



GEF-6 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Towards sustainable management of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME) – initial support to SAP implementation		
Countries:	Cabo Verde, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Morocco, Senegal and The Gambia. ¹	GEF Project ID:	9940
GEF Agency(ies):	FAO	GEF Agency Project ID:	647664
Other Executing Partner(s):	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic- CECAF	Submission Date:	31 January 2018
GEF Focal Area(s):	International Waters	Project Duration	18 months
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities IAP-Commodities IAP-Food Security	Corporate Program:	
Name of parent program:	n.a	Agency Fee (\$)	173,470

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES

Objectives/Programs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
IW-1 Program 1 Foster Cooperation for Sustainable Use of Transboundary Water Systems and Economic Growth	GEFTF	1,826,000	6,600,000
Total Project Cost	GEFTF	1,826,000	6,600,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To create enabling conditions for effective implementation of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem Strategic Action Programme (SAP).						
Project Components	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Component 1: Strengthening partnerships and fostering investment for CCLME SAP implementation	TA	<p>Outcome 1.1: Management of the CCLME strengthened by having in place mechanisms for cooperation, partnerships and financing supporting implementation of the SAP</p> <p><i>Indicator(s):</i> Agreed mechanisms for partnership, collaboration and financing.</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1: Recommendations on consortium and partnership agreement to support SAP implementation, clarifying responsibilities of partners and related terms of references.</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: A multi-sectoral financing mechanisms involving national public and private</p>	GEFTF	890,000	500,000

¹ Note: Mauritania not yet signatory but expected to endorse before the submission of the MSP project document¹

			<p>agencies, bilateral and multilateral donors pledging financial support for full implementation of SAP is established.</p> <p>Output 1.1.3: An agreed operational plan to implement the CCLME SAP and to strengthen the capacities and investments by the countries to address priorities linked to development of National Action Plans (NAPs).</p> <p>Output 1.1.4: Regional dialogue for cooperation in cross-sectoral marine related issues building on the existing achievements of the CCLME foundational project.</p>			
<p>Component 2: Strengthening knowledge, management and capacity of fisheries institutions and communities for the sustainable use of transboundary fisheries resources and associated ecosystems</p>	TA	<p>Outcome 2.1: Improved knowledge and understanding of the state of the CCLME including fish stocks and ecosystem functioning and of climate change impacts on the resources and fishing communities.</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> - quality information available and greater number of target stakeholder and institutions actively engaged in information sharing.</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1: Regional CCLME ecosystem working group for data analysis and prioritization of future scientific activities in support of fisheries management and ecosystem characterization (including habitats) strengthened.</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: Information and knowledge gaps reduced through: - Monitoring and assessment of transboundary</p>	GEF TF	620,000	5,100,000

			<p>fisheries, ecosystems and vulnerable species and impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecosystem characterization and monitoring and assessment of climate change impacts. <p>Output 2.1.3: Awareness-raising, and information sharing between the scientific community and stakeholders in the region through existing and new platforms.</p> <p>Output 2.2.1: Support to Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) and countries to develop regional management frameworks and national management plans for transboundary pelagic and coastal fisheries.</p> <p>Output 2.2.2: Recommendations for national and regional action plans for vulnerable species and habitats developed.</p> <p>Output 2.2.3: Capacity development programme designed for fishing communities, building on demonstration projects (on EAF, co-management and MPA monitoring) implemented during SAP development.</p>			
		<p>Outcome 2.2: Strengthened capacities to enable implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) in the context of broader multisectoral ecosystem management goals</p>				
Component 3: Communication,	TA	Outcome 3.1:	Output 3.1.1 A communication	GEF TF	150,000	500,000

monitoring and evaluation		Effective and efficient results-based management and knowledge sharing.	strategy and tools for knowledge management updated and implemented. Output 3.1.1 A gender strategy developed. Output 3.1.3 Monitoring and evaluation system for SAP implementation proposed. Output 3.1.4 Project monitoring system in operation and providing routine information on progress in meeting output and outcome targets. Output 3.1.5 An independent final evaluation conducted.			
			Subtotal	GEF TF	1,660,000	6,100,000
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEF TF	166,000	500,000
			Total Project Cost	GEF TF	1,826,000	6,600,000

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Recipient Government	Government of Cape Verde	In-kind	48,000
Recipient Government	Government of Guinea	In-kind	195,000
Recipient Government	Government of Guinea-Bissau	In-kind	39,000
Recipient Government	Government of Mauritania	In-kind	568,000
Recipient Government	Government of Morocco	In-kind	2,240,000
Recipient Government	Government of Senegal	In-kind	1,430,000
Recipient Government	Government of The Gambia	In-kind	70,000
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	310,000
NGO	MAVA (PRCM)	In-kind	500,000
Donor Agency	Spanish Institute of Oceanography	In-kind	1,200,000
Others			
Total Co-financing			6,600,000

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) ^{b)}	Total (c)=a+b
FAO	GEFTF	Regional	IW	N/A	1,826,000	173,470	1,999,470
Total GEF Resources					1,826,000	173,470	1,999,470

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

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

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

Project Preparation Grant amount requested: PPG Agency Fee:							
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
Total PPG Amount							

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	<i>hectares</i>
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	<i>hectares</i>
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>Number of freshwater basins</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>0.05 to 0.1 % of fisheries, by volume</i> ²
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO _{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>metric tons</i>
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	<i>metric tons</i>
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	<i>metric tons</i>
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	<i>ODP tons</i>

² It is estimated that the direct impact of the project on the status of fishery resources would be very limited given that the short duration of this MSP does not allow for sufficient recovery time nor for new substantial measures to be implemented.

6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries:</i>
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries:</i>

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. *Project Description.* Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area³ strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Background

The Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME) is situated in the Atlantic Ocean on the northwestern coast of Africa. Its boundaries extend from the northern Atlantic coast of Morocco south to the Bijagos archipelago of Guinea-Bissau and west to the Canary Islands. The countries within the recognized limits of the CCLME include Cabo Verde, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal. Both Cabo Verde and the waters of Guinea are considered adjacent waters within the zone of influence of the CCLME. The seven CCLME countries have a combined coastline comprising over 5 400 km long and a sea area of > 2 million km² within their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ). The Cabo Verde Islands, situated 570 km off the coast of Senegal, has the largest EEZ of all these countries. The current population of CCLME countries is estimated to be 64 million, and while population growth rates have dropped over the past 20 years, they remain greater than 2 percent per annum. Socio-economic conditions in countries of the CCLME as measured by the UN Human Development Index varies from 0.35 to 0.59 with Morocco having the highest and Guinea having the lowest value. GDP figures are highest in Morocco (US\$174 billion) followed by Senegal (US\$27 billion) and Guinea (US\$12.4 billion). GDP growth rates are positive for most countries with highest in Mauritania (6.4%) and Cabo Verde (4.3%); with the other countries all above 3%.

The Canary Current is an eastern boundary upwelling systems that flows southwards along the northwest African coast between 30°N - 10°N and offshore to 20°W. It is driven by persistent northerly winds that generate year round upwelling and generates a complex series of jets and fronts which develop seasonally. It is one of the most productive and biologically diverse Large Marine Ecosystems in the world with primary production reaching levels of >300gCm² per year. It straddles both the temperate north and the tropical south and features a diverse range of marine and coastal habitats including wetlands, estuaries, seagrass beds, mangroves and coral communities that host a large number of endemic and migrant species. Water depths vary from 200m to over 1,500m in the EEZs of countries with much of the seabed consisting of sand and muddy sand. Seamounts, underwater knolls, hills, mud volcanoes and cold water corals are also a prominent feature on parts of the continental shelf areas. These are often associated with tectonic "hot spots", mid ocean ridges or island arcs. A regional network of MPAs produced for West Africa include a list of 34 seamounts, many of which occur in the EEZs of CCLME countries.

The region comprises three distinct zones: (1) a northern, sub-tropical, upwelling zone centered off northern Mauritania with minimal river inputs; (2) a southern, tropical zone, centered off Guinea Bissau and extending from Senegal to Guinea, dominated by estuaries and mangroves; and (3) a western, sub-tropical to tropical, oceanic zone

³ For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which Aichi Target(s) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

which includes the adjacent waters of Cabo Verde and the Canaries. Several transboundary river systems e.g. Senegal, the Gambia and others drain into the LME forming large deltas and estuaries with coastal wetlands which are rich in wildlife. Important estuaries include those of the rivers Sebou, Senegal, the Gambia, Casamance, Cacheu and Corubal. River flows are often seasonal due to high variations in rainfall. Climatic conditions play a major role in defining the dynamics of the LME which is subject to seasonal variations and long-term fluctuations in environmental conditions.

While the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem only covers 2-3 percent of the global ocean surface area, its nutrient-rich waters support large populations of small pelagic and demersal fish species including sardines, sardinellas, hake, dentex, sea breams and various migratory tunas. Other economically important coastal marine resources include octopus and shrimp. Annual fisheries production from the region ranges from 2 to 3 million tonnes with the total value of catches exceeding US\$3 billion.

All the countries of the region have large and vibrant artisanal fleets. In addition, industrial distant water fleets from the EU and Asia fish in the rich waters of the CCLME that generates between 20% and 30% of global fisheries production. Artisanal and small-scale fisheries are particularly important for food security and employment for the coastal communities in many of the countries. Fisheries in the CCLME currently support an estimated one million jobs and form the basis for the livelihoods of over 150,000 artisanal fishermen many of whom migrate widely within and outside the region, fishing and trading fish and fish products across national borders.

Covering different climatic zones, from the temperate north to the tropical south, the CCLME hosts a wide range of coastal and marine habitat types, including critical wetland habitats, estuaries, seagrass beds, mangroves and diverse coral communities. The main mangrove areas are found in the southern part of the CCLME, in Guinea (2 999 km²), Guinea-Bissau (2 039 km²), Senegal (1 287 km²) and the Gambia (591 km²). The overall extent of seagrass areas is less well known, but both Guinea-Bissau and Guinea have extensive areas (14,559 km² and 12,631 km², respectively) whereas information from Senegal indicates seagrass beds covering areas of 1,473 km². These coastal and marine habitats together with their high productivity support a globally significant biodiversity of species, which include a high proportion of endemic and migrant species of birds, sea turtles and cetaceans.

The CCLME is a vital resource not only for coastal populations bordering the LME, but also for much of western Africa. An initial economic valuation of the ecosystem goods and services carried out during the preparation of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) in 2013 indicates that the LME generates a yearly economic value of around US\$1.7 billion. For example, one hectare of mangroves alone provides ecosystem service valued at US\$ 2,235 per year, with most of its benefits credited to coastal protection against storms and erosion, the provision of fish nurseries, and in climate regulation.

Given the inter-dependence of the countries within the CCLME region, the movement of fish stocks across boundaries and the linkages of their marine and coastal ecosystems, the integrated management and governance of this large ocean area as a Large Marine Ecosystem is fully justified.

Threats, roots causes and challenges facing the CCLME

Working through the GEF-funded “Protection of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME)” Project implemented from 2010 to 2017, the seven countries of the region adopted in 2015, the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), a very comprehensive document that reviewed all aspects of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem including productivity, fish and fisheries, ecosystem health and pollution, socio-economics and governance. The TDA assessment also investigated the threats, roots causes and challenges facing the CCLME and identified three priority areas of transboundary concern as well as list of specific issues that needed to be addressed within these overarching thematic areas. These were 1) Decline in Living Marine Resources; 2) Degradation of Habitats; and 3) Deterioration in Water Quality. The outcomes and conclusions of the TDA are summarized in Table 1 and can be briefly described as follows:

- 1) **Decline in Living Marine Resources** - Changes in species range, distribution, abundance, recruitment and reproductive behavior which include small pelagic and demersal fish, as well as cephalopods and crustaceans, such as octopus and shrimps, and non-targeted species of marine mammals, sharks, sawfish, seabirds and turtles. The primary causes of the decline in living marine resources were identified as being due to:- overfishing and overcapacity of industrial and artisanal fishing fleets; excessive fishing in the breeding areas and critical habitats; the use of non-selective fishing methods and destructive fishing gear; illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU); and change due to environmental variability. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing especially from foreign industrial vessels is a major challenge facing the region with monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) activities poorly resourced and difficult to implement. FAO estimates that over 35% of catches taken in the countries' EEZs are as a result of IUU fishing which severely affect food security and livelihoods in coastal populations. High demand for seafood and other coastal resources and the emergence of new markets, lack of alternative livelihoods and opportunities for education, gender inequality issues, population pressures and poverty make up the underlying socio-economic root causes of the decline in CCLME marine resources.
- 2) **Degradation of Critical Habitats** - Changes in shoreline, sand dunes, mudflats, wetlands and nature of seabed, land reclamation and coastal erosion, loss and damage to shoreline, coastal and estuarine habitats, loss of vegetation, mangrove habitats, coral reef habitats and sea grass beds and the introduction of alien invasive and exotic non-native species. Identified causes are:- unsustainable exploitation of wood i.e. harvesting of mangroves; increases in salinity due to habitat modifications, destructive fishing methods and techniques, IUU fishing, coastal erosion and offshore oil exploration and pollution.
- 3) **Deterioration in Water Quality** - Changes in freshwater inputs, increased sediment loads, alteration of natural flows, degeneration of ground water; algal blooms, microbial contamination and nutrient enrichment, land-based and marine sources including solid waste, marine litter and pollution from oil spills, shipping, storage facilities, ports and harbors. The deterioration in water quality was found to be caused by several factors including construction activities on river basins and in the coastal zone; the dumping of ballast water and fuel from ships; the escape of species from aquaculture operations; drought impacting dynamics of estuaries, oil and mining activities and agricultural run-off leading to nutrient enrichment in coastal areas.

Climate Change is also another major area of concern for the CCLME that has been highlighted in the TDA and will require adaptive management actions to address its impacts. Its importance was also highlighted in "The Praia Declaration of the Regional Coastal and Marine Forum of West Africa on Climate Change" in November 2015 which committed countries of the region to accelerate adaptation and mitigation measures and the mobilization of financial resources for conservation initiatives. Climate change and global warming will cut across all sectors and will have major influences on upwelling dynamics, plankton productivity, fisheries and critical habitats due to changes in wind regimes, increased sea temperatures, ocean acidification, and shifts in circulation patterns and vertical stratification. In the context of socio-economics and ecosystem health, climate change is expected to lead to more extreme events, flooding, sea level rise and coastal erosion. Already, climate variability and environmental change are impacting fisheries migrations, the seasonal plankton production cycle and depths of the thermocline in the water column. Increasing water temperatures are also causing some fish populations to move further northwards to cooler waters.

Barriers to the sustainable management of the CCLME

The main barriers that need to be addressed primarily relate to policy and regulations, technical resources and research capacity, monitoring, control and surveillance infrastructure, institutional capacities and practices, communication, information sharing and awareness, training and human capacity development and financial restrictions. The barriers can be summarized as follows:

- Regulatory – absence of regional management plan for transboundary fisheries resources, inadequate legal and environmental policy measures and regulations insufficient monitoring and assessments of

fisheries and ecosystems, conflicts over access rights to marine resources and lack of policy coordination and harmonisation

- Institutional, technical and financial capacities – Constraints in relation to capacity development hinders the implementation of multi-country ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management and the ability to regulate, monitor and protect vulnerable species in the CCLME countries. These issues have been already identified comprehensively in the TDA and include lack of funding to undertake fisheries monitoring and assessment activities as well as inadequate technical expertise to service and maintain research and monitoring equipment including vessels. The consequences of lack of capacity and expertise at a national level leads to limited interactions between institutions and countries and inability to implement an ecosystem approach to management and to participate in regional decision making. It also results in uncoordinated resource management, monitoring and research programmes, lack of knowledge and understanding of the resources and environmental processes, absence of full stakeholder participation, imbalances in baseline information and collection and poorly advised governments. The socio-economic consequences of lack of training and capacity development together with poor communications and information sharing often leads to conflicts at local level involving artisanal coastal communities. Getting fishers to use of selective gear and new techniques to implement EAF and enhance sustainable fishing practices is a slow process that requires both aware-raising campaigns and incentives.

Baseline and co-financing program

The GEF investment in the CCLME started in 2005 with a preparatory phase (PDF B Phase from 2005 to 2007) that initiated the development of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) of the CCLME. The PDF B Phase was followed by the “Protection of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME)” project implemented from 2010 to 2017 (TDA/SAP development phase – first-phase CCLME project). Under this first-phase CCLME project, the countries of the region prepared and endorsed a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem, signed by 12 Ministers of Fisheries and Environment from Cabo Verde, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal and the Gambia. The SAP focuses on solutions and management actions for the CCLME that will result in a healthy ecosystem, sustainably managed, providing services and equitable benefits for human well-being by 2030. Implementation of the SAP will address the root causes of concern at various levels by removing key barriers (as identified by the TDA) and putting in place a suite of measures based on the implementation of an ecosystem approach to management that can effect real change to rebuild fish stocks, reverse habitat degradation and improve water quality.

The TDA/SAP development process facilitated partnerships and trust building not only among the institutions of the participating countries but also with major actors in the region, such as the regional fisheries bodies (Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States bordering the Atlantic (ATLAFCO), regional seas organisations (the Abidjan Convention) conservations networks such as the Partnership for Coastal and Marine Conservation in West Africa (PRMC), New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) and other regional initiatives such as the EAF-Nansen Programme and the West African Regional Fisheries Program (WARFP), amongst others. Links with other organisations such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the Secretariat for the Abidjan Convention, the Global Ocean Observation System (GOOS) -Africa, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) will be strengthened during the SAP implementation phase of the CCLME project.

All of the CCLME participating countries have expressed a strong desire and commitment to implement the SAP. However, to realise the goals and expected outputs of the SAP, the countries and partners that have aligned themselves with the TDA and SAP process will have to recognise that sustainability of actions will require more than just national political will and action. It will require commitments regionally and even globally to support this important process. The implementation of policies and the enactment of management reforms in CCLME countries

will take time and continued inter-sectoral cooperation given their different growth rates and economic development.

To capitalize on momentum and partnerships built during the first-phase project that has just ended, the CCLME countries have decided to swiftly implement priority activities to put in place/strengthen the following key elements necessary for effective SAP implementation:

- Sustainable financing and investment / partnership plan for SAP implementation;
- Cross-sectoral mechanisms for coordinated management of the CCLME;
- Capacity development of fisheries institutions and communities to sustainably manage fisheries of the CCLME using the ecosystem approach to fisheries;
- Reinforcing knowledge and understanding of the ecosystem functioning and of climate change impacts on the resources and fishing communities.

There are a number of relevant existing institutions and other pertinent initiatives in the CCLME region. An overview of key fisheries organisations, international programmes and projects operating in the region is given below with links between some of the different initiatives given in Table 1.

The **Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)** was established in 1993 to strengthen regional fisheries governance in member states which include six of the CCLME countries i.e. Cabo Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal. The overall mandate of this Regional Fisheries Body (RFB) is to enforce the mechanisms of sustainable governance of fisheries resources and strengthen regional cooperation and coordinate policies in terms of conservation and exploitation of fisheries resources in the region. It also promotes the adoption of international best practices, including cooperation in Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and the development of fisheries research and science capacities and the collaboration with fisheries research institutions and centres in the region. In its aims to harmonise fisheries policies and legislation, the SRFC seeks to develop and promote sustainable fisheries management including the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), the use of shared tools, support to local, regional and international partners, awareness-raising in relation to laws and regulations as well as the dissemination of information and knowledge building for stakeholders.

The SRFC also operates a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Development Centre (MCSD) which is responsible for organising and monitoring sub-regional fisheries surveillance operations and strengthening MCS capacities in member states including the registry of vessels. The SFRC has been responsible for developing a number of important legal instruments governing the condition of access and control of fisheries activities in the sub-region. . These include the “Convention on the Determination of the Minimal Conditions for Access and Exploitation of Marine Resources with the Maritime Area under the Jurisdiction of the SRFCs Member States (2012)” which regulates the minimal access conditions for foreign vessels to the marine resources of member states This convention also takes into account the protection of artisanal fisheries, marine safety and the protection of the marine environment, the International Plan of Action of IUU fishing (2001) and the Port State Measure Agreement (2009). The Nouakchott Declarations of 2001 and 2004 on IUU fishing have also show strong political commitments to the international community on efforts by member states to fight IUU fishing and to sustainably preserve fisheries resources in the sub-region. Another measure to enforce the application of MCS has been the convention on “Sub-regional Cooperation in the Exercise of Maritime Hot Pursuit and its Protocol regarding Practical Modalities for the Coordination of Surveillance Activities in the Member States of the SFRC, (1993)”.

The Commission is funded through national budgetary contributions of member states together with grants and technical assistance from international agencies and various partners which include the World Bank (WB), the Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Regional Partnership for

the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine Zones of West Africa (PRCM), the MAVA Foundation and the European Union (EU).

The **Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)** was established in 1962 and adopted by FAO under Article VI (2) of its constitution. Its aim is to promote sustainable utilisation of the living marine resources in the Eastern Central Atlantic by proper management and development of the fisheries and fishing operations. The priority objectives of the Committee are to: a) review state of resources, promote, encourage and coordinate research on living marine resources; b) collect and exchange data, disseminate knowledge and analysis of statistics on biological, environmental and socio-economic data; c) establish a scientific basis for regulatory measures; d) provide advice on monitoring, control and surveillance; e) promote links with international and regional fisheries organisations and f) encourage and recommend a coordinated training in priority areas. Members include most countries whose territories border the Eastern Atlantic Ocean that extends from northern Morocco to the mouth of the Congo River. It includes all seven member states of the CCLME project. There are also a large number of associated members of the organisation including the EU who carry out research or have fisheries interests in the region. A Fisheries Scientific Sub-Committee provides advice on regional fishery management issues and measures.

CECAF is a consultative body that meets every two years and has no regulatory powers and recommendations are not binding on committee members. At a recent session of CECAF in 2016, proposals were made to transform the Committee into a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation. The Committee works closely with other Regional Fisheries Organisations (RFOs) in West Africa.

Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO) is an intergovernmental organisation of 22 countries stretching from Morocco in North West Africa to Namibia in South West Africa and includes all of the seven countries of the CCLME region, Cabo Verde, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Morocco, Mauritania and The Gambia. The Regional Convention of Atlatco “Regional Convention on Fisheries Cooperation among African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean” was adopted in Dakar in 1991 and the protocol relating to the institutional framework was agreed in Conakry, in 1999. The main objective of Atlatco is to provide effective and active cooperation between African States for conservation and sustainable development of fisheries in the region. The Conference encourages: a) cooperation in the management and development of fisheries; b) coordination and harmonisation of efforts and capacities to maintain, operate, develop and commercialise fisheries resources and c) to strengthen technical and professional training in the maritime sector, develop fisheries research and marine science, promote trade and development of fishery products and implement laws regulating responsible fishing.

The organisation has a Bureau which is the coordinating and monitoring body and an Executive Secretary who carries out all administrative, organisational and coordinating tasks assigned by the Bureau and Conference of Ministers. Atlatco has a number of international and regional partners which include FAO, the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), UNEP, the EU and has agreements with various other organisations e.g. The Joint Fisheries Committee of the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and the Long Distance Regional Advisory Council for Fisheries (LDRAC) on combatting IUU fishing and with INFOPECHE on marketing information and cooperation on fishery products in Africa. The Atlatco Conference of Ministers meet every 2 years and its headquarters is based in Rabat, Morocco.

The Abidjan Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region covers a large marine area extending from Mauritania to South Africa which has a coastline of just over 14,000 km.

The Convention’s mission is to “Protect, Conserve and Develop the Abidjan Convention Area and its Resources for the Benefit and Well-being of its People” and provides an overarching legal framework for all marine-related programmes in West, Central and Southern Africa. Under its articles, the Convention lists the sources of pollution that require control as: ships, dumping, land-based activities, exploration and exploitation of the seabed, and

atmospheric pollution. It also identifies environmental management issues from which cooperative efforts are meadows, wetlands, barriers and lagoons. These highly productive and diverse ecosystems support fisheries, coastal tourism, industries, minerals such as limestone and sand, busy ports and oil extraction. However, the region's rapid modernization has led to the unsustainable use of natural resources and to extensive pollution with result that critical habitats are disappearing.

Acknowledging the uniqueness of the coastal and marine environment of the region, as well as its economic and technical limitations decades ago, the participating countries recognized the need for a regional approach to meet transboundary marine environmental challenges. In 1976, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recommended the development of an Action Plan to link assessment of the quality of the marine environment and the causes of its deterioration with activities for the management and development of the marine and coastal environment of West, Central and, later, Southern Africa. The Plan was adopted by 11 countries at a conference in Abidjan, March 1981 and came into force on 5 August 1984. Adoption of the West and Central African regional legal agreements was facilitated by numerous technical surveys, studies and reviews prepared by UNEP with cooperation of the United Nations Organization; the United Nations Industrial Development Organization; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission; the World Health Organization; the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization; and other organizations. Although implementing the Abidjan Convention and getting countries to ratify the agreements was slow at the beginning, the Convention has recently been revitalized, gaining an increasing number of ratified countries, greater payments to its Trust Fund, holding regular meetings and implementing a number of planned activities. Revitalization has led to a number of recent developments including a) Adoption of a Regional Contingency Plans and other Means of Preventing and Combatting Pollution Incidents (2011); b) Additional Protocol to the Abidjan Convention Concerning Cooperation in the Protection and Development of Marine and Coastal Environment from Land-based Sources and Activities in the Western, Central and Southern African Region (the LSBA Protocol - 2012); c) The *Ad Hoc* Committee on Science and Technology (created 2014) and d) Regional Coordination Centre for Marine Pollution Emergency of the Abidjan Convention.

Seventeen countries are party to the Convention including six from the CCLME region i.e. Cabo Verde, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal and The Gambia

In terms of ongoing co-financing programmes/projects addressing some of the identified SAP priorities, one of the most relevant is the **EAF-Nansen Programme** (US\$43,725,700). The new phase of the EAF-Nansen Programme started in June 2017 and is expected to continue until 2021. The programme has a global scope with the CCLME as one of the focus regions. The Programme also have a history of partnerships with amongst others Regional Fisheries Bodies as well as LME Commissions and projects around Africa

While the Programme still aims to assist developing countries, in particular in Africa, to implement the ecosystem approach to fisheries, objectives have been expanded to also assist countries preparing to better face the threats posed by climate change, pollution and other drivers. The long term objective of the Programme is that "Sustainable Fisheries improve food and nutrition security for people in partner countries". In this respect the programme will work towards three Outcomes that are mutually reinforcing, addressing the three pillars of the programme (Science, management and capacity development):

- Outcome 1: Fishery research institutions provide relevant and timely advice for management
- Outcome 2: Fisheries management institutions manage fisheries according to the EAF principles, and
- Outcome 3: Fishery research and management institutions have appropriate human and organizational capacity to manage fisheries sustainably.

FAO has overall responsibility for the implementation of the EAF-Nansen Programme in close collaboration with with the Institute of Marine Research (IMR) of Bergen, Norway which is responsible for the operation of the R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen and for providing scientific services to the Programme.

The institutional arrangements include Regional Steering Committees and annual Forum that meets to report on progress, dissemination of experiences, identification of best practices and hold discussions on strategies. Donor project funding is provided by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).

The World Bank is actively supporting sustainable fisheries management in the CCLME region through the **West African Regional Fisheries Programme (WARFP)**. It works with SFRC in implementing the programme which includes a number of CCLME countries i.e. Cabo Verde, Senegal, Guinea, Mauritania and recently the Gambia. The long-term objectives are to put in place a robust and sustainable fisheries management system and to rebuild marine resources to reduce poverty and increase food security in these countries. The first phase of WARFP was largely focused on strengthening the capacity of the countries for good governance and sustainable management of targetted fisheries, reducing illegal fishing and increasing local added value of fish products. The various projects components of the programme have initiated broad government reforms, leading to the enactment of legal and regulatory frameworks that support national policy visions such as the registration of fishing vessels and the evaluation of fisheries resources. This first phase of WARFP has also strengthened surveillance capability to reduce IUU fishing including the establishment of a fisheries monitoring centre equipped with vessel monitoring systems, increased number of coordinated patrols at sea as well as the introduction of “community led fisheries management systems” on a pilot basis. WARFP has also supported the establishment of a regional fisheries information system and a sub-regional registry for fishing vessels that will facilitate information sharing and promote transparency in the fisheries sector and management of fishing vessels. During the period 2010-2016, funding from the World Bank to support WARFP amounted to US\$18.40 million for good governance, US\$17.70 million to tackle IUU fishing and US\$11.60 million for fisheries resources and local economies. Both Cabo Verde and Senegal benefiting significantly from participating in the West African Regional Fisheries Programme.

A second phase of WARFP is currently being planned together with SFRC and other partners and is expected to be implemented later in 2017. This new programme will focus on intensifying government reforms and will address specific fisheries, implementing regulatory framework to bolster compliance and empowering more pilot projects for community-led fisheries management regimes. The World Bank has recently approved loans of US\$22 million to Mauritania and Guinea as part of WARFP to strengthen the governance of fisheries, combat IUU fishing and increase the contributions of fisheries resources to local economies.

The **Regional Partnership for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Zones of West Africa (PRCM)** includes six of the CCLME countries (Cabo Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania) and Sierra Leone and supports common actions by its members to have a coordinated approach to conservation of the marine and coastal environment and the sustainable management of its resources. Its functions and current strategy (2012-2017) are primarily aimed at developing capacity and skills of its stakeholders, carrying out policy advice through network of parliamentarians, promoting joint action and strengthen partnerships between institutions and harmonising marine conservation policies. The organisations work focuses on effective, sustainable and equitable management of all critical habitats and endangered species with a view to preserving the biological and cultural diversity of the West African coastal and marine zone. The key objectives are to put in place an operational MPA network, develop and implement conservation plans for endangered species, create marine and coastal biodiversity networks and develop and implement conservations for critical habitats. PRCM has invested a significant amount of resources to build capacity of local institutions and individuals to understand the nature of the problems affecting local ecosystems, to undertake data collection and monitoring and to contribute to the formation of policy solutions as well as implement local projects solutions. During the first phase of the CCLME project, PRCM provided US\$7 million in co-financing via the Mava Foundation toward delivering key outputs including the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and the implementation of mangrove and coastal fisheries pilot projects. PRCM was originally established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN),

the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the Banc d'Arguin International Foundation (FIBA), Wetlands International and later included the SRFC as a key regional partner. Today, it represents a coalition of nearly 50 partner institutions whose aim is to protect the coastal zone in West Africa. The largest donors to the organisation are the MAVA Foundation and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Dakar. Following a decade of capacity development and structuring of organisations, PRCM has evolved from a regional programme into a platform of partnership and is now a key actor in the management of the coastal zone in West Africa.

The work of this project will make a major contribution to achieving the objectives of the SAP and key activities will help kick-start the CCLME SAP implementation process including putting in place mechanisms for coordinated planning, financing and management (including M&E) as well as the development of a communication strategy and tools to support the sharing of information and lessons learned.

The World Bank WACA Programme

The West Africa Coastal Areas Management Programme (WACA) was created in response to the challenges in coastal zone management expressed by West African governments and has mobilised technical assistance and finance in support of existing coastal management initiatives in the region and to help countries integrate infrastructure and natural resources management in order to enhance their resilience in the face of climate change and coastal erosion and flooding in particular. Technical assistance is provided by WACA to determine the factors that threaten people, ecosystems, and economic assets along the coast and offers finance for identifying multi-sector solutions involving land management and spatial planning, infrastructure, natural habitat management and pollution management. The programme provides funding in a number of targeted areas including:- science and modelling, analysis of economics, risks, stakeholders and communication; preparation of multi-sectoral investment plans; social and community development; ecosystem services evaluation and remote sensing. Investment finance through the WACA Resilience project (WACA ResIP) aims to improve management of shared natural and man-made risks including climate change affecting targeted communities and areas on the West African coast. It serves as a regional integration initiative providing finance to countries and regional organisations to address urgent climate related coastal zone management issues and share best practices and lessons learned. Six countries (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Togo) are already engaged through country consultations and preparatory studies with other West African countries expected to follow at a later date.

The WACA programme includes the preparation of a High-Level Platform to help countries and projects to source investments and mobilise the necessary financing needs. This High-Level Platform includes an operational team of technical staff that work with regional organisations, and facilitate provision of technical assistance to countries. This team aims to ensure technical quality, monitoring and evaluation, consistency in approach, knowledge exchange and national project implementation. WACA collaborates with a wide range of other regional organisations and projects which provided an integrated approach to implement the action required to manage erosion and flooding in priority hotspots. These include amongst others, the West Africa Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), the Abidjan Convention of UN Environment, the Centre for Ecological Monitoring, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Nordic Development Fund, the French Ministry of Environment, Energy and Seas, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

Birdlife International is a large nature conservation organisation with over 120 partners globally and widely recognised as a leader in bird conservation. Its aims are to conserve birds, their habitats and global diversity working with people towards sustainability in the use of natural resources. Its strategy focuses on saving species, conserving sites and habitats and promoting ecological sustainability through local conservation actions.

In West Africa, Birdlife International has been active through the Alcyon project in protecting seabirds, identifying important bird areas (IBAs), and addressing threats to these sites. They also support the integration of marine IBAs into natural and regional management (e.g. Abidjan Convention) and spatial planning frameworks, strengthen local

capacity and mobilise resources to sustain conservation actions. Partner countries of the CCLME project strongly support the conservation work on marine birds by Birdlife International and its contributions to marine conservation and the protection biodiversity in the region.

The GEF alternative

A basic strategy proposed in this MSP is to put in place “building blocks” for SAP implementation. Financial investment from GEF is sought to establish mechanisms for cooperation, partnerships and financing for full scale SAP implementation. Cross-sectoral involvement is included under Component 1 which is the core component of the MSP. All partners involved in the first phase as well as additional partners, as required, will be involved to discuss all aspects of the implementation of the SAP across all thematic areas.

Component 1: Strengthening partnerships and fostering investment for CCLME SAP implementation. Agreements between countries and cooperation in relation to cross-border marine issues including transboundary fisheries resource management are often complex and require a coordinated and long-term process of dialogue which in many cases includes getting all the parties around the table. This involves supporting the foundational processes and continued dialogue to formalize agreements on institutional matters as well as financial and investment partnerships in support of cooperative governance mechanisms to successfully implement a sustainable multi-country strategic plan involving transboundary fisheries stocks as well as environmental and habitat issues as outlined in the agreed CCLME SAP. .

The signed CCLME SAP includes an initial proposal for a cooperative consultative mechanism to monitor the implementation of the SAP which places the CCLME countries at the centre of the project’s management. The project will use this as the starting point for the dialogue on how to operationalize the implementation of the SAP across its different thematic themes which is mutually beneficial to the different partners involved. The mechanism takes into account the mandate of existing organizations, as well as the coordination achieved within the framework of the first phase project. As described in Appendix 7 of the SAP, at the regional level, the proposed structure for the Canary Current Consortium would consist of three bodies or entities:

- The Canary Current Conference or CCC: an orientation and consultative body that meets every five years, with a revision meeting at mid-term (i.e. a meeting every two or three years);
- The Regional Steering Committee or RSC, which would meet at least once a year and is responsible for the management of SAP implementation;
- The Regional Coordination Unit (RCU), a permanent body responsible for administration and monitoring the implementation of the SAP.

Each country has a national interministerial committee (NIC) responsible for the implementation of the SAP at the national level. The NIC would meet approximately once a year, six months prior to the RSC meeting. A National Coordination Unit (NCU) would provide logistic support for meetings and follow up the implementation of the SAP in each country. The CCC would be the main advisory and consultative body of the Consortium, or the assembly of members. The institutions involved would meet within a consultative framework to ensure commitment from all stakeholders to the implementation of the SAP. The CCC would also aim to attract the interest of donors or other partners to invest in the implementation of the SAP, thoroughly communicating and presenting results and identifying opportunities for engagement. All institutions active in the fields of fisheries, environment and water quality in the CCLME region would participate in the CCC, including national government institutions; intergovernmental organizations and other technical and financial partners; civil society; professional organizations; and academic bodies).

Under Component 1, the project will provide technical support to work out the details of how the collaborative mechanism will function and facilitate consultations towards operationalizing it. The project will also support multi-sectoral discussions between the countries, other partners and donors where stakeholders will be engaged to explore supporting the development of an agreed investment and financing mechanism for full SAP implementation across all SAP priorities. These consultations are expected to lead to strong buy-in from national public and private agencies as well as bilateral and multilateral donors. A key activity in this regard will be the organization of a pledging

conference to raise financial support for the implementation of the various SAP components. This Component will also develop an agreed operational plan for full SAP implementation and revisit the proposed governance framework and mechanisms to further develop the partnership through identifying consortium members and clarifying responsibilities, including that of the project RCU. Related terms of references will be developed. At the regional level, the project will engage with the partners that were involved in Phase 1 implementation, such as the Abidjan convention for issues in relation to pollution and water quality as well as the PRCM for stakeholder consultations, as examples to ensure that all the components of the SAP are adequately addressed.

Expected outcome and outputs:

Outcome 1.1 Management of the CCLME strengthened by having in place mechanisms for cooperation, partnerships and financing of the SAP.

1.1.1. Recommendations on consortium and partnership agreement to support SAP implementation, clarifying responsibilities of partners and agreements related terms of references

1.1.2 A multi-sectoral financing mechanism involving national, public and private partnerships, bilateral and multilateral donors pledging financial support for full SAP implementation established.

1.1.3 An agreed operational plan to implement the CCLME SAP and to strengthen the capacities and investments by the countries to address priorities linked to the development of National Action Plans (NAPs).

1.1.4 Regional dialogue for cooperation in cross-sectoral marine related issues building on the existing achievements of the CCLME first phase project.

Component 2: Strengthening knowledge, management and capacity of fisheries institutions and communities for the sustainable use of transboundary fisheries resources and associated ecosystems.

Component 2 comprises of two outcomes. The first concerns the strengthening of scientific knowledge and monitoring of fish, fisheries and key ecosystem components and characteristics, including habitats and vulnerable species. The second relates to strengthening capacities to enable the implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAF) in the context of broader multisectoral ecosystem management goals. Capacity development is an integral part of the two outcomes.

One of the key requirements in establishing effective ecosystem-based management of transboundary marine resources in the CCLME is to address considerable information and knowledge gaps that exist in scientific understanding on the ecology and interactions of species within the ecosystem, its characterisation as well as on the status of oceanography and environmental variability in the region. Little is also known on the impacts of climate change on fish stock biomass, spawning and recruitment or its impacts on the socio-economics of fishing communities. Data collection requires standardisation between countries so that information on living marine resources, the environment and socio-economics can be shared, analysed and compared using similar methodologies. At the same time it is essential to improve communication and awareness-raising on the issues of management of shared stocks, the protection of vulnerable species and the benefits offered by the goods and services of a coordinated and sustainably managed CCLME with stakeholders including the fishing private sector and coastal communities.

During Phase 1 of the CCLME project, some preliminary work was undertaken on the preparation of studies on fish of common interest between countries through demonstration and co-management projects. These initiatives provide a valuable baseline and useful lessons on which to build future work and are directly relevant to Outputs 2.2.1 and Outputs 2.2.2. For example Demonstratoin Project 1 looked at the development of a framework for the management of the small pelagic fisheries following the steps embedded in EAF and prepared an overview of the underlying scientific knowledge. At the same time valuable experience was gained from the setting of specific working groups to address the different transboundary problems, including habitat and biodiversity issues, or to support working groups that were already operational under other institutions such as the assessment working groups of CECAF. The partnership between the CCLME project and FAO EAF-Nansen Programme to date has already greatly contributed to regional cooperation through planning and conducting fisheries, ecosystem and specialised surveys (e.g. on fish stock biomass and recruitment) leading to enhanced knowledge on resources and ecosystems as well as the application of EAF for the development of fisheries management plans, in . The cruises of the R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen

serve as a valuable platform for scientists and technicians from the CCLME countries to strengthen institutional scientific capacity in transboundary fish stock assessment and monitoring as well as providing hands-on training of scientists at sea. The continued collaboration with the EAF-Nansen Programme along with the new recently launched “state of the art” R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen and the application of its well tested EAF training tools will significantly strengthen capacity in regional fisheries management in the CCLME region and will be essential in delivering the key outcome of component 2 of this proposed MSP.

In order to improve the sharing and compatibility of data and information between countries and to gain a better understanding of issues concerning transboundary fisheries resources, ecosystem functioning and vulnerable species and habitats, the MSP will build on experience with the use of working groups and continue work to strengthen these and build links between institutions to exchange information and coordinate scientific findings resulting from the monitoring and assessment studies undertaken during the project. An annual report-back and discussion forum for stakeholders will be required to ensure continued participatory engagement, the exchange of ideas and for the sharing of information. This would involve representatives of fisheries institutions, scientific research community, the private sector, and civil society. It would also serve as a valuable platform to conduct awareness-raising and information dissemination activities on the state of the resources, ecosystem health and impacts of human activities on the marine environment of the CCLME.

The following the outputs under the first expected outcome:

Outcome 2.1 Improved knowledge and understanding of the state of the CCLME including fish stocks, vulnerable species and habitats and ecosystem functioning, climate change impacts on the resources and fishing communities.

2.1.1 Regional CCLME ecosystem working group for data analysis and prioritization of future scientific activities in support of fisheries management, ecosystem functioning and characterization strengthened (including habitats).

2.1.2 Information and knowledge gaps reduced through:

- o Monitoring and assessment of transboundary fisheries, ecosystems, vulnerable species and impacts;
- o Ecosystem characterization and monitoring and assessment of climate change impacts.

2.1.3 Awareness-raising and information sharing between the scientific community and stakeholders in the region through existing and new platforms.

The second outcome will support existing regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) and countries with the development and implementation of transboundary pelagic and coastal fisheries management frameworks and associated national fisheries management plans. These RFBs include the Fisheries Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO), the Management and Cooperation Agency between Senegal and Guinea-Bissau (AGC) and initiatives such as the EAF-Nansen programme and West African Regional Fisheries programme (WARFP). At the same time the TDA and SAP emphasized the need to take action in relation to certain species and habitats to reduce potential impacts from different sectors, including fisheries as well as climate change. Hence recommendations for how this work can be further strengthened through the development of national and regional action plans will be developed in collaboration with the competent regional and national authorities. This would include at the regional level, in addition to the RFBs mentioned, the Abidjan convention. Broader stakeholder engagement on these issues will be achieved through the partnership with the PRCM. Coordination and collaboration with these and other bodies will ensure updated and harmonised management measures for transboundary fisheries and vulnerable species. Focus will also be on strengthening the capacity of local communities to apply EAF based on regional fisheries demonstration projects. As in the case of subcomponent 2.1. demonstration projects carried out during the earlier phase of the CCLME project provide valuable information and lessons learned in relation to sustainable management of shared stocks and fishing practices. For example Demonstration Project No:1 prepared a strategy to promote sustainable use and integrated management of small pelagic fish in Northwest Africa and drafted a regional framework for the management of shared pelagic stocks using an EAF. Demonstration Project No:2 contributed to the improved knowledge on bycatch and discards from shrimp fisheries in the CCLME region and initiated a common standard methodology for data collection and improved collaboration with vessel owners on use

of demersal fishing gear. Demonstration Project No: 4 focused on the use of MPAs as a tool to improve fisheries management and in monitoring and evaluating demersal species. These earlier demonstration projects provide useful background information and data that the MSP will benefit from and use to support amongst others for capacity development in EAF in the region

The expected outputs under the second outcome include:

Output 2.2.1: Support to Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) and countries to develop regional management frameworks and national management plans for transboundary pelagic and coastal fisheries.

Output 2.2.2: Recommendations for national and regional action plans for vulnerable species and habitats developed.

Output 2.2.3: Capacity development designed for fishing communities to apply EAF, and build on demonstration projects implemented during SAP development in relation to EAF, co-managemenet and MPA monitoring.

Capacity development of staff of fisheries reseach and management institutions, fisheries institutions and fishing communities to develop and implement management plans incorporating EAF while paying particular attention to the promotion of gender equality with more equitable representation within organisational and management structures will be embedded throughout.

Component 3: Communication, monitoring and evaluation

This is a cross-cutting component to ensure effective communication, monitoring and management of both SAP implementation and this project. It will also lay the foundations to facilitate the taking into account and the adoption of a more balanced gender representation in institutional and orgnisational structures in the future SAP implementation through the development of a gender strategy. Actions will include the design of an M&E system for SAP implementation and the development of a communication strategy and tools for knowledge management and the dissemination of information and lessons learned. An interactive CCLME website (www.canarycurrent.org) was established during the TDA/SAP development phase. The website serves as an important means of sharing information, workshop reports, newsletters and relevant scientific findings and will be made available to stakeholders, experts and the public at large including the Global LME Community of Practice.

Expected outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 3.1 Effective and efficient results-based management of the project and of SAP implementation.

3.1.1 A communication strategy and tools for knowledge management updated and implemented.

3.1.2 A gender strategy developed

3.1.3 Monitoring and evaluation system for SAP implementation proposed.

3.1.4 Project monitoring system in operation and providing routine information on progress in meeting output and outcome targets.

3.1.5 An independent final evaluation conducted.

Incremental cost reasoning

As described in the baseline description above, there are a number of programmes and activities at national and regional level, which are already contributing to the implementation of the CCLME SAP priorities - for instance, the work on governance being done by the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SFRC) and the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF) and capacity development activities under the EAF-Nansen Programme. What is needed are mechanisms to bring these institutions and partners together to ensure that the SAP is implemented in a coordinated and coherent way in order to achieve agreed common objectives. This and the additional capacity development activities will be the main added value of GEF financing being requested under the MSP. The funding will go towards technical assistance to deliver results described in the previous in the previous section above.

The GEF-funded TDA/SAP development project that has just ended helped catalyze partnerships and a lot of commitment from the CCLME countries. Without the follow-up MSP proposed, the momentum would be lost and

the commitment weakened, slowing down progress towards the achievement of the ambitious SAP goal “A healthy ecosystem, sustainably managed, providing services and equitable benefits for human well-being by 2030”.

As mentioned, the main outcome expected from this project is to have in place agreed mechanisms for partnership, collaboration and financing to support implementation of the SAP – an essential bridge to full-scale SAP implementation. This directly contributes to the achievement of IW Program 1 in the CCLME region.

Global Environmental Benefits

Consistent with indicators defined in the IW tracking tool, in summary the project will deliver the following GEBs:

- Multi-sectoral consortium, partnership and financing mechanisms for CCLME SAP implementation in place;
- Supporting mechanism for collaboration between Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) in policy development and a consultative framework of transboundary pelagic fisheries.

Innovation, sustainability, and potential for scaling up

The key innovative aspect in the MSP is the flexible mechanism for cooperative governance being proposed. The mechanism takes into account the mandate and expertise of existing intergovernmental organizations in the region, linking these with national interministerial committees (NICs) which were established during the TDA/SAP development phase.

The main elements of the project i.e. strengthening the capacity of institutions and communities and establishing partnership and sustainable financing mechanisms, will contribute towards sustainability.

In terms of potential for scaling-up, the proposed project is intended to strengthen or solidify the foundation for subsequent Strategic Action Programme implementation - scale-up.

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

During the CCLME SAP formulation, a participatory approach to stakeholder involvement was adopted from the start when a comprehensive stakeholder analysis was undertaken as part of the consultative process. The main threats and priority actions were identified and discussed with all relevant stakeholders at local level through the National Inter-Ministerial Committees (NICs) and at regional meetings e.g. PRCM Forum during the preparation of the TDA and the formulation of the SAP. At country level, the challenge will be to integrate the priorities identified in the SAP into national policies, legal frameworks, development plans and budgets. Implementation of the project at national level will also require the development of financial plans to fund priority actions.

Stakeholder representatives were from civil society organisations, governments and the private sector including fisher’s associations and coastal community representatives. At national level, key stakeholders involvement included:-

- Participating countries of the CCLME through the national, provincial and local government fisheries and environmental agencies and coastal communities as well as those involved in demonstration projects at pilot sites
- National and regional fisheries research institutions and universities
- Organisations representing industrial fisheries groups, fishers and coastal communities
- Representatives of the post-harvesting sector including the fish processing and distribution value chains
- Non-government organisations(NGOs) working on fisheries, conservation and environmental issues

At regional and international level, there has already been considerable engagement, exchange of information and the development of links with a number of regional bodies, NGOs and institutions as well as other African GEF funded LME projects, regional fisheries and environmental programmes already operating within the CCLME area. These are summarized as follows:-

- Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) such as CECAF, SRFC and ATLAFCO
- The Abidjan Convention
- National and regional fisheries projects and programmes covering the CCLME area including the FAO EAF- Nansen Programme and associated work by the R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen, the West African Regional Fisheries Programme (funded by the World Bank) and the GOWAMER project supported by the EU and UNDP
- Non governmental organisations, research institutions and international development agencies such as the Mava Foundation for Nature, PRCM, the Agence Francaise de Developpment (AFD) and Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO)
- African Large Marine Ecosystem projects (LMEs) e.g. Guinea Current, Benguela Current and Agulhas Somali Current through information sharing, exchange of newsletters and lessons learned including participation in the annual Pan African LME Caucus Group meetings
- Other GEF funded International Waters (IW) projects i.e. IW:LEARN, support of small island states (SIDS) projects involving Cabo Verde; the Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) involving Senegal and Cabo Verde- support for West Africa (FAO implementing agency); the IW: LME LEARN project “strengthening governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and their Coasts through enhanced sharing and application of LME/ICM/MPA knowledge and information tools as well as twinning initiatives between global eastern boundary upwelling systems e.g. Humboldt Current, Benguela Current and Canary Current LME projects
- GEF project “Strengthening Trans-boundary Cooperation for Improved Ecosystem Management and Restoration in the Senegal delta (Mauritania and Senegal)

In addition to directly engaging and sharing information with various regional bodies and international agencies, the MSP project will dedicate at least 1% of its operational budget to participating in GEF IW: LEARN and IW:LME activities.

Table 1: Key regional and international stakeholders

Stakeholder	Mandate	Expected involvement in project component(s)
National Fisheries State Agencies, Institutions and Authorities	These government agencies have primary responsibility to conserve, manage and protect fisheries resources with the marine areas of national jurisdiction. Mandates include development of policy and legal support for programmes and undertaking research, advisory and logistical services including monitoring, control and surveillance. Some less developed countries may experience constraints in carrying out their tasks due to lack of infrastructure and capacity	Key beneficiaries of the project and will assist with the overall project design and implementation of activities at the national level. They will participate in the project with other countries of the CCLME region and engage in monitoring and evaluation through national inter-sectoral consultative mechanisms. This group will be involved in all components.

Stakeholder	Mandate	Expected involvement in project component(s)
National commercial and artisanal fisheries sector including fishers, producer organisations	Most of the participating countries have national fisher organisations or umbrella bodies that represent artisanal fishing and coastal community groups. These organisations range from informal associations governed by a simple constitution to cooperatives governed by legislation. The commercial and offshore fishing sector also have representation in organized bodies and associations.	Organisations representing the fishing sector will be direct beneficiaries from the outcomes of the project. There is a general need to strengthen and develop the capacities of these organisations to become effective partners in governance. This group will be closely involved and benefit from some of the project activities especially those of component 3.
Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)	The mandate of the SRFC is to enforce the mechanisms of sustainable governance of fisheries resources and strengthen regional cooperation and coordinate policies in terms of conservation and exploitation of fisheries resources in the region. Membership includes six of the CCLME countries. The SRFC also seeks to promote the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the use of shared tools, support for local, regional and international partners, awareness-raising in relation to laws and regulations as well as the dissemination of information. It also plays a role in combatting IUU fishing and in Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS).	The SRFC will work in close cooperation with the project in promoting and supporting sustainable transboundary fisheries management and dialogue with stakeholders in CCLME countries. It will be a key partner in establishing a collaborative mechanism for governance of fisheries in the region and assist in enacting policy changes to support the implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.
Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)	CECAF aims to promote sustainable utilization of the living marine resources in the Eastern Central Atlantic by proper management and development of fisheries and fishing operations. The Committee reviews the status of resources, collects and exchanges data and statistics and disseminates biological, environmental and socio-economic information. The Fishery Committee also provides advice on MCS and promotes links with international and regional fisheries organisations. CECAF includes all members countries of the CCLME project.	CECAF will cooperate closely as a regional partner in the project and will make available its expertise in international fisheries management, data collection, fisheries statistics, assessments of status of stocks and fisheries, other analyses and information sharing. It will assist with strengthening capacity and foster partnerships in transboundary fisheries management and the implementation of the ecosystem approach.
Ministerial Conference of Fisheries Cooperation among African States bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO)	This intergovernmental regional body comprises 22 countries stretching from North West to South West Africa. It's main objective is to provide effective and active cooperation between African States for conservation and sustainable development of fisheries in the region. It also aims to strengthen technical and professional training in the maritime sector, develop fisheries and marine scientific research, promote trade and development of fishery products and implement laws for responsible fishing. Atlafco has a number of regional and international partners including	ATLAFCO will work closely with the project and other RFBs to support development of a regional policy and consultative framework for management of transboundary pelagic fisheries in the CCLME. It will also assist with the strengthening of regional capacity and in fostering exchange and high level policy dialogue that can facilitate processes for the implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. ATLAFCO will benefit from linkages to activities of the project that deal with

Stakeholder	Mandate	Expected involvement in project component(s)
	FAO and the SFRC	sustainable fisheries management and fostering partnership and cooperation within the CCLME region.
Management and Cooperation Agency between Senegal and Guinea-Bissau (AGC)	The AGC is a joint committee established by Senegal and Guinea-Bissau to manage the maritime zone between the two countries. The international agency covers fisheries resources, oil and minerals exploration and the development of private partnerships. The purpose of the agreement is to share the exploitation of fisheries resources in the common zone and promote institutional and economic integration.	Both Senegal and Guinea-Bissau are participating countries in the CCLME project. The AGC will benefit from activities that aim to strengthen the management of transboundary fisheries and develop multi-sectoral investment partnerships.
Abidjan Convention	The mandate of the Abidjan Convention is to protect, conserve and develop the Abidjan Convention area and its resources for the benefit and well-being of its people. It provides an overarching legal framework for all marine related programmes in West, Central and Southern Africa. The Convention lists addresses sources of pollution that require control such as ships, dumping, land-based activities, exploration and exploitation of the seabed and atmospheric pollution. It also identifies environmental management issues that require cooperative effort and regulation i.e. wetlands, barriers, lagoons and coastal erosion including marine climate change issues. The Abidjan Convention has recently been revitalized leading to new developments that address regional oil spill contingency planning and prevention and the protection and development of the marine and coastal environment.	The Abidjan Convention is a key partner to the CCLME project for the execution of activities in relation to pollution, water quality and habitat and biodiversity issues in relation to their mandate. It is expected that the Abidjan convention will continue to play this role in the current MSP project and in the future. In particular they will have a key role for the discussions under Component 1, but also for some of the outputs under component 2.
EAF-Nansen Programme	The long-term objective of the EAF Nansen Programme is to strengthen regional and country efforts to reduce poverty and to create conditions to assist in achievement of food security through the development of sustainable fisheries management regimes and especially through the application of an ecosystem approach to Fisheries (EAF) in a number of developing countries mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa. The project is funded by NORAD and implemented by FAO with various partners including government institutions, the GEF and the African LME projects. The R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen is operated by IMR-Norway who also provide scientific and technical inputs into the project	The EAF-Nansen Programme will assist the project to meet its objectives especially in developing knowledge and institutional capacity in the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management in the CCLME regions. The EAF-Nansen Programme will be a major partner in the project providing technical and scientific advice as well as undertaking assessments and monitoring of transboundary fish stocks, developing a methodology for ecosystem characterization, developing institutional capacity in EAF and strengthening sustainable fisheries management in the region. It will play an important role in many aspects of the project especially Component 2 .

Stakeholder	Mandate	Expected involvement in project component(s)
World Bank- West African Regional Fisheries Programme (WARFP)	<p>The World Bank is actively supporting sustainable fisheries management in the CCLME region through the West African Regional Fisheries Programme (WARFP). It works closely with SRFC and some of the CCLME countries i.e. Cabo Verde, Senegal, Guinea and Mauritania. WARFP focuses on rebuilding a robust and sustainable fisheries management system in the region especially on strengthening good governance. A new phase of the programme currently being developed will address policy and regulatory reform, combatting IUU fishing and empowering community-led fisheries management regimes.</p>	<p>WARFP will be linked to the project mainly through its close involvement with the SFRC who play a major role in the implementation of the programme. It also shares in the objectives of RFBs in strengthening sustainable fisheries governance and regional cooperation between countries of the West African region. Cooperation on sustainable fisheries management and cross-sectoral dialogue between WARFP and this project will be enhanced through activities and outputs linked to Components 1 and 2</p>
World Bank WACA Programme	<p>The West African Coastal Area Management Programme (WACA) addresses the challenges of coastal zone management expressed by West African governments and provides technical assistance and financial support to existing management initiatives in the region. WACA helps countries integrate infrastructure and natural resource management in order to enhance resilience in the face of climate change and coastal flooding in particular. It covers science and modelling, economic and risk analysis, stakeholder consultation and communication, preparation of multi-sectoral investment plans and ecosystem services evaluations. Participants include Mauritania and Senegal from the CCLME countries. WACA cooperated with a wide range of other regional organisations and projects including the Abidjan Convention, ECOWAS, IUCN, the GEF, and the SRFC.</p>	<p>WACA will work closely with relevant CCLME countries in identifying multi-sectoral solutions involving coastal management, marine spatial planning, natural habitat and pollution management. The programme will also collaborate with the CCLME project and SAP implementation in priority areas where integrated action is required for coastal erosion and flooding. The WACA programme can also be an important collaborator and source of co-finance investment for SAP implementation and is especially relevant in the context of Component 1 and Component 2 which address outcomes and outputs relating to critical habitats, monitoring and assessment of ecosystems and vulnerable species as well as climate change impacts and mitigation.</p>
Regional Partnership for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Zones of West Africa (PRCM)	<p>PRCM supports common actions by its members to have a coordinated approach to conservation of the marine and coastal environment and sustainable management of its resources. It includes six of the CCLME countries in its membership. The conservation aims of PRCM focus on effective, sustainable and equitable management of all critical habitats and endangered species and to put in place and operationalize MPA networks. Considerable resources are invested in addressing knowledge gaps, developing institutional capacity and implementing pilot projects.</p>	<p>PRCM can assist the project through strengthening partnerships between institutions and harmonizing marine conservation policies. It can also mobilise resources and capitalize on research outcomes, as well as share experiences in establishing and operating networks of MPAs that can be used to protect endangered species and enhance sustainable fisheries management. PRCM partnership could link to a number of outputs particularly those under Components 1 and 2.</p>

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Are issues on gender equality and women's empowerment considered? (yes /no).

Women play a key role in coastal community fisheries of many of the CCLME countries especially in post harvest activities and functioning of the small business sector (up to 90% participation). One of the fundamental principles already adopted in the CCLME TDA and SAP development process is the integration of gender equality into planned actions at all levels. In line with this principle, in the implementation of training and capacity development activities, gender representation will form an integral part of the considerations and decision-making process. Tracking the success of progress towards reaching gender equality policy objectives based on specific measures will be included in the monitoring and evaluation system to be developed under component 4.

4 Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design.

Risk	Likelihood	Mitigation Action
Inadequate representation of stakeholders	Low	The project mitigates this risk through involvement and consultations with a broad range of stakeholders and particularly at country level through the National Inter-Ministerial Committees. At a regional level, stakeholder engagement is fostered by networking and collaborative activities through regular planning meetings between partners, sharing information and awareness-raising. Options are available for including new stakeholders in the CCLME process should a future need arises.
Countries priorities change associated with poverty or local conflict which lowers political will thereby diminishing effects of transboundary fisheries management based on EAF	Moderate	The project will assist the participating countries to communicate at local and national level, the important role the CCLME and its goods and services play in poverty reduction and economic growth efforts. The positive contribution of the project, SAP implementation and national action plans (NAPs) towards the countries socio-economic development will also be highlighted. Potential costs and economic losses to the national economy caused by depleted transboundary stocks and degraded ecosystems will be clearly communicated to policy makers. The project will work closely with governments to foster buy-in and commitment from relevant institutions and through identifying national and local champions.
Climate change induced extreme environmental variability, storms, coastal erosion and flooding become priority issues for governments and distract stakeholders from the project	Low	Variability in oceanographic conditions and fluctuations in upwelling intensity can impact the migration and spawning patterns of transboundary pelagic fish stocks. Climate change is unlikely to impact over the 18 month life cycle of this project but needs to be taken into account during the implementation of the SAP and over the longer term

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

The project will be coordinated with various national fisheries institutions and related programmes of the CCLME countries as well as with regional initiatives that are already underway. These include the FAO EAF-Nansen Programme, the Regional Marine and Coastal Conservation Programme (PRCM), and the GEF funded Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) "Support to West Africa" which is coordinated by FAO. The latter project includes two CCLME countries (Senegal and Cabo Verde) among the partners and focuses on the need for strengthening access and user rights, co-management and improved conflict resolution mechanisms for small scale and large scale fisheries as well as better working conditions, product quality and market access along the value chain through traceability and certification. The project will work with various stakeholders within the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem region and will coordinate actions with other regional fisheries projects especially those funded by other international agencies, NGOs and financial institutions such as The World Bank.

At regional level, there are already strong linkages and coordination mechanisms established between fisheries management and the relevant fisheries bodies and programmes such as CECAF, SFRC, WARFP and ATLAFCO. In some cases there is strong synergy between activities of these regional organisations which share common goals of supporting sustainable fisheries management systems, poverty reduction, food security, harmonisation and coordination of fisheries policies and strategies, reform of legal and institutional frameworks, reduction of IUU fishing and the promotion of transparency in the fisheries sector.

In addition to these links, regular communication and information sharing takes place between other African LMEs (Guinea Current LME, Benguela Current LME and Agulhas Somali Current LME) through the annual meetings of the African LMEs Caucus and the global LME Consultative Committee coordinated by IOC/UNESCO. The LME Consultative Committee serve as an annual platform to discuss common issues and shared experiences in relation to GEF funded global LME projects which address sustainable transboundary marine resource management issues using the LME approach to ocean governance. Many CCLME countries also belong to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which was funded in 1975 to promote economic integration across the region. Fisheries are a targeted concern in the ECOWAS establishing treaty and there is a mandated technical committee which is focused specifically on fisheries. At a Pan-African level, the project will be linked to the policy processes of the African Union's Fisheries Reform Strategy e.g. New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) and AU-IBAR and will assist in the strengthening of institutional capacity and compliance with international governance of fisheries, ecosystem health and the marine environment.

6. Consistency with National Priorities. Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes /no).

In signing the SAP, all seven countries have agreed to actions to develop and strengthen at national and regional level:

- policy, regulations and institutional arrangements;
- management measures;
- knowledge, awareness raising and communication;
- capacity development.

In the context of SAP development, all seven countries prioritized national actions to strengthen policy, regulations and institutional arrangements, management measures, knowledge and awareness raising, communication and capacity development. Some of these national priorities identified and listed in Appendix 6 of the SAP and are annexed to this PIF (see Annex 1).

The proposed project components have been designed based on these priority actions identified in the SAP. Consistency with national priorities is also strongly reflected in a number of key national studies, strategic planning

documents, reports and projects which address the issues central to the sustainable development of the fisheries, environmental and coastal zone management, capacity development and socio-economics as well as to the maritime economy as a whole. An outline of these strategic plans, policy documents and projects were presented by countries at a meeting held in Casablanca in March 2016 and are synthesised and summarised below:-

The government of Mauritania has produced a comprehensive national strategy for the responsible management and sustainable development of fisheries and the maritime economy (2015-2019). Key components of its fisheries strategy include regional cooperation in relation to shared stocks, strengthening partnerships with regional bodies and international agencies, promoting transparency in fisheries, improving the knowledge and management of fisheries resources, promotion of aquaculture development and inland fisheries and the development of government structures to coordinate marine affairs. In addition, a number of plans have been prepared to develop and manage specific fisheries i.e. shrimp, octopus and small pelagics and recent legislation has been enacted to implement fishing codes of practice and improve the management of MPAs. Mauritania's Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy and the Ministry of Environment are committed to a number of projects which focus on climate change, fisheries management, a coastal observatory, oceanographic and fisheries research, fishing rights and vessel management and improving the collection of fisheries data for statistical analysis.

Senegal is currently finalising a strategy and policy on fisheries and aquaculture and has enacted a new fishing code compatible with fisheries management measures adopted by the CCLME project. A "Coastal Act" is also being drafted and a "Code for the Environment" is undergoing a review. Policy aspects and management plans have been developed for several fisheries in Senegal including small pelagics, the deep water and coastal shrimp fisheries, the octopus fishery and the mullet fishery. Plans are also being put in place to combat IUU fishing in Senegalese waters. To support the coastal planning process, a National Integrated Coastal Areas Management Plan is being drafted along with guidelines for the management of MPAs and a Charter to create a conservation network of islands.

The Government of Morocco has developed a major Fisheries and Maritime Development Plan – "The Halieutis Strategy" that focuses on sustainability, performance and competitiveness. It addresses sustainable fisheries management, responsible fishing, modernising of fishing efforts, the improvement of fish processing, traceability and security of seafood supply as well as transparency within the sector. The strategy also includes the development of aquaculture and sets ambitious targets for 2020. The Maritime Fisheries Department has developed management plans for small pelagic fish, hake, octopus, shrimp and large crustaceans as part of a strategy to improve the competitiveness of the sector. Legislation has been introduced in relation to establishing the boundaries of the 200 mile EEZ, prevention and combatting IUU fishing and the prohibition of the use of destructive types of fishing gear. The Government also has a plan in place to modernise and update crafts and coastal vessels to support effective monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of fishing activities in its territorial waters. The Ministry of Environment has developed a number of key strategies to address sustainable development, conservation of biodiversity and climate change i.e. a national environment and sustainable development Charter; a national strategy for the conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity and a national strategy in relation to climate change. A coastal lagoon development programme has also been prepared.

The Gambia has a range of strategies and initiatives already in place and others under development to improve the sustainable management of fisheries, protect marine biodiversity and address coastal zone management issues and climate change. For example, the Strategic Action Plan for fisheries (2007-2015) is being updated to cover the period 2016-2020. The Government is undertaking a review of the Fisheries Act and regulations to improve management measures. A strategy to review and address climate change has also been produced to incorporate adaptation and mitigation measures into government policy.

The Government of Cabo Verde has been involved in a number of initiatives to improve the management of its marine resources and the conservation of its biodiversity. These include the revision of management plans for fisheries resources (2016-2020), the on-going review of fisheries legislation, the development of a number of co-management coastal fisheries plans and the creation of a fisheries surveillance organisation (ACOPESCA). It has

also developed a National Action Plan for the Environment (PANA II) as well as management plans for MPAs and strategies for the conservation of marine biodiversity which includes corals and whales.

Guinea is undertaking a number of reforms to improve fisheries and environmental management including the restructuring of ministries to include a dedicated ministry responsible for fisheries, aquaculture and the maritime economy. A key government goal is to develop, elaborate and implement policies relating to sustainable management of water, the environment and forests.

Guinea-Bissau have been pursuing policies and developing management plans in relation sustainable development of fisheries and biodiversity and have participated in several projects with regional and international partners in recent years. These initiatives address key issues covering fisheries management, research and surveillance, river system management and mangrove restoration, the conservation of biodiversity as well as the establishment of statistical data collection system for the artisanal fisheries sector.

7. Knowledge Management.

Information sharing and knowledge management are key parts of the project (see component 2 and 4 descriptions above). The project will utilize the considerable expertise and information sharing tools of the GEF IW: LEARN and LME: LEARN as key platforms for information exchange. In addition, the project's web site will serve as an important means of sharing information, workshop reports, newsletters and relevant scientific findings and will be made available to stakeholders, experts and the public at large including the Global LME Community of Practice. Links will also be developed and knowledge shared with other eastern boundary upwelling current LME projects such as the Humboldt and Benguela Current which face similar threats to the sustainability of transboundary fisheries, biological diversity, ecosystem integrity and resilience. In addition, the CCLME project is an active member of the African LME Caucus which meets annually and provides an excellent opportunity for information sharing at a Pan-African LME level so that maximum benefits can be obtained through cooperative action, knowledge dissemination and sharing of lessons learned.

Communication to the policy and decision makers in the participating countries on the benefits and results of project activities that strengthen regional cooperation and dialogue for sustainable management of fisheries in the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem will be carried out through the implementation of awareness raising campaigns together with annual briefings, dissemination of information and consultations between fisheries stakeholders i.e. governments, the research community, the private sector, coastal fishing communities and civil society. Local and national media briefs on progress and outcomes of the project both in newspapers and radio of CCLME countries will also be undertaken to ensure that the results of the project are disseminated widely at local and national levels especially those of direct relevance to coastal fishing communities.

International fisheries guidelines and training initiatives developed by FAO or those used in other countries that are of direct relevance to the region will be adapted and integrated into national capacity development and local training initiatives. These particularly relate to the development and implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and promotion and adoption of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAF).


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 SGP OFP endorsement letter).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Mr. Alexandre Nevsky Medina GOMES RODRIGUES	National Director of Environment	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT	10/03/2017
Mr. Ahmadou Sebory Toure	Director General	FONDS DE SAUVEGARDE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT	09/06/2017
Mr. Joao Raimundo Lopes	Technical Advisor	SECRETARIAT OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT	09/11/2017
Mr. Mohamed Benyahia	Director of Partnership, Communications & Cooperation	MINISTRY OF ENERGY MINING, WATER & ENVIRONMENT	10/02/2017
Mrs. Mariline Diara	Director, Department of Environment and Classified Establishments (DEEC)	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	09/07/2017
Mr. Momodou Jama SUWAREH	Executive Director	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY	09/11/2017

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation under GEF-6.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Alexander Jones Director, Climate and Environment Division FAO – Rome, Italy		31 January 2018	Merete Tandstad Senior Programme Coordinator		<u>Merete.Tandstad</u> <u>@fao.org</u>
Jeffrey Griffin Senior Coordinator FAO- GEF unit FAO, Rome, Italy					

Annex 1 CCLME NAP Priorities



Annex 1 NAPs
CCLME.docx