



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT
THE GEF TRUST FUND

Submission Date: 11/6 /07
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PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

GEFSEC PROJECT ID¹:

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: P106063

COUNTRY(IES): MAURITANIA, SENEGAL, THE GAMBIA, CAPE VERDE, GUINEA BISSAU, GUINEA, SIERRA LEONE, LIBERIA AND GHANA

PROJECT TITLE: Sustainable Fisheries Development Projects in 9 West African Countries

GEF AGENCY(IES): World Bank

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): *Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches (CSRP), Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy (Mauritania); Ministry of Maritime Economy (Senegal); Department of Fisheries (The Gambia); Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy (Guinea-Bissau); Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Guinea); Ministry of Marine Resources (Sierra Leone); Ministry of the Environment and Agriculture (Cape Verde); Bureau of national Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture (Liberia); and Ministry of Fisheries (Ghana).*

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): International Waters

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): SP1

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa

INDICATIVE CALENDAR	
Milestones	Expected Dates
Work Program (for FSP)	April 2008
CEO Endorsement/Approval	Feb 2009
GEF Agency Approval	March 2009
Implementation Start	Jan. 2009
Mid-term Review (if planned)	March 2011
Implementation Completion	Dec. 2013

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

This proposal for Sustainable Fisheries Development Projects in West African Countries introduces a cohort of single country-based investments and actions (represented in the table below) in the fisheries sector, consistent with the emerging priorities of the GEF-sponsored Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) programs and eligible for financing from the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa. These individually supported country-level projects are being presented together for economies of scale and to emphasize the regional vision adopted by these countries and the necessary collaboration between them in order to achieve the WSSD fisheries targets.

Project Objective: The objective of the proposed project is to promote the sustainable exploitation of marine fish stocks and the protection of the ecosystems that support them, in order to increase the overall wealth that can be generated by these resources and the proportion of that wealth captured by local economies. The project would accomplish this objective by supporting activities to: (i) reduce illegal fishing, (ii) strengthen the countries' capacity to sustainably govern and manage their fisheries, and (iii) increase the value and profitability generated by fish resources and proportion of that value captured by the countries.

Project Components	Indicate if Investment, TA, or STA**	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative GEF Financing*		Indicative Co-financing*		Total (\$ M)
				(\$ M)	%	(\$ M)	%	
1. Good Governance and Sustainable Management of the Fisheries.	TA, Investment	- Countries are developing and enforcing national fisheries policies that define clear objectives for the use of the resources; - Gvts develop and implement corresponding resource management plans; - Clear processes are created for wide stakeholder consultations;	- Sustainable fisheries strategy in each country, with clear objectives and quantitative indicators and targets for the sector; - Definition of clear allowable catch limits for major fisheries, and sustainable levels of effort, building where appropriate	9.5 ***	27	25.0	73	34.5

¹ Project ID number will be assigned initially by GEFSEC.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A system of access rights to the resources is developed and implemented; - Continued political dialogue on foreign fishing agreements between the countries as well as with third party states is supported, building on results from the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program supported by the Canary Current LME project and where relevant the Guinea Current LME project. <p>This component will contribute directly to the following Outcome Indicators of the overall Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of Sub-Saharan African countries where the WSSD fisheries targets are achieved - Percentage increase in the number of commercially targeted SSA marine fish stocks at levels that can support the maximum sustainable yield 	<p>on the models developed by the Canary Current LME Project and Guinea Current LME Project for the management of migratory fisheries;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Registration and licensing of all fishing vessels in participating countries - Financial resources available to implement the policies from participating countries and plans from CSRP. 					
2. Reduction of Illegal Fishing	Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) systems in each country are strengthened and adapted to the regionally-coordinated approach; - National MCS plans are effectively defined, implemented and upgraded - Levels of illegal fishing are reduced by 50% in participating countries. <p>This component will contribute directly to the following Outcome Indicators of the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage increase in the number of commercially targeted SSA marine fish stocks at levels that can support the maximum sustainable yield 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisheries monitoring centers established; - Surveillance infrastructure upgraded in each country - Regional satellite-based vessel monitoring system established as described in the CSRP Strategic Action Plan. 	6.4	8	70.0	92	76.4

3. Increasing the Contribution of the Marine Fish Resources to the Local Economies	TA, Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater contribution and integration of the fisheries into the regional economy; - Increased local value added from the fisheries in each participating country. <p>This component will contribute directly to the following Outcome Indicators of the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of SSA countries achieving poverty alleviation and vulnerability reduction in their coastal and fishing communities (according to relevant MDGs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification and implementation of measures to increase the benefits from fish resources, by increasing the captured share of the value-added and by selling fishing rights to foreign fleets at their correct value, in agreement with national sector policy objectives and in a manner consistent with sustainable fisheries. 	1.0	6	17.0	94	18.0
4. Project management and coordination	TA, investment	<p>Coordination among countries for management of the project and shared monitoring of progress towards achieving the intended results, which is exchanged annually with the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) to the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa, chaired by the African Union and supported by FAO and WWF.</p>	<p>Preparation of an M&E framework, including a shared database to monitor the health of the fish stocks, legal and illegal fishing vessels, fishing effort, etc.; Financial Management.</p> <p>The Strategic Partnership's Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), currently supported by a MSP, will report annually on coordination of all projects supported by the Partnership, and will conduct periodic independent monitoring and evaluations of the project.</p>	1.0	11	8.0	89	9.0
Total project costs				17.9		120.0		137.9

* List the \$ by project components. The percentage is the share of GEF and Co-financing respectively to the total amount for the component.

** TA = Technical Assistance; STA = Scientific & technical analysis. ***M = million

B. INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR THE PROJECT (\$)

	Project Preparation*	Project**	Agency Fee	Total
GEF	450,000	17,900,000	1,790,000	20,140,000
Co-financing	1,640,000	120,000,000		121,640,000
Total	2,090,000	137,900,000	1,790,000	141,780,000

* Project preparation fund request is also being finalized simultaneously and will include more details on the co-financing sources.

** The Strategic Partnership (\$60M to be released in 3 tranches over 15 years) was approved by the GEF Council under GEF-3. A first installment of \$12M was released as part of the 1st tranche to fund operations in Senegal and Kenya as well as an MSP to assist overall program coordination at the regional level.

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECTS (including project preparation amount) BY SOURCE and BY NAME (The amount is the aggregated co-financing for the cohort of single country projects)

Sources of Co-financing	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Project Government Contribution	in kind	5,000,000

GEF Agency(ies)*	in cash (World Bank IDA)	90,940,000
Bilateral Aid Agency(ies)	in cash (DfID)	25,700,000
Total co-financing		121,640,000

*Aggregate GEF funding for the cohort of single-country investments.

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY FOCAL AREA(S), AGENCY (IES) SHARE AND COUNTRY(IES)

GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	GEF Resources Requested by Focal Area(s), Agency (US\$), and Country (US\$)		
			Project Preparation*	Project	Agency Fee*
World Bank	International Waters	Mauritania	450,000	2,900,000	290,000
		Senegal		2,000,000	200,000
		The Gambia		1,000,000	100,000
		Guinea-Bissau		3,000,000	300,000
		Guinea		3,000,000	300,000
		Cape Verde		1,000,000	100,000
		Sierra Leone		2,000,000	200,000
		Liberia		2,000,000	200,000
		Ghana		1,000,000	100,000
Total GEF Resources			450,000*	17,900,000	1,790,000 (agency fees for the project only)

* The breakdown of the project preparation money by country will be provided at the PPG stage.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. STATE THE ISSUE, HOW THE PROJECT SEEKS TO ADDRESS IT, AND THE EXPECTED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED:

The countries of West Africa, from Mauritania to Ghana, are endowed with some of the richest fishing grounds in the world. The marine fish stocks in the waters of West Africa, in the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME) constitute a significant natural capital asset for these countries, which is transboundary in nature. However, this natural wealth is currently being depreciated due to the inability of countries to control the use of the marine fish stocks and prevent their overexploitation and depletion (mostly from illegal or 'pirate' vessels). Roughly 1.5 million tons of fish are legally captured in West African waters each year, with an estimated wholesale value of US\$2.5 billion. However, this natural capital asset generates far lower returns for the region than would be expected because: (i) the size of the asset is dwindling due to the inability of countries to control the use of the marine fish resources and prevent their overexploitation and depletion, (ii) countries have insufficient capacity to manage the resources sustainably and make the asset grow over the long-term, in particular by protecting the ecosystems that support the fish resources, and (iii) the resources are largely taken in an offshore economy by foreign or industrial vessels who rarely land their fish catch in the region or participate in the local economy, so that the countries only capture a fraction of their value. The World Bank estimates that an additional US\$300 million in annual income could be created in the countries of West Africa with better governance and management of the fisheries and the ecosystems that support them, as well as greater local investment. The cohort of country investments (Mauritania, Senegal, The Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Ghana) will be cofinanced by World Bank IDA credits under a West Africa Regional Fisheries Project, as well as further funding from donors. The 9 countries are part of the CCLME (with the exception of Sierra Leone, Liberia and Ghana, who share fishing fleets with the CCLME), one of the five targeted large marine ecosystems (LMEs) of the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa, which possesses ecosystems and habitats that support some of the most significant fish resources and fisheries in the world.

The proposed country-based GEF grants are to reduce illegal fishing, strengthen the countries' capacity to sustainably govern and manage their fisheries, and increase the profitability generated by fisheries and the proportion of that value captured by the countries. The proposed GEF interventions in each country will be fully blended with a set of IDA credits, whose concept has been approved by World Bank management, and which would add up to a total contribution of US\$90 million. The activities will be fully blended between IDA and GEF towards the realization of the project's

objectives but intervention will vary in countries based on individual needs and existing ongoing efforts. The following table provides a summary analysis of key issues by country and proposed project intervention in each individual country:

Country	Key Issues	WB Sector work & Relevant initiatives /programs	Proposed interventions ²
Mauritania	Poor governance in the Fisheries sector; Delayed, implementation of resource management plans in the overexploited octopus fishery; Weak local benefits from the sector, much of the value currently going overseas	World Bank Economic & Sector Work (ESW) currently underway, which will provide the analytical basis for proposed investments; CCLME project (UNEP/FAO).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: significant investment here to ensure necessary policy reforms to reduce overexploitation • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: lower levels of investment here, solely to ensure the country is linked to the regional surveillance system • Component 3. Increased Value Added: significant investments, in order to encourage greater domestic benefits
Senegal	Poor governance of the sector, and difficulties in reducing the overcapacity of the large artisanal fleet that is spilling over into many other countries in the region	World Bank Economic and Sector work on fisheries (2004); World Bank/GEF GIRMaC and GIRMaC+ projects, which are focusing on more sustainable and collaborative management of the artisanal fisheries in selected pilot sites, and the GIRMaC+ in terms of fisheries in marine protected areas. Both projects are focusing on area-based models to demonstrate sustainable management, in selected sites. The remaining need is to ensure that these reforms are translated into national policies for all of the artisanal fisheries, accompanied by funding to reduce capacity; CCLME project (UNEP/FAO). Demonstrating and capturing best practices and technologies for the reduction of land-source impacts resulting from coastal tourism project (UNEP/UNIDO-World Tourism Organization).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: investment to ensure the country is linked to the regional surveillance system and is not a weak link.
The Gambia	Poor governance of the sector, particularly of the artisanal fisheries; Weak value added from the sector, which is currently not realizing its potential	World Bank analytical study on the fisheries sector in 2006, as part of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study; CCLME project (UNEP/FAO); Demonstrating and capturing best practices and technologies for the reduction of land-source impacts resulting from coastal tourism project (UNEP/UNIDO-World Tourism Organization).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: investments to ensure necessary policy reforms to reduce overexploitation of the coastal fisheries • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: investment to ensure the country is linked to the regional surveillance system, particularly to Senegalese and Guinean efforts • Component 3. Increased Value Added: significant investments, in order to encourage greater domestic benefits
Cape Verde	Poor governance of the sector, particularly in controlling overinvestments and overcapacity in the fishing sector that contribute to the overexploitation of the resources	World Bank Economic and Sector Work (ESW) on the fisheries sector completed in 2007; CCLME project (UNEP/FAO).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: significant investments to ensure necessary policy reforms to reduce overcapacity in the fisheries • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: significant investment to ensure the country is linked to the regional surveillance system, particularly for the migratory fleets
Guinea Bissau	Poor governance of the sector, in particular the lack of capacity to collect the	World Bank Economic and Sector Work (ESW) on the fisheries sector completed in 2003;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: Significant investments to develop and implement a coherent policy vision for sustainable fisheries

² Specific outputs per country will be defined during preparation and will be presented at CEO endorsement.

	information and pass the measures necessary to sustainably manage the resources; Lack of capacity to control what is happening in the country's waters and prevent illegal fishing which is degrading the resources; Weak value added in country, particularly to increase processing and exports, as the economy is currently offshore	CCLME project (UNEP/FAO); GCLME project (UNDP-UNEP/UNIDO); Coastal and biodiversity management project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: Significant investment to build local surveillance capacity, as well as to link the country to regional surveillance system • Component 3. Increased Value Added: significant investments, in order to encourage greater domestic processing and exports
Guinea	Poor governance of the sector and weak regulatory framework for sustainable fisheries; High level of current illegal fishing and lack of capacity to combat it	CCLME project (UNEP/FAO); GCLME project (UNDP-UNEP/UNIDO). Coastal marine and biodiversity management project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: Significant investments to develop and implement a strengthened regulatory framework for sustainable fisheries • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: Significant investment to build local surveillance capacity, as well as to link the country to regional surveillance system • Component 3. Increased Value Added: in order to promote greater local benefits
Sierra Leone	Poor governance of the sector and weak regulatory and management framework for sustainable fisheries as the sector grows in the aftermath of the war; High level of illegal fishing, particularly increasing the country's capacity to prevent illegal foreign vessels; Poor benefits from fisheries to local economy, weak small-scale processing.	World Bank analytical study on the fisheries sector in 2006, as part of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study; United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) Fisheries Sector Strategy Paper, completed in 2007; GCLME project (UNDP-UNEP/UNIDO).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: Significant investments to develop and implement a regulatory and management framework for sustainable fisheries • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: Significant investment to increase local surveillance of foreign vessels, as well as to link the country to regional surveillance system • Component 3. Increased Value Added: significant investments, in order to encourage small-scale, labor-intensive local processing
Ghana	Poor governance of the sector and poor implementation of policy reforms to close access to the artisanal fisheries and reduce overcapacity, similar to the conditions in Senegal; High illegal fishing and lack of capacity for monitoring and surveillance of their waters.	World Bank Economic & Sector Work (ESW) on Natural Resource Management in 2005, which included a chapter on fisheries; GCLME project (UNDP-UNEP/UNIDO); CCLME project (UNEP/FAO); Demonstrating and capturing best practices and technologies for the reduction of land-source impacts resulting from coastal tourism project (UNEP/UNIDO-World Tourism Organization).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: Significant investments to implement the needed policy reforms to close access to the artisanal fisheries and reduce overcapacity • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: Significant investment to link the country to regional surveillance system
Liberia	Poor governance of the sector and in particular the country has little regulatory and management framework for sustainable fisheries after the war; High level of illegal fishing, which is a key priority as the Government has no capacity to prevent foreign trawlers from fishing illegally; Weak local benefits from fisheries, no value added, in particular in the artisanal sector to help create jobs.	World Bank analytical study on the fisheries sector as part of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study, currently underway; GCLME project (UNDP-UNEP/UNIDO).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1. Strengthened Governance: Significant investments to develop and implement a regulatory and management framework for sustainable fisheries • Component 2. Reducing Illegal Fishing: Significant investment to increase local surveillance of foreign vessels, as well as to link the country to regional surveillance system • Component 3. Increased Value Added: significant investments, in order to encourage the artisanal sector to help create jobs

The expected global environmental benefits of the project will be the protection of the globally significant fish habitats and fish stocks in the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem. The proposed country-based projects would contribute to the improved governance and management of the resources and strengthened capacity of stakeholders to consider the values of sustainable fisheries. Additionally, by improving the value of the resources from in-land processing (and improved post-harvest handling of fish catch), the investments will develop the artisanal sector and create jobs from small-scale processing activities, thereby decreasing the pressure on the resource. Thus, better resource management and reduced poverty in West Africa will further strengthen sustainability in the CCLME.

B. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES/PLANS:

Improving the governance and management of the marine fish resources in the CCLME has become a priority in the sub-region's countries, due to their recognition of the important contribution by these resources to economic growth, foreign exchange earnings, public revenues, employment and food security. They increasingly share the concern of ensuring the sustainability of the resources and generating greater returns from their use over the long-term and increase the portion of that value that is captured locally. The concept for the proposed project is strongly based on Countries' Assistance Strategies and also well in line with the strategy of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) for the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), which aims at a better integration of the fisheries in the continent's economy, and on the principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The countries recognize, at the highest political level, that due to the shared nature of the resources, they need to collaborate at the regional level in order to reach these objectives, and have clearly expressed their interest in such a multi-state cooperation approach through their participation and commitment to the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (*Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches* - CSRP) and the implementation of its Strategic Action Plan (*Plan d'Action Stratégique* 2002-2010), which supports strengthening resource management and increased monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) activities to reduce illegal fishing. Although investments will be made at each country level, the proposed project would work closely with the CSRP, as the most appropriate structure to support the multi-country collaboration needed, as well as to ensure complementarity with other donor-supported initiatives in the sector. In addition, Liberia and Ghana have expressed an interest to collaborate with CSRP member countries, given that Ghanaian migrant fishermen are found throughout the region, and thus use the same fish resources. The CSRP has also requested the assistance of FAO to support the preparation of the project, together with the support they are currently providing the African Union in the coordination of the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa. The table below provides a list of the strategic plans and policies the proposed cohort of projects are consistent with, for each participating country:

Country	National Plan / Policy
Mauritania	<i>Stratégie de développement durable du secteur des pêches et de l'économie maritime</i> (2006-2008).
Senegal	2007 Fisheries Sector Letter of Policy (LPS), with Action Plan for Implementation
The Gambia	Draft PRSP (2007-2011)
Cape Verde	2007 World Bank Fisheries Strategy
Guinea Bissau	National Fisheries Sector Strategy, currently under preparation
Guinea	2002 PRSP
Sierra Leone	2007 Fisheries Sector Strategy Paper
Ghana	Fisheries Act of 2002 and the Fisheries Management Plan of 2001
Liberia	Draft Government Policy and Fisheries Legislation under preparation

C. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH [GEF STRATEGIES](#) AND STRATEGIC PROGRAMS:

The proposed cohort of projects are in line with the GEF international waters focal area, which addresses sustainable development challenges faced by states sharing transboundary surface, subsurface, and marine waters, including loss of critical habitats, over-harvesting of fisheries and subsequent negative impacts on livelihoods and poverty. The

investments in the 9 countries will foster multi-state cooperation on priority transboundary water concerns through more comprehensive, ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries resources management in the CCLME and will assist countries in carrying out regulatory and institutional reforms that are needed. More specifically, the proposed projects will support the Strategic Objective 2, which aims at catalyzing transboundary actions that address issues such as overexploitation of fish stock and associated biodiversity, and are consistent with SP1 (Restoring and Sustaining Coastal and Marine Fish Stocks and Associated Biological Diversity) of the International Waters Focal Area, under the GEF-4. This proposal to support the development of sustainable fisheries in Western African countries is in line with the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa, approved in November 2005, which aims to promote the sustainable management of fisheries resources in the LMEs of Sub-Saharan Africa in order to assist coastal countries to make concrete progress towards achieving the fisheries and poverty reduction targets set by the WSSD.

D. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES³:

The World Bank and other partners are supporting individual efforts (see table in part II, section A) towards sustainable management of fisheries resources in some of the West African countries. The 9 proposed GEF funded interventions will build upon existing efforts and results to achieve the objectives set for this cohort of investments. These interventions will offer different levels of support to countries to develop appropriate fisheries governance frameworks, develop MSC systems to combat illegal fishing, and identify measures to increase the benefits from fish resources locally (see table in section II/A), depending on findings and activities from these existing interventions to avoid duplication and seeking synergies between the efforts from the donors.

At the regional level, there are ongoing projects that are supporting coastal and marine biodiversity conservation and/or sustainable fisheries, which cover some of the 9 countries that are part of this project. A key ongoing operation on the ground is the regional MSP grant that has been recently approved under the Strategic Partnership, to strengthen regional coordination and ensure complementarity among country-level and regional projects, promote learning and information exchanges and ensure that the lessons from successes and failures are adequately disseminated. This MSP will strongly support the individual proposed country-based projects in West Africa, by providing expertise and technical skills to conduct evaluations, and transmit lessons learned, knowledge sharing, and results achieved to policy-makers throughout Africa. More specifically, the MSP will support the Regional Advisory Committee of the Strategic Partnership, led by the African Union with the support of FAO and WWF, to conduct annual reporting on the coordination of this cohort of projects with the LME projects, as well as those of other donors.

In the regional context, the UNEP/FAO GEF supported CCLME project has completed preparation, and is expected to complement the economic approach of this proposed cohort of projects, contributing to the protection of marine ecosystems that support the fisheries of the region. The CCLME project will lead to the identification and improved understanding of key transboundary problems in the CCLME, and will contribute to provide the necessary policy and regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity in the countries to formally collaborate among themselves, and manage marine resources in a sustainable manner. The transboundary diagnostic and strategic action program, to be developed under the CCLME project, will complement efforts to strengthen the governance and sustainable management of the fisheries supported in component 1 of this proposal. Furthermore, the CCLME project will pilot several demonstration projects (including ecosystem-based management of shared small pelagic stocks, Reduction of impacts from shrimp trawling, and transboundary co-management of migratory coastal pelagics important to artisanal fishers) whose lessons learned will benefit this cohort of investments. The CCLME will be housed in the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (CSRP), and the CSRP will also lead the preparation of this cohort of projects on behalf of the countries, producing a joint logframe and working to ensure coordination and complementarity.

Similarly, the GEF supported “Combating living resources depletion and coastal area degradation in the Guinea Current LME project” implemented by UNDP (approved in November 2003) is addressing marine resources degradation through an ecosystem-based approach in Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and other countries bordering the Guinea Current LME. This project is undertaking strategic planning for concrete actions to develop sustainable fisheries, restore habitats and improve water quality in the GCLME and will develop economic instruments and incentives to sustain the action program. The GCLME project will support transboundary stock assessments and fisheries management plans, build institutional capacity of participating countries, address marine transboundary pollution such as oil spills, and develop regional agreements and regional coordination mechanisms.

³ Reference to the related initiatives per country are presented in part II, section A.

Additionally, the GEF supported “Demonstrating and capturing best practices and technologies for the reduction of land-source impacts resulting from coastal tourism project”, implemented by UNEP, will support Senegal, the Gambia and Ghana and other countries in the region, to enhance conservation of globally significant coastal and marine ecosystems and associated biodiversity, through the reduction of negative environmental impact from coastal tourism.

Noteworthy is the fact that these projects have generally invested only at the regional level. The proposed cohort of investments to support Sustainable Fisheries Development Projects in 9 West African Countries and respective IDA cofinancing have been planned at the national level but will promote the realization of a regional vision and objectives, in coherence with the efforts already underway and/or planned at both the national and regional levels. It would also support gaps in the work at the regional level that are not adequately funded.

At the national level, in the case of Senegal the World Bank and the GEF are investing in the development of sustainable fisheries (Supplemental GEF Grant to the Integrated Marine and Coastal Resource Management Project – GIRMAC). However, this project is focused on supporting small-scale fishers to sustainably manage coastal demersal fish stocks through area-based management in selected pilot sites. In such light and with an eye to address remaining gaps, this proposed project in Senegal will complement these efforts by supporting the national level policy reforms to scale the lessons from these pilot sites up across the country, as well as address depletion of pelagic fish stocks and ensure that Senegal can participate to regional efforts to combat illegal fishing.

In Guinea-Bissau the World Bank is implementing a Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Project, with GEF support, which is improving the protection of key habitats for coastal fisheries and providing limited funding for surveillance of the nearshore artisanal fisheries in order to help reduce illegal fishing in these areas. This gap related to illegal fishing will be covered through the proposed project which will both improve the overall policy and regulatory framework for sustainable fisheries at the country level and support efforts towards linkage to regional surveillance system.

Similarly a coastal management project with GEF support in Guinea is supporting protection of selected nearshore fish habitats. This project is contributing to the protection of important ecosystems from which fish populations are dependent. However, the proposed project will reduce pressure on marine resource by tackling illegal fishing at the national and regional levels and creating alternative economic opportunities to fishing in coastal waters.

Furthermore, since 2003 the World Bank has conducted analytical work on the marine fisheries in Senegal, Guinea Bissau, the Gambia, Cape Verde, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone (led by DfID), and studies are currently underway in Mauritania, all of which provide necessary baseline information to prepare these 9 country-based projects.

Notably, the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (CSRP) which will execute the project, already benefits from the support of several donors, including: (i) the European Union (Strengthening of regional cooperation for fishing activity’s MCS and support to fisheries management in West Africa), (ii) France (Support to fisheries and marine environment co-management initiatives), (iii) FAO (Regional support program to promote sustainable fisheries, and the protection and preservation of marine habitats), (iv) GTZ (Support to the management of fish resources in West Africa), (v) and The Netherlands (Regional policies for a sustainable small pelagic fishery in North-West Africa). This is likely to provide good opportunities for collaboration and coordination amongst all donors.

During preparation, the 9 participating countries will explore the possibilities of using outputs and lessons learned from these country projects and regional operations to create synergies and increase outcomes from each intervention. With the coordination of the CSRP, during the preparation process the countries will also prepare a joint logframe for this project and the CCLME, as well as other donor initiatives in West Africa, to ensure that this proposed cohort of investments is complementary and well coordinated with ongoing and planned investments by other donors.

E. DISCUSS THE VALUE-ADDED OF GEF INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT DEMONSTRATED THROUGH INCREMENTAL REASONING :

Marine fisheries resources in the CCLME are being over-exploited, a phenomenon which reinforces cycles of coastal poverty for millions of rural fishing communities. Governments in the countries bordering the CCLME still do not have the financial resources or capacity to take control of their resources and to prevent overexploitation by regulating access to these resources and protecting the critical habitats that support them. The absence of GEF intervention would impede the necessary collaboration among countries and capacity strengthening to engage in institutional reforms, policy and regulatory development and monitoring and surveillance, and to address the threats to fish stocks, tackle the transboundary issue of illegal fishing, and improve natural resources governance in the CCLME. The respective governments would less likely allocate the resources to engage in developing ecosystem-based and sustainable fisheries, and bring together the necessary resources at the country level to aim at achieving the regional objectives.

and to protect globally important fish populations and supporting coastal and marine ecosystems. In summary, without GEF involvement the project might go forward with World Bank funding to accomplish the objectives and particularly to increase the contribution of the resources to local value added in the region, but without the needed interventions to protect the critical habitats and ecosystem services needed to support the fish stocks. The availability of GEF support to this effort through the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries in Africa was in fact a catalyst to encourage the World Bank to commit the additional US\$90 million in IDA funds needed to finance the project.

F. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS, THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVE(S) FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE INCLUDING RISK MEASURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN⁴:

(i) The lack of coherence between the different national policies governing the use of the marine fish resources in the CCLME is certainly a risk to the achievement of this project's objectives. In order to reduce this risk, the coordination of the preparation of the proposed project would be led by the CSRP, as the regional institution already firmly established with clear procedures accepted by all of its member states. This reflects the fact that the institutional capacity for coordination and to absorb funds varies from country to country, an aspect that would be evaluated during preparation of the proposed project, in order to include institutional capacity building measures for policy definition and the inter-ministerial dialogue as well as public and private sector consultations. In addition, the capacity of the CSRP to continue to play a central coordinating role during the implementation of the project would be evaluated during preparation, and any necessary capacity building activities proposed.

(ii) The implementation of the required governance and management reforms for the use of the marine fish resources could be challenged by certain beneficiaries of the status quo, who would view these reforms as a threat to their activities (for example reforms to limit access to the fisheries and reduce fishing effort), as well as by corruption (particularly in efforts to reduce illegal fishing activities). This risk would be reduced by: (i) implementing learning tools such as pilot and demonstration projects for proposed reforms, (ii) utilization of triggers for the agreed reforms required to proceed to the second phase of financing under the project, and (iii) the participation of stakeholders in the decision-making process and transparency in governance and management (for example publication of policies, plans, lists of fishing licenses and license receipts).

(iii) Similarly, weaknesses in the investment climate and banking in different countries could impact the ability of the project to support the needed investments to increase the proportion of the value added generated by the marine fish resources that is captured locally. This risk would be reduced through an integration of the project's objectives and activities into the ongoing macro-economic dialogue of the World Bank in the countries, and through collaboration with the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

G. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

The selected project design follows a qualitative cost-effective approach to justify the best use of the GEF fund for achieving the described global environmental benefits in the fisheries sector at the regional level. Harmonizing the design of 9 country-based operations and coordinating preparation and implementation is a more effective way to tackle transfrontier issues such as illegal fishing. By working together to share information in preparation and implementation, on issues such as policies for regulating fishing fleets with excess capacity, addressing illegal fishing and tracking illegal vessels, and introducing common marketing schemes, the countries will greatly reduce the costs of sustainable fisheries management in the CCLME and leverage much greater benefits for the investment. Thus, GEF funding will be used to support individual countries to engage in necessary reforms and activities to protect their fish stocks while adopting a regional vision of sustainable fisheries. The presentation of the group of countries in this proposal is to reduce transaction costs that will accompany 9 individual projects as well as ensure the countries work together to multiply the benefits from their investments. World Bank co-financing will be secured through regional and country-level IDA funds, which will be disbursed to the individual countries through Credit Agreements to each country, to which the GEF investments would be blended. This cohort of IDA and GEF investments to neighboring countries with shared concerns and objectives is termed a regional integration project by the World Bank, but is in fact a multi-country investment, i.e. a cohort of country-level investments. Grouping such investments together allows each to capture economies of scale to both reduce transaction costs, and enhance results and spill-over benefits.

H. JUSTIFY THE COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF GEF AGENCY:

⁴ These represent selected risks that are common to the 9 countries. Further details will be presented at CEO endorsement.

This cohort of projects would be part of the “Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investments Fund in the LMEs of SSA” umbrella program, which was approved in November 2005. The World Bank is in the GEF comparative advantage matrix for this type of operation. Additionally, the World Bank’s ongoing macro-economic dialogue in each of the concerned countries would be utilized to facilitate the implementation of an economic approach to the sustainable use of the marine fish resources, and help to foster an investment climate favorable to increasing local benefits from these resources, together with activities to protect the marine ecosystems that support the resource base. The World Bank will use its unique convening power to bring together several donors as part of one regional program, including the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the African Development Bank, the European Commission, France and FAO. Currently the World Bank project on West Africa Regional Fisheries Project, under preparation, would invest US\$90 million in country and regional IDA funds in the project, together with co-financing from the GEF, DFID and individual Governments.


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 [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) or [regional endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

<i>Cheikh Ndiaye Sylla, Director Ministry of Environment, Senegal</i>	<i>Date: September 28, 2007</i>
<i>Mohamed Yahya Lafdal Director of Program and Coordination Ministry of Environment, Mauritania</i>	<i>Date: October 1, 2007</i>
<i>Jonathan A Allotey, Operational Focal Point EPA, Ghana</i>	<i>Date: October 12, 2007</i>
<i>Maria Ivone Andrade Lopes, Director, Ministry of Environment, Cape Verde</i>	<i>Date: October 16, 2007</i>
<i>Dr. Mahmoud Camara Director, Ministry of Agriculture Republic of Guinea</i>	<i>Date: October 17, 2007</i>

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.	
 Steve Gorman GEF Coordinator The World Bank	Christophe Crepin, Regional GEF Coordinator Africa Region
Date: November 6, 2007	Tel. and email: 1.202.473.9727 / ccrepin@worldbank.org