

ANNEX 2 - PROJECT SUMMARIES

1.PROJECT SUMMARY

SUB REGIONAL PROJECT ON THE NBSLME

Goal

Strengthening Ecosystem Based Management Frameworks and Ocean Governance in the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem.

Scope

This project seeks to develop and test various governance arrangements to enable effective ecosystem based management (EBM) of mangroves and wetlands. It will do this in the context of multilevel (local to regional) governance arrangements that will be developed via a series of interactive, focused, multi-stakeholder consultations, and the implementation of community-based conservation interventions. These interventions will be designed to mitigate pollution and their impacts within coastal mangroves and wetlands within the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (NBSLME). The project will implement at least one (1) mangrove restoration/rehabilitation/protection and pollution abatement/prevention project in each of four (4) countries of the NBSLME: Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Suriname and Brazil. In so doing, this project will support national and regional coastal management programmes, assist participating countries in implementation of the SPAW (Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife) and LBS (Land Based Sources of marine Pollution) Protocols, and meet their international obligations with regards to RAMSAR and CBD(Convention on Biological Diversity). Through the establishment of robust monitoring and evaluation protocols, project successes and shortfalls will be well documented and analyzed thus enabling upgrading and replication of interventions in pollution abatement and coastal habitat restoration throughout the NBSLME.

Linkages with other national and regional initiatives

The proposed project will collaborate with several significant initiatives towards marine EBM that are ongoing or planned in the NBSLME. In the first instance, linkages will be established with other CLME+ Project activities/outputs, including those delegated to CEP: e.g. development of a Regional Action Plan for the Protection and Restoration of Key Habitats, and for Pollution abatement, and associated Investment Plan (CEP); development of SOCAR/SOME (CEP/CLME+ PCU). Secondly, project activities will be closely coordinated with the WWF Marine Spatial Planning Initiative that commenced in January 2017 in Guyana and Suriname, and the CI Mangrove Restoration Project, also planned for commencement in August 2017. This proposal seeks to strengthen and complement the planned WWF and CI stakeholder dialogues and mapping activities so that pollution, fisheries and habitat degradation hotspots associated with mangroves and wetlands may be identified and mapped, and actions to reduce pollution levels and impacts, and to restore affected ecosystems can be determined.

Under this project CI will focus on the assessment of forest cover in various mangroves throughout the northern Brazil, Guyana and Suriname coastal region. Data will also be collected on socio and economic activities ongoing in these mangroves. In order to enable effective community participation CI also seeks to engage in stakeholder consultations and has expressed a willingness thus, to collaborate in the organizing and hosting of stakeholder

meetings as the target groups are expected to be the same. In particular, CI has agreed to orient its assessment towards estimating fishery recruitment exports from mangroves to coastal small-scale fisheries and offshore commercial fisheries. This will help to underscore the value of mangroves beyond immediately adjacent areas.

By bringing government experts, NGOs, CBOs and other stakeholder groups together, it is anticipated that real solutions to mangrove degradation may be identified and addressed with assistance from other ongoing and newly planned initiatives (GEF or non-GEF), so that through the combination of resources a more comprehensive set of measures may be identified and implemented. Additional complimentary activities within the framework of the CLME+ Project will take place with Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) in the development of the Community Strategic Action programme (C SAP) and CERMES to support the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Governance Effective Assessment Framework (GEAF).

The project will further partner with the CLME+ Shrimp and Groundfish (S&G) Pilot to be implemented by FAO with a start date of April 2017. Under the S&G Pilot the now dormant FAO WECAFC S&G WG (working group) will be revived. This will provide an opportunity for the work to be done in this project, together with the work to be done by CI and WWF described above to be taken up by a regional level technical body with a mandate for an EA to the interconnected SSF and commercial fisheries of the region. It is anticipated that the deliberations of and advice generated by the WG will be oriented towards EBM. It is further possible that the S&G Pilot will go beyond reviving a regional technical WG to initiating a regional ministerial forum where decisions can be taken regarding EBM for the NBSLME.

Finally, the project will collaborate with the appropriate agencies in French Guiana in an effort to learn from relevant activities and to share project findings. While French Guiana is not GEF eligible, every effort will be made to liaise with them to align activities that they may be undertaking with their own resources.

In summary this proposed project will seek to

- ✓ Promote the active participation of civil society (coastal residents, farmers, fisheries officers and fisherfolk, educators, biologists, student volunteers, researchers, conservation and development NGOs) together with Government Organizations in the identification of pollution hotspots within the region, whilst partnering with three regional initiatives;
- ✓ Support a community based assessment of targeted sites;
- ✓ Facilitate the defining of governance arrangements for the pilot sites, stipulating roles and responsibilities and mechanisms for engagement of the different relevant sectors (environment, fisheries, forestry, agriculture, planning/finances, law enforcement, rural development, education, and health);
- ✓ Guide, using an EBM approach, actions at pilot sites to address impacts and mitigate LBS;
- ✓ Facilitate the development of mechanisms for (a) vertical linkages between the local pilot initiatives and national level processes for marine EBM (possibly by supporting the strengthening of NICs) (b) vertical linkages between national level processes for EBM (ideally NICs) and regional level processes for marine EBM (most likely the regional WG developed in the S&G pilot, but also WECAFC and CRFM)

- ✓ Undertake a review of the mangrove project outcomes and the governance arrangements that were applied to evaluate appropriateness and replicability within the NBSLME.

Implementing Agencies

The project will be spearheaded jointly by the following organizations:

Trinidad and Tobago

Institute of Marine Affairs,
 The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus
 Council of Presidents of the Environment (COPE)
 Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries

Guyana

Protected Areas Commission, Ministry of Natural Resources
 Environmental Protection Agency
 Mangrove Department in the National Agricultural Research & Extension Institute (NAREI)
 WWF Guianas (Guyana) Office
 Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture
 Department of Natural Sciences, University of Guyana
 Guyana Marine Conservation Society (GMCS)

Suriname

Nature Conservation Division of the Suriname Forest Service
 Maritime Authority Suriname
 WWF Guianas Suriname Office
 Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.
 Anton de Kom University (ADK)
 Green Heritage Fund Suriname (GHFS)

Brazil

This will be finalized during the Project Inception Workshop and Launch.

Project location: Sub-region within the North Brazil Shelf (Trinidad, Guyana, Suriname and Brazil coastal and inshore regions)

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| a. Proposed starting date: | 01 July 2017 |
| b. Project duration: | 18 months |
| c. Amount requested from UNEP(US\$): | 277,700 |
| d. Government(s) inputs: (US\$) | 100,000 (in kind) |
| e. Implementing agent inputs(US\$) | 100,000 (in kind) |
| f. Other donor inputs | CI , WWF |

2. PROJECT SUMMARY

Catalysing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems

Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries for the Shrimp and Groundfish Fishery

(CLME+ sub-project #2)

Executive summary

Fisheries and aquaculture are important for food security, employment and social welfare. FAO estimates that 800 millions – i.e. 10-12% - of the world population rely on fisheries and aquaculture for their livelihoods. 50% of the people engaged in the primary and secondary sector (e.g. processing, trading) are women. Seafood is the most traded food commodity and is important to human nutrition.

The drivers affecting fisheries and aquaculture today include some that are familiar, e.g. pollution (fertilizers, pesticides, heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants), habitat degradation (through filling, dredging, habitat conversion, disruption of freshwater flow, interruption of migratory paths) and overfishing, and some that are novel, e.g. coastal erosion from sea level rise and extreme events, competition for water, and global warming and other effects associated with climate change.

Healthy ecosystems and responsible management are at the heart of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code), which describes how fisheries and aquaculture should be managed responsibly and is supported by a number of instruments providing guidance on the practical implementation of the Code principles, such as the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF). Reinforcement of capacities available in fisheries management institutions is needed to implement an EAF effectively, especially when responsibilities are decentralized.

The current project will operate in the framework of the global and regional (Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission region – Areas 31 and the northern part of Area 41) implementation of the EAF with a focus on six countries (Brazil, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela and French Guiana). The outcomes will feed directly the development of additional tools for the EAF on the ground, through the implementation of a number of project activities. In addition, the project tackles fisheries governance and related institutions, hence providing a useful comparison with other approaches applied in other Large Marine Ecosystem Projects, such as the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME), the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BoBLME) and the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem. Finally, the project will develop a fisheries database together with data policy agreements, hence feeding a global database on fisheries management. The project outcomes will contribute directly to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Project outcome: improved fisheries governance and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources through the implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries-related activities, improved fisheries governance, higher quality data and information, and guidance to combat IUU fishing.

Project outputs: The outcome will be achieved as a result of achieving the outputs listed below. The current project will contribute to the overarching project CLME+ that includes overall outcomes and four sub-projects. The outputs foreseen include the following:

1. Decisions on coordination & cooperation arrangements and institutional mandates in line with SAP strategies 1 (environment), 2 (fisheries) and 3 (cross-sectoral policy coordination)
2. Regional Action plans for the management, conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources and for the protection of the marine environment, taking into account the implications on gender and the possible impacts of climate change
3. Well-planned, progressive transition to an ecosystem approach for the shrimp & groundfish fisheries of the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem.
 - a. Sub-regional arrangements for participatory governance and EAF- management of the shrimp & groundfish resources, with advisory and decision-making capacity for policy formulation and management, within the broader context of EBM for the NBSLME
 - b. Participatory governance arrangements strengthened/established at national level to facilitate adoption of the EAF approach, within the broader context of EBM for the NBSLME
 - c. Sub-regional data policy to support EAF management of the fishery
 - d. Enhanced knowledge base on shrimp and groundfish resources, and on the communities they sustain
 - e. Enhanced baseline on stock/ecosystem and socio-economic stressors in the NBSLME, with special attention to IUU fishing
 - f. Operational sub-regional data and information repository on fisheries and their associated ecosystems in the NBSLME
 - g. Plans and agreements, at sub-regional and national levels, to support actions against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the shrimp & groundfish fisheries
 - h. Capacity of national institutions and stakeholders strengthened to implement the management plans
 - i. EAF sub-regional management plan(s) for shrimp & groundfish fisheries
 - j. National implementation plans for the sub-regional EAF management plan(s) (FMPs)
 - k. Enhanced MCS measures to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fisheries, at sub-regional and national levels
 - l. Enhanced awareness and buy-in along the value chain, on critical importance of legally sourced fisheries products
 - m. Foundations in place to achieve long-term livelihoods support from shrimp & groundfish fisheries for the fisheries-dependent communities in the NBSLME
 - n. Criteria of “Decent Work”/social protection mainstreamed in national labour policies
 - o. Role of women in shrimp & groundfish fishery enhanced (pilot scale)
 - p. System to track and evaluate progress towards EAF implementation and to facilitate related strategic/adaptive decision-making, adopted and operational

- q. Lessons learnt and best practices from the Sub-Project activities documented and disseminated among interested CLME+ states and other stakeholders
- r. Sub-Project after-life plan, and additional (co-)financing leveraged
- 4. Pre-feasibility reports on major investment needs and opportunities (including budget estimates, scope of work, private sector involvement, potential benefits and required timescales)
- 5. Investment plans (incl. Specifications for private sector and civil society involvement) to deal with key issues identified under the CLME TDAs.

This shrimp and groundfish sub-project will be spearheaded by the following organizations in the participating countries:

Trinidad and Tobago

Fisheries Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries
The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus

Guyana

Fisheries Division in the Ministry of Agriculture
Environmental Protection Agency

Suriname

Sub-Department for Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (LVV).

Nationaal Instituut voor Milieu en Ontwikkeling in Suriname (NIMOS)

Maritime Authority Suriname

Anton de Kom University (ADK)

Brazil

Secretariat of Aquaculture and Fisheries

Other agencies to be determined

Venezuela

Ministerio del Poder Popular de Pesca y Acuicultura

Other agencies to be determined

French Guyana

French Research Institute for Exploration of The Sea (IFREMER)

Other agencies to be determined

Relevant regional partners will be invited to provide expertise and inputs, in line with the CLME first phase (CANARI, CERMES, CRFM, GCFI)