partner in the implementation of the larger GCLME project that encompassed all the 16 riparian states. A Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) was finalized after a second phase of funding and identified four priority environmental concerns (GCLME, 2006):

- Decline in GCLME fish stocks and non-optimal harvesting of living resources
- Loss of ecosystem integrity (changes in community composition, vulnerable species and biodiversity, introduction of alien species) and yields in a highly variable environment including effects of global climate change
- Deterioration in water quality (chronic and catastrophic) from land and sea-based activities, eutrophication and harmful algal blooms
- Habitat destruction and alteration including inter-alia modification of seabed and coastal zone, degradation of coastscapes, and coastline erosion.

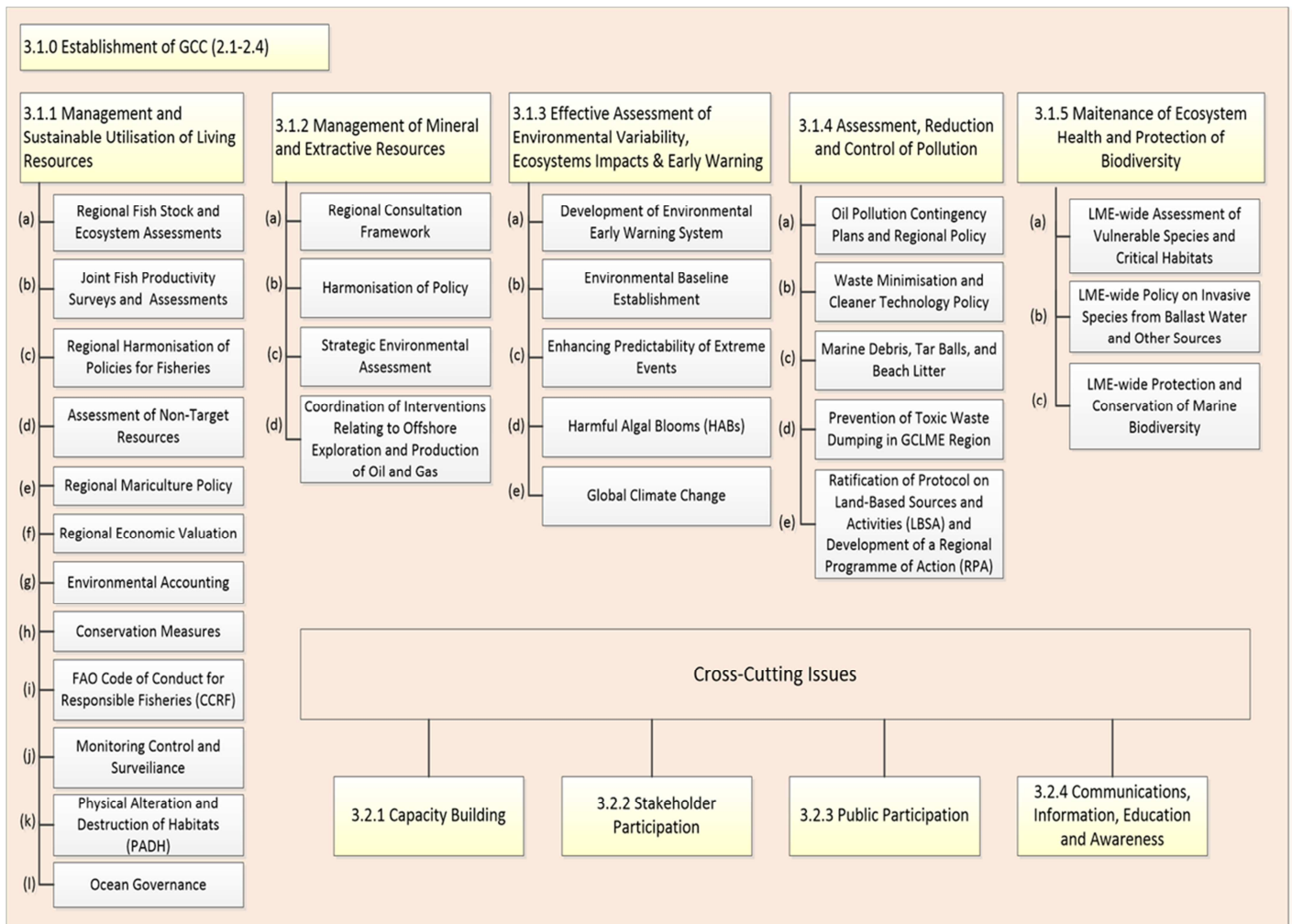
Based on the TDA, a Strategic Action Programme (The SAP) was endorsed by member countries in 2008, which reaffirms regional joint commitment to an ecosystem-based approach to the integrated management, protection and sustainable use of the resources of the GCLME by the people of the sixteen riparian countries (GCLME, 2008). The SAP has a regional component, five thematic areas related to fisheries, pollution and habitat management, and four cross-cutting issues related to capacity building, stakeholder participation, and communication, as summarized in Figure 2.

The regional joint commitment to ecosystem-based management of the GCLME has also been reaffirmed in the Abuja Ministerial Declaration (2006) and the Osu Declaration (2010) in which the GCLME countries agree to institutionalize regional cooperation by the creation of a technical Interim Guinea Current Commission. Since its creation, the IGCC has entered agreements and forged partnerships with a number of institutions and bodies:

- MOU for joint programming with Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea (COREP)
- MOU for joint programming with Fishery Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC)
- LOA with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for ballast water management and oil spill contingency planning
- Joint programming with the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) on oil spill prevention and response
- Coordination with Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) on Security and Socioeconomic development



In 2012 it was agreed in the Abidjan Declaration that the Guinea Current Commission should be established as a protocol to the Abidjan Convention. During the 18th Annual Large Marine Ecosystems and Coastal Partners Meeting and the LME: LEARN Project Meeting in Paris 2016, World Bank joined the participating agencies in support of implementation of the SAP and NAP. At the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP12) of the Abidjan Convention, a resolution was adopted that the GCC should be operational by 2020, which this project will contribute to.



**Figure 2.** Strategic Action Programme (2008) of the GCLME.

**a) Global environmental problems, root causes and barriers**

The GCLME's marine and coastal areas, including their upstream freshwater regions are at present affected by a number of anthropogenic activities resulting in progressive ecosystem deterioration: over-exploitation of fishery resources; impacts from land based settlement activities; industrial, agricultural, urban and domestic sewage and mining/natural resource extraction activities such as oil and gas. The depletion of the GCLME's living and non-living resources, deterioration of water quality and loss of coastal and marine habitats, including blue forests, have been identified as significant transboundary environmental problems by the sixteen countries sharing the GCLME. Rapid and often unregulated urbanization has further exacerbated the environmental pressures on the GCLME's coastal belt; Lagos with its estimated 9 million inhabitants is by far the largest city in the GCLME. Estimates for the population of the Abidjan metropolitan area vary between 4 and 5 million inhabitants. Douala's population is estimated to be over 3 million inhabitants. The population of Accra is approximately 1.9 million inhabitants. In addition to these major cities many more towns are situated in the coastal area of the GCLME with a population between a few hundred thousand and a million inhabitants each. In the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis completed under the SAP development project in 2006 the countries identified transboundary environmental pressures including their underlying root causes and recognized the need for transboundary ecosystem wide cooperation. More recently, the World Bank has undertaken a number of technical assessments in the

West African countries that complement the GEF supported TDA and SAP processes. The focused technical assistance covers six West African countries, Benin, Togo, Mauritania, Senegal, Cote D'Ivoire and Sao Tome and Principe. Together these multi-agency assessments have recognized the need for transboundary ecosystem-wide cooperation to overcome the following barriers:

**1. Absence of a regional multi-sectoral structure and management mechanism for the GCLME** with laws and regulations that are inconsistent or not harmonized across countries, resulting in poor regional cooperation, planning and implementation, and inadequate budgetary allocations to address transboundary problems, coupled with insufficient stakeholder participation at all levels. This poses a major challenge for policy making and for identification of strategies for the sustainable management of the GCLME.

**2. Poor legal frameworks, weak enforcement and implementation of existing regulatory instruments at national level** compounded by weak capacity for management within sectors and inadequate inter-sectoral cooperation, has also negatively affected natural resource and environmental management efforts in the 16 states.

**3. Inadequate and limited institutional, infrastructural and human capacity** at all levels to collaborate in monitoring and assessing the shared resources and other transboundary components and their variability. There is also no systematic testing and documenting of best practices e.g. coastal pollution and flooding, sustainable fisheries and habitat management, which is hampering scaling up of good practices. Moreover, the contribution to national economies of the ecosystem services provided by the GCLME is not well understood or accounted for.

**4. Limited and inadequate financial instruments and mechanisms to reduce pressures on natural resources and for conservation of ecosystem services in the GCLME**, including limited mainstreaming of innovative financial mechanisms, such as revolving funds, etc., into national development and investment plans and frameworks, limited application of market-based instruments, such as PES schemes, PPPs, user fees, and other innovative financial instruments, such as taxes, debt swaps etc.

**5. Absence of functional and effective regional observation system** that regularly monitors, collects and disseminates coastal data and information. Management systems and protocols that will allow regional observatory to access and share timely data and information with the countries are not available.

The challenge is to develop systems and structures to address the naturally variable and potentially fragile nature of the GCLME and its coastal environment to reverse the decline of fish stocks and non-optimal harvesting of living resources; loss of ecosystem integrity arising from changes in community composition, threats to vulnerable species and biodiversity; introduction of invasive alien species; deterioration in water quality from land and sea-based activities; harmful algal blooms, habitat destruction and alteration including modification of sea bed and coastal zone; and flooding and climate change. These transboundary problems can be mitigated through cooperative, LME-wide, actions that manage the human impacts on the complex ecosystem on an integrated and sustainable basis. The implementation of the SAP through a well-coordinated programmatic approach across sectors and agencies will remove the above-mentioned barriers to the long-term sustainable management of the GCLME through four interlinked components that will 1) strengthen regional governance and regional and national capacities in ecosystem-based management (EBM), 2) strengthen ocean governance and fisheries management, 3) support assessments, and stakeholder and inter-ministerial consultations, and 4) reduction of pollution at selected hotspots.

## **b) Baseline scenario or any associated baseline program/ projects**

### *GCLME lessons learned*

Since the GCLME SAP development began in 1995, the general outlook for the coastal and marine environment of western Africa has improved. Projected estimates by previous phases of the GCLME and IMF both indicate that positive trends can continue for GDP growth and sustainable development, but that these projections depend on commitment and investment from the international community. All 16 participating countries have committed to work together for sustainable development through legal and political frameworks such as the IGCC and GCC, which demonstrates that commitment from all 16 GCLME countries is not only possible, but it is a reality today. This commitment developed over years of prior effort and relationship building, so it is a solid foundation for future efforts and action on the ground.

After 10 years of scientific investments through the GCLME productivity module, a solid foundation of regional networks exists today. Many GCLME experts are now local when it comes to ocean productivity, aquaculture, Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), planning, emergency response, and environmental sustainability. Fisheries assessment capacity will take longer to develop, as stock assessments require advanced mathematics and computer programming skills. Continued data collection and assessment are encouraged to validate initial oceanographic, fisheries and ecosystem findings. At the local level, GCLME pilot activities have demonstrated that restoration of degraded coastal habitats is possible through the LME and EBM approach. Low-cost/low-technology solutions can mitigate and/or prevent habitat loss, water pollution, land-based and ship-based pollution, and other ecosystem health challenges in the GCLME region. Some challenges are too big for the GCLME nations to tackle themselves, such as climate change and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing that warrant international attention. The GCLME programme offers an opportunity to the global community to advance EBM in terms of transboundary policies and novel governance structures through north-south and south-south partnership.

#### *Current baseline*

The SAP builds on a strong regional baseline and the 16 GCLME countries, currently forming the Interim Guinea Current Commission, have a history of cooperation in economic and environmental affairs, and in resource management including assessments through other regional institutions and fora such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Economic Community of Central Africa States (CEMAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Fisheries Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea (COREP), Fishery Committee for the Western-Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), Sub-regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (COMHAFAT), Forestry Commission of Central Africa (COMIFAC), Programme for Integrated Management of Marine and Coastal Resources (GIRMac), Regional Programme for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Zones of West Africa (PRCM), and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which all contribute towards the integrated management, sustainable development and rational utilization of the living marine resources and protection of the GCLME. Through the foundational (TDA/SAP) project, the countries have already committed (Osu and Abidjan Ministerial Declarations) to establish the Guinea Current Commission in order to adopt and institutionalize a regionally harmonised management approach. However, in order to be effective, the regional mechanism needs to be established by a protocol to the Abidjan Convention which will develop operational guidelines and tools to support the GCC work, complementing existing frameworks.

All 16 of the GCLME countries have developed their National Action Plans for the Implementation of the GCLME Strategic Action Programme (SAP) which integrates their projects and programmes from the various sectoral frameworks such as the Biodiversity, Climate Change Adaptation (NAPAs), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and African Water Vision 2025 Action Plans, and land and pollution management, data and information systems. Key projects such as those of the Niger Delta Development Commission aim at reversing the detrimental impacts of decades old pollution from Oil spills and restore the livelihoods of the coastal population. Overall the GCLME countries plan to invest over US\$ 137 million in projects related to the restoration of Fisheries Stocks and improve sustainable fisheries, over US\$1.5 billion on Pollution Prevention and/or Reductions programs, and over US\$ 2.9 billion on the Restoration and Protection of the Coastal Habitat in the period of the GCLME Program 2014-2020.

The GEF baseline investments in national and regional projects that have either supported the development of the GCLME SAP and or contributed to implementation of its different components are summarized in Annex 1. The total GEF investment amounts to around US\$168 million and is spread across several focal areas as well as GEF agencies. To date, the largest investments have come from the LDCF (US\$72 million) to enhance coastal resilience and reduce the vulnerability of coastal areas communities. This is followed by investments from the IW focal area in sustainable fisheries management and coastal pollution control (US\$68 million), and Biodiversity focal area funding to integrated management of mangroves and other coastal habitats and biodiversity.

The participating GEF agencies are also funding a range of baseline activities that the Project will build on. First, it builds upon UNEP's strong programmatic baseline in developing conventions for environmental governance, supporting convention secretariats, conducting ecosystem assessments, and developing and piloting innovative tools in ecosystem restoration and control of land-based pollutants, around the world. The GCLME Program maximally leverages UNEP's role within the GEF IW focal area, with UNEP's Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, Division of

Environmental Policy Implementation (Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch) and the Abidjan Convention providing important baseline and co-finance contributions in aspects of governance (e.g. support to the development and negotiations of protocols on ICZM, specially Protected Areas and Establishment of the GCC), State of the Environment assessment and reporting, and implementation of actions to reduce land-based pollutants.

Building on the Programme of Work of the Abidjan Convention, and UNEP's Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Strategy, UNEP is able to leverage significant co-finance over the project lifespan, including: a \$1.7 million SIDA-funded project for the implementation of the UNEP Marine Strategy in West Africa consisting of activities in environmental governance, ecosystem management and climate change resilience; \$1.35 million in cash and kind contributions from the Abidjan Convention Secretariat and its programme of work; \$0.35 million through the Spanish-funded LifeWeb project for addressing coastal management and habitat protection; \$1 million through UNEP partners for the development of a protocol to the Abidjan Convention for special protected areas; \$0.85 million through UNEP's collaborating center Grid Arendal's marine ecosystem management programme for West Africa which will build capacity for implementation of the CBD and Law of the Sea, monitoring and assessment and the development of marine ecosystem indicators; \$0.35 million through UNEP's collaborating center World Conservation Monitoring Center for work on coastal ecosystem monitoring; \$0.5 million from an EU-funded project designed to build capacity of African Countries for the implementation of MEAs; another \$0.8 million of relevant LBA and ecosystem restoration projects in the region which are currently under negotiation and finally, UNEP pledges \$0.5 million of UNEP staff time over the life of the project from UNEP's Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch, the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, the Regional Office for Africa, the Post Conflict and Disaster Management Branch, the Division of Early Warning and Assessment and the UNEP collaborating center for water.

The FAO has worked with countries of the GCLME region at both a national and regional level for several decades providing advice to governments on fisheries governance and management and supporting the development and technical support to several regional organizations. The Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF) was established under the FAO constitution in 1967 and its core structure and activities have been supported since then by the FAO. Its Scientific Sub-Committee provides scientific advice for fisheries management and acts as a forum for discussion with the countries of the region. Its scientific working groups and the working group on artisanal fisheries monitors state of stocks and fisheries, and addresses key issues in relation to small scale fisheries. The FAO has also encouraged the establishment of and/or worked closely with the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), the Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea (COREP) and The Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (COHAFAT). Furthermore, FAO in collaboration with UNEP, and with the support of Norway, has been working on establishing a working modality for collaboration between RFBs and Regional Seas organizations, building on the experience made in the context of NEAFC and OSPAR in the North Atlantic

Several FAO-led projects in the region provide important baseline contributions in the GCLME region. The FAO based EAF-Nansen Project and its predecessor projects have for over 40 years, undertaken a significant number of fisheries and ecosystem surveys, the associated analysis and assessment of these data, plus the completion of other fisheries management work and training in the region with focus on supporting the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The new EAF-Nansen Programme was launched in 2017. While still focused on the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries and the management of shared stocks, the scope has been broadened to address also pollution and climate change impacts on fisheries. The Programme has to its disposal a state-of-the-art research vessel to provide scientific information in support of management that can contribute to the monitoring of ecosystems.

The Sustainable Fisheries Livelihoods Programme (1999-2008), built on previous regional projects and included all the countries of the GCLME region. FAO led the development of the NEPAD-FAO Fish Programme (NFFP), which amongst others provide a basis for lessons learning and policy development in the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in the region. FAO and NEPAD led the development of the NEPAD-FAO Fish Programme (NFFP), which amongst others carried out a gap analysis and organized a regional workshop on climate change, disasters and crises in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Western and Central Africa in Accra in Ghana in November 2012 to provide recommendations for addressing climate change adaptation and disaster risk management in fisheries and aquaculture. Following the workshop, NFFP produced a study investigating the nature of the impacts of climate change in the GCLME area and identified current and potential coping mechanisms and strategies as well as biophysical and social attributes that increase resilience to these impacts. NFFP also supported the development and implementation of a comprehensive

African Fisheries Reform Strategy supported by Conference of Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA). With regards to Aquaculture, FAO has worked extensively with African countries to support policy and strategy development for sustainable aquaculture, and most of the GCLME countries have such strategies today. FAO also maintains a database for African National Aquaculture development plans and strategies. At the same time FAO has extensive experience in working on the implementation on EAA, improving understanding of concepts, raise awareness and support implementation of EAA.

The FAO through its Blue Growth Initiative has invested significantly in West Africa (over 2 million in cash and Technical Assistance (TA)) to support member states in planning the transition and in accessing financial and technical assistance for this transition. Morocco, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and more recently Sao Tome and Principe are the focal countries for this Initiative, however, other countries including Nigeria, Guinea and Senegal will be included in the scaling up phase financed through access to African Development Bank financial mechanisms and FAO TA. Under the Blue Growth Initiative, FAO is also leading on the GEF-Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) in three countries in West Africa, including Côte d'Ivoire, and lessons learned in managing fisheries and building coastal community resilience will have direct relevance to this project. The CFI global programme intends to demonstrate and promote holistic processes and integrated approaches leading to sustainable use and management of coastal fisheries. The CFI has a specific project on delivering sustainable environmental, social and economic benefits in West Africa through good governance, correct incentives and innovation. The project will be implemented by FAO in collaboration with UNEP/Abidjan Convention and through collaboration with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders, including fisher and fishworker organizations. FAO, through its Blue Growth Initiative, is also working with Côte d'Ivoire and the African Development Bank as part of the partnership that also includes the World Bank for implementing the Ocean Resilience Package for Africa over the next 5-7 years. Planned investments in the GCLME countries under the Africa Package amounts to approximately USD778 million of loans (WB and AFDB) and grants and excluding other GEF and Green Climate Fund grants. FAO's planned investment is USD10 million. Although the baseline projects have had a considerable impact among GCLME countries in advancing the understanding of an ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture, and recognition of the need for its implementation, additional investment is needed to establish in practice the ecosystem approach as the norm for fisheries and aquaculture management in the GCLME region.

The proposed GCLME Project will also benefit from UNDP's work on improving governance of shared water and ocean resources, recognizing the freshwater-marine continuum and important linkages between upstream water and land management and the health and integrity of downstream coastal and marine ecosystems. The GCLME, with over 300 million people living in the coastal zone and major challenges with both land-based pollution and ocean-based ecosystem stressors, represents an ideal setting for piloting and refining such basin-wide approaches to marine ecosystem restoration. Underscoring this approach is UNDP's poverty reduction mandate and commitment to preserving and enhancing food security and livelihoods for the people who depend on the ecosystem services provided by the GCLME through its country assistance framework. UNDP's presence and extensive experience in the 16 countries of the GCLME has helped forge strong partnerships with national Governments and build a relationship of trust over decades of successful support. UNDP is implementing a large number of projects in the coastal zone to protect coastal resources and infrastructures from climate change impacts as well as to preserve the biodiversity in these areas, providing a highly relevant groundwork for this Project.

Some of the most important baseline projects are:

Angola: Addressing Urgent Coastal Adaptation Needs and Capacity Gaps in Angola promote and demonstrate cost-effective, low-regret options for adaptation including: i) climate-resilient practices such as Ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) and climate-resilient land management (including promotion of agricultural, waste management and sustainable harvesting practices promote ecosystem health and sustainable livelihoods under climate change), and ii) establishment of a pilot Early Warning System (EWS). The benefits of these approaches to climate change adaptation will be demonstrated to impoverished rural communities in coastal areas as well as stakeholders from important economic sectors such as fisheries, agriculture, transport, energy, water and tourism. The objectives of the proposed project will be achieved through multiple complementary measures that will include: i) increasing scientific and technical capacity of government staff to deliver early warning information to coastal communities in Cabinda, Kwanza Sul, Bengo and Namibe Provinces; ii) demonstrating EbA and climate-resilient land-management practices in participation with coastal communities; and iii) mainstreaming climate change adaptation into local to national governance.

Benin: Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Western and Central Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change

This project, with financing from the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF), will address such needs. One component of the project will be used to improve weather, climate and environmental monitoring. A second component will be used to strengthen/develop national systems to package forecast warnings based on user-needs and to effectively disseminate warnings and other relevant information and data to assist decision-making processes. In conjunction with other ongoing initiatives of relevance outlined in this project document, LDCF resources are expected to enhance the adaptive capacity of vulnerable populations throughout Benin to respond to extreme weather events as well as to facilitate long-term climate resilient development planning at the national and sectoral levels.

DRC: Resilience of Muanda's communities from coastal erosion, Democratic Republic of Congo

This project will help increase the capacity of local communities to cope with climate risks in coastal areas and their awareness of the vulnerability of coastal zones in the context of climate change in the DRC. Through a participatory and systemic approach, the project will revolve around the integration of information on climate risks in the relevant planning policies and investment in the protection and surveillance of the coastal zone against climate risks. The expected results include: • Strengthening the capacity of climate risk management authorities of central and provincial government and all stakeholders to integrate climate information in policy and investment planning; • Measures of urgent and immediate adaptation are implemented in favour of the most vulnerable coastal communities to reduce the simultaneous effects of several climatic risks while developing capacities weather forecasting and climate monitoring, including the establishment of an Early Warning System (EWS)

Guinea: Increased Resilience and Adaptation to Adverse Impacts of Climate Change in Guinea's Vulnerable Coastal Zones

a) integration of climate change and climate variability concerns into policies and planning processes at the state, national, sub-national and local levels; (b) implementation of risk reduction strategies and adaptation measures at pilot sites; (c) strengthening technical capacity to integrate climate risks into coastal zone management; and (d) disseminating lessons learned to key stakeholders.

Liberia: To reduce vulnerability and build resilience of local communities and socio-economic sectors to the threats of climate change in Liberia's coastal areas

Create a national level enabling environment that is favorable to adaptation in coastal communities across Liberia. This will include the strong support and understanding of national leaders, an empowered inter-sectoral coastal protection unit, clearly established priorities and an operational plan, revised sectoral policies, a cadre of coastal engineers and planners, and adequate tertiary education. Climate related information management will be enhanced, and Liberia will have the capacity to access emerging global adaptation funds. These LDCF funds are also meant to develop targeted capacity in three counties that are suffering the effects of climate change. In addition to generating the support of county leaders and movers, LDCF funds will empower the staff and units that are responsible for supporting communities in the fight against climate change, it will develop dedicated databases, it will develop engineers and a private sector capable of designing and implementing low-cost, low-tech adaptation measures. LDCF funds will also lead to revised county socio-economic development plans that fully address climate changed induced coastal erosion.

Sao Tome and Principe: Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Sao Tomé and Principe for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change

i) establish a functional network of meteorological and hydrological monitoring stations and associated infrastructure to better understand climatic changes; ii) develop and disseminate tailored weather and climate information (including colour-coded alerts – advisories, watches and warnings – for flood, drought, severe weather and agricultural stresses, integrated cost-benefit analyses and sector-specific risk and vulnerability maps) to decision makers in government, private sector, civil society, development partners and communities in all district of the Island including the autonomous region of Principe; and iii) integrate weather and climate information into national policies, annual workplans and local development including the National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management, and district development plans in priority communities of coastline villages of Neves, Santa Catarina, Malanza and Ribeira Afonso.0

Sierra Leone: Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change

i) establish a functional network of meteorological and hydrological monitoring stations and associated infrastructure to better understand climatic changes; ii) develop and disseminate tailored weather and climate information (including colour-coded alerts – advisories, watches and warnings – for flood, drought, severe weather and agricultural stresses, integrated cost-benefit analyses and sector-specific risk and vulnerability maps) to decision makers in government, private sector, civil society, development partners and local communities in Bumbuna watershed, Guma Valley watershed and drought prone Eastern districts of Kono, Koinadugu, Kailahun and Kenema; and iii) integrate weather and climate information into national policies, annual workplans and local development including the National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management, and district and sub-county development plans in priority districts in the Freetown, Bombali, Tonkolili and Koinadugu sub-regions and Kono, Kailahun and Kenema district areas.

In the execution of the GCLME SAP development project UNIDO cooperated closely with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA), the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues in contingency and spill response planning for the GCLME. The key players of the oil and gas industries active in Western and Central Africa have been directly involved in these activities. This partnership constitutes the ideal platform for an extension of the existing cooperation to the upstream oil and gas industries operating in the GCLME to collaborate more pro-actively through the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (OGP) with governments in the prevention of spills from the rapidly growing off shore exploration and exploitation facilities. At the national level the various units of UNIDO's Project and Technical Cooperation Division implement projects in the fields of cleaner production, pollution reduction and sustainable use of resources in productive processes in all but one of the 16 GCLME countries. The total value (not counting any GEF funded project) of the portfolio of national projects by UNIDO in the GCLME region amounts to \$138 million.

In line with UNIDO's mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development these projects are centered around the strategic themes of Trade Capacity Building, Poverty Reduction through Productive Activities and Environment and Energy. With a budget of USD 13.3 million provided by the European Union UNIDO is providing technical assistance to Nigerian partner institutions to strengthen their institutional capacities. The National Quality Infrastructure Project for Nigeria (NQIP) is in charge to support Nigeria Competitiveness in Trade and Investment. Its purpose is, through the development of missing quality infrastructure and the enhancement of the existing one, to improve quality, safety, integrity and marketability of Nigerian goods and services and remove technical barriers to trade by having an adequate, effective and sustainable National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) in place, consistent with international and regional principles and practices. In addition, under the country Programme of Cooperation, which is funded by the Federal Government of Nigeria with a budget of USD 7.7 million UNIDO supports the economic transformation agenda of the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) and other emerging priorities of the government.

Under the West African Quality System Support for the implementation of the ECOWAS quality policy funded by the Delegation of EU to ECOWAS with US\$ 7.2 million, UNIDO is supporting the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Quality Policy. The project will support: 1) the establishment of regional quality infrastructure, 2) private sector access to standards, 3) private sector access to CA services, 4) quality culture in the private sector. The UNIDO project Supporting green industrial development in Ghana: Biogas technology and business for sustainable growth with a budget of US\$ 1.3 million provided by Ministry of Knowledge Economy of Korea and DAEWOO seeks to promote the transfer of biogas technology between Korea and Ghana. It will address existing barriers to market-based dissemination of industrial-scale biogas technologies in Ghana and expected to result in change in business culture towards green industry. Given the relevance of the biogas technology to the greater ECOWAS sub-region, it is foreseen that Ghana will serve as center of excellence and partner with ECREEE to disseminated biogas technologies in the sub-region.

With US\$ 2 million provided by the UN Peace Building Funds UNIDO implements the project Appui A L'insertion Economique Des Jeunes Et Des Femmes Vulnérables A Travers Les Activités D'assainissement Des Déchets Solides in Guinea. This project aims at establishing and improved solid waste collection system, reuse and recycling of wastes, community sensibilisation and employment creation. The Japanese funded (US\$ 1.3 million) UNIDO project Entrepreneurship and Skills Training for Ivorian Refugees and Host Communities to Strengthen Resilience and Improve Live in Liberia endeavors to provide Ivorian refugees and host communities who are farmers in Grand Gedeh County, located at the border between Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire, access to rural livelihoods to increase socio-economic resilience. The intervention will develop productive and human capacities that will enhance productivity and development contributing towards inclusive and sustainable development in the region. The UNIDO project for promoting youth

employment by supporting technical and vocational education in Liberia (funded by Japan with US\$ 1.6 million focuses on youth employment through technical and vocational education.

The overall goal of the project Promoting Development of Multi-Purpose Mini Hydro Power Systems in Guinea (total budget US\$ 2.2 million co-funded by GEF, France, Guinea and UNIDO) is to develop the market environment for improving access to mini hydro-based modern energy services in rural areas. With US\$ 0.5 million funding provided by Japan UNIDO is implementing the project Promoting social stabilization through vocational training and job creation for vulnerable people and communities in Liberia. The project aims to promote social stabilization by improving human security of the vulnerable people and communities affected by crises through promoting wood furniture industry and providing vocational skills to unemployed youth in close coordination with transnational corporations (TNCs). In Cote d'Ivoire UNIDO with a budget of US\$ 32 million provided by the European Union the UNIDO project Programme d'appui à la remise à niveau du système de formation professionnelle en Côte d'Ivoire (PAMNFP) supports vocational training and the integration of youth into the economy. The target is to develop curricula and provide vocational trainings in a quality and in coherence with the needs of the national economy.

Programme d'Appui à l'Amélioration de la Compétitivité de l'économie Camerounaise (PACOM) is funded with a budget of US\$ 2.9 million by the European UNION. The project aims to enhance the competitiveness of the Cameroon economy by enhancing productivity and quality of products manufactured in Cameroon. It aims at regional and international value chains as well as on value chains for internal markets. With a budget of US\$ 0.8 million provided by the Montreal Protocol UNIDO implements the HCFC PHASE-OUT MANAGEMENT PLAN (STAGE I) and SECOND TRANCHE (Refrigeration servicing sector) in Cameroon. The Government's HCFC phase-out strategy is aligned with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. During stage I, the HPMP proposes to freeze HCFC consumption to the estimated baseline level of 82.4 ODP tonnes in 2013, and to gradually reduce its HCFC consumption by 28.9 ODP tonnes from the baseline to meet the 35 per cent reduction by 2020. HCFC phase out (Stage I) (foam sector plan): this UNIDO project for Cameroon is funded by the Montreal Protocol with US\$ 0.3 million. It is part of the overall HCFC Phase-out Management Plan for Cameroon. Investment project to phase out the use of HCFC-141b in flexible foam: this activity proposes assistance to three companies that converted from HCFC-141b to MC in the production of flexible slabstock foam. The activity proposes modifications to the plant for the safe handling of MC including storage tanks, ventilation systems, one batch foam machine, safety equipment, and MC metering and pumping systems. It also includes partial compensation for incremental operational costs incurred in the introduction of MC.

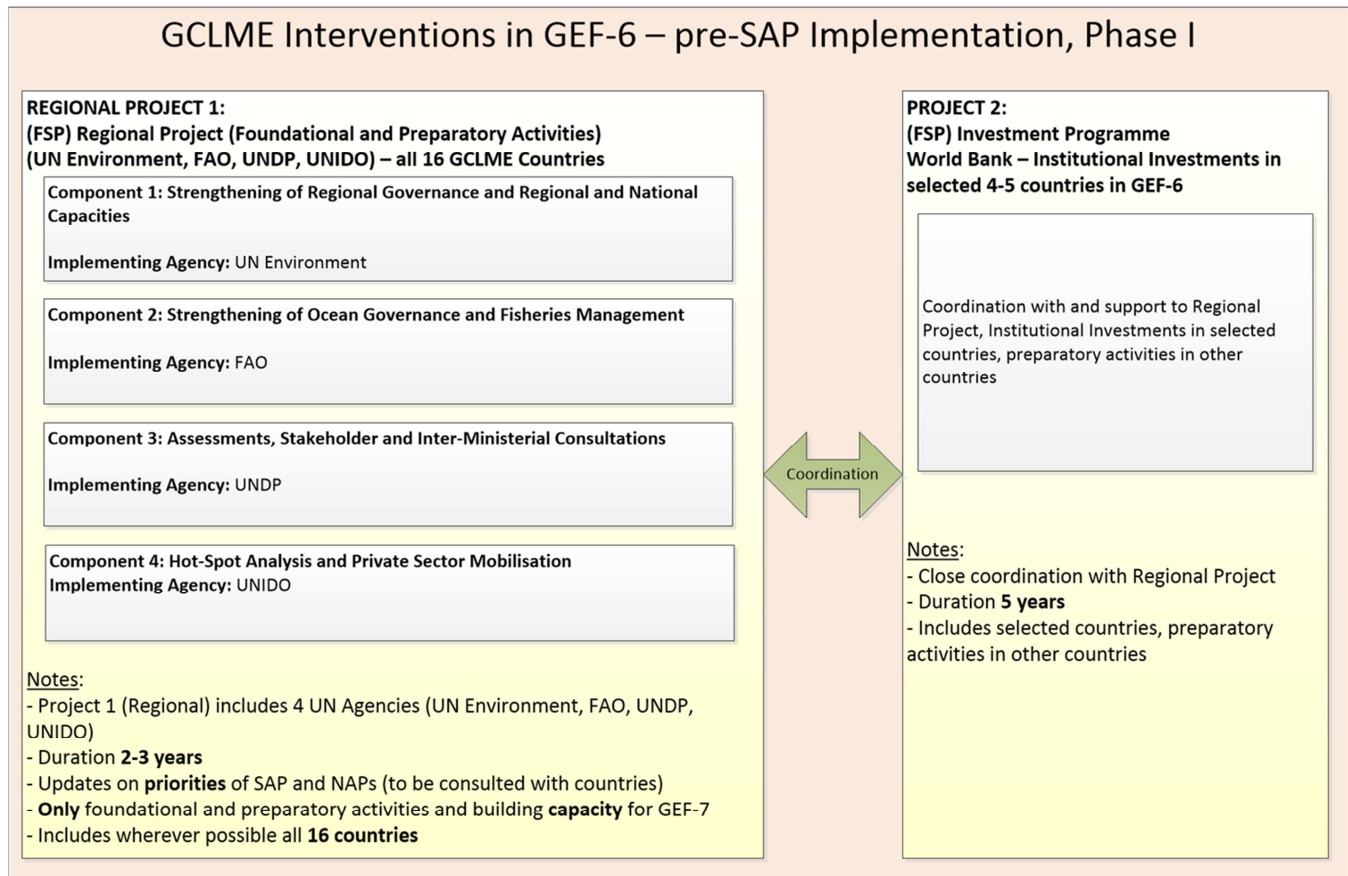
The GEF funded (US\$ 1 million) UNIDO project Environmentally Sound Management and Final Disposal of PCBs in Congo aims to establish an environmentally sound management system and dispose of 200 tons of PCBs contaminated equipment and wastes by strengthening the institutional capacities of oil and power sectors for sound management of chemicals. In the DRC UNIDO with funding (US\$ 4.4 million) provided by the recipient country is providing technical assistance in the overall management of the growth pole programme (PDPC) which aims at strengthening the relevant agro-sectors. More precisely, the project will contribute to the establishment of multiservice platform, considered both as a center of technical and commercial development, allowing farmers and entrepreneurs / processors access to infrastructure, services and technologies to develop their skills, enhance their products and thereby increase their income and generating jobs. The main objective of the GEF funded (US\$ 6.6 million) UNIDO project Promotion of BAT and BEP to reduce POPs releases from open burning in the participating African countries of SADC subregion is to achieve continuing minimization of unintentionally produced POPs (uPOPs) releases in the open burning sector of participating African countries of SADC region through the introduction of best available techniques and best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) measures at selected priority demonstration sites.

This project is a part of a coordinated intervention of five GEF Agencies (UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, FAO, and World Bank) in support of improved governance and ecosystem management in West Africa. The World Bank is developing the West Africa Coastal Areas (WACA) Resilience Investment Program. Based on the technical analyses and country engagement. The program covers all GCLME countries, and its first phase will include 6 countries - Togo, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, and Senegal - that have requested for WACA assistance. A separate World Bank-led investment program to support early actions to implement the GCLME SAP in synergy with WACA will be implemented in parallel to this regional UNE-led GEF Project. The relationship between the two projects within the framework of the GCLME strategic partnership is illustrated in Figure 3 below.



### c) Proposed alternative scenario

To build on the policy directions of the SAP and the scientific and technical capacity build at country level, there is an urgent need to ensure that key elements of the SAP are addressed and that remaining governance gaps related to the transformation of the IGCC into a permanent Guinea Current Commission (GCC) are filled. The GCC should be country driven and sustainably financed, and support ecosystem-based approaches using the LME concept to facilitate intersectoral collaboration and implementation of stress reduction measures, while respecting the role and mandates of existing institutions.

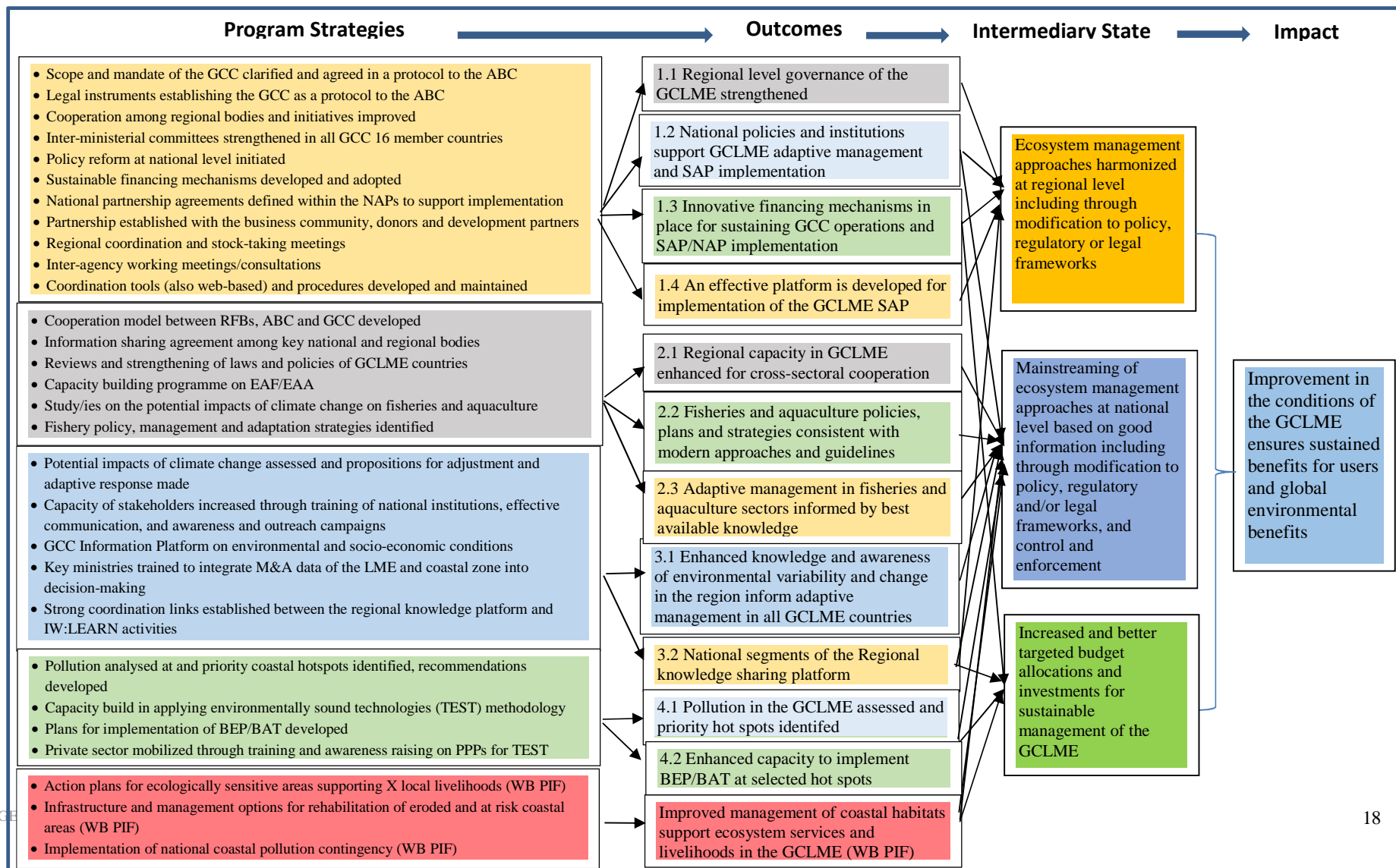


**Figure 3.** GCLME Strategic Partnership in GEF-6 Replenishment Cycle.

Against this background, the goal of the proposed Project is to strengthen the regional capacities and governance system for ecosystem-based management of the GCLME and initial support to foundational and preparatory SAP implementation activities required for a coordinated management of transboundary fisheries, biodiversity conservation and pollution reduction. The Project consists of four interlinked components designed around SAP Priority Actions and visualized in the Theory of Change (ToC) in Figure 4, which depicts the impact pathway from strategies, to outcomes, to intermediary states, to the final long-term impact of measurable improvement in the conditions of the GCLME that ensures sustained benefits for users as well as global environmental benefits. It is anticipated that the proposed Project will reach the intermediary state, but that a second phase will be required to achieve the long-term impact and sustainability. The ToC focuses on achieving three main objectives, corresponding to the intermediary state in Figure 3: (i) Harmonization of ecosystem management approaches at regional level, (ii) Testing of coastal management approaches and mainstreaming of EBM at national level based on up-to-date information on the status of the GCLME and drivers of change, and (iii) Increase of and better targeted budget allocations and investments in the GCLME. The design of the GCLME ToC has been informed by the Terminal Evaluation of the last GCLME project<sup>12</sup> as well as extensive consultations with GCLME countries and implementing partners.

<sup>12</sup> Humphrey, S. & Gordon, C., 2012. Terminal Evaluation of the UNDP-UNEP GEF Project: Combating Living Resources Depletion and Coastal Area Degradation in the Guinea Current LME through Ecosystem-based Regional Actions (GCLME). UNEP Evaluation Office, November 2012, 129 pp.

**Figure 4. GCLME Theory of Change** (boxes in red refer to a parallel GCLME SAP investment programme led by the World Bank)



Component 1: Strengthening of regional governance and regional and national capacities. In May 2012, citing the need to promote synergies, coordinate and reduce duplication as well as potential cost-savings for the emerging GCC Secretariat to share some costs or services with the Abidjan Convention, IGCC Ministers decided to establish the GCC by a protocol to the Abidjan Convention (see below for details). In March 2017, COP12 of the Abidjan Convention re-confirmed the importance of the establishment of GCC and adopted a corresponding decision of COP was included in the resolution. In addition, a timeline was indicated in the COP decision to complete this process by 2020.

Thus, under project Component 1, all the activities required to fully establish the GCC, to strengthen its institutional capacities and clarify legal aspects and its role vis-a-vis the Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) as well as financial implications to ensure effective support and monitoring of the implementation of the SAP/NAPs and to make it a financially sustainable institution whose operating costs are borne by the member countries will be supported. The countries themselves are committed to providing long-term funding and multi-sectoral support to the structures and activities requisite to the maintenance of GCC and associated transboundary management mechanisms. In addition, sustainable funding of GCC will be achieved through the development and application of innovative financing mechanisms (e.g. effective resource valuation insurance schemes, payments for ecosystem services, introduction of green/blue economy instruments, etc.), which will be put in place for sustaining GCC operations and SAP/NAP implementation, including mechanisms at the regional level, national partnership agreements and partnership agreements with the business community, donors and development partners, including organization of a donors conference to be organized to attract required support and funding for the implementation of SAP and operation of the GCC.

GEF incremental funding will assist the countries in negotiating a protocol to the Abidjan Convention, which: identifies thematic areas and operational procedures for sustainable management of the GCLME, formally establishes the GCC and provides for legal institutionalization of the SAP. To ensure that national policies and institutions support the sustainable management of the GCLME, the capacities of the national inter-ministerial committees will be further strengthened (in close cooperation with Component 3) and the full integration of the NAPs into national economic development plans will be facilitated. The interaction between the GCC and the Abidjan Convention as well as Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) (to be closely coordinated with Component 2) will be strengthened and harmonized with the ultimate goal to strengthen the regional policy framework and sustainable management of the GCLME.

An important and challenging activity under Component 1 will be the establishment of an effective system for cooperation among the the key agencies, Abidjan Convention, and the countries towards implementation of activities in a coherent manner towards a smooth implementation of the priority actions required for setting up a favorable enabling environment for major SAP implementation activities

Cooperation will include, but not be limited to, the establishment of an effective stock-taking platform (regular meetings), as well as technical consultations between the agencies, adequate two-way communication mechanisms with countries and key international, regional, national, and local stakeholders in the region, rigorous system of monitoring and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC), reliable information and knowledge flows both within the Project and with external stakeholders, including the GEF Secretariat and IW projects globally. UNEP, as the lead agency, will ensure effective implementation and coordination of the Project.

#### Expected outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 1.1 Regional level governance of GCLME is strengthened through the establishment of Guinea Current Commission (GCC) to support transboundary policy, planning frameworks and tools; and improved institutional capacity:

- 1.1.1 Scope and mandate of the GCC clarified and agreed vis-a-vis existing regional institutions in a protocol to the Abidjan Convention
- 1.1.2 Legal instruments establishing the GCC as a protocol to the ABC developed and operational guidance adopted
- 1.1.3 Cooperation among regional bodies and initiatives improved by setting up new coordination modalities between ABC, GCC, Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFB)s and WACA (in cooperation with 2.1.1)

Outcome 1.2. GCLME adaptive management and SAP implementation actions supported in an integrated and coordinated manner through national policies and effective institutions:

1.2.1 Inter-ministerial committees strengthened in all GCC 16 member countries

1.2.2 Policy reforms at national level initiated to ensure consistency with regionally agreed frameworks and targets on habitat conservation and water quality

The detailed strategy for strengthening inter-ministerial committees at national level will be identified during PPG phase. Ministries to strengthen are likely to include Ministries of Marine Resources, Ministries of Water Resources and Ministries of Environment. The PPG will also develop options for how to strengthen the interaction between local coastal government and the central level government. Lessons will be learnt from e.g. PEMSEA and its network of local government (PNLG).

Outcome 1.3. Innovative financing mechanisms in place for sustaining GCC operations and SAP/NAP implementation within and beyond the life-span of the Project:

1.3.1 Sustainable financing mechanism developed and adopted at the regional/national levels – including partnership trust funds, market-based approaches, such as PPPs for the pollution component and PES schemes for habitat and ecosystem management and value-chains for fisheries.

1.3.2 National partnership agreements defined within the NAPs to support implementation

1.3.3 Partnership established with business community, donors and development partners, including a donor conference

Outcome 1.4. An effective platform is developed in GCLME region across countries, projects and agencies for implementation of the GCLME SAP:

1.4.1 Regional Coordination and Stock-Taking Meetings held (target - annually)

1.4.2 Inter-agency working meetings/ consultations organized (target – quarterly: virtually, annually: in person).

1.4.3 Coordination tools (also web-based) and procedures are developed, maintained to provide support of SAP implementation (in coordination with Output 3.2)

Component 2: Strengthening of fisheries governance and management in an ecosystem context. This component will lead to enhanced capacity for cross-sectoral cooperation between fisheries and other sectors and application of principles outlined in the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the supporting technical guidelines (Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries; Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture) as well as the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF) in fisheries and aquaculture. The GCC's role to effectively support regional fishery bodies in their efforts to support the GCLME countries will be strengthened and include development of a cooperation model between RFBs and RSP to strengthen the collaboration and coordination among existing regional bodies that deal with fisheries, habitat and pollution management, which will also have links to the UNEP-led activities under Component 1 on strengthening of regional governance. Roles and responsibilities with respect to fisheries and fisheries related goals for SAP implementation will be clarified and plans for supporting their achievements prepared. To this end an information sharing agreement between the key regional and national partners, addressing the priorities in the SAP, will also be developed. Policy and legislative coherence reviews with respect to the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Voluntary Guidelines for SSF, the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture (EAA) and vis-à-vis regional frameworks will be supported. Adaptive management in fisheries and aquaculture sectors that is informed by best available knowledge and information will be promoted through improved assessment and monitoring by fostering partnerships with existing institutions, such as CECAF (with respect to status of resources) and the EAF-Nansen program (for surveys of the GCLME resources and ecosystems), including assessing effects of global climate change. Further study/ies on the potential impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture ecosystems will be conducted and fishery policy, management, and adaptation strategies identified and discussed with key stakeholders for implementation. This is expected to contribute to a reduction of pressure on fish stocks and also minimize by-catch and habitat impacts in the longer term.

Expected outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 2.1 Regional capacity in GCLME enhanced for cross-sectoral cooperation through knowledge and information sharing between fisheries and aquaculture and other sectors on transboundary issues of common concern

- 2.1.1 Cooperation modalities between RFBs, ABC and GCC developed and established to strengthen the collaboration among existing regional bodies dealing with fisheries, aquaculture, habitat and pollution management (links to 1.1)
- 2.1.2 Information sharing agreement(s) or similar arrangements among key regional and national bodies facilitated

While component 1 and UNEP have the overall responsibility to ensure cooperation with regional bodies and programs in support of ecosystem-based management in the GCLME, FAO under the fishery component will work closely with the RFBs to ensure strategic and timely inputs to this process.

Outcome 2.2 Fisheries and Aquaculture policies, plans and sector strategies, consistent with modern approaches and guidelines adequately support the implementation of EAF/EAA and use of best practices in fisheries and aquaculture

- 2.2.1 Reviews and strengthening of laws and policies of GCLME member countries
- 2.2.2 Capacity Building Programme developed and carried out for EAF/EAA implementation

The EAF/EAA approach explicitly involves all stakeholders in the process. Through the issue identification and risk assessment for the development of a given management plan process, issues related to socio-economic aspects of fisheries are identified at different levels. These would need to be addressed specifically by the responsible entities if they are considered high risk and this will be explored further in the PPG.

Outcome 2.3 Adaptive management in fisheries and aquaculture sectors informed by best available knowledge, science and assessment of key ecosystem components of relevance to fisheries and aquaculture, including impacts of global climate change and variability (link to 3.1)

- 2.3.1 Study/ies on the potential impacts of climate change and variability on fisheries and aquaculture ecosystems conducted
- 2.3.2 Fishery policy, management, and adaptation strategies identified and discussed with key stakeholders for implementation

The fisheries component will strengthen regional fisheries bodies as their mandates and roles will be highlighted as well as their relationships to other institutions. This project will strengthen national fisheries administrations and research institutions (as appropriate) in the GCLME countries to take informed decisions on fisheries, supported by improved policies and legislation.

Component 3: Assessments, stakeholder and inter-ministerial consultations. Under this component impacts of environmental variability and change will be assessed and propositions for adjustment and adaptive response for protection of GCLME goods and services will be developed. This will be coupled with training of national institutions, and campaigns and outreach activities to increase awareness of environmental risks in the GCLME (i.e. caused by climate change hazards and pollution). In addition, ongoing monitoring and assessment of the GCLME will be maintained and improved through e.g. Private Public Partnerships (PPPs) with extractive industries for pollution monitoring, and strengthening of indicator frameworks for socio-economic monitoring (disaggregated by gender) and ecosystem health assessment. The information from ongoing monitoring and assessment will feed into gender balanced training activities for staff from key ministries to support the integration of the risks faced by the coastal zone in their planning and budgeting. Finally, the Project will also contribute to global learning on scaling up of good practices and investments in sustainable coastal and marine management through the GEF IW:Learn open on-line platform. This platform will (i) share pollution and climate information collected through national networks among all the GCLME countries, (ii) allow for public participation to provide support and inputs to the decision-making planning process and, (iii) facilitate the development of a coordinated and integrated response in case of climate hazard, and for pollution control and reduction.

UNDP has already conducted a number of trainings on the impacts of climate change and adaptive strategies and planning in different countries of the GCLME and will build on this experience and the sensitization of the targeted ministries to facilitate the capacity strengthening process. For example, through the regional programme “Strengthening

climate information and early warning systems in Western and Central Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change” financed by the LDCF, UNDP has already reached a large range of beneficiaries in Benin, Sierra Leone and Sao Tome and sensitized them in understanding and adopting resilient responses in case of extreme climate events. Other countries, such as Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea and Liberia also benefited from an improved access to climate information for adapting to rapid-onset events, however this was complemented with the introduction of resilient practices and protective infrastructures (cliff stabilization, gabions, etc.) and measures (Ecosystem-based adaptation measure promoted). This provides a good baseline of initiatives, ensuring an awareness of the impacts of climate change in coastal areas for communities and local and national agencies and therefore an increased interest in coastal adaptation. During the PPG phase, through desk reviews, interviews and field visits, the consultants will carefully review the achievements made through these projects to guarantee the absence of overlaps.

This is also facilitated by the presence of UNDP country offices that built relationships with the national institutions as well as the private sector and can more easily mobilize them to adopt a regional approach for involvement in the project.

#### Expected outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 3.1. Enhanced knowledge and awareness of environmental variability and change in the region inform adaptive management in all GCLME countries

3.1.1 Potential impacts of climate change assessed and propositions for adjustment and adaptive response for protection of GCLME goods and services made

3.1.2 Tailored training programmes of national institutions for EBM of GCLME

The knowledge management platform will support the adoption of a coordinated approach beyond the trainings and studies that will be conducted through the different components (including component 3). It will enable all the actors involved in the 4 components to share their experience and the results of their exchanges and studies and make it available for all other actors. This is expected to ensure the sustainability of the project, by making the platform a reference for decision makers and facilitate the adoption of a regionally coordinated approach in the long-term.

Outcome 3.2. Operational Regional knowledge sharing mechanism for decision-making, with links to WB WACA Programme, assist decision makers at national level to translate policies and strategies into actions (in coordination with Output 1.4)

3.2.1 Interactive GCC Information Platform and data exchange mechanism on environmental and socioeconomic conditions disaggregated by gender maintained and duly updated (links to 1.4.3)

3.2.2 Spatial monitoring & assessment data management system of the LME and coastal zone

3.2.3 integration of GCLME regional knowledge-sharing mechanism with IW:LEARN regional and global activities; updated GCC website, experience notes and IW Conferences (bi-annual) and at least 1% of total project funding dedicated to IW:Learn activities.

Component 4. Hot spot analysis of pollution in the GCLME and private sector mobilization. This component will analyze pollution in the GCLME and identify coastal hotspots, which is the first time such an analysis is conducted in the GCLME. The hot spots analysis will be informed by the parameters (nutrients in the form of Nitrate, Nitrite, Ammonia and Phosphorus, Dissolved Oxygen and BOD, Total Dissolved Solids, Phytoplankton, Temperature, pH, Chlorinated Mercury, Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Microorganisms as Faecal Coliforms) presented in the pollution monitorin manual developed under the predecessor project (GCLME SAP development project). Furthermore capacity will be built in applying the transfer of environmentally sound technologies (TEST) methodology. Recommendations for pollution load reduction from different sources will be elaborated and plans will be developed for the application of BAP and BEP. Focus will be on building capacity for implementation in countries that are already advanced in their background analysis and definition of coastal issues through awareness raising and training of public and private sector partners on establishment of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) for pollution and waste management.

#### Expected outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 4.1. Pollution in the GCLME assessed and pollution hot spots identified.

4.1.1 Pollution analysed at priority coastal hotspots (hot spot analysis), recommendations developed

4.1.2 Capacity built in GCLME countries in applying the transfer of environmentally sound technologies (TEST) methodology

Outcome 4.2. Enhanced capacity to implement Best Environmental Practices (BEP)/ Best Appropriate Technology (BAT) at selected pollution hot spots

4.2.1 Plans for implementation of BEP/BAT developed

4.2.2 Private sector mobilized through specialized training, and awareness raising on PPPs for TEST.

The National Cleaner Production Center (NCPC) in Ghana was established to develop and implement projects and activities in West Africa that will promote resource efficiency and cleaner production activities in areas of energy, water and raw-material efficiency and waste management practices in industries that would result in reduced manufacturing cost, lowered pollution and improved health and safety performance. Training NCPC in the application of the integrated UNIDO Hot Spot and TEST methodology will strengthen the institutional capacities of NCPC Ghana. Furthermore, demonstrating that the application of TEST and investments in RECP technologies can result in both financial gains for industries as well as in a significant reduction of their environmental impacts, will further create demand for the services offered by RECP Ghana and thus contribute to consolidate its institutional sustainability.

#### *Execution arrangements*

The Abidjan Convention will be the executing agency for Component 1 under the supervision of UNE. For component 2, the main partners at regional level will be the regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) –the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), and the Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea (COREP). At national level, fisheries management agencies will be the main partners, working with other stakeholders. Details on executing partners and specific roles will be further established during project preparation. For component 3, UNDP will identify the executing agency during the PPG, as several of the activities under UNDP responsibility are national, there will be a need for national execution. For component 4, UNIDO will use the National Cleaner Production Center Ghana, which was established as the first of its kind in the region and with the mandate to serve West Africa.

In summary, GEF incremental support is requested to facilitate the transition from the IGCC to the GCC and to strengthen the institutional capacities of the GCC. GEF funds will catalyze the process to build the institutional and legal structure of the GCC, and to facilitate the ecosystem-wide monitoring of the status of the GCLME. Within a warming and ever faster fluctuating marine environment, science-based advice and forecasting tools will be needed so that adaptive management can be based on sound recommendations to the joint management institutions and to allow stakeholders at all levels to apply adaptive as well as mitigation measures to address climatic changes and variability. The cumulative impact of GEF funding is expected to be transformative from an ecosystem perspective. In the longer term, there is a potential to transform tested pilot activities and small-scale innovative approaches to coastal management into larger-scale successes, while lack of further transboundary GCLME action could lead West and Central Africa to move backwards, risking irreversible environmental degradation and increased poverty among coastal communities. The relationship between the proposed Project and the GCLME SAP is elucidated in Figure 5 below:

#### **d) Incremental/ additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline**

The SAP for the GCLME is a negotiated policy document which describes policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments needed to address the priority problems of a transboundary nature identified in the TDA of the GCLME. The SAP outlines the intervention actions required to resolve these priority problems. This regional joint commitment has also been reaffirmed in the Abuja Ministerial Declaration (2006), the Osu Declaration (2010) and the Abidjan Declaration (2012) as well as by cop 12 of the Abidjan Convention (2017) in which the GCLME countries agree to: institutionalize regional cooperation by the creation of a technical Interim Guinea Current Commission and establish the Guinea Current Commission by a protocol to the Abidjan Convention. Furthermore, National Action Plans were developed by each of the sixteen GCLME countries. The NAPS set out the specific actions and priority projects in terms of national legislation, policy, and priority projects/investments that need to be implemented nationally by each country

in an approach harmonized with the other countries concerned to achieve the SAP's goals. The proposed Project will build upon the SAP development project and will strengthen the capacity of the Guinea Current Commission to support the GCLME member states to scale up adaptive ecosystem-based management measures in the GCLME to reduce stress on the environment as well as marine and coastal livelihoods. It will also mainstream adaptation to the effects of environmental variability and change and climate change in national policy frameworks and institutions.

Moreover, the Project will draw on the strong baselines from the four UN agencies that are partners in the GCLME and co-financing will be leveraged to strengthen national and regional governance arrangements for ecosystem-based management, and the ecosystem approach to fisheries and to aquaculture. Co-financing will also be leveraged to undertake assessments and analysis of environmental conditions to put in place appropriate M&E systems and knowledge management platforms, as well as to facilitate the identification of environmentally sound technologies and best environmental practices and technologies to improve coastal water quality in collaboration with the private sector.

Partnerships are expected to be developed with the private sector, regional, and international partners. These partnerships will leverage further resources to reduce ecosystem stress in key areas, including fisheries, habitats and coastal waters. Monitoring and assessment surveys are supported to fill significant information gaps and to better understand environmental change and climate impacts in the GCLME through collaboration with the EAF-Nansen Program.

**REGIONAL PROJECT 1: (FSP) Regional Project (Foundational and Preparatory Activities)**

(UN Environment, FAO, UNDP, UNIDO) – all 16 GCLME Countries

**UN Environment – Overall Programme Coordination**

**Component 1: Strengthening of Regional Governance and Regional and National Capacities**

Guinea Current Commission (GCC) – Protocol (SAP 3.1.0, Decision Of Abidjan Convention COP 10/14), Cooperation Model between Regional Fisheries Bodies and Regional Seas Programme (SAP 3.1.1, Decision Of Abidjan Convention COP 10/15) (with FAO), SAP Cross-cutting issues (3.2.1 – 3.2.4)

**Component 2: Strengthening of Ocean Governance and Fisheries Management**

FAO – Cooperation Model between RFMO and RSP (SAP 3.1.1) (with UN Environment), Workshops on Fisheries and Aquaculture (SAP 3.1.1c, 3.1.1e, 3.2.2)

**Component 3: Assessments, Stakeholder and Inter-Ministerial Consultations**

UNDP – Stakeholder consultations and Inter-Ministerial Activities (SAP 3.2.1), Risk Assessment and Coastal Challenges (SAP 3.1.3c, 3.1.4a-d), Capacity Building and Knowledge Management (3.2.1, 3.2.4)

**Component 4: Hot-Spot Analysis and Private Sector Mobilisation**

UNIDO – Hot-spot Analysis – preparation for TEST (SAP 3.2.1 a, 3.2.1d), Conference with Private Sector Stakeholders (SAP 3.2.2), SAP Cross-cutting issues (3.2.1 – 3.2.4)

**Notes:**

- Project 1 (Regional) includes 4 UN Agencies (UN Environment, FAO, UNDP, UNIDO)
- Duration **2-3 years**
- Updates on **priorities** of SAP and NAPs (to be consulted with countries)
- **Only** foundational and preparatory activities and building **capacity** for GEF-7
- Includes wherever possible all **16 countries**

**Figure 5.** Relationship between the GCLME Regional Project and SAP.

The proposed GCLME Project is fully in line with the GEF IW focal area strategy and its programs and outcomes:

- Component 4 of the project will contribute to meeting the GEF IW outcome 5.1 on ‘Elimination or substantial decrease in frequency and extent of “dead zones” in sizeable part of developing countries’ LMEs, by enhancing the knowledge of pollution in the GCLME and building capacity for implementing BEPs/BATs and mobilization of



private sector funding at identified pollution hotspots. This will be underpinned by support from Component 1 to policy reform to improve water quality.

- Components 1 and 3 are aligned with the IW outcome 6.1 ‘Coasts in globally most significant areas protected from further loss and degradation of coastal habitats while protecting and enhancing livelihoods’ by strengthening the enabling environment as well as institutional and individual capacity in ecosystem-based management. Policy reform will be initiated at the national level to ensure compliance with targets for habitat conservation (Component 1) and training of key stakeholders and institutions in communication and awareness raising and monitoring and assessment (Component3)
- Component 2 will contribute to IW outcome 7.1 ‘Introduction of sustainable fishing practices into xx% of globally over-exploited fisheries’, as the GCLME accounts for a sizable part of global fisheries. The fishery resources comprise of both locally important resident stocks that support artisanal fisheries, and transboundary straddling and migratory stocks that attract large commercial offshore foreign fleets from Europe and the far East. The project will contribute to improving the management of fishery resources through identification of needs for strengthening of laws and policies and a capacity building program in EAF/EAA.

#### **e) Global environmental benefits**

More specifically, the GCLME project will yield the following global environmental benefits:

- Strengthening of regional governance arrangements for ecosystem-based management will contribute to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services in the GCLME. Without GEF incremental support governance of the GCLME will remain fragmented and EBM elusive. The project will strengthen the collaboration at several levels in support of EBM: across sectors; across countries; across the GEF agencies and development partners; and among private sector partners. UNEP in-kind co-financing of USD3.5 million will be provided through support to the Abidjan Convention and environmental governance and development and negotiation of protocols related to the functioning of the GCC, and coastal management and habitat protection; and UNEP technical staff time from the Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch.
- GEF support to training and capacity building on EAF and EAA best practices in fisheries and aquaculture will contribute to reduction of pressure on fish stocks and also minimize by-catch and habitat impacts in the longer term. FAO will provide USD 500,000 in co-financing for FAO Technical staff time and sharing of relevant knowledge products; and USD2 million through the EAF-Nansen Programme (including a regional demersal survey in 2019) and other field projects (TBC).
- The GCLME and coastal communities will become more resilient to environmental variability and change through support from the GEF to targeted training of national institutions and support to outreach and awareness campaigns. UNDP will provide USD2.5 million in co-financing through its water governance program as well as its country assistance framework and support to food security and sustainable livelihoods in the GCLME countries.
- Incremental support from the GEF will also facilitate agreements on standards for priority pollutants in selected coastal hotspots, and strengthen capacity to apply TEST and BEP/BAT that in the longer term will contribute to improvement of water quality in coastal areas. UNIDO provides cash co-financing of USD51,750. Its in-kind co-financing of USD4 million builds on a series of non-GEF funded projects which aim at Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in the GCLME, such as quality infrastructure and system support to individual countries as well as to ECOWAS.

Furthermore, maintaining the GCLME's productivity and to restore fisheries to sustainable levels in one of the world's most productive marine ecosystems will not only contribute to preserve the GCLME's marine biodiversity but also positively contribute to the GCLME's capacity to provide protein and thus to maintain regional livelihoods as well as regional and global food security. In the absence of GEF and other donor support, the hard-won progress on WSSD targets and MDGs in the foundational SAP development project may be lost and the ambitious SDGs may prove difficult to achieve in the GCLME region.

## **f) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up**

### *Innovation*

The Project builds on an innovative multi-agency partnership that combines expertise in ocean and regional governance, fisheries management, and pollution reduction, combined with cross-cutting expertise in capacity building, stakeholder participation and financing and investments to assist GCLME countries to implement the SAP and enhance the resilience of coastal communities and habitats to climate change and variability. Each GEF agency brings a strong baseline of support to the 2030 agenda and this project provides a unique opportunity to implement the SDGs and their numerous targets in a harmonious and coordinated way across the GCLME. UNE will ensure that the targets of environmental SDGs are integrated into the SAP and linked to food security targets (FAO), human development (UNDP) and sustainable consumption and production (UNIDO). UNDP is strongly involved in the region in strengthening the capacity of national institutions in planning for adaptation, promoting south-south exchanges and promoting inter-sectoral planning. The project will be able to use this expertise for a better involvement of national institutions and support other agencies in coordinating with the institutions.

Water quality in the GCLME is deteriorating as a result of land and marine-based municipal and industrial activities. Whilst untreated wastewater from large coastal cities constitutes a major threat industrial pollution is on the increase with the potential to reduce the ecosystem's ability to provide services as required to sustain the coastal fishery which is the source of protein and livelihood for millions of people. Only a well concerted approach as proposed by the 4 GEF Agencies will allow to reverse the presently prevailing trends of environmental degradation. Only following a well concerted and coordinated interagency approach will allow each agency to make best use of its comparative advantages. In this constellation the application of the UNIDO hotspot methodology can inform decision makers on where the biggest marginal pollution load reductions can be achieved with the lowest marginal costs. The application of the TEST methodology will allow for the greening of existing industries and to making them inclusive so that they can continue to contribute to the urgently needed economic development in the GCLME while drastically reducing their environmental and social impacts.

Moreover, the establishment of the Guinea Current Commission (GCC) as a protocol of the Abidjan Convention that covers all the LMEs along the African West Coast is innovative and will ensure sharing of experiences and practices with other LMEs and countries in the West and Central Africa region.

### *Sustainability*

Institutional strengthening at regional, national and local levels coupled with mainstreaming of GCLME SAP priorities into national development policies and frameworks and sector budgets, and improved access to innovative financing for demonstration of innovative practices will contribute to the sustainability of Project interventions. Innovative financing options that will be explored in the PPG and further assessed during project implementation include strengthening of value-chains in the fishery sector, including certification (Component 2), establishment of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) for e.g. sewage treatment and pollution reduction (component 4), Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) for habitat and biodiversity conservation (Component 1). Linking the GCC to the Abidjan Convention and to effective partnerships with RFBs and fisheries institutions on fisheries related matters will ensure institutional sustainability respecting roles and mandates of existing institutions at the regional and national level.

### *Potential for scaling up*

Promotion of the application of EAF and EAA for sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as BAP and BEP, and PPPs related pollution reduction will facilitate the ecosystem-wide up-scaling of demonstration activities in the GCLME and achievement of the expected long-term impact of the SAP. Best practices for possible scaling up will be expanded to include experiences from governance reforms supporting ecosystem-based management.

2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society organizations (yes / no ). and indigenous peoples (yes /noX)? If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project preparation.

The main stakeholders in the proposed Project and in the implementation of the SAP are:

- Government Ministries and Agencies – Fishery, Environment, Finance, Planning, Agriculture, Mining, and other relevant ministries will be part and/or consulted in the process of strengthening inter-ministry committees.
- Decentralized authorities in the GCLME countries will be targeted for capacity building and outreach campaigns to enhance knowledge and awareness of environmental variability and change in the GCLME region.
- Academia – universities and research institutes in the GCLME countries and at international level will be involved in assessments and capacity building related to fisheries and aquaculture management, environmental variability and change and pollution hot spots analysis.
- NGOs – local, regional and international active in the GCLME region will be targeted for outreach and awareness raising campaigns and selected training.
- Private sector entities engaged in fishery, coastal pollution and waste management, forestry, tourism and agro-based industries relevant to the scope of the SAP will be invited to partners with the GCC and to participate in a donor conference.
- Bilateral and multilateral donors active in the GCLME region will be invited to partners with the GCC and to participate in a donor conference.
- UNEP, FAO, UNDP and FAO are the lead UN agencies for the GCLME program that will ensure smooth implementation of activities as well as partnership building with other stakeholders, including with other donors and the private sector.
- The World Bank – in its capacity as the lead agency for WACA and a parallel GCLME project will be invited to be a close partner to the project and has already joined the consortium of UN agencies in support of the GCLME.

Through the proposed Project, the Guinea Current Commission will be facilitated to further strengthen and forge collaborative strategic partnerships with the key players and stakeholders of the GCLME i.e. the GCLME countries' line ministries, Regional Fisheries Bodies, key sectoral industries, Regional Centers of Excellence and other institutions, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international and regional entities, such as Regional Fishery Bodies as well as national and international NGOs. However, as this is a project that will first and foremost establish a regional enabling environment for the implementation of the SAP, CSOs and indigenous people are not primary stakeholders at this stage of SAP implementation, but will be consulted and engaged in subsequent phases when field level activities will be implemented and scaled up. This project will start exploring how to link local and central government and also how to engage with civil society and different options will be assessed under component 3.

3. *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.* Are issues on gender equality and women's empowerment taken into account? (yes  /no ). If yes, briefly describe how it will be mainstreamed into project preparation (e.g. gender analysis), taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men.

The proposed Project will directly involve both women and men to ensure that the gender perspective will be fully and successfully incorporated. Gender specific perceptions of current problems in the GCLME will be considered, with special attention to the potential impact of the execution of the SAP on gender relations within the GCLME. Gender disaggregated data will be collected to aid decision making on fisheries management, restoration of degraded habitats and protection of coastlines and reducing and controlling pollution and improving water quality. Based on these findings, gender aspects will be taken into due consideration in the implementation of the SAP as well as in the outreach campaigns to increase environmental awareness and the development of gender specific capacity building activities. The GEF agencies involved in the Project are committed to supporting capacity development of its national partners to adopt approaches that advance women's rights and take account of the full range of their contributions to development.

To ensure that gender considerations are well integrated into the Project, in the implementation process and in the delivery of the outputs, a gender specialist will be hired that will be involved throughout the duration of the Project and provide periodic assessment of progress towards achieving gender targets. This will include particular attention to the review and update of the result framework and relevant indicators and targets. The gender activities will be reported using the GEF-6 Gender indicators. The Project will adopt the following approach to integration of gender aspects:

**1. Mainstreaming gender in Project execution** - Gender consideration will be mainstreamed in all documents produced by the Project, and particular attention will be paid to gender indicators and targets in monitoring and reporting of activities. A balanced participation of women and men will be promoted in the overall stakeholder involvement strategy and in consultation workshops and training programmes, and will support both women and men contributing individually, rather than assuming that both groups will benefit equally from gender-neutral development interventions.

**2. Gender Assessment** - As part of updating baseline information underpinning the GCLME SAP, and through the application of methodologies for the collection of sex disaggregated data, the Project will provide an assessment of women’s present role in fisheries and aquaculture, coastal zone land, water and waste management and their exposure to harmful techniques, chemicals and wastes, and associated risks.

**3. Integration of the gender equality into fisheries, coastal and marine policies** – The Project will support the development of supportive policy and legislative frameworks, and of harmonization of monitoring protocols across beneficiary countries. These efforts will also be aimed at ensuring that the gender perspective is successfully incorporated into environmental, fisheries and aquaculture, and ICZM policies and activities. Women’s participation in awareness raising and training activities will be promoted and women’s organizations will be consulted and engaged as appropriate.

A gender expert will be hired already in the PPG phase to ensure mainstreaming of gender considerations into all project components and identification of gender specific activities and gender disaggregated targets and indicators. The PPG gender expert will ensure that these considerations are reflected in project design and its results and monitoring framework.

*4 Risks.* 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 (table format acceptable).

The risks posed to achieving the objectives of the Project, risk level and mitigation measures are summarized below:

**Table 1.** Project risks.

Risk	Risk rating	Risk mitigation strategy
GCLME countries not prepared to cover the operational costs for the Guinea Current Commission	Medium	GCLME countries have committed to the establishment of GCC in principle in the Osu and Abidjan declarations as well as its COP12. Several options how to share the burden of the costs have been presented during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ministerial Meeting. Intensive advocacy work by the IGCC will be required to achieve unanimous agreement on one solution. Intensive discussions between (IGCC Abidjan Convention and the RFBs will be required to achieve consensus on the synergies between these institutions to ensure that scarce financial resources to be provided by the GCLME countries for the normative (Abidjan Convention) entity at regional seas level as well as for the executive (Guinea Current Commission) entity at the ecosystem or regional (RFBs) level will be provided.

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Risk rating</b>	<b>Risk mitigation strategy</b>
Profit oriented oil and gas industry might be reluctant to become involved in a voluntary partnership for the development of compensatory programs and to adhere to best practice to prevent oil spills	Medium to high	After the disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, which not only imposed extremely high economic costs on the countries affected but also imposed significant financial costs on the oil company itself, the industry globally has faced tighter standards and stricter monitoring and enforcement of their activities. In this context, the oil and gas industry in the GCLME should be open to the arguments that they have to live up to their commitments to incorporate social and environmental responsibility, and governments will be easier convinced of the usefulness to enforce strict monitoring of the industry
Population growth and unregulated industrialization might result in additional pollution loads to the GCLME so that the implementation of SAP and NAPs will not result in improvement of ecosystem status	Medium	Constant monitoring of the progress in the implementation of the SAP/NAPs by the GCC and constant monitoring of the status of the GCLME during the project will provide an assessment of whether SAP and NAP implementation will result in the desired improvement of ecosystem status. Under adaptive management, the SAP and NAPs need to be updated to take increased pollution loads into due consideration. This would be done hand in hand with the incorporation of climate variability and change issues into the SAP and NAPs.
Impacts of climate change may reach a tipping point and trigger unforeseeable chain reactions.	Unknown	Implementation of the SAP and NAPs will help to maintain the natural resilience of the GCLME to withstand changes in the global climate, such as coastal flooding with sea-level rise, storm vulnerability. Regular monitoring of the ecosystem status and the development of an early warning and response system will reduce/mitigate this risk
Fish stocks that have been over-fished may not recover	Unknown	The GCC will cooperate with and support the regional fishery bodies to assist GCLME countries to develop, implement, enforce, review and, when appropriate, revise fisheries management plans. Coordinated monitoring and data sharing in relation to shared stocks will underpin decision making.
Non-GEF external financial support for the implementation of the NAPs and SAP may not be forthcoming	Medium to low	Most of the GCLME countries will not be able to implement the NAPs without the financial support from international donor organizations. (I)GCC will continue to support the GCLME countries in their efforts to build partnerships, policy dialogue and lobbying activities to mobilize external financial support.

**5. Coordination.** Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives.

The Member countries have a history of cooperation both at the economic and environmental spheres such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), CEMAC, South African Development and Economic Community (SADEC), etc. The Project Steering Committee and IGCC/GCC) and Member countries will individually and jointly promote:

- Effective co-ordination between sub-regional and regional bodies and institutions such as Fisheries Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF); Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea (COREP); Forestry Commission of Central Africa (COMIFAC); and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), as well as with initiatives such as the Program for Integrated Management of Marine and Coastal Resources (GIRMac); Regional Program for the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine zones of West Africa (PRCM); and NGOs and CBOs which contribute towards the integrated management, sustainable development and rational utilization of the living marine resources and protection of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem. The IGCC will develop institutional relationships with NEPAD and encourage collaboration with other NEPAD environmental initiatives and international projects;

- Co-operation with partners, donors, stakeholders including bilateral and multilateral financial institutions, aid agencies, the private sector and interested foundations with the aim of securing funding for projects and policies identified in this SAP document;
- Cooperation with relevant international organizations including United Nations Agencies and international organizations in implementing this SAP;
- Cooperation with other Large Marine Ecosystem programs such as Benguela Current LME Programme and Canary Current LME Program that share similar attributes and are also involved in collaboration and regional cooperation.
- Cooperation with the World Bank-financed West Africa Regional Fisheries Project (WARFP) that aims to capture the economic benefits from renewable ocean natural fishery resources, and through a value chain approach that seeks to retain the wealth in terms of jobs and investments within several West African countries.
- Cooperation with the World Bank West Africa Coastal Areas (WACA) Resilience Investment Program. The program covers all GCLME countries, and its first phase will include 6 countries - Togo, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, and Senegal - that have requested for WACA assistance. A separate World Bank-led investment program to support early actions to implement the GCLME SAP in synergy with WACA will be implemented in parallel to this regional UNE-led GEF Project. Linkages will be established especially between components 1,3 and 4 of this project and WACA.

6. *Consistency with National Priorities.* Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes  /no  ). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

The proposed Project is fully in line with and supportive of the Accra Declaration (1998), the Abuja Ministerial Declaration (2006), which established the Interim Guinea Current Commission (IGCC), the Osu Ministerial Declaration (2010) which reaffirmed the Ministers' intention to establish a full-fledged Guinea Current Commission, and the Abidjan Ministerial Declaration (2012) which decided that the GCC should be established by a protocol to the Abidjan Convention. This ecosystem-based governance commission shall act in consistency with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The proposed FSP is fully consistent with the provisions of the Abidjan Convention and will provide catalytic funding for the implementation of the provisions of the Abidjan Convention at the level of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem by the GCLME countries to be facilitated and coordinated by the Guinea Current Commission through cooperation with the Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs). The Abidjan Convention is a comprehensive umbrella agreement adopted in 1981 for the protection and management of the marine and coastal areas. To date the Convention covers the marine environment, coastal zones and related inland waters falling within the jurisdiction of the States of the Western African Region, from Mauritania to South Africa. Out of the 16 GCLME countries, 12 have ratified the Abidjan Convention, while the remaining four countries are at various stages of the accession process.

The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) endorsed by the Ministers of the 16 GCLME countries in 2008 is the generic planning and policy document that outlines the principles and policy actions necessary for the integrated assessment and management of the GCLME adopting an ecosystem-based approach. The SAP defines the challenges facing the GCLME, and specifies the nature and scope for deliverable policy actions based on the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis. The SAP establishes a road map for the assessment and management of the GCLME and its linked river basins for the long-term sustainability of resources, environments and their uses by the people living in the GCLME. The SAP provides overall information on the required institutional arrangements and includes promoting strong links with existing institutions. It seeks to achieve wider cooperation between the GCLME Project and other related projects. Furthermore it specifies how the GCC can be financed for long-term sustainability. The proposed project will specifically contribute to the following components of the SAP:

3.1.1: Management and sustainable utilisation of living resources – through support under Component 2 to (a) regional fish stock and ecosystem assessment and impacts of climate change, and (c) regional harmonisation of policies for fisheries.

3.1.3: Effective assessment of environmental variability, ecosystem impacts and early warning – through support under Component 3 to (e) assessment of potential impacts of climate change.

3.1.4: Assessment, reduction and control of pollution – through Component 4.

3.1.5: Maintenance of ecosystem health and protection of biodiversity – through components 1 and 3 to LME-wide assessments and capacity building, and EBM.

See also Figure 2 for linkages to the agreed SAP cross-cutting priorities.

National Action Plans (NAPs) were developed by the 16 GCLME countries to give detailed information on how the regional objectives will be operationalized. This includes deployment of human capacity (or capacity-building needs), infrastructure, legal and policy reforms, finance, and investments. To create synergies and avoid duplication, already existing strategic national planning documents e.g. National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plans (NBSAP), National Plans of Action on Land Based Activities (NPA-LBAs), Fisheries Management Plans, Integrated Coastal Area Management Plans etc., were incorporated into the NAPs. Strict national ownership of the NAP development process and national endorsement furthermore allowed for coordination and integration of the NAPs with the countries' Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs).

All GCLME countries are signatories to the MEAs and have developed strategies, action plans, policies in regulations to varying degrees to implement these commitments and to embed them in national development priorities. A more thorough analysis of how to strengthen the policy and institutional enabling environment in support of GCLME SAP priorities at the country level will be conducted in the PPG phase of the project. Outcomes of the project are also fully consistent with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and will contribute to a range of important socio-economic and environmental SDG targets at national level, including:

SDG1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere, especially its target 6: ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.

SDG2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, especially target 3: by 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

SDG3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, especially target 9: by 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.

SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, especially target 7: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

SDG6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all, especially target 3: by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.

SDG8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all, especially target 3: promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

SDG12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, especially target 2: by 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

SDG13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, especially targets 1-3: strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries; integrate climate change measures into

national policies, strategies and planning; and improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

SDG14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources, especially its targets 1-5 and 7: by 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution; by 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans; minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels; by 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics; and by 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.

SDG15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss, especially targets 9-10: by 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts; and mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems.

SDG17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development , especially targets 6-7: enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism; and promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.

*7. Knowledge Management.* Outline the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

A regional knowledge sharing platform will be developed for ecosystem-based management of the GCLME. The GCLME website linked to the Abidjan Convention will be upgraded and developed into a portal for regional information sharing. Component 3 led by UNDP is dedicated to knowledge management and awareness raising. National segments of the regional knowledge sharing platform will be linked to WACA and data and information on environmental and socioeconomic conditions, disaggregated by gender, will be maintained and improved and data and made available in the GCC Information System in a user-friendly format. Regional Centers of Excellence and other appropriate institutions will also contribute to the regional information system. The GEF-6 parallel investment project to support the implementation of the GCLME SAP led by the World Bank, will also ensure establishment of linkages with the WACA platform that helps countries access expertise and finance to sustainably manage their coastal areas. In addition, the GCLME will contribute to IW:Learn activities, including linking of websites, development of experience notes and participation in IW Conferences.



**PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)**

**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT<sup>13</sup> OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):**

(Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this SGP OFP endorsement letter).




NAME	COUNTRY	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)
Mr. Delphin AIDJI	Benin	Directeur de la Programmation et de la Prospective du Ministere du Cadre de Vie et du Developpement Durable	Ministere du Cadre de Vie et du Developpement Durable	08/11/2017
Dr. Unusa Haman	Cameroon	Sub-Director for Environmental Planning	Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development	08/21/2017
Mr. Germain KOMBO	Congo	Director General de l'Environnement	Ministere de l'Economie Forestiere, du Developpement Durable et de l'Environnement	09/19/2017
Mr. Leonard MUAMBA KANDA	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Secrtaire General	Ministere de l'Environnement Conservation de la Nature et Developpement Durable	08/25/2017
Mrs. Alimata Kone-Bakayoko	Cote d'Ivoire	Secrtaire Permanente	Ministry of Economy and Finance, Commission Nationale du FEM	08/14/2017
Mr. Antonio Micha Ondo Angue	Equatorial guinea	Director Nacional del Instituto para la Conservacion del Medio Ambiente	Ministerio de Bosques y Medio Ambiente	08/14/2017
Mr. Louis Leandre Ebobola Tsibah	Gabon	General Director	General Directory for Environment and the Protection of Nature	08/09/2017
Mr. Fredua Agyeman	Ghana	Director of Environment	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation	08/07/2017
Mr. Ahmadou Sebory Toure	Guinea	Director General	Fonds de Sauvegarde de l'Environnement	08/10/2017
Mr. Joao Raimundo Lopes	Guinea-Bissau	Technical Advisor	Secretariat of State for Environment	16/08/2017

<sup>13</sup> For regional and/or global projects in which participating countries are identified, OFP endorsement letters from these countries are required even though there may not be a STAR allocation associated with the project.

NAME	COUNTRY	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)
Madam Anyaa Vohiri	Liberia	Executive Director/ CEO	Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia	08/08/2017
Mr. Amos Ibrahim TANKO	Nigeria	Director, Planning, Research and Statistics	Federal Ministry of Environment	08/01/2017
Mr. Lourenco Monteiro de Jesus	Sao Tome and Principe	Director of Environmental Education and Statistics	Ministry of Public Works and Natural Resources	08/23/2017
Mr. Abdul Bakarr Salim	Sierra leone	Monitoring and Evaluation Manager	Environment Protection Agency-Sierra Leone	08/11/2017
Mr. Djiwonou Folly	Togo	Ingenieur des Travaux des Eaux et Forets	Ministere de l'Environnement et des Ressources	08/10/2017

#### B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

**This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies<sup>14</sup> and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation under GEF-6.**

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
Kelly West, Senior Programme Manager & Global Environment Facility Coordinator Corporate Services Division UN Environment		September 29, 2017	Yegor Volovik	+254 716 055 792	yegor.volovik@unep.org
FAO Dan Gustafson Deputy Director (Programmes and Officer- in-Charge, TC and TCI)	See supplementary attachment.	September 29, 2017	Merete Tandstad		merete.tandstad@fao.org
Adrianna Dinu, UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator		September 29, 2017	Vladimir Mamaev		vladimir.mamaev@undp.org
Mr. Philippe R. Scholtès, Managing Director, Programme Development and Technical Cooperation, UNIDO- GEF Focal Point		September 29, 2017	Christian Susan		c.susan@unido.org

#### C. ADDITIONAL GEF PROJECT AGENCY CERTIFICATION (APPLICABLE ONLY TO NEWLY ACCREDITED GEF PROJECT AGENCIES)

For newly accredited GEF Project Agencies, please download and fill up the required **GEF Project Agency Certification of Ceiling Information Template** to be attached as an annex to the PIF. N/A

<sup>14</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT