

## GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

**CHILD PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Child Project**

**PROGRAM: Other Program**

<b>Child Project Title:</b>	Global Coordination Project for the Common Oceans ABNJ Program
<b>Country:</b>	Global
<b>Lead Agency</b>	FAO
<b>GEF Agency(ies):</b>	UNEP UNDP

### INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
IW-2-4	GEFTF	2,752,294	6,400,000 (tbc)
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>2,752,294</b>	<b>6,400,000</b>

### PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: to maximize the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of GEF-7 investments in the Common Oceans ABNJ program						
Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
1. Programme coordination, monitoring and adaptive management	Technical Assistance	<p>1.1 The Program and its child projects (including participating partners) are collaborative and adaptive, through an effective and synergistic programme.</p> <p>1.2 Project partners, integrated and aligned on coordinated and prioritized actions, where appropriate, to increase effectiveness of the interventions at Program and Child Project levels</p> <p>1.3 The progress of the child projects and the program are effectively and</p>	<p>1.1.1 Programme-wide coordination of actions that are common to two or more child-projects to ensure they are consistent and cohesive</p> <p>1.2.1 Collaborative partnerships synergizing their actions and products on common issues in the ABNJ following an agreed partnership strategy</p> <p>1.3.1 Harmonized programmatic M&amp;E system with agreed indicators to guide adaptive program management and reporting and child project M7E systems.</p>	GEFTF	650,000	1,500,000

		consistently monitored.				
2. Knowledge management, communications and outreach, and capacity building for effective and integrated sustainable use of the ABNJ	Technical Assistance	<p>2.1 Experiences and models of sustainable use of ABNJ are collated, analyzed and effectively communicated, stimulating scaling up</p> <p>2.2 Increased capacity among global, regional and national actors in common areas of learning (e.g. ecosystem approach, natural capital assessment, climate change, monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) communication)</p> <p>2.3 General public increasingly aware of ABNJ issues and the actions of the Program to address these issues</p>	<p>2.1.1 Integrated Program and Child Project communication strategy developed and implemented with common messaging and guidance for coordinated, consistent and harmonized dissemination of knowledge.</p> <p>2.1.2 Guidance and support provided to the projects for consistent and harmonized dissemination of knowledge products that capture lessons learned.</p> <p>2.2.1 Access to capacity building tools (.g. e-learning) developed and their use at the Child Project level is facilitated.</p> <p>2.3.1 Consistent and branded outreach for civil society and stakeholders of knowledge and results communicated by Child Projects and coordinated at the Program level</p>		700,000	1,500,000
3. Innovative private sector engagement in the ABNJ	Technical Assistance	3.1 The private sector enabled to engage and innovatively invest in collective action	3.1.1 Strategic documents (e.g. natural capital assessment) and forums (e.g. investor		1,271,232	3,000,000

		<p>to address “global” or “ABNJ wide” sustainability issues (e.g. marine litter/ghost gear.)</p> <p>3.2 Model/approach for improved engagement of the private sector in addressing collective action in the ABNJ based on lessons learned developed, established and operational. At least one pilot private sector partnership explored to better understand the feasibility of different options including possible income streams, financial sustainability, operating costs and risks as well as impact on sustainability</p>	<p>market place) identified and promoted, to improve investor understanding of the options, costs, risks, sustainability impacts and financial feasibility for innovative financing and to attract private sector partnerships to support actions to address ABNJ-wide sustainability issues.</p> <p>3.2.1 Based on 3.1.1 feasibility results prepared in collaboration with private sector partner(s) and a project partner, develop at least one investment “agreement” that contributes to realizing Program objectives (e.g. improved traceability, catch documentation etc.).</p> <p>3.2.2 Pilot study to demonstrate improved private sector engagement using the value chain approach for improved uptake of best practices to improve the 3 pillars of sustainability for resource use in ABNJ.</p>			
Subtotal					2,621,232	6,000,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)					131,062	400,000

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>2,752,294</b>	<b>6,400,000</b>
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**INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	3,400,000 (tbc)
Civil Society Organization	Conservation International	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	1,500,000 (tbc)
Civil Society Organization	WWF-US	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	1,500,000 (tbc)
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>6,400,000 (tbc)</b>

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
FAO	GEFTF	Global	International Waters		2,752,294	247,706	3,000,000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>2,752,294</b>	<b>247,706</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>

**PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)**

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

- Yes  If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved  
 No  If no, skip this item.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
FAO	GEF TF	Global	International Water		100,000	9,000	109,000
<b>Total PPG Amount</b>					<b>100,000</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>109,000</b>

### PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	<b>Terrestrial protected areas</b> created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
2	<b>Marine protected areas</b> created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
3	Area of <b>land restored</b> (Hectares)	
4	Area of <b>landscapes under improved practices</b> (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
5	Area of <b>marine habitat under improved practices</b> (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
6	<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated</b> (metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e)	
7	<b>Number of shared water ecosystems</b> (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	———
8	Globally over-exploited <b>marine fisheries</b> moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	———
9	<b>Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination</b> and avoidance of <b>chemicals of global concern</b> and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of <b>POPs to air</b> from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of <b>direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender</b> as co-benefit of GEF investment	1,200 women and 1,200 men

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## 1. Country Context

*Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?*

The overall Common Oceans ABNJ program seeks to address the four key barriers identified during the formulation of the programmatic Theory of Change which were (as currently worded):

- Inadequate policies, processes and incentives for effective governance and management in ABNJ;
- Insufficient capacity – systems, mechanisms, tools, knowledge, human and financial resources - for effective management and sustainable utilization of ABNJ natural living resources;
- Weak multi-sector coordination to support sustainable use of ABNJ;
- Poor awareness and understanding (and, in some cases, misunderstanding) and limited support among civil society and decision-makers on issues affecting ABNJ.

These will be addressed through four Program components aimed at:

- (i) Strengthening frameworks, processes and incentives for more effective fisheries governance and management in ABNJ;
- (ii) Improving capacity to manage fisheries sustainably in ABNJ;
- (iii) Improving stakeholder coordination and engagement in multi-sectoral processes addressing governance and management of ABNJ;
- (iv) Improving Knowledge and Knowledge Management for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ

Activities aimed at achieving the programmatic outcomes are grouped into four “child” projects: two cover global fisheries in the ABNJ, one covers issues of capacity building in cross-sectoral management and another one focused on the Sargasso Sea as an example of multi-sectoral collaboration in the conservation of a particular ecosystem. The Global Coordination Project (GCP) provides arrangements for the child projects to interlink (while retaining their individuality), in order to more efficiently achieve large-scale impacts on the global management of the ABNJ and in delivering the SDGs. While Goal 14 and in particular targets 14.2, 14.4 and 14.7.1, the project will also contribute to SDG1 (Poverty), SDG12 (Sustainable Production and Consumption) and SDG17 (Partnerships). The services to be provided include facilitating coordination among the child projects, partnership building at the programmatic level, cohesive knowledge management, communications, outreach, capacity building and monitoring and evaluation, and opportunities for innovative means of financing, focusing on private sector.

By fostering communications and outreach to a range of stakeholders, including the private sector, as well as scaling up and playing a coordination role across the program, this GCP (in association with the child projects) contributes to meeting the needs for better management of the ABNJ. While all five projects are aimed at overcoming the constraints and barriers to sustainable use and conservation of the ABNJ, the GCP is focusing on program coordination and knowledge management for the purpose of furthering effective sustainable use of the ABNJ including engaging the private sector in collective action to address

global or ABNJ-wide sustainability issues. The GCP will help to ensure that the impacts of the program are sustained on targeted resources and that they are replicated in regions/ with similar conditions and challenges.

The GCP will assist the child projects in delivering their intended outcomes, by providing support to the projects to ensure cohesiveness and consistency at the program level. The GCP will not interfere with the implementation of the technical activities of the child projects, but will promote agreement by the projects on areas of cooperation, coordination and collective action at the programme level. The GCP will monitor and report progress towards program-level outcomes, and make all stakeholders aware of that progress, with inputs from the child projects.

## **2. Project Overview and Approach**

### *(i) Geographic scope of project*

The GCP will support four child projects which will work with States, often cooperating through in inter-governmental fisheries management organizations, that are using or have an interest in the sustainable use of the marine resources and spaces in the areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). The target locations of the four child projects are areas where human activities might have a negative impact, especially where they link to the ABNJ environment, including areas covered by regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) that manage tuna, deep-sea and other fisheries, regional seas conventions and actions plans (RSCAP) and Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) that have an interest or are linked to addressing issues in the ABNJ (pollution, biodiversity conservation, environmental impacts) in these areas. The specific target regions of each project are described in each project-specific concept note, together with the challenges, threats and drivers that will be addressed by each project.

### *(ii) Threats, drivers and barriers to be addressed*

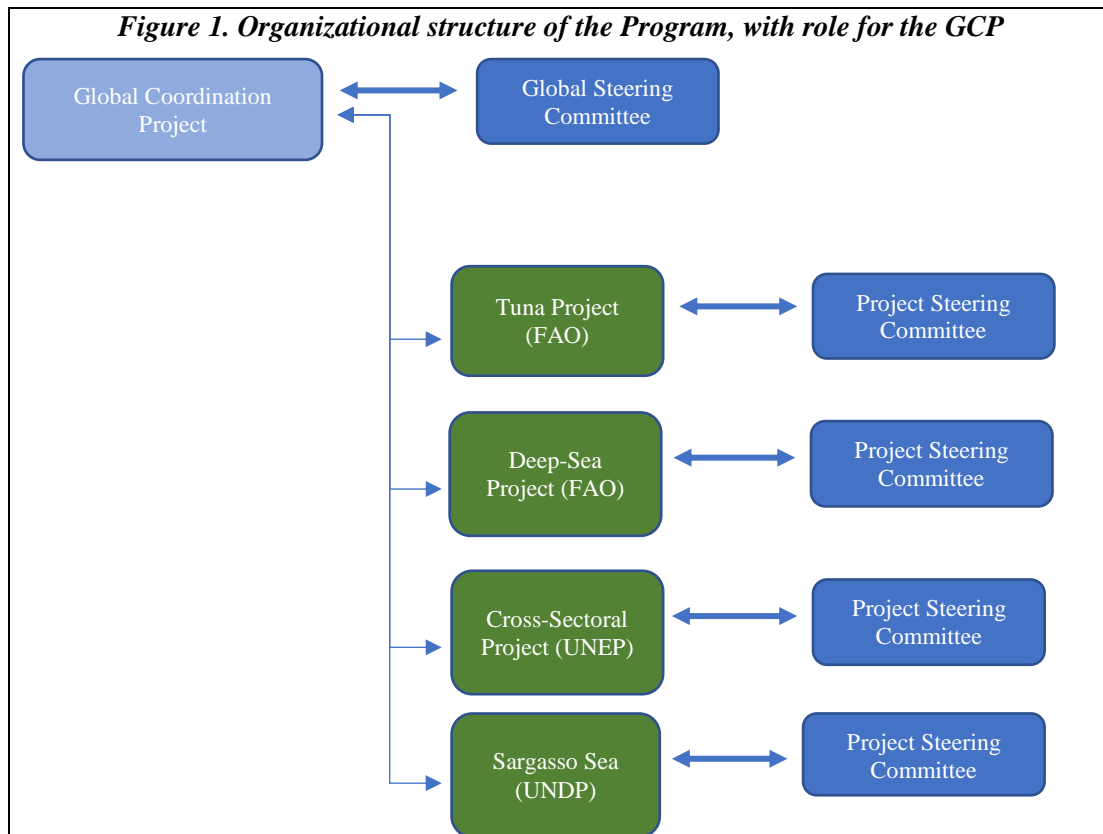
Specifically the projects of the Common Oceans ABNJ Program will focus on addressing the challenges described in the overall programmatic theory of change, including barriers to the efficient and effective sustainable use of ABNJ resources such as: weak compliance and enforcement of regulations in some States; insufficient capacities including financial and human resources to uptake new tools as well as monitoring for adaptive management; weak multi-sector coordination and limited awareness and understanding resulting in limited support by civil society and limited action by policy makers on issues affecting the ABNJ.

While the four child projects will address various barriers, the GCP will assist and collaborate with the four child projects so that they will deliver outcomes in a consistent, coordinated, synergistic and efficient manner so that the impact of the projects operating as a programme is greater than the impact of four independent projects.

This GCP will address some of these common challenges by:

- Providing appropriate coordination mechanisms for gathering, collating, managing and exchanging knowledge among the projects and their partners, as well as globally and regionally across relevant public and private sectors;
- Coordinating communication, knowledge sharing and capacity building in common areas of learning (e.g. ecosystem approach, natural capital assessment, monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) communication) and identifying synergies between the projects addressing different sectors as well as different fisheries (e.g. between tuna and deep-sea fisheries) and especially, for engaging the private sector;

- Strengthening the capacity of project beneficiaries to better collaborate in the use of ABNJ resources through the coordination of common areas of learning and in a consistent and harmonized way across projects;
- Facilitating engagement of the private sector to encourage long-term innovative financing focused on addressing issues in ABNJ through an improved understanding of the opportunities for investing as well as for corporate social responsibility;
- Monitoring and evaluating the performance and progress of projects to support adaptive management;



- This work builds on the lessons learned and success stories of the previous Common Oceans ABNJ Program by replicating, scaling up and innovating, or correcting where necessary.

By providing these services, the GCP will in turn enable the child projects to more effectively address the specific sector challenges to sustainable management of ABNJ resources, assist countries in participating effectively and leading global processes such as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), and to better manage targeted fisheries resources and other sectors as well as the integrated and sustainable use of shared spaces in the ABNJ.

Facilitating the coordination of common activities across the child projects will improve the effectiveness of the individual child projects and the program as a whole, allowing cost-savings and efficiencies; wider dissemination of results and lessons to broader audiences where individual projects would have less reach; increased opportunities for building and sharing of technical capacity including exchange of ideas on approaches, techniques and tools between projects (particularly tuna and deep sea projects);



opportunities for new partnerships and investment in actions to move towards the sustainable use of ABNJ.

A partnership strategy will be key to ensuring that stakeholders participating in all of the individual projects understand and commit to the Program goals and objectives as well as contributing, where relevant, to the success of the other projects, and in turn, this project will also provide partners with full benefits from the partnerships.

*Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;*

***(i) Knowledge management and Communication***

The GCP Project will build on the technical outputs of the other four projects under the Program, and an extensive baseline of different mechanisms to facilitate global knowledge management and communication on sectoral and cross-sectoral issues. These include the strengthening of fisheries management of resources based in the ABNJ or straddling between the ABNJ and EEZs, providing sound science-based information to the BBNJ process, as well as supporting efforts towards cross-sectoral cooperation in the ABNJ. These include:

- The Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) with a mandate in the ABNJ. There are five tuna RFMOs and eight deep-sea RFMOs, all of them potential partners in the ABNJ program, covering more than 90 countries. All RFMOs have regional knowledge sharing hubs and active mechanisms to collect and process data for assistance in science-based decision making. The GCP will assist the child projects in identifying opportunities for sharing of experiences and south-south cooperation.
- Regional Fishery Body (RFB) Secretariats Network (RSN) and the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs). These networks facilitate information exchange and collaborate on common issues among the Secretariats of different RFB (more than 50 exists) and RSCAPs (18 exists) and LMEs respectively and more recently coordination and collaboration between RFBs and RSs (e.g. GFCM<sup>1</sup> and MAP; NEAFC and OSPAR) on matters of common interest.
- Partners in the Common Oceans ABNJ Program such as UNEP and its collaborating centers (WCMC and GRID Arendal), the Global Ocean Forum, WWF-US and others, maintain knowledge hubs at global scales for a range of ocean data including marine protected areas, seabed mapping and other relevant data sets. The GCP project will work with these partners, and others such as the Global Ocean Forum, the RFMOs, RSCAPs, LMEs and private sector as information conduits and platform, through the child projects, for not only sharing knowledge but for cross-sectoral information integration, best practices and e-learning. This will facilitate regional and global transfer of information into the Program and its child projects as well as the wider outflow of knowledge and other information projects through these institutions to stakeholders at regional and national levels.

***(ii) Partners coordination/collaboration/integration***

The project will create and maintain a partnership among the child projects and stakeholders, underpinned by a Partnership Strategy that partners and, in particular, the implementing agencies of the child projects, will agree to, enabling the GCP to effectively support the coordination among child projects as well as facilitate collaboration and integration.

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<sup>1</sup> General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

In addition, regionally, but still within national EEZs, large marine ecosystem (LME) projects are increasingly recognizing the connectivity between coastal waters and the ABNJ. The LME experiences are valuable and they supplement other approaches and models for cross-sectoral coordination of the sustainable use of ABNJ such as the Sustainable Oceans Initiative (SOI), the UN Ocean Compact and the World Ocean Council. These last two are cross-sectoral efforts that are focused on the private sector awareness and engagement. Communication and knowledge sharing efforts of this GCP and the relevant child projects will capitalize on these links where appropriate and relevant.

### *(iii) Partnerships with private sector*

The awareness of the importance and value of oceans to human well-being is increasing seen in recent and upcoming meetings, and this includes awareness of the need to sustainably manage oceans, but investments in issues that are common or cross-cutting are minimal at this point in time especially by the private sector. To date public-private partnerships are limited to only a few partnerships that are attempting to invest in some of the broader issues facing the unsustainable use of the ABNJ such as biodiversity loss, overfishing, marine debris, etc. This GCP, building on the experiences of the GEF-5 ABNJ Oceans Partnership Project such as the investor marketplace and other recent initiatives such as FAO's Blue Hope, will explore scaling/replicating previous work and innovative financing options to meaningfully target the private sector, through sound feasibility studies, outreach and knowledge sharing and to encourage their investment in sustainable management of the natural resources of ABNJ. Areas of scaling up, replication and innovation such as electronic catch documentation and traceability schemes, using Blockchain technology<sup>2</sup>, impact investing and blue bonds (e.g. Seychelles). In addition, based on the lessons learned in the GEF-5 Common Ocean ABNJ Program, the GCP will strategically communicate and raise awareness among the private sector so they are better informed about the potential opportunities for investing in the ABNJ outside of their sector as well as for exercising corporate social responsibility. Collectively the partners of the Program including CI (Blue Abhadi Fund) and WWF (Marine Stewardship Council), along with FAO (AquaInvest), have piloted, and in some cases scaled up, innovative solutions for the private sector to finance biodiversity outcomes, and this project will harness this collective knowledge to seek similar financing outcomes. Other initiatives with NGOs and Foundations such as the Meloy Fund will be considered. New partnerships with the private sector to be explored include SEAPACT and SEABOS. Where there have been no demonstrated successes or lessons learned or where there is a question of scalability of previous successes, feasibility studies will be undertaken to engage the private sector. Global platforms such as the World Ocean Council<sup>3</sup> and the UN Global Compact<sup>4</sup> will also be engaged to assist in outreach, information dissemination and private sector engagement.

Specific investors may include International Financial Institutions (IFIs) in particular, multilateral development banks (MDBs) who provide financing and professional advising for the purpose of development will be essential stakeholders for the projects. MDBs could finance projects in the form of long-term loans at market rates, very-long-term loans (also known as credits) below market rates, and through grants, and could be instrumental in implementing some of the innovative financing mechanisms to be proposed under the Global Coordination Project. What follows are some examples of initiatives:

- **PROBLUE** is a new Multi-Donor Trust Fund, housed at the **World Bank**, that supports the development of integrated, sustainable and healthy marine and coastal resources. With the Blue Economy Action Plan as its foundation, PROBLUE contributes to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) and is fully aligned with the World Bank's twin goals of ending

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<sup>2</sup> <https://fishcoin.co>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.oceancouncil.org/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

extreme poverty and increasing the income and welfare of the poor in a sustainable way. PROBLUE focuses on four key areas:

- The management of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Addressing threats posed to ocean health by marine pollution, including litter and plastics, from marine or land-based sources
- The sustainable development of key oceanic sectors such as tourism, maritime transport and off-shore renewable energy
- Building government capacity to manage marine resources, including nature-based infrastructure such as mangroves, in an integrated way to deliver more and long-lasting benefits to countries and communities

Cross-cutting issues such as poverty, livelihoods, gender, climate change and maximizing finance for development, are interwoven throughout the program.

The **Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies** from the **Asian Development Bank**, along with a new ADB Oceans Financing initiative, supports the protection and restoration of marine ecosystems and promote inclusive livelihood opportunities. Supporting ADB's developing member countries to improve ocean health and achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14. The Action Plan focuses on four areas: creating inclusive livelihoods and business opportunities in sustainable tourism and fisheries; protecting and restoring coastal and marine ecosystems and key rivers; reducing land-based sources of marine pollution, including plastics, wastewater, and agricultural runoff; and improving sustainability in port and coastal infrastructure development.

The **European Investment Bank (EIB) Clean Oceans Initiative** supports the development and implementation of sustainable, viable and low carbon projects that reduce pollution in the oceans, with a particular focus on plastics. The goal is to finance €2 billion in public and private sector projects by 2023. The initiative has already met more than a third of this target. The initiative was launched in October 2018 by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the European Investment Bank and Kf W, the German promotional bank.

The project design will reflect GEF Policy on Gender Equality and will as part of the project's coordination role, ensure that the other four projects are aligned with the strategy and share experiences and lessons learned in the engagement of women in the projects. While gender inclusion and the promotion of gender equality are not specific objectives of the Project, the collection of sex-disaggregated data and information on gender will be incorporated into project design and information on gender dimensions relevant to the activity will be collected. Per FAO Policy on Gender a gender analysis will be completed during project design and, depending on the results, followed by a Gender Action Plan (GAP).

*Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits;*

The combination of the vast expanse of the ABNJ and sectors that are often narrowly focused geographically but with the potential for localized impacts such as seabed mining and deep sea fishing, means that risk interventions are often sub-optimal especially in terms of impact, efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Just as it is important that the different sectors coordinate and collaborate and, where possible, integrate actions, it is important that interventions in this program reflect these needs to coordinate and collaborate as well as to deliver an effective and efficient Common Oceans ABNJ Program (Figure 1).

**Table 1: Coordination Project linkages.**

<b>Project Elements</b>	<b>Tuna</b>	<b>Deep Sea</b>	<b>Cross-Sectoral</b>	<b>Sargasso Sea</b>
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The child projects will deliver valuable outputs in their respective sectors and the Global Coordination Project is the thread that brings together the common outputs of the child projects (Table 1) allowing them to have the maximum impact to achieve the Program outcomes.

The GCP will maximize Program and projects efficiencies through:

- Facilitating coordination and identification of possibilities for direct collaboration between child projects, especially for common outputs;
- Communication, knowledge management, capacity building on shared issues are coordinated and synergized to ensure cost effectiveness.
- Since duplication of efforts is avoided, the benefits of coordinating and identification of possible joint work planning include efficient use of resources.

The program framework and theory of change focus on four areas: governance and management which includes frameworks, processes and incentives; implementation of the ecosystem approach; capacity to coordinate and engage in multi-sectoral processes; and knowledge and information sharing.

The GCP Project will use the same logic to the program as a whole: knowledge, experiences and best practices generated at project level, and identified as relevant to broader audiences will be managed and shared at regional and global levels to maximize up scaling and promote uptake and replication. Private sector partnerships at the project level will be prioritized on best available information to maximize impact and cost-effectiveness; investments will be coordinated to maximize synergies; and facilitate interactions with regional and global stakeholders of common interests across the projects.

Each Project will generate knowledge and information, some of which will be common across the projects and in some cases it may overlap. The GCP will play a key role in the overall synthesis of output and outcome results across the four child projects for the production of global knowledge products and in the coordination of dissemination mechanisms.

*Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.*

Governance	X	X	X	X
MCS/enforcement	X	X		X
Ecosystem Approach	X	X	X	X
Ecosystem valuation				X
Biodiver./environm. impacts	X	X		X
X-sectoral arrangements		X	X	X
Climate change	X	X		X
Knowledge sharing	X	X	X	X
Communication	X	X	X	X
Capacity Building	X	X	X	X
Private Sector investments	X	X		

The GCP will enable the programmatic approach to deliver added value in terms of effectiveness, sustainability and scale at global and regional levels, as well as distributing synthesized knowledge generated by the projects to the larger group of beneficiaries of the Program.

This programmatic value-added will be generated through the delivery of the three components of the GCP that respond to the project-specific barriers noted above:

**Component 1** will deliver programmatic value added by ensuring efficient programme-wide coordination and monitoring of the projects, and ensures coherence and consistency among all child projects included in the program, while also being responsible for facilitating collaborative engagement by relevant entities (institutions, networks, etc.) that could place a major role in advancing transformational change.

In this component an M&E system will be established using standard methods and incorporating child project M&E results and program-level indicators, to guide adaptive program management and reporting including program-wide contributions to GEF-7 core indicators and SDGs. This component will seek to generate synergies between projects, resulting in increases in cumulative impacts, and limit the risk of duplication or conflicts.

**Component 2** will focus on knowledge management, communication and outreach and capacity building, through consistent and innovative online tools, and together these will contribute to child project effectiveness. This component will ensure projects respond to and share lessons learned regionally and globally, findings from cutting edge science and best practices, and facilitate links to regional and global knowledge hubs such as the Ocean Action Hub, Oceanhub.org and RevOcean as well as IWLearn where appropriate. It will also contribute to sustained uptake and scaling out of impacts, by ensuring that lessons learned through the child projects are collated and analyzed, disseminated into national, regional and global knowledge hubs with a focus on target stakeholders. As well 1% of the GEF IW funding will be allocated towards supporting and enhancing the Common Ocean website that follows IWLEARN guidance, at least two experience notes, participation in IWCs held during the project implementation period as well as topical and regional events hosted by IWLEARN during project period. The projects/programme website will This component will coordinate the production of information packages that will inform national governments and regional entities, such as EU and UN, and other political decision making processes including the BBNJ process.

**Component 3** will focus on enabling the private sector to engage and invest in collective action to address “global” or “ABNJ wide” sustainability issues. Without a better understanding of the opportunities, risks and ways to mitigate these risks provided by this component, many private sector players will be reluctant to explore investing in the sector despite their interest in contributing to the SDG goals. This component will also further test models/approaches/incentives including innovative financing tested (including Bond, Trust Fund, global lottery, impact investment) and risk mitigation measures for better private sector engagement and investment in addressing ABNJ-wide issues. The

PPG phase will be used to further explore and identify appropriate private sector instruments for development. Without identification of, and guidance on, suitable models and approaches, much of the private sector will be reluctant to engage.

### **Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework**

*Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?*

The integration of the GCP into the global framework of the Program is fundamental to its design. The GCP will play a critical role in supporting the Program as a whole through program coordination and monitoring, knowledge sharing and other inputs such as communication, capacity building and private sector engagement as shown in Table 1. The GCP will complement the benefits of the other child projects by allowing further programmatic value-added to be delivered beyond the result from the project-specific investments, ensuring that the whole of the Program is greater than the sum of the parts.

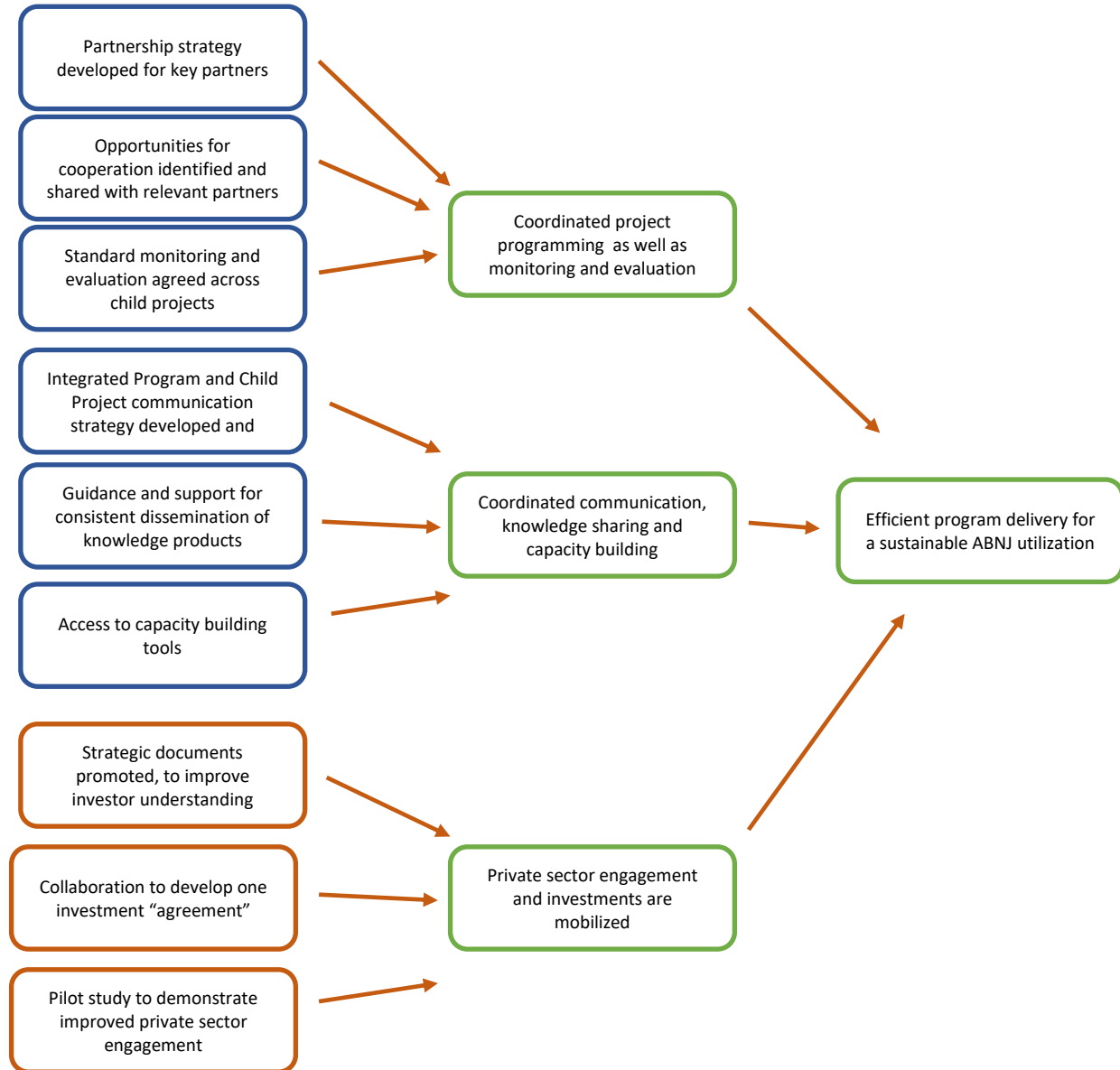
Overall these benefits will include:

- Increased effectiveness of impact generation due to improved access to global knowledge on lessons learned and disseminated project results globally and regionally, encouraging adaptive management; the results, experiences, effective models, etc, from the other child projects will be transmitted into this GCP Child project, increasing efficiency, reach and impact of project and Program results, experiences and lessons learned;
- Improved cost-effectiveness of investment due to improved and broad understanding of effective tools, approaches and models tested and used in the projects that provide sound information for decision making at regional and global levels as well as for private sector investments; and
- Increased effectiveness in addressing resource management processes and tackling impacts on the use of the ABNJ and its resources operating at global and regional scale.

The engagement of all relevant stakeholders and actors will be facilitated through the development of a Programme Partnership Strategy so that entities participating in projects and the wider programme will have an understanding of what their obligations are in advancing programme goals as well as what they can expect to be delivered by the programme and other partners.

## Annex I – Theory of Change

Figure 1: Theory of Change



**Table 2. GCP conformity with Theory of Change outcomes**

<b>Common Oceans ABNJ Program Components</b>	<b>Conformity within Child Project</b>
<p>Component 1: Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened</p>	<p>The GCP will ensure that frameworks and processes across the other projects will deliver coordinated and effective action by the Child Projects, in particular in the identification of best practices, capacity building and lessons learned.</p>
<p>Component 2: Capacity for better implementation of ecosystem-based management in fisheries management in the ABNJ strengthened</p>	<p>This GCP will coordinate efficient and effective capacity building, including knowledge sharing and communications, so that together the projects will empower stakeholders with capacities to better manage resources, including fisheries, in the ABNJ.</p>
<p>Component 3: Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved</p>	<p>Through improved communication tools and experience and partnership strategies this project, in collaboration with the cross-sectoral Project, will provide stakeholders with the capacity to more effectively participate in multi-sectoral governance and management processes in ABNJ</p>
<p>Component 4: Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved</p>	<p>The project will optimize the impact of the results, experiences, lessons learned generated through the projects by synthesizing and analysing information for improved uptake at global, regional and national levels.</p>