



# PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: THE GEF TRUST FUND

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## PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	GEF International Waters: Learning Exchange And Resources Network (IW:LEARN):		
Country(ies):	Global	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	5729
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP, UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5337
Other Executing Partner(s):	CI, GWP, ICPDR, IRF, IUCN, TNC, UNECE, UNESCO-IHP, UNIDO, UNU-INWEH, WWF	Submission Date: Resubmission Date:	March 7, 2014 21 March 2014
GEF Focal Area (s):	International Waters (IW)	Project Duration (Months)	48 months
Name of parent program (if applicable): • For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/> • For SGP <input type="checkbox"/> • For PPP <input type="checkbox"/>		Project Agency Fee (\$):	\$473,813

### A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK<sup>2</sup>

Focal Area Objectives	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
IW-3	GEFTF	4,987,500	12,269,312
Total Project Cost		4,987,500	12,269,312

### B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

To strengthen knowledge management capacity and promote scaled-up learning of disseminated experiences, tools and methodologies for transboundary waters management—across and beyond the GEF IW portfolio, together with a global network of partners—in order to improve the effectiveness of GEF IW and partner projects to deliver tangible results and scaled-up investments.

Project Component	Grant Type <sup>3</sup>	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
<b>Component 1</b> Support the Harvesting, Standardization, Dissemination and Replication of Portfolio & Partner Results, Data and Experience	TA	Increased experience sharing and replication of successes throughout and beyond the IW portfolio, as well as enhanced stakeholder buy-in to GEF IW project interventions	<b>1.1</b> Upgraded IW portfolio visualization tool, including a spatial data-based results reporting interface and standardized indicator-based monitoring of project interventions from the state of international waters  <b>1.2</b> IW:LEARN website incorporating partners' online knowledge platforms, serving global network learning partnership and supporting GEF IW results-based management and GEF-wide knowledge management activities	GEFTF	900,000	2,205,000

<sup>1</sup> Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework and LDCE/SCCF Framework](#) when completing Table A.

<sup>3</sup> TA includes capacity building, and research and development.

			<p><b>1.3</b> Published IW e-newsletter, blogs, webinars, videos and mailings on current transboundary IW issues</p> <p><b>1.4</b> Synthesis reports on portfolio and non-GEF approaches to with on priority topics addressing the management of transboundary water systems</p> <p><b>1.5</b> Training on information and communication technology for improved management of information by GEF projects</p>			
<p><b>Component 2</b> Share Knowledge Across Projects and Partners (Through Dialogue Processes and Face-to-Face Capacity Building) to Advance Transboundary Water Management</p>	TA	Enhanced portfolio & partner capacity at the regional & global levels, and portfolio-wide dialogue opportunities for increased transboundary cooperation	<p><b>2.1</b> Structured project-project twinning exchange program</p> <p><b>2.2</b> GEF Biennial International Waters Conference 8 and 9</p> <p><b>2.3</b> Regional dialogue approach for enhanced transboundary cooperation sustained and conducted in regions with limited GEF IW investment</p> <p><b>2.4</b> Structured regional training workshops for GEF projects &amp; partners, delivered by the global partner learning network and together with global LME governance project</p>	GEFTF	1,700,000	4,165,000
<p><b>Component 3</b> Expand Global Freshwater Communities of Practice to Advance Conjunctive Management of Surface, Ground &amp; Marine waters and Partner with New Enterprises on Initiatives to Better Manage International Waters</p>	TA	External partnerships mobilized and working together for improved learning and knowledge management, through an enhanced global freshwater Community of Practice—to impact results and advance conjunctive management of	<p><b>3.1</b> Expanded global surface freshwater Communities of Practice to mobilize GEF and non-GEF partnerships and knowledge sharing</p> <p><b>3.2</b> Expanded global groundwater Communities of Practice to mobilize GEF and non-GEF partnerships and knowledge sharing</p> <p><b>3.3</b> Partner exchanges to</p>	GEFTF	1,000,000	2,450,000

		water resources	<p>promote conjunctive management of freshwater GEF projects, both groundwater and freshwater (together with global partner learning network), as well as with coastal and ocean projects (together with global LME governance project)</p> <p><b>3.4</b> Structured engagement with the private sector through dialogue and joint activities</p>			
<p><b>Component 4</b> Promote GEF IW Portfolio Results, Tools &amp; Best Practice to the non-GEF Community to Increase Awareness, Replication, Scalability and Sustainability of GEF IW Investments</p>	TA	Increased global awareness of GEF results and additional partner collaboration with GEF projects	<p><b>4.1</b> Annual publication in peer-reviewed journals, of articles from the IW Portfolio—highlighting results, lessons, good practice</p> <p><b>4.2</b> International Waters Awareness Raising Kit to promote the GEF IW portfolio</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Participation in key global dialogue processes to promote GEF IW results and exchange tools to enhance knowledge management activities</p>	GEFTF	425,000	1,041,250
<p><b>Component 5</b> Launch Programmatic Tools to Improve Portfolio Performance and Sustain Project Interventions</p>	TA	Increased capacity of beneficiary governments, intergovernmental bodies and GEF projects to implement agreed actions identified in existing Strategic Action Programs, with an eye to long-term sustainability	<p><b>5.1</b> Systematic consideration of the economic valuation of natural resources into the TDA/SAP process and targeted learning</p> <p><b>5.2</b> Process to enhance linkages between community-level actions with regional governance processes in the context of SAP Implementation</p> <p><b>5.3</b> TDA/SAP methodology updated and expanded with good practices from existing SAP implementation and ecosystem-specific guidance</p> <p><b>5.4</b> Interactive online training courses based on</p>	GEFTF	725,000	1,776,250

			priority thematic content to fill portfolio learning gaps (inter alia on legal frameworks, water-energy-food ecosystems nexus)			
Subtotal					4,750,000	11,637,500
Project Management Cost (PMC) <sup>4</sup>				GEFTF	237,500	631,812
Total Project Cost					4,987,500	12,269,312

**C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)**

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	In Cash	\$1,970,000
GEF Agency	UNEP	In Cash	490,000
GEF Agency	UNEP	In Kind	2,274,540
GEF Agency	CI	In Kind	210,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	GWP	In Cash	1,270,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	GWP	In Kind	50,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	ICPDR	In Cash	329,900
Foundation	IRF	In Cash	249,000
Foundation	IRF	In Kind	54,300
CSO	IUCN	In Kind	476,772
CSO	TNC	In Cash	94,800
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	UNECE	In Cash	880,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	UNESCO-IHP	In Cash	1,200,000
GEF Agency	UNIDO	In Cash	1,860,000
Other Multilateral Agency(ies)	UNU-INWEH	In Cash	160,000
GEF Agency	WWF	In Kind	700,000
<b>Total Co-Financing</b>			12,269,312

**D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES (\$) REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>**

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (\$) (a)	Agency Fee (\$) (b) <sup>2</sup>	Total (\$) c=a+b
UNDP	GEFTF	International Waters	Global	3,987,500	378,813	4,366,313
UNEP	GEFTF	International Waters	Global	1,000,000	95,000	1,095,000
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				4,987,500	473,813	5,461,313

<sup>1</sup> In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table. PMC amount from Table B should be included proportionately to the focal area amount in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Indicate fees related to this project.

**E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)<sup>5</sup>**

Please check on the appropriate box for PPG as needed for the project according to the GEF Project Grant:

<sup>4</sup> To be calculated as percent of subtotal.

<sup>5</sup> On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

	<u>Amount Requested (\$)</u>	<u>Agency Fee for PPG (\$)<sup>6</sup></u>
• No PPG required.	-- 0--	--0--
• (up to) \$50k for projects up to & including \$1 million		
• (up to) \$100k for projects up to & including \$3 million		
• (up to) \$150k for projects up to & including \$6 million	140,000	13,300
• (up to) \$200k for projects up to & including \$10 million		
• (up to) \$300k for projects above \$10 million		

**PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES) FOR MFA AND/OR MTF PROJECT ONLY**

Trust Fund	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
GEF TF	UNDP	IW	Global	140,000	13,300	153,300
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
<b>Total PPG Amount</b>						

MFA: Multi-focal area projects; MTF: Multi-Trust Fund projects.

**PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION<sup>7</sup>**

**A. PROJECT OVERVIEW**

**A.1 Project Description**

**1) The Global Environmental Problems, Root Causes and Barriers that Need to be Addressed**

The draft GEF 2020 strategy expressly indicates that, “Knowledge is one of the primary vehicles through which we have the opportunity to greatly scale up our impact. The name Global Environment Facility, rather than Global Environment Fund, was not an accident: we were designed in part to mainstream sustainable investment throughout the portfolios of our implementing agencies and beyond. Knowledge and lessons learned must be our primary tool in this effort, and if the impact of our investments can be increased by even a fraction of a percent through better use of knowledge, investment in a more robust knowledge system is warranted.” Meanwhile, water scarcity and stress is increasing in most regions of the planet. Approximately 80% of the world’s population is already exposed to high levels of threat for water security, and some 1.2 billion people live in river basins where human water use has surpassed sustainable limits. Continuing degradation of surface and ground freshwater and marine systems, coupled with climate change and increasing climatic variability, will create additional pressure on water resources, further harming biodiversity, stunting economic development, disproportionately affecting the world’s poor<sup>8</sup> and increasing the need for costly mitigation investments. The barriers to addressing these threats include: the lack of scientific knowledge and its effective management for decision-making and actions; inadequate institutional arrangements, stakeholder participation, and sustainable financing; and inadequate strategic planning and policy development at the global, regional, national and local levels. And the draft 2020 strategy also states that, “the private sector dominates the entire economic sphere, and therefore limited public sector resources need to be better utilized to redirect private sector activities towards environmentally sustainable approaches”.

GEF IW investment is targeted at addressing these barriers, but as also highlighted in the strategy, “To be truly catalytic, we (the GEF) will need to build an enhanced knowledge ecosystem around the performance of our investments. Given the scale of the challenge we face, we need to accomplish more than will be possible through direct investments alone.” The GEF increment would allow the proposed project to act as a vessel for implementing the GEF’s 2020 strategic objective to use knowledge to compound the impact of GEF IW investments and combat the above threats. Moreover, the increment will enable the project to engage a broader set of development partners to advance learning and experience exchange in the field of governance and management of international waters. In addition, building on a baseline of activities executed by several global partners, with strategic alignment and high complementarity in capacity, will further leverage knowledge and the GEF increment.

<sup>6</sup> PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the GEF Project Grant amount requested.

<sup>7</sup> Part II should not be longer than 5 pages.

<sup>8</sup> GEF6-IW Programming Directions at page 98.

## **2) The Baseline Scenario and Any Associated Baseline Projects**

The GEF IW focal area targets transboundary water systems, such as shared river basins, lakes, groundwater and large marine ecosystems. The IW portfolio comprises 242 projects to date and some US\$1.4 billion of GEF grants invested in 149 different countries. This investment has leveraged approximately US\$8.4 billion in co-financing. Since the inception of the GEF in 1991, the IW portfolio has delivered substantive results and replicable experiences to be scaled up and mainstreamed globally.

With such an investment over the past twenty years come many invaluable experiences, lessons learned, and recommendations for future GEF IW projects. However, unlike most GEF focal areas that are tied to global conventions with permanent secretariats that can house and/or assist the GEF with knowledge management (e.g., the CBD and UNFCCC for the BD and CC-M focal areas, respectively), the IW focal area has handled knowledge management with the help of a series of global projects that have built upon previous successes in knowledge management, titled “International Waters Learning Exchange and Resources Network”, or IW:LEARN.

Over the last fifteen years, IW:LEARN has grown from an informal network of a few projects and agency staff focused on IW projects to a community of individuals from a few hundred public and private sector organizations, including local, national, and international government and non-government organizations. IW:LEARN has produced a number of noteworthy results across multiple service lines that foster this community—from coordinating information management through the IW:LEARN website ([www.iwlearn.net](http://www.iwlearn.net)) and its applications to face-to-face events, including: 22 project twinnings involving 156 beneficiaries from 36 GEF IW projects; 23 training workshops on water management issues and 15 training workshops for building capacity on information and technology issues, with 690 participants representing 129 IW projects; six regional dialogues reaching 215 senior project staff from various regions; and seven Biennial International Waters Conferences, the signature learning event of the portfolio, bringing together over 1400 stakeholders over the years, averaging about 69 GEF IW projects from 70 countries at each conference. IW:LEARN portfolio programmatic support also includes technical reports, publications and other knowledge products and media. IW:LEARN also contributes significantly to raising awareness among experts and policy-makers about the GEF IW projects and their outcomes, thus indirectly also contributing to new investments. In addition, it serves as a linkage to other global processes, frameworks and initiatives on water management as well as transboundary water cooperation. For example, previous phases have been supported by the Athens-Petersberg Process in partnership with the Global Water Partnership, World Bank, UNECE, German and Greek Governments. The demonstration activity in previous phases led to enhanced transboundary cooperation in multiple basins, such as the Drin River Basin and the Dinaric Karst Transboundary Aquifer System. The regional dialogue process created the enabling conditions for the countries to request new GEF IW projects in the basins. Moreover, the previous phase of IW:LEARN worked with the Secretariat of the UNECE Water Convention (Helsinki) as well as actors, such as WWF, supporting the advancement of the UN Watercourses Convention (New York), in terms of global legal framework development.

IW:LEARN has been at the forefront of facilitating GEF IW project engagement with the private sector and other projects, through engagement trainings and networking opportunities. In a 2013 survey, 70% of respondents indicated that IW:LEARN had provided IW project staff and partners with the necessary knowledge to engage with the private sector; and 67% of respondents noted that IW:LEARN has been influential in creating new partnerships with other projects and institutions. Since its inception, IW:LEARN has successfully delivered services to more than 225 GEF IW-funded projects and connected almost 1300 people with its services. In total, around US\$16.8 million in GEF grants has been invested in the phases of IW:LEARN.

One consistent strategic objective of GEF IW is to support foundational capacity building, portfolio learning, and targeted research needs for ecosystem-based joint management and governance of transboundary water systems. In light of this objective and driven by current need, the GEF agencies are and will be committing an increasing amount of programming resources toward knowledge management in their work plans. In addition, the draft GEF 2020 Strategy notes on p. 76, “Our (the GEF) knowledge proposition will center on generating and sharing targeted, high quality lessons and evidence to scale our impact, sharpening our role as a facility to inform not only the non-GEF investments of our implementing partners, but also the much larger universe of private and public investments, including bilateral funds, major foundations, private sector, and national financial institutions. Leveraging knowledge in this way, we can help other dollars flow to the most effective interventions.”

Moreover, after 22 years of GEF investment, significant progress and results have been delivered by the focal area. GEF has made investments in at least 30 transboundary river basins, 10 transboundary lakes, 6 transboundary groundwater systems, and 21 large marine ecosystems. From those, at least 37 produced transboundary diagnostic analyses and at least 33 strategic action programs resulted. In at least 24 basins, GEF supported existing or catalyzed joint management bodies (or transboundary commissions). Likewise, at least 15 new basin-wide frameworks resulted. This represents just a fraction of results from GEF investments, which also include significant reductions in agricultural, industrial and municipal wastewater, reduced stress on aquifers, marine protected areas, reduced fishing pressure and other types of stress reduction. Most critically, the GEF has been

catalytic and transforming the sector, and the growth of numerous organizations at various scales active in transboundary water management. There are now dozens of initiatives focused on supporting transboundary management. UNDP's Shared Water Partnership, UNEP Regional Seas Programme, CI's Seascapes Program, GWP's Global Dialogue on Water Security and Sustainable Growth, TNC's Great Rivers Partnership and UNESCO's International Shared Aquifer Resource Management (ISARM) Initiative to name just a very few. All of this means, that the proposed project faces a rich baseline upon which there exists significant opportunities to scale-up knowledge management, with the goal of scaling-up GEF IW investments above and beyond the existing portfolio, with an eye to delivering additional global environmental benefits.

Most critically however, the proposed project's baseline includes the activities of a number of global (and regional/basin) partner institutions. The ambition of the project is to mirror the GEF international waters approach of supporting scale-up of foundational projects. Or said differently, the goal is to move IW:LEARN from a demonstration phase where successful knowledge management services to GEF IW projects have been piloted, tested & replicated, towards a scaled-up project which become a hub for global learning on transboundary waters financed by GEF and other partners, working inside and outside the portfolio. Ultimately, this enhanced role as a global knowledge hub will support the scale-up of GEF IW investments globally, as the project will harness experience from more than 22 years of GEF portfolio and partner activities to improve the current and future portfolios and impacts of investments (from both GEF and non-GEF funded projects). The project will engage partners at the global level, such as GEF agencies but also other globally-oriented organizations, as well as partners at the regional and basin-levels.

Although the project aims to work with a suite of development partners, there is an immediate set of partners, whose work programs during the life of IW:LEARN form an extensive baseline of capacity-development or information management activities to support scale-up of IW:LEARN services. This baseline starts with an extensive set of activities supporting water governance led by the project's lead implementing agency UNDP through its Water & Ocean Governance Programme. The project's other implementing Agency UNEP, will leverage an robust set of data management platforms & partner institutions, training programs, decision-making tools and assessment programs, publications and processes, as well as work on green economy and valuation. Conservation International offers its literature & synthesis materials, private sector partnerships, valuation of natural resources and community-level work. The Global Water Partnership will offer its toolboxes, existing and funded transboundary dialogue programs in various regions, capacity building & knowledge network, dialogue activities with the private sector and online courses. The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River will provide staff-time to support twinning & expertise on transboundary water management, as well as cooperation with private industry through its Green Danube Partnership and education material which can be upscaled. The International River Foundation will help with dissemination, an extensive twinning program, global river symposium and network expertise. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature will provide its methodologies & approaches for synthesizing materials, activities in its core Water and Nature Initiative, twinning support via its Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE), content from its Nexus Dialogue on Water Infrastructure Solutions project, participation as organizer of global events and in-house expertise on economic valuation. The Nature Conservancy offers many activities, particularly in association with its Great Rivers Partnership, centered on project twinning support, thematic training & other knowledge sharing activities, as well as private sector engagement activities, scientific publishing, support to global events, economic valuation and e-learning. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe will incorporate GEF IW into its various guidance material development, its global training agenda (particularly trainings on the Nexus, mainstreaming climate change, quantifying benefits of cooperation) and its activities to strengthen transboundary basin governance. The International Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization will contribute its extensive groundwater program and networks to various activities, for example data and publications, online courses, training workshops, global forums and inter-governmental processes. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization will contribute its business partnership program as well as staff resources to support the economic valuation activity. The Institute of Water, Environment and Health of the United Nations University will offer continued work on its mapping systems, policy briefs, peer-reviewed journals and various online thematic learning resources & courses. Finally, the World Wide Fund for Nature can support the project through its private sector engagement, work on hydropower sustainability and water security, significant partnerships with private sector companies, trainings on water footprints and water stewardship, work on global legal conventions, water risk filter tools, publishing in academic journals and work on valuation of natural resources and related water funds. A full accounting of partner activities, known to date, that will form part of the proposed project's baseline, is available in a table place in Section A1.4.

In the absence of the GEF increment, and a fully executed IW:LEARN Sustainability Plan to facilitate knowledge management across the GEF agencies and IW portfolio, learning and information transfer would revert to ad hoc arrangements. Project personnel, agencies and government partners would operate in an experience vacuum, creating project isolation and sacrificing momentum, institutional memory and continuity, which would ultimately constrain the pace and quality of project implementation and delivery and limit the overall performance and impact of the GEF IW portfolio. Furthermore, without the GEF increment, potential synergies among the GEF IW portfolio, the private sector and other global environmental efforts will

likely not be realized. There is more work to be done on improving project performance, making IW project results more accessible, mainstreaming experience sharing, and developing a set of mechanisms to meet new, global, IW-critical issues, such as improving the long-term sustainability of project interventions through improved SAP implementation. Without the GEF increment, there would be no dedicated knowledge management agenda to exert positive pressure on IW projects to interact and share experiences and results, reducing the potential for scaling up successful approaches to management and governance of IW.

### **3) The Proposed Alternative Scenario, With a Brief Description of Expected Outcomes and Components of the Project**

Proven IW:LEARN and other portfolio learning project methodologies are ready to be scaled up portfolio-wide, utilizing the proposed project, to enhance the application of GEF IW experiences to improve portfolio quality and mainstream the capacity to address transboundary concerns and climate change. Moreover, the need for a new GEF IW:LEARN project lies in the continued demand for: 1) assisting projects in acquiring relevant knowledge related to transboundary waters management in order to improve future project design; 2) enhancing the understanding and application of GEF IW experiences across the portfolio to produce better quality project results; 3) facilitating the replication and scaling up of good practices in transboundary waters management, resulting in lower costs and improved capacity to address transboundary concerns; and 4) ensuring that insights generated through project interventions are shared and add value to the portfolio and beyond.

IW:LEARN will engage with new partners in the public and private sector, building partnerships that can lead to new and innovative ways to manage the wealth of transboundary water management knowledge for the benefit of the IW community (composed of IW project managers and staff, government officials, local communities, transboundary commissions, non-governmental organizations, the GEF agencies and the private sector) and deliver on the requirements of the GEF5 focal area strategy, as well as many of those in the eventual GEF6 Programmatic Directions.

In particular, IW:LEARN will address GEF5 Strategic Objective 3 to support foundational capacity building, portfolio learning, and targeted research needs for joint, ecosystem-based management of trans-boundary water systems, as well as draft GEF6 IW Programs 2.1 and 2.2 by engaging a new set of partners. These partners include global NGO's and transboundary commissions, collectively dubbed the *Global Network to Advance Integrated River Basin Management*, established in March 2013 to coordinate and jointly deliver freshwater capacity-building activities on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU has been co-signed by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, the International Network of Basin Organizations, the International River Foundation, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IW:LEARN's previous phase, the Nature Conservancy and the World Wildlife Fund. The MoU provides a framework for a voluntary, cooperative, and committed effort by the organizations to work on circles of activities that build synergies between and among the organizations, and help leverage resources to support more river basins globally develop and implement IWRM. The project will also work with existing partners of the previous phase including Global Water Partnership and the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization to advance conjunctive management. The expanded partnership represents a deepening of the proposed project's baseline, as well as significant opportunities to leverage the work of the GEF IW portfolio through partnerships.

The project will also operate in close synergy with the parallel project, the UNDP-GEF "*Strengthening Global Governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and Their Coasts through Enhanced Sharing and Application of LME/ICM/MPA Knowledge and Information Tool*" (a project that will establish a dynamic global support network for the GEF LME and ICM projects for practitioners needed to increase the capacity of countries to realize adaptive ecosystem-based management and governance). The projects will common pool staff resources and activities. The project will also help to promote the scale-up of approaches developed by other GEF funded portfolio learning projects. Because of the LME project's existence, the proposed project will contain a set of activities more specifically designed to support the freshwater project portfolio. However, the proposed project, the primary GEF IW portfolio learning mechanism, will still serve the entire portfolio and partners.

The proposed project includes five inter-related and mutually supportive components: 1) Support the harvesting, dissemination and replication of portfolio & partner results, data and experience; 2) Share knowledge across projects and partners (through dialogue processes and face-to-face capacity building) to advance transboundary water management; 3) Expand global freshwater Communities of Practice, to advance conjunctive management of surface, ground and marine waters and partner with new enterprises on initiatives to better manage international waters; 4) Promote GEF IW results, tools & best practice to the non-GEF community to increase awareness, replication, scalability and sustainability of GEF IW investments; and 5) Launch programmatic tools to improve portfolio performance and sustain project interventions.

**Component 1: Support the Harvesting, Dissemination and Replication of Portfolio & Partner Results, Data and Experience** (global, with UNDP, UNEP, CI, GWP, IRF, IUCN, UNECE, UNESCO-IHP, UNU-INWEH, WWF and other partners, including private sector). Information management, backed by a robust content or knowledge management platform, forms a key IW:LEARN service that backstops the experience-sharing and capacity-development activities the project



conducts. The project proposes to enhance visibility of project results through more readily useable tools, guides and materials in order to catalyze experience sharing among projects and replication of successes throughout the portfolio. First, this will center on upgrading the IW portfolio visualization tool—a spatially-based reporting system—to be based on instantaneous direct project inputs along the indicators of the GEF IW tracking tool as well as metric-based performance assessment tools pioneered by the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme to measure the state of international waters as well as project progress and basin scorecards; the visualization tool will also be made interactive so as to make it easier for the portfolio to showcase its achievements to donors and other key audiences. Second, the component will include expanding the IW:LEARN website through linkage with partners' online knowledge platforms and serving as an information exchange for beneficiaries to access services from the global learning partnership. In addition, the activity will support coordination and assistance to the efforts of the GEF Secretariat's results-based management and GEF focal area-wide knowledge management teams and processes. Third, together with the partner contributions the component will support regular publication (monthly at minimum) of news, events and announcements pertaining to the IW portfolio through e-newsletters, blogs, webinars, videos and mailings. Fourth, the component will draw together lessons learned and best practices on key IW issues across projects and partners and synthesizing the information in the form of policy briefs, guidebooks and manuals, to be made available to the IW portfolio. The project will work with the knowledge management and results-based management teams within the GEF secretariat on percolating IW:LEARN tested approaches. Finally, the component will conduct semi-annual information and communication training on applying cost-effective and state-of-the-art technologies to improve the management of information by GEF projects. Outputs from this component will benefit all project stakeholders, particularly GEF IW projects and partners, but will also provide critical information about the GEF IW portfolio to external stakeholders to promote scale-up.

**Component 2: Share Knowledge Across Projects and Partner (Through Dialogue Processes and Face-to-Face Capacity Building) to Advance Transboundary Water Management** (global, with UNDP, UNEP, CI, GWP, ICPDR, IRF, IUCN, UNECE, UNESCO-IHP, UNIDO, UNU-INWEH, GWP, TNC, WWF and other partners). In addition to IW:LEARN's virtual presence, the true value of the project is portfolio cross-learning, accomplished by hosting workshops, trainings and conferences and facilitating dialogue and twinnings. The project proposes to enhance portfolio capacity building at the regional and global levels and establish effective portfolio-wide dialogue opportunities for south-to-south learning through a suite of programs and events. First, this will include facilitating project-project twinning exchanges on a more programmatic and long-term basis (in conjunction with Component 3 activities). Second the component will feature the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> GEF Biennial International Waters Conferences, which convene on average 300 participants from about 70 projects, 80 countries and the GEF agencies to share practical experience, apply evolving policies and procedures, address emerging priorities and improve overall project performance covering all water systems. Third, the component will facilitate the replication of the trust- and consensus-building regional dialogue model, known as the Athens-Petersberg Process, to promote transboundary cooperation in various regions. Finally, Component 2 will center on regional and global training, through workshops, on specific topics such as, inter alia, groundwater modeling, legal frameworks for transboundary cooperation, gender mainstreaming, economic valuation (with Component 5) and mainstreaming climatic variability & change. Workshops will be undertaken in collaboration with the LME governance project, with the support of partners in the Global Network. The audience for these workshops will include all types of GEF IW projects but also importantly, national level partners in GEF project implementation, as well as members of relevant regional bodies and basin-level joint management bodies. Outputs in this component are primarily meant to benefit all GEF IW portfolio stakeholders, but primarily aimed at building the capacity of projects themselves. However, some key outputs namely IW Conferences and regional dialogues will promote partnership building and transboundary cooperation beyond the existing portfolio.

**Component 3: Expand Global Freshwater Communities of Practice to Advance Conjunctive Management of Surface, Ground & Marine waters and Partner with New Enterprises on Initiatives to Better Manage International Waters** (global, with UNDP, UNEP, CI, GWP, ICPDR, INBO, IRF, IUCN, TNC, UNECE, UNESCO-IHP, WWF and other partners). Both GEF5 IW Objective 3 and the draft GEF6 Programmatic Directions point to the need to focus support on more effective conjunctive management and sustainable use of transboundary surface and groundwater resources, together with associated ecosystems and the services they provide. The proposed project will mobilize external partnerships to work together for improved learning and knowledge management through enhanced global surface and ground freshwater Communities of Practice (CoPs) to impact results and advance conjunctive management. CoPs act as a catalytic coalition among GEF IW projects, transboundary commissions and non-GEF partners to promote learning that meets project-level priorities. CoPs are designed to build on existing knowledge from inside and outside the GEF portfolio, build regional and country partnerships, connect scientists to decision-makers and be responsive to the learning needs of the GEF IW projects. They illuminate good practice, spawn new ideas for products and services, enable accelerated learning, connect learning to action, and improve organizational performance. The expanded surface and ground freshwater CoPs will link to and support the parallel GEF/UNDP LME/ICM CoP project and the Global Network to Advance Integrated River Basin Management.

The component will feature: first, facilitated face-to-face exchanges among particular subsets of projects, especially ecosystem sub-sets, with a particular focus on integrating freshwater projects to advance conjunctive management, particularly with

groundwater resources. Activities in Component 3 will be delivered in close coordination with activities organized under Component 2, to ensure coherence and an overall service center approach that aligns learning in both Components (and between face-to-face events and online interaction). The Component will feature specific contributions from most partners of the project, including targeted activities in support of the groundwater community, the surface freshwater community or both as a conjunctive approach. This Component differs from Component 2 in its specialized activities to develop the capacity of and expand the freshwater portfolio. Activities may include things like integration dialogues, webinars, video lectures, specific technical support to projects, training material (in conjunction with Components 2 and 5), peer-to-peer assistance (in conjunction with Component 2 project twinning), ecosystem-specific programmatic support through guidance materials and face-to-face exchanges.

Second, the GEF increment will support the project to engage with the private sector to help facilitate effective partnerships between GEF IW projects and private enterprises. An insufficient number of GEF IW projects are effectively utilizing partnerships as a means to finance and sustain GEF IW project interventions. IW:LEARN has been at the forefront of facilitating project engagement with the private sector through engagement training and networking opportunities. External learning exchanges and a partner dialogues activity in the proposed project will harness the private sector to be engaged in basins to reduce shared risks and contribute to knowledge management and learning, including local business unit opportunities to collaborate between IW:LEARN partners and IW projects. Activities in this area will include trainings on water stewardship and risk tools, dialogues on business participation in water resource management and multi-stakeholder basin funds. Activities will be designed to engage local and national officials, as well as the private sector. Such activities mean this component is specifically targeted at reaching beyond the GEF IW portfolio, to build partnerships with other actors in the water sector, as well as specifically with joint management bodies like transboundary commissions, with an aim to support global scale-up of GEF IW investments through various knowledge management approaches.

**Component 4: Promote GEF IW Results, Tools and Best Practice to the non-GEF Community to Increase Awareness, Replication, Scalability and Sustainability of GEF IW Investments** (global, with UNDP, UNEP, CI, GWP, IRF, IUCN, GWP, UNECE, UNESCO-IHP, UNIDO, UNU-INWEH, WWF and other partners). IW:LEARN serves to increase awareness, scalability, replication and sustainability of GEF IW investments. Results of GEF IW investments, many communicable as lessons and best practices, need to be presented to a wider IW community to better manage and reverse the degradation of the world's principal transboundary water systems. First, the GEF increment will support the project in publishing peer-reviewed journal articles highlighting IW project results, replicable lessons and good practices. Second, the component will feature development of an IW Awareness Raising Kit, akin to the Danube River Box, to share information on the IW portfolio, its processes and results with a wider community. Finally, Component 4 will focus especially on supporting participation in key global dialogue processes as an organizing partner, mostly of side events—and in supporting GEF IW project participation—at large international IW events to promote the IW portfolio and obtain tools and ideas to enhance its knowledge management activities. This component is very focused at supporting the GEF Secretariat through promotion of the portfolio's work to audiences well beyond the portfolio, again, with an eye to supporting scale-up of GEF IW investments.

**Component 5: Launch Programmatic Tools to Improve Portfolio Performance and Sustain Project Interventions** (global, with UNDP, UNEP, CI, IUCN, TNC, UNECE, UNESCO-IHP, UNIDO, WWF and other partners). IW:LEARN has been a leader in designing and delivering new management tools, guidance and approaches for the IW portfolio. This component aims to improve project performance, as well as the harmonization of GEF methodological approaches across the IW portfolio. The GEF increment will support the project to deliver new guidance and on-the-ground support to realize global environmental benefits from improved project performance. First, the project will work on integrating economic valuation of natural resources into the TDA/SAP process to influence decision-making and helping to bridge the science-policy gap; the work on valuation will also include investigation of inter-sectoral tradeoffs and benefit-sharing (in the context of the water-food-energy-ecosystem nexus) and be also a basis for some training (together with Component 2).. Second, in international waters management, there often exists a gap between community-based practices and experiences and policy-making at the basin, as well as national and regional levels (particularly in the context of agreed actions in SAPs). The project will seek to address this by developing guidance on the translation of SAPs into local actions as well as how to link community-level actions with regional governance processes and facilitate the scale-up of identified community-based management models to support the coming generation of SAP implementation-phase projects. Third, some 30+ strategic action programs have been signed by countries since the start of GEF IW and during the next GEF replenishment phase at least a dozen SAP-implementation phase projects will be executed. Yet there is little understanding of how well the governance measures in these SAPs have worked, good SAP practices need to be shared and SAP use scaled up for greater governance impact in the IW portfolio. This activity aims to improve the quality of SAPs by ensuring they are focused on actions that can be realistically implemented thru new guidance. The activity will also improve the existing methodology in terms of uptaking results from the Transboundary Waters Assessment Program recommendations, specific guidance on ecosystem-specific considerations in the process as well as improvements in the area of gender mainstreaming. Finally, the project will create short, interactive online training courses on topics such as, inter alia economic valuation, stakeholder engagement lessons and best practices on

institutional/legal frameworks; transboundary benefit sharing mechanisms, addressing the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus and bridging science to policy to fill portfolio gaps and improve project performance. This component is aimed more directly at programmatic support to the portfolio and is thus targeted at supporting the implementation of GEF IW projects active during the lifetime of the proposed project.

#### 4) Incremental Cost Reasoning and Expected Contributions from the Baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF/SCCF and Co-Financing

This project represents a modest incremental cost. IW:LEARN is the flagship of the GEF IW focal area and sets the cross-project and cross-agency experience and learning agenda. The GEF increment will fund a set of activities that leverage cost-savings and improve project performance for all projects in the IW focal area. By its nature, the project needs a grant to generate the positive externalities that regular project processes would not otherwise provide. One traditional role of grants is to support this type of public good. While key IW:LEARN services will be mainstreamed, there are still significant components of the project that transcend the GEF Agencies ability to serve the entire GEF IW portfolio (the GEF IW Conference, for example). The new project will, as a result of the GEF increment, also develop new demand-driven tools that serve the entire GEF IW portfolio. In the absence of the GEF increment:

- 1) These new portfolio-wide tools will not be produced and existing services will be only partially continued with part of the GEF IW portfolio.
- 2) The global awareness, impact and legacy of the IW:LEARN project would remain at current or depleted levels;
- 3) The pace and quality of project implementation would be limited in depth and scope without a demand-driven mechanism to share knowledge and transfer replicable experiences among cognate projects;
- 4) Support for learning exchange within each GEF agency would not be responsive to stakeholder-identified needs across the GEF IW portfolio;
- 5) Numerous opportunities would be missed for projects to leverage experience sharing and targeted training to improve their stakeholders' engagement, transparency and management capacity;
- 6) Project personnel would operate in a vacuum, with limited opportunities for networking and peer-to-peer learning to improve the overall performance and impact of the GEF IW portfolio;
- 7) GEF investment in pilot and demonstration activities, intended to be scaled up and replicated, would have no effective means of transfer;
- 8) Scientific and technical innovations, which have been implemented successfully with GEF support, would not be widely reported or disseminated to receptive projects in other regions;
- 9) Peer networks and communities would not have facilitation or support to enable active learning exchanges;
- 10) There would be no mechanism to match up projects with similar capacity needs or technical concerns to exchange experiences and share costs of targeted training;
- 11) Means of increasing involvement of community level and marginalized IW stakeholder groups such as women and indigenous people would not be shared within and among regions; and
- 12) There would be no mechanism to help identify and share GEF IW project alignment with, and contributions to, wider global initiatives including the JPOI of the WSSD and the SDGs.

The following table briefly summarizes project partner associated baseline activities for the proposed project's 2014-2018 implementation period:

COMPONENT	PARTNER ASSOCIATED BASELINE ACTIVITIES 2014-2018
1	<p><b>UNDP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNDP Water &amp; Ocean Governance Programme website will provide content to iwlearn.net</li> <li>-Various publications, reports, etc. produced by UNDP Water &amp; Ocean Governance Programme (Catalyzing Ocean Finance, Regional Water Intelligence Notes, etc.) will contribute to synthesis materials</li> <li>-UNDP supports capacity building to mainstream a gender approach to water. Tools, such as the Resources Guide on Gender and Water Management, assist practitioners to incorporate gender perspectives to improve efficiency, sustainability and equity in water resources management and water supply and sanitation (in support to synthesis materials)</li> <li>-UNDP Central Asia Climate Change project will provide guidance on glacier melt (in support to synthesis materials)</li> </ul> <p><b>UNEP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNEP Live, a global to local knowledge management platform, which will serve as both a source of environment-related knowledge for member states and other stakeholders, and the basis for UNEP's</li> </ul>

	<p>internal knowledge management. It will include near real-time data showing environmental change and hotspots and as part of UNEP’s commitment to sustainability incorporates IW:LEARN data and visualization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Partnership with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (Esri) (which can support portfolio visualization).</li> <li>-GRID Sioux Falls Environmental Change hotspots and Atlases of Our Changing Environment, see: <a href="http://www.na.unep.net">www.na.unep.net</a> will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-GRID Arendal. WCMC. World Database on Protected Areas <a href="http://www.protectedplanet.net/">http://www.protectedplanet.net/</a> will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-Environmental Data Explorer (EDE Formerly the GEO Data Portal) <a href="http://ede.grid.unep.ch/">http://ede.grid.unep.ch/</a> will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-Data Management for the GPA <a href="http://www.gpa.unep.org/">http://www.gpa.unep.org/</a> will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-Data management for Regional Seas <a href="http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/">http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/</a> (With the regional seas being an important provider of environmental datasets) will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-Data management for the Nairobi Convention <a href="http://gridnairobi.unep.org/CHMPortal/">http://gridnairobi.unep.org/CHMPortal/</a> will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-Nairobi Convention <a href="http://gridnairobi.unep.org/CHMPortal/">http://gridnairobi.unep.org/CHMPortal/</a> will provide spatial data.</li> <li>-UNEP-DHI: IWRM game learning platform (to be part of visualization tool)</li> </ul> <p>-National Reporting Toolkit rolled out in countries in all developing world regions will contribute to information dissemination.</p> <p>-UNEP You Tube videos on emerging issues will contribute to information dissemination.</p> <p>-Monthly Global Environmental Alert Service (GEAS) bulletins <a href="http://www.unep.org/geas">www.unep.org/geas</a> will contribute to information dissemination.</p> <p>-Weekly bulletins on UNEP Live. E-books on Emerging Issues will be sourced for information dissemination.</p> <p>-Ecosystem based adaptation guideline as a new and emerging tool linking ecosystem needs / with community needs for disaster preparedness and response (in support of synthesis materials)</p> <p>-UNEP has a vast range of experience producing assessments which synthesis the latest state of scientific knowledge on various topics, at global, regional and national scales. For a selection see: <a href="http://www.unep.org/dewa/Assessments/Ecosystems/Water/tabid/6954/Default.aspx">http://www.unep.org/dewa/Assessments/Ecosystems/Water/tabid/6954/Default.aspx</a> (These will contribute to synthesis materials)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<a href="#">Guidelines on Compliance with and Enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (in support of synthesis materials)</a></li> <li>-<a href="#">Guidebook for Policy and Legislative Development on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Freshwater Resources (in support of synthesis materials)</a></li> <li>-<a href="#">Nature for Water: Innovative Financing for the Environment (UNEP/UNECE/Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes) (in support of synthesis materials)</a></li> </ul> <p><b>CI:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Weekly literature update, summary of recent marine journal articles will contribute to information dissemination.</li> <li>-Paper in development synthesizing Seascapes experiences will contribute to synthesis materials.</li> </ul> <p><b>GWP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Will contribute its online toolbox on IWRM towards the <a href="http://iwlearn.net">iwlearn.net</a> website</li> </ul> <p><b>IBM:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Developing a cloud-based M&amp;E Visualization (“Smarter Aid Analytics”) tool with target completion of June 2014. This will not only display project efficiency statistics for targeted existing donor-funded development projects, but will also aim to reveal effectiveness through scoring of intended project outcomes versus actual. The “actual” will be sourced from social media feeds, message boards, and open government stats. The ability to compare project effectiveness (value) at a high level is the other objective of the project. (to form part of basis of visualization tool)</li> </ul> <p><b>IRF:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-IRF can contribute to <a href="http://iwlearn.net">iwlearn.net</a> website &amp; information dissemination content through the IRF network, links on the IRF webpage and social media</li> </ul> <p><b>IUCN:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Will contribute methodologies and approaches for synthesizing results and lessons from the demonstration basins and communicating these at global and regional levels to IW:LEARN synthesis</li> </ul>
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	<p>materials. IUCN has developed different types of analytical frameworks to help synthesize knowledge from joint programming with regional programmes and networks of IUCN members and partners into more general principles for use in dissemination. The focus is on managing and catalyzing change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will also be able to contribute linking synthesis of vast amounts of information and data with tailored outputs. To consolidate and strengthen communications in WANI, a communication strategy was developed in this respect, and a new website (<a href="http://www.waterandnature.org">www.waterandnature.org</a>) which can guide the navigability design of certain sections of the IW:LEARN website. Amongst other communication tools, participatory video provides tailored, message-specific material both for regional and global levels.</li> <li>- IUCN's knowledge management approach builds on WANI, which has collected information from project reporting including sets of stories and increasingly videos, but continues to be applied in other ongoing initiatives such as the Regional Knowledge Network on Systemic Approaches to Water Resources Management (R-KNOW) operating in the Middle East and North Africa.</li> </ul> <p><b>TNC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Basic website interactive map of 8 Great River Basins within the Great Rivers Partnership (GRP) (in support of portfolio visualization)</li> <li>-Regular updating of content on TNC main website and Great Rivers website <a href="http://www.GreatRiversPartnership.org">www.GreatRiversPartnership.org</a>, including content on partners and partnership activities (e.g., through Global network to advance IRBM); North America Freshwater website. e.g. <a href="http://www.nature.org/freshwater/">www.nature.org/freshwater/</a>; website content on marine projects (in support of project website)</li> </ul> <p>Water Source newsletter, cool green science blog, freshwater cafes, staff blogs series on freshwater topics, TNC Great Rivers newsletter, TNC magazine, and associated mailing lists (in support of information dissemination)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hydropower planning and operation (under preparation for 2014), flood risk and floodplain management (contracted for 2014); corporate water stewardship and urban water security, economic valuation of floodplains (short report) (in support of synthesis materials)</li> </ul> <p><b>UNECE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNECE Water Convention will include lessons from GEF IW projects into its publications currently under development such as the Guidance note on benefits of transboundary cooperation and the collection of lessons learnt and good practices on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins (to synthesis materials)</li> <li>- UNECE can contribute with the lessons learnt from projects and guidance developed in the last 20 years to synthesis publications produced by IW:LEARN and to the IW:LEARN website (to support synthesis materials)</li> <li>- UNECE will disseminate lessons from IW projects and IW:LEARN products/ news at its numerous meetings and workshops, to its networks etc. (to support synthesis materials)</li> </ul> <p><b>UNESCO-IHP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNESCO-IHP will contribute to <a href="http://iwlearn.net">iwlearn.net</a> as well as to newsletters' content, blogs, webinars and videos on groundwater-related issues</li> <li>-UNESCO's publications on groundwater, in particular from regular programmes such as ISARM (Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management), GRAPHIC (Groundwater Resources Assessment under the Pressures of Humanity and Climate Change), GWES (Groundwater in Emergency Situations), WHYMAP (World Hydrogeological Map), among others will contribute to generate content for <a href="http://iwlearn.net">iwlearn.net</a> and to inform regional dialogues</li> <li>-Through the UNESCO/WMO International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre contribute to the spatial data-based results reporting interface and portfolio visualization on groundwater assessments, including monitoring and mapping of worldwide aquifers</li> </ul> <p><b>UNU-INWEH:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Continuing development of the KIMUNU database, document, management and mapping system (the base technology for IW: Science);</li> <li>-Continued work on Technical and Policy Briefs is a central activity of UNU-INWEH and will contribute to synthesis materials</li> </ul>
	<p><b>UNDP:</b></p>

2	<p>-Similar regional dialogue initiatives are implemented under the UNDP Shared Waters Partnership, often with/between countries involved in GEF IW projects, and thus will contribute in some regions as a baseline activity for regional dialogue partnerships. Some regional dialogues are sponsored under Shared Waters Partnership</p> <p>-UNDP Cap-Net has a wide range of face-to-face and virtual training materials and activities (in support of regional workshops).</p> <p>-UNDP Water Governance Facility at Stockholm International Water Institute provides policy advice and technical support to developing countries to promote progress on MDGs. WGF works in multiple thematic areas, including integrated water resources management (IWRM), transboundary water, water supply and sanitation, water adaptation to climate change, gender and capacity development. It promotes water governance knowledge development and exchange of water reform experiences and best practices (in support of regional workshops)</p> <p><b>UNEP:</b></p> <p>-The Foresight Process: 20 emerging issues for the 21 Century and UNEP Science Strategy and continue to guide to choice of critical issues (to be discussed in the IWCs).</p> <p>-The first United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in 2014; The Eye On Earth Summit 2014; GPA GLOCs</p> <p>-See the Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) COP Platform <a href="http://www.unep.org/ieacp/">http://www.unep.org/ieacp/</a></p> <p>-Foresight process for Indigenous people's; Identification of emerging issues at regional level;</p> <p>-Regional Policy Dialogues carried out in all regions;</p> <p>Regional assessment processes.</p> <p><b>GWP:</b></p> <p>-Regional Roundtables in SEE with Regional Cooperation Council (will form the basis of some regional dialogues in SE Europe)</p> <p>-A number of activities in Africa including establishing operational linkages between AMCOW and ANBO hence enter the two institutions “convening powers” for a African TWRM Regional Dialogue (in IWLEARN terms)/</p> <p>-Support in selected basins/aquifers for setting up basin organizations (will support regional dialogue activity)</p> <p><b>IBM:</b></p> <p>-IBM participation in key IW Learn conferences and meetings (in particular the IWC and ICT workshops)</p> <p><b>ICPDR:</b></p> <p>-Cooperation with ORASECOM is under discussion, twinning exchanges were developed on an ad-hoc basis, and can continue with incremental support.</p> <p>-50% of a staff-member – to support twinning</p> <p>-The ICPDR continues to support workshops (e.g. for UNECE on Climate Change, Oct 2014), academic requests (e.g. University of Tokyo, Jan 2014) or study visits (approximately 10 to 15 per year). The ICPDR core budget is formalized for the next three years. Some of this could be contributed as expertise to IW regional workshops.</p> <p><b>IRF:</b></p> <p>-IRF currently has roughly a dozen international and Australian Twinning programs either completed or underway. IRF Twinning projects are usually funded by several private sector entities that are often open to other opportunities. This would need a strategy for coordination and target the highest priority areas. We are currently entering into some planning for this sector. GEF IW projects could join these twinings in principle.</p> <p>-IRF has access to several funding rounds that can bring delegates from developing countries to Australia for education activities related to transboundary and river basin management. (this will support twinning)</p> <p>-IRF &amp; partners will be running training targeted training workshops and “professional development” day in alignment with the International River Symposium. These are focused on the needs of river basin professionals and will be tailored each year (they can be the basis for global workshops for river basin projects).</p> <p><b>IUCN:</b></p> <p>- Can support twinning through its Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE) project. This project focuses on building water governance capacities through learning, demonstration, leadership, and</p>
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	<p>consensus-building, in particular in transboundary river basins. In particular, coupling of demonstration basins with other regional basins for experience exchange and scaled-up application of tools and approaches can be the basis for twinning opportunities in IW:LEARN.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BRIDGE has been developing water governance capacities from community-to-cabinet through training, including on benefit sharing, in Mesoamerica, the Andes and the Mekong regions. BRIDGE also works with regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), and the Central American Integration System (SICA) among others, and is looking to expanding its portfolio to West and East and Southern Africa.</li> <li>- Further support for organizing IW:LEARN regional capacity-building workshops can come from the experience developed in running the Nexus Dialogue on Water Infrastructure Solutions. A series of regional workshops that bring together innovators and thought leaders from the water, food and energy sectors to create a shared, cross-sectoral vision that combines best available technology, know-how and experiences in water infrastructure operation, re-operation and innovation.</li> </ul> <p><b>UNECE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNECE Water Convention can contribute/ co-organize sessions as for the last IW conference (IWC8 and IWC9)</li> <li>- UNECE will organize several global workshops for example on benefits of transboundary cooperation, joint bodies, climate change adaptation in transboundary basins. Regarding climate change adaptation, UNECE has established, with INBO a global platform/ network of basins working on climate change adaptation. (in support of regional workshops)</li> <li>-UNECE is planning to organize several subregional workshops/ trainings on transboundary cooperation in Africa, Central America, the MENA-region (Arab states) in 2014-2015 due to the Convention's globalization in cooperation with numerous partners (for combination with regional workshops)</li> <li>- UNECE is preparing an assessment of water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus by the autumn of 2015 in a representative set of transboundary basins. The assessment aims at identifying, together with the concerned sectors and relevant stakeholders, 1) hindrances to and opportunities for additional and equitable sharing of benefits from stronger integration across sectors, and 2) practical solutions for improving security and for reconciling the different sectors' needs. (in support of regional workshops)</li> <li>-UNECE is already involved in the Athens-St Petersburg process and the Drin basin and can thus be engaged in its replication in other regions. (Regional Dialogue Process)</li> </ul> <p><b>TNC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Twinning among GRP basins and with partners to be more oriented as multiple-project exchanges around common themes and challenges for which solutions are being sought, than as twinning between individual projects. Also multiple basin-to-basin and cross-practitioner exchanges across sectors are planned on topics of 'sustainable hydropower' and 'floodplains and flood risk management', including with thought leaders in these sectors (in support of project twinning)</li> <li>-Participating in special sessions on topics of joint interest (e.g. hydropower, environmental flows, economic valuation, flood risk management) at subsequent GEF IW conferences as partner in Global network to advance IRBM (in support of the IWC)</li> <li>-Cross-basin exchanges on key topics are envisaged that will provide some hands-on training and varied range of case materials for new training initiatives (in support of regional workshops)</li> <li>-Useful avenue alongside other key journals. (in support of regional dialogue activity)</li> </ul> <p><b>UNESCO-IHP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNESCO-IHP will continue to provide support in the organization of groundwater-related activities at future (8 and 9) IWCs</li> <li>-IGRAC together with BGR, ex GW-Mate team and Cap-Net developed a course and a policy seminar on Groundwater Management for River Basin Organisations. This can contribute to the preparation of online courses on groundwater management as well as to regional capacity building workshops</li> </ul> <p><b>WWF</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can support twinning through its private sector engagement and work on hydropower sustainability and water security.</li> </ul>
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	<p>-The WWF-The Coca-Cola Company (TCCC) Partnership offers a vehicle to bring in other stakeholders to build capacity and needed trust to deliver improved ecosystem-based management with the private sector support (can support regional workshops).</p> <p>-WWF is fully committed to continue participation and support of IWCs.</p> <p>-WWF is transferring lessons learned from the launch of the Guatemala Water Fund to help jump start a new water fund initiative with TNC in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.</p> <p>-ADB and World Bank Training. WWF conducted two successful training sessions on Footprint and Water Stewardship.</p> <p>-WWF has been at the front of the NGO community in advancing global legal frameworks for improving transboundary basin management, with focus on the UN Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (UNWC), the ILC Draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers, and the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention). Since launching the UNWC Global Initiative in 2006, WWF has partnered with other NGOs, Government officials, expert organizations and donors to produce a wealth of learning materials about the UNWC and deliver numerous global, regional and national awareness-raising events and in-depth trainings among the relevant stakeholders.</p>
3	<p><b>UNDP:</b> -UNDP Water and Oceans Governance Program works extensively with the private sector through signature programs such as Coca Cola Every Drop Matters Partnership (to support private sector activity)</p> <p><b>UNEP:</b> UNEP within both its marine and freshwater programmes is addressing the need to maintain the foundations of ecosystems, namely water quality and in the case of freshwater; water quantity. It is working on the development of guidelines for water quality for ecosystems which we hope to be able to test with the GEF projects (in support of freshwater communities of practice)</p> <p>-The Business, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (BBES) programme (UNEP-WCMC) <a href="http://www.unep-wcmc.org/business-biodiversity-and-ecosystem-services_46.html">http://www.unep-wcmc.org/business-biodiversity-and-ecosystem-services_46.html</a></p> <p>-Multi-stakeholder partnerships with private sector engagement e.g.: SBCI - Sustainable Building and Construction Initiative - <a href="http://www.unep.org/sbc/">http://www.unep.org/sbc/</a> GPST - Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism - <a href="http://www.globalsustainabletourism.com/">http://www.globalsustainabletourism.com/</a> FAO/UNEP Agri-food Task Force on SCP and LCA - Life Cycle Assessment/Initiative Partnership for Clean Fuel and Vehicles (PCFV) Enlighten – Technology Transfer on Energy Efficiency Lighting Engagement with the Finance Sector – UNEP Finance Initiative – UNEP FI GPA partnership mechanisms – GPNM (nutrients) – GWI (waste water) – GPML (marine litter)</p> <p><b>CI:</b> -Global partnerships with several oil &amp; gas companies, BHP Billiton, developing tourism enterprises and fisheries cooperatives (partially funded) (in support of the private sector activity)</p> <p><b>GWP:</b> -GWP Capacity-Building/Knowledge management project, which includes establishment of a Community of Practice, capacity Building activities (based on CB assessment and plans) for river basin organizations and stakeholders including among others trainings, development of best practice guidelines, establishment of knowledge exchange network; knowledge management and information exchange: establishment of a Web platform and use of meta-data; exchange of information, (institutions, projects, initiatives, CB resources developed etc.); exchange of best practices; transboundary management related data exchange (water infrastructure, etc.); (this will be used in support of a freshwater community of practice)</p> <p>-GWP and OECD have launched a joint project establish a Global Dialogue on Water Security and Sustainable Growth. One of the key elements of the project will be a high-level global dialogue panel complimented by an Expert Task Force, consisting of a multidisciplinary team of recognized economists, water managers, and scientists. Their task will be to develop, model and economically assess a set of water security scenarios at the global and selected basin level, with the aim to illustrate and compare</p>



<p>alternate strategies and pathways for achieving water security.</p> <p>-A further set of Country Consultations on water will be organized by GWP. This project will be ensuring proper engagement of the private sector into the policy discussions and offering a model of multi-level activities leading towards exploring new opportunities for cooperation and partnership.</p> <p>-GWP-Med is advancing dialogue as well as experience development and sharing about private sector participation through the Programme ‘Governance and Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector’ (2013-2015), jointly implemented with OECD, and formally labeled by the Union for the Mediterranean. The Programme has a focus at regional sharing of knowledge emanating from national technical assessment and multi-stakeholder consultation on exploring conditions for private sector participating in developing national water supply and sanitation infrastructure. Related activities are implemented by GWP-Med and OECD in the Mediterranean since 2008.</p>
<p><b>ICPDR:</b></p> <p>-The “Green Danube Partnership” between ICPDR and the Coca-Cola System is renewed on an annual basis; otherwise, cooperation is pursued on an ad-hoc basis resting on MoUs with corporations (can help guide the private sector activity)</p>
<p><b>IUCN:</b></p> <p>- IUCN continues to support and develop champion networks that promote empowerment of local stakeholders for transboundary water cooperation and better water governance. Expanding the global surface freshwater Community of Practice including through linking up BRIDGE champions networks can contribute toward increased learning and effective advocacy for mobilization of water diplomacy. Regional champion networks, dissemination of lessons from demonstrations and a Water Law &amp; Governance Support Platform will be in support of IW:LEARN regional capacity-building workshops.</p> <p>- IUCN has a number of private sector partnerships that that are relevant to various GEF Focal Areas including IW. In particular, IUCN works with companies such as CEMEX and Danone Waters to jointly develop advanced corporate strategies that recognize future implications of increasing industrial water demands, and map and reduce water risks for wider multi-stakeholder benefits at river basin scale.</p> <p>- Also in support of IW:LEARN private sector activity, the SUSTAIN project will be developing new business models and partnerships in two growth corridors of East Africa with an aim to build long-term synergies for conservation and raise investment and lower risk for farmers, enterprise and sustainable economic growth.</p>
<p><b>TNC</b></p> <p>-Several global priorities of TNC including Great Rivers, Global Agriculture, and Securing Water have high private sector involvement such as on agriculture, water resources and other infrastructure with special emphasis on energy and hydropower; and extractive industries (oil, petroleum, mining) (in support of private sector engagement)</p>
<p><b>UNECE</b></p> <p>- UNECE is supporting establishment and/ or strengthening of river basin organizations in numerous basins (in support of freshwater cop technical assistance)</p> <p>- The Model provisions on transboundary groundwater developed under the UNECE Water Convention promote cooperation on groundwaters as well as conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water. Their implementation will be promoted. (in support of freshwater cop technical assistance)</p>
<p><b>UNESCO-IHP</b></p> <p>-Through the work done by UNESCO-IHP and the ILC in preparing the Draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers, UNESCO will contribute to the formulation of online courses on groundwater international law</p> <p>-UNESCO’s Water Family includes 17 water-related Centres around the world as well as - UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN on water resources. Their work and research can directly contribute to: (1) support capacity building workshops at regional level; (2) organize online training courses on groundwater-related thematic content; (3) provide technical support on groundwater-related issues within the Groundwater CoP and in the organization of technical meetings</p>
<p><b>UNIDO:</b></p> <p>-UNIDO business partnership programme with an annual budget of \$220.000. UNIDO Green Industry Initiative (Phase II): Operation and promotion of the Green Industry Platform, which runs demonstration projects to showcase best practices for greening existing industries and creating new green industries and conducts research and awareness-raising to promote adoption of Green Industry principles.</p>
<p><b>WWF:</b></p> <p>-WWF has well over \$1M invested annually into Corporate Water Stewardship with the private sector</p>

	<p>(can support the private sector activity)</p> <p>-The WWF-The Coca-Cola Company (TCCC) Partnership. The WWF-TCCC Partnership website on freshwater conservation (<a href="http://www.wwfcoacolariverbasin.org/">http://www.wwfcoacolariverbasin.org/</a>) includes lessons learned on NGO-private sector engagement, and provides a series of checklists to help step others interested in partnering with businesses through the engagement process (in support to the private sector activity)</p> <p>-Water Risk Filter tool developed and on-line. The online Water Risk Filter (<a href="http://www.waterriskfilter.org">www.waterriskfilter.org</a>) was launched on March 2012</p>
4	<p><b>UNEP:</b> UNEP Resource Kit: <a href="http://www.unep.org/tools/">http://www.unep.org/tools/</a> National Reporting Toolkit rolled out in countries in all developing world regions. (UNEP-WCMC (can support the Awareness Raising Kit)</p> <p>-The monthly Global Environment Alert Service (GEAS) bulletins will be published in Environmental Development. Staff members publish articles in International Journals on project findings e.g. a forthcoming article on Provia in Nature <a href="http://www.unep.org/provia/">http://www.unep.org/provia/</a> (Can support the IW Journal)</p> <p><b>ICPDR:</b></p> <p>-Continued dissemination of Danube Box in Austria; related boxes for outside of the Danube Basin were developed without ICPDR involvement, but the Coca-Cola partners were independently involved. The ICPDR now proposes to carry elements of the Danube Box content into a new mean of communication: the development of a “smart game”, an online game that educates children about the Danube and its environment. Examples for such games could be found at <a href="http://playdanube.at">http://playdanube.at</a> (game with a Danube theme for Austria), <a href="http://www.girino.ch/">http://www.girino.ch/</a> (water education game from Switzerland) or <a href="http://games.noaa.gov/">http://games.noaa.gov/</a> (water-related online education games). Funding is pending, but likely. (Elements can be incorporated into the Awareness Raising Kit)</p> <p><b>IUCN</b></p> <p>- Experience in participation and support in terms of content development, partnerships and advocacy to key global events such as Stockholm Water Week.</p> <p><b>UNECE:</b></p> <p>-Numerous UNECE publications could be included (In support to the Awareness Raising Kit)</p> <p>UNECE will organize global workshops on legal frameworks, quantifying benefits of transboundary cooperation, , climate change adaptation, the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus, joint bodies, transboundary flood risk management etc. GEF projects will be invited to UNECE meetings (in support of global dialogue activity).</p> <p><b>TNC</b></p> <p>-Useful avenue alongside other key journals. (in support of journal activity)</p> <p>-Already a part of network partner engagement e.g. 2014 Nexus dialogue on WFE International Conference, International River Symposium (workshop/special session on topic such as water security and water markets, and professional day). (in support of global dialogues)</p> <p><b>UNESCO-IHP</b></p> <p>-UNESCO is a pivotal global actor in major international and regional water-related events such as World Water Week, World Water Fora, etc. This will facilitate inclusion of messages from GEF IW projects into key global dialogue processes.</p> <p>-The co-ordination of the Working Group on “Basin Governance” by UNESCO-IHP and INBO within the framework of the OECD Water Governance Initiative will provide an opportunity to showcase and present results from GEF IW freshwater projects during the process and at the 7th World Water Forum (thus contributing to promotion of conjunctive management within an enhanced Groundwater CoP, and in key global dialogue processes)</p> <p>-The Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme is a gateway to further promote GEF IW results and findings, thus contributing to raising awareness at national and regional level and supporting the preparation of new groundwater related projects (contribution to enhanced Groundwater CoP and to key global dialogue processes)</p> <p><b>UNU-INWEH:</b></p> <p>-Work continues in 2014 on the Journal Issue (In support of future Journal Issues)</p> <p><b>WWF:</b></p> <p>-To help Coca-Cola achieve its 2012 water efficiency target, WWF and Coca-Cola jointly developed an interactive water resource management toolkit for plant managers in 2007, educating them on the 2012 goal and how to reduce the water footprint of their direct operations. The toolkit enables plants to compare their water use with other plants and presents over 100 possible solutions to improve water use</p>

	<p>efficiency. To further implement responsible water practices beyond water efficiency and help Coca-Cola bottlers develop plans to protect source water, the partnership team co-created a Water Stewardship Toolkit that is accessible to Coca-Cola bottlers across the company’s entire system. The toolkit helps to identify water stewardship activities that can be implemented within and around the bottling plant, in the community where a bottler is located, and the larger river basin of which it is a part. Activities may include watershed protection projects, community engagement and education, reducing stormwater pollution, and many other activities. (for inclusion into the Awareness Raising Kit)</p> <p>-WWF staff are contributing authors on in the previous IW:LEARN journal. WWF has a considerable presence in the conservation and scientific communities and publishes in academic journals regularly. (in support to the IW journal)</p>
5	<p><b>UNDP:</b> UNDP, originally in partnership with WB, UNEP and UN/DOALOS Train-Sea-Coast program, initiated the development of the TDA/SAP methodological guidance and curriculum that has evolved into the current material which will undergo further refinements in this project.</p> <p><b>UNEP:</b>  -TEEB for Oceans <a href="http://teeboceans.org/teeb-oceans-around-the-world/">http://teeboceans.org/teeb-oceans-around-the-world/</a> (in support to the economic valuation activity)  -UNEP’s work on the Green Economy <a href="http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/">http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/</a> (in support to the economic valuation activity)  For UNEP SIDS is a priority. Based on its foresight process for SIDS as a contribution to Barbados + 20, UNEP has a SIDS programme focused on ecosystem management and the green economy. (which will contribute to the economic valuation activity)</p> <p>-See the Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) COP Platform <a href="http://www.unep.org/ieacp/">http://www.unep.org/ieacp/</a> . See the Marketplace for Environmental Training and Online Resources (MENTOR) Platform for a wide range of online courses <a href="http://unep.org/mentor/">http://unep.org/mentor/</a> . National Reporting Toolkit rolled out to countries in all developing world regions. (in support to the online courses)  -UNEP’s freshwater programme focuses on Assisting developing countries develop IWRM roadmaps, Dams and development, Water and Sanitation, Rainwater harvesting, Waste Water Management, Keeping the economy green with resource efficiency, Water governance for a green economy, Restoring ecosystems for livelihood, Coping with climate change and disaster (in support of online courses)  -GEMS/Water – Water quality training modules (in support of thematic courses)  -Training programme for non-ecologists as to help them understand an ecosystem approach to IWRM. s (in support of thematic courses)  -Training on Waste Water management; Water governance training; GPA training modules; s (in support of thematic courses)</p> <p>-Ecosystem adaptation to floods and droughts with tools to incorporate impacts of climatic variability and change, in particular floods and drought, into basin planning processes. (in support to the SAP Implementation activity)</p> <p><b>CI:</b>  -Economic valuation various e.g. EVA, Peru;  -Community-level SAP engagement Philippines, Timor Leste</p> <p><b>GWP:</b>  -MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) /in the pipeline, 1st IWRM course is out – testing ongoing, topics need to be defined) or in cooperation with IWL <a href="http://www.gwp.org/gwp-dundee-2014">http://www.gwp.org/gwp-dundee-2014</a> (in support to the online courses)</p> <p><b>IRF:</b>  Happy to contribute expertise from networks. (In support to online thematic courses)</p> <p><b>IUCN:</b>  - IUCN has long-standing experience in identifying and piloting market-based instruments to promote public and private investment in catchment ecosystems from the economic development and sustainable financing component of WANI that led to renowned publications, as well as in the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity for water and wetlands more in general through authoritative partnerships such as the TEEB.</p>

	<p>- Also in support of IW:LEARN economic valuation activity, the WISE-UP to Climate project will be creating new knowledge on how to integrate natural resources economics considerations into the TDA/SAP process. Specifically, returns on investment for natural and built infrastructure options, and demonstration of new value chains that link investments in ecosystems and natural resources and diversified primary production with economic development strategies.</p> <p>- IUCN also has a long-standing experience in community engagement and stakeholder participation in smaller parts of shared river basins through the extensive networks of IUCN members and partners. This can contribute to guidance for SAP implementation at the community level.</p>
	<p><b>TNC</b>  -Recognized component of GRP strategies for a subset of the Great Rivers. Ecosystem services mapping and natural capital assessments are key areas of TNC water work that are expected to grow (in support of economic valuation activity)</p> <p>-Environmental flows e-learning short course through ConservationTraining.org and support for online eflows masters course with UNESCO-IHE; and limited short hands-on trainings in various regions on priority strategies in GRP and with partners on freshwater conservation methods and tools (in support of online thematic training)</p>
	<p><b>UNECE:</b>  -Systematic approach to the identification, quantification and communication of the benefits of transboundary water cooperation is under preparation under the UNECE Water Convention which could also support GEF IW projects. (in support to the economic valuation activity)</p>
	<p><b>UNESCO-IHP</b>  -Examples of groundwater supplements for TDAs are being developed by UNESCO in the framework of various GEF projects and this can contribute to the formulation of specific guidelines on groundwater</p>
	<p><b>UNIDO:</b>  Further promotion of economic valuation as an instrument to influence decision making on the sustainable use of ecosystems. \$ 30.000 per year (20% staff time of a P4 and travel costs) – in support of economic valuation activity</p>
	<p><b>UNU-INWEH:</b>  -An ongoing process of training and updating of the partners in the UNU-INWEH Water Learning Centre on course production, modification and delivery through Distance Learning via the Internet and on CDROM (in support to online thematic courses)  -UNU-INWEH will be developing courses and programmes on various topics in 2014-2018. This will be driven by demand from the Regional Centres for additional materials and new topics. Current programmes include a UNU Diploma in IWRM and a certificate course in Water and Health. This is a targeted education system for distance learning in Regional Centres around the world (in support to online thematic courses)</p>
	<p><b>WWF:</b> As part of the next phase of the WWF-TCCC Partnership, WWF and Coke launched a work stream focused on how to incorporate the value of nature into corporate and public decision making so that society can help meet its future demand for food, fuel, water and energy while sustaining important environmental services (e.g., yields, water supply, water quality, lower GHG emissions) and biodiversity. (in support to economic valuation activity)</p> <p>-As part of the UNWC Global Initiative, WWF has coordinated the development of many online trainings, booklets, policy briefs, and series of regional, basin and national studies on UN Watercourses Convention to advance country’s understanding of global legal frameworks. (in support to online thematic courses)  -Water Risk Filter tool developed and on-line. The online Water Risk Filter (<a href="http://www.waterriskfilter.org">www.waterriskfilter.org</a>) was launched on March 2012 and became an immediate success. It has been widely regarded as an important innovation that covers a holistic risk assessment and a well-structured set of mitigation responses and case studies. In the first ten weeks, it attracted &gt;15,000 unique visitors from 113 countries, &gt;1,500 (corporate) users registered who assessed &gt;25,000 facilities in almost all the river basins of the world. Organizations such as the CEO Mandate and Carbon Disclosure Project have approached the WWF-DEG team to link their work and projects to the Water Risk Filter. (in support to online thematic courses)  -WWF worked with partners on the development of the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol. An Operational Governance Entity was established with WWF representation. (in support to online thematic courses)</p>

-WWF worked with ADB and partners on the development of a Rapid Basin-wide Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Tool (RSAT). (in support to online thematic courses)
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### 5) Global Environmental Benefits (GEFTF, NPIF) and Adaptation Benefits (LDCE/SCCF)

As indicated in the GEF5 IW strategy, "The goal of the International Waters focal area is the promotion of collective management for transboundary water systems and subsequent implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services." As indicated in the draft GEF6-IW Programmatic Directions at p. 102, "The global environment benefits targeted by the IW focal area are related to transboundary concerns, including: (i) multi-state cooperation to reduce threats to international waters; (ii) reduced pollution load in international waters from nutrient enrichment and other land-based stresses; (iii) restored and sustained freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems goods and services, including globally relevant biodiversity, as well as maintained capacity of natural systems to sequester carbon; and (iv) reduced vulnerability to climate variability and climate-related risks, and increased ecosystem resilience". The GEF increment will support the proposed project to deliver on these global environmental benefits by fostering conditions for improved GEF IW project delivery and impact for transboundary water systems. It will build directly on the foundations of the GEF IW portfolio of river-and-lake-basin, groundwater-systems, and large-marine-ecosystem (LME) projects, as well as the last four phases of GEF IW:LEARN (projects from 1998-2013 inclusive), the project will utilize existing mechanisms and establish new ones for learning in the four key GEF regions to improve the management of international waters and combat the threats mentioned in A.1.1. The proposed project will aim to catalyze action and enhance the effectiveness of the GEF IW portfolio through the provision of knowledge and the application of innovative techniques. The education and training courses provided through the proposed project will advocate the direct involvement of both women and men and will provide training in the development and harmonization of gender-balanced policies and legislative frameworks.

### 6) Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scaling Up

GEF IW:LEARN previous phases has been repeatedly upheld as an innovative model, including by the GEF itself. The 5<sup>th</sup> GEF Operational Performance study notably calls IW:LEARN, the GEF's "one highly effective learning mechanism". The GEF STAP noted in a commentary on the draft GEF 2020 Strategy (Oct 2013), "Competent management of knowledge is also critical if one wishes to explore scalability of interventions. There is opportunity for scaling up if key past projects are analyzed and the lessons learned are heavily promoted. In that case, replication can start soon – without waiting for new projects to be completed." As the GEF STAP and GEF Council documentation has emphasized, facilitating transfer of lessons and experiences between projects is an important investment: Potential yields are large in terms of improvements in replication efficiency and scaling up successful approaches. IW:LEARN, through its core service line—project exchanges, portfolio learning via the IWC, information dissemination, IW experience notes, community of practice facilitation, targeted training, website and website toolkits, and dialogue processes—helps to consolidate lessons and provides institutional memory based on over 22 years of GEF IW investment, to enable stakeholders to learn, adapt and replicate lessons beyond the period of GEF intervention. GEF has found that working across projects and across agencies can provide the most cost-effective approach to capacity building, south-to-south experience sharing, and rapid incorporation into existing projects and new projects of innovative and good practices in transboundary waters management. Many tools designed for this project will result in cost savings across the entire portfolio of GEF IW projects, creating economies of scale, in the form of reduced need for training, in terms of TDA/SAP preparation and GEF IW project management.

#### A.2 Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders (including civil society organizations, indigenous people, gender groups and others as relevant) and describe how they will be engaged in project preparation.

Execution modalities and arrangements will be further refined in the course of the PPG.

The current IW:LEARN project already successfully engages with a broad range of stakeholders. The proposed new IW:LEARN project will forge linkages between stakeholder groups at the regional and global level. Members of the network will engage with IW:LEARN project as content (or knowledge) providers, while others will engage as knowledge beneficiaries. Stakeholders and partner organizations (listed below) may alternate roles depending on their particular skillset and training needs.

STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANT ROLES
GEF IW Project Managers	Project managers (and coordination units) are some of the primary beneficiaries of IW:LEARN capacity building activities. The inputs from PM's through evaluation will be consulted and some PM's will be asked to provide inputs during the PPG phase.
Participating Countries	Countries are also beneficiaries of IW:LEARN, particularly through the International Waters Conference but also other activities. It is envisioned that countries will benefit from other activities in the proposed project, which proposes to scale-up knowledge

	management. Some country representatives will be consulted during the PPG phase.
Civil Society Organizations	Previous phases of IW:LEARN have partnered with various CSO's and the proposed project includes several CSO's as partners of the proposed project. These will naturally be part of the preparation.
Academic Research Institutes	Previous phases of IW:LEARN have partnered with some universities, Chulalongkorn and Rhodes Universities to name a couple of examples. Some universities are imagined to be involved in the next phase, particularly with Component 2 and Component 3 activities. They will be identified and consulted in the PPG phase.
Bilateral/Multilateral Agencies	The GEF agencies guide the implementation of IW:LEARN via the GEF International Waters Task Force. They will be consulted during the PPG phase. In particular, the project will be approaching the World Bank and Asian Development Bank for specific contributions, as well as other GEF Agencies.
Private Sector	Preliminary discussions with some private sector are already underway, with for example, IBM and representatives of Google. Further private sector partners will be sought during the PPG phase.
Transboundary Commissions	Commissions are also a beneficiary of previous phases as well as the proposed project, particularly as successor joint management bodies evolving out of GEF IW projects or associated with them. It is envisioned that commissions will benefit from many IW:LEARN activities, but particularly those in Components 2 and 3. Select commissions will be consulted during the preparation phase.
Local Communities	Local communities, at least some, are expected to feature as beneficiaries of Component 5. Analysis will be made during the PPG phase on who to engage.
Vulnerable Groups (Gender Groups)	Some previous phases of IW:LEARN addressed vulnerable groups, such as women, through activities to promote gender mainstreaming. It is envisioned that the PPG phase will assess how the proposed project can continue to support this. UNDP is preparing a gender mainstreaming project that will form part of the family of portfolio learning projects that IW:LEARN coordinates. Moreover, UNDP has a comparative advantage and guidance on gender mainstreaming. The project will seek during the PPG phase to see how this can be incorporated. Moreover, the PPG phase will also consider how proposed project activities can be gender mainstreamed.

The project will engage, inter alia, among the following partners to build portfolio capacity.

STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANT ROLES
UNDP	Programme management; technical support; twinnings support; knowledge management; private sector engagement; regional/global training; SAP implementation activities support
UNEP	Programme management, regional dialogues processes support, private sector engagement, technical support, knowledge management, twinnings support, regional/global training, economic valuation programmatic support, support to COPs
CI	Economic valuation programmatic support; knowledge management; private sector engagement; regional/global training; SAP implementation activities support; twinnings support;
GWP	Thematic training courses support, regional dialogues, freshwater and groundwater communities of practice support, private sector engagement, technical support, knowledge management, regional/global face to face and on-line training
IBM	Private sector engagement; technical support to visualization
ICPDR	Regional dialogues processes support; knowledge management
IRF	Thematic training courses support, global dialogue processes support, knowledge management, twinnings support, regional/global training; freshwater component
IUCN	Economic valuation programmatic support; private sector engagement; global dialogue

	processes support; knowledge management; twinnings support, regional/global training, coordination of freshwater CoP component
NOAA	Through ongoing engagement with LME projects, including the LME “Global Governance Partnership”, make available relevant science and technical support related ecosystem-based management of oceans and coasts
TNC	Tools, methods and best practice materials and technical support, thematic knowledge exchanges; capacity development through pilot projects, thematic training courses, cross-basin twinnings private sector and scientific community engagement; support to global dialogues and processes, freshwater community of practice
UNECE	Knowledge management, economic valuation programmatic support, thematic training courses support, regional dialogues processes support, global dialogue processes support, twinnings support, regional/global training, link to governments and legal framework(s), support to Global Freshwater and Groundwater CoP
UNESCO	Coordination of the Global Groundwater CoP and related activities; Knowledge management; technical and scientific support on groundwater-related issues; thematic training courses support; regional/global training; private sector engagement; twinnings support; educational capacity building on different aspects of groundwater management
UNIDO	Economic valuation programmatic support, private sector engagement
UNU-INWEH	Engagement of academia; educational capacity building; knowledge management; thematic training courses support, technical support, twinnings support, regional/global training
WWF	Economic valuation programmatic support, thematic training courses support, coordination of freshwater CoP component; private sector engagement, regional dialogue processes, knowledge management, twinnings support, regional/global training
World Bank	TBD

**A.3 Risk. 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).**

RISK DESCRIPTION	RATING <sup>9</sup>	MITIGATION MEASURE
A key risk to this project is an operational one as it brings together several agencies and partners. This may increase the complexity of project implementation and hinder positive impacts	M	During the project preparation phase particular emphasis will be given to the definition of roles and responsibilities, as well as accountability for results and joint management
Not all GEF IW projects are willing to engage in various types of portfolio learning activities or expose weaknesses in project implementation to external scrutiny.	L	Project stakeholders are expressly encouraged to utilize GEF IW:LEARN services at all levels of implementation and execution. The PPG phase will be utilized to seek a critical mass of committed projects that are systematically linked and accessing capacity-building services during implementation.
New projects are not aware of IW:LEARN, have sufficient time to participate or know how to sufficiently engage its services and provide experiences to peers (via CoP participation, IWC engagement and information syndication)	M	The project will effectively market its basic service line to the portfolio throughout implementation but especially during the PPG phase.
With a global spread of constituents, the IW:LEARN website and portfolio services (face-to-face capacity-building as well as programmatic tools) cannot be relied upon to automatically “pull” beneficiaries. There may be a need to “push” (as the previous IW:LEARN team did with direct project interaction).	L	The project will make an investment in direct interaction with beneficiaries. Constituents need to be engaged to the extent possible to create a sense of ownership.
An additional risk could be the high potential for overlap and duplication of effort across partners, rather than complementarity/synergy and structured alignment	L	The PPG phase will provide sufficient clarity of roles and areas of contribution

<sup>9</sup> For the purpose of the PIF, risk rating is restricted to High (high), Moderate (M), Low (L)

**A.4 Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives.**

*GEF-supported Initiatives*

The proposed project will build on experiences of the previous GEF IW:LEARN phases and will specifically build on the sustainability plan and final evaluation of the current phase jointly implemented by UNDP and UNEP. The project will also coordinate and work in close collaboration with the parallel “*Strengthening Global Governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and Their Coasts Through Enhanced Sharing and Application of LME/ICM/MPA Knowledge and Information Tool*” (a project that will establish a dynamic global support network for the GEF LME, ICM & MPA projects for practitioners needed to increase the capacity of countries to realize adaptive ecosystem-based management and governance) for joint knowledge management, tool and methodology development, learning programming and potentially staff sharing. Special attention will be devoted to close coordination with other IW portfolio-learning projects such as *Development of Tools to Incorporate Impacts of Climatic Variability and Change, in Particular Floods and Drought into Basin Planning Processes*, Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (TWAP), Blue Forests projects, and the existing ground and surface water Communities of Practice run by UNESCO-IHP and IUCN respectively. The proposed project will liaise with the UNDP implemented GEF Small Grants Programme to harvest SGP experience in the translation of SAPs into local actions and identify community-based management models. Finally, the project will work closely with the GEF Secretariat itself, specifically its Results-Based Management and Knowledge Management staff, on upscaling IW:LEARN-tested approaches to other focal areas.

*Non-GEF initiatives*

The proposed project will also coordinate with the following non-GEF funded partner initiatives. The project will liaise with secretariats and coordinating bodies of legal frameworks for transboundary cooperation, such as the UN Water Courses Convention, the UNECE Water Convention, ILC draft articles on transboundary groundwater and UN Law of the Sea Convention. Chief among partner initiatives will be the afore-mentioned, *Global Network to Advance Integrated River Basin Management*, but will also include the following:

PROJECT PARTNER	ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES 2014-2018
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI (WGF) which is a UNDP funded programme to support the implementation of UNDP’s Water Governance Programme, which focuses on improving the water governance knowledge base through development, compilation and dissemination of water governance information, knowledge, methodologies and tools as a service to promote and advocate improved water resources management and water related services.</li> <li>-The proposed project will realize synergies with UNDP's other flagship capacity-building programme, Cap-Net, which focuses on development of IWRM and achievement of MDGs</li> <li>-The UNDP Water &amp; Ocean Governance Programme and MDG GoAL WaSH Programme</li> <li>-UNDP Coca Cola Every Drop Matters Partnership and a possible new GEF IW initiative, partnering with the UN Global Compact’s CEO Water Mandate</li> <li>-UNDP Shared Waters Partnership;</li> </ul>
UNEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNEP Live platform, a knowledge management platform, which will serve as both a source of environment-related knowledge for member states and other stakeholders, and the basis for UNEP’s internal knowledge management;</li> <li>-UNEP GRID Arendal,</li> <li>-UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre,</li> <li>-UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,</li> <li>-UNEP Regional Seas Programme;</li> <li>-Green Growth Knowledge Platform;</li> <li>-UNEP GRID Sioux Falls;</li> <li>-Brazilian Water Agency,</li> <li>-UNEP GEMS/Water,</li> <li>-UNEP Finance Initiative</li> <li>-TEEB for Oceans, World Water Quality Assessment,</li> <li>-World Ocean Assessment;</li> <li>-Global Environment Alert Service;</li> <li>-GEMS/Water;</li> <li>-Business, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services programme;</li> <li>-CLIM-WARN;</li> <li>-Marketplace for Environmental Training and Online resources</li> </ul>



CI	-Seascapes program -Pacific Oceanscape/Pacific Islands Forum Marine Sector Working Group
GWP	-GIS Communication Technology Platform (GIS-CTP); -Water, Climate and Development Programme (regional and basin-wide training workshops) -Latin American Capacity Building Programme on International Waters Law; -Governance and Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector' (2013-2015) - GWP-Med advancing dialogue as well as experience development and sharing about private sector participation through ' -Global Dialogue on Water Security and Sustainable Growth; -Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)
IBM	"Smarter Aid Analytics" - a cloud-based M&E Visualization tool to display project efficiency statistics for targeted existing donor-funded development projects, and aims to reveal effectiveness through scoring of intended project outcomes versus actual outcomes
ICPDR	-The "Green Danube Partnership" between ICPDR and Coca Cola -Continued dissemination of the Danube Box and proposed development of a "smart game" communication tool
IRF	-International River Symposium in Australia -Australian twinning programs
IUCN	-Water and Nature Initiative -Water Law & Governance Support Platform
TNC	-Great Rivers Partnership: implementing multiple on-ground projects and capacity development activities in basins across several world regions, including developing of new tools, methods and publication materials synthesizing best practices, on priority thematic areas for large river basins (viz. sustainable hydropower and other water resources infrastructure, floodplain management, conservation planning, natural capital assessment; sustainable finance mechanisms to fund environmental management; e-learning course and hands-on trainings on environmental flows and freshwater conservation planning; corporate water stewardship and best practices studies; dissemination of lessons from pilot demonstrations; twinning of demonstration basins with other basins for experience exchange and scaled-up application of tools and approaches; thematic problem-solving workshops, dialogues and webinars; new business models and partnerships for corporate sector engagement and knowledge exchange; communications and awareness generating materials (e.g. Water Source newsletter, cool green science blogs, Science Chronicles, freshwater cafes); managing website and social media content;
UNECE	Intergovernmental platform for transboundary water cooperation, which provides assessment, a unique legal framework and advice, produces guidance material, and enables exchange of experience, implements numerous projects on the ground (some GEF funded), and capacity building; e.g. conducting workshops for exchange of experience of joint bodies; quantifying the benefits of transboundary cooperation through workshops and by preparing a guidance note on identifying, quantifying and communicating the benefits of transboundary cooperation by 2015; supporting adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins (pilot projects, global platform for exchange of experience); thematic assessment of the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus in 6-8 transboundary basins worldwide; building capacity on transboundary water cooperation and international legal frameworks and promoting exchange of experience worldwide
UNESCO-IHP	-UNESCO/WMO International Centre on Groundwater Resources Assessment (IGRAC) and its Global Groundwater Forum; -International Shared Aquifer Resource Management (ISARM) Initiative -Groundwater Resources Assessment under the Pressures of Humanity and Climate Change (GRAPHIC) Project; -International Hydrologic Programme VIII phase (2014-2021) "Water security: Responses to local, regional and global challenges" -WHYMAP (World-wide Hydrogeological Mapping and Assessment Programme); -Working group on "Basin Governance" in the OECD Water Governance Initiative (together with INBO and member of the SC of the initiative) -Co-coordinator of the thematic sessions on transboundary waters and smart implementation of IWRM for the 7 <sup>th</sup> World Water Forum,;
UNIDO	-The UNIDO-UNEP Green Industry Platform - building partnerships that advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development while simultaneously driving business value; promoting economic valuation as an instrument to influence decision making on the sustainable use of ecosystems, through various programs
UNU-INWEH	-KIMUNU database, document, management and mapping system (the base technology for IW:Science); -KStar Integrated Knowledge Management Process; -UNU-INWEH Water Learning Centre on course production, modification and delivery through distance learning via the Internet and on CDROM
WWF	-WWF-Coca Cola Partnership
Other Entities	-World Ocean Council -Global Water Initiative

## **B. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:**

### **B.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e., NAPAs, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.**

As with all GEF projects, being country-driven is the sine qua non for the proposed project, and all IW projects assisted by IW:LEARN have the country GEF focal point endorsement. GEF IW:LEARN aims to support and improve the management of GEF IW projects and enhance project capacity to address national priorities and plans. The proposed project will support all these various regional, national and local strategies by building networks, creating tools, improving linkages, harvesting best practices and generating knowledge. The proposed project will also have a focus on building capacity at the national level through SAP actions and regional workshops. In terms of indicators, the IW:LEARN website has received a total of 1.3 million hits, including 27,000 unique visitors from more than 120 countries and its targeted training activities have served people from more than 100 countries. It is envisioned that such service levels can be sustained and increased with the proposed project and will be tracked with new indicators related to results-based management. The International Waters Conferences also have a specific focus on the inclusion of government representatives, featuring, on average, about 70 countries per conference. Finally, the project will feature a scaled-up approach to fostering transboundary cooperation, the afore-mentioned regional dialogue process pioneered in previous phases together with GWP, which focuses on supporting dialogue between countries on transboundary water issues as a trust and confidence building activity.

### **B.2 GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities**

The project contributes, through its various components, to the first three strategic objectives delineated in the GEF5 focal area strategy for international waters. As a contribution to portfolio-wide knowledge and experience sharing, the proposed project specifically supports the GEF5 IW Strategic Objective 3 to support foundational capacity building, portfolio learning, and targeted research needs for ecosystem-based management of transboundary water systems, and realize its Outcome 3.3 to enhance IW portfolio capacity and performance from active learning/KM/experience sharing. The project will specifically support Outcomes 1.1/2.1 to improve the implementation of agreed Strategic Action Programs. This project will also address Outcomes 1.2/2.2, by fostering cooperation through regional dialogues on transboundary waters. The project will facilitate Outcomes 1.3/2.3 through various types of capacity-building activities that deliver various innovative solutions to projects and partners. Also, the project will draw on specific work by UNDP on melting high altitude glaciers to support Outcome 3.2. Finally, the GEF5 Strategy makes note on p10, that the GEF's "intention is to keep an emphasis on active learning and South-to-South experience sharing for the GEF IW portfolio through new "Communities of Practice" and foster engagement with the private sector." Proposed Component 3 of this project specifically addresses both elements of this strategy through new activities in support of freshwater communities of practice and guiding the portfolio on how to engage private sector.

The GEF5 IW Strategy Notes on page 4, paragraph 14, "...experience sharing and learning within the GEF IW portfolio will be enhanced based on successful pilots in this focal area (GEF IW:LEARN) as noted by OPS4. The cross-project learning and knowledge management already piloted in the IW focal area will be even more critical in GEF 5 as new knowledge and techniques related to climate variability and forecasting will need to be absorbed by States collaborating on transboundary water systems."

The project will specifically support draft GEF6 Program 1.1 on fostering cooperation & economic growth through regional dialogues on transboundary waters as well as enhanced work on supporting economic valuation. This phase will also respond to a specific call in Program 2.1 in terms of mainstreaming gender in SAP's, by supporting improved guidance on how projects can incorporate gender-sensitive actions. Also, the project will draw on specific work by UNDP on melting high altitude glaciers to support Program 1.2. As mentioned earlier, the project will specifically target Programs 2.1 to advance conjunctive management of surface freshwater & groundwater, as well as Program 2.2 to address the Water/Food/Energy Ecosystem Security Nexus, through a set of activities in Component 3 on supporting freshwater communities of practice.

As noted at page 73, paragraph 25, of the Draft GEF6 Programming Directions: "Over a decade of GEF support within the International Water Focal Area has led to a whole range of experiences, innovations and lessons. GEF's efforts to harness this knowledge capital and exchange experiences within its 'learning project'— the IW:LEARN—has proven highly successful and has been recognized by partners. GEF6 will step up its knowledge management and learning efforts, work with partners, including key NGOs active in international cooperation on freshwater and oceans. This will enhance exchange between scientists and practitioners within the GEF portfolio, as well as serve as a model for effective knowledge management for other GEF focal areas. Emphasis will be kept on active learning across the portfolio and enhancing the impact of GEF-funded interventions and south-south experience sharing."

### **B.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage for implementing this project**

UNDP has successfully led the implementation of the IW:LEARN project since IW:LEARN's inception in 1998. UNDP has established itself as one of the leading international organizations supporting the improved governance of transboundary water bodies. As a GEF implementing agency, UNDP offers countries specialized technical services in relation to waters and oceans. UNDP manages portfolios on integrated water resources management; multi-country management of transboundary rivers, lakes and aquifers; multi-country LME management; and climate change adaptation. UNDP-GEF projects in the IW focal area aim to achieve a comprehensive, ecosystem-based approach to the sustainable management of international waters and to address both development and ecological needs at global, regional, national and local levels (i.e., GEF Small Grants Programme). In terms of implementing GEF IW projects, UNDP has consistently delivered results through a broad range of international transboundary water interventions including the high-level adoption of 17 SAPs (eight in LMEs), eight of which are currently being implemented. UNDP also implements several non-GEF funded programmes including UNDP CapNET, the UNDP Water Governance Facility at the Stockholm International Water Institute, UNDP Water & Ocean Governance Programme and MDG GoAL WaSH Programme. UNDP also works extensively with the private sector through such signature programs as the Coca Cola Every Drop Matters Partnership and is planning on a new GEF IW initiative, partnering with the UN Global Compact's CEP Water Mandate. UNDP has other strong comparative advantages. For example, UNDP has supported significant works on guiding gender mainstreaming. Organizations that work with UNDP draw on a number of strengths and opportunities: UNDP has an existing mandate on governance and capacity development and is a world leader in the field; UNDP has a mandate to convene and coordinate and plays a leading role in coordination in the UN; UNDP is a trusted, impartial, long-term facilitator and development partner at local, country, regional and global levels, which is critical to the challenges of this particular project; UNDP has high-level access to national development planning processes; UNDP is not limited to a certain water/ocean sub-theme or target group and applies an integrated human-rights-based and mainstreaming approach to addressing transboundary water and ocean issues and advancing the management of water resources, water supply and sanitation, and water-related climate change adaptation.

Consistent with its mandate to keep the state of the global environment under review, and to promote scientific assessments of current and emerging issues for policy and decision making purposes, UNEP's comparative advantage lies in knowledge management, science-to-policy linkages, ecosystems management and capacity building. UNEP's overall mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. This includes providing the world community with improved access to credible environmental data and information and helping increase the capacity of governments to use environmental information for decision-making and action-planning for sustainable human development. UNEP has also a strong record in fostering technical and institutional cooperation at multi-country level working closely with many partners and collaborating centres in all regions of the world, and has over time established functional networks for data, information, assessments and capacity development. UNEP has long-implemented GEF IW:LEARN's information management agenda, including the iwlearn.net website and subsidiary website toolkit. In addition, UNEP works to link science to policy by advancing knowledge to support environmental decision-making through scientific and technical analyses, including ecosystem-based international waters assessments, and is the implementing agency for several related learning projects on enhancing the use of science in GEF IW projects, developing tools for the management of floods and droughts, and for reducing nutrient enrichment and oxygen depletion from land based pollution, in support of Global Nutrient Cycle, developing methodologies for carbon accounting and ecosystem service valuation in Blue Forests, and a methodology for systemic transboundary waters assessments and implementing the global Transboundary Waters Assessment (TWA) to improve the knowledge base for the five water system categories. The assessments will provide much needed guidance to GEF and other international donors to improve the cost-effectiveness of their investments and to track their policy impacts a well further researching the global/region N cycle and investigate / test practices and management policies to reduce negative impacts of reactive nitrogen on the ecosystems.

Both UNDP and UNEP will leverage this aforementioned expertise and build upon programmatic strengths in support of the proposed project.


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

**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT 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 [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (mm/dd/yyyy)

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

<b>This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation.</b>					
<b>Agency Coordinator, Agency Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</b>	<b>Project Contact Person</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Adriana Dinu, UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator and Director a.i.		7 March 2014	Vladimir Mamaev	+421 259337267	<a href="mailto:vladimir.mamaev@undp.org">vladimir.mamaev@undp.org</a>