



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Strengthening Global Governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and Their Coasts through enhanced sharing and application of LME/ICM/MPA knowledge and information tools.		
Country(ies):	Global	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	4481
Other Executing Partner(s):	IOC/UNESCO	Submission Date:	7 February 2013
GEF Focal Area (s):	International Waters	Project Duration (Months)	36
Name of parent program (if applicable):		Agency Fee (\$):	237,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/> • For SGP <input type="checkbox"/> 			

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK²:

Focal Area Objectives	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
IW-3 (select)	GEFTF	2,500,000	14,816,675
(select) (select)	(select)		
Total Project Cost		2,500,000	14,816,675

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To improve global ecosystem-based governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and their coasts by generating knowledge, building capacity, harnessing public and private partners, and supporting south-to-south learning and north-to-south learning.						
Project Component	Grant Type ³	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
1. Global and regional network of partners to enhance ecosystem-based management and to provide support for the GEF- LME/ICM projects to address MPA needs and incorporate climate variability and change.	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced network of partners working together to provide consistent management and ecosystem-based methods and technical support to GEF- LME/ICM/MPA projects. • Increased interaction between GEF- LME, MPA and ICM projects 	1.1. Established network (community of practice) of GEF IW Large Marine Ecosystems and their coasts projects, and other marine and coastal initiatives supported by GEF and partner organizations. 1.2. Technical and Policy-level LME Governance project Steering Committee	GEFTF	610,000	3,316,675

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

² Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework](#) when completing Table A.

³ TA includes capacity building, and research and development.

		<p>and other marine and coastal initiatives supported by GEF and partner organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased collaboration and coordination between GEF-LME, ICM and MPA projects and partners, within the geographic boundaries of LMEs. • Progress towards fully integrated 'ridge to reef' ecosystem-based management of freshwater and marine transboundary water systems, based on good governance practices, through increased generation of knowledge and enhanced coordination between GEF-IW surface, ground water and LME and ICM projects. 	<p>established.</p> <p>1.3. Technical Working Groups established to develop new LME governance tools in partnership with GEF-LME/ICM/MPA projects, and other marine and coastal initiatives.</p> <p>1.4. Regional Networks established to enhance interactions and harmonization between GEF- LME, ICM and MPA and other GEF-IW transboundary surface and ground water projects.(jointly with IW:LEARN)</p>			
<p>2. Synthesis and incorporation of knowledge into policy-making, capture of best LME governance practices, and development of new methods and tools to enhance the management effectiveness of LMEs and to incorporate ICM, MPAs and climate variability and change within the 5 LME modules.</p>	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEF LME/ICM/MPA projects equipped with new tools that incorporate ICM, MPAs and climate variability and change. • Innovative approaches captured and available for use by LME, MPA and ICM practitioners in LME governance. • LME/ICM/MPA projects accessing and using the tools to address the emerging priorities and new requirements for GEF. • Facilitate the exchange of experiences between LME's on data and information management issues, and promote the development of common data management approaches for LME/ICM/MPA projects. 	<p>2.1. Series of validated methods and new tools to address priority transboundary issues and national governance reforms (LME/ICM/MPA and climate variability and change).</p> <p>2.2. An LME/ICM/MPA Toolkit for adaptive ecosystem-based governance which incorporates tools on best practice and new GEF6 requirements.</p> <p>2.3. Codification of experiences and best practices from GEF LME/ICM/MPA projects and other coastal and marine initiatives supported by GEF and partner organisations for inclusion in LME toolkit of assessment and governance practices.</p> <p>2.4. Establishment of an "LME/ IW environmental data management</p>	GEFTF	610,000	4,500,000

			committee".			
3. Capacity and partnership building through twinning and learning exchanges, workshops and training among LMEs and similar initiatives (e.g. Seascapes).	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased collaboration and learning exchanges South-to-South between the GEF LME, MPA and ICM projects, and North-to-South and South-to-North partnerships with non-GEF marine and coastal initiatives (e.g. Seascapes) to build capacity and develop training and education materials. GEF LME/ICM/MPA practitioners⁴ trained in new techniques and approaches for ecosystem-based 5-modular assessment, management and governance practices for ecosystem and mitigation of effects of climatic variability and change in LMEs. Increased capacity of GEF LME, ICM and MPA project staff and practitioners, to address the new ecosystem-based governance priorities in GEF6 built through portfolio learning, partnerships, and training. 	<p>3.1. Functional dialogue, project twinning, learning exchanges, and training workshops in ecosystem-based governance among GEF LME/ICM/MPA projects and other GEF and non-GEF funded marine and coastal initiatives, such as Seascapes,, to build capacity and for portfolio learning.</p> <p>3.2. GEF LME/ICM/MPA practitioners fully trained in ecosystem-based governance techniques and approaches including adaptation to climatic variability and change.</p> <p>3.3. New training materials developed in collaboration with learning partners (e.g. IUCN, FAO, IOC, ICES, NOAA, IOI, Conservation International, UNU-INWEH) and through learning exchanges and workshops to address priority issues in GEF6.</p>	GEFTF	570,000	3,500,000
4. Communication, dissemination and outreach of GEF LME/ICM/MPA project achievements and lessons learned.	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication of results to stakeholders, increased awareness of LME issues and engagement in networks through global and regional LME /COPs Strategy developed for showcasing LME and ICM assessment and governance best practices among project partners, stakeholders, resource managers, broader scientific community, government representatives, private 	<p>4.1. Global LME/ICM/MPA-communication platform linking GEF LME, ICM and MPA projects with other relevant initiatives.</p> <p>4.2. Lessons from GEF ecosystem-based LME/ICM/MPA projects disseminated through IW:LEARN website, partners and project website.(1% of the overall budget will be spend on IW:Learn related activities)</p> <p>4.3. Publication of findings</p>	GEFTF	585,000	2,500,000

⁴ "clear guidance and criteria for [what defines an] LME/ICM practitioner will be developed during the PPG"

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

	<u>Amount</u> <u>Requested (\$)</u>	<u>Agency Fee</u> <u>for PPG (\$)⁷</u>
• No PPG required.	-- 0--	--0--
• (upto) \$50k for projects up to & including \$1 million	_____	_____
• (upto)\$100k for projects up to & including \$3 million	75,000	7,125
• (upto)\$150k for projects up to & including \$6 million	_____	_____
• (upto)\$200k for projects up to & including \$10 million	_____	_____
• (upto)\$300k for projects above \$10 million	_____	_____

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

Trust Fund	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total PPG Amount				0	0	0

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

⁷ PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the GEF Project Grant amount requested.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION⁸

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

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

1) the global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Threat: The world oceans regulate many of the earth's key biological, chemical and physical cycles, substantially influence and are impacted by climate variability and change, support a substantial proportion of the world's biodiversity, and provide for the livelihoods and food security of billions of people. Marine and coastal ecosystems are estimated to provide 63% of global 'ecosystems services', with a global market value of \$3 trillion per year, equivalent to 5% of global GDP, and a non-market value of \$22 trillion per year. More than 40% of the world oceans are however threatened by overfishing, pollution, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, and climate change, with direct and serious implications for the well being of populations dependent upon these resources. The 64 Large Marine Ecosystems (LME) of the world are the most productive regions and it is these that are also under the greatest pressure. The cumulative catches within the world's LMEs alone have declined by 13% (10.6 million metric tons) since passing a cumulative maximum in 1994 (Worm et al., 2006). The LMEs and their contributing freshwater basins are transboundary by virtue of interconnected currents and movement and migration of living resources. The root causes of the overutilization and degradation of LMEs stems from failures in governance of the relevant sectors (fisheries, tourism, shipping, agriculture, etc.), including inadequate policies and legislation, poor enforcement, weak institutions, and insufficient participation of civil society in the management of both marine and freshwater systems. Prompt and large scale action is needed to achieve integrated adaptive ecosystem-based management and governance of transboundary resources, to overcome the downward trend of losses of goods and services, and to mitigate the degradation of the LMEs in the face of the accelerating effects of climate change.

2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

Baseline: Over the past 15 years, the GEF Council has provided support through GEF International Waters programme (GEF-IW) to assist 127 recipient countries to work together within 19 of the world's 64 LMEs (including 2 LME equivalents, the Pacific Warm-water Pool and Caspian Sea). The GEF increment in the LME projects enables countries to collectively identify the root causes of the priority issues affecting their shared LME through a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), and to develop joint actions to address the root causes through Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) to aid the recovery of ecosystem goods and services. The LME TDA/SAP process incorporates a five-module indicator approach that includes: (i) productivity, (ii) fish and fisheries, (iii) pollution and ecosystem health, (iv) socioeconomics, and (v) governance. The first three modules provide the scientific foundation for the development of management policies that include both socioeconomic benefits and a mutually agreeable governance regime. The LME projects have helped the countries to establish multi-national ecosystem-based assessment and management practices to reduce coastal pollution, restore damaged habitats, recover depleted fisheries, protect biodiversity and adapt to climate change. Other GEF-IW best practice projects have demonstrated the application of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) principles (e.g. PEMSEA) at national scales to lessen the depletion of fish stocks, control nutrient over-enrichment and pollution, adapt to climate change, recover degraded habitats and help protect coastal carbon sinks ("blue forests") through habitat restoration and conservation projects.

⁸ Part II should not be longer than 5 pages.

The UNDP Ecosystems and Biodiversity (EBD) programme supports 35 countries around the world through projects that involve building capacity at individual, institutional and systemic levels for biodiversity management and sustainable development in coastal and marine zones. Of those 35 countries, seven are LDCs and 10 are SIDS, with two countries (Haiti and Comoros) falling under both classifications. The interventions currently under implementation and development in these countries include: the establishment, strengthening and sustainable financing of marine protected areas (MPAs) and PAs in related ecosystems; the integration of biodiversity management considerations into relevant production sectors (e.g. fisheries and tourism) and national and regional policies; the application of ecosystem-based adaptation in critical marine and coastal ecosystems (e.g. mangroves and coral reefs); and the creation and support of sustainable livelihoods of communities dependent on marine resources through innovative financial tools, such as payment for ecosystems services (PES) and micro-grants. Of these projects, 12 projects in as many countries directly target MPAs—impacting 81 marine protected areas that cover 9.9 million hectares—by supporting the creation of new MPAs, strengthening existing MPAs and initiating the process of establishing new MPAs. These 12 projects alone have a cumulative value of US\$40 million in grants from the GEF and other donors, plus over US\$97 million in co-financing.

In recent years, UNDP has implemented non-GEF projects worth \$36.4 million to both lay the foundations for and provide direct support in the LME programmes, which is equivalent to an average of about \$5.2 million per year from 2004 to 2010. These UNDP non-GEF financed LME ‘baseline’ projects have promoted ecosystem-based approaches, capacity building and fisheries livelihoods, at local, national and regional scales. More than 16 UNDP staff provided oversight of these programs. These resources complemented the \$57 million in support provided by the GEF to the LME projects, with the average of \$8.19 million per year during the same timeframe. Much of what has been achieved to date through the LME and ICM projects would not have been possible without the assistance of a broad range of other public and private organisations that have partnered with UNDP and GEF-IW to address transboundary issues (e.g. Governments, leading marine institutes, and organizations such as IOC, IUCN, NOAA, UNEP, UNIDO, ICES and the World Bank). These partners have worked collaboratively to provide technical guidance, management tools and training, and to enhance cooperation, portfolio learning and experience sharing among the GEF-IW LME projects and other non-GEF supported initiatives. These partnerships will continue activating a significant forward movement toward ecosystem-based management of LME goods and services and the applied use of marine science to support sustainable development of ocean resources.

The investments made by GEF-IW, UNDP, NOAA, IUCN, IOC, ICES, Conservation International and the numerous other partner organizations engaged in ecosystem-based approaches to the management of marine and coastal systems, reflect not only the global significance of these ecosystems but also the opportunity provided by this approach. The new challenges of climate variability and change, alongside the other existing drivers that cause depletion and degradation within the LMEs, increases the urgency and the need to scale up these efforts. There is now a need to support adaptive ecosystem-management and governance that is informed by and evolves through ongoing learning processes, to help increase the resilience and well-being of societies dependent on marine goods and services. The GEF-5 strategy recognized this fact and the need to provide nation States with additional support to specifically address the challenges of climate variability and change (sea-level rise, ocean warming, ocean acidification, shifts in productivity and fish stocks, and the loss of “blue forests” and ecosystem resilience). GEF-5 further recognised the need to help States to address these challenges through cross-sectoral governance reforms at the local, national and regional levels, by integrating ecosystem-based approaches at the immediate coastal interface through improved marine spatial planning (MSP) and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) practices within LMEs and across transboundary water systems. MSP and ICM practices require examining trade-offs of policy decisions in terms of ecosystem health as well as ecosystem services and human well-being.

Meeting this new set of challenges will require the provision of coherent development assistance across the different scales of coastal and ocean governance within LMEs, and between LMEs and their linked transboundary water systems, and the provision of education and training for the next generation of practitioners. This will require a network of institutional partners and LME practitioners that are committed to work with GEF IW portfolio and with the foresight to recognize the urgent need to harmonize approaches to address transboundary concerns in a changing environment. It will also require the establishment of a coordination unit to act as a global focal point to support the

advancement and realization of objectives in both the short and long term.

The existing GEF-IW LME and ICM projects have already amassed considerable knowledge and experience. The projects have devised and demonstrated innovative techniques to apply the theoretical science of ecosystem-based management to address major transboundary concerns within the LMEs. Managers and practitioners within GEF and non-GEF funded projects have gained understanding and experience in the legal, institutional and political processes and have achieved governance reforms at a national and multi-national level. If real progress is to be made towards reversing coastal and marine degradation and address climate change, now is the time to generate and harvest this knowledge and to capitalize on the experiences, to build consensus with existing and new partners, and to generate coherent knowledge products, and educational and training materials to share with nation States, LME project scientists and managers, and regional and global partners and practitioners.

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

A Global GEF Governance project for learning and generating knowledge among LME projects and practitioners and related coastal and marine initiatives is being proposed (LME/ICM-Governance). The LME/ICM-governance project will establish a dynamic global support network for the GEF LME and ICM projects for practitioners needed to increase the capacity of nation States to realise adaptive ecosystem-based management and governance and to deliver on the requirements of GEF-5. (Component 1) A coordination unit or Secretariat will be established with the scientific and technical capacity to interact with UN and non UN entities at global and regional scales, to coordinate the network and experience sharing and learning partners and to provide oversight in the delivery of coherent development assistance to nation States. Key knowledge needs will be identified, relevant information synthesized and user-friendly materials developed and shared through interactive discussions with policy-makers at local to global levels.

In order to provide strategic guidance to the project implementation a Technical and Policy-level LME Governance project Steering Committee established to govern the project.

The Secretariat of the LME/ICM Governance project will be formed in the organization that responds to the following criteria: well established, globally recognized international organization with long standing history and experience dealing with coastal and marine ecosystem science and management issues with a Global mandate; ability to coordinate and execute complex international programs in developed and developing country contexts; history of GEF project management, existing network of GEF IW projects, strong portfolio or pipeline of LME/ICM projects; ability to sustain major outcomes and activities of the GEF LME/ICM project (through integration into work plan and associated budget). One of the partner organizations IOC/UNESCO fully responds to the above criteria.

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO is the only intergovernmental organization with a core mandate in science in all of the world's oceans. It serves as liaison within the UN system between the marine scientific community and the governments of its 142 Member States. Since the early nineties, together with NOAA and IUCN, IOC has promoted the Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) approach both from a conceptual and scientific point of view as well as on the ground by contributing to the formulation of GEF LME projects in various regions, and the development of a wide network of LME experts. The LME approach provides tools for enabling [ecosystem-based management](#) and a collaborative approach to management of marine resources within ecologically-bounded transnational areas. There are a number of IOC programmes that contribute scientific and technical inputs to the LME programme and more specifically that could be aligned with the objectives of the LME/ICM Governance project. This would in the long-term strengthen the sustainability of the project by integrating the project inputs within a durable, recognized, programmatic and institutional framework. IOC is also leading the Open Ocean and LME components of the GEF "TWAP" project in cooperation with the other GEF agencies.

Through the Secretariat, the LME/ICM-Governance project will: (Component 2) generate harmonized knowledge products drawing on existing science for inclusion in a new LME/ICM toolkit, by harvesting and codifying experiences and best practices from the existing GEF LME/ICM projects, project stakeholders and learning partners

including ICES and other non-GEF marine and coastal initiatives (e.g. Seascapes), to include tools to address climate variability and change, MPAs and ICM. (Component 3) Regional and global partnership learning opportunities will be created through project twinning, and personnel exchanges, training development workshops to encourage South-to-South, South-to-North and North-to-South learning. The outputs will include a comprehensive set of training and educational course materials based upon the experience of GEF LME/ICM portfolio, ICES working groups and learning partners and harmonized for delivery within the LME regions. The education and training strategy, developed during the PPG, will be implemented using these materials to train new practitioners. (Component 4), clear guidance and criteria's for what defines an LME/ICM practitioners will be developed during the PPG. The LME/ICM-Governance Project will harness the network of partners to enhance LME/ICM/MPA portfolio presence and visualization and to communicate to stakeholders and create a significant global impact on international marine policy and to create the legacy. During the implementation of the PPG links drawing from the experience of more than 194 GEF MPA projects (totaling more than 1100 MPAs funded globally) supported through both the International Waters and Biodiversity focal area will be explored, synergies build and the FSP will provide support to these projects.

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

CURRENT PRACTICE (BASELINE)	PROJECT ALTERNATIVE (ADDITIONALITY)
<p>Multiple initiatives by numerous different organizations which support ecosystem-based approaches to the management of marine and coastal environment at different management and governance scales (and sectors), duplicates effort, wastes limited funding resources, and creates a drain on host nation staff time that can ultimately result in confusion and hinder the progress in achieving ecosystem-based management and governance.</p>	<p>The GEF increment will enable the establishment of a functional, fully-facilitated governance network of ecosystem based and learning practices for GEF IW Large Marine Ecosystems and their coasts which will strengthen existing alliances and build new relationships at both the global and regional level to create a network of learning partners to support the delivery of coherent advice on the best tools and techniques to achieve adaptive ecosystem-management of marine and coastal environment. The LME/ICM Governance project will provide the opportunity to achieve coherence with partner initiatives, increase consistency in the advice provided to host States, improve performance of projects within the IW LME/ICM portfolio, and increase the achievement of ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal environments.</p>
<p>Best-practice ecosystem-based assessment and management and governance techniques to support the recovery of LME goods and services from the IW projects and other analogous initiatives would not be captured or codified. States would therefore not derive maximum benefits from the lessons learned over the past 15 years and the technical expertise of public and private partners that have engaged in the projects to date and are willing to engage with the LME/ICM-Governance project. States would not benefit from new tools to help embed ICM into the LME framework, to build adaptive institution and reduce vulnerability to climate variability and change, or to integrate actions with other transboundary water systems.</p>	<p>The GEF increment will enable the investments in existing LMEs programmes by GEF, UNDP, ICES and other partner organizations, and the host countries to be fully realized. In Component 2, practical knowledge and experiences will be captured and codified to create a harmonized set of tools to address the existing causes of the degradation of coastal and marine resources and climate variability and change. The toolkit will incorporate ICM into the LME assessment and management framework and harmonize the integrated management and governance of transboundary water systems and other ecosystem-based approaches, including the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries across multiple scales. The LME/ICM toolkit (which will include governance knowledge products and training and education materials) will create a legacy impact, maximizing the long-term benefits of the GEF-IW LME projects, and improving the effectiveness of the IW portfolio, and increase the achievement of ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal environments.</p>
<p>Training within the LME/ICM projects provided on an ad-hoc and inequitable basis between regions, host States and stakeholders, dependent on the project and partner resources available in the region. Delivery of the individual projects delayed by lack of capacity and availability of trained practitioners. Project costs increased due to the lack of easily accessible training and educational materials. Existing training materials prepared by learning partners not fully mobilized. No</p>	<p>Training and education materials will be developed collaboratively with stakeholders and learning partners including ICES and other GEF and non-GEF funded marine and coastal initiatives through functional dialogues, twinning, learning exchanges and workshops. The materials will be developed from stakeholder and practitioner assessment, management and governance experiences within the projects and from the wider regional and global partner networks. Existing training materials from partner sources will be harmonized and mobilized and new training material will be developed in collaboration with learning</p>

<p>strategy in place to be able to train the number of practitioners needed to be able scale up the implementation of ecosystem-based management and governance practices. Existing LME projects not be able to build the capacity of participating countries to apply ICM or adapt to climate change and maintain ecosystem resilience. Reduced impact and the level of consistency in the achievable performance of the IW portfolio.</p>	<p>partners, through learning exchanges and workshops to address priority issues. A comprehensive training and education strategy to scale-up the implementation of governance practices will be developed in a transparent manner in discussion with partners during the PPG phase following the Inception Workshop. This strategy will identify how best the LME/ICM-Governance project can mobilize the partner network to train a potential cohort of LME practitioners, in ecosystem-based techniques and approaches, including adaptation to climatic variability and change.</p>
<p>The global awareness, impact, and legacy of the LME/ICM projects amongst different stakeholder groups and partners would remain at current levels.</p>	<p>GEF support is required for: (4.1) the establishment of a communication platform to engage stakeholders and increase community participation in and awareness of the GEF LME/ICM projects and other relevant initiatives by GEF and partners; (4.2). links between LME projects websites, IW:Learn and other relevant websites. (4.3) support for publication in peer-reviewed science and coastal and ocean management journals; (4.4) to achieve the global impact needed to inform the development of new international marine policy at global policy forum.</p>

5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF, NPIF) and adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

Although the proposed project has a global scope it will operate through the LME, ICM and MPA projects and the broad network of public and private sector organisations that are engaged in the projects. The LME/ICM-Governance project will allow the exchange of best environmental practices and improve socio-economic benefits at national and local levels through building the institutional capacity of host nations to stem the loss in ecosystem goods and services. By improving coastal and marine management and governance practices, the project will improve ecosystem health and subsequently ecosystem services, such as seafood security and shoreline protection, and human well-being, such as livelihood opportunities, incomes and standards of living. The LME/ICM-Governance project will promote the mainstreaming of gender into LME, ICM and MPA projects and provide support to better enable these projects to address the gender dimension. The education and training courses provided through the LME/ICM-Governance project will advocate the direct involvement of both women and men, and will provide training in the development and harmonization of gender-balanced policies and legislative frameworks.

6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

UNDP’s Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 approved by the UNDP Executive Board includes Managing Energy and the Environment for Sustainable Development (Goal 4), and includes the outcome Strengthened national capacities to mainstream environment and energy concerns into national development plans and implementation systems. UNDP has taken further internal steps to operationalise the mainstreaming elements of the Strategic Plan at a subsidiary level through its Water Governance Strategy endorsed by the UNDP Management Group in 2007. The Water Governance Strategy includes as one of its three Strategic Priorities Regional and Global Cooperation and the associated Outcome, Enhanced regional and global cooperation, peace, security and socio-economic development through adaptive governance of shared water and marine resources, and the principal Output, Assist countries to develop and implement cooperation on transboundary waters through multi-country agreements on priority concerns, governance reforms, investments, legal frameworks, institutions and strategic action programmes. The Strategy includes a strong cross cutting focus on knowledge management and capacity development across all thematic outcomes including the above. In parallel and in coordination with with the present development of UNDP’s new Strategic Plan, 2014-2018, UNDP is similarly in the process of updating its Water & Ocean Governance Strategy for the five year period.

Notably, UNDP’s work on improving governance of shared water and ocean resources incorporates both freshwater and marine water bodies and has increasingly applied a “ridge-to-reef” approach recognizing the freshwater-marine continuum and important linkages between upstream water and land management and the health and integrity of downstream coastal and marine ecosystems. This further links to the objectives of this project related to better linking strategic planning, policy reform and implementation of improved ocean and coastal governance at regional

(TDA/SAP), national (ICM), provincial (ICM) and local (ICM, MPA) levels. Underscoring this approach is UNDP's poverty reduction mandate and commitment to preserving and enhancing food security and livelihoods of the billions of people who depend on healthy, functioning marine ecosystems.

In managing its LME and transboundary fisheries programmes, UNDP's Water & Ocean Governance Programme (www.undp.org/water/ocean-coastal-governance.shtml) draws on a wide range of staff expertise in marine ecosystems, fisheries and marine/coastal resources management at HQ, in its Regional Centers, and through its network of Country Offices. Senior advisors at HQ and in regional centers all have relevant Ph.D.'s (fisheries economics, marine biology, environmental management/policy, marine resource economics, etc.). The Project will be directly supported by an experienced UNDP Regional Technical Advisor based in the Europe/CIS region and by the UNDP Principal Technical Advisor at UNDP Headquarters with responsibility for global oversight of the UNDP Water & Ocean Governance programme. UNDP also builds on its extensive field presence in over 130 countries.

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

STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANT ROLES
LME and ICM practitioners	The proposed project is global in scope and will improve inter-connectedness, communication and experience generating and sharing amongst the diverse global community of LME and ICM practitioners.
Host Governments	The existing GEF-IW LME and ICM projects already successfully engage with a broad range of stakeholders. The LME/ICM-Governance project will forge linkages between stakeholder groups at the regional and global level. Members of the network will engage with the LME/ICM-Governance project as teachers / educators, while others will engage as students. Stakeholders and partner organizations (listed below) may alternate roles depending on their particular skill set and training needs. Members of the network will engage with the LME/ICM as teachers / educators, while others will engage as students.
Civil Society Organizations	
Academic Research Institutes	
Bilateral and Multilateral Agencies	
Private Sector	
Local Communities	
FAO	Fisheries advice and guidance; PACFA; harmonizing EBM (multisectoral) with EAF (Ecosystem-based Approach to Fisheries), EAF Toolbox.
IUCN	Capacity building, training
ICES	Engagement of academia; educational capacity building; knowledge management.
UNU-INWEH	Engagement of academia; educational capacity building; knowledge management.
NOAA	Continue to provide relevant science and technical support to LME projects' objectives related to conservation and management of living and non-living marine resources, especially in support of an ecosystem-based approach. Support capacity building through trainings and other knowledge sharing; participate as part of the global network of LME partners.
IOC-UNESCO	Capacity building, technical knowledge, project management, project sustainability
DLIST	A Global DLIST platform to improve stakeholder involvement and communication, and to encourage local communities to become involved in the global LME/ICM-Governance project.
IW:LEARN3	Educational capacity building; knowledge management and sharing; and work with the LME/ICM projects to engage the private sector, dissemination of the project results and best practices.
UNDP	Share experience from extensive LME and ICM experience. Programme management, capacity building.
Conservation International	Engagement on knowledge learning and capacity building by sharing experience in Seascapes and marine scientific analyses worldwide. Identify knowledge needs, synthesize existing information into user -friendly materials and incorporate into interactive discussions with policy-makers.

A.3 Risk. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (table format acceptable):

RISK DESCRIPTION	RATING ⁹	MITIGATION MEASURE
Key partner organizations decide not to engage in the project or to collaborate with each other due to competing agendas. Such conflicts could compromise the quality of the results achievable by the project.	M	The project preparation phase will focus particular effort on delineating the roles and responsibilities of the various partner organizations, particularly in areas where more than one organization demonstrates a particular expertise and expresses an interest.
The challenges of coordinating a large number of different partner organizations, which jeopardizes or results in slow progress on key outputs.	M	The project preparation phase will aim to ensure collaborating organizations take on joint responsibility for management.
Failure of the new IW:LEARN project to produce key deliverables for the ground- and surface water CoPs that would also benefit the LME/ICM-Governance project.	L	Both projects are being implemented by the same agency which should assist in the coordination of the activities between the CoPs.
GEF LME/ICM project staff and practitioners do not have time to engage in learning and experience sharing activities, particularly those that might expose weaknesses in project design and implementation.	L	The establishment of a coordination office would mitigate this risk. GEF LME/ICM project staff will be given due notice of training opportunities, and training courses will be made accessible.
The benefits of the LME/ICM-Governance project may not be realised until after the closure of the 4 year project, if the project is not self-sustaining at the end of the 4 years.	M	Financial mechanisms to sustain the LME/ICM-Governance project in the long term will be discussed during the project preparation phase. UNESCO/IOC, leading intergovernmental body dealing with Oceans and their costs will act as the sustainability anchor for the project activities after the project ends.

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

The LME/ICM-Governance project will work directly with the GEF LME, ICM and MPA projects, and other marine and coastal initiatives within the IW portfolio and other focal areas of GEF, especially Biodiversity FA. Project learning and experience sharing activities will be coordinated with IW:LEARN-3 UNDP implemented project, which is supporting CoPs for groundwater and surface water projects. The project will work with IW:LEARN to add new LME specific tools and education and training courses, and link to another GEF IW learning project “Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (TWAP)”. The LME/ICM-Governance project will build upon existing partnerships with other GEF and non- GEF supported marine and coastal initiatives implemented by UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank and IOC-UNESCO, FAO, IUCN, NOAA, GRID-Arendal amongst others. Some of the existing relationships include the annual LME Consultative Committee Meeting, hosted by IOC-UNESCO with support from IUCN, UNEP and NOAA; the partnership with the UNEP Regional Seas Programme and the UNEP Global Programme of Action (GPA), and between NOAA and UNEP. Other synergies that will be further explored during the PPG include the Global UNEP Ecosystem-based Capacity Building supported by GRID-Arendal and UNEP's Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Branch; FAOs work with the LME developing climate change proposals, their EAF-Toolbox, and the Global Partnership Climate, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PaCFA), the IUCN programmes, NOAA Line Organizations such as the National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Ocean Service (NOS), the National Weather Service (NWS), and Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR); the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) network of more than 1600 active marine scientists from over 200 institutes around the North Atlantic and adjacent seas, and the North Pacific network with PICES, linkages to ICES conferences and workshops and training courses; the University of British Columbia (UBC) Sea Around Us Project and the University of Rhode Island (URI); The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) Marine Policy Center.

B. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

B.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e.

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

NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.:

For the past 20 years GEF through its IW focal area has supported the development and endorsement of 14 Regional Strategic Action Programmes for Large Marine Ecosystems in different parts of the globe (Caspian Sea, Yellow Sea LME, Gulf of Honduras LME, Benguela Current LME, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Mediterranean Sea, Programme for the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERGSA), South China Sea, Black Sea, Guinea Current LME, Gulf of Mexico LME, Western Indian Ocean, Support to the Programme of Action for the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment, ASCLME (coming soon), number of National Action Plans (WIO-LAB, Guinea Current, South China Sea, Mediterranean, IWCAM, Pacific SIDS Fisheries) and supported a number of Regional Conventions, e.g. Mediterranean (including the development and adoption of the first ICZM protocol), Black and Caspian Seas, GCLME, BCLME, Caribbean Sea and others. GEF has also provided support to a number of the Regional Seas and regional fisheries legal instruments. In PEMSEA area GEF has supported a number of ICM initiatives - to date, ICM programmes have been initiated covering about 11% of the coastline in the East Asian region or 26,829 km, 9 countries (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) have formulated and/or are now in the process of adopting and implementing their respective national ICM or coastal development policies and strategies, which create and/ or strengthen the policy environment for investment.

The present project will be supporting all of these various regional, national and local strategies by building networks, creating tools, improving LME/ICM/MPA linkages, harvesting best practices and generating knowledge.

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

As a contribution to portfolio-wide knowledge and experience sharing, the proposed project broadly supports the GEF-5 IW Strategic Objective 3 to support foundational capacity building, portfolio learning, and targeted research needs for ecosystem-based, joint management and governance of transboundary water systems, and Objective 2 to catalyze multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystems while considering climatic variability and change. More specifically, the project will directly support Outcome 3.3 'Active experience/sharing/ learning practiced in the IW project portfolio'. With regard to Outcome 3.3 the project will support a process to generate knowledge from the existing IW portfolio and learning partners, to develop an LME/ICM/MPA Toolkit including tools and education and training materials for governance best practice.

This process and its products will support future foundational capacity building activities for new LME, ICM and MPA projects not yet funded by GEF and for scaling-up best practices for the joint management of transboundary waters in existing LME, ICM and MPA projects by training new practitioners. New education and training courses will provide cost-efficient learning opportunities to build capacity. The LME/ICM/MPA Toolkit will provide rapid access to a harmonized catalogue of governance best-practice examples, new tools and technologies, and education and training material. With regards to Objective 2, the knowledge products and education and training materials will specifically address the challenges posed by a fluctuating climate, recognized as new imperatives for nation States in GEF-5. The network of partners created through LME/ICM-Governance project will support the integration of ecosystem based approaches across multiple scales by increasing the incorporation of ICM and MPAs at the local level within the LME framework. Close collaboration with IW:LEARN and the ground- and surface water CoPs will progress the integrated management across transboundary water systems and further cross-project learning opportunities within the GEF-IW portfolio.

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

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) addresses poorly managed and uncoordinated human activities across sectors that are threatening shared international water resources and the livelihoods of people who depend on them. The organisation has now established itself as one of the leading international organizations supporting the improved governance of both freshwater and marine transboundary water bodies. UNDP-GEF projects in the IW focal area aim to achieve a comprehensive, ecosystem-based approach to the sustainable

management of international waters and to address both development and ecological needs. UNDP has supported catalytic and foundational activities for a number of successful LME and ICM projects. UNDP has also been the implementing agency for IW:Learn since inception in 1998, and it now oversees the new IW:Learn3 project “Strengthening IW Portfolio Delivery and Impact”, which is supporting the establishment of both the ground- and surface water CoP, and the further development of new knowledge management activities including the preparation of a TDA/SAP training course, and a new GEF-IW manual. UNDP will leverage their afore-mentioned expertise and build upon its programmatic strengths in support of the proposed project and in coordinating the activities.

UNDP’s cumulative LME portfolio, working in 11 different LMEs in all 5 UNDP regions covering over 100 countries, represents \$528 m. in total financing from GEF, UNDP, governments, donor partners and others. This represents the largest investment of any kind in advancing the sustainable, integrated, ecosystem-based management of LMEs, from which over 85% of the world’s fisheries are harvested, which contribute \$12.6 trillion/year in goods and services to the global economy, and which provide livelihoods for nearly half a billion people, many in the world’s poorest countries.

In terms of implementing GEF IW projects, UNDP has consistently delivered results through a broad range of international transboundary water interventions including the high-level adoption of 17 SAPs (8 in LMEs), eight of which are currently being implemented. In addition to providing vital technical, financial and capacity building support for the establishment of the world’s first post UN Fish Stocks conservation and management organization for highly migratory fish stocks, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), UNDP has strengthened or established 20 multi-country marine/coastal, river and lake basin management agencies or commissions including establishment of the world’s first two LME commissions, the Benguela Current and Guinea Current LME Commissions.

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

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template. For SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
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