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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN
UNEP GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

Fourth Steering Committee Meeting of the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership)

17-20 February, Tunis, Tunisia

MedPartnership Mid-Term Evaluation

Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

MedPartnership

Together for the Mediterranean

Delegates are kindly requested to bring their documents to the meeting

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2014

Mid Term Evaluation of the UNEP GEF Project:

Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component:
Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its Coastal Areas
("MedPartnership")

July 2013

Project Number: 26000 (GEF) & GFL/2322-2731-4A05 (UNEP)

Geographical Scope: Regional - Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. Palestine also participates

Start Date: August 2009

Completion Date: August 2014

Executing Agency: UNEP MAP

Contents

Annexes

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
BOD	Biological oxygen demand
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CG	Strategic Partnership Coordination Group
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
CP/RAC	Cleaner Production RAC
DEPI	Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (UNEP)
DGEF	Division of GEF Coordination (UNEP)
EAF	Ecosystem approach to fisheries
EC	European Commission
ELV	Emission Limit Values
EMS	Environmental Management System
EQS	Environmental Quality Standards
ESM	Environmentally sound management
EST	Environmentally sound technologies
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFEM	*Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial* (French GEF)
FMO	Financial Management Officer
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (FAO)
GWP-Med	Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean
ICZM	Integrated coastal zone management
IF	Investment Fund (of the Strategic Partnership)
IHP	International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO)
INFO/RAC	Environmental Information and Communication RAC
IRBM	Integrated river basin management
IW	International Waters
IWRM	Integrated water resource management
LOA	Letter of Agreement
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MEDPOL	Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the Mediterranean
MedPartnership	Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem
MIO-ECSDE	Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development
MPA	Marine protected area
MTF	Mediterranean Trust Fund
NAP	National Action Plan
NCPC	National Cleaner Production Centre
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NIP	National Implementation Plan
OP	Operational Programme (GEF)
OVI	Objectively verifiable indicator
PAP/RAC	Priority Actions Programme RAC
PCA	Project Cooperation Agreement
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
PDF	Project development fund
PIR	Project Implementation Review
POP	Persistent organic pollutant
PMU	Project Management Unit
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
RC	Regional component (of the Strategic Partnership)
ROtI	Review of outcomes to impact
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SAP-BIO	Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region
SAP-MED	Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-Based Activities

SC	Strategic Partnership Steering Committee
SPA/RAC	Specially Protected Areas RAC
SSFA	Small scale funding agreement
Sustainable MED	Mediterranean Environmentally Sustainable Development Program (World Bank)
SWIM	Sustainable Water Integrated Management (EC)
SWITCH-Med	Switching to more sustainable consumption and production in the Mediterranean (EC)
SWM	Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (UfM)
ROtI	Review of outcomes to impact
TDA	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
TEST	Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies
TOR	Terms of reference
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WB	World Bank
WWF-MedPO	World Wide Fund for Nature – Mediterranean Programme Office

Project Identification Table

GEF project ID:	2600	**UNEP IMIS number:**	GFL/2322-2731-4A05
Focal Area(s):	International Waters, POPs	**GEF OP #:**	OP 2, OP 9, OP 14 and OP 15
GEF Strategic Priority/Objective:	IW SP-1; IW SP-2; IW SP-3; POPs SP-2	**GEF approval date:**	9 April 2008
UNEP Approval date:	11 August 2008	**First Disbursement:**	November 2008
Actual start date:	1 August 2009	**Planned duration:**	60 months
Intended completion date:	August 2013 (at CEO approval)	**Expected completion date:**	August 2014
Project Type:	Full Size Project (FSP)	**GEF Allocation:**	US$ 11,891,000*
PDF GEF cost:	US$ 700,000	**PDF co-financing:**	US$ 1,258,500
Expected Co-financing:	US$ 35,597,700*	**Expected Total Cost:**	US$ 49,447,200*
Mid-term Evaluation planned date:	September 2010 (at CEO approval)	**Mid-term Evaluation actual date:**	Sept - December 2012
No. of revisions:	2	**Date of last Revision:**	4 December 2012
Number of Steering Committee meetings:	3	**Date of last Steering Committee meeting:**	15-17 May 2012
Disbursement as of 31 December 2011:	US$ 2,835,947*	**Actual expenditures entered in IMIS as of 30 June 2012:**	US$ 3,456,396*
Total co-financing realized as of 30 June 2012:	US$ 16,827,009	**Leveraged financing:**	Not yet recorded

Sources: Project document, GEF project database, UNEP/MAP, UNEP DEPI

* These figures do not include the PDF-B grant or the UNIDO-implemented TEST Project (Component 2.2)

Executive Summary

1. The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem or 'MedPartnership' was designed to catalyse the implementation of two Strategic Action Programmes for the Mediterranean (SAP MED and SAP BIO) that were adopted respectively in 1997 and 2003. It comprises an investment fund and a technical assistance project, known as the Regional Component that is the subject of this evaluation. The project spans 13 countries bordering the southern, eastern and Adriatic coasts of the Mediterranean Sea.

2. The objective of the Regional Component, which is the focus of this mid-term evaluation, is to fill the knowledge gap and promote harmonized policy, legal and institutional reforms to reverse marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion, in accordance with the priorities agreed by the countries in the SAP MED and SAP BIO, and to prepare the ground for the future implementation of the ICZM Protocol. The project comprises four components addressing 1) integrated approaches for the implementation of SAPs and NAPs; 2) pollution from land-based activities including persistent organic pollutants (POPs); 3) conservation of biological diversity; and, 4) project co-ordination, replication and communication.

3. The MedPartnership project is implemented by UNEP and executed by UNEP MAP that established a small Project Management Unit (PMU) based at its offices in Athens. The project is delivered by ten technical co-executing partners comprising three UN organisations (UNESCO IHP, FAO and UNIDO), three NGOs (GWP, MIO-ESDCDE and WWF-MedPO), three MAP Regional Activity Centres (CP/RAC, PAP/RAC and SPA/RAC) and MAPs MEDPOL programme. Joint coordination activities were agreed with the World Bank. A fourth RAC withdrew from the project and its assigned activities are now coordinated by the PMU.

4. The MedPartnership project started in August 2009, some 15 months after approval by the GEF CEO, for a duration of 60 months and was extended at the end of the inception phase to reflect an expected closure date to August 2014. The GEF budget for the project is US$ 11,891,000. Pledged co-financing was US$ 35,597,700 co-finance, equivalent to 75% or the total cost of the project. The mid-term evaluation of the regional component was undertaken just over three years into implementation of the project and two and half years after the adoption of the project Inception Report by the Steering Committee (SC).

5. The key questions for this evaluation concerned how well the project is progressing towards achievement of its objectives and challenges to project implementation and timing, the likelihood of achieving expected outcomes during the project lifetime, the sustainably and replication potential of the project and the adequacy of the project management structure. Project delivery and effectiveness are addressed in Part II Section A of this report, sustainability and replicability in Part II Section B and explanatory factors and challenges are addressed in Part II Section C. In addition, the evaluation has paid particular attention to delivery of the POPs and PCB-related work, the relationship with the investment fund, and the way in which the project has been affected by the Arab Spring and other political events.

Findings and Conclusions

6. The project is expected to contribute substantially to its expected outcomes during its lifetime and will provide a foundation for longer term results, conditional on further investment. It is delivering on a wide range of enabling activities and is expected to lead to adoption on a wide range of plans, strategies and agreed targets. The project has already led to stress reduction through creation and better management of MPAs and through water savings and pollution reduction as a result of promotion of environmentally sound technologies. Work on industrial pollution, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and fishing gears is expected to lead to further stress reduction though at a lower level than anticipated in the project document.

7. The evaluation has highlighted the advantages of the Partnership structure including mobilisation of expertise and specialised networks and the long term commitment of partners, but also some of the disadvantages, such as relatively high transaction costs. Coordination at country level has been less successful to date with little progress on the establishment of country support programmes and inter-ministerial committees.

8. Important challenges faced by the PMU and project partners during implementation of the project include the withdrawal of one of the executing partners (INFO/RAC); delays and interruption of activities as a result of insecurity associated with the Arab Spring and the political situation in Syria; and the shortfall in funding for the Strategic Partnership Investment Fund which created some disappointment among partners. The project generally adapted well to these challenges and the strong links forged with the European Commission are a good indication of the replication potential during and after the project.

9. The PMU has taken on additional responsibilities during the life of the project including management of tasks that were to be delivered by INFO/RAC and execution of the Sustainable MED climate variability project. At the same time it has been affected by staff shortfalls in 2012 and has had to handle uncertainty related to shortfalls in anticipated cash and in kind co-finance. The combination of slow delivery of some sub-components combined with expansion in the scope of the project means the project is likely to need at least a six month extension.

10. The ratings in Table 5 reflect consideration of the full set of issues affecting or characterising project performance and impact that are discussed in Part II of the report. The summary comments highlight aspects of the assessment that best illustrate the rationale for the rating given. The overall rating for this project based on the evaluation findings is **Moderately Satisfactory.**

11.

Table 1. Summary of Ratings based on Performance Criteria

Criterion	Rating
A. Attainment of project objectives and results	Moderately Satisfactory
1. Effectiveness (See A3)	Moderately Satisfactory
2. Relevance (See A2)	Satisfactory
3. Efficiency (See A4)	Moderately Satisfactory
B. Sustainability of project outcomes *(See B1)*	Moderately Likely
1. Socio-political	Moderately Likely
2. Financial	Moderately Likely
3. Institutional framework	Likely
4. Environmental	Likely
C. Catalytic role *(See B2)*	Satisfactory
D. Stakeholder involvement *(See C3)*	Moderately Satisfactory
E. Country ownership / drivenness *(See C4)*	Moderately Unsatisfactory
F. Achievement of outputs and activities *(See A1)*	Moderately Satisfactory
G. Preparation and readiness *(See C1)*	Moderately Satisfactory
H. Implementation approach *(See C2)*	Moderately Satisfactory
I. Financial planning and management *(See C5)*	Moderately Satisfactory
J. Monitoring and Evaluation *(See C7)*	Moderately Satisfactory
1. M&E Design	Moderately Satisfactory
2. M&E Plan Implementation	Moderately Satisfactory
3. Budgeting and funding for M&E activities	Moderately Satisfactory
K. UNEP & UNIDO Supervision and backstopping *(See C6)*	Moderately Satisfactory

Lessons

12. The lessons in Part III of the report relate to some of the key constraints experienced during this project and to related shortcomings in project design. The ongoing implementation of the project is expected to generate further insights on a wide range of implementation issues.

13. Lessons related to co-finance include: the need to ensure that essential core activities and outputs are not dependent on uncertain funding sources, the need to ensure financial independence of parties whose activities are covered by a single funding agreement, and the need to establish a workable system for tracking in-kind support at the outset of the project.

14. Lessons related to establishment of national coordination structures include the need to ensure adequate consultation regarding establishment of coordination structures during the project design phase, and for multi-partner projects, to establish norms or rules of procedure regarding consultation, information sharing and decision-making for in-country activities and national assessments that ensure overall coordination at national level.

Recommendations

15. The following recommendations are anchored in the main findings of the evaluation and address issues that require a decision to be taken by the SC and/or co-executing partners and implementing agency.

1. Extension, Budget and Staffing

16. The first three recommendations are closely interrelated in view of budgetary implications of the proposed project extension and review of PMU staffing in a context of likely shortfalls in the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) co-finance.

Extension

17. **Recommendation 1:** The PMU should develop a fully-justified proposal for a project extension of 6 to 8 months based on a i) realistic estimates from each of the co-executing partners on project completion dates including a) technical and field activities and b) administrative closure and ii) its own requirements for administrative closure, and documentation and dissemination activities. The PMU and partners closure periods can be expected to have a partial overlap. Co-executing partners should report on revised timing within one month after the project Coordination Group (CG) meeting in March 2013, and the PMU should present its proposal for discussion and approval at the May 2013 Steering Committee (SC) and Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting.

Budget

18. **Recommendation 2:** It is recommended that the PMU undertake a comprehensive budget revision working with the co-executing agencies and MAP senior management, with the guidance of the Task Manager in UNEP, in order to accommodate a project extension and ensure adequate administrative support to the project during the remaining years of the project.

19. This recommendation has four sub-recommendations:

- i) To undertake review of prospects for mobilising cash with a view to providing a revised budget including a summary of implications,
- ii) That each of the co-executing agencies (including MEDPOL and the PMU) undertakes an internal review as to whether there are any areas where it is likely to under-spend its GEF budget including as a result of difficulties in planning or completion of project activities caused by changes in the project operating context.
- ii) That the development and revision of budgets associated with the climate variability project and the extension of the MPAs project take full account of the supervision and support costs of the PMU.Iv) That the PMU presents a one or more options for a consolidated budget to the SC for consideration at its September meeting based on information and options generated through recommendations 1, 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3, and that the SC adopts and approves a consolidated budget that will provide the PMU with clear guidance and certainty regarding available funds for the remaining project period.

PMU Staffing

20. **Recommendation 3.1.** The incoming Project Manager and MAP Senior Administrative Officer should undertake a forward looking review of staffing needs for the project spanning the current operational phase, reporting and closure period, and needs of supplementary projects such as the climate variability project.

21. **Recommendation 3.2.** MAP should recruit an Administrative Assistant as a high priority for the project. If it is not possible to fill this post using MTF funds, the post will need to be funded using GEF funding.

2. Delivery of Component 2: Pollution

22. Delivery of project sub-components 2.1 (industrial pollution) and 2.3 (PCBs) has been affected by a range of factors including weaknesses in project design and preparedness and disruption of activities as a result of the Arab Spring and other political events. Annex 6 details the background and cost implications of a set of twelve recommendations (4.1 – 4.12) related to these sub-components that are summarised in the report conclusions.

23. An approximate costing of additional activities suggests that these activities could be funded based on cost savings of approximately US$ 600,000 on the 2012 project budget resulting from the revised and less ambitious target for destruction of PCBs. The feasibility of these recommendations will need to be further considered in the light of possible reductions in MTF cash co-finance (See Recommendation 2.1).

3. National Coordination Mechanisms

24. One of the project weaknesses reported in the project conclusions and under lessons above, has been the limited establishment of national level project coordination mechanisms. The PMU has initiated discussions to establish country support programmes on a country by country basis but this is time consuming and it is not certain whether identified areas for support will serve as a rallying point across all project sub-components.

25. **Recommendation 5.** The PMU should organise and prepare a discussion session on national coordination mechanisms at the May 2013 SC and Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting. The aims of the session should be two-fold i) to agree on how best to use the funding for country support programmes to promote project coherence, lesson sharing, ownership and scaling up at national level and ii) to agree on ground rules for informing or consulting national focal points in all project activities conducted within their countries. In addition the focal points should take responsibility for consulting and communicating with national stakeholders and project actors before and after the annual SC meetings. The PMU should aim to complete agreements with national focal point institutions by the end of June 2013.

4. Project Monitoring: Partner Reporting

26. The technical reporting requirements set out in the agreements signed between UNEP DGEF and MAP and between MAP and the co-executing agencies require preparation of one full annual report as well as input to the mid-year project implementation review (PIR). This is lighter than the standard GEF requirement for a half yearly and annual progress reports and, with the main annual report made available only as a published and semi-popular progress report, is not considered a sufficient basis for project tracking.

27. **Recommendation 6**. It is recommended that each of the co-executing partners should produce a full annual report in the first quarter of each calendar year based on the standard GEF template for annual and half yearly reports, as input for the published annual report and annual CG meeting. Where there are specific concerns about progress the co-executing agency should provide brief quarterly updates on steps being taken to resolve the situation until such a time as the issue is considered resolved. In addition all outputs such as meeting and technical reports that are attributable to the project should be shared with the PMU in a timely manner.

Part I. Evaluation Background

A. Context and Rationale

28. The Mediterranean Sea is the largest semi-enclosed European sea, covering an area of about 2.5 million km^2, and is bordered by countries with differing levels of economic development. The population of the Mediterranean region has almost doubled since 1970, reaching a level of 143 million people living in coastal areas. The population of the coastal zone is predicted to increase by 31 million residents by 2025, and the number of annual tourist visits is predicted to increase by 130 million over the same period. The Mediterranean Sea is a global biodiversity hotspot hosting 7% of the world's known species of marine fauna and 18% of the world's marine flora.

29. The countries of the Mediterranean Sea basin face a variety of shared environmental problems that are transboundary in nature. The project document correctly identifies that the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem is under increasing threat due to uncontrolled coastal development, population expansion, increasing coastal tourism, unregulated and unsustainable fishing, over-extraction of freshwater (including aquifers and groundwater) and pollution.

30. In 1975 the countries bordering the Mediterranean created the Mediterranean Action Plan, which now involves 21 Mediterranean countries and the European Union in concerted efforts to tackle the environmental problems facing the Mediterranean Sea. The *Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution* entered into force in 1975 and has gradually expanded it scope of action through seven protocols, including protocols on specially protected areas and biological diversity, hazardous wastes and integrated coastal zone management (ICZM).

31. The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) has developed two Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The MedPartnership project is designed to catalyse implementation of the SAPs.

    - The *Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-Based Activities (SAP MED)* and related National Action Plans (NAPs) were adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at their Tenth Meeting held in Tunis in 1997.
    - The *Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO)* was adopted by the Contracting Parties at their Thirteenth Meeting held in Catania in 2003.

32. An updated Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) was produced between 2001 and 2006 through the GEF Project entitled *Determination of Priority Actions for the Further Elaboration and Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea*, which was the immediate precursor to this project.

B. The Project

33. The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, known as the "MedPartnership", consists of two complementary components: the Regional Component *Implementation of agreed actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas,* and the Investment Fund for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Partnership, a parallel project submitted by the World Bank and approved by the GEF Council in August 2006.

34. This mid-term evaluation is intended to look at the regional component (RC) of the project. It touches on the investment fund (IF) from two perspectives: i) the regional component was intended to provide overall coordination of the Strategic Partnership (SP) and ii) The IF was expected to provide a mechanism for scaling up results and impacts towards delivery of the long term goal of the partnership, *to reverse the trend of water quality and biodiversity degradation in the Mediterranean*.

Objectives and Components

35. The objective of the RC is to fill the knowledge gap and promote harmonized policy, legal and institutional reforms to reverse marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion, in accordance with the priorities agreed by the countries in the SAP MED and SAP BIO, and to prepare the ground for the future implementation of the ICZM Protocol.

36. The project is structured around four components and 11 sub-components (Table 2):

Table 2. Components and Sub-Components of the MedPartnership

Components	Subcomponents
Component 1. Integrated approaches for the implementation of SAPs and NAPs: ICZM, IWRM, and management of coastal aquifer	1.1 Management of coastal aquifers and groundwater
	1.2 Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)
	1.3 Integrated water resource management (IWRM)
Component 2. Pollution from land-based activities including persistent organic pollutants (POPs): implementation of SAP MED and related NAPs	2.1 Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control
	2.2 Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (TEST)
	2.3 Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries
Component 3. Conservation of biological diversity: implementation of SAP BIO and related NAPs	3.1 Conservation of coastal and marine diversity through development of a Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPA) network
	3.2 Promotion of the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Mediterranean through ecosystem-based management approaches
Component 4. Project co-ordination, replication and communication and strategies, management and M&E	4.1. Project coordination, management and M&E
	4.2 Information and communication strategies
	4.3. Replication strategy

Source: Project Document

Implementation Arrangements and Main Partners

37. The Implementing Agency for the project is the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), initially through its Division of GEF Coordination (DGEF) and later, following internal restructuring, through the Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch of its Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI). The lead Executing Agency is UNEP's MAP Coordinating Unit which is located in Athens and generally (and hereafter) referred to as UNEP/MAP.

38. The twelve participating countries, or country partners, are Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. Palestine also participates.

39. The technical partners, or co-executing partners, anticipated in the project document are as follows, with modest changes to this arrangement described in Paragraph 49 and under implementation arrangements.

- UN Organisations: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO IHP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

- UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centres (RACs): Cleaner Production (CP/RAC), Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC), Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC), and, Environmental Information and Communication (INFO/RAC) as well as MEDPOL, the *Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the Mediterranean*.
- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs): World Wide Fund for Nature through its Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF-MedPO), the Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE).
- The World Bank.

40. UNEP/MAP, through the Project Management Unit (PMU), is responsible for the overall coordination of the project and for delivery of most of Component 4.1. UNIDO is responsible for the implementation of Sub-component 2.2 through a separate GEF grant. FAO is responsible for sub-Component 3.2. Sub-Component 3.1 on marine protected areas (MPAs) has been funded by the European Commission (EC) as a separate project: 'Development of a Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network through the boosting of Mediterranean MPAs creation and management in areas within national jurisdiction of third countries', which is being executed by WWF-MEDPO and SPA/RAC with further support from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), MAVA Foundation and the *Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial* (FFEM). INFO/RAC was originally responsible for components 4.2 and 4.3, that are now being directly managed by the PMU.

Financing

41. The project cost anticipated in the project document, excluding the project development phase, is US$ 47,488,700, encompassing a GEF grant of US$ 11,891,000 (25% of the total, comprising US$ 8,991,000 for International Waters (IW) related activities US$ 2,900,000 for persistent organic pollutants (POPs) related activities) and co-financing of US$ 35,597,700. An additional GEF grant of US$ 1,000,000 was provided to UNIDO under a separate project for sub-component 2.2 to be matched by co-financing totalling US$ 950,500[1]. Finally a project development fund (PDF) grant of US$ 700,000 was matched by co-financing of US$ 1,258,500.

42. Anticipated co-financing comprised in-kind contributions from the participating countries including Palestine totalling US$ 14,100,000, grants from other Mediterranean countries (France, Italy and Spain) totalling US$ 6,273,000, and financing from other sources, including the executing agencies, of US$ 15,224,700. Of these contributions, UNEP directly administers cash co-finance from the EC and from AECID for sub-component 3.1, and cash and in-kind support from the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF).

43. Table 3 presents an overview of project finance and of budget allocations by component including expressed as a percentage of the total funds available for project activities. The original budget did not include a separate execution fee since this was considered to be integrated into the management costs that are included in the budget for sub-component 4.1[2].

44. Expenditure against GEF funding to the end of 2011, which is the last date for which fully consolidated expenditure data is available, was USD$ 2,835,947 or 24% of the GEF budget (excluding the Sub-component 2.2. allocation of US$ 1,000,000 which is directly managed by UNIDO)(Paragraph 275). Preliminary data indicate expenditure had risen to 32% by 30 June 2012[3]. Reported co-financing as of 30 June 2012 was US$ 16,827,009 corresponding to 47 percent of the total amount anticipated in the Inception Report (Paragraph 287).

Milestones in Design, Implementation and Completion

45. The first interagency and country discussions of the development of the MedPartnership project took place at the *MAP-GEF Stocktaking Meeting* held in October 2004. The MedPartnership project entered the GEF pipeline in December 2004. A request for a PDF-B grant of US$ 700,000 was submitted in September 2005 and approved in October 2005. The proposal details

[1] UNIDO reports directly to GEF on expenditure against this budget
[2] The PMU budget line (4.1) includes substantial technical support to the project by PMU staff.
[3] As of December 2012. Revised figures made available in 2013 indicate that expenditure against the GEF budget had risen to 38% at the end of 2012.

the activities, budget, outputs and outcomes of the PDF phase for development of the Regional Component, which was to last 14 months.

Table 3. Summary of anticipated GEF and Project Partner Support by Project Component
(All figures in US$)

Component/ Sub-Component		Co-executing Agency	GEF Financing	Percentage of GEF Financing	Co-Financing			Total Financing by Component	Percentage of Sub-total*
					Co-executing agency	Bi-lateral	Other		
Component 1. Integrated approaches for the implementation of SAPs and NAPs: ICZM, IWRM, and management of coastal aquifer			**3,220,000**	**25**	**1,592,000**	**1,933,000**	**1,125,200**	**7,870,200**	**22**
1.1	Management of coastal aquifer and groundwater	UNESCO IHP	1,770,000	14	440,000	1,933,000	1,050,000	5,193,000	15
1.2	Integrated coastal zone management	PAP/RAC	950,000	7	152,000	0	75,200	1,177,200	3
1.3	Integrated water resource management	GWP-Med	500,000	4	1,000,000	0	0	1,500,000	4
Component 2. Pollution from land-based activities. Including POPs: implementation of SAP BIO and related NAPs			**4,400,000**	**34**	**400,000**	**600,000**	**2,810,500**	**8,210,500**	**23**
2.1	Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control	MEDPOL	550,000	4	0	0	510,000	1,860,000	5
		CP/RAC	400,000		400,000	0			
2.2	Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies	UNIDO	1,000,000	8	0	600,000	350,500	1,950,500	6
2.3	Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries	MEDPOL	2,450,000	19	0	0	1,950,000	4,400,000	12
Component 3. Conservation of biological diversity: implementation of SAP BIO and related NAPs			**800,000**	**6**	**1,400,000**	**4,340,000**	**5,215,000**	**11,755,000**	**33**
3.1	Conservation of coastal and marine diversity through development of a Mediterranean MPA network	WWF	0	0	0	4,340,000	5,215,000	10,155,000	29
		SPA/RAC	0		600,000				
3.2	Promotion of the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Mediterranean through ecosystem-based management approaches	FAO/GFCM	800,000	6	800,000	0	0	1,600,000	5
Component 4. Project co-ordination, replication and communication and strategies, management and M&E			**4,471,000**	**35**	**1,863,200**	**0**	**1,169,300**	**7,503,500**	**21**
4.1	Project coordination, management and M&E	PMU (UNEP/MAP)	2,421,000	19	1,000,000	0	120,000	3,541,000	10
	Strategic Partnership Coordination	World Bank	280,000	2	370,000	0	0	650,000	2
	NGO coordination	MIO-ECSDE	150,000	1	150,000	0	0	300,000	1
4.2	Information & communications,	INFO/RAC	530,000	4	343,200	0	1,049,300	3,012,500	9
4.3	Replication strategy		1,090,000	8					
	SUB-TOTALS		**12,891,000**	**100**	**5,255,200**	**6,873,000**	**10,320,000**	**35,339,200**	**100**
Cross cutting : Participating Countries (including Palestinian Authority)								**14,100,000**	
							TOTAL	**49,439,200**	

Source: Project document; Evaluation TORs, * Excludes country co-finance

46. The project document was first submitted to GEF in December 2007 and then resubmitted incorporating responses to review comments in February 2008. The project was approved on 8 April 2008 by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of GEF, with a GEF grant of US$ 12,891,000, including direct funding to UNIDO for sub-component 2.2 of US$ 1 million.

47. The project was approved by UNEP, as Implementing Agency, in August 2008. An internal cooperation agreement (ICA) was signed between UNEP DGEF and UNEP/MAP, the lead executing agency, on 14 November 2008. The official start date of the project is considered to be August 2009, when the PMU was established or September 2009 when the first Strategic Partnership Coordination Group (CG) Meeting was convened. The Strategic Partnership Steering Committee (SC) requested a 12-month no-cost extension in February 2010 bringing the completion date of this 60-month project to August 2014. Negotiations for legal agreements with the co-executing agencies started in May 2008 and the majority of agreements were signed between September and December 2009.

Modifications to Design Before or During Implementation

48. Modest adjustments were made to the project logframe, monitoring matrix, and workplan during a six-month inception phase to reflect changes in the project context since 2006 when the project document was prepared. The Project Inception Report was approved at the Project Inception Workshop held in February 2010.

49. The main change to design during implementation was the mutual agreement that UNEP/MAP would take over the communication and replication activities of the project originally assigned to INFO/RAC following the decision by the Italian government to reassign the centre (Paragraph 120). Component 4 activities related to communications, information and replication have been taken over by the PMU with some work sub-contracted to MIO-ECSDE.

50. Other changes include an early decision that funding for World Bank would be allocated to three support activities managed by the PMU (Paragraph 237), some reallocation of country activities under components 1 and 2 of the project (See Part A1), and delay to some activities as a result of the Arab Spring and other processes of political change (Paragraph 220 & 221).

C. The Evaluation

51. The decision to conduct a mid-term evaluation rather than a management review was based on the request of the Task Manager made in view the complexity of the project and the number of co-executing partners of which a number are UN agencies. The Task Manager felt that an evaluation was justified given that the project is implemented by UNEP/DEPI and executed by UNEP/MAP, which reports operationally to UNEP/DEPI. Engaging the UNEP evaluation office provides some additional transparency and objectivity in this process..

Purposes

52. The purposes of this Mid-Term Evaluation are i) to look at progress made towards the attainment of objectives and planned results to date (including relevance, effectiveness and efficiency) and at the project's sustainability and catalytic role and ii) to examine processes affecting attainment of results as a basis for lessons and recommendations.

Criteria and Key Questions

53. Based on the evaluation terms of reference (TOR), the evaluation will focus on the following main questions which have been confirmed based on preliminary discussions with the PMU and Task Manager.

- Does the project approach contribute towards the achievement of the project objectives in the targeted countries?
    a. Facilitation of harmonized policy, institutional and legal reforms for the protection of biodiversity and pollution reduction from land-based sources consistent with the provision of the SAP MED and SAP BIO;
    b. Provision of assistance to countries in advancing their ICZM and IWRM plans (including the management of aquifers) with emphasis on the protection of biodiversity and the prevention of pollution from land-based sources;
    c. Execution of demonstration projects that address biodiversity protection, pollution from land-based sources and enhanced application of ICZM, IWRM and management of aquifers;
    d. Effective involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of activities at regional and national level, and enhancement of capacity in Governments to address environmental problems and to incorporate environmental considerations into national planning.

- Is the project likely to achieve the expected outcomes and impact targets in its lifetime, and contribute to reversing marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion?
- Has a replication strategy been designed? To which extent are mechanisms for future financial and political sustainability / ownership of SAPs and NAPs-related activities by participating countries in place? Do project partners see added value in the MedPartnership and is this likely to influence their future investments and activities?
- Is the Regional Component's management structure adequate, responsive and well-functioning to ensure co-ordination among the different project activities as relevant, as well as communication and systematic linkages with the Investment Fund?

54. In addition, the evaluation is intended to advise project management on the following strategic issues identified in the evaluation terms of reference:

- How can the project be restructured to deliver the POPs and PCB-related work (Component 2.1 and 2.3) to achieve the planned results, or progress as close as possible towards them?
- To what extent and how can the project compensate for the absence of a really complementary Investment Fund to the Regional Component?
- How can the scope of project activities be adjusted in countries where the 'Arab Spring' has significantly affected security conditions and/or the political sustainability of any intervention?

55. Annex 1 (Evaluation Terms of Reference) includes a list of review criteria used for this evaluation that are reflected in the structure of this report.

Timeframe, data collection and limitations of the evaluation

56. The evaluation took place between September and December 2012, three years into implementation of the five-year project, and reporting was completed in January 2013. The cut-off date for receipt of new information was 31 December 2012. Review comments were received in April 2013 and updates provided at that time are summarised in some of the footnotes to this report.

57. The list of persons interviewed during the course of evaluation is provided in Annex 2 and the itinerary and evaluation timeline is provided in Annex 3.

58. The findings of the MTE are based on the following:

a. A **desk review** of project documents, including (See also Annex 4, List of references):

- Relevant background documentation, including - inter alia – the SAPs and NAPs;
- Project preparatory documentation including the approved project document for the regional component;
- UNIDO (TEST) and EC (MPAs) project documents;
- Memoranda of understanding, implementation and partnership agreements;
- Coordination Group and Steering Committee meeting reports;
- Project monitoring reports including progress and financial reports, the Annual Project Implementation Review (PIR), and relevant correspondence;
- Evaluations and reviews completed by project partners and/or donors (Sub-component 3.1);
- Documentation related to planning and implementation of demonstration projects where available (Components 1, 2, 3);
- Outreach products and other project deliverables.

b. **Face to face interviews** with UNEP MAP, the PMU, five of the co-executing partners, and project stakeholders in Croatia, Egypt, Montenegro, and Tunisia.

c. Telephone **interviews** with a wide cross-section of project stakeholders, including co-executing and country partners.

d. **Site visits** including to a cross-section of demonstration project (Component 1) and TEST pilot projects (Component 2).

e. A **questionnaire** to project focal points where assigned, or to GEF and MAP focal points, in each of the participating countries.

59. In terms of constraints to the evaluation, it was not possible to visit all 13 countries involved in the project to view pilot activities at first hand and meet with project beneficiaries and as a result the evaluation has relied heavily on information provided by the PMU and co-executing partners. At the same time, documentation on project activities was quite fragmented, incomplete, or in progress and the evaluation served as a first effort to systematically compile

recent project outputs. It proved difficult to get responses from participants in the participating countries with repeated requests for interviews or to complete questionnaires going unanswered in some cases.

60. The support of the PMU in facilitating the evaluation and the availability of the co-executing agencies and other project partners and stakeholders for meetings and interviews is greatly appreciated.

Part II. Project Performance and Impact

61. Part II of this report is organised in three sections representing the three main categories of evaluation criteria, namely a) attainment of objectives and planned results, b) sustainability and catalytic role, and, c) processes affecting attainment of project results.

A. Attainment of Objectives and Planned Results

62. Implementation of the MedPartnership project started in August 2009. The following paragraphs look at achievement of outputs and activities during the first three years of this five year project, as well as at relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and a review of the pathway from project outcomes to impacts.

A1. Achievement of Outputs and Activities

63. The inception report logframe for the MedPartnership Project includes over 100 activities organised under ten sub-components and designed to contribute to 12 outcomes. Outputs are not explicitly defined although some groups of activities are organised under themes or results areas. The following paragraphs present a summary of progress to date, with links provided to explanatory factors in Part II Section C where appropriate.

64. Annex 5 provides a tabulated summary of progress towards each activity for project Components 1-4. Annex 6 provides a more detailed account of delivery of Component 2 as well as a discussion of factors affecting delivery, with particular emphasis on the less well performing sub-components. These annexes serve as a summary of the evidence base for this and other sections of the report.

Component 1

65. Component 1 comprises three sub-components (1.1 *Management of coastal aquifer and groundwater*, 1.2 *Integrated coastal zone management* and 1.3 *Integrated water resource management*) and 20[4] activities. The GEF allocation for these activities corresponds to 25 percent of the total GEF budget. Two or more of the three co-executing partners are collaborating on the demonstration projects in Buna/Bojana and Reghaïa reported under sub-component 1.2 and on development of an integrative methodological framework (Paragraph 74).

66. **Sub-component 1.1** *Management of coastal aquifer and groundwater,* is executed by UNESCO IHP and comprises four overarching activities: 1.1.1 *Assessment of risk and uncertainty related to Mediterranean coastal aquifers*, 1.1.2 *Regional actions for Coastal Aquifer Management*, 1.1.3 *Legal, Institutional and policy reform for Coastal Aquifer management* and 1.1.4 *Spatial technology application – cross cutting activity.* Work is coordinated by two international consultants based at UNESCO IHP in France, supported by headquarters staff and by IHP's established networks in the participating countries. Some delays were experienced as a result of events related to the Arab Spring in Tunisia and process of political change in Morocco, and it has not been possible to complete the full set of national studies in Syria and Libya.

[4] Twenty three activities in the inception report

67. Progress towards Activity 1.1.1 includes completion in 2012 of ten national studies and two regional workshops on risk and uncertainty, as inputs to regional assessment and circulation of a questionnaire to provide inputs to a GIS database on aquifers. Pilot work on vulnerability mapping is underway in Tunisia's Ghar el Melah aquifer, working with the *Bureau de l'Inventaire et des Recherches Hydrauliques in the* Department of Water Resources and TOR have been developed for a similar study at the Pula coastal aquifer in Croatia, to be undertaken in 2013. These outputs as well as outputs from Activities 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 will be used to inform development of coastal aquifer supplement to TDA-MED, which will include concrete recommendations for adoption. The supplement is expected to be completed in 2014.

68. Activity 1.1.2 consists of a series of pilot and demonstration interventions for coastal aquifer management, including participation in the Buna/Bojana and Reghaïa demonstration project (Paragraphs 76 & 77), assessment of groundwater dependence of the Nador Lagoon, Morocco, undertaken by the Ca' Foscari University Venice, and a large three-year project, 'Management of Coastal Aquifers in the Gabes Oasis' overseen by the French Geological Survey and co-financed by the French Government. Work in all areas is now advancing well and field activities are expected to be completed by the end of 2013. This activity has been expanded to include a regional assessment and inventory of groundwater dependent coastal wetlands working with partners such as and Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

69. Activity 1.1.3 is concerned with legal, institutional and policy reform for coastal aquifer management. Eleven national studies have been completed based on comprehensive outline and two regional workshops have been organised towards the development of a regional report. The results will feed into the coastal aquifer supplement to TDA-MED but it is uncertain to what extent reforms will be followed up at national level during the life of the project since this is beyond the immediate control of the project.

70. Activity 1.1.4 comprises in kind support to the project through the European Space Agency. Originally conceived as a regional activity, it has now been agreed to focus on provision of satellite imagery for the pilot project areas in Buna/Bojana and Gabes.

71. The rating for sub-component 1.1 is **satisfactory** reflecting steady delivery across most activity areas.

72. **Sub-Component 1.2** addressing ICZM is executed by PAP/RAC, with direct support provided by PAP/RAC's staff in Croatia including project officers assigned for the Buna/Bojana and Reghaïa demonstration projects. The work has been reoriented under two umbrella activities to reflect the adoption of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol to the Barcelona Convention in January 2008 and its entry into force in March 2011, which has generated a number of new initiatives, many involving PAP/RAC. PAP/RAC works with its network of national focal points in the participating countries.

73. Activity 1.2.1, covering national and regional level support activities towards preparation of national ICZM Strategies and NAPs, is advancing well. An integrated analysis for a national ICZM strategy has been drafted for Algeria building on 11 sectoral reports, and a vulnerability analysis based on ten topics has been completed for Montenegro. Work in both countries builds on PAP/RAC's long term support to ICZM including through the ongoing CAMP (coastal area management programme) initiative in Montenegro.

74. Amongst several outputs linked to regional and national capacity building, a technical report 'An introduction to legal and technical aspects of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol' was produced in 2012 and served as input to a regional workshop on the same theme in December 2012 bringing together over 50 participants. Draft 'Guidelines for the Preparation of National ICZM Strategies required by the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean' was completed in July 2012 following an expert meeting in 2011. The value of this technically sound framework document is evident in its adoption by partner projects. PAP/RAC is working closely with GWP, with inputs from UNESCO IHP, to develop an Integrated Methodological Framework for convergence of groundwater/aquifers, water resources, biodiversity and coastal management, and an advanced and comprehensive draft is available pending further discussions as to how to target this to potential audiences (practitioners, managers, students, etc).

75. Activity 1.2.2 addresses application of ICZM approach, tools, and techniques in demonstration areas, and is mainly concerned with the two large demonstration projects in the transboundary Buna/Bojana basin (Albania and Montenegro) and Reghaïa in Algeria.

76. Buna/Bojana is a joint project with GWP and UNESCO IHP, towards development of an integrated management plan working with relevant authorities in both countries. The work started slowly in view of the need to replace the national coordinators hired in both countries. A harmonisation meeting on the integrated management of the Buna/Bojana basin, coastal area and aquifers was organised in 2011 and thematic reports have been completed including eight coastal related reports. PAP/RAC and GWP are in regular contact but in the absence of a detailed workplan, it has been difficult to assess overall progress in this complex area.

77. Reghaïa is a joint project with UNESCO IHP, with inputs from SPA/RAC related to creation of an MPA as well as from the French *Conservatoire du Littoral* who completed a biodiversity survey in the area. A project inception meeting was organised in early 2012 following development of a reference document in 2010, and framework and sectoral analysis reports were developed during 2012. Preliminary results were presented by PAP/RAC and UNESCO IHP at a national planning meeting in November 2012 (together with the national strategy under activity 1.2.1) and the activity is expected to be completed by June 2013.

78. The rating for sub-component 1.2 is **satisfactory** reflecting good progress in terms of support activities towards preparation of national ICZM Strategies, and strengthening of the national demonstration projects in 2012, particularly in Algeria.

79. **Sub-Component 1.3** on IWRM is executed by GWP-Med in the framework of, and as a leading actor or facilitator in, several ongoing IWRM initiatives and projects at regional, national and basin level. GWP has promoted the project through a wide range of policy development and visibility events and has generated operational synergies Revisions made to activities in the inception phase and beyond reflect the rapidly developing IWRM context.

80. GWP provided technical and administrative support for the development of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Draft Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) (Activity 1.3.1), that was completed in March 2010. This is a very succinct and policy-oriented strategy document. It has not yet been adopted due to disagreements over territorial designations and reference to the UN Convention related to non-navigational uses of international watercourses. The work was largely delivered through an EU/ UFM initiative, releasing resources for other activities. GWP is now the technical director of the EC Sustainable Water Integrated Management (SWIM) project that builds on the draft strategy.

81. A wide range of actions related to Activity 1.3.2, *catalyse action and build capacity on national IWRM planning*, are being implemented in Lebanon, Egypt, and Tunisia and Palestine, including policy dialogue on IWRM, preparation of water supply and sanitation strategies at national and/or city level , and, promotion of private sector participation in water infrastructure. Work in this area, implemented with the support and participation of a range of partners, is often innovative and has strong replication potential.

82. Work has initiated under activity 1.3.3, *develop integrated river basin management (IRBM) in globally important river basin(s) and adjacent coastal areas,* in three basins (Drin, Orontes and Medjerda) as well as in one sub-basin (Buna/Bojana) (Paragraph 76). Work in the transboundary Orontes River, shared by Lebanon and Syria had in early 2012 to be suspended in view of the war. Instead a concept note was developed for an IRBM project for the Medjerda River shared by Algeria and Tunisia[5].

83. The rating for sub-component 1.3 is **moderately satisfactory** in view of limited delivery on activity 1.3.3, though there is good potential to achieve a satisfactory in the remaining project timeframe. This rating has also been affected by difficulties in attributing outputs to the MedPartnership project despite their clear relevance and professional delivery.

[5] This work has advanced well since the evaluation took place and will be presented to the 2013 SC workshop for approval.

Component 2

84. Component 2 comprises three sub-components (2.1 *Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control* 2.2 *Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies and* 2.3 *Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries*) and 32 activities. The GEF allocation for these activities corresponds to 34 percent of the total GEF budget. Further background on Component 2 activities is included as a technical paper in Annex 6.

85. Significant progress has been made towards the six activities of **sub-component 2.1** related to pilot projects for industrial pollution control, management, assessment, and modelling. However just one meeting has been held to date for Activities 2.1.7 to 2.1.9 that address capacity building for permit, inspection and compliance systems A second meeting planned for December 2012 has been delayed in the absence of a dedicated MEDPOL task manager for these activities.

86. Each of the pilot projects is constituted of four distinct phases. Although there are slight differences in the content of the four phases for the different pilot projects, in general these phases are constituted as follows: Phase I: Assessment of country situation; Phase II: Proposals for policy reforms, implementation plan for small scale pilot project; Phase III: Identification of partners, technical design and actual implementation of small scale pilot project; Phase IV: Dissemination of results to other countries for replication purposes.

87. Originally planned to be run in Lebanon, activity 2.1.1 for the management of phosphogypsum slurry is now being implemented in Tunisia since Lebanon pulled out. The late change in country, political unrest and changes at ministerial level have led to some two years delay to this activity. A national consultant was recruited by UNEP/MAP and a report corresponding to Phase I was submitted in October 2012. The report contained the following elements i) Review of the Tunisian legislative framework concerning the management of phosphogypsum in Tunisia ii) Review of existing management schemes/systems for the collection, transport, storage, disposal and monitoring iii) Identification of the quantities of phosphogypsum generated from different sectors iv) Assessment of existing storage, treatment / recycling facilities v) Assessment of the national reporting system to authorities.

88. In Turkey, a team from the Environmental Engineering Department, Istanbul Technical University was subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 to undertake studies for activity 2.1.2, 'Chromium and BOD control of tanneries effluent'. The first report corresponding to Phase I (Assessment of current status) of the pilot project was submitted in January 2011. The second report corresponding to Phase II and Phase III was submitted in September 2012. The actual implementation of the small scale pilot project has not yet started; the project is in the process of identifying potential partners and developing technical feasibility for the small scale pilot project.

89. Activity 2.1.3 concerns the pilot project on "Lubricating oil recycling and regeneration" in Algeria. An international consultant was subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 and three reports corresponding to Phases I, II and III have been submitted by the consultant.

90. The pilot project on recycling of lead batteries (activity 2.1.4) was initiated in Syria but implementation stopped in early 2012 due to the political situation. Activities in Syria include an inception workshop and delivery of a phase I report on the assessment of the current status in February 2011 by an international consultant. A report that covers part of phase II (60%) was submitted in October 2011. A recommendation has been made in Annex 6 regarding the way forward for this activity.

91. Activity 2.1.5 concerns the "Assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea". The *Centre de Formation et de Recherches sur les Environnements Méditerranéens*, University of Perpignan, was subcontracted in 2010 to develop a database and GIS based modelling tool. A first progress report was submitted in December 2011 with further development of the outputs still underway.

92. Activity 2.1.6 is about "Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) in industrial effluents and Environmental Quality Standards (EQS)". A Dutch company Deltares was subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 to test a model to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury in the Gulf of Lion and Izmir Bay. Key tasks have been completed and a report submitted in January 2012.

93. Sub-component 2.1 is given a rating **moderately satisfactory** in view of progress made in the different activities 2.1.7, 2.1.8 and 2.1..

94. **Sub-component 2.2**, known as MED TEST, concerns the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies to companies in Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia. MED TEST is being successfully executed by UNIDO with the national cleaner production centres (NCPCs) of Egypt and Morocco and a consortium of technical centres in Tunisia (CETTEX, CNCC and CTAA). Forty three enterprises from the food, textile, metallurgical, chemical, petroleum, leather and tanning industries were selected to participate in the pilot project.

95. Significant progress has been made on this sub-component with 16 of the 18 activities completed. A total of 765 measures for cleaner production and for energy and water saving have been implemented by the 43 enterprises in the three countries resulting in an annual reduction of 3,238 tonnes of BOD5 and 4,535 tonnes of COD, an estimated of 9.7 M m^3 of water savings and 263 GWh per year of energy savings. Eleven companies have undertaken actions to obtain the ISO 14001 certification and six have upgraded their existing EMS by integrating the TEST approach. Many companies started to have their waste waters analysed before discharge and some are planning to build wastewater treatment plants. For example, in Morocco a company has completed the tendering phase during the project, selecting the contractor that will build the facility. Replication started in a new set of enterprises in May 2012.

96. The rating for sub-component 2.2 is **satisfactory** in view of the successful delivery of activities and outputs that have already contributed to environmental gains in the participating companies.

97. **Sub-component 2.3** comprised of five activities, aims at the environmentally sound management of PCBs. The two co-executing agencies are CP/RAC and MEDPOL. The work was originally planned to be delivered Albania, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya and Syria, but is now being executed in Albania, Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina as a result of i) the Arab Spring making timely delivery impracticable in Syria and Libya and ii) of Lebanon pulling out of the project.

98. The change in country focus has led to significant delays in delivery of this sub-component. Other delaying factors were the change of task manager for Component 2 at MEDPOL (more than 6 months) and the need for a centralized tendering procedure through UNOPs, Nairobi for the purchase of PCB analysers and chemicals costing more than US$ 50,000 (8 months). It is important to highlight that these PCB analysers are key equipment for the identification and inventory of PCBs. The work plan for this sub-component has been revised accordingly.

99. Three international PCB experts / consultants were recruited by UNEP/MAP in August 2010, responsible respectively for policy reforms for life cycle management of PCBs, for PCB inventory, and for the design and establishment of temporary storage facilities in the five countries. A first mission was undertaken by the three consultants in Albania in January 2011. However the consultants could not fully perform their duties with the start of the Arab Spring in February/ March 2011 and it was mutually agreed between UNEP/MAP and the first two consultants to terminate the contracts. The third consultant is still under contract and undertook missions to Egypt (September 2011) and the new countries, Bosnia and Herzegovina (May 2011) and Turkey (November 2011), and reports were submitted.

100. The progress report submitted by the third consultant in July 2012 highlighted the following main findings i) project management teams are operational in each country; ii) only one demonstration site has been identified (Egypt); iii) the primary inventory evaluation in all countries leads to the conclusion that most of transformers are not pure PCB but PCB contaminated mineral oil transformers; and iv) cross contamination in the maintenance workshops is the main source of PCB contamination.

101. Although reports have been submitted, there is no evidence that an in-depth assessment of legal and institutional framework of the participating countries (Activity 2.3.1) has been undertaken.

102. An international consultant was recruited by CP/RAC to coordinate activities 2.3.3 (Technical capacity for ESM of PCBs equipment) and 2.3.4. (Awareness of importance of ESM of PCBs equipment). A webpage has been created but no national data from the four participating countries has yet been posted on this website. National Technical Advisors have been sub-contracted by CP/RAC in all countries to facilitate the coordination of activities at national level, as anticipated in the project document.

103. Training activities for capacity building have been delayed in order to be linked and coordinated with MEDPOL activities (inventory, phasing out, storage and disposal) planned in 2013. CP/RAC undertook missions to individual countries in late 2012 to identify needs of each country in terms of capacity building and training.

104. Although several missions were undertaken by MEDPOL and international consultant in the participating countries, the rating for sub-component 2.3 is **unsatisfactory** in view of significant delays encountered for implementation of activities.

Component 3

105. Component 3 comprises two sub-components (3.1 *The conservation of coastal and marine diversity through development of a Mediterranean MPA Network* and 3.2 *Sustainable use of fisheries resources through ecosystem-based management approaches*) and 27 activities clustered under ten results areas. The budget for sub-component 3.1 was fully derived from co-financing while the GEF allocation for sub-component 3.2 corresponds to 6 percent of the total.

106. **Sub-Component 3.1**, conservation of coastal and marine diversity through development of a Mediterranean MPA Network, is co-executed by WWF-MedPO and SPA/RAC. The work comprises 19 activities, contributing to *establishment of coordination mechanism for regional MPA management* (3.1.1), *Identification and planning new MPAs to extend the regional network and enhance its ecological representativeness* (3.1.2) and *improved MPA management* (3.1.3) and ensuring financial sustainability of regional and national MPA networks (3.1.4).

107. The WWF-MedPO part of this project, known as 'MedPAN South', is financed by the EC (as a common project with SPA/RAC), the MAVA Foundation and FFEM. Delivery was scheduled over four years and field activities were completed at the end of 2012. WWF-MEDPO has worked with Sunce, an established NGO partner in Croatia, through WWF network offices in Tunisia, and Turkey, with the Taza National Park Authority in Algeria, and in collaboration with SPA/RAC and the Environmental General Authority in Libya. The SPA/RAC part of the project, known as 'Med MPAnet' was designed to last five years, is financed by the EC, AECID and FFEM. SPA/RAC has worked closely with government partners and despite delays, is confident its work will be completed within the project timeframe. A funded extension of the EC MPAs project has been agreed in principle, pending formalisation.

108. Activity 3.1.1 has been primarily concerned with project coordination and communications, including establishment of the project coordination units in WWF-MedPO (in March 2009) and SPA/RAC (in April 2010), organization of inception and mid-term workshops involving the SAP BIO Advisory committee and SAP BIO National Correspondents. Both partners have established websites and several high quality brochures and films have been produced, including notably a practical and reflective report on lessons learned through MedPAN South. At least one coordination meeting has been organised in each of the project countries.

109. Activity 3.1.2 has been mainly delivered by SPA/RAC that is currently working on MPA creation in Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, and Tunisia, and, in collaboration with WWF-MEDPO, in Libya. Work spans establishment of priority activities, identification of stakeholders, characterisation of marine sites, inception planning and zoning, and establishment of stakeholder participation mechanisms. Surveys have now been conducted in

five countries (Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia) and the process to develop planning has commenced in Tunisia. Regional and sub-regional activities include an assessment of priority needs for legal, policy and institutional reforms in four Adriatic countries, and a workshop, *Towards a representative network of MPAs in the Adriatic*. Other important outputs include development of guidelines for MPA creation for cetaceans and for marine turtles and for management and monitoring of threatened populations of marine and coastal bird species. Work in Libya stalled following the revolution in 2011 but training was conducted in a neighbouring country and activities at local level are now underway in collaboration with the Environmental General Authority.

110. Capacity building activities under Activity 3.1.3 have been jointly delivered by WWF-MedPO and SPA/RAC. Highlights include participation of some 130 trainees in the Med MPAnet /MedPAN South Regional training on MPA management planning (2009), planning for sustainable fisheries in MPAs (2010), and sustainable tourism (2011); establishment of a mentoring programme; financing of over 40 'implementation agreements' for follow up activities by participants allowing exchanges amongst established and developing MPAs and grants for local interventions, and on-the-job training through field activities. WWF-MedPO has implemented three demonstration projects with local partners leading to development of management plans through a participatory process for Brijuni National Park, Kornati National Park, Lastovo Islands Nature Park, Telašćica Nature Park in Croatia, Taza National Park in Algeria and the Kas-Kekova Specially Protected Area in Turkey.

111. WWF-MEDPO implemented a further demonstration project at Cap Negro-Cap Serrat MPA, Tunisia, under activity 3.1.4, leading to establishment and staffing of a management body, development of a business plan, and implementation of practical management measures in collaboration with national and local stakeholders. SPA/RAC's activities to demonstrate financial sustainability mechanisms for new MPAs in Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and Tunisia are at an early stage.

112. The rating for sub-component 3.1 is **satisfactory** for MedPAN South which has already delivered substantially on its intended outputs, and **moderately satisfactory** for Med MPAnet, in view of delays in delivery of field activities.

113. **Sub-Component 3.2** comprises a package of eight activities under three overarching activities concerned with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF), bycatch, and monitoring for MPA management. The work is executed by FAO's Marine and Inland Fisheries Service under the auspices of the GFCM and in collaboration with and adding value to four of FAO's sub-regional EAF programmes for the Mediterranean (COPEMED II, EastMed, MedSudMed and AdriaMed) that provide a long term framework for FAO engagement in these areas. Activities were revised during the inception phase.

114. Activity 3.2.1 is concerned with capacity building for the application of the EAF. Regional level actions include a training of trainers workshop organised in Rome in December 2010 and a three-week university level training course on EAF for participants from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia in September 2011. Agreements have been reached for national-level actions in Croatia, Montenegro and Tunisia.

115. Activity 3.2.2 addresses bycatch of regionally important species in Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. Work has advanced well in Tunisia following initial delays as a result of the Arab Spring events. A two-part study addressing assessment and mitigation of bycatch of iconic species and discards associated with bottom trawling was conducted following identification of the Gulf of Gabes as a priority area at an expert meeting in 2011 and two well written and comprehensive reports are avaialble. The findings were validated at a stakeholder meeting in December 2012 as a basis for further action. Work in Morocco and Turkey was initiated in 2012 after initial difficulties in establishing contacts in Turkey were resolved by the project focal point.

116. Activity 3.2.3 is concerned with supporting fishermen participation in monitoring and management of coastal MPA's in Morocco. The activity is advancing well with local project team involving NGOs, fishers association and a national research institute established to look at mitigation of bycatch in Al Hoceima National Park. Fishermen are actively participating in data

collection. Next steps include dissemination of results and establishment of a coordination mechanism for management measures.

117. The rating on this sub-component is **moderately unsatisfactory** in view of the low overall level of delivery at this mid-term stage, while acknowledging the acceleration of activities in the latter part of 2012 and completion of preparation activities in most countries.

Component 4

118. Component 4 comprises 24 activities organised by three sub-components: Sub-Component 4.1 *Project Co-ordination, Management and M&E*; 4.2 *Information and Communication Strategies*; and 4.3 *Replication Strategy*. The original GEF allocation for these activities corresponds to 35 percent of total GEF financing. Of this, US$ 1,281,000 or 10 percent of the GEF financing was intended for project management under sub-component 4.1.

119. The ten activities under **sub-component 4.1** largely relate to different aspects of project management executed by the PMU and are discussed and rated in the Section B and C evaluation sub-sections on *Sustainability, Stakeholder Participation, Country Ownership and Drivenness, Implementation Approach, Financial Planning and Management*, and *Monitoring and Evaluation*.

120. Communications and replication activities under **sub-components 4.2 and 4.3** were originally to be led by INFO/RAC based in Sicily. The INFO/RAC role was reassigned by the Italian government to a new centre early in the life of the project and the situation regarding INFO/RACs role in the project remained unresolved as of late 2011. The PMU and MAP took on full responsibility for delivery of communications and replication activities based on the project budget and workplan approved by the SC in May 2012. These activities were reduced and simplified in the 2011 and 2012 project workplans since they could no longer depend on related INFO/RAC initiatives. The budget allocation for communications has increased while that for replication activities decreased, but one of the new communications outputs addresses support to replication activities.

121. MIO-ESCDE was contracted in late 2010 to develop and implement the initial stages of a communications strategy and a basic draft was approved by second SC meeting in March 2011. The strategy envisaged ongoing support from an external contractor for tasks such as maintenance of the project website. The four revised activities described in the 2012 workplan are based on this strategy.

122. MIO-ESCDE was also sub-contracted and provided in kind support to deliver a range of internal and external communications outputs from November 2010. Major outputs include a basic but attractive and informative project website, an innovative iPad application, a project partners' intranet, a documentary film, and production of the 2011 and 2012 annual reports. The outreach products are generally of high quality though the 2012 Annual report suffers from some weak and poorly edited contributions. Communications support services were interrupted in the second half of 2012 as a result of procedural issues relating to renewal of MIO-ESCDE's contract (Paragraph 273).

123. A decision was taken in 2012 to recruit a joint project and MEDPOL communications officer. Recruitment was ongoing at time of the evaluation and the appointed Officer started in January 2013. Further details on communications activities are provided in Section C3. *Stakeholder* Participation *and Public Awareness*.

124. Replication activities were initiated through a consultancy undertaken as part of the Strategic Partnership coordination under sub-component 4.1. A first replication report, produced in 2011 assesses the potential for replication of the RC pilot activities and the IF and Sustainable MED projects. The report includes a table of potential and priority countries where these approaches could be replicated, illustrating both the relevance and replication value of the existing and planned MedPartnership interventions. A general workplan for replication promotion activities was also provided. The report was presented to the second project SC meeting in March 2011.

The meeting participants identified potential for synergies with ongoing initiatives in the region that have similar replication objectives.

125. Responding to the SC recommendation, the 2012 *Mediterranean Environmental Replication Strategy* was the result of the joint work of UNEP MAP and EC consultants and experts, and drew on experiences from the MedPartnership as well as the EC's SWIM and Horizon 2020 projects. The Strategy includes criteria and a suggested identification and selection process for replicable practices as well as a work programme with a focus on enhancing the visibility of replicable practices. The actual implementation of replicable practices depends on mobilising substantial funding from outside sources and it is unclear whether the approach will be feasible. The report was presented to the third SC Meeting in May 2012.

126. Two regional dissemination workshops were planned in 2012 to share lessons related to TEST and the strengthening of marine protected areas management capacity. The MPAs workshop went ahead in November 2012 as a side focus session at the Mediterranean MPA Forum, but the TEST workshop was cancelled owing to logistical difficulties. National TEST dissemination events were organised in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt between March and May 2012.

127. The PMU has not yet drawn up a plan for expenditure of the remaining budget allocation for the MedPartnership project (in the order of US$ 400,000). While the original emphasis was on dissemination and promotion of replicable practices, some of the co-executing agencies are expecting that funding will be made available to extend, scale up or replicate successful activities under project components 1-3, or to develop new activities that would promote better integration amongst the MedPartnership activities.

128. The overall rating on Component 4 (sub-components 4.2 and 4.3) is **moderately satisfactory** reflecting good efforts to make up for the delays and shortfalls in delivery as a result of INFO/RACs withdrawal from the project.

129. The overall rating on achievement of activities and outputs is **moderately satisfactory**. This rating corresponds to criterion F in the evaluation ratings table.

A2. Relevance

130. The following sections assess the project's relevance in five strategic areas, based on both its intended contributions as set out in the project document, and its actual contributions.

i) Mediterranean environmental issues

131. The project document presents a clear rationale for intervention in the project area and was designed to tackle the four principal challenges identified, namely, decline in biodiversity, decline in fisheries, decline in seawater quality, human health risks due exposure to contaminated food and water, and loss of groundwater dependent ecosystems. While stress reduction to date has been limited, contributions at process level are being made in all areas (See *Effectiveness* and *Review of Outcomes to Impacts*, below).

132. Climate variability is also highlighted as an issue in the project document section on *Environmental Challenges* and is now being addressed through a sister project under the WB Sustainable MED initiative (Paragraph 185).

ii) Strategies of Mediterranean countries and expressed needs for policy and institutional support

133. The project objectives are broadly derived from the revised TDA that was prepared through the predecessor to this project (Paragraph 32), as well as the two SAPs and related NAPs that were developed in collaboration with the countries of the region and adopted by the parties to the Barcelona Convention. The regional approach to implementation is justified in the project document on the grounds that this provides for cooperation with diverse partners, and is more cost effective (Paragraph 156). However there are some concerns with ownership of the project at national level.

134. The project objectives and outcomes were not based on a rigorous and cross-thematic priority setting exercise based on the SAPs and tend to reflect the areas of expertise and focus of the project partners. , Nevertheless they do clearly support SAP -MED and SAP -BIO targets in a broad cross section of thematic area as well as address gaps related to groundwater management. Most of the components are described in the context of SAP -MED and/or SAP BIO and demonstration projects target hotspots identified in the SAPs or pollution NAPs. The thematic scope of the project has not changed greatly during implementation and continues to contribute in these areas.

iii) UNEP mandate, policies and programme of work

135. The project is strongly aligned to UNEP's mandate in that it is placed in the historical and ongoing context of the first of UNEP's Regional Seas Programmes, initiated in 1975, as well as the Barcelona Convention and the related Mediterranean Action Plan. The project is executed by UNEP/MAP. It involves several MAP associated programmes and regional activity centres.

136. The MedPartnership project was formulated several years prior to the publication of the UNEP Medium-Term Strategy 2010-2013 that sets out UNEP's Expected Accomplishments and Programmatic Objectives, so there are no explicit references to alignment in the project document. In general terms the project is contributing to four of the six cross-cutting thematic priorities:

- The *ecosystem management* objective is being broadly addressed by Component 1 activities including ICZM, IWRM and management of coastal aquifers, and by component 3, including through work on MPAs and the ecosystem based approach to fisheries management, as well as through NAPs implementation.
- The *environmental governance* objective is being addressed through improved access to science and policy advice for decision making, as well as more generally by reinforcing the Barcelona Convention process, across all four project components.
- The *harmful substances and hazardous waste* objective is being addressed through work on POPs and PCBs under component 2 of the project.
- *Resource efficiency* is being addressed through work on efficient production and supply chains through the TEST sub-component.

iv) GEF International Waters and POPs focal areas and related Strategic Priorities

137. The project was designed to be consistent with the GEF IW and POPs Focal Area Strategies. Specifically it was to contribute to GEF 4 IW Strategic Objective 2, '*to catalyse transboundary action addressing water concerns*' and to the three related strategic programmes (fish stocks and biodiversity, nutrient enrichment, water resources).

138. The IW tracking tool (Annex 7) demonstrates continued relevance towards all three strategic programmes though many of the outcomes described by IW process indicators are a result of previous TDA and SAP initiatives. This project has started to contribute to stress reduction - notably through work on MPAs and on pollution through the TEST activities. Further contributions to stress reduction and the policy framework are anticipated during and after the life of the project (Paragraph 171).

139. The project was intended to contribute to the GEF 4 POPs Strategic Objective, 'to reduce and eliminate production, use and releases of POPs', and to the related Strategic Programme 2. Activities of sub-component 2.3 aiming to strengthen the institutional and legal frameworks for the ESM of PCBs (substances listed in Annex A Part II of the Stockholm Convention) including disposal of 870 tonnes of PCBs are fully consistent with this objective.

v) Global Conventions

140. Sub-component 2.3 of this project is fully consistent with the objectives of the Stockholm Convention that aims to protect human health and the environment from POPs. In particular, this project will help countries to fulfil their obligations for the ESM and the phasing out of PCBs.

141. The project is also relevant to the Basel Convention as it provides opportunities for participating countries to properly manage hazardous wastes such used lubricating oils, lead batteries and other hazardous wastes coming from tanneries and phosphate fertilizer industries. The project will also provide opportunities for countries to undertake '*Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control – Permit, Inspection and Compliance Systems*'.

142. The rating on relevance is **satisfactory**, reflecting strong overall relevance of the project activities across all five sub-criteria, but some limitations in terms of the original priority setting exercise resulting in a possible bias toward partners' areas of interest.

A3. Effectiveness

143. The regional component logframe and monitoring matrix[6] include thirteen indicators at objective level including seven process indicators (addressing capacity building, stakeholder coordination, replication, and knowledge generation) and six stress reduction or impact indicators that are generalised or summed up from outcome level indicators. These indicators are reiterated, including with milestones, in the project implementation review (PIR). However at this stage in the project most of the co-executing partners have reported on progress in terms of delivery of activities rather than delivery of outcomes and it is premature to use these indicators to report on effectiveness.

144. Annex 7 reflects progress against the generic process and stress reduction indicators used in the GEF IW Tracking Table while the following paragraphs report more generally on progress towards institutional capacity building, participation and coordination, and stress reduction. The GEF IW tracking table highlights that the project is well founded in terms of institutional arrangements, improved knowledge and adoption of agreed targets as a result of the earlier SAP and TDA projects and strong integration with the MAP and Barcelona Convention processes. However there has been limited progress to date in terms of stress reduction and environmental impact that would be expected from a SAP implementation project.

i) Institutional Strengthening and National Policy/Legal/Institutional Reforms

145. The process indicators at objective level in the project logframe describe six complementary cross-cutting or enabling strategies towards SAP and NAP implementation, namely *policy/legal/institutional reforms; institutional strengthening; increased scientific knowledge; participation of relevant stakeholders, new tools, techniques and guidelines,* and *replication strategy.*

146. Related objectively verifiable indicators (OVIs) at outcome level in the logframe specify an ambitious set of related policy and legal or institutional outcomes at regional, river basin, national and sub-national level. These include regional legislation or action plans for coastal aquifers, eco-hydrogeological management and a *Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean*, ICZM and IWRM plans, legal and policy documents for pollution, new or strengthened national chemical management administration, regulatory frameworks for POPs, MPA management plans, mainstreaming of the ecosystem approach to fisheries and establishment of effective inter-ministerial coordination.

147. As mentioned above, progress reporting to date has largely focussed on delivery of activities that are contributing to these outcomes (Paragraph 144), often with the support of other projects being executed by the relevant co-executing agency. The project has already made substantial contributions to MPA management plans while the *Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean* has been drafted and is under negotiation (Paragraph 52). Based on the level of delivery to date (See *A1. Achievement of Outputs and Activities*) there are some concerns as to whether institutional outcomes related to pollution will be fully delivered. Outcomes related to fisheries will be heavily dependent on other ongoing FAO projects.

148. The expected results related to aquifers and eco-hydrogeological management have been sensibly modified to development and adoption of a TDA supplement including environmental

[6] Project Inception Report Annexes I & II.

targets, in order to better correspond to regional policy making processes, and are expected to be delivered.

ii) Improved coordination and participation of relevant stakeholders in SAPs and NAPs Implementation

149. The project has already contributed substantially to improved coordination and participation of relevant stakeholders at regional level and has successfully engaged a cross-section of existing and new partners in a concerted effort for SAP implementation (See also Paragraph 158). The co-executing agencies appreciate the added value of working in a partnership framework and consider that benefits of being part of a partnership outweigh the additional transaction costs. Some of the partners have formalised their roles as MAP partners through agreements signed during the life of the project. The project has also contributed to strengthened collaboration between MAP, the co-executing agencies, and the European Commission (EC) in support of the SAPs (Paragraph 119).

150. Each of the partners has worked with its own set of regional and national stakeholders. The demonstration projects in particular have provided a vehicle for engaging a wide range of national stakeholders from the public sector, private sector and civil society (Paragraph 245). Despite good stakeholder participation, efforts to strengthen coordination at the national level have met with limited success to date. This is discussed in more detail under *Implementation Approach* and *Ownership*.

iii) Immediate results of demonstration projects

151. The 2011 Annual report lists a total of 79 demonstration projects compared to 35 listed in the inception report and 32 envisaged in the project document. Much of the increase is accounted for by the increase in the number of TEST projects from 12 to 43. Other changes include greater specification of the Component 1 and MPAs demonstration projects. Some of the projects involve assessments, studies or workshops or demonstration of specific techniques (such as mapping).

152. Many of the 79 demonstration projects are still at a relatively early stage and activities in many areas are much delayed compared to the original workplan. Based on the logframe and IW indicators, stress reduction has already occurred as a result of:

- The 43 TEST demonstration projects were all completed resulting in reductions in industrial waste pollution equivalent to a BOD5 reduction of 3,238 tonnes pa and COD reduction of 4,535 tonnes pa. Water savings amount to 9.7 million m^3/yr (Sub-component 2.2).
- The development of management plans for new MPAs. In addition six MPAs are in the process of being declared (Sub-component 3.1).

153. At mid-term awareness is already high amongst major stakeholders (e.g. utilities) regarding the need to properly manage PCBs (Sub-component 2.3). It is anticipated that ESM systems will be implemented in electrical utilities during the second half of the project and that significant amounts of PCBs will be identified and disposed of safely. To date, 92.9 tonnes of PCBs have been identified and declared ready for disposal (just over 10 percent of the target quantity).

154. It is not expected that the industrial pollution projects (Component 2.3) will deliver the anticipated stress reduction during the life of the project (See also Paragraph 201 & Annex 6) but process outcomes in this area will provide a foundation for longer term results, conditional on further investment.

155. The rating on effectiveness is **moderately satisfactory** reflecting progress on institutional strengthening and stakeholder engagement and early results in stress reduction in two project sub-components.

A4. Efficiency and Timeliness

Sources of cost-effectiveness

156. The project document states that a regional strategic approach to the MedPartnership is a more cost effective vehicle to demonstrate benefits than a series of individual projects. This assertion can be justified on the basis of reduced regional coordination costs with a single PMU, potentially reduced transaction costs for individual countries from dealing with a single project and the willingness of partners to join and to bring substantial co-financing to the Partnership. However the implementation approach is also associated with quite high transaction costs with dedicated staff or consultants employed by each of the co-executing agencies and the need for two project coordination/governance bodies (the SC and CG). These costs have been offset by the unusually high level of cash co-financing for this project that was secured through the efforts of the co-executing partners.

157. The PMU has taken on additional activities during the life of the project including managing the inception phase for a new climate adaptation project that is expected to run to the end of August 2014 (Paragraph 185), managing the information and replication activities originally assigned to INFO/RAC (Paragraph 53), and negotiating an addendum and extension to the EC support for MPAs.

158. Other sources of cost effectiveness include the way in which the project has:

- Built on the outputs and outcomes of previous projects and PDF grants including the revised TDA, adopted SAPs, national baseline budgets, national diagnostic analyses and NAPs;
- Made use of and reinforced the roles of an existing and recognised structure (UNEP/MAP). At a practical level the hosting arrangement had provided the project with office space, institutional support, staff time and expertise, and integration with regional governance processes (Paragraph 181);
- Been able to engage appropriate specialised partners already active in the Mediterranean as co-executing agencies. Each of the partners had brought its own expertise, networks and institutional profile to the project. It has also mobilised significant interest from funding partners creating further opportunities to create synergies and prevent duplication;
- Incorporated existing methodologies and experience such as UNIDO's TEST approach that was piloted in the Danube Basin;
- Placed emphasis on knowledge generation as a basis for replication.

Timeliness

159. The MedPartnership project was approved for funding in April 2008. UNEP, as Implementing Agency, approved the project in August 2008. An Internal Cooperation Agreement (ICA) was signed between UNEP DGEF and UNEP/MAP, the lead executing agency, on 14 November 2008 and the first disbursement was made later that month[7].

160. The official start date is recognised as August 2009, which is the date when the Project Manager was recruited and the PMU established[8]. This brought the expected completion date of this 60-month project to August 2014 instead of August 2013 anticipated in GEF-CEO approved document. The Project Inception Report is dated 21 May 2010 and was published following review of the draft report at the Project Inception Workshop and the first Strategic Partnership Steering Committee (SC) meeting held in February 2010. A SC approved a one year no-cost extension to August 2014 at this meeting.

161. The project Inception Report notes that Partners will be expected to make their final submissions and reporting by the end of March 2014, allowing the PMU to complete its reporting by the end of August 2014. The project document also anticipated an additional six month administrative closure period with reduced PMU staffing.

[7] This was a minor disbursement to allow for project posts to be advertised

[8] The project Inception Report refers to 'the "official" start of the Inception Phase of the project, i.e. when the PMU became fully operational (August 2009) and when the first MedPartnership's Coordination Group Meeting took place (September 2009)'

162. Negotiations for legal agreements with project technical partners or co-executing agencies started in May 2008, with most agreements finalised between September and December 2009 (Paragraph 267). The agreement with FAO was signed in April 2010 after extended legal discussions on the form and terms of the agreement (Paragraph 272). Some of the co-executing partners started activities promptly on receipt of funding (notably WWF-MEDPO and UNIDO) but overall the rate of expenditure during the first years of the project has been slow (Paragraph 275). This is due to a wide range of factors including delays in start up, staff changes, delay or reattribution of demonstration projects as a result of external events or decisions by participating countries, and, more simply, the relatively low costs of preparatory activities. Preliminary data on co-executing partners' expenditure indicate that activities were scaled up in the first half of 2012[9], while UNIDO and WWF-MEDPO activities were close to completion by the end of 2012.

163. The PMU has faced a shortfall in staffing during 2012 (Paragraph 209) exacerbated by its taking on additional responsibilities (Paragraph 156). This has contributed to some delays including in follow up to actions agreed by the Strategic Partnership Coordination Group (CG) such as efforts to establish the country support programmes in participating countries (Paragraph 223).

164. Annual workplans for delivery of technical activities have often proved optimistic with many activities rolled forward to the following year. Delays of 12-18 months have been experienced in countries affected by the Arab Spring and some activities had to be cancelled (Paragraph 220).

165. With the exception of MEDPOL and CP/RAC, the co-executing agencies considered that they are largely on track to complete activities during the current project period, though some noted they would need their own administrative closure period to complete reporting and to consolidate outputs (e.g. to prepare technical reports for learning purposes). Several partners understood the project had already been extended to the end of 2014, though this has not been formally discussed at the SC or CG meetings.

166. The overall rating on cost efficiency and timeliness is **moderately satisfactory**. The question of a further project extension will be taken up under recommendations.

A5. Review of Outcomes to Impacts

167. The following paragraphs examine progress made towards project impacts using a Review of Outcomes to Impacts (ROtI) analysis that is presented in more detail in Annex 8.

168. The project document for the Regional Component includes two logical frameworks, the first addressing the overall Strategic Partnership and spanning both the RC and the IF, and the second concerning the RC. Figure 8-1 in Annex 8 provides the theory of change for the overall Strategic Partnership while Figure 8-2 presents the theory of change for the RC based on the logframe summary that is discussed in more detail below.

169. The structure of Figure 8-2 is described below. The strategic orientation of this figure means it is limited in the extent to which it creates a baseline for assessment of project outcomes and impacts[10].

- The project strategies/outputs are based the clustering of project outputs under four of the six cross-cutting approaches described in the process indicators at objective level (*Policy/legal/institutional reforms, Institutional strengthening, Increased scientific knowledge, New tools, techniques and guidelines*) and also reflect the substantial number of pilot and demonstration. The other two cross cutting approaches (replication and stakeholder involvement) are impact drivers (see below).
- The ten 'outcomes' are derived from the component outcomes summarised in the RC logframe. A number of these describe outputs (services delivered by the project) rather than outcomes, but all require engagement and support of a cross section of project stakeholders.
- The remaining four project outcomes (*Sustainable financing opportunities established*, *Effective project management*, *Replication and communication mechanisms*, and

[9] PMU summary of reported expenditures to mid-2012, not yet consolidated in financial reporting.
[10] An alternative approach would be to develop TOC for each of the project sub-components

Involvement of all key stakeholders) are impact drivers. These drivers are important in ensuring the project results progress from its immediate outcomes to intermediate states and impacts.

- The intermediate outcomes are based on the project strategies and key indicators at objective level. The second set of intermediate outcomes is based on the scaling up and mainstreaming of these approaches.
- The description of the ten-year impact is based on the indicators for stress reduction and environmental impacts associated with the long-term goal for the SP.

170. Assumptions for achievement of intermediate outcomes and impacts include support of various identified groups of stakeholders, availability of finance, appropriate investment projects and ongoing SAP and NAP implementation through actions at national level. The RC project was expected to influence these factors through component 4 activities related to coordination of the SP.

171. Figure 8-3 in Annex 8 shows the results of the Review of Outcomes to Impact (ROtI) analysis based on the standard rating categories. According to this analysis, the *overall likelihood of impact achievement* at this stage in the project is rated on a six-point scale as moderately likely (DC+). This rating is based on the following observations:

- The 'D' rating on achievement of outcomes reflects that project's intended outcomes have not been fully delivered but many are on course to be delivered during the lifetime of the project. There are existing and project-supported mechanisms and processes that will allow for continuation of different sub-components and the overall partnership initiative in support of SAPs and NAPs (See e.g. *Sustainability* and *Replicability*).
- The 'C' rating on intermediate states reflects that measures designed to move toward intermediate states have started and have not yet produced results.
- The '+' rating related to impact reflects stress reduction results from the TEST and MPA interventions based on the GEF IW criteria for stress reduction (Paragraph 152 and Annex 6-B). The PCB (Sub-component 2.3) projects are expected to deliver further stress reduction during the life of the project.

172. The 'DC+' and corresponding **moderately likely** rating reflect the early stage of this SAP implementation project. The project is expected to deliver substantially on its identified outcomes and there is potential for further at least limited attainment of intermediate states during the life of the project and beyond, including as a result of replication efforts.

B. Sustainability and catalytic role

B1. Sustainability

Socio-political Sustainability

173. Events related to the Arab Spring as well as more routine changes in government have affected scheduling of activities in several countries (e.g. Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Croatia) and have led to co-executing partners pulling out of or scaling back activities in Libya and Syria (Paragraph 220). Several countries are continuing to experience mild to serious political instability or social unrest that is affecting day to day communications and project operations.

174. At the regional level the project has proved largely resilient to such changes and has been able to maintain its overall momentum despite difficulties experienced in planning or execution of specific activities. The well-established regional institutional framework has provided further stability in this regard (Paragraph 181). Experts from countries undergoing political change have continued to be involved in regional activities, and in some cases targeted national-level training activities have been organised in neighbouring countries.

175. While project activities remain compromised in a number of countries, the overall rating on this dimension is **moderately likely,** in view of the resilience of the project at regional level.

Financial Resources

176. The MedPartnership project is intended to play a catalytic role in a situation where the cost of implementation of the two SAPs greatly exceeds available project funding (Paragraph 190). In this context it should be noted that the achievement of the overall strategic partnership objective is dependent on both replication of activities undertaken through the IF and the RC.

177. The global and regional economic climate has been particularly difficult since 2008 and is reflected in UNEP/MAP's difficult financial situation (Paragraph 288). Despite this, overall interest in the state of the Mediterranean environment remains high amongst the project and MAP's existing funding partners and through wider regional initiatives such as the Union for the Mediterranean.

178. There will be a focus on sustainable financing during the remaining duration of the MedPartnership project (Activity 4.1.4 *Sustainable financing mechanism for the long term implementation of NAPs*) and a recruitment process was launched in mid 2012 for a sustainable finance officer (Paragraph 267).

179. Immediate prospects for direct follow on funding are exemplified by the project-based grants from the European Commission including an addendum to the existing MedPartnership work on MPAs (to be managed by UNEP/MAP) and support for scaling up of TEST activities through the SWITCH-Med project ('Switching to More Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean').

180. This dimension is rated as **moderately likely,** with good prospects for improving this rating during the second half of the project through the planned work on sustainable financing.

Institutional Framework

181. The MedPartnership Project is fully embedded in the Mediterranean Action Plan, and contributes to programme of work adopted by the Conference of Parties of the Barcelona Convention. At regional level, the MAP structure will provide for lessons for the project to be institutionalised and for results to be mainstreamed and scaled up. The MedPartnership project provided an opportunity to consolidate existing institutional relationships, but also to build new operational relationships between UNEP and other institutional actors concerned with environmental issues in the Mediterranean such as FAO, UNIDO and GWP. UNEP/MAP has formalised partnerships with some of these actors during the life of the project.

182. The co-executing partners have a high level of ownership and commitment to the activities initiated or strengthened through the MedPartnership project and many have already articulated how they plan to build on the results of the project within their existing and planned programmes of work and through their existing networks and governance bodies.

183. There has not yet been the same level of assimilation of the project at national level (Paragraph 257). To date the complementary activities of the project in terms of capacity building, stakeholder engagement and policy development provide a limited foundation in this area but this is expected to be strengthened during the life of the project.

184. The rating on this aspect of sustainability is **likely** reflecting the well established regional institutional framework and prospects for strengthening the national institutional framework through ongoing project activities.

Environmental Sustainability

185. In terms of environmental issues that could affect project outcomes, the project document refers to climate change under the summary of environmental challenges but does not explicitly

set out to address this. However the issue of climate variability has been taken up in the GEF/ Sustainable MED Project 3990 entitled *MED Integration of Climatic Variability and Change into National Strategies to Implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean* that was endorsed in January 2012 and will executed by the MedPartnership PMU within UNEP MAP.

186. The Strategic Partnership logframe includes an assumption that benefits are not outweighed by ongoing pollution and biodiversity loss. It would be difficult to track this assumption in the absence of a basin-wide monitoring programme but it is clear that the project results, if achieved, would at least contribute to slowing the pace of environmental decline.

187. At this stage there do not appear to be any project outputs or results that could negatively affect the environment and, related sustainability of project benefits. However there is a slight risk that mobilisation of PCBs within the scope of the project could have a negative impact if the project does not complete the related actions to dispose of these.

188. The rating on this dimension of sustainability is **likely** with no major environmental threats identified as this stage.

189. The overall rating for sustainability is based on the lowest rated individual rating in this section and is **moderately likely.**

B2. Catalytic Role and Replicability

190. The MedPartnership project was specifically intended to play a catalytic role in a context where the estimated costs of SAP-MED and SAP BIO implementation (respectively US$ 10 billion and US$ 140 million for regional actions) greatly exceed project funding. The project's main success in this area to date has been in bringing together existing and new technical partners to work in a concerted manner on SAP delivery, which has in turn consolidated the role of the *SAPs* as a framework for action (Paragraph 181).

191. In addition the project has provided a focus for increasing coordination between the EC and MAP and/or other project partners in support of shared environmental objectives. The EC initially joined the MedPartnership CG in order to ensure coherence with its Horizon 2020 project that involves MedPartnership actors such as GWP. The EC has subsequently become a partner in the replication strategy (Paragraph 125), is directly involved in replication activities (Paragraph 194), and is undertaking a review of NAPs implementation with MAP and the UfM with a view to identifying areas requiring further investment.

192. A large number of project activities are oriented towards providing incentives or opportunities to catalyse change. These include efforts to strengthen the evidence base for environmental management through Component 1, building the financial case for resource efficiency and pollution reduction through the TEST projects under Component 2, and creating champions for MPA management including through the mentors and small grants programmes under Component 3. Project activities related to sustainable financing and replication during the second half of the project are expected to contribute to consolidation of these results in and extension of the approaches beyond directly participating countries. The project is also expected to contribute to a wide range of policy outcomes (Paragraph 146).

193. Replication is a central strategy for the MedPartnership with the overall Strategic Partnership and Sub-component 4.3 of the RC project specifically concerned with development and implementation of a replication strategy through identification and promotion of replicable practices. Activities undertaken in this area are described in Part A1 of this report.

194. The project is pilotinga wide range of activities with replication potential, and promotion of replication is expected to become an important source of added value for the partnership. The TEST approach has already attracted substantial interest from the EC which has allocated some seven million Euro for expansion of the programme through its SWITCH-Med project for the period 2013 to 2017. The World Bank is currently planning a study tour of TEST enterprises for stakeholders involved in the design of a pollution control project in Lebanon. Similarly GWP has reported that its MedPartnership activities have contributed to mobilisation of significant

multi-donor funding in the area of water governance and private sector participation and for a GEF full sized project for the Drin Basin.

195. The project strategies (Paragraph 169) are broadly oriented towards creating an enabling environment at national level for support to NAP and SAPs implementation and are expected to bear results during and beyond the life of the project (Paragraph 171).

196. The rating on catalytic role and replication is **satisfactory,** reflecting a good potential for catalytic effect and for replicability of pilot and demonstration activities, and efforts already taken by the project to promote replication.

C. Processes affecting attainment of project results

C1. Preparation and Readiness

197. The MedPartnership was developed between 2004 and 2006, including through a PDF phase approved in October 2005. Despite some reported problems in terms of timely delivery, the Project Document was well-written and very detailed. The overall intervention logic for the project was clear and coherent, though inevitably rather general considering the range of interventions spanning multiple themes at regional, national and local level. The overall timeframe for activities appeared to be realistic based on the workplan provided though limited time was allowed for start up and contingencies as well as for inevitable delays associated with outcomes that depend on policy processes and cycles in a large number of countries. Costing (GEF plus cash and in-kind contributions) was presented at the level of each activity suggesting sufficient attention was paid to specification of inputs.

198. At the regional level the co-executing partners were fully involved in the project development and were appropriately identified based on their mandates, their areas of specialisation or the relevant regional experience that they could bring to the project. Each of the agencies provided one or more letters detailing their commitments in terms of co-financing. Each of the agencies took responsibility for in-country consultations but consultation on overall project functioning and coordination mechanisms at national level appears to have been limited (Paragraph 257).

199. The project document included nearly 800 pages of annexes including a detailed description of project components prepared by each of the co-executing partners. The descriptions are of variable quality and appear to reflect considerable differences in the level of technical preparation and consultation. Two components (2.2 UNIDO TEST and 3.1 MPAs) were further defined in stand-alone project documents which include fuller development of the intervention logic at the component level, and this appears to have been beneficial in terms of ensuring the feasibility of proposed activities as well as the partners' readiness to launch activities when funding was received.

200. Sub-component 2.3 could have been improved by planning a proper PCB inventory and estimating the associated costs. The information on PCBs came mainly from National Implementation Plan reports, but these data are very preliminary and they are not based on actual chemical testing but rather on estimate-based methods. The cost associated with a proper inventory (e.g. the purchase of equipment for PCB analysis) was not considered in the costing of this sub-component. In addition, Lebanon pulled out from the planned phosphogypsum demonstration project under sub-component 2.1 (Paragraph 87) and PCB activities under sub-component 2.3 suggesting preliminary consultations in these areas were inadequate.

201. Other less well defined components include

- Sub-component 3.2 on fisheries that was heavily modified during the inception phase, with reduced emphasis on regional outputs.
- Sub-component 2.1 where the expected stress reduction outcomes from industrial pollution projects during the life of the project was overambitious and not commensurate with the level of investment probably due to a poor redesign of component 2 (see Annex 6).

202. The project logframe, activities and monitoring framework were revised and made more consistent during a six-month project inception period. The Project Inception Report, dated 21 May 2010, was published following review of the draft report at the Project Inception Workshop and the first SC meeting held in February 2010. All sub-components except 2.1 were updated to reflect changes in the project context since the project document was written and the report includes a justification of changes to activities.

203. From the operational perspective the project was slow to get off the ground (Paragraph 264) in view of the extended period required for development of the Internal Cooperation Agreement (ICA) between UNEP and UNEP MAP based on the new UNEP templates as well as time required for recruitment, . Most partners experienced their own delays in start up once partnership agreements were signed with expenditure on subcontracts to the end of 2010 typically being in the order of 10-15% of available GEF funds.

204. The **moderately satisfactory** rating on preparation and readiness reflects limited consultations at national level leading to some weaknesses in project definition as well as delays in launching the project after approval.

C2. Implementation Approach and Adaptive Management

205. The following paragraphs are concerned with the implementation approaches adopted by the MedPartnership project including the performance of the implementation arrangements and partnerships, and overall performance of project management including in the face of technical, administrative or financial constraints. This section also highlights some of the implementation challenges and the way in which the project partners have adapted to these challenges.

206. Sub-component 4.1 of the project comprises a package of activities concerned with overall management and implementation of the project including with reference to the roles and responsibilities of executing agency and co-executing partners and to structures and functions to be established at regional and national level. The project document describes arrangements for establishment of a Project Management Unit (including TOR for key roles) as well as the regional PSC, CG and national support programmes.

Project Management Unit and Support from MAP

207. A small PMU was established in August 2009 (corresponding to Activity 4.1.1 in the project document) with three staff members as envisaged in the project document. Two posts are funded by GEF: the Project Manager recruited in August 2009 and the Marine and Coastal Expert recruited in June 2009. Eighty percent of the Expert's time and 20 percent of the Project Manager's time were assigned to project activities. The third staff member, the Project Administrative Assistant, recruited in June 2009, is funded through MTF co-financing.

208. The Project Manager retired at the end of 2011 while the project Administrative Assistant moved to a permanent MAP role in mid-2012. A senior consultant supported the project on development of the climate variability inception report during the first months of 2012, and the MAP Deputy Coordinator has provided support as officer-in-charge for the project as well as for MEDPOL. A part time project Secretary shared with MEDPOL was assigned by MAP in mid-2012. Several recruitment processes were underway during the evaluation period (Paragraphs 266 - 267) and it is expected that a new Project Manager will be in place in first quarter of 2013. This will provide an opportunity to take a more systematic approach to recruitment and staffing working with MAP's Senior Administrative Officer.

209. Day to day responsibility for project management and coordination in 2012 was taken on by the PMU's Coastal and Marine Expert. A substantial part of the Expert's time in 2012 has been taken up with exceptional activities such as revision of the climate variability inception report and reprogramming of the communications and replication work that was to be undertaken by INFO/RAC. Despite outstanding efforts and commitment, this has inevitably led to some shortfalls in regular support activities (e.g. tracking and quality control of project progress and outputs) and led to delays in activities such as establishment of country support programmes.

210. The move of the project Administrative Assistant to another role in UNEP/MAP in mid-2012 placed additional pressure on the PMU. MAP administrative personnel have continued to provide good quality support in this area but there is not at present a dedicated administrative assistant and this has led to some delays. The post was funded by the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) allocation to UNEP/MAP and MAP has been unable to recruit a replacement owing to the freeze on recruitment of MTF funded staff put in place by the Bureau for the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention[11][12]. One option put forward by MAP was to finance this post from 2013 using GEF funding.

211. The PMU is hosted by the UNEP/MAP as executing agency for the GEF project as well as for EC and AECID funds for Component 3.1. MAP is also directly responsible for the supervision and delivery of MEDPOL. The MEDPOL funding allocation of just over 20 percent of the GEF funds was expected to be matched by substantial MTF cash and in kind support through MAP (Paragraph **Error! Reference source not found.**). The issue of a possible shortfall in MTF co-inance is taken up elsewhere in this report (Paragraph **Error! Reference source not found.**). In terms of adaptive management, there does not yet appear to have been a comprehensive assessment of the effects of related budget revisions and potential shortfalls on project activities (Paragraph 290) though some revisions have clearly been made to allow activities to continue in the absence of cash co-finance (e.g. Paragraph 280).

212. The hosting arrangement has provided for direct supervision of the Project Manager by the MAP Coordinator and also for some pooling of resources and roles. For example the Project Administrative Assistant fulfilled roles associated with both immediate financial tracking that are typically provided by the PMU and financial backstopping and reporting typically provided by the Executing Agency.

213. MAP does not receive a direct administrative overhead for its role as executing agency while the overhead on AECID and EC funds is received centrally in UNEP. At the same time there was limited recognition in the co-finance calculations of the direct costs associated with hosting the PMU and MEDPOL. Against this backdrop, decisions taken by MAP management with regard to co-financing, staffing, and, to a lesser extent, allocation of GEF funds (e.g. Paragraph 280, **Error! Reference source not found.**) appear to have been influenced by the financial ifficulties faced by MAP and are not always in the best interests of the project.

Co-executing partners

214. The Project is characterised by its Partnership Structure, which was originally to involve six co-executing agencies at the regional level (GFCM, UNESCO/IHP, WWF-MedPO, GWP -Med, MIO-ESCDE, World Bank) and a further five technical centres and programmes (four RACs plus MEDPOL). With UNIDO this comes to 12 co-executing partners (Paragraph 39) who are together responsible for execution of project activities, facilitated and coordinated by the PMU.

215. The partnership arrangements have largely worked out as envisaged in the project document with one main exception related to INFO/RAC whose activities were taken on by UNEP/MAP by mutual agreement following the reassignment of the Centre by the Italian Government as a result of lack of certainty that it would be able to fulfil the roles assigned in the project document (Paragraph 120). In addition it was agreed that the PMU would take responsibility for the activity budget originally assigned to the World Bank to undertake a set of mutually agreed tasks, while the joint work of GFCM and FAO has been led by FAO.

216. Each of the project partners has been responsible for designing its own execution and coordination arrangements building on arrangements envisaged in the project document that included an extended annex of job descriptions or TOR for regional staff and consultants to be recruited by the partners. The overall structure is associated with a relatively high level of expenditure on staff costs: data in the inception report indicate that 49 percent of the GEF, EC and AECID funding administered by UNEP MAP was allocated for project personnel, consultants and travel.

[11] For details of MAP governance roles, see 'Structure' at http://www.unepmap.org
[12] UNEP/MAP reported in March 2013 that the Bureau had approved opening of this post

217. There has been some variation in the performance of partners, with the principal explanatory factor appearing to be the level of preparedness of the partners at the time project funding was received (Paragraph 199) and, linked to this, the adequacy of project definition (Paragraph 201). Delivery has been affected to a limited degree by delays in recruitment or changes in staffing within the partner agencies.

218. Roles and responsibilities for delivery of Components 1-3 are partitioned amongst the co-executing partners and there are only limited requirements for direct collaboration, with one notable exception being the in development of the Integrated Methodological Framework and at the shared pilot sites under Component 1. CP/RAC's delivery under Component 2 is also contingent of completion of activities coordinated by MEDPOL. There have been some ad hoc efforts to collaborate amongst the partners, such as a collaboration meeting between PAP/RAC and SPA/RAC in 2010 which resulted in direct collaboration in pilot areas in Algeria and Montenegro. Greater cooperation amongst the component partners at country level or coordination level could be beneficial in terms of sharing experience, expertise and contacts, and in building longer term collaboration amongst partners. However the different timing of activities and means it will be difficult to address this retrospectively.

219. Several of the co-executing partners – including GWP, FAO and PAP/RAC – are delivering their MedPartnership activities in close collaboration with other activities involving a wide range of partners. This is advantageous in the sense that it has strengthened project foundations, broadened the project reach and allowed the teams to respond to changing circumstances and opportunities. However, in some cases it is difficult to identity which outputs (and even inputs) are attributable to the MedPartnership project.

220. One of the major constraints faced by the partners has been the disruption to in-country work and in some cases a breakdown of regular contact with participating countries as a result of the Arab Spring. Direct effects have included difficulties with international or in country communications and interruption of work due to curfews or to security measures put in place by the co-executing partners, as well as more substantial changes associated with restructuring of institutions and associated loss of institutional memory or allocation of efforts to more pressing national priorities. At the regional level the project has proved resilient to these processes of change (Paragraph 174).

221. The extent to which project activities has been affected by political change or government restructuring ranges from ranges from minor in Morocco and Croatia to more substantial in Tunisia and ongoing in Syria and Libya. With regard to project components:

- Sub-component 2.3 has been particularly affected by political changes, with planned activities in Syria and Libya cancelled in favour of activities in Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina. In addition, contracts for two international consultants were terminated as it was not possible for them to deliver on their TOR (Paragraph 99).
- Sub-component 1.3 activities on the River Orontes in Syria are on hold.
- Delays were experienced with delivery of Component 1 & 3 activities in Tunisia and Morocco but these are now largely back on track.
- Disruptions to Component 3 activities in Libya were more substantial but work on MPAs has recently picked up and some activities such as training were conducted outside the country during 2011 and 2012. WWF-MEDPO was forced to reschedule a small amount funding intended for activities in Libya in order to meet its December 2012 deadline for completion of activities.
- There were minor delays as a result of government restructuring in Croatia leading to rescheduling of Component 1 and 3 activities.

Coordination at National Level

222. The project document anticipated appointment of a project focal point in each country, and establishment of Strategic Partnership Country Support Programmes (Activity 4.1.9). Several participating countries expressed reservations regarding appointment of project focal points at the inception meeting, with concerns that this would lead to duplication of roles at national level, such as overlap of responsibilities with existing MAP focal points. Seven countries had assigned

project focal points at the time of the evaluation while the role was filled by the MAP and /or GEF focal points in the remaining countries.

223. A major task assigned to the Strategic Partnership Country Support Programmes and focal points was to establish Inter-Ministerial Committees, and to support their functioning. A small budget was allocated for this role. Efforts to establish country support programmes have been thwarted in view of concerns about the usefulness of Inter-Ministerial Committees, uncertainty as to their level or role, and at a more pragmatic level, the realisation that it would be difficult to channel available funds to relevant Ministries for such a broad-based activity. The PMU started to negotiate allocation of Strategic Partnership Country Support Programme funds on a case by case basis in the second half of 2012 and a first agreement was signed with the focal agency for Montenegro in November 2012.

224. The level of project coordination at national level varies amongst countries but is generally insufficient amongst and even within project sub-components which between them are working with a wide range of national stakeholders. Interviewees and respondents to the focal point questionnaire reported that they receive much of their information about project activities through the SC meetings and Annual Report rather than through in-country contact with the co-executing partners. Many of the partners are working with their own networks of focal points or experts and thematically relevant stakeholder groups and only UNESCO IHP and PAP/RAC appear to have systematically involved the project (or MAP) focal point in activities such as recruitment of national consultants. Practical difficulties to such collaboration include the varied timing of sub-components and also the partner's different ways of working, with a perceived rift between approaches involving working primarily with government agencies or with civil society.

225. A national stakeholders' workshop organised in Tunisia during this evaluation highlighted the benefits of bringing project actors together at national level, in terms of visibility, information exchange and ownership. The issue of national coordination and IMCs is taken up under recommendations.

Project Coordination and Governance Structures

226. The project document envisaged three mechanisms for coordination and governance of the Strategic Partnership that are managed under Component 4.1 of the project: the Steering Committee, the Coordination Group and Inter-agency meetings (Activities 4.1.2; 4.1.3 and 4.1.6). The roles of the SC and CG are set out in the project document.

227. The Steering Committee (SC) was intended to have overall responsibility for project oversight and act as the main policy body for the SP. The SC membership comprises representatives of the participating countries, the co-executing partners, the task manager from UNEP DEPI, and major co-financing partners amongst which the EC is most regularly represented. The President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention serves as Chair of the SC (currently France). The committee has met on three occasions at roughly 12 month intervals, with the first meeting in March 2010 also serving as the inception meeting. The Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting (Activity 4.1.7) will be held in conjunction with the fourth SC Meeting.

228. The SC meeting provides feedback on presentations from each of the co-executing partners, reviews the annual technical report, and reviews and approves the updated annual workplan and revised budget, including co-finance. The quality of documentation prepared in advance of meetings is high and meeting reports are produced in a timely manner. Several focal points reported that the SC meeting is their primary source of information about project activities including activities taking place in their countries.

229. The PMU prepares detailed financial information for each SC meeting including an updated umbrella budget, though the 2012 summary does not include columns showing earlier budgets for comparative purposes. The SC has approved the revised budget at each of its annual meetings. The SC has also provided feedback on a number of strategy papers including the two phases of the replication strategy and the communications strategy. Each of the meetings has produced substantive recommendations while a summary of progress toward earlier recommendations is provided at each meeting.

230. A question was raised during the evaluation as to whether a single country representative could adequately address the diverse technical themes addressed by the MedPartnership Project. In practice participation of a single technical focal point (project or MAP) appears to be adequate given the general nature of meeting. However this could usefully be backed up by more formal communication mechanisms in each country to provide input to and feedback from the meetings from the different national actors involved in the project.

231. The intended purpose of Strategic Partnership Coordination Group (CG) was to ensure effective coordination and synergy between the regional component and investment fund. Specifically the CG was to make recommendations on IF project concepts. Membership was limited to a sub-set of the project partners, together with the GEF Secretariat and UNEP DGEF (now DEPI) and separate provision was made for interagency meetings involving all of the co-executing partners. In practice these meetings have been merged generating cost savings and also allowing for a more equal level of participation amongst the co-executing agencies.

232. Three CG meetings have been held on a roughly annual basis (September 2009, October 2010 and October 2011). The fourth meeting has been rescheduled from October 2012 to early 2013 in order to allow for discussion of the mid-term evaluation report. The CG meetings are less formal working meetings that look in detail at project progress, issues and direction, and serve as a preparatory meeting for the SC meetings. Funding partners such as the EC have joined the meeting in view of substantive interests in the replication strategy.

233. The dual governance structure is illustrative of the high transaction costs of the MedPartnership Project. Participants considered the balance of meetings to be appropriate, and that a twice yearly meeting was justified in view of the complexity of the project.

Synergy between the Regional Component and the Investment Fund

234. The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem consists of two complementary components: the Regional Component (RC) and the Investment Fund (IF), a parallel project submitted by the World Bank and approved by the GEF Council in August 2006.

235. The RC was to be responsible for overall coordination, communication and replication of the SP. The Strategic Partnership Project Brief includes the indicator, *'Identification and design of sub-projects under the Investment Fund component reflect systematic interactions within the context of the coordination mechanisms of the Regional Project component*'. However the activities described in the RC project document and Strategic Partnership Project Brief reflect a more modest outlook[13]. The RC project document anticipates that lessons from the IF projects and RC would together form the basis for joint replication and communications activities, but replication projects would be funded from further and unspecified sources of funding. This level of collaboration is realistic considering that the IF projects had been largely defined by the time the MedPartnership was operational. However some project partners have expressed disappointment at the lack of direct follow on investment to the RC, which they regarded as an important justification for the project.

236. The IF received a first GEF allocation of US$ 10 million and it was expected that this would be renewed to meet the anticipated total of US$ 70 million mentioned in the Strategic Partnership Project Brief. However this proved impossible owing to shortfalls in the IW funding allocation in the GEF-4 cycle. Three projects were funded between May 2008 and March 2010 when the MedPartnership inception meeting was held. The GEF subsequently supported a new Mediterranean Environmental Sustainable Development Programme, the World Bank implemented Sustainable MED, which was approved in June 2009. Nine Sustainable MED projects (with a range of executing agencies) were identified as being in the pipeline in the MedPartnership Inception Report, with a total direct project cost to the GEF of US$ 43.63 million. Though it is frequently characterised as a continuation of the IF, the GEF Secretariat

[13] i) the design and application of a replication and a communication strategy resulting in concrete replicable projects both identified and financed; ii) providing a mechanism for the long-term sustainable financing of the SAPs and NAPs; iii) ensuring systematic linkages between both components, and overall monitoring and evaluation of the SP; and iv) ensure ownership at the level of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and MAP and ensuring the sustainability of the SP beyond the life-span of the project.

has emphasised that Sustainable MED was a new and distinct package of work and does not carry the same expectations of participation in the Strategic Partnership as did the IF.

237. The World Bank allocation in the RC project document was to be used for participation of World Bank staff in CG and SC meetings and for their contribution to replication and communications work. The specific allocation reflected lessons from a previous strategic partnership project related to insufficient coordination[14]. In January 2010 it was agreed that UNEP MAP would directly manage the work of three World Bank-nominated consultants addressing different aspects of the relationship between the World Bank and RC (replication, resource mobilisation, and coordination with donors and agencies), and that it would manage and would be accountable for the associated GEF budget allocation. The main deliverable in this area has been the two reports on replication (Paragraphs 124 & 125).

238. A coordination meeting was organised in May 2010 between the UNEP/MAP, INFO/RAC and the World Bank and one or more of the three consultants also participated in each of the three CG meetings. However consistent coordination has been thwarted by staff changes in the World Bank, associated with changes in perspective and loss of institutional memory.

239. In terms of concrete collaboration, UNEP/MAP proposed and has been asked to execute the Sustainable Med project on climate variability, which will be managed through the MedPartnership PMU (Paragraph 185) while GWP is a partner in the MED Coastal Rivers and Orontes River Basins Water Resources Management Project. There is also potential for discussion on communication and replication in the context of the MED Governance and Knowledge Generation project but efforts would need to be targeted in order to avoid placing unacceptable demands on staff time.

240. The rating on implementation approach and adaptive management is **moderately satisfactory** and is based on the good overall framework for implementation and adequate adaptation in a rapidly changing context, despite some identified weaknesses that are addressed in the conclusions of the report.

C3. Stakeholder Participation and Public Awareness

Engagement of Stakeholders in Project Design and Implementation

241. There is limited information on engagement of stakeholders in the design of the MedPartnership project though it is clear that the co-executing partners were closely involved in the project development (Paragraph 198) and MAP focal points from the participating countries were consulted at an early stage in project development (Paragraph 253). The detailed level of preparation on most components suggests partners undertook adequate consultations with their existing networks. GEF focal points nominated a lead agency for the project in their letters of support.

242. The project document places considerable emphasis on stakeholder engagement as a means to contribute to transparency of SAP implementation and enhance commitment by civil society. Direct funding in this area was intended to be catalytic.

243. MIO-ECSDE, a regional NGO, was charged with facilitating and supporting NGO Engagement under project activity 4.1.10, with a funding allocation of just over one percent of the total GEF funding for this project, to be matched by similar funding from the partner. This was a lower allocation than originally envisaged during project planning. Direct outputs in this area include development of an NGO engagement plan and matrix identifying opportunities for NGO engagement in each of the other component activities that was adopted by the SC in 2011. MIO-ECSDE has developed an online database of national and regional NGOs active in the Mediterranean countries which it is continuing to expand. MIO-ESCDE has brought its knowledge of stakeholder engagement to each of the CG and SC meetings. It has also participated directly in some project activities at the invitation of other co-executing agencies and been able to strengthen its efforts through its more recent support to communications activities (Paragraphs 121 & 246). There has not yet been any systematic assessment of

[14] GEF currently prefers a separate and parallel coordination project to add value to investment programmes.

delivery against the NGO engagement plan but MIO-ESCDE's preliminary assessment is that engagement has been good amongst partners with a history of working with NGOs, but limited amongst partners more used to working with government /public sector partners.

244. At the regional level one of the features of the MedPartnership has been its success in bringing a cross section of UN agencies, specialist centres and programmes, large and small NGOs, and development bodies together in a concerted effort towards SAP implementation. The SC has provided for formal engagement of country partners but efforts to activate country support programmes and establish Inter-Ministerial Committees (one of the OVIs for stakeholder engagement) have met with limited success to date (Paragraph 222).

245. At the execution level, there have been a wide range of opportunities for stakeholder engagement in project activities including through regional and national expert consultations, training workshops, and, in particular, through the demonstration projects under all three project components. This experience has started to be captured in guidelines (such as the draft Integrated Methodological Framework guidelines) and case studies (such as for the TEST projects) and there is good potential for further documentation of these efforts in the second part of the project. Interviewees from several countries affected by the Arab Spring reported that the project has benefitted from more active civil society engagement as a result of post-revolutionary policy change.

Public Awareness Activities

246. Sub-component 4.2 of the project was concerned with internal and external communications activities and is discussed in Part A above. Key outreach products produced by MIO-ESCDE from late 2010 include a basic communications strategy, a website, an iPad application, a documentary film, and production of the second annual report. The website was not regularly updated between mid-2012 when MIO-ECSDE's latest contract had expired and December 2012. Communications and dissemination of lessons are expected to intensify during the second half of the project with recruitment of the Project / MEDPOL Communications Officer and renewal of MIO-ESCDE's contract.

247. Several partners including PAP/RAC, SPA/RAC, UNIDO and WWF-MEDPO have established their own web pages that extend the online reach of the project. These are informative and many include technical outputs not available on the main project website. However not all of these websites reflect that activities are being delivered under the umbrella of the MedPartnership project. There is basic information on the project on the IW:Learn website including earlier news stories, though the links are now dated[15] .

248. With regard to dissemination of lessons, WWF-MEDPO and UNIDO have prepared case studies and lessons documents covering their respective activities on MPAs and TEST. WWF's partner in Croatia, Sunce, has also prepared a documentary video summarising the findings and outputs of the MedPAN South in Croatia. SPA/RAC has published results of some of its survey work in academic journals.

249. The project partners participated actively in the 6th GEF Biennial International Waters Conference held in Dubrovnik in October 2011. Project activities have also been presented at a wide range of Conferences and events organised by the project or attended by experts within the co-executing agencies. This has expanded the reach of the project within each organisation's networks and enhanced synergy with other projects.

250. Popular media coverage has been encouraged through press releases and media events and the resulting outputs over a period of one year are included on the project website. . Overall the emphasis on reaching stakeholders and key technical and policy audiences is appropriate for a project of this scope.

251. One general weakness in terms communications and stakeholder engagement activities has been the bias of the project towards English language outputs. A number of key project documents – such as the published annual reports, and SC and CG meeting reports – have been translated into French but there is an outstanding need, first raised at the 2011 SC

[15] The project's earlier 'MedPartnership.org' domain has been taken over by a medical practice.

meeting, to develop content in Arabic. While some project partners (notably SPA/RAC) have prioritised use of national languages, others have been criticised for delivering training and producing training material in English only. This has restricted accessibility and utility of otherwise much appreciated outputs particularly in North Africa.

252. The overall rating on stakeholder engagement is **moderately satisfactory** reflecting a good overall level of stakeholder engagement, but weaknesses in communications during the early years of the project and latter part of 2012.

C4. Country Ownership and Drivenness

253. An advanced concept for a MedPartnership project was presented to representatives of the 12 participating countries by the UNEP MAP Coordinator, GEF Secretariat and World Bank representatives at the *MAP-GEF Stocktaking Meeting* held in October 2004. The minutes of this meeting reflect that the project had agreed in principle, though comments made by participating countries reflect some notes of caution at this early stage. The project was recognised as a worthwhile contribution to the SAP-BIO and SAP-MED endorsed by the participating countries (Paragraph 133).

254. Letters of support for the PDF-B grant application and/or the Strategic Partnership were submitted by all participating countries in the project area in 2005 and 2006[16]. Similarly co-financing letters were submitted by one or two agencies from each country in 2007, for an amount totalling US$ 13.1 million. An additional US$ 1 million was pledged by the Palestinian Authority. It has not been possible to track the extent to which co-finance has actually been mobilised in the project countries, so this cannot be used as an indicator of ownership (Paragraph 293).

255. There is no available documentation for activities undertaken in the PDF phase but the proposal suggests it was to comprise largely of technical activities assigned to nominated technical partners (the future co-executing partners). The extent of preparation of the project sub-components is quite variable but it is evident that at least some country consultations took place and that most of the co-executing partners were able to build on their institutional experience and networks in the project countries.

256. Representatives from the MedPartnership countries have actively participated in the three project SC meetings, with representation by the project focal point where assigned or by a nominee appointed by the MAP Focal Point and or GEF Focal Point in each country. National stakeholders have been activity engaged in and shown a high level of commitment to a wide range of project activities including pilot and demonstration activities at national level and/or training at regional level (Paragraph 245), though there is significant variation amongst countries in the level of practical involvement.

257. However, difficulties in establishment of Country Support Programmes and Inter-Ministerial Committees point to limited assimilation of the project at national level (Paragraph 223), possibly as a result of inadequate consultations during project planning regarding how best to enable project activities at national level and the needs and expectations of the identified lead institutions.

258. The situation has been exacerbated by the tendency of co-executing partners to by-pass focal points during execution of their activities at national and regional level. Several project focal points and contacts expressed dissatisfaction with the level of consultation and information (Paragraph 224). It is too soon to determine whether the limited coordination and visibility at national level will affect promotion of policy and legal and institutional reforms; this may be offset by the countries' strong engagement with MAP regional policy mechanisms.

259. The rating on country ownership and drivenness for the overall MedPartnership is **moderately unsatisfactory.** This rating reflects that the project design and implementation was largely driven by the co-executing partners as well as the difficulties experienced in enabling countries to take comprehensive ownership of the project.

[16] Eleven countries endorsed the PDF-B application and seven endorsed the Project document.

C5. Financial Planning and Management

Application of Standards

260. MAP has managed the GEF and other grants (AECID and EC) for the MedPartnership project in a clear and accountable manner, with oversight provided both by UNEP DEPI and by the project SC. Considerable efforts have been required on the part of the partners' administrative staff and especially the PMU Administration Assistant to ensure compatibility of different partners' reporting systems.

261. The PMU has not reported any issue in terms of availability of GEF or other grant-based funding. Co-executing partners reported some delays between submission of cash requests and receipt of GEF funding but this did not generally affect project progress since they were able to continue to operate using co-finance.

262. WWF-MEDPO experienced delays of up to nine months in the receipt of EC funds since cash requests could not be processed until the joint expenditure by SPA/RAC and WWF-MEDPO had reached a certain level against the previous advance[17]. SPA/RAC experienced initial delays in receipt of AECID funds through UNEP, which created difficulties since this was allocated for salaries.

263. There have not been any audits of the MedPartnership project but MAP and several of the other project partners are regularly audited.

Administrative Processes

264. The PMU was established in August 2009, a year after the project was approved by UNEP and some nine months after the ICA was signed between UNEP DGEF and UNEP/MAP. Finalisation of agreements with partners was completed by March 2010 (Paragraph 271).

265. Recruitment of the core PMU staff was undertaken between November 2008 and August 2009. The rather general explanation of 'slow bureaucracy' for this extended period is not borne out by experience in other UNEP implemented projects but no specific reasons were provided. Some partners experienced their own delays in recruiting staff (e.g. SPA/RAC), which contributed to delays in delivery in the first year of the project.

266. The recent approach to recruitment has been beset by delays and confounded by differences within MAP and between MAP and DEPI, as well as an inconsistent approach to allocation of core /ongoing and occasional tasks between staff and consultants. The process to replace the Project Manager who retired at the end of 2011 has been particularly drawn out. Various options were considered with the MAP-proposed option to fill this role by taking on a senior level consultant overruled by UNEP DEPI in favour of a more conventional approach. The post was advertised in May 2012 and first interviews took place towards the end of October. Second round interviewees were held in December 2012 and it is expected that the post will be filled in the first quarter of 2012[18].

267. Delays have also been experienced in the recruitment of the project Administrative Assistant (Paragraph 210), the PMU /MEDPOL Communications Officer (in view of the need to accommodate a potential transition of the incumbent to MAP at the end of the project) and a sustainable finance expert (since the job description and title were inappropriately standardised at UNEP headquarters and no longer matched the required profile for the candidate). The Communications Officer post was filled in January 2013.

268. Options regarding other project staff or long term consultants have been subject to ongoing discussion. The need to systematically address staffing issues including with a view to the additional responsibilities taken on by the PMU is taken up under recommendations.

[17] WWF-MedPO's rate of expenditure was faster that SPA/RAC since it started earlier, had planned its work over a shorter period, and was able to launch its activities very rapidly by working through its regional network and established partners. This issue did not arise with FFEM which issued separate but parallel agreements to WWF-MedPO and SPA/RAC.
[18] The post had still not been filled as of April 2013.

269. The ICA setting out the terms and obligations of DGEF and MAP was finalised between UNEP DGEF and UNEP MAP on 14 October 2008 and expires on 31 August 2013. It includes breakdowns of GEF financing and co-financing, allocation of GEF funds to co-executing agencies and of the budget for activities to be directly executed by MAP.

270. Cash co-financing from the EC and AECID for component 3.1 is managed by MAP, through the PMU based on contracts with UNEP Nairobi which retains a management fee[19]. The EC contribution agreement was signed by UNEP in December 2008. The support from AECID is part of a larger contribution to UNEP which is subject to annual renewal.

271. Letters of Agreement (LOAs) with the UNESCO IHP and FAO were signed respectively in December 2009 and April 2010. Project Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) were signed with the CP/RAC, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC, WWF-MedPO and GWP-Med between September and December 2009. Finally a small-scale funding agreement (SSFA) was signed with MIO-ESCDE in September 2009. The agreements are valid until 31 August 2013. Together these agreements account for 40 percent of the GEF funding for the project. The agreements do not include component-specific terms of reference but instead refer in general terms to the tasks described in the project document.

272. The agreements were developed in collaboration with the partners concerned. Some delays were experienced owing to uncertainty around the form of agreements, and the need to discuss unfamiliar terms and conditions with partners in a context where UNEP had recently revised its standards in this area. The agreement with FAO was particularly delayed as a result of extended legal discussions. The agreements include a summary of co-financing associated with activities overseen by the partner. First disbursements to the co-executing agencies were made roughly two months (6-9 weeks) after signature

273. Further sub-contracting during the life of the project has generally run smoothly. However the latest sub-contract (SSFA) to MIO-ESCDE was held up as a result of a need to clarify whether it was necessary to submit this to UNEP's recently formed Partnership Committee for approval.

274. The project has undergone two formal revisions. The first revision dated 2 March 2011 formalised the 12-month no-cost extension and budget changes approved at the 2010 SC meeting. The second revision dated 4 December 2012 took account of budget changes approved at the second and third SC meetings as well further adjustments that emerged following the screening by the Financial Management Officer (FMO) in DEPI.

Overview of Expenditure and Variance (GEF Funding)

275. Table 9-1 in Annex 9 provides a summary of expenditure up to 31 December 2011 and of variance against the GEF budget lines based on the approved 2012 budget allocations. Expenditure to the end of 2011, which is the last date for which fully consolidated expenditure data is available, was USD$ 2,835,947 or 24 percent of the GEF budget[20]. Figure 9-2 shows expenditure by technical component for GEF funding only. This corresponds to 26 percent for component 1; 13 percent across subcomponents 2.1 and 2.3; 12 percent for component 3.2; 28 percent for component 4, and 48 percent for project management.

276. Preliminary data provided MAP indicate that expenditure of GEF funding had risen to 32 percent by mid-2012, while the co-executing partners had reported on roughly 36 percent of GEF funding disbursed under the PCAs, LOAs and SSFAs as of 31 June 2011.

277. Fully processed expenditure information is available only up to 31 December 2011[21]. There a number of reasons for this:

- The Administrative Assistant undertakes a very detailed review of expenditure reports submitted by partners, some of which are submitted up to two months after the close of each semester (Paragraph 283). This process can take several weeks.

[19] Fees of this kind to contribute to UNEP's core finance and administrative services including in MAP
[20] This calculation does not include the GEF funding to UNIDO which is accounted for separately
[21] The evaluators were advised that this data would not be available before the end of 2012. UNEP MAP reported in March 2013 that final figures were available in February 2013.

- The absence of dedicated administrative support from mid-2012 (Paragraph 210).
- Expenditure can only be updated in IMIS (UNEP's integrated management information system) once new budget lines approved by the SC have been opened by the Financial Management Officer (FMO) in Nairobi. This was completed only in the last quarter of 2012 and the data on PMU and MEDPOL expenditure and partners' expenditures up to 30 June 2012 has not yet been fully migrated.

278. The Administrative Assistant keeps a separate and regularly updated report of in year expenditure and up to date information is available for the PMU and MEDPOL staff on a needs basis. The record includes obligations to partners based on the approved annual budget. Disbursements in 2012 up to 6 December 2012 were US$ 928,592**,** while expenditure, including un-liquidated obligations was US$ 2,612,858. Most of the latter figure is accounted for by sub-contracts. Figures on actual 2012 expenditure by partners will be available only once the annual reporting cycle is completed.

279. There have been a large number of adjustments to the original budget, affecting both the GEF budget and co-financing. These incremental changes have been approved by the SC at each of their annual meetings and are formalised subject to further detailed screening by the FMO for conformity with GEF requirements. Amongst the major changes on GEF budget lines:

- The lump sum for a subcontract to the World Bank (Budget line 2103), was reallocated to consultants (BL 1211) reflecting the decision that the GEF grant would be managed by MAP. Associated co-finance was allocated to World Bank staff time and travel (BL 1105, 1305, 1306, 1602).
- The lump sum for a subcontract to INFO/RAC (BL 2209) was distributed amongst several new budget lines associated with communications and replication activities to be managed by MAP (including BLs 1109, 1603, 2216-2220, 5208).
- Additional GEF funds were allocated for a consultant to support the PMU (BL 1210 partially disbursed in 2012), for an assistant for the PMU and MEDPOL (in place since mid-2012), and for an increase in PMU travel (BL 1601) which is commensurate with additional responsibilities taken in by the PMU. Funds for the Stocktaking Meeting were removed (as this meeting has been merged with the fourth SC Meeting) and funds for the SC meetings were cut in line with cost savings.

280. There have been substantial changes to the MEDPOL GEF budget lines reflecting changes in programmed activities. More significant have been changes to the associated co-finance, with new budget lines opened for a range of in-kind contributions through MAP including office space and facilities (Paragraph **Error! Reference source not found.**). GEF funding has reportedly een allocated to replace MTF cash co-financing that could not be mobilised in the required timeframe. For example, a new budget allocation of US$ 160,000 was made for 'sub-project documents with countries' for the industrial pollution projects (BL 2212) while the original allocation of MTF cash co-finance was reduced by a similar amount.

Reporting

281. The ICA between UNEP DGEF and MAP includes details of reporting requirements that largely correspond to GEF norms. One innovation designed to reduce the reporting burden was to allow the first semester half-yearly technical report to be substituted by the PIR. Financial and expenditure reports were to be submitted quarterly within one month after the end of the reporting period.

282. MAP has largely met its obligations in terms of technical reporting. Annual reports for 2010 and 2011 were produced as an attractive and informative publication with continuations of the co-executing agencies. However their usefulness as a management tool was lessened by their not including a discussion of constraints and remedial actions. This gap was partly addressed by the preparation of written inputs for a discussion on lessons at the third CG meeting. Expenditure reports have been prepared on an annual basis in time for the annual SC meeting. The financial data provided in the 2012 PIR were not final.

283. Requirements for reporting in the agreements signed with co-executing partners largely echo those of MAP, though FAO and UNESCO were required to submit only half-yearly expenditure reports and FAO was required to report only two months after the close of the reporting period. These conditions make it impossible for MAP to meet its own timing obligations. In practice the co-executing partners provide inputs to the annual report and PIR and have reported expenditure on a half-yearly basis.

284. MAP also tracks expenditure against the AECID and EC cash co-finance that is managed by MAP. Technical reporting for the associated MPAs work as well as UNIDO TEST work follows the same model as GEF funded components.

Co-financing

285. The GEF PDF-B request anticipated co-finance of 2,001,000 US$ from the GEF agency, national contributions, the Government of Italy and 'others'. The actual co-finance mobilized for the PDF-B phases was US$ 1,258,500 comprising US$ 966,000 from the Government of Italy and US$ 292,500 from UNEP.

286. The total anticipated co-financing for the RC was US$ 35,597,700. This comprised in-kind contributions from the participating countries totalling US$ 13,100,000, grants from other Mediterranean countries (France, Italy and Spain) totalling US$ 6,273,000, and financing from other sources, including the executing agencies and the Palestinian Authority, of US$ 16,224,700. Of these contributions, UNEP directly administers funds from the EC and AECID for sub-component 3.1 and funds from the MTF for Components 1 and 4[22]. An additional US$ 950,500 of cash co-financing was mobilised through the UNIDO TEST project.

287. Table 9-3 in Annex 9 shows an overview of co-finance mobilised to date, while the summary in Table 4 below includes a summary of co-finance mobilised for each sub-component. Reported co-financing as of 30 June 2012 was US$ 16,827,009 corresponding to 47 percent of the total amount anticipated in the Inception Report.

288. The main concern with regard to co-finance is the substantial level of risk associated with mobilising the balance of MTF co-finance, particularly cash co-finance, for sub-components 2.1, 2.1 and 4.1[23]. The risk arises because the MTF, which is the main source of funding for MAP, has been running a substantial deficit[24], forcing MAP to scale back its annual budget and reduce staffing and activities. The MTF is providing ongoing in kind support to the project through staff positions in MEDPOL, in administrative and secretarial support to the PMU, and through provision of office space and services. However there was no cash allocation in 2012, meaning GEF funding has had to be used for all cash commitments, as of December 2013, there was no confirmed cash allocation for 2013. The freeze on MTF hiring also meant it was not possible to recruit an administrative assistant for the PMU in 2012 (Paragraph 210), though the post was advertised.

289. Budget revisions approved by the SC in May 2012 reflect a substantial reallocation of the MTF co-finance including to in-kind items that were not anticipated in the original project budget (such as provision of office space and services). While it is certainly reasonable to recognise this support, the budget revision has had the effect of i) substituting a substantial part of MTF cash co-finance commitments by in-kind support and ii) reducing cash and in-kind support for tangible project inputs such as staff time and direct procurement[25].

[22] The US$ 1 million contribution from UNEP MAP for component 4 is also derived from the MTF.
[23] MTF was to provide a cash contribution of US$ 1.33 million and an in kind contribution through UNEP MAP of US$ 1million.
[24] The report of COP 17 indicates the MTF deficit stood at USD4.5 million on 31 December 2009 (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG 20/8 Annex III Page 289)
[25] The summary of variance presented to the 3rd SC meeting indicates that the MEDPOL co-finance allocation to office and staff costs rose by over US$ 400,000 USD, while the budget for subcontracts was reduced by over USD 650,000. Budgets for meetings and miscellaneous items were also reduced.

Table 4. Summary of Co-finance by Sub-component, as reported up to 30 June 2012

Co financing (Source)	Total (Million US$)		
	Planned	Actual	%
Component 1	**4.650**	**2.999**	**64**
PAP/RAC	0.152	0.175	115
GWP-Med	1.000	1.318	132
UNESCO	0.440	0.232	53
France/FFEM for UNESCO	1.333	0.496	37
Government of Italy	0.600	0.778	130
IGME (Geological Survey), Spain	0.100	0.000	0
FAO-TCP	0.300	0.000	0
European Space Agency	0.450	0.000	0
LUND University, Sweden	0.200	0.000	0
METAP	0.075	0.000	0
Component 2	**3.680**	**1.805**	**49**
Mediterranean Trust Fund	2.330	0.786	34
CP/RAC	0.400	0.069	17
Cofinancing to UNIDO TEST	0.950	0.950	100
Component 3	**10.955**	**7.558**	**69**
SPA/RAC	0.600	0.453	75
FAO/GFCM	0.800	0.000	0
European Commission	2.765	2.246	81
France/FFEM for Biodiversity	1.820	1.332	73
Government of Spain	2.520	1.416	56
MAVA Foundation	2.450	2.112	86
Component 4 & Management	**2.913**	**0.883057**	**30**
UNEP/MAP	1.000	0.766	77
MIO-ECSDE	0.150	0.117	78
World Bank	0.370	0.000	0
INFO/RAC	0.343	0.000	0
Sicily Region, Italy (later IMELS)	1.049	0.000	0
Total co-financing (FSP)	**22.198**	**13.245**	**60**

Source: Table 9-3 / PMU. Note: This summary includes co-finance for UNIDO Test (Sub-component 2.2); it does not include in kind co finance from participating countries or Basel Convention funding that was earmarked for a nominated World Bank project in Egypt.

290. The budget structure makes it difficult to assess the extent to which already-approved changes in the budget will affect project activities[26]. In one clear example, the reduction by USD 500,000 of MTF funds available for PCB destruction (BL 2213) could theoretically reduce the quantity of PCBs that could be destroyed by some 180 tonnes. Failure to mobilise outstanding MTF co-finance linked to Component 2 activities can be expected to affect many aspects of MEDPOL's work although there is no evidence that the cash situation has affected activities to date.

291. The MAP management is committed to meeting the financial commitments made to the project on the basis of MTF resources but in view of the current economic climate is uncertain whether this will be feasible. The issue of MTF co-finance is taken up under lessons and recommendations.

292. In other changes, the co-financing associated with activities delivered by INFO/RAC (from Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea and INFO/RAC) can no longer be expected to be fully mobilised in view of the reallocation of activities. The PMU is encouraging the newly assigned co-executing partners to take on the co-finance commitments for sub-components 4.2

[26] For example, the original lump sum budgets for each of the demonstration projects in sub-component 2.1 are spread amongst a range of cross-cutting inputs that cannot be explicitly linked to each of the projects,

and 4.3 though failure to realise this would not greatly affect delivery in this area[27]. Lund University is no longer a partner in the project and it is not yet clear whether anticipated support from FAO-TCP and the European Space Agency will be fully mobilised. The METAP commitment has been taken over by PAP/RAC.

293. Co-finance from each of the countries was originally partitioned amongst the different project sub-components and indicative amounts for each sub-component were cited in each of the funding agreement. In practice it proved difficult for each of the agencies to gather data from countries on these contributions and there was a likelihood of duplication of data gathering efforts and of data provided. As a result the SC agreed at its third meeting to track country contributions by assuming that these were mobilised at the same rate as the GEF budget was disbursed.

294. The participating countries co-finance figures provided by MAP for Table 9-3 are thus based on the (pre-final) expenditure of 32% of GEF funding as of 30 June 2012. While the approach is pragmatic, it is unlikely that these figures can be considered an accurate reflection of the level of co-finance actually mobilised in support of the project since the participating countries have differing levels of engagement in the project (Paragraph 256) and some activities have been moved between countries.

295. There are not yet any formal records related to expenditure of funding leveraged by the core (MAP-managed) project. The first major source of leveraged funding is expected to be the addendum for Component 3.1 work supported by the EC. Provisional commitments have been made by MAP and other partners to substitute for the funding supposed to have been mobilised by INFO/RAC but this has not yet been reported.

296. Funding was leveraged during the course of the UNIDO TEST project including through fees paid by the participating companies (totalling US$ 278,300) to local technical service providers and subsequent investment by companies in improving their processes and facilities. In many cases the investment by companies was expected to generate cost savings over and above the initial investment (Annex 6).

297. The overall rating on financial planning and management is **moderately satisfactory.** This rating reflects satisfactory overall performance during the life of this demanding project but concerns with recruitments and allocation of MTF funding in 2012.

C6. UNEP Supervision and Backstopping

298. The UNEP Task Manager (TM) has provided supervision throughout the project's operational phase, supported by a Financial Management Officer (FMO) who took on responsibility for the financial oversight of the project during its first year. The TM has taken part in all CG and SC meetings and the FMO took part in the first CG meeting. There has been no change in Task Manager since the start of the project ensuring continuity in project supervision on UNEP's side.

299. The report of annual project implementation review (PIR) overseen and finalised by the Task Manager provides a good overall reflection of project performance. The status tables are prepared by the PMU with contributions of each of the co-executing partners and the level of detail and specificity of inputs is variable. The evaluators felt the PIR ratings in the 2012 PIR were generous in a few areas and identified cases where planned activities were reported as having already taken place which might mislead the reader (e.g. workshops planned in the second half of 2012). The reports include detailed descriptions of adaptive measures planned and taken to address any issues associated with delayed or underperforming activities spanning project delivery and management. Similarly there is a thorough assessment of risks.

300. The ICA for this project did not require development of a formal supervision plan. The TM has a very good understanding of the project context and execution. She is in regular contact with the PMU and has been able to provide support on specific issues that have arisen during the course of the project, including taking part in discussions where issues have arisen with co-executing partners.

[27] The incremental cost analysis indicates that much of the original INFOP/RAC co-finance was associated with activities and outputs that are no longer planned.

301. The FMO has maintained an overview of the financial reporting and disbursements according to the standards required for GEF projects. One source of frustration for the PMU has been the delay in enabling updating of expenditure based on revised budgets approved by the SC (Paragraph 276); an issue that reflected different understandings of the respective responsibilities of the executing and implementing agencies. This has been resolved.

302. The UNEP TM and FMO were reassigned to the Freshwater & Marine Ecosystems Branch in UNEP's Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) in early 2011 as a result of internal restructuring in UNEP. This is the same branch that is responsible for managerial oversight of MAP as the project's executing agency. DEPI's common responsibility for oversight of the implementing and executing roles does not appear to have presented any problems and the Task Manager considers that senior managers provided appropriate and timely support to the project where needed and recognised and respected the specific needs of the project. However as seen above there were some practical difficulties in delimitating the responsibilities of finance staff.

303. Overall supervision of MED TEST was undertaken by a UNIDO Project Manager and technical supervision was done in close collaboration with PM by a UNIDO appointed Chief Technical Advisor (CTA). Funds were directly and adequately managed by UNIDO according to UNIDO internal existing procedures for tendering, purchasing and disbursement. Feedback received during field missions indicated that the supervision and guidance of CTA was excellent.

304. The rating on supervision and backstopping is **satisfactory,** reflecting good all round supervision but some shortfall in timeliness of FMO support.

C7. Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E Design

305. The project document for the RC includes two logical frameworks, one for the overall Strategic Partnership (SP) and a second for the RC. The logical frameworks capture key elements of the theory of change and are coherent.

306. The RC logframe is structured differently to the description of sub-components in the project document, seemingly in order to provide a more succinct project description and to highlight cross-cutting themes and strategies (Paragraph 169). Many of the outcomes in the RC logframe are written as outputs (goods or services delivered directly by the project). This is partly an artefact of the high level of interventions described (e.g. 'x demonstration projects delivered') in this broad-based logframe which serves as a summary of interventions across multiple themes and scales (local, national, regional).

307. Results described in the text description of activities and results are reflected in the logframe OVIs. The OVIs in the Strategic Partnership logframe include stress reduction and environmental status indicators for the long-term goal (impact) and process indicators. The OVIs in the RC logframe are mostly process based, with stress reduction indicators for some demonstration projects. Indicators do not always match with the result levels to which they refer and many are simply progress indicators describing delivery of project activities and outputs rather than what is expected to result from this.

308. The indicators in the RC logframe are partly specified - for example they may state the number of places where changes will take place but not the extent of change and this sometimes affects measurability. Apart from sub-components 2.1 and 2.3, they appear to be attainable (with the critical assumption that changes at stress reduction and environmental status level are not out-weighed by ongoing trends in increasing pollution and biodiversity loss) and are relevant. Indicators at objective level and outcome level are time bound. Means of verification for process indicators are appropriate.

309. The project logframes are complemented by a large number of project document annexes including a project workplan which included timing for activities, detailed descriptions of activities including some baseline information, and a list of which countries would be involved in different activities including demonstration projects and pilot programmes.

310. The project document includes an M&E plan (Annex E) addressing periodic reporting according to the standard requirements for GEF projects (Half-yearly Progress Report, Annual Project Report and PIR) and anticipating a mid-term and final evaluation. Organization arrangements are clear, including the coordination and compilation by the PMU and reporting.

311. The M&E Plan included a preliminary monitoring matrix based on the GEF 4 IW, biodiversity and POPs monitoring frameworks and including baseline information though it is not always apparent how this maps on to the project logframe. Changes in stress reduction and environmental status indicators were expected to be verified by external (non-project) monitoring programmes including those of MAP and participating countries, and a baseline was to be established during the course of the project. Environmental status targets are recognised as likely to extend beyond the life of the project. The RC logframe and monitoring matrix were reconciled and further specified during the project inception phase.

312. The rating on M&E design and arrangements is **moderately satisfactory** reflecting weaknesses in the OVIs and the initial mismatch between the project logframe and monitoring matrix**.**

M&E Implementation

313. The major activities anticipated in the project document for day to day monitoring of project progress and adaptive management have been undertaken, including the inception report and meeting, annual meetings of the CG and PSC, preparation of the PIR and annual progress reports, annual revision of workplans, tracking of budgets and expenditure, and organization of the mid-term evaluation. It is also clear that at least some of the co-executing partners have undertaken detailed internal planning, progress tracking, reporting and self-assessments according to their standard organisational requirements, to meet other donor requirements, or simply to facilitate project management. Independent evaluations have been undertaken by the EC for sub-component 3.1 and by FFEM for WWF-MEDPO's contribution to sub-component 3.1 (at WWF-MEDPO's request).

314. The PMU has maintained a list of meetings and events and to a limited degree has tracked project outputs such as meeting and technical reports. It has not required partners to submit detailed annual progress reports but instead requested inputs to the published annual report. The half-annual progress was replaced by the mid-year contributions to the PIR, echoing the arrangement in the ICA between UNEP DGEF and MAP. The PIR report is used as a tracking tool and completed in a participatory manner with inputs from each of the co-executing partners. The co-executing partners provide an annually updated workplan and present their activities to the annual SC meeting and have prepared written inputs for specific discussions at CG meetings such as on lessons learned.

315. The aim to reduce the reporting load on the project partners was well-intentioned but has made it difficult for the evaluators to gain a detailed understanding of progress in some areas of the project since information is scattered and not systematically available. With a few notable exceptions, there is limited evidence of more detailed work planning and progress monitoring at the level of each co-executing partner. Similarly there is limited evidence of monitoring and progress tracking at the level of individual demonstration and pilot activities. Overall the evaluators considered the current level of planning and documentation of progress is not sufficient for a project of this complexity and magnitude.

316. The PIR reporting table 3.1 is structured according to the process and stress reduction indicators presented in the revised project logframe and monitoring framework (Paragraph 311), and includes baselines, end-of-project targets and in some cases, mid-term targets. Progress to date has largely been reported in terms of activities and outputs (Paragraph 143) rather than in terms of delivery of results, with the TEST sub-component being a notable exception.

317. There does not appear to have been any further effort to further develop environmental status indicators for this project though there are separate efforts through MAP and other projects to improve environmental status monitoring in the Mediterranean. In practice, use of environmental impact indicators in this broad-based project would be complicated by issues of timing (with changes expected only after completion of the project) and attribution. The project

includes a number of assessments and studies which are contributing to the baseline knowledge related both to environmental status (e.g. aquifers, MPAs, bycatch) and institutional arrangements.

318. The GEF IW Tracking tool is used in Part A3 of this evaluation to look at project effectiveness.

319. The rating on M&E implementation is **moderately satisfactory**.

Budgeting and funding for M&E activities

320. Budget allocations for progress monitoring, oversight and evaluation activities are described in Annex E to the project document as well as in the project Inception Report and total US$ 550,000 (GEF) and US$ 374,000 (other), excluding staff time. The GEF contribution corresponds to 4.6% of the GEF project funding. The figures include a small (US$ 30,000) allocation for baseline monitoring across all project components. These allocations are somewhat reflected in the GEF project budget lines for meetings, reporting and evaluation. However the amounts given in Annex E for the inception meeting, evaluation and audit differ to, or are absent from, the main project budget. Additional allocations include €124,000 under the EC funding for evaluations and audits for sub-component 3.1.

321. The budget in Annex E includes a provision for a mid-term and final evaluation (US$ 45,000 for each evaluation). The GEF umbrella budget includes a total GEF allocation of US$ 130,000 for both UNEP DGEF conducted evaluations, split equally between years 2 and 3 of the project. The higher budget is in line with other allocations made in other regional projects, but allows only for limited travel to the 13 participating countries and for face-to-face meetings with the co-executing partners.

322. The rating on budgeting and funding for M&E is **satisfactory**.

Part III. Conclusions and Recommendations

A. Conclusions

323. The MedPartnership project started in August 2009, some 15 months after approval by the GEF CEO, for a duration of 60 months and was extended at the end of the inception phase to reflect an expected closure date to August 2014. This mid-term evaluation of the regional component was undertaken just over three years into implementation of the project and two and half years after the adoption of the project Inception Report by the Steering Committee (SC).

324. The project is characterised by the large number of co-executing agencies and other partners that are working together in a concerted effort towards of SAP implementation (Paragraph 244). The evaluation has highlighted the advantages of this structure such as mobilisation of expertise and specialised networks (Paragraph 158) and the long term commitment of partners (Paragraph 182), but also some of the disadvantages, such as relatively high transaction costs (Paragraph 156). The terminal evaluation will provide an opportunity to look in more detail at lessons from this partnership approach. The project components were largely designed as stand-alone packages of work and there have been only limited efforts to develop linkages amongst themes (Paragraph 218) and to combine the complementary approaches of NGOs and UN bodies. Good results are being achieved where such collaboration has occurred.

325. Coordination at country level has been less successful to date with little progress on the establishment of country support programmes and inter-ministerial committees pointing to limited appropriation of the project at national level (Paragraph 244), despite engagement of a wide range of national stakeholders in project activities. This may be a result of inadequate consultation on coordination mechanisms during the design phase and is taken up under lessons (Paragraph 257).

326. The overall rating on attainment of project objectives and results is moderately satisfactory, with ratings on project sub-components, which are each managed by one or more co-executing partners, ranging from unsatisfactory for work on PCBs managed by MEDPOL to satisfactory

for work on technology transfer and on MPAs managed respectively by UNIDO and WWF-MedPO. One underlying factor for this difference in performance is the varying level of preparedness including adequacy of project definition (Paragraphs 203, 199-201), while different ways of working have also played a role (e.g. Paragraph 107). The quality of reporting to the PMU has also varied and in general is not considered adequate for a project of this size (Paragraph 315).

327. Important challenges faced by the PMU and project partners during implementation of the project include the prolonged discussions leading to the eventual withdrawal of INFO/RAC (Paragraph 120), delays and interruption of activities as a result of insecurity associated with the Arab Spring as well as the political situation in Syria (Paragraphs 220 & 221), and the shortfall in funding for the Strategic Partnership Investment Fund (Paragraph 236) which created some disappointment among partners. The project has generally adapted well to these challenges and the strong links forged with the EC are a good indication of the replication potential during and after the project.

328. The combination of slow delivery of some sub-components combined with additional responsibilities taken on by the PMU mean the project is likely to need at least a six month extension.

329. The responsibilities of the PMU have grown during the life of the project as a result of its taking on management of sub-components 4.2 and 4.3 that were to be executed by INFO/RAC as well as the Sustainable MED climate variability project and preparation and future oversight of the Mediterranean MPAs project extension (Paragraphs 107, 185, 209). These have implications for staffing for longer term staffing and operations of the PMU. The increased workload fell at a critical time for the PMU which faced a staffing shortfall throughout 2012 as a result of the Project Manager's retirement at the end of 2011 and the resignation of the Administrative Assistant who moved to a permanent role in MAP (Paragraph 210). MAP has provided additional support to the project in 2012 but recruitment processes have been an evident weakness generating both excessive workloads and uncertainties in terms of forward planning.

330. Another major source of uncertainty has been the shortfall in the MTF co-finance in 2012, leading to an effective freeze on replacement of the project Administrative Assistant, and to significant reassignment PMU and MEDPOL budgets (Paragraphs 280 & **Error! Reference ource not found.**). Failure to mobilise the remaining cash co-finance would inevitably affect MEDPOL's delivery of sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 but has not yet been factored into forward planning (Paragraph 290).

331. The ratings in Table 5 reflect consideration of the full set of issues affecting or characterising project performance and impact that are discussed in Part II of the report. The summary comments highlight aspects of the assessment that best illustrate the rationale for the rating given. The overall rating for this project based on the evaluation findings is **Moderately Satisfactory.**

Table 5. Summary of Ratings based on Performance Criteria described in Part II of the Report

Criterion	Summary Assessment	Rating
A. Attainment of project objectives and results		
1. Effectiveness (See A3)	The project has made limited progress toward the ambitious set of outcomes envisaged in the project logframe	**MS**
2. Relevance (See A2)	The project demonstrates strong overall relevance of the project activities across all five sub-criteria, but some limitations in terms of the original priority setting	S
3. Efficiency (See A4)	The implementation approach is cost effective; but the project was slow to start and is likely to need a further extension	MS
B. Sustainability of project	*This rating is based on the lowest rating in any of the*	**ML**

Criterion	Summary Assessment	Rating
outcomes *(See B1)*	*individual categories*	
1. Socio-political	While project activities remain compromised in a number of countries, the project at the regional level shows resilience to political instability in some participating countries.	ML
2. Financial	There are already some immediate prospects for follow on funding in a difficult overall economic climate	ML
3. Institutional framework	The regional institutional framework is well established and there are prospects for strengthening the national institutional framework through ongoing project activities	L
4. Environmental	No major environmental threats identified as this stage	L
C. Catalytic role *(See B2)*	There is good potential for catalytic effect and for replicability of pilot and demonstration activities with efforts to replicate activities already underway	**S**
D. Stakeholder involvement *(See C3)*	The rating reflects a good overall level of stakeholder engagement but weak communications during the early years of the project and latter part of 2012	**MS**
E. Country ownership / drivenness *(See C4)*	The project design and implementation has largely been driven by the co-executing partners and there has been limited success in enabling countries to take comprehensive ownership of the project	**MU**
F. Achievement of outputs and activities *(See A1)*	The rating is based on a balance of ratings ranging from unsatisfactory to satisfactory for the ten sub-components considered in this section	**MS**
G. Preparation and readiness *(See C1)*	The rating reflects limited consultations at national level leading to some weaknesses in project definition as well as delays in launching the project after approval	**MS**
H. Implementation approach *(See C2)*	The framework for implementation was well designed and the project has adapted in an adequate manner to the rapidly changing context despite some identified weaknesses	**MS**
I. Financial planning and management *(See C5)*	Satisfactory overall performance during the life of this demanding project but concerns with recruitments and MTF funding	**MS**
J. Monitoring and Evaluation *(See C7)*	*This rating is based on the rating for M&E implementation*	MS
1. M&E Design	The RC logframe and monitoring matrix were reconciled and further specified during the project inception phase	MS
2. M&E Plan Implementation	Reporting requirements for this project are light	MS
3. Budgeting and funding for M&E activities	Allocations made in main areas; inconsistencies between the monitoring plan and umbrella budget	S
K. UNEP & UNIDO Supervision and backstopping *(See C6)*	Good overall supervision and backstopping but some shortfall in timeliness of FMO support	**S**

General Ratings

HS - Highly Satisfactory
S - Satisfactory
MS - Moderately Satisfactory
MU - Moderately Unsatisfactory
U - Unsatisfactory
HU - Highly Unsatisfactory

Ratings for sustainability sub-criteria

L - Likely: Minor risks affect this dimension of sustainability
ML - Moderately Likely: Moderate risks
MU - Moderately Unlikely: Significant risks
U - Unlikely: Severe risks

B. Lessons Learned

332. Part II and Annex 6 of this report draw attention to a wide range of issues associated with the first three years of delivery of the MedPartnership project. The following lessons are based on the above findings and relate to issues of relevance for development of other regional and international waters projects in the GEF portfolio. The themes addressed here are also developed as specific recommendations for the project.

Mobilisation of Co-finance

333. The MedPartnership is unusual in that the original co-finance pledges totalling US$ 35.6 million comprised of nearly 45 percent cash co-finance, with major contributors being the EC, AECID, the MAVA foundation for sub-component 3.1 and the MTF and for sub-components 2.1, 2.3 and 4.1. It is almost inevitable that there will be some changes in the co-finance profile in a project of this size and scope, for example as a result of partners pulling out or of activities changing, and most of the changes to date in the MedPartnership are of limited concern.

334. The shortfall in MTF cash co-financing (Paragraph **Error! Reference source not found.**) is of oncern since this was assigned to a large number of budget lines associated with project deliverables as well as core management tasks. It has not been possible to get a comprehensive account of the effects of changes already incorporated into the 2012 budget (Paragraph 290), nor those that are likely to have to be made in 2013, though one immediate issue is the question of whether it will be possible to recruit a project administrative assistant (Paragraph 210).

335. A straightforward lesson for the design and budgeting phase of projects is manage risks associated with any cash co-finance that cannot be contractually guaranteed by attaching this to identifiable activities and outputs that, if not realised, will not affect the overall integrity of the project or project management. In other words, essential core activities and outputs should not be dependent on uncertain funding sources.

336. A second issue related to co-finance emerged in the very different expenditure rates of WWF-MEDPO and SPA/RAC as a result of their different project durations start dates and *modus operandi* (Paragraphs 107 & 262). This created cash flow issues related to renewal of EC funding.

337. The lesson from this experience, of general relevance in multi-partner agreements involving a third party donor, is to ensure financial independence of the parties, either through having separate but parallel project agreements for the parties or by reaching agreement with all parties that funding streams can be renewed independently.

338. A third lesson relates to the difficulties experienced in tracking in-kind co-finance provided by the participating countries. Initial efforts in this area fragmented and duplicated amongst the co-executing partners (Paragraph 293 & 294). A lesson of general relevance to projects involving collaboration with a large number of partners at country level is to establish a workable system for tracking in-kind support at the outset of the project. Ideally this would be coordinated in country by the project focal institution, which is typically the agency that pledged the co-finance, and would be facilitated by close involvement of the focal point in project oversight (See also Recommendations).

National Coordination Structures

339. The establishment of national coordination structures is addressed in the project document as an activity (4.1.9, Country Support Programme) and as part of the envisaged 'implementation and institutional framework'. A small annual budget was allocated to each country for this purpose. In practice, the participating countries variously expressed reluctance to appoint dedicated project focal points in view of concerns about duplication of roles (Paragraph 222) and some identified practical difficulties in terms of handling the small sums of money available for coordination (Paragraph 223).

340. At the same time, most of the co-executing partners are carrying out in-country activities by working directly with their own networks (Paragraph 258), often by-passing the assigned (project, MAP or GEF) focal point. Many focal points reported that they learned of in country activities only incidentally, or at the SC meetings or through the annual report (Paragraph 224).

341. The immediate consequences include missed opportunities for collaboration and synergies and reduced visibility of an often sizeable package of work in individual countries (Paragraph 258).

342. The lessons from this experience are:

i) For other regional projects, to ensure adequate consultation with national correspondents regarding the design of functional coordination structures that serve both the needs of the project and the country and to develop terms of reference and budget accordingly;
ii) For multi-partner projects, to establish norms or rules of procedure regarding consultation, information sharing and decision-making for in-country activities and national assessments that ensure overall coordination at national level as well as appropriate participation and ownership of qualified experts and relevant national bodies.

C. Recommendations

343. This report has highlighted a substantial number of issues for potential follow up ranging from renewal of communications efforts and use of national languages to the need for regular liaison between the PMU and/or MAP and the FMO. The following recommendations are anchored in the main findings of the evaluation and address issues that require a decision to be taken by the SC and/or co-executing partners and implementing agency.

1. Extension, Budget and Staffing

344. The first three recommendations are closely interrelated in view of budgetary implications of the proposed project extension and review of PMU staffing in a context of shortfalls in the MTF co-finance.

Project Extension

345. While many of the project partners remain optimistic that they will complete their project activities on time, most components have been affected by slow delivery in one or more areas, by slow expenditure, and/ or have a history of pushing activities forward in annual workplans. The co-executing partners are currently expected to complete all activities some four months in advance of project closure at the end of August 2014. While this may be a realistic deadline for field activities it is not considered sufficient for completion of policy work, documentation and dissemination of lessons, and partner-level administrative closure that needs to be completed in advance of the overall project administrative closure.

346. In addition catalytic activities being undertaken by the PMU, including work on replication and sustainable financing which will add value to the project and partnership approach, are dependent on a fairly advanced level of delivery and documentation of results and lessons by the partners and are only now beginning to pick up momentum. At the same time, the MedPartnership project has expanded its scope in 2012 with the inception phase of the climate variability project and expected addendum to the EC-financed MPAs project. The operational phase of both these projects can be expected to extend into late 2014.

347. Together these factors generate the need for and justify a project extension to at least the end of 2014, with a further allowance of two to three months for completion of reporting and administrative closure. The PMU is expected to be able to function with reduced staffing in at least the latter part of this period.

348. The project extension has financial implications including direct PMU expenses such as salaries for at least the Project Manager or Coastal and Marine Expert, the Communications Officer and the Administrative Assistant. There may be a need for additional Coordination Group (CG) or

Steering Committee (SC) meetings, possibly combined with a replication event or design of follow on activities. These funds will need to be reallocated from other budget lines and will affect delivery of project activities, meaning as short as possible an extension period and lean staffing during this period are preferable.

349. Factors that will feed into and affect the decision regarding the duration of the extension are summarized in Box 1.

Box 1: The decision regarding the project extension will need to take account of:

- Revised workplans from each of the project partners, including time to document and disseminate findings as a contribution to the project replication strategy;
- The expected start date and duration of the MPA extension project, including time to document findings;
- The expected start date and duration of the climate variability activities;
- The effect of management decisions related to possible reorganization of MEDPOL activities under sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 (*See Recommendation 4 below*).
- Budget implications and constraints associated with prolonged PMU staffing.

350. **Recommendation 1:** The PMU should develop a fully-justified proposal for a project extension of 6 to 8 months based on a i) realistic estimates from each of the co-executing partners on project completion dates including a) technical and field activities and b) administrative closure and ii) its own requirements for administrative closure, and documentation and dissemination activities. The PMU and partners closure periods can be expected to have a partial overlap. Co-executing partners should report on revised timing within one month after the project CG Meeting in March 2013, and the PMU should present its proposal for discussion and approval at the September 2013 SC and Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting.

351. Additional actions related to this recommendation will include formalization of the project extension and revised budget through a project revision, based on the decision of the SC, and extension and possible revision of the partnership agreements with the co-executing agencies when the current round of agreements expires in August 2013.

Budget Revision

352. There is a need for a thorough budget revision covering the remaining project period in view of i) the expected shortfall and /or ongoing rescheduling of MTF cash contributions to the project and ii) the need to increase the allocation for project management to accommodate a project extension. It is unlikely that the budget needs can be fully met by cost savings, and the reallocation of funding will therefore require some tough decisions including scaling back or cancellation of some project activities.

353. **Recommendation 2:** It is recommended that the PMU undertake a comprehensive budget revision working with the co-executing agencies and MAP senior management, with the guidance of the Task Manager in UNEP, in order to accommodate a project extension and ensure adequate administrative support to the project during the remaining years of the project. The revised budget together with a summary of affected activities should be presented for discussion and approval at the September 2013 SC and Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting.

354. The procedural nature of this recommendation reflects the limited information on project expenditure at the end of December 2012 as well as the trade-offs and inevitable negotiations that will underpin the management response to a large number of variables in this area. Factors that will feed into and affect the decision regarding the budget revision are summarized in Box 2 and further elaborated in three sub-recommendations below.

Box 2: The budget revision will need to take account of:

- Shortfalls in the MTF cash co-finance based on an updated assessment of prospects for mobilising funds *(See Recommendation 2.1)*
- Potential for cost savings or scaling back of activities across all project sub-components *(See Recommendation 2.2 and Recommendation 4)*
- Potential for cost recovery on PMU costs from additional projects *(See Recommendation 2.3)*
- Competing demands on available funding, including the recruitment of a project Administrative Assistant and extension of PMU staff contracts associated with the project extension.

Sub-recommendation: MTF shortfalls

355. The UNEP/MAP management is currently committed to mobilising the pledged MTF co-finance for PMU and MEDPOL support activities. However it is not certain that this will be feasible in the current economic climate (Paragraph 291) and this is creating a situation of uncertainty for the project including in planning of recruitments. In this context a precautionary approach would be to plan ahead based on a lower estimate of available cash co-finance, while keeping the option open to reinforce or scale up activities should further cash be mobilised.

356. ***Sub-recommendation 2.1***. It is recommended that the MAP senior management undertake a frank review of prospects for mobilising cash co-finance and review the implications of any shortfalls with the Project Manager as well as the Project Task Manager in MEDPOL; with a view to providing a revised budget including a summary of implications, to the second steering committee meeting. This task should be completed by 28 February 2013.

Sub-recommendation: Cost Savings

357. There is limited potential to generate cost savings and/or recuperate funding linked to project activities in a context where much of the GEF funding (US$ 4.6 million) and other MAP administered project funding is committed (obligated) through agreements with the co-executing agencies. This means the onus for cost savings and budget reductions currently falls on the part of GEF funding that is directly administered by MAP – with potentially disproportionate effects on the programmatic outputs managed by the PMU (including work on sustainable financing under component 4.1, and replication and communications activities under sub-component 4.2 and 4.3) and by MEDPOL (sub-components 2.1 and 2.3). These are also the areas likely to be affected by the MTF shortfall.

358. ***Sub-recommendation 2.2.*** It is recommended that each of the co-executing agencies (including MEDPOL and the PMU) undertakes an internal review as to whether there are any areas where it is likely to under-spend its GEF budget including as a result of difficulties in planning or completion of project activities caused by changes in the project operating context. This requires a frank internal assessment of budget requirements for activities that are feasible within the remaining project time. The partners should present their findings within one month after the project CG meeting in March 2013 and should present their revised budgets and activity plans to the September 2013 SC meeting for approval. Any budgetary changes should be formalised through the revised partnership agreements to be negotiated after August 2013.

Sub-recommendation: Project Overheads

359. Part of the justification for extension of the project comes from the additional activities taken on under two new projects that have direct implications for supervisory and technical support from the PMU.

360. ***Sub-recommendation 2.3***.It is recommended that the development and revision of budgets associated with the climate variability project and the extension of the MPAs project take full account of the supervision and support costs of the PMU and incorporate an appropriate budget

allocation for staff time and associated inputs. This needs to be fully and transparently documented as a basis for reaching agreements with partners and for any future revisions.

Sub-recommendation: Scaling Back

361. If it is not possible to balance the project budget through voluntary cost-savings, it is likely the SC will need to consider direct budget cuts to enable the project extension:

- The most straightforward option that will minimise disruption to the wider project would be make cuts to a single sub-component. Postponing destruction of PCBs to a follow up project would generate substantial cost savings in the order of US$ 1.92 million.
- The alternative is to scale back on support to replication and communications activities under sub-components 4.2 and 4.2. Dramatic cuts in these areas (as opposed to seeking operational synergies and cost savings according to sub-recommendation 2.2) will seriously affect the potential to consolidate and build on the results of the MedPartnership and be disruptive ein view of staffing arrangements that have been made for delivery in these areas.

362. ***Sub-recommendation 2.4***.It is recommended that the PMU presents a one or more options for a consolidated budget to the SC for consideration at its September meeting based on information and options generated through recommendations 1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 4 and that the SC adopts and approves a consolidated budget that will provide the PMU with clear guidance and certainty regarding available funds for the remaining project period.

PMU Staffing

363. The PMU was substantially understaffed in 2012 as a result of slow recruitments and the hiring freeze on MTF funded positions that meant it was not possible to replace the Administrative Assistant. At the same time, options regarding recruitment of other project staff or long term consultants for the MedPartnership and climate variability project have been subject to ongoing discussion. The Project Manager post is expected to be filled in early 2013 and this provides an opportunity to review the overall personnel needs of the project and PMU needs with a view to ensuring complementary skill sets.

364. The recruitment of an Administrative Assistant is considered of very high priority. This role is broader than that typically seen in IW project PMUs in that it encompasses oversight of expenditure by each of the co-executing partners including GEF and other project funding directly administered by the Project and it spans the project and executing agency consolidation and reporting role that are often filled by two or more individuals (though not as full time roles).

365. **Recommendation 3.1.** The incoming Project Manager and MAP Senior Administrative Officer should undertake a forward looking review of staffing needs for the project spanning the current operational phase, reporting and closure period, and needs of supplementary projects such as the climate variability project. The review should make a clear distinction between short-term technical deliverables and one-off tasks that can be assigned to consultants and ongoing or core project management and representational roles that should be assigned to project staff. The review should be completed within one month after the CG meeting in March 2013 and should be clearly linked to the budget revision.

366. **Recommendation 3.2.** MAP should recruit an Administrative Assistant as a high priority for the project. If it is not possible to fill this post using MTF funds, the post will need to be funded using GEF funding. This recommendation is for action by the Project Manager and MAP Senior Administrative Officer based on senior management approval, and the candidate should be in post by the second quarter of 2013.

2. Component 2 Recommendations

367. Delivery of project sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 has been affected by a range of factors including poor design and preparedness and disruption of activities due to the Arab Spring (Part

A1 and Annex 6). Annex 6 details the background to a set of twelve recommendations related to these sub-components that are summarised below. Table 6-1 in Annex 6 includes an outline of the cost implications of these recommendations, including cash expenditure by the project and in kind contributions by participating countries.

368. An approximate costing of additional activities suggests that these activities could be funded based on cost savings of approximately US$ 600,000 on the 2012 project budget resulting from the revised and less ambitious target for destruction of PCBs (Recommendation 4.9).

369. The feasibility of these recommendations will need to be further considered in the light of possible reductions in MTF cash co-finance (See Recommendation 2.1).

Component/ Activity	Recommendation	Responsibility
2.1.1 Phosphogypsum slurry management	4.1. It is recommended that the national authorities (Ministry of Environment / ANPE) should lead the phosphogypsum stakeholder group and facilitate procedures so as to implement the remaining activities without further delay, in particular: the development of proposals for policy reforms for the proper management of phosphogypsum wastes, and feasibility and economic studies for the construction of a landfill..	MEDPOL, National Tunisia MedPartnership Focal Point, MoE
2.1.3 Lubricating oil recycling and regeneration	4.2. It is recommended that actions are taken so that the agreement between the Algerian authorities and UNEP/MAP for this pilot is signed during the first part of 2013. In case of non-signature by 31 March, this activity should be cancelled and funds reallocated to other activities.	MEDPOL, Algeria MAP National Focal Point, UNEP/MAP
2.1.4 Lead batteries recycling in Syria	4.3. It is recommended that results generated in Syria are valorised by development of practical guidelines for ESM of lead batteries for the region based on the Syria experience (reports) and on Basel Convention guidelines for dissemination to the countries of the project.	SC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL
2.1.6 Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) for industrial effluents and Establishment of Environmental Quality Standards	4.4. To ensure impact of this pilot project, it is recommended that the capacity of the relevant end-users (inspectors, authorities that deliver permits, etc,) be built to be able to use this software adequately	UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, countries
2.3 Environmentally sound management of PCBs and disposal	4.5. To facilitate coordination activities at national level it is recommended that the NTA recruited in the context of Activity 2.3.4 also acts as national coordinator for the whole sub component 2.3. 4.6. To facilitate the implementation of activities, in particular for PCB inventory, it is also recommended to constitute a national task team . The task team will be constituted by the National Coordinator, representatives of utilities, and representatives of relevant ministries.	SC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC, countries

	4.7. Given the delays that this sub-component has suffered and the severe time constraint, it is recommended that these reviews (activity 2.3.1) are cancelled. However, it is strongly recommended that practical guidelines for lifecycle ESM of PCBs are developed and put into practice in utilities, and that customs authorities are made aware of these guidelines.	UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC,
	4.8. It is recommended that realistic target values for PCB destruction for all the countries including the new ones be discussed and agreed upon. It is not likely that this new figure be more than 500 tons as compared to the 870 tons planned in project document.	SC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC, countries, PCB consultant
	4.9. Given the severe time constraint, in countries where PCB inventories have not started 12 months before closure of the project, it is recommended that inventories in those countries be cancelled. For these countries, only the amount of PCBs already identified will be exported for destruction. In the other countries, inventory activities should stop 12 months before closing date of the project even if PCB target values have not been reached.	PSC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC, countries
	4.10. It is recommended that utilities ensure that only non PCB contaminated obsolete equipment is sold to metal recyclers. It is also recommended that identified PCB equipment should be adequately safeguarded.	UNEP/MAP, CP/RAC, MEDPOL, countries
	4.11. Given the outstanding tasks, it is recommended that an extension of at least one year be granted to this sub-component to allow for completion of activities.	SC, MEDPOL, UNEP/MAP, CP/RAC
	4.12. It is recommended that the capacity of customs authorities is built to prevent importation of PCBs	UNEP/MAP, CP/RAC, MEDPOL, countries
2.1 and 2.3	4.13. It is recommended that the position of task manager be filled by a full time staff with internal support of one full time administrative staff from MEDPOL until closure of activities to ensure successful implementation of remaining tasks. .	SC, MEDPOL, UNEP/MAP
	4.14. If sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 are to regain their momentum and the coming year will be an extremely active project phase and will place a significant workload on the already busy MEDPOL staff. If recommendation 4.13 does not materialise in the first quarter of 2013, it is recommended that cancellation of a number of activities of sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 should be considered at the next PSC meeting. Funds saved can be re-allocated to other components	SC, MEDPOL, UNEP/MAP
	4.15. In the case of cancellation of MEDPOL PCB activities, it is recommended that PCB activities implemented by CP/RAC be maintained.	SC, MEDPOL, UNEP/MAP

3. National Coordination Mechanisms

370. One of the project weaknesses reported in the project conclusions and under lessons above, has been the limited establishment of national level project coordination mechanisms. The PMU has initiated discussions to establish country support programmes on a country by country basis but this is time consuming and it is not certain whether identified areas for support will serve as a rallying point across all project sub-components.

371. Experience from other IW projects suggests the Inter-Ministerial Committee-type coordination mechanisms function best when purpose-oriented and responsible for specific tasks such as development and approval of cross-sectoral analyses. At the same time, the multi-stakeholder workshops organised in the context of this evaluation did demonstrate the value of information meetings spanning all project components. National stakeholder meetings or workshops could usefully be linked to project stock-taking and to replication activities, such as identification of replicable practices and of conditions required for scaling up delivery and results at national level.

372. **Recommendation 5.** The PMU should organise and prepare a discussion session on national coordination mechanisms at the May 2013 SC and Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting. The aims of the session should be two-fold i) to agree on how best to use the funding for country support programmes to promote project coherence, lesson sharing, ownership and scaling up at national level and ii) to agree on ground rules for informing or consulting national focal points in all project activities conducted within their countries. In addition the focal points should take responsibility for consulting and communicating with national stakeholders and project actors before and after the annual SC meetings. The PMU should aim to complete agreements with national focal point institutions by the end of June 2013.

4. Project Monitoring: Partner Reporting

373. The technical reporting requirements set out in the agreements signed between UNEP DGEF and MAP and between MAP and the co-executing agencies require preparation of one full annual report as well as input to the mid-year project implementation review (PIR). This is lighter than the standard GEF requirement for a half yearly and annual progress reports, though both reports were anticipated in the project monitoring and evaluation plan. In practice input to the annual report is made available only as a published and semi-popular progress report. This is a useful communications output but limited in terms of providing a frank review of progress to date and of constraints or weaknesses. Reporting and planning on individual demonstration projects also appears to be limited even where these involve a substantial budget and multiple partners. It has also been difficult in some cases to determine which activities are directly attributable to the MedPartnership Project raising issues of accountability.

374. **Recommendation 6**. It is recommended that each of the co-executing partners should produce a full annual report in the first quarter of each calendar year (starting with the report covering 2012) based on the standard GEF template for annual and half yearly reports, as input for the published annual report and annual CG meeting. Where there are specific concerns about progress (e.g. with U or MU rating in the PIR) the co-executing agency should provide brief quarterly updates on steps being taken to resolve the situation until such a time as the issue is considered resolved. In addition all outputs such as meeting and technical reports that are attributable to the project should be shared with the PMU in a timely manner.

List of Annexes

1. The Evaluation Terms of Reference including evaluation criteria
2. List of interviewees
3. Evaluation programme
4. List of documents reviewed / consulted
5. Review of progress by activity
6. Review of Component 2
7. Review of Effectiveness: Application of the GEF IW Tracking Tool
8. Details of the project's 'impact pathways' and the 'ROtI' analysis
9. Summary co-finance information and a statement of project expenditure
10. Brief CVs of the consultants

Annex 1. Evaluation Terms of Reference

A. Objective and Scope of the Evaluation

1. The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) of the project "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component: Implementation of agreed actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas" will serve a two-fold accountability and learning objective. On one side, the evaluation is undertaken to assess the project's performance in terms of efficiency and effectiveness, by looking at the extent to which activities were implemented as planned and confronting actual results against intended outputs. The risks to the achievement of project outcomes and higher level objectives will be appraised as well. On the other, the evaluation will focus on identifying the corrective actions to be implemented in the second term for the project to achieve its objectives and maximum impact. Evaluation findings will feed back into project management processes through specific recommendations and lessons learned to date.

2. The evaluation will focus on the following main questions:
   - Does the methodology of the project contribute towards the achievement of the project objectives in the targeted countries:
     e. Facilitation of harmonized policy, institutional and legal reforms for the protection of biodiversity and pollution reduction from land-based sources consistent with the provision of the SAP MED and SAP BIO;
     f. Provision of assistance to countries in advancing their ICZM and IWRM plans (including the management of aquifers) with emphasis on the protection of biodiversity and the prevention of pollution from land-based sources;
     g. Execution of a number of demonstration projects that address biodiversity protection, pollution from land-based sources and enhanced application of ICZM, IWRM and management of aquifers;
     h. Effective involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of activities at regional and national level, and enhancement of capacity in Governments to address environmental problems and to incorporate environmental considerations into national planning.

   - Is the project likely to achieve the expected outcomes and impact targets in its lifetime, and contribute to reversing marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion?
   - Is the Regional Component's management structure adequate, responsive and well-functioning to ensure co-ordination among the different project activities as relevant, as well as communication and systematic linkages with the Investment Fund?
   - Has a replication strategy been designed? To which extent are mechanisms for future financial and political sustainability / ownership of SAPs and NAPs-related activities by COPs to the Barcelona Convention in place?

3. In addition, the evaluation will specifically advise project management about:
   - Adjustments to best restructure the POPs and PCB-related work (Component 2) to achieve the planned results, or progress as close as possible towards them;
   - How to compensate for the absence of a really complementary Investment Fund to the Regional Component;
   - The need to adjust the scope of some of the project activities in countries where the Arab Spring has significantly affected security conditions and/or the political sustainability of any intervention.

B. Overall approach and methods

4. The MTE will be conducted by a team of independent consultants under the overall responsibility of the UNEP Evaluation Office. It will be an in-depth evaluation using a participatory approach whereby the UNEP Task Manager, key representatives of UNEP/MAP and the executing partners, and other relevant staff are kept informed and consulted throughout the evaluation process. The consultants will liaise with the UNEP Evaluation Office, the UNEP Task Manager and UNEP MAP on any logistic and/or methodological issues to properly conduct the assessment in as independent a way as possible, given the circumstances and the resources offered.

5. The MTE will assess each component separately, including Component 4 about "Project co-ordination, replication and communication and strategies, management and M&E". In order to optimize

the evaluation's resources and make the best use of existing information, the MTE will take in the results of the monitoring mission conducted by the EC in December 2011 and the evaluations by FFEM and WWF-MEDPO of their support to the project's activities (Component 3.1). As such, with relation to component 3, the MTE will mainly focus on the activities executed by SPA/RAC and FAO.

6. The findings of the MTE will be based on the following:

A desk review of project documents including, but not limited to[28]:

- Relevant background documentation, including - inter alia – SAPs and NAPs, relevant information on other existing regional and national policy framework aimed at promoting IWRM, ICZM, and reduction of pollution, any parallel development schemes and initiative promoted by international organizations (e.g. UNEP, UNESCO, EU, WB, European Investment Bank) as relevant;
- Preparatory papers and the approved project document;
- Memoranda of Understanding, Implementation and Partnership agreements;
- Project Communication strategy; NGO Involvement Plan; and Replication Work-plan;
- Project monitoring reports (such as progress and financial reports, Coordination Group and Steering Committee reports, Annual Project Implementation Review (PIR) reports to GEF) and relevant correspondence;
- Documentation related to planning and implementation of demonstration projects (components 1,2,3);
- Other project outputs, such as:
    - ✓ Regional action plan on coastal aquifers (draft); Regional plan for eco-hydrogeological management, land degradation and protection of priority coastal wetlands (draft); Regional guidelines on national ICZM strategies; Integrated methodological framework for coastal aquifer management and integration with ICZM; Assessment of risk and uncertainty and vulnerability maps of coastal aquifer; analysis of impacts of ratification of ICZM Protocol on national legislation; Integrated Methodological Framework (IMF) guidelines for local coastal plans; Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (draft);
    - ✓ Guidelines for pollution reduction and policy reform papers (draft);
    - ✓ MPAs Management Plan.

Interviews (in person or phone calls/email) with:

- Task Manager in UNEP/DEPI, Nairobi;
- MAP Coordinator and PMU staff, located within UNEP MAP (Executing Agency), Athens;
- UNIDO staff (Executing Agency, Component 2), Wien;
- The EU (including for Component 3.1) and other co-financiers;
- Co-executing agencies and project partners: four UNEP MAP RACs (CP, SPA, PAP and INFO RACs) and the Programme for Pollution MEDPOL; UNESCO/IHP; FAO GFCM; WWF-MedPO; GWP-Med; MIO-ECSDE;
- Members of the SPSC (the President of the Bureau of COPs of the Barcelona Conventions, major donors' representatives, NGOs);
- Project beneficiaries, including: National Government representatives and policy makers (e.g. marine resources, tourism, trade and industry); private sector representatives; beneficiaries of demonstration projects and fishermen.

The consultant shall determine whether to seek additional information and opinions, as deemed most appropriate. Interviews could be combined with an email questionnaire.

Visits to project areas in five target countries,[29] to conduct interviews with concerned parties in project partners, National Participating Institutions and Government officials, GEF Focal Points, beneficiaries of demonstration projects. The visits will also be an opportunity to seek the views of stakeholders who participated in the different trainings and assess the project's effectiveness in this respect.

C. Key Evaluation principles

[28] Documents to be provided by UNEP/MAP are listed in Annex 6
[29] Tentatively: Albania, Montenegro, Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia (and possibly Turkey)

7. Evaluation findings and judgements should be based on sound evidence and analysis, clearly documented in the evaluation report. Information will be triangulated (i.e. verified from different sources) to the extent possible, and when verification was not possible, the single source will be mentioned[30]. Analysis leading to evaluative judgements should always be clearly spelled out.

8. In attempting to evaluate any outcome and impact that the project may have achieved, the evaluators should consider the difference between what has happened with and what would have happened without the project. This implies that there should be consideration of the baseline conditions and trends in relation to the intended project outcomes and impacts. This also means that there should be plausible evidence to attribute such outcomes and impacts to the actions of the project. Sometimes, adequate information on baseline conditions and trends is lacking. In such cases this should be clearly highlighted by the evaluator, along with any simplifying assumptions that were taken to enable the evaluators to make informed judgements about project performance.

9. The evaluation will assess the project with respect to a minimum set of evaluation criteria grouped in four categories: (a) Attainment of objectives and planned results (progress to date), which comprises the assessment of outputs achieved to date, relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and the review of outcomes towards impacts (ROtI)[31]; (b) Sustainability and catalytic role, which focuses on financial, socio-political, institutional and ecological factors conditioning sustainability of project outcomes, and also assesses efforts and achievements in terms of replication and up-scaling of project lessons and identified good practices; and (c) Processes affecting attainment of project results, which covers project preparation and readiness, implementation approach and adaptive management, stakeholder participation and public awareness, country ownership/driven-ness, project finance management, UNEP supervision and backstopping, and project monitoring and evaluation systems.

10. All evaluation criteria will be rated, either on a four-point or six-point scale. Annex 2 provides detailed guidance on how the different criteria should be rated and how ratings should be aggregated for the different evaluation criterion categories.

D. Evaluation criteria

a. Attainment of objectives and planned results (progress to date)

11. The evaluation should assess the relevance of the project's objectives and the extent to which these were already achieved or are expected to be achieved. The evaluation will assess whether any delay in project implementation has affected the achievement of project outputs and efficiency and, if so, in what ways and through which causal linkages. The evaluation will finally indicate if any change with respect to the project plan occurred and whether those changes were approved.

(a) *Achievement of Outputs and Activities*: The evaluation will assess the project's success in producing each of the programmed outputs as presented in the ProDoc, both in quantity and quality, as well as their usefulness. These will include:

INTEGRATED APPROACHES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAPs and NAPs: ICZM, IWRM and MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL AQUIFER

- Assessment of coastal aquifer risk and vulnerability mapping; Development of tools/guidelines for coastal aquifer management / groundwater and eco-hydrogeology applications for management and protection of coastal wetlands to be used in regional demonstration actions; Development of a regional plan for eco-hydrogeological management, land degradation and protection of priority coastal wetlands;
- Support to strengthening coastal management legislation, preparation of national ICZM strategies and NAPs; Application of approach, tools and techniques in demonstration sites;
- Support to the development of a Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean; Support to national strategic planning/institutional framework for IWRM in pilot countries; Development of IMF between ICZM and IWRM, and IRBM plans for collaboration among countries developed and applied to selected shared water bodies;

[30] Individuals should not be mentioned by name if anonymity needs to be preserved.
[31] See Annex 5

POLLUTION FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES: IMPLEMENTATION OF SAP-MED and RELATED NAPs

- Support to the approval and adoption of national legal and policy documents incorporating the SAP-MED priorities; Implementation of industrial pollution pilot projects in participating countries; Analysis and setting of Emission Limit Value in industrial effluents and Environmental Quality Standards;
- Capacity building at national level on integrated approach to industrial environmental management (TEST approach) and implementation of EST demonstration projects;
- Capacity building at national level and support to the development of legislative and institutional frameworks for implementation of ESM of PCBs; Implementation of demonstration projects

CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: IMPLEMENTATION OF SAP-BIO and RELATED NAPs

- MPAs Management: MPAs Management Plan; Training materials on MPA management planning, and other activities by SPA/RAC;
- Identification of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF)-related priorities (including management and legal framework gaps) in target countries, and support to the development of plans to integrate EAF considerations into fisheries institutions' plans; Identification of main patterns of by-catch of iconic and vulnerable species, and set-up of participatory monitoring system for fishing trips in selected MPAs;

PROJECT MANAGEMENT, COORDINATION, COMMUNICATION AND REPLICATION STRATEGIES

- Responsiveness of UNEP/MAP & PMU to countries, other executing partners, co-financiers and others.
- Organization of regular meetings of the MedPartnership Project Steering Committee to engage to all key stakeholders involved in SAP-MED and SAP-BIO implementation; Organization of regular meetings of the MedPartnership Coordination Group involving all project partners; Organization of regular networking meetings with NGOs, and regional workshops to support their capacity;
- Development of financial strategies for sustainable financing of SAP-MED; Set-up a public-private framework for Barcelona Convention and MAP for sustained LME management, and support to the set-up of national inter-ministry coordination mechanisms;
- Design and implementation of Information & Communication mechanisms for MedPartnership Project;
- Design and implementation of replication mechanisms for activities under the MedPartnership;

The evaluation will briefly explain why the project was successful or less successful in achieving its different outputs, cross-referencing as needed to more detailed explanations provided under Section "c" (which covers the processes affecting attainment of project objectives).

(b) *Relevance:* The evaluation will assess, in retrospect, whether the project's objectives and implementation strategies are consistent with: i) Environmental issues related to Mediterranean Sea basin's biodiversity and the increasing stress on coastal ecosystems brought about by human activities; ii) strategies of Mediterranean countries and expressed needs for policy and institutional support; iii) the UNEP mandate, policies and programme of work at the time the project was designed and implemented; iv) the GEF International Waters and POPs focal areas and related Strategic Priorities (SP); v) Global Conventions, such as: the Basel Convention on the control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

(c) *Effectiveness*: The evaluation will assess to what extent the stated project objectives have been met, taking into account the schedule of project operations and the achievement indicators specified in the project documents. The evaluation will give particular attention to the following: i) the contribution of capacity development and technical support to organizations' enhancement, and to the adoption of regional and national policy/legal/institutional reforms for aquifer management, IWRM, ICZM and

pollution reduction; ii) improved coordination and participation of relevant stakeholders in the implementation of SAPs and NAPs, and; iii) immediate results of demonstration projects within the components 1-3.

(d) *Efficiency*: The evaluation will assess the cost-effectiveness and timeliness of project execution, and describe any cost- or time-saving measure taken to bring the project to a successful implementation within the programmed time and budget. The evaluation will analyse how delays, if any, have affected project execution, cost and effectiveness. The evaluation will give special attention to efforts by the project team to make use of pre-existing methods, data sources and assessment programmes (e.g. TDA analyses) and to make synergies with the many existing related initiatives in the region.

(e) *Review of Outcomes to Impacts (ROtI)*: The evaluation will appreciate, to the extent possible, any progress made towards impacts, taking into account achieved outputs and outcomes, assumptions and impact drivers, using the methodology presented in the GEF Evaluation Office's ROtI Practitioner's Handbook[32] (summarized in Annex 5). The analysis should revolve around the quality of the logical framework and consider whether the necessary impact drivers (incl. resources) have been present and assumptions surrounding the project follow-up remained valid.

b. Sustainability and catalytic role

12. **Sustainability** is understood as the probability of continued long-term project-derived outcomes and impacts after the external project funding and assistance end. Being a mid-term exercise, the evaluation will focus on identifying and assessing any key conditions or factors that could contribute to, or rather undermine, the persistence of benefits. Some of these factors might be outputs or outcomes of the project (e.g. stronger institutional partnerships, better informed decision making); others will include contextual circumstances or developments (e.g. political instability or global financial crisis). The evaluation should also ascertain to what extent any follow-up work has been initiated and, to the extent possible, how project outcomes have been sustained and enhanced over time. In this case, sustainability will be above all linked to the capacity of the project of creating an enabling framework for countries to implement their SAPs and NAPs, including strengthening the ability of governments to implement NAPs within and beyond the life of the proposed project thanks to capacity development efforts and the adoption and implementation of legislative, policy and institutional reforms.

13. Four aspects of sustainability should be addressed: financial, socio-political, institutional frameworks and governance, and environmental (to the extent possible). The following questions provide guidance on the assessment of these aspects:

- *Socio-political sustainability*: To what extent are the outcomes of the project dependent on socio-political factors, including political stability of target countries? To what extent has the Arab Spring affected project implementation and now risks hampering the implementation and the sustainability of the project's results in the second phase? Are there sufficient public and stakeholder awareness, interest and incentives in support of the long-term objectives of the project? Active participation of NGOs and CBOs in project activities for gaining social sustainability will also be considered.
- *Financial resources*: Are there any financial risks that may jeopardize sustenance of project outcomes and onward progress towards impact? To what extent are the outcomes and eventual impact of the project dependent on continued financial support? Was the project successful in identifying and leveraging co-financing and contributions from private and public sector stakeholders? The evaluation will give particular attention to the extent to which specific activities under Component 4 have brought strategic financial planning and management considerations into the NAP project cycle and succeeded in overcoming related difficulties of implementation.
- *Institutional framework and governance*: To what extent is the sustenance of the outcomes and onward progress towards impacts dependent on issues relating to institutional frameworks and governance? What is the likelihood that institutional achievements, legal frameworks, policies and governance structures and processes will allow for the sustenance of project outcomes? The Evaluation will in particular assess the progress made towards the definition of the Strategic Framework (component 4) bringing together all partners working in the Mediterranean and ensuring a common vision and direction of efforts in present and future projects.

[32] http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/Impact_Eval-Review_of_Outcomes_to_Impacts-RotI_handbook.pdf

- *Environmental sustainability.* Are there any environmental factors, positive or negative, that can influence the future flow of project benefits? Are project outputs and outcomes likely to affect the environment, which, in turn, might affect sustainability of project benefits?

14. **Catalytic role and replicability.** The MTE will assess any catalytic effect already played by this project and any replication of project activities (demonstration projects) and methodology. The **catalytic role** of UNEP and the GEF is embodied in their approach of supporting the creation of an enabling environment, investing in activities which are innovative and showing how new approaches can work. UNEP and the GEF aim to support activities that upscale new approaches to a national, regional or global level, with a view to achieve sustainable global environmental benefits. **Replication**, in the context of GEF projects, is defined as lessons and experiences coming out of the project that are replicated (experiences are repeated and lessons applied in different geographic areas) or scaled up (experiences are repeated and lessons applied in the same geographic area but on a much larger scale and funded by other sources).

15. The Evaluation will assess the approach adopted by the project to promote replication effects and appreciate to what extent actual replication has already occurred or is likely to occur in the near future, with special attention given to dissemination strategies used to promote project outputs, positive experiences and lessons learned (including through the IW-Learn network). The Evaluation will also assess the development of the replication strategy for demonstration projects (Component 4), and the flexibility in its use in different contexts.

16. The evaluation will generally look at the degree the project has so far:
    - ✓ provided *incentives* (social, economic, market based, competencies, evidence-based) to catalyze changes in stakeholder behaviour;
    - ✓ created opportunities for particular individuals or institutions ("*champions*") to catalyze change, thanks to the capacities and know-how the project built;
    - ✓ contributed to *policy changes* (on paper and in implementation of policy);
    - ✓ contributed to sustained follow-on financing (*catalytic financing*) from Government, GEF or other donors.

c. Processes affecting attainment of project results

17. **Preparation and readiness**. To assess preparation and readiness, the Evaluation will look at the extent to which:

    - Project's objectives and components were clear, practicable and feasible within its timeframe;
    - Lessons from other relevant projects were properly incorporated in the project design and a value-added approach with reference to existing schemes and projects was adopted;
    - Stakeholders were adequately identified, and partnership arrangements properly defined with well-defined roles and responsibilities before implementation started;
    - Capacities of executing institutions and counterparts were properly considered when the project was designed;
    - Counterpart resources (staff, funding, facilities) were available when the project started.

18. **Implementation Approach and Adaptive Management**. This includes an analysis of approaches used by the project, its management framework, the project's adaptation to changing conditions, the performance of the implementation arrangements and partnerships, relevance of changes in project design, and overall performance of project management. The evaluation will:

    - Ascertain to what extent the project implementation mechanisms outlined in the project document (starting from the collaborative relationship between Implementing and Executing Agencies and between the latter and executing partners) have been followed and were effective in delivering project outputs and outcomes. Were pertinent adaptations made to the approaches originally proposed?
    - Assess the efficiency and effectiveness of project management within MAP, and the role and performance of execution arrangements at all levels. Pay special attention to the way relationships with executing partners have been administered, the extent to which GEF focal points, MAP and RAC Focal Points, and the National Participating Institutions have been involved, and how smooth the relationship between the latter and the PMU has been;

- Identify administrative, operational and/or technical problems and constraints that have influenced the effective implementation of the project, and how the project management and partners tried to overcome these problems;
- Assess the quality of information provided by PMU and partners to the Coordination Group, and the effectiveness of the latter in ensuring overall coordination of the Strategic Partnership, as well as the synergy between the regional component and the investment fund;
- Assess the effectiveness of the SPSC (stemming from its composition, representativeness / relevant expertise by national focal points in all subject areas, regularity and frequency of meetings, and functioning feedback loop mechanisms in place);
- Assess the degree of collaboration with the WB's Investment Fund initiative, and how the move to the Sustainable MED Programme has affected project results.

19. **Stakeholder[33] Participation and Public Awareness.** This consists of three related and often overlapping processes: (1) consultation, (2) stakeholder participation, and (3) information dissemination. The evaluation will look at the Stakeholder Involvement Plan / NGO Involvement Plan, and specifically assess:

    a. The project early engagement of primary stakeholders at national level (public sector, private sector, NGOs, scientific community, general population) in scoping their needs;
    b. The involvement of the public sector through the Strategic Partnership Focal Points, the Steering Committee, and the Strategic Partnership Country Support Programme;
    c. The active participation of relevant stakeholders in the implementation of project activities and demonstration projects;
    d. The involvement of civil society through activities of component 4;
    e. The degree and effectiveness of communication and public awareness activities (including consultative meetings, workshops, publications, and the distribution of project material through the web) undertaken during the implementation of the project.

20. The ROtI analysis should assist the consultant in identifying the key stakeholders and their respective roles, capabilities and motivations in each step of the causal pathway from activities to objectives to impact.

21. **Country ownership / driven-ness**: This criterion assesses the relevance of the project to national development and environmental agendas, partner country commitments, regional and interregional agreements. The evaluation will focus on the following aspects:

    - Project's consistency with relevant Government plans and policies in selected countries;
    - National stakeholders' involvement in the project's formulation and planning;
    - National stakeholders' involvement in project activities, such as: training and workshops, assessments, implementation of pilot projects, draft of plans and strategies for policy, legal and institutional framework enhancement, participation to regional platforms, as well as to the project Steering Committee;
    - Financial contributions to the project fund by public partners;
    - Whether, and how, awareness and capacity development activities have contributed to the set up of a conducive institutional environment to the promotion of harmonized policy, legal and institutional reforms to reverse marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion;
    - The extent to which the effectiveness of the methods developed finally depends on political and institutional frameworks (this would be largely addressed under the sustainability criterion).

22. **Financial planning and management.** Evaluation of financial planning requires an assessment of the quality and effectiveness of financial planning and control of financial resources throughout the project's lifetime. The assessment will look at actual project costs by activities compared to budget (variances), financial management (including disbursement issues), and co-financing. The evaluation will:

[33] Stakeholders are the individuals, groups, institutions, or other bodies that have an interest or stake in the outcome of the project. The term also applies to those potentially adversely affected by the project. These are defined at national, regional and global level.

- Verify the application of proper standards (clarity, transparency, audit etc.) and timeliness of financial planning, management and reporting to ensure that sufficient and timely financial resources were available to the project and its partners;
- Appreciate other administrative processes such as recruitment of staff, procurement of goods and services, preparation and negotiation of cooperation agreements etc. to the extent that these might have influenced project performance;
- Provide a breakdown of actual costs and co-financing for the different project components, as well as the level of financial commitments to date;
- Present to what extent (cash and in-kind) co-financing has materialized as expected at project approval (see Table 2);
- Describe the resources the project has leveraged since inception and indicate how these resources are likely to contribute to the project's ultimate objective;[34]
- On the basis of the elements above, assess the budget adequacy and suggest re-allocation of resources, as needed.

23. **UNEP Supervision and Backstopping.** The purpose of supervision is to verify the quality and timeliness of project execution in terms of finances, administration and achievement of outputs and outcomes, in order to identify and recommend ways to deal with problems which arise during project execution. Such problems may be related to project management but may also involve technical/ substantive issues in which UNEP has a major contribution to make. The evaluator should assess the effectiveness of supervision and administrative and financial support provided by UNEP including:

    - The adequacy of project supervision plans, inputs and processes;
    - The timely identification of issues/problems and suggestions for corrective measures to be implemented;
    - The realism and candour of project reporting and ratings (i.e. are PIR ratings an accurate reflection of the project realities and risks);
    - The quality of documentation of project supervision activities; and
    - Financial, administrative and other fiduciary aspects of project implementation supervision.

    The evaluation will also assess UNEP and UNIDO contribution to the project's scientific oversight and the level of coordination with other GEF projects. The functionality and effectiveness of internal reporting mechanisms to the GEF will be as well appreciated.

24. **Monitoring and evaluation**. The evaluation shall include an assessment of the quality, application and effectiveness of project monitoring and evaluation plans and tools, including an assessment of risk management based on the assumptions and risks identified in the project document. The evaluation will appreciate how information generated by the M&E system during project implementation was used to adapt and improve project execution, achievement of outcomes and ensuring sustainability. The MTE will also look at the status, quality, completeness / accuracy of the project tracking tool[35] for GEF IW Focal Area.

25. M&E is assessed on three levels:

    - *M&E Design*. Projects should have sound M&E plans to monitor results and track progress towards achieving project objectives. An M&E plan should include a baseline (including data, methodology, etc.), SMART[36] indicators, data analysis systems, and evaluation studies at specific times to assess results. The time frame for various M&E activities and standards for outputs should be specified. The evaluator should concentrate on the following M&E design aspects:
        - Quality of the project log-frame as a planning and monitoring instrument, including definition of specific mid-term and final targets;

[34] Leveraged resources are additional resources—beyond those committed to the project itself at the time of approval—that are mobilized later as a direct result of the project. Leveraged resources can be financial or in-kind and they may be from other donors, NGOs, foundations, governments, communities or the private sector.

[35] Tracking tools are intended to roll up indicators from the individual project level to the portfolio level and track overall portfolio performance in focal areas. Each focal area has developed its own tracking tool to meet its unique needs. Agencies must fill out TTs three times during the life of a project: CEO Endorsement (or CEO approval for MSPs); at mid-term; and project completion.

[36] Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant Time-bound

- SMART-ness of indicators: Are there specific indicators in the logical framework for each of the project objectives and outcomes? If so, are the indicators measurable, attainable, and relevant to the objectives and outcomes? Are the indicators time-bound?
- Adequacy of baseline information: To what extent have baseline information on performance indicators been collected and presented in a clear manner? Was the methodology for the baseline data collection explicit and reliable?
- Arrangements for monitoring: Have roles and responsibilities for monitoring activities been clearly defined? Were the data sources and data collection instruments appropriate? Was the frequency of various monitoring activities specified and adequate? In how far were project users involved in monitoring?
- Arrangements for evaluation: Have specific targets been specified for project outputs, also for mid-term exercises? Has the desired level of achievement been specified for all indicators of objectives and outcomes?

- *M&E Plan Implementation.* The evaluation will verify that:
  - the M&E system is operational and it has facilitated timely tracking of results and progress towards project objectives throughout the project implementation period;
  - annual project reports and Progress Implementation Review (PIR) reports have been complete, accurate, timely and with well justified ratings;
  - the information provided by the M&E system was used during the project to improve project performance and to adapt to changing needs.

- *Budget for M&E activities*. The evaluation will determine the adequacy of budgetary resources allocated to M&E activities and whether the funds have been released in a timely fashion in the course of the project's implementation.

E. The Evaluation Team

26. The evaluation will be carried out by a team of two independent consultants. The consultants have to possess a high-level degree in Environmental Sciences or related disciplines, and combine at least 15 years relevant work experience on water ecosystem management and environmentally sound technologies for pollution reduction. Knowledge of French and/or Arabic is an asset.

27. The **Team Leader** has to possess a strong M&E background, combined with a thorough understanding of, and significant work experience with, political processes in the Mediterranean region. S/he will be responsible for coordinating all phases of the evaluation, i.e., data collection and analysis, preparation of the inception report, draft and final evaluation reports. S/He will ensure that all evaluation criteria are adequately covered by the team. The Team Leader will be give special attention to components 1, 3.2 (and activities by SPA/RAC within Component 3.1), and 4.

28. The **Supporting Consultant** is expected to contribute to the inception and main report, as defined by the Team Leader but with special attention paid to component 2. As such, significant technical knowledge of POPs and PCBs issues is required.

29. The consultants will work under the overall responsibility of the UNEP Evaluation Office and they will consult with the Evaluation Officer on any procedural and methodological matter related to the evaluation. It is, however, the consultants' individual responsibility to arrange for their travel, obtain documentary evidence, organize meetings with stakeholders and field visits, and any other logistical matters related to the assignment. They will liaise with the UNEP/DEPI Task Manager and UNEP MAP staff, who will provide full support on any logistical issues, allowing the consultants to conduct the evaluation as independently as possible.

30. The consultant certifies to the Evaluation Office that they both have not been associated with the design and implementation of the project in any way which may jeopardize their independence and impartiality towards project achievements and project partner performance. In addition, they certify that they will not have any future interest in cooperating with the project's executing or implementing units within six months after the completion of their contract.

F. Evaluation Deliverables and Review Procedures

31. Before starting the actual implementation of the evaluation process, the consultants will submit to the Evaluation Office an Inception Report for review. The inception report lays the foundations for the main evaluation. Its purpose is to develop an evaluation framework that includes:
    - A review of the quality of project design to help identify how project design impacts on project implementation and performance. The review of project design is done on the basis of the project document and log frame. The consultants should also familiarize themselves with the history and wider context of the project (details available on UNEP and GEF website, documentation from past projects etc). The analysis should be used to complete the 'Template for assessment of the quality of project design' (in the annex 7 of the TORs). The rating system follows the Evaluation ratings used for the main evaluation (also described in the annex of the TORs).
    - An analysis of the project's Theory of Change (ToC), creating a baseline which can be used to assess the actual project outcomes and impacts (expected and unexpected) during field visits and interviews. Annex 5 of the TORs on Introduction to Theory of Change/Impact pathways, the ROtI Method and the ROtI results score sheet describes in detail the Theory of Change approach. The ToC analysis should be captured in a ToC diagram, an example of which is found in the annex. The diagram can be shared with project stakeholders during the course of the evaluation, as tool to aid discussion. Please note that the ROtI ratings requested in the annex are not needed in the inception report's Theory of Change analysis. The consultants should complete the ROtI ratings after the field visits/interviews. The ToC diagram and ROtI ratings should be incorporated in final evaluation report.
    - A detailed plan for the evaluation process, including: i) summary of evaluation questions/areas to be explored/questions raised through document review; ii) description of evaluation methods to be used; iii) list of data sources, indicators; iv) list of individuals to be consulted; v) revised logistics (selection of sites to be visited)/dates of evaluation activities.

32. The **evaluation report** should be brief (no longer than 35 pages – excluding the executive summary and annexes), to the point and written in plain English. It must explain the purpose of the evaluation, exactly what was evaluated and the methods used (with their limitations). The report will present evidence-based and balanced findings covering all the evaluation criteria, consequent conclusions, lessons and recommendations, which will be cross-referenced to each other. The report should be presented in a way that makes the information accessible and comprehensible. Any dissident views in response to the evaluation findings will be appended in footnote or an annex as appropriate. Annex 1 includes the annotated outline the evaluation report is expected to follow.

33. The draft report shall be submitted to the Head of the Evaluation Office. The Evaluation Office will review the report for clarity and comprehensiveness. When found acceptable, the Head of Evaluation will share the report with the PMU, the Task Manager and her supervisor (within the GEF Coordination Unit) for initial review and consultation. The Task Manager will forward the draft to project partners and stakeholders, in particular MAP RACs, UNIDO, FAO/GFCM, UNESCP/IHP, WWF, GWP-Med, MIO-ESCDE, and co-financing parties for review and comments. Stakeholders may provide feedback on any errors of fact and may highlight the significance of such errors in any conclusions. Consultations will be held between the consultants, Evaluation Office staff, the Task Manager, and key members of the project execution team. These consultations will seek feedback on the proposed recommendations and lessons. The Evaluation Office will then collate all review comments and provide them to the independent consultants for consideration in preparing the final version of the report. The consultants will prepare a **response to any comments** that contradict their own findings and could therefore not be accommodated in the final report. This response will be shared by the Evaluation Office with the interested stakeholders to ensure full transparency.

34. **Submission of the final Mid-term Evaluation report**. The final report shall be submitted by email to:

    Segbedzi Norgbey, Head
    UNEP Evaluation Office
    P.O. Box 30552-00100
    Nairobi, Kenya
    Tel.: (+254-20) 762 3387
    Fax: (+254-20) 762 3158
    Email: segbedzi.norgbey@unep.org

    The Head of Evaluation will share the report with the following persons:

Maryam Niamir-Fuller, Director
UNEP/Division of GEF Coordination
P.O. Box 30552-00100
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: + 254-20-7624686
Fax: + 254-20-623158/4042
Email: maryam.niamir-fuller@unep.org

Kelly West, Task Manager International Waters
UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Implementation
P.O. Box 30552-00100
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 20 762 4147
Email: kelly.west@unep.org

35. The final MTE report will be published on the Evaluation Office web-site www.unep.org/eou and may be printed in hard copy. Subsequently, the report will be sent to the GEF Office of Evaluation for their review, appraisal and inclusion on the GEF website.

36. As per usual practice, the Evaluation Office will prepare a quality assessment of the final report, which is a tool for providing structured feedback to the evaluation consultants. The quality of the draft evaluation report will be assessed and rated against both GEF and UNEP criteria as presented in Annex 4.

Annex 2. List of Interviewees

Name	Designation
PROJECT COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT	
Project Management Unit	
1. Mr Habib El Habr	Deputy Coordinator UNEP/MAP and Officer in Charge
2. Ms Virginie Hart	Marine and Coastal Expert
3. Mr Ivica Trumbic	Project Manager to 31 December 2011
4. Mr Giorgos Petridis	Administration and Finance Officer to 30 June 2012 (now MAP)
UNEP/MAP (Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan)	
5. Ms Maria Luisa Silva Mejias	Coordinator UNEP/MAP
6. Ms Kumiko Yatagai	Administrative/Fund Management Officer
7. Mr Panos Kalogirou	Budget Assistant
UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Implementation	
8. Ms Kelly West	Task Manager, International Waters
9. Mr Rod Vorley	Fund Management Officer, International Waters
GEF Secretariat	
10. Mr Ivan Zavadsky	Program Manager, International Waters
11. Mr Chris Severin	Program Manager, International Waters
CO-EXECUTING AGENCIES	
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	
12. Mr Pedro de Barros	Fishery Resources Officer Fisheries Management and Conservation Service (FIMF)
13. Mr Juan A Camiñas	CopeMed II Project Coordinator
Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med)	
14. Mr Vangelis Constantianos	Executive Secretary
15. Ms Anthi Brouma	Senior Programme Officer
16. Dimitris Faloutsos	Programme Coordinator for Southeastern Europe
17. Madeleine Theochari	Programme Officer
Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)	
18. Anastasia Roniotes	Head Officer
19. Thomais Vlachogianni	Programme Officer
UNEP/MAP Mediterranean Pollution Programme (MEDPOL)	
20. Tatjana Hema	Programme Officer, Task Manager Component 2, MEDPOL
21. Fouad ABOUSAMRA	UNEP, Task manager of component 2 to 2011
UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC)	
22. Souha El Asmi	MedMPAnet Project Officer
23. Atef Limam	MedMPAnet Project Coordination and Technical Backstopping Officer
UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Center for Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC)	
24. Zeljka Skaricic	Director

Name	Designation
25. Marko Prem	Deputy Director
26. Daria Povh Skugor	Programme Officer
27. Marina Marković	Project Officer (Buna/Bojana)
28. Veronique Evers	Project Officer (Reghaia)
UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Center for Cleaner Production Program (CP/RAC)	
29. E. de Villamore Martín	Director, CP/RAC, UNEP/MAP, Under the Stockholm Convention on POPs
UNESCO	
30. Raya Stephan	Project Coordinator
31. Matthew Lagod	Assistant Project Coordinator
32. Jose Luis Martin	Project Coordinator to 31 July 2012
UNIDO	
33. Igor Volodin	Chief Water Management Unit, Environmental Management Branch
34. Roberta De Palma	Chief Technical Advisor
World Bank	
35. Nathalie Abu-Ata	Operations Officer, Water and Environment. Marseille Centre for Mediterranean Integration
WWF Mediterranean Programme Office	
36. Giuseppe Di Carlo	Marine Unit WWF Mediterranean Programme Office
37. Giovanna Agostinelli	Marine Unit Administrator
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES (includes questionnaire respondents indicated with *)	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
38. Senad Oprasic	Head, Environmental Protection Dept., Ministry of Foreign Trade & Economic Relations, GEF/Focal Point
Croatia	
39. Nevia Kruzic*	Head of Department for Sea and Coastal Protection, Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection
40. Zrinka Jakl	President/Nature Conservation Programme Coordinator Association for Nature, Environment and Sustainable Development Sunce
Egypt	
41. Heba Shrawy	Head of International Conventions and Organization Department, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Project Focal Point)
42. Tarik Fouad Hassan	Focal Point, Central Agency, Public Mobilisation And Statistics, Egypt
43. Ahmed Abou Elseoud	MEDPOL focal Point Head, Environmental Monitoring Programme, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
44. Raouf Okasha	National PCB Expert
45. Elham Abd El Aziz	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, National PCB coordinator, Egypt, MEDPOL manager
46. Giovanna Ceglie	UNIDO Country Representative
47. Samia Mohamed	National MED TEST consultant
48. Tamer Ahmed	Egypt National Cleaner Production Centre, Senior Technical

Name	Designation
	Expert
49. Fouad Maysara	ENCPC, CP Expert
50. E.L Ghada	MEDTEST National Coordinator
Libya	
51. Mr Almokhtar Saied	Head, Marine Conservation, Nature Conservation Dept Environment General Authority
Montenegro	
52. Jelena Knezevic	Senior Adviser , Head of Division for Strategic and Integration Processes, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism (Project and MAP Focal Point)
Morocco	
53. Nassira Rheyati *	Environment Department, Ministère de l'Energie, des Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement
Palestine	
54. Samer Kalbouneh *	Ministry of Environment Affairs (MEnA)
Tunisia	
55. Mohamed Ali Ben Temessek,	Chef de service a la direction Générale de l'Environnement et de la Qualité de la vie (Project Focal Point)
56. Habib Ben Moussa	Directeur Général de l'Environnement et de la Qualité de Vie
57. Samir Jomaa	Consultant, Phosphogypsum project
58. Fatan Jarraya Horriche	Laboratoire de Géoressources - Centre de Recherches et des Technologies des Eaux (CERTE) (Consultant, Aquifers)
59. Souhir Kaddachi	Avocate, ACR (Consultant, Aquifers)
60. Haggui Tiba	Direction Générale des Ressources en Eau (Coordinator, Ghar El Melh project)
61. Dhouib Sami	WWF MEDPO – Tunisia Office
62. Saba Guellouz	Agence de Protection d'Aménagement du Littoral (APAL)
OTHERS	
63. Stéphane Halgand	Programme Manager, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South DG Development and Cooperation (EuropeAid)
64. Alessandra Sensi-Nori	Programme Manager at EuropeAid to July 2012
65. Andrea Merla	MedPartnership Consultant (Replication strategy)
66. Panos Ioakimidis	Ecoterra, MEDPOL PCB consultant
67. Manuel Massanet	Consultant, CP/RAC

Other stakeholders met:

Local stakeholders in Bar, Montenegro (Buna/Bojana Demonstration Project)

Participants in the National Consultation in the Phosphogypsum Demonstration Project, Tunisa (Tunis, 20 Nov 2012)

Participants in the First Tunisia National Coordination Meeting (Tunis, 21 November)

Members of Tunisia TEST national task team

Contractors and partners in the Ghar el Melh Project, Tunisia

Annex 3. Evaluation Timeline

Dates	Activities
19 September 2012	Start of evaluation
September	Preparation of evaluation inception report Ongoing literature review
10-12 October - Team leader	Athens: - Kickoff meeting at MAP - PMU - GWP-Med - MIO-ESCDE
16-17 October - Team leader	Bar and Podgorica, Montenegro - Field visit to Buna/Bojana project area with GWP - Meeting with national focal point
18-19 October - Team leader	Split, Greece - RAC/PAP - Meetings with project consultants and former project manager
26 October - Team leader	Brussels - Meeting with EuropAid (linked to other travel)
15-16 November - POPs expert	Athens: - MEDPOL - MAP - PMU - PCB expert
18-19 November - POPs expert	Cairo: - National stakeholder meeting attended by various stakeholders - MEDPOL focal point and other national consultants and experts - UNIDO Regional office - MED TEST national coordinator and national consultants - Egypt National Cleaner Production Centre
20-24 November - Both	Tunis, Tunisia - Meeting with national focal point - Phosphogypsum project meeting - SPA/RAC - National stakeholders meeting plus individual meetings with experts - Visit to bottling plant (TEST enterprise) - Visit to Ghar el Melh aquifer project
Up to 21 December 2012	Questionnaire to national focal points Ongoing telephone interviews and compilation of project outputs
25 January 2013	Submission of review draft to UNEP Evaluation Office
	Submission of final draft to UNEP Office

Annex 4. List of documents reviewed or consulted

Project Definition and Reporting

- PDF-B request and Project concept, both dated 28 September 2005
- MedPartnership Project Brief, dated 13 February 2008
- UNEP MedPartnership Project Document, dated 6 February 2008
- UNIDO TEST Project Document (undated)
- EC MPAs Project Action Fiche (undated)
- Project Inception Report, dated 21 May 2010
- UNEP Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) (2011 and 2012)
- MedPartnership Annual Reports for 2010 and 2012
- Workplans and budgets presented to steering committee meetings
- WWF-MEDPO, EC and FFEM monitoring reports and evaluations related to Component 3.1

Cooperation Instruments

- *Internal Cooperation Agreement* between UNEP DGEF and UNEP/MAP dated 14 October 2008
- *European Commission Contribution Agreement* signed by EC and UNEP dated 17 December 2008
- *Project Cooperation Agreements* between UNEP MAP and WWF-MEDPO (dated 31 March 2009); GWP (30 September 2009), CP/RAC, PAP/RAC, and SPA/RAC (1 October 2009)
- *Letters of Agreement* between UNEP/MAP and UNESCO-IHP (10 December 2009) and FAO (14 April 2010)
- *Small Scale Funding Agreement* between UNEP/MAP and MIO ECSDE dated 24 September 2009
- World Bank letter dated 25 January 2010 countersigned by UNEP 12 February 2010

Meeting Reports and Documentation

- Project Steering Committee Meeting Reports (Feb 2010, March 2011, May 2012)
- Coordination Group Meeting Reports (Oct 2009, Nov 2010, Nov 2011)
- Report of the First Meeting for the Coordination of Activities between “Sustainable Med” Projects and the Regional Component of the “MedPartnership (31 May - 1 June 2010), Zagreb
- Reports of PAP/RAC technical workshops

Selected Technical Outputs & Working Documents

- Outline and recommendations for development of for coastal aquifers TDA supplement
- Hydrogeological Report of Buna Basin (Albanian portion). April 2012
- Hydrology and Hydrogeology inputs for the preparation of the Buna/Bojana Transboundary Integrated Management Plan. Montenegrin part of Buna/Bojana Transboundary area. Nov 2012
- Vulnerability mapping of the Pula coastal aquifer: Project Document. 2012
- Example of national reports: Management of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater - Assessment of Risk and Uncertainty related to Coastal Aquifers Management in the Mediterranean (Egypt)
- Example of national reports: Management of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater - Legal, institutional and policy aspects of Coastal Aquifer Management (Tunisia)
- Draft Guidelines for the preparation of National ICZM Strategies required by the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol for the Mediterranean, July 2012, 18pp
- Towards Converging Management Approaches for Mediterranean Coastal Zones; An Integrated Methodological Framework (IMF) for coastal, river basin, aquifer and groundwater management. Version IMF1012 D4, November 2012. (85pp)
- UfM. Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM), Final Draft March 2012, 18pp
- Phosphogypsum report, October 2012. « *Réforme politique concernant la gestion du phosphogypse en Tunisie (activité 2.1.1) Phase 1: Évaluation de la situation actuelle* »
- Lead Battery recycling, first report, October 2011: *Environmentally sound management of lead batteries in the Syrian Arab Republic: Proposals for policy reforms*
- Lubricating oil recycling report, December 2011: « *Réforme Politique concernant le recyclage et régénération des huiles lubrifiants en Algérie*».

- Second Report, September 2012. Pilot Project for MEDPOL Programme Under UNEP-MAP (PHASE II and III) *Control of Chromium and BOD Releases From Tanneries In Turkey*
- Deltares, First Report, January 2012*: Testing of a modelling system to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury in Gulf de Lion and Izmir Bay*
- Progress report for RFP on nutrients inputs into the Mediterranean sea from diffuse sources, CEFREM (France), December 2011: *Development of a database and modelling tool on nutrient discharges to the Mediterranean Sea by rivers*
- Mission reports of PCB consultants: Albania (Feb 2011); Bosnia Herzegovina (May 2011); Egypt (Sep 2011); Turkey (Nov 2011);
- *TEST case studies* for Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. UNIDO.
- UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.371/3. MedMPAnet Project Implementation and Follow-Up. MedMPAnet Project Mid-term Workshop / SAP/BIO Correspondents.
- MedMPAnet Training reports and evaluations.
- *Making Marine Protected Areas Work—Lessons Learned in the Mediterranean*. WWF Mediterranean (2012)
- *MedPAN South Project. Working together for more effective Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean*
- Draft reports on '*Bycatch of Mediterranean important iconic vertebrate species in the Gulf of Gabes: Risk Assessment and Mitigation'* and '*Discards of exploited marine organisms in Gabes Gulf resulting from bottom trawling fishing activities'*
- *NGO Involvement Plan* -Version 2 (Sept 2010)
- Draft Communication Strategy UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 356/6. 1 March 2011
- *Draft Replication Overall Portfolio Assessment and Replication Plan*. UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 356/7. 1 March 2011
- *Draft Mediterranean Environmental Replication Strategy "MEReS".* UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.368/6. 07 May 2012
- PowerPoint presentations by PAP/RAC, SPA/RAC, & GWP-Med

Selected Outreach and Promotional Outputs

- Project brochures
- IW:Learn http://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/2600
- MedPartnership Website http://www.themedpartnership.org/
- UNEP CP/RAC http://www.cprac.org/en/projects/medpartnership
- UNEP PAP/RAC http://www.pap-thecoastcentre.org
- UNEP SPA/RAC http://www.rac-spa.org/medmpanet
- UNIDO/ TEST Project www.unido.org/MEDTEST; http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=1003118 & http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=7766
- WWF / MedPAN South Project www.panda.org/msp/
- MedPAN south reports and publications http://www.medpan.org/en/msp_publications

Miscellaneous

- GEF Project database http://www.thegef.org/gef/gef_projects_funding

Annex 5. Review of Progress by Activity

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
Component 1 Integrated approaches for the implementation of the SAPS and NAPS: ICZM, IWRM and management of coastal aquifer		
Sub-Component 1.1. Management of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater		
1.1.1 Assessment of risk and uncertainty related to Mediterranean coastal aquifers		
1.1.1.1. Assessment of risk and uncertainty related to the Mediterranean coastal aquifer	85%	– 10 national studies on risk and uncertainty completed in 2012, – Regional expert workshops have been held in Thessaloniki (Feb 2012) and Antalya (Nov 2012) – Regional report under completion, with agreed table of contents. – Data from a regional questionnaire distributed in March 2012 is being input into a GIS based database.
1.1.1.2. Coastal aquifer vulnerability mapping: Pilot Project in one selected country (> Revised to two countries)	50%	– Pilot work at Tunisia's *lagune de Ghar el Melah* sub-contracted in March 2010 and underway in 2012, with follow up analysis planned in Italy. – Work in Croatia planned for 2013; TOR produced in October 2012 and a project document has been developed for the Pula coastal aquifer
1.1.1.3. Coastal aquifer supplement to TDA-MED: Development of a coastal TDA supplement	20%	– To be undertaken in the final year of the project – An outline for the supplement was developed in 2012. – The supplement will include 'concrete' recommendations for adoption.
1.1.2 Regional actions for Coastal Aquifer Management		
1.1.2.1. Development of a regional Action Plan on Coastal Aquifers	-	– This to be integrated into the TDA supplement under activity 1.1.1.2
1.1.2.2. Integration of groundwater management in ICZM and IWRM planning systems	40%	– Work in Buna/Bojana and Reghaïa is being undertaken in the context of joint Component 1 demonstration projects with GWP and PAP/RAC – Hydrogeological Report of Buna Basin (Albania) completed in April 2012 – A desk based assessment of Reghaïa was completed in August 2012
1.1.2.3. Identification and planning of coastal groundwater demonstrations	-	– See 1.1.2.2 & 1.2.2.4. Activities are underway.
1.1.2.4. Sustainable Coastal land management	45%	– The 3-year project, overseen by the French Geological Survey, management of coastal aquifers in the Gabes Oasis started in September 2009 but experienced some delays. – Good progress on geological model development, database establishment, and baseline technical and social studies; GIS ongoing and hydrodynamic model under development. – The FFEM support to the multi partner project is recognised as a direct contribution to the MedPartnership though not managed through UNESCO
1.1.2.5. Implementation of eco-hydrogeology applications for management and protection of coastal	40%	– An assessment of groundwater dependence of the Nador Lagoon, Morocco, undertaken by the Ca' Foscari University Venice was submitted in June 2012.

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
wetlands		– Work on groundwater dependent ecosystems of the Martil River was to start in 2012 (no documentation available) – This activity has been expanded to include a regional assessment and inventory of groundwater dependent coastal wetlands working, with partners such as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. – A first technical workshop on groundwater dependent ecosystems (GWDE) was organised in July 2011
1.1.2.6. Coastal aquifer supplement to SAP MED, SAP BIO and NAPs	-	– This work will be integrated into the TDA supplement under activity 1.1.1.3
1.1.3 Legal, Institutional and policy reform for Coastal Aquifer management		
1.1.3.1. Policy/legal/institutional regional assessment for coastal aquifer management	80%	– 11 national studies on policy, legal and institutional arrangements completed in 2012 – Regional workshops were organised in Paris in October 2011 (kickoff) and November 2012 (Review and consensus) – Regional report under development
1.1.3.2. Policy/legal/institutional reforms, institutional development for coastal aquifer management	10%	– Recommendations are under development as part of the above activity, involving national experts.
1.1.4 Spatial technology application – cross cutting activity	10%	– It has recently been agreed with the partner, the European Space Agency (ESA) activity will now focus on two demonstration project areas (Buna Bojana and Gabes). – Specification of needs and formal requests are underway.
Sub-Component 1.2. Integrated Coastal Zone Management		• The ICZM Protocol to the Barcelona Protocol had not entered into force at the time the project was designed and activities have been adapted accordingly • The following activities are based on those in the 2012 Workplan and PIR
1.2.1 Support activities in preparation of National ICZM Strategies and NAPs		
1.2.1.1. Support to the preparation of two ICZM National Strategies and NAPs	60%	– Algeria o 15 sectoral reports o National ICZM Strategy for Algeria drafted o Application of Methodology for Climate Change Risk Assessment – Montenegro o 9 sectoral reports underway towards National ICZM Strategy
1.2.1.2. Harmonizing national institutional arrangements and legislation with ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean	70%	– Expert Group meeting on harmonizing the national legal and institutional framework with the ICZM Protocol in 2011 – "An introduction to legal and technical aspects of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol" Revision 2 – produced in 2012 – Regional MedPartnership Workshop on harmonizing the national legal and institutional framework with the ICZM Protocol in Dec 2012 , including participants from 9 MedPartnership countries – Report 'A contribution to the interpretation of legal aspects of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		Zone Management in the Mediterranean' with Protogizc project: – 'Analysis of the Croatian Legal Framework in Relation to the Provisions of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol', with Protogizc project
1.2.1.3. Integrative Methodological Framework (IMF) for convergence of groundwater/aquifers, water resources, biodiversity and coastal management	80%	– Thematic inputs to Integrative Methodological Framework (biodiversity 2010, climate 2012) – Integrative Methodological Framework in advanced draft
1.2.1.4. Improved integrative planning and use of ICZM methodology and tools to support the ICZM Protocol	50%	– MedPartnership Regional Workshop on National ICZM Strategies in June 2011 (8 MedPartnership countries) – Expert Group Meeting on Guidelines for the Preparation of National ICZM Strategies held in May 2011 – Draft Guidelines for the preparation of National ICZM Strategies required by the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol for the Mediterranean completed in July 2012 (18pp); Guidelines are being disseminated through the EU/ FP7 PEGASO project
1.2.2. Application of ICZM approach, tools, and techniques in demonstration areas		
1.2.2.1 (a) ICZM Plans to demonstrate ICZM approach, tools and techniques in selected areas: ICZM Plan in TB demo area of high environmental sensitivity (Montenegro and Albania)	40%	– Reference document (2010) and scoping report developed (2011) – First Harmonisation meeting on the integrated management of the Buna/Bojana basin, coastal area and aquifers in 2011 – 8 sectoral reports drafted for Integrated Management Plan Buna/Bojana, – Application of Methodology for Climate Change Risk Assessment
1.2.2.1 (b) ICZM Plans to demonstrate ICZM approach, tools and techniques in selected areas: ICZM Plan in wetlands/marine area of high value/sensitivity with MPA identification (Algeria)	50%	– Reference document developed for Reghaïa in 2010 – Inception meeting in 2012, including UNESCO IHP – Framework and Analysis Reports drafted for Coastal Plan Reghaïa
Sub-Component 1.3. Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)		• GWP is implementing its work in the framework of and as a leading actor /facilitator in several ongoing IWRM initiatives and projects at regional, national and basin level (e.g. EUWI - Med, Athens Declaration Process, UFM Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean, Horizon 2020, SWM) • GWP is involved in a wide range of policy development and visibility events • Revisions made to activities in the inception phase reflect the rapidly changing context • GWP is providing input to the component 1 integrated methodological framework
1.3.1 Contribute to Developing the new Strategy for Water (SWM) in the Mediterranean	90%	– GWP provided technical and administrative support to the process to develop the UfM Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean; this was largely EC funded. – A draft strategy is available (March 2010) but adoption has been delayed as a result of disagreement over geographical designations.
1.3.2 Catalyse Action and Build capacity on National IWRM Planning in 4 target countries	50%	– Activities are underway in Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia and Palestine o Lebanon: Ongoing policy dialogue on IWRM, with EUWI Med support for an IWRM plan; private sector participation in water infrastructure o Egypt: Water supply and sanitation strategy development for Cairo and national policy

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		development o Tunisia: 2050 Strategy development plus training in IWRM and IWRM policy development with GEF support, private sector participation in water infrastructure o Palestine: Interest in development of drought strategy, private sector participation in water infrastructure
1.3.3 Develop Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) in globally important river basin(s) and adjacent coastal area	50%	– Work was initiated in three basins and one sub-basin o Buna Bojana Transboundary Integrated Management Plan (joint demo) o GWP is active in the wider Drin basin dialogue / shared vision, with support through other projects o Orontes River (Lebanon – Syria) - suspended o Medjerda River (Algeria - Tunisia) – concept note developed and pending a formal agreement
Component 2. Pollution from land based activities, including Persistent Organic Pollutants: implementation of SAP MED and related NAPs		
Sub-Component 2.1. Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control *Industrial Pollution pilot projects (based on NAP priorities):*		
2.1.1 Phosphogypsum slurry management·	30%	– Delays due to: change of country Tunisia instead of Lebanon, political instability and change at ministerial level in Tunisia – National consultant recruited. – Report on the assessment of the country situation of phosphogypsum in Tunisia submitted in Oct 2012 (Step 1 of a 4-step Task) – Presentation of major findings of assessment of country situation by consultant to all major stakeholders during the meeting on 22 Nov 2012. Evaluation team was present.
2.1.2 Chromium and BOD control of tanneries effluent	60%	– National consultant (team from the Environmental Engineering Department, Istanbul Technical University) subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 – First report corresponding to Phase I (Assessment current status in Turkey) of the pilot project was submitted in January 2011. (Report not available) – Second report corresponding to Phase II and Phase III of the pilot project submitted in September 2012.
2.1.3 Lubricating oil recycling and regeneration	60%	– International consultant (Spanish) subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 – Three reports corresponding to the Phases I, II and III submitted by consultant. Language (English and French) of reports very poor level – National workshop organized on 25 April 2012 at the Ministry of Environment of Algeria. 36 experts coming from different ministries, local authorities, private sector, NGO, MAP national focal point as well as UNEP/MAP MEDPOL and CP/RAC attended. Agreed during workshop to establish an inter-sectorial working group under the direction of the Algerian MAP focal point to guide on the continuation of the project activities
2.1.4 Lead batteries recycling	60%	– Inception workshop undertaken in Syria and report drafted (not available)

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		– International consultant subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 – Reports have been submitted: Report for Phase I (assessment of current status in Syria) submitted in Feb 2011. Report that covers part of phase II (60%), submitted in October 2011 – Due to political situation in Syria, implementation stopped
2.1.5 Assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea	80%	– The *Centre de Formation et de Recherches sur les Environnements Méditerranéens* (Cefrem), University of Perpignan, subcontracted in 2010 to develop a database and GIS based modelling tool – Progress report submitted in Dec 2011.
2.1.6 Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) in industrial effluents and Environmental Quality Standards (EQS)	80%	– Dutch company Deltares subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 for testing a model to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury in the Gulf of Lion and Izmir Bay – Key tasks completed. Report submitted in January 2012. – The terms of reference on the preparation of ELV/EQOs web-based software and the relevant guidelines for its use for several pollutants have been developed. The bidding exercise is underway to recruit consultant to develop software.
Sub-Component 2.1. Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control – *Permit, Inspection and Compliance Systems:*		• Activities 2.1.7, 2.1.8 and 2.1.9 are considered together
2.1.7 Permit, Inspection and Compliance Systems: meeting among agencies responsible for permitting, inspections and enforcement to form plans of action for permitting, compliance and control	5%	– One meeting was held in 2010 in Montenegro – A Regional meeting on strengthening environmental inspectorate work held in November 2011. A set of enforcement indicators approved for the LBS protocol and recommendations were made to develop enforcement indicators for the other protocols of the Barcelona Convention – – Meetings planned for end 2012 and 2013
2.1.8 Training workshop to provide practical guidance and uniformity on inspecting on the most commonly polluting and industrial facilities of the country.	5%	
2.1.9 National final meeting for the assessment and feedback to propose solutions for the formulation of amendments to the existing legislation.	5%	
Sub-Component 2.2. Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST-MED)		
2.2.1 Set up national focal points	100%	– Completed - The focal points in each country are the National Cleaner Production Centres.
2.2.2 Introduction of the TEST integrated approach	100%	– Completed - National counter parts (Ministries of Industry and Commerce, of Environment, for Morocco and Egypt and Commerce and Energy for Tunisia) identified and TEST integrated approach introduced
2.2.3 Set-up of the information management system	100%	– Completed - National TEST coordinator recruited in all countries and national task teams created
2.2.4 Identification and selection of demonstration enterprises	100%	– Completed - Companies from priority hotspots selected according to established criteria ○ Egypt:16 companies from 4 industries: Food (4); Chemical and petroleum (5); Leather (1) and Pulp and paper (3)

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		○ Morocco: 12 companies from 4 industries: Food (5); textile (2); metallurgical (2) and ceramic (2) ○ Tunisia: 15 companies from 3 industries: Food (6); textile (6); and leather (3)
2.2.5 Preparation of initial review at demonstration enterprises including market and financial viability and initial environmental review	100%	– Completed – Assessment of financial viability and initial environmental review undertaken under guidance of UNIDO CTA
2.2.6 Implementation of a Cleaner Production Assessment (CPA)	100%	– Completed – Improvement of the operation of the existing processes and technology of companies by introducing and integrating three different 'soft' and complementary environmental management tools into the company's daily operations done.
2.2.7 Introduction of EMS principles and design of EMS at demonstration enterprises	100%	– Completed – Done in parallel with 2.2.6
2.2.8 Introduction of Environmental Management Accounting practices and design	100%	– Completed - Environmental Management Accounting (EMA) system on a pilot level done for internal organizational calculation and decision-making
2.2.9 Evaluation of Phase I of the TEST Project	100%	– Successfully completed - Measures for cleaner production identified
2.2.10 Preparation and promotion of EST projects	100%	– Completed - Pre-feasibility studies undertaken; potential technology suppliers identified and affordable sources of capital for technology investment contacted.
2.2.11 Investment promotion of identified EST project	100%	– Investment in identified environmental sound or energy/water efficiency measures undertaken: – Egypt: Annual investment: $ 9,116,241; Annual profit: $ 9,131,112 – Morocco: Annual investment: $ 4,228,231; Annual profit: $ 5,899,267 – Tunisia: Annual investment: $ 4,456,870; Annual profit: $ 3,286,530
2.2.12 Evaluation of Phase II of the TEST Project	100%	– Saving in water and electricity consumption yearly: – Egypt: 8 878 090 m^3 and 212 600 MW respectively – Morocco: 153,806 m^3 and 18,000 MW respectively – Tunisia: 650,000 m^3 and 25,083 MW respectively – Environmental gain, yearly reduction in BOD and COD: – Egypt: 1,628 tonnes and 1,773 tonnes respectively – Tunisia: 1,610 tonnes and 2,762 tonnes respectively
2.2.13 Introduction of basic principles for the preparation of enterprise sustainable strategies (SES)	100%	– 10 companies have undertaken actions during project to obtain the ISO 14001certification (Egypt: 4; Morocco: 2 and Tunisia: 4) – 6 companies have upgraded their existing EMS by integrating TEST approach
2.2.14 Preparation of National Publication on the application of the TEST approach;	100%	– National reports as well as brochures for TEST available
2.2.15 Organization of seminars	100%	– Completed. Seminars organized in all 3 countries
2.2.16 Organization of introductory seminars on TEST approach at other enterprises in each country	Ongoing	– Replication of TEST in new set of companies on-going since May 2012. Sixteen new companies signed contract and provided cash co-financing (approx. 30,000 USD) – Staff members of the national cleaner production centres & technical centres (Focal Points of the TEST project) have integrated the TEST approach in their portfolio of services and are promoting

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		these in other enterprise (Interview data)
2.2.17 Organization of a regional workshop to present the results of TEST Med projects	100%	– Regional workshop held in Vienna in September 2012
2.2.18 Starting of networking activities	Ongoing	– Funds (7,000,000 Euro from EU) already secured by UNIDO for replication of TEST in 9 countries including the 3 participating countries
Sub-Component 2.3. Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries		– Originally planned to run in Albania, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya and Syria. – Due to political unrest, this sub-component is being run in Albania, Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina. – CP/RAC and MEDPOL are the two co-executing agencies for this sub-component
2.3.1 Legislative and institutional framework for implementation of ESM of PCBs	15%	– Although PCB experts / consultants recruited by UNEP/MAP in February 2011 and reports submitted; no evidence of an in depth assessment of legal and institutional framework of the participating countries. (See Annex 6 sub-component 2.3)
2.3.2 Demonstration projects to improve the management programme of PCBs and facilitate the implementation of NIPs and MED-SAP Guidelines for PCBs management implemented	30%	– Missions to Egypt (Sept 2011), Albania (Jan 2011), Bosnia Herzegovina (May 2011) and Turkey (Nov 2011) undertaken by international consultants for assessment needs for ESM of PCBs. Reports submitted.
2.3.3 Awareness of importance of ESM of PCBs equipment	50%	– International consultant recruited by CP/RAC to coordinate activities. – A webpage created by CP/RAC (http://pcbsmed.org/), however, at midterm no national data of these four participating countries yet posted on this website. – At national level, a National Technical Advisor sub-contracted by CP/RAC to facilitate coordination of activities – PCB-POP awareness workshops planned in 2013.
2.3.4 Technical capacity for ESM of PCBs equipment	30%	– Training activities for capacity building delayed in order to be linked and coordinated with MEDPOL activities (inventory, phasing out, storage and disposal) planned in 2013. – End 2012, CP/RAC undertaking missions to individual countries to identify needs of each country in terms of capacity building and training.
2.3.5 National capacity to implement PCBs phase-out and disposal programs	15%	– According to reports: 92.9 tonnes of PCBs (Egypt: 17 tonnes; Bosnia: 10.9 tonnes and Turkey 65 tonnes) identified and declared ready to be disposed of. – Interim storage site for PCBs and wastes identified in Egypt, Albania, Bosnia and Turkey – New work plans devised
Component 3: Conservation of biological diversity: implementation of SAP BIO and related NAPs		
Sub-Component 3.1. The conservation of coastal and marine diversity through development of a Mediterranean MPA Network		This work has been fully funded by co-financing – The WWF-MedPO part of this project is known as MedPAN South. It was designed to last four years and field activities were completed at the end of 2012. Interim results and final lessons are well documented. – The SPA/RAC part is known as Med MPAnet and was designed to last five years. The work stated in April 2010, and SPA/RAC is confident its work will be completed within the project

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		timeframe.
3.1.1 Establishment of coordination mechanism for regional MPA management		– The focus has been on project coordination
3.1.1.1 Establish and set operative two Project Coordination Units (WWF-MedPO – SPA/RAC)	Ongoing	– Both units were established and are operational – There were delays in recruitment at SPA/RAC and the coordinator was recruited only at the beginning of 2011
3.1.1.2 Organize Inception , Midterm and Final Workshops (SPA/RAC with the support of WWF-MedPO)	70%	– Inception workshops involving the SAP BIO Advisory committee and SAP BIO National Correspondents organised with participating countries, in June 2010 – The mid-term meeting of national correspondent was held in July 2012
3.1.1.3 Advisory Committee and SAP BIO National Correspondents meet to supervise and advise the activities (SPA/RAC)	NA	– As above
3.1.1.4: Develop the project communication and information tools (WWF-MedPO through the MedPAN network)	Ongoing	– Several high quality brochures and films have been produced – Both WWF-MEDPO and SPA/RAC established project websites – SPA/RAC projected the first MedMPAnet e-newsletter in January 2012 – Project results were presented at the December 2012 Mediterranean MPA Forum co-organised by SPA/RAC – WWF-MEDPO published a lessons learned in English, French and Arabic in 2012 – SPA/RAC published a detailed update for the SAP BIO committee in 2012
3.1.1.5: Raise awareness of key stakeholders on MPAs values and importance (WWF-MedPO – SPA/RAC)	Ongoing	– This is a cross cutting activity. Activities have involved a wide range of MPA stakeholders form national authorities to local users and MPA professionals. – At least 13 coordination meetings (in: Albania (2), Croatia, Lebanon, Libya (2), Montenegro, Morocco (2), Syria (2) and Tunisia(2)) – Leaflets and awareness materials in national languages (3 countries)
3.1.2 Identification and planning new MPAs to extend the regional network and enhance its ecological representativeness		• SPA/RAC reported that it is currently working on MPA creation in Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Libya, Montenegro, and Tunisia. • Activities in Algeria were added in 2011 following a request at the 2nd SC meeting, and consultations have started through the component 1 Reghaïa project • Six MPAs are in the process of declaration. • A planned activity on MPAs in international waters was dropped during the inception phase
3.1.2.1 Establish priority activities needed to create MPAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro and Syria (SPA/RAC)	50%	– Lebanon: Planning and coordination meetings in 2011 – Syria: Planning and coordination meetings in 2010 & 2011 – Morocco: Planning and coordination meetings in 2010 – Croatia: Activities have been delayed as a result of government restructuring – Assessment and support to priority needs for legal, policy & institutional reforms (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro)

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		– Regional workshop 'Towards a representative network of MPAs in the Adriatic', in October 2012
3.1.2.2 Identify stakeholder group and potential partnerships in Albania, Libya and Morocco (SPA/RAC)	50%	– Albania: Stakeholder analysis in early 2012, Collaboration established with local NGO, INCA, in May 2012 – Croatia: Local partners identified in June 2012 – Libya: TOR developed – Collaboration with IUCN Med to analyse legal and institutional frameworks in Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro
3.1.2.3 Characterization of priority marine sites suitable to become MPAs - country coast assessment in Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Morocco (SPA/RAC)	50%	– Tunisia: field surveys conducted in 2010 and 2011; a socio-economic survey was completed – Morocco: rapid survey in Nador area in 2010 – Lebanon: field surveys in June 2012 – Montenegro: Rapid assessment in 2011; Kotor was identified through the coastal areas management programme supported by PAP/RAC
3.1.2.4 Inception, planning, zoning and development of three new MPAs (SPA/RAC)	20%	– Albania: Inception meeting in May 2012 – Tunisia: The process to recruit a consultant has been launched
3.1.2.5 Identification of local stakeholder participation mechanism for the pilot MPAs in Albania, Montenegro, Croatia and Libya (SPA/RAC)	50%	– Activities in all four countries are advancing in collaboration with local and national partners
3.1.2.6 MPA creation guidelines and teaching packages: practical methodologies to create sustainable MPAs available to managers and practitioners (SPA/RAC)	30%	– Guidelines for MPA creation for cetaceans and for marine turtles developed – Guidelines for management and monitoring threatened populations of marine and coastal bird species and their important areas in the Mediterranean – Needs assessments completed in March 2012 – Trilingual thematic glossary produced – Teaching packages have been developed in collaboration with WWF-MEDPO (See 3.1.3.1)
3.1.2.7: Demonstration Project - Libya: The environmental case for a national network of MPAs in Libya (WWF-MedPO)	60%	– Coordination meetings in June 2010 – Two field surveys in 2010 (Ain al Ghazala and El Kouf) – Ain Al-Ghazala coastal lagoon and the facing Elba Island declared as an MPA on 17 Jan 2011. – Two workshops for national experts organised in Tunis (GIS, socio economic aspects of MPAs) – Work has recommenced at the local level being managed through national and local partners
3.1.3 Improved MPA management		
3.1.3.1 Organize 3 Mediterranean MPA Regional Training Workshops for MPA managers, practitioners and relevant authorities of existing MPAs	100%	– Joint Med MPAnet /MedPAN South Regional training on MPA management planning (2009), planning for sustainable fisheries in MPAs (2010), and sustainable tourism (2011)(129 trainees in total) – Med MPAnet Regional training on identification and classification of species (2011)(8 trainees)
3.1.3.2 Organize specific technical assistance and exchange/twining programmes to provide on-site assistance to new-MPAs managers, practitioners and relevant authorities (SPA/RAC)	70%	– Regional survey undertaken as a basis to identify capacity building needs – Regional training participants were invited to apply for small grants for implementation activities & exchanges. Over 40 agreements were concluded:

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
3.1.3.3 Organize specific technical assistance and exchange/twining programmes to provide on-site assistance to the participants of the Mediterranean MPA Regional Training Workshops to implement follow-up activities (WWF-MedPO)		○ Exchanges have involved over 100 practitioners and stakeholders ○ Small grants awarded for a wide range of local activities (assessments, GIS databases, training, awareness building) – A mentor programme established in 11 countries in 2009, and two mentor training workshops organised – Together with regional level training, more than 300 practitioners from 11 countries trained on a broad cross section of subjects relevant to MPA creation, management and operations, and financing – On-job training through inventory surveys and other activities
3.1.3.4 On-job-training for managers, practitioners and relevant authorities in identified demonstration areas, on planning, management and ecological aspects of MPAs (SPA/RAC)		
3.1.3.5 Demonstration Project in Turkey: Plan and specific zoning for the management of the Kas-Kekova SPA (WWF-MedPO)	100%	– Management plan developed through a participatory process, completed in 2012
3.1.3.6 Demonstration Project in Algeria: Concerted plan for the management of the marine part of the Taza National Park in Algeria (WWF-MedPO)	100%	– Management plan completed – Stakeholder workshop in June 2012 approved classification and zoning of the marine area, pending formalisation
3.1.3.7 Demonstration Project in Croatia: Management and M&E plans for the existing MPAs (WWF-MedPO)	100%	– Development of harmonised management plans though a participatory process facilitated by Croatian NGO, Sunce. – Plans completed for Brijuni National Park, Kornati National Park, Lastovo Islands Nature Park, Telašćica Nature Park
3.1.4 Ensuring financial Sustainability of regional and national MPA networks		
3.1.4.1: Financial analysis for the establishment of new MPAs (SPA/RAC)		–
3.1.4.2: Demonstration Project - Tunisia: Establishment of the management unit of the Cap Negro-Cap Serrat MPA, development of its Business Plan and identification of sustainable financial mechanism for MPAs (WWF-MedPO)	100%	– A 4-year project; activities on the ground were affected in the immediate months following the revolution – Management body established and staffed – Practical management measures undertaken in collaboration with local stakeholders – Business plan developed for sustainable financing
3.1.4.3: Demonstration Project: Demonstrating financial sustainability mechanisms for new MPAs in three different areas in Montenegro, Croatia and Albania (SPA/RAC)	5%	– This work was expected to start in late 2012
Sub-Component 3.2. Promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Mediterranean through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries		• Work in this area was held up by the late signature of the LOA between MAP and FAO. Further delays have been experienced as a result of the Arab Spring in Tunisia, political change in Morocco, and restructuring leading to reassignment of Ministerial responsibility in Croatia. • The work is being delivered under the umbrella of the GFCM in collaboration with three of FAO's regional EAF programmes for the Mediterranean: COPEMED II, EastMed, MedSudMed and

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		AdriaMed. – Work in Turkey was delayed pending identification of an appropriate partner.
3.2.1 Application of the Ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) management		• The initial target countries were Croatia, Montenegro, Tunisia and Turkey
3.2.1.1: Identify needs and priorities for mainstreaming the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries into fisheries management and research	10%	– It was agreed that this activity would be implemented after completion of 3.2.1.2 – National partners in Tunisia, Croatia and Montenegro are analysing workplans for EAF issues in collaboration with COPEMED II, MedSudMed and AdriaMed
3.2.1.2 Develop capacity for the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries	25%	– A training of trainers workshop on EAF was organised in Rome in December 2010. – A 3-week university level training course on EAF was organised for participants from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia in September 2011. – Workshop with Montenegro and Tunisia in Dec 2010. – Agreement with Croatia signed in December 2012
3.2.1.3 Identification and proposal of improvements to the legal and management frameworks to facilitate application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries	10%	– The 2012 PIR indicates this activity was delayed. – A desk review has been launched
3.2.2 Addressing bycatch of regionally important species		• Target countries were Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey • Non-target species work has been integrated into the COPEMED work in Tunisia and Morocco
3.2.2.1: Risk assessment to prioritise fishing-related threats to vulnerable fish and iconic vertebrate species	40%	– Tunisia o Two expert meetings were organised in 2011, looking at fishing gear, areas and species implicated in bycatch in Tunisia. o Field work was delayed owing to instability in Tunisia. o A two part report pending review and approval was finalised by national experts in 2012, addressing 'Bycatch of Mediterranean important iconic vertebrate species in the Gulf of Gabes: Risk Assessment and Mitigation' and 'Discards of exploited marine organisms in Gabes Gulf resulting from bottom trawling fishing activities' o Validation workshop in December 2012 – Morocco o Work initiated in mid-2012 – Turkey o Work was delayed pending identification of the appropriate partner. o Planning meetings in late 2012.
3.2.2.2 Develop and demonstrate solutions to bycatch mitigation for protected / endangered species of fish and invertebrates and/or for iconic vertebrate species	10%	– Follow up work is pending consultation amongst stakeholders including industry and approval on the results of this work
Activity 3.2.3: Supporting fishermen participation in monitoring and management of coastal MPA's (Morocco)		– This activity was not included in the inception report logframe but was specified as 3.2.3.1 – 3.2.3.3 in the 2011 workplan
3.2.3.1 Participation of the fishing communities on the monitoring of fishing activities.	60%	– A local project team involving NGOs, fishers association and a national research institute has been established to look at mitigation of bycatch in Al Hoceima National Park in Morocco.

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
		– Stakeholder workshop in September 2012 – Fishermen are actively involved in data collection.
3.2.3.2. Diffusion of the scientific results	0%	– Not yet started
3.2.3.3. Consultation mechanism for the elaboration and implementation of management measures	0%	– Not yet started
Component 4. Project Coordination, Replication and Communication strategies, Management and M&E		
Sub-Component 4.1 Project Co-ordination, Management and M&E	Ongoing	• Activities under this sub-component are largely concerned with different aspects of project management and are addressed in detail in the main text of the evaluation.
4.1.1: Project Management	Ongoing	– The PMU was established in August 2009. – See Implementation Approach
4.1.2: Strategic Partnership's Steering Committee (SPSC)	Ongoing	– Three meetings have been organised at roughly annual intervals. – See Implementation Approach
4.1.3: Strategic Partnership Coordination Group (SPCG)	Ongoing	– Three meetings have been organised at roughly annual intervals. – See Implementation Approach
4.1.4: Sustainable financing mechanism for the long term implementation of NAPs	0%	– Recruitment of an economist is underway – These activities are expected to start in 2013
4.1.5: Long term Sustainability of Activities Beyond the Lifetime of the SP.	NA	This is a cross cutting activity with no dedicated budget. See *Sustainability*
4.1.6: Inter agencies meetings	NA	This function has essentially been merged with the Coordination Group. – See Implementation Approach
4.1.7: Mid-Term Stocktaking Meeting	NA	This will be undertaken in conjunction with the 4th Steering Committee Meeting provisionally planned for May 2013
4.1.8: Auditing, Evaluation and Reporting	Ongoing	See *Financial Planning and Management* and *M&E*
4.1.9: Country Focal Point Support Program (CFPSP)	10%	– This activity has not advanced as planned. See Implementation Approach and Ownership – Discussions are underway with several countries and an agreement was signed for the IMC for Montenegro in Nov 2012
4.1.10 NGO involvement in the Region	40%	– NGO Involvement Strategy and matrix were prepared by MIO-ESCDE adopted at the 2011 SC meeting. – NGO database was established – 3 meetings/workshops/events were organized in 2009, 3 in 2010, 4 in 2011 and 5 in 2012
Sub-Component 4.2 Information and Communication strategies		• This subcomponent was originally to be implemented by INFO/RAC. It was not possible to conclude an agreement and the work in now being coordinated by the PMU. • The 2012 Workplan is based on four activities instead of the seven activities in the project document.

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
(Revised activities)		
4.2.1 Developing the Communication Strategy (CS)	100%	– A basic draft was completed by MIO-ESCDE in January 2011 and adopted by the 2nd SC meeting. – Visual identify guidelines and a manual were produced
4.2.2 Implementing the Internal Communication Strategy	Ongoing	– A project 'collaborative portal' intranet is available for exchange of information but used only to a limited extend by the co-executing partners – There was no evidence that Partners have instigated regular 'what's new' reports proposed in the strategy
4.2.3 Implementing the External Communication Strategy	Ongoing	– Key outputs delivered through a subcontract of MIO-ESCDE include: o The project website including interactive country fact sheets o A documentary film available on the project website and shown at events (27 mins) o An iPad application launched at the 2011 GEF IW Conference in Split plus an iphone and flash application o A press kit (leaflet, posters and logos). Press coverage was tracked over a 12 month period and is compiled on the website section 'MedPartnership in the News' o Two media events were organized in 2010 and 2011 o Reporters were invited to participate to the IWC6 in Dubrovnik where the project was strongly featured. o Use of social media channels (twitter and vimeo) – Activities were largely suspended during the second half of 2012 pending renewal of MIO-ESCDE's contract – The Project is profiled on the IW Learn Platform – The project or project activities are profiled on the co-executing partners websites but not always explicitly linked to the MedPartnership Project – There has been limited active outreach to the wide range of stakeholders identified in the strategy (through press releases, information kits etc). Press releases are included in a dedicated section of the MedPartnership Website. – Recruitment of a communications officer was underway at the time of the evaluation with the selected candidate expected to start in January 2013
4.2.4 Facilitating/supporting the Replication Strategy	5%	– Communications support to replications activities is expected to be undertaken during the second part of the project
Sub-Component 4.3. Replication Strategy *(Revised activities)*		• As 4.2, this subcomponent was originally to be implemented by INFO/RAC; the PMU has taken responsibility for these activities. • The 2012 Workplan is based on four activities instead of the seven activities in the project document. In terms of substantive changes, the workplan no longer refers to on-site replication activities. Some of the other activities originally envisaged in this area built on a parallel project undertaken by INFO/RAC and are no longer feasible. In terms of substantive changes, the workplan no longer refers to on-site replication activities.

Activity	Status %	Comments on Milestones and Deliverables
4.3.1 Overall Coordination	Ongoing	– The Draft Replication Overall Portfolio Assessment and Replication Plan was presented to the March 2011 SC meeting. – A follow on strategy *2012 Mediterranean Environmental Replication Strategy "MEReS"* was the result of the joint work of UNEP MAP and EU experts, and drew on experiences from the MedPartnership as well as EU SWIM and Horizon 2020 projects. – The suggested implementation mechanisms have not yet been operationalised. – The workplan envisaged preparation of annual replication plans that were not available. – Partnership building has been an ongoing activity and highlights include the decision to collaborate with the EC on the development of the MEReS.
4.3.2 Publication of Reports on Selected Replicable Practices	10%	– The UNIDO TEST projects have been documented through a regional publication and a set of company fact sheets on project delivery in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. – This work is expected to gain momentum as project activities mature.
4.3.3 Regional Replication Workshops	10%	– See below
4.3.4 Replication Conference	10%	– The 2012 budget has allocations to replication activities for each of the project components. Two replication events have been planned to date: – The MPAs work was showcased at a 'focus session' at the Mediterranean MPA Forum in November 2012 – A TEST workshop was postponed owing to logistical difficulties and it is not certain whether this will go ahead.
Original Activity 4.3.7: On-site Replication activities	NA	– Follow up to the MPAs work is planned through an addendum to the EC contract for Sub-component 3.1. – The TEST approach is expected to be replicated through the EC SWITCH project.

Annex 6. Review of Component 2 Pollution from Land-Based Activities, Including Persistent Organic Pollutants: Implementation of SAP-MED and Related NAPs

A. Introduction

A-1. The objective of Component 2 is to develop, draft and issue national and regional legal, policy and institutional reforms that address SAP-MED and the NAP priorities, to implement targeted actions for reducing pollution in the Mediterranean and to facilitate the financial sustainability of future NAP implementation activities. It is divided in three sub-components as follows:

2.1. Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control;
2.2. Transfer of environmentally sound technology (TEST-MED); and
2.3. Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries.

A-2. The implementing partners for the three sub-components are respectively MEDPOL, UNIDO, and MEDPOL & CP RAC.

A-3. According to the Project Document (PD), the total budget for this component is $ 9,716,500 (GEF: $ 4,400,000 and co-financing including participating country co-financing: $ 5,316,500) representing 19.7 % (GEF: 8.9% and co-financing: 10.8%) of overall project budget ($ 49,447,200) including the PDF-B phase. The breakdown of the budget within the component is: $ 2,036,000, $1,950,500 and $ 5,730,000 for the three sub-components 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 respectively. GEF funds for the sub-component 2.1 are managed by UNEP/MAP, for sub-component 2.2 (TEST-MED) by UNIDO and for sub-component 2.3 the funds by UNEP/MAP for some activities and by CP/RAC for others (awareness and capacity building activities; agreement signed between CP/RAC and UNEP/MAP).

A-4. It should be noted that the introduction to Component 2 under the description of activities in the Project Document (Paragraph 112) lists four sub-components as follows:

2.1. Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control;
2.2. Sustainable financing mechanisms for pollution control activities;
2.3. Transfer of environmentally sound technology (TEST-MED); and
2.4. Support to the implementation of the Stockholm Convention regarding the disposal of PCB stockpiles in Mediterranean countries

A-5. However, reference is made only to three sub-components in the remainder of the project document (for detailed activities, work-plans, costing, indicators for sub-components, annexes etc.); the "*sub-component 2.2 Sustainable financing mechanisms for pollution control activities*" has been removed. It is clear that this Component has been redesigned, but the text of the objective has not been corrected accordingly. Without this sub-component, the objective objective of this component should have been "*to develop, draft and issue national and regional legal, policy and institutional reforms that address SAP-MED and the NAP priorities, to implement targeted actions for reducing pollution in the Mediterranean*" as there are no longer activities planned that would allow to meet the third part of the objective "*to facilitate the financial sustainability of future NAP implementation activities"*

A1. Overview of Activities and Results

Sub-component 2.1: Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control
(GEF 950,000 $, Co-financing 1,086,000 $)

A-6. The objective of this sub-component is to develop and improve the legislative and institution framework in the region and to implement NAP priority actions that will protect and reduce the inputs of contaminants to the Mediterranean marine environment from land based activities. This sub-component is comprised of seven activities (mainly pilot projects) for which the achievements are discussed in the sections below.

A-7. Each of the pilot projects is constituted of four distinct phases. Although there are slight differences in the content of the four phases for the different pilot projects, in general these phases are constituted as follows: Phase I: Assessment of country situation; Phase II: Proposals for policy reforms, implementation plan and for small scale pilot project; Phase III: Identification of partners, technical design and actual implementation of small scale pilot project; Phase IV: Dissemination of results to other countries for replication purposes.

2.1.1 Management of phosphogypsum wastes coming from phosphate fertilizer production

(GEF 120,000 $, Co-financing 140,000 $)

A-8. The Pilot Project on management of phosphogypsum was to be carried out in three eligible countries: Lebanon, Tunisia and Syria, in according to specific actions in the NAPs. Phosphogypsum is a by-product of the phosphate fertilizer industry, which is dumped into the sea or/and deposited in stockpiles at the coastal zone. The objectives of the pilot project are:

- to facilitate the transfer of know how related to environmental management of phosphogypsum from Tunisia to Syria and Lebanon in issues related to the improvement of legislative and institutional framework
- to manage the disposal of phosphogypsum slurry in Lebanon; the preparation and implementation of a management scheme for the phospogypsum slurry in Lebanon;
- to trigger the cooperation with phosphate fertilizer companies and relevant national authorities from Lebanon, Tunisia and Syria.

A-9. However, Lebanon decided not to participate in the project and given the political situation in Syria it is unlikely that transfer of know-how to Syria could be undertaken. At midterm the following activities / results have been undertaken / achieved in Tunisia:

- At the recommendation of MEDPOL national focal point, a national consultant was recruited to assess the current situation of phosphogypsum wastes in Tunisia (phase 1). In that context a contract was signed between consultant and UNEP/MAP. The assessment was completed and report submitted in October 2012. The report included the assessment of: the national legal framework for the management of phosphogypsum; management systems including collection, transportation, storage and disposal phosphogypsum wastes; the quantities of generated by different production units; and existing international systems for storage, treatment and recycling of phosphogypsum wastes.

- A presentation of major findings of report by consultant was made during the meeting organized on 22 November 2012 where all major stakeholders were present. The evaluation team was also present during that meeting.

A-10. The four phosphate processing sites in Tunisia produce a total of 8,084,000 tons of dry phophogypsum waste annually as follows: SIAPE site (120,000 tons/year), Skhira site (400,000 tons/year), Ghannouche site (900,000 tons/year) and Mdhilla site (842,000 tons/year). While the Ghannouche site releases all its phophogypsum wastes in the Gulf of Gabes via an open canal without prior treatment, the phosphogypsum wastes of the three other sites are stockpiled as heaps (also known as tabias) in the open air close to the phosphate processing plants. At the Ghannouche site, it is estimated that about 135 million tons of dry phospogypsum waste have been released into the sea during the last 30 years, and this has impacted severely the marine environment and life of the Gulf of Gabes.

A-11. According to planned activities and available budget, it is unlikely that the target values for stress reduction (Minimum of 90.75 tons of mercury (Hg), minimum 1.03 tons of Cd and minimum of 0.93 tons of lead (Pb) in Tunisia)[37] from phosphogypsum slurry into the sea be reached within the project life. Indeed, the activities planned are the development of proposals for policy reforms for the proper management of phosphogypsum wastes, and feasibility and economic studies on different available options for management of phosphogypsum. For the sound management of phosphogypsum wastes at the Gannouche site, a small scale pilot

[37] Figures taken from Table E-5 of Annex E of project document and Table I-2 of project Inception Report

project is not envisaged as the only available sound option is to stop discharging the waste into the sea and store them in proper landfills. But the cost for building such a landfill is beyond the scope of the project. To solve the problems created by this discharge in the sea, the Groupement Chimique Tunisien (GCT), a state owned company and owner of the phosphate production company, is willing however to construct an adequate landfill at Sebkha El Mkhachrma located 25 km from the Ghannouche site if this option is technically feasible and if funds are available[38]. In any case, the building of this landfill will not happen during the project life.

2.1.2. Chromium and BOD control of tanneries effluent *(GEF 170,000 $, Co-financing 190,000 $)*

A-12. The project on Chromium (Cr) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) control in tanneries was to be developed in Turkey, Albania, Algeria and Egypt in accordance with planned actions on tanneries in their respective NAPs. The specific objectives of the pilot projects are:

- to improve the legislative and institutional framework for the control of Cr and BOD releases from tanneries in Turkey**;**
- to prepare and to implement a pilot project on Cr and BOD control in a group of medium size tanneries in Turkey;
- to prepare and to implement Guidelines on Cr and BOD control in tannery's effluents with the collaboration of all concerned countries (including Albania, Algeria, Egypt and Turkey).

A-13. This pilot project is being implemented in Turkey. Out of the 4 phases, reports corresponding to Phases I, II and III of the pilot project have been submitted and to date the following activities / results have been undertaken / achieved:

- UNEP/MAP subcontracted a national consultant (team from the Environmental Engineering Department, Istanbul Technical University) in 2010 for assessment studies for "Control of Chromium and BOD Releases From Tanneries In Turkey"

- The first report[39] corresponding to Phase I of the pilot project was submitted in January 2011. This report contained information pertaining to legal framework, wastewater collection and treatment systems, wastewater, chromium and BOD quantities, permit and auditing systems, discharge standards and reporting to the authorized departments, in relation to the reduction and control of chromium and BOD loads in the tanning industry in Turkey.

- The second report corresponding to Phase II and Phase III of the pilot project was submitted in September 2012. This report contains detailed information on new arrangements to improve the current legislation, institutional capacity, and recycling/abatement systems, as well as on formation of human resources, and implementation plans for proposed policy changes with regard to tanning industry.

A-14. Currently, activities are being undertaken for the technical design of a small scale pilot project and identification of potential partner tanneries to control the release of BOD and chromium. The planned pollution stress reduction (minimum of 76.5 tons of Cr, minimum of 1755 tons of BOD and minimum of 525 tons of total nitrogen)[40] in tannery effluents in Turkey is unlikely to happen as activities for scaling up and replicating of this small scale pilot project in all tanneries across the region of the country are not planned.

2.1.3 Recycling of used automobile lubricating oils *(GEF 150,000 $, Co-financing 160,000 $)*

The Pilot Project on management of Recycling and regeneration of used lubricating oil will be carried out in the following eligible countries: Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria and Palestine, in according of specific actions in the NAPs. The objectives of this pilot project are:

[38] Information taken from report of nation consultant subcontracted by UNEP/MAP
[39] A copy of report was not submitted to the evaluation team.
[40] See indicators in Table E5 of annex E of project document

- to improve the legislative and institutional framework for the recycling and regeneration of used lubricating oil in Algeria;
- to prepare and to implement a Pilot Project on organizing a system for recycling and regeneration of lubricating oil in Algeria;
- to transfer the know-how and the expertise of the Tunisian and Bosnia-Herzegovina authorities on the organization of the lubricating oil recycling and regeneration system to Algeria and other concerned countries (Albania, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine and Syria).

A-15. This pilot project is being implemented in Algeria. At midterm, the achievements for this pilot project are:

- International consultant (Spanish) subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 for (i) Assessment of state of the art (Phase 1); (ii) Proposal for policy reform (Phase 2); and (iii) Initiation of a lubricating oil pilot recycling system in Algeria (Phase 3)
- Three reports corresponding to the three phases have been submitted by consultant. However, it should be noted that the language (French and English) of the reports is very poor and this makes the reports quite incomprehensible.
- Algerian authorities held national workshop on 25 April 2012 at the premises of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation in Algiers to review the progress achieved on the implementation of the pilot project for management of lube oils and agree on the next steps. 36 experts coming from different ministries, local authorities, private sector, NGO, MAP national focal point as well as the task manager of component 2 (UNEP/MAP MEDPOL) and CP/RAC participated in the workshop. During this workshop, it was agreed to establish an inter-sectorial working group under the direction of the Algerian MAP focal point that should guide the continuation of the project activities that should assist in achieving the following:
    - Policy framework for effective lube oil management in Algeria improved
    - Introducing best practices for the management of lube oils in Algeria
    - Capacity Building; Public and decision maker awareness enhanced

A-16. At midterm, eight months after workshop, the agreement between UNEP/MAP and Algerian authorities has still not been signed. It is therefore recommended that actions are taken for this agreement to be signed as soon as possible in order not to further delay implementation of activities.

A-17. In the second part of the project, it is planned to set up a system in a small area in a city for the collection and transport of used lubricating oil but not for the actual recycling (unless recycling companies already exist in Algeria, since there is no mention in the project document for the setting up of an oil recycling unit in Algeria). Therefore, only a limited quantity of used oil will be collected only (much less than the 80,000 tons as indicated in Table E5 of annex E unless this small scale pilot is up scaled and replicated), and not recycled.

2.1.4 Recycling of lead batteries
(GEF 124,000 $, Co-financing 140,000 $)

A-18. The Pilot Project on management of recycling of lead batteries was to be carried out in the following eligible countries: Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Palestine, in according of specific actions in the NAPs. The objectives are:

- to improve the legislative and institutional framework for the recycling of lead batteries in Syria;
- to prepare and implement a project on organizing a system for recycling lead batteries in Syria;
- to transfer the gained know-how and the expertise on the lead batteries recycling to Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey.

A-19. The initial phases of this pilot project were implemented in Syria. At midterm, the first and part of phase II of the pilot project are completed and reports submitted. The achievements are:

- Inception workshop undertaken and report drafted[41]
- International consultant subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 to carry out the first two phases of the pilot project
- Reports have been submitted
    - Report for Phase I (October 2010 – Feb 2011). Aim was to assess the existing situation concerning the overall management of lead batteries, namely:
        - How the overall environmental legislation focus on the environmentally sound management (ESM) of batteries
        - The level of the organization of the state institutions to cope with the enforcement procedures to control the batteries management
        - To what extent spent batteries are collected, treated and recycled
    - Report that covers part of phase II (60%), submitted in October 2011, deals in details with major issues of policy reforms and capacity needs for the ESM of lead batteries in Syria namely:
        - Modification of existing legislation
        - Building up institutional capacities
        - Improvement of the whole chain of batteries management (collection, transport, storage, treatment/recycling)
        - Requirements for the creation of national market for recycled products

A-20. Given that the implementation of activities has stopped in Syria due to war, the stress reduction with regarding to lead batteries will not be possible. To take advantage of results already achieved, it is recommended that practical guidelines for the ESM of used lead batteries be developed based on the Syria experience and on the Basel Convention guidelines and disseminated to the other countries of the project through a regional workshop. Even if it were possible to complete the final phases of the pilot project in Syria, the recycling of lead batteries would not be possible as there is no indication that a recycling company (lead smelter) for batteries exists in Syria, and the establishment of such a facility is not mentioned in the project document.

2.1.5. Assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea
(GEF 90,000 $, Co-financing 130,000 $)

A-21. Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB), eutrophication process are the direct results of the enrichment of marine ecosystem with nutrients, namely nitrogen and phosphorus, from land based sources and from diffuse sources. Rivers in the Mediterranean are considered as major diffuse sources of nutrients into the sea. Satellite imaging showed that eutrophication process is always associated with the river mouths such as the Rhone, Po, Nile and other river in the Aegean Sea as well as high nutrients inputs from land based sources. The main aims of this activity are to:

- Collect quantitative information of the riverine inputs of water, sediments, nutrients to the Mediterranean Sea in a spatially and temporally explicit manner and develop database;
- Establish a geographical scale of inputs which should be distinguished at least at the scale of the major Mediterranean sub-basin (Alboran, North-Western, South-Western, Tyrrhenian, Adriatic, Ionian, Central, Aegean, North- Levantine and South-Levantine seas;
- Establish nutrients budgets associated to specific time periods (e.g., decades) to which they correspond and develop sophisticated models for prediction.

A-22. At midterm, the achievements are:

- The Centre de Formation et de Recherches sur les Environnements Méditerranéens (Cefrem), University of Perpignan, France has been subcontracted in 2010 to develop a database and GIS based modelling tool for the assessment of nutrient inputs into the Mediterranean Sea from diffuse sources.

- Progress report submitted in Dec 2011.

[41] Copy of report not submitted to evaluation team

A-23. Creation of a data base on Mediterranean rivers has already been started in the framework of a previous collaboration with MEDPOL (UNEP-MAP, 2003) and further enlarged via the European integrated research project SESAME. This document reports on new and important effort made to update the database through:

- screening of the recent scientific literature and existing up-to-date databases
- adding of data for sub-catchments of river basins
- adding of information for each basin and sub-catchment on potential controlling factors of river nutrient fluxes (climate, topography, lithology, land use/land cover and human activities and infrastructures).

A-24. The progress report also elaborates on the *Construction of a Geographic Information System (GIS)*. All data were fed into a GIS system that has been especially designed for the Mediterranean (and Black Sea) drainage basin. The computer program used is ArcGIS (version 10). The GIS system allows delineation and visualization of the hydrological networks of major rivers, their drainage basins, the locations of water-quality and discharge stations as well as representation and crossing of spatial data layers on the potential controlling factors for riverine water and nutrient fluxes. Development of empirical models is also reported in the document.

A-25. However, further improvement on the work of Cefrem for the development of a database and GIS based modelling tool for the assessment of nutrient inputs into the Mediterranean Sea from diffuse sources is necessary to attain the objectives of this pilot project. This work is underway.

2.1.6. Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) for industrial effluents and the Establishment of Environmental Quality Standards (EQS)
(GEF 120,000 $, Co-financing 150,000 $)

A-26. This Pilot Project is to be carried out in most of the eligible countries. Many countries lack appropriate ELV for their industrial effluents, as well as Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) for the receiving water bodies. In order to implement a control on industrial emissions, ELV and EQS should be introduced in the legislation of all Mediterranean countries. To that purpose a horizontal project including all GEF-eligible Mediterranean countries will be implemented to introduce ELV and EQS in their legislation and to propose changes in their institutional framework. The main objectives of this activity are:

- to introduce ELV and EQS in the legislation of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia and Turkey, for all substances included in the SAP targets for the protection of the Mediterranean marine ecosystem;
- to propose changes in the institutional framework of the GEF-eligible countries to ensure the proper use of the ELV and EQS for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea.

A-27. At midterm the achievements are:

- The Dutch company Deltares was subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 for testing a model to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury in the Gulf of Lion and Izmir Bay

- Report submitted by Deltares in January 2012. The main recommendation of the report is that in view of the large amount of hot spots around the Mediterranean and the diversity of these sites, in terms of their natural environment and the socio-economic conditions, it is recommended that an easily applicable method to be made available to water managers and policy makers. This method should offer a clear framework, and allow for a generic, coherent and harmonized approach, which ensures a “level playing field” for the permitting policy around the Mediterranean. The successful implementation of such a method probably would require a Guidance Document and a supporting software tool.

- The terms of reference on the preparation of ELV/EQOs web-based software and the relevant guidelines for its use for several pollutants have been developed. The bidding exercise is underway to recruit consultant to develop software.

2.1.7 Permit, Inspections and Compliance Systems

(GEF 176,000 $, Co-financing 176,000 $)

A-28. The activities related to the preparation of the NAPs have shown a number of gaps in the Mediterranean. One of these gaps is strictly linked with the compliance and enforcement of control measures and, more precisely, the system, which will control measures for pollution reduction, and compliance, i.e. the inspectorates. The major objective of this activity is to enhance and update the inspectorates in the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria and Turkey. For strengthening the existing mechanism in the Mediterranean countries regarding environmental inspection activities, there is need to tackle the issue in an integrated manner. The set of activities would include meetings among agencies responsible for permitting, inspections and enforcement in order to set up the procedure, as it is indicated in the regulatory cycle, as well as a training workshop.

A-29. At midterm, the achievements are:

- One meeting was held in 2009, and no other activities have been undertaken although countries have requested for actions.
- Meetings planned for 2013

A-30. According to feedback gathered during field missions, the planned meeting for end 2012 has not taken place due to movement of staff at MEDPOL; the task manager for this activity has been transferred for other duties and has not been replaced. It is unlikely that the meetings planned for 2013 will take place unless actions are taken by MEDPOL or MAP to assign a new task manager for these activities.

Sub-component 2.2: Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST-MED)*Executing Agency: UNIDO* (GEF 1,000,000 $, Co-financing 950,500 $)

A-31. The objective of the TEST-MED component is to build national capacities in South Mediterranean countries; to apply the UNIDO-TEST integrated approach to facilitate the transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (EST) that will improve the environmental performance and the productivity of priority industrial pollution hot spots of the South Mediterranean region. The project will have a demonstration component at pilot enterprises to be selected among the priority industrial sectors (among others releasing significant amounts of PTS are tanneries and derivates, cement works, metallurgy, agro-industries, organic and inorganic chemical industry) that are significantly contributing to transboundary pollution by releasing particularly PTS into the Mediterranean basin.

A-32. This TEST-MED project is being successfully implemented in three countries namely: Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. The main achievements are discussed country wise:

- Egypt
  - 16 participating companies from 4 different industries: Food industry (4 companies); Chemical and petroleum industry (5 companies); Leather industry (1 company) and Pulp and paper industry (3 companies)
  - Saving in water and electricity consumption yearly: 8 878 090 m^3 and 212 600 MWh respectively
  - Environmental gains, yearly reduction in BOD and COD: 1,628 tonnes and 1,773 tonnes respectively
  - Four participating companies have undertaken actions during project to obtain the ISO 14001certification
  - National seminars on TEST approach organized and national documents (e.g. brochures) published
- Morocco

- 11 participating companies from 4 different industries: Food industry (5 companies); textile industry (2 companies); metallurgical industry (2 companies) and ceramic industry (2 companies)
- Saving in water and electricity yearly: 153,806 m^3 and 18,000 MWh respectively
- Two companies have undertaken actions to obtain ISO 14001 certification whilst two others are seeking assistance to finalize their Environmental Management Systems (ESM)
- National seminars on TEST approach organized and national documents (e.g. brochures) published

➢ Tunisia
- 15 participating companies from 3 different industries: Food industry (6 companies); textile industry (6 companies); and leather industry (3 companies)
- Saving in water and electricity consumption yearly: 650,000 m^3 and 25,083 MWh respectively
- Environmental gains, yearly reduction in BOD and COD: 1,610 tonnes and 2,762 tonnes respectively
- Four participating companies have undertaken actions during project to obtain the ISO 14001certification
- Two companies have obtained the "Oeko-Tex Standard" certification
- National seminars on TEST approach organized and national documents (e.g. brochures) published

A-33. A regional workshop to present results of MED TEST was held in Vienna in September 2011

A-34. At the start-up of MED TEST, waste waters were not properly managed by most of participating companies. Through the project, many companies have started to have their waste waters analysed before discharge and some were planning to build wastewater treatment plants . For example, in Morocco a company has completed the tendering phase during the project, selecting the contractor that will build the facility.

A-35. Significant progress has been made in this sub-component and a total of 765 measures for cleaner production and for energy and water saving have been implemented by the 43 enterprises of the three countries resulting in annual reduction of 3,238 tons of BOD5 and 4,535 tons of COD and an estimated of 9.7 M m^3 of water savings and 255,700 MW of energy savings. Ten companies have undertaken actions to obtain the ISO 14001 certification and six have upgraded their existing EMS by integrating the TEST approach. Many companies started to have their waste waters analysed before discharge and some are planning to build wastewater treatment plants.

Sub-component 2.3: Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies
(GEF 2,450,000 $, Co-financing 3,280,000 $)

A-36. The purpose of this sub-component project is:

- To introduce environmentally sound management (ESM) to all stages of the 'life-cycle' of electrical equipment containing or contaminated by PCBs.
- To assist national authorities and owners in developing a sound policy for the ESM of PCBs based on principles of ESM, taking into account the provisions of the SC and the BC.
- To create conditions for a sound decision making process with respect to the demonstration/disposal activities.
- To pave the road for the implementation of NIPs through on-the-job training on PCBs contaminated oil and equipment disposal process.

A-37. Activities of this sub-component are being implemented by MEDPOL (activities 2.3.1; 2.3.2 and 2.3.5) and CP/RAC (activities 2.3.3 and 2.3.4). Originally planned to be run in Albania, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Libya, this pilot project are presently being run in Albania, Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina due to political unrest in Syria, Lebanon and Libya. For this sub-component the following five activities are to be undertaken:

- Activity 2.3.1: Review and reforming institutional and legal frameworks for implementation of ESM of PCBs
- Activity 2.3.2: The implementation of demonstration projects to appropriately management and disposal of PCBs and facilitate the implementation of NIPs and SAP-MED
- Activity 2.3.3: Technical capacity for ESM of PCBs equipment
- Activity 2.3.4: Awareness of importance of ESM of PCBs equipment and
- Activity 2.3.5: National capacity to implement PCBs phase-out and disposal programs.

A-38. At midterm, the following achievements have been made:

- Three international PCB experts / consultants were recruited by UNEP/MAP in August 2010 for policy reforms for life cycle management of PCBs, for PCB inventory, and for the design and establishment of temporary storage facilities in the five countries respectively. A first mission was undertaken by the three consultants in Albania in Jan 2011. During the Arab Spring in March/April 2011, as the consultants could not fully perform their duties according to the relevant Terms of Reference (TOR), it was mutually agreed between UNEP/MAP and the first two consultants to terminate the contracts. However, the third consultant is still under contract and he undertook missions to Egypt (Sept 2011), and the new countries Bosnia Herzegovina (May 2011) and Turkey (Nov 2011) and reports were submitted. Despite those missions, there is no evidence that the assessment of legal and institutional framework of the participating countries (Activity 2.3.1) has been undertaken. For this reason, an implementation status of 10% has been given by the evaluation team for this activity (see activity table of annex 5) whilst 70% has been reported in the PIR of October 2012.

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- The third consultant developed a short guide for preliminary identification of PCBs to help countries in the identification of PCBs. A progress report was submitted in July 2012 and it highlights these main findings:

    - The project management team is operational in each country
    - Only 1 demonstration sites have been identified. (Egypt)
    - For all 4 countries the equipment needed for the implementation of the project have been evaluated.
    - The primary inventory evaluation in all countries leads to the conclusion that most of transformers are not PCB oil transformers but mineral oil transformers contaminated with PCBs.
    - The cross contamination in the maintenance workshops is the main source of PCB contaminated transformers.

- Situation analysis reports for the four countries available but legal infrastructure review not done. Presently, 92.9 tonnes (Egypt: 17 tonnes; Bosnia: 10.9 tonnes and Turkey 65 tonnes) have been identified and declared ready to be disposed of. Tendering procedure for purchase of PCB analysers to be used during inventory exercise is underway.

- International consultant recruited by CP/RAC to coordinate activities. A webpage has been created by CP/RAC (http://pcbsmed.org/) and countries (Albania, Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia) need to send information for continuous updating. However, at midterm no national data of these four participating countries or other country of the project and / or region has yet been posted on this website. At national level, a National Technical Advisor sub-contracted by CP/RAC has been recruited to facilitate coordination of activities and for compilation of PCB information. PCB-POP awareness workshops are planned for 2013.

- Training activities for capacity building have been delayed in order to be linked and coordinated with MEDPOL activities (inventory, phasing out, storage and disposal). Presently, CP/RAC is undertaking missions to individual countries to identify needs of each country in terms of capacity building and training[42].

- As this sub-component has suffered significant delays, work plans have been revised by MEDPOL in consultation with CP/RAC. However, the evaluation team considers that these new

[42] Interview data

work plans need to be revisited taking into consideration that new target values for PCB destruction will be set (see recommendation in text below).

A-39. According to the project document, a total of 878 tons of PCBs were supposed to be destroyed by the project: Lebanon 42 tons, Syria 209 tons, Libya 209 tons, Egypt 209 tons and Albania 209 tons[43]. Given that there have been a change in countries due to Arab Spring and political change (new set of countries: Egypt, Albania, Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina), it is recommended that the total amount of PCBs to be destroyed by the project be re-discussed and agreed upon as well as the amount to be destroyed for the "new countries": Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina. A significant amount work remains to be undertaken for this sub-component that include: ESM practical guidelines development and implementation, capacity building for ESM, PCB inventories, development of phase out plans, identification of temporary storage site, inventory exercise, phase out, transport and storage of PCBs, procedures to export PCBs for destruction amongst others.

A2. Relevance

A-40. This component is highly relevant as it is built on priorities identified in the National Actions Plans (NAPs), the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs), and on existing initiatives in some Mediterranean states. In particular, activities of sub-component 2.3 aiming to strengthen the institutional and legal frameworks for the ESM of PCBs (substances listed in Annex A Part II of the Stockholm Convention) including disposal of 878 tonnes of PCBs are fully consistent with the main aim GEF 4 POPS Strategic Objective, 'to reduce and eliminate production, use and releases of POPs, and to the related Strategic Programme 2.

A-41. At midterm awareness is already high amongst major stakeholders (ex. utilities) regarding the need to properly manage PCBs. It is anticipated that ESM systems will be implemented in electrical utilities during the second half of the project and that significant amounts of PCBs will be identified and disposed of safely. Furthermore, the planned activities in the pilot projects will provide a harmonized initiative to protect the Mediterranean environment including water bodies against chemical pollutants such as PCBs, heavy metals and other toxic chemicals. However, it is important that the pilot projects planned in sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 are successfully completed for continued relevance and impact. In that context, given that most activities of these two sub-components have suffered significant delays, it is essential that activities are closely monitored by executing partners (MEDPOL, CP/RAC) and national executing partners to ensure successful implementation.

A3. Timing & timeliness

Sub-component 2.1: Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control

A-42. **2.1.1 Management of phosphogypsum wastes coming from phosphate fertilizer production**. This pilot project for management of phosphogypsum slurry started with more than 2 years delay due to Lebanon late decision not to participate in this activity[44]. Furthermore, due to political instability and also changes at Ministerial level, Tunisia requested to start activities in 2012.

A-43. **2.2.2 Chromium and BOD control of tanneries effluent**. According to the implementing partner, activities are on track with no major problem foreseen for completion of activities so as to meet objective of this pilot project.

A-44. **2.1.3 Recycling of used automobile lubricating oils** A national workshop was held in April 2012 regrouping major stakeholders to discuss the way forward regarding management of used automobile lubricating oil. It was agreed to establish an inter-sectorial working group under the direction of the Algerian MAP focal point that should guide the continuation of the project activities. In that respect, it was planned that a financial agreement of $ 50,000 be signed between UNEP/MAP and the Ministry of Environment of Algeria to undertake these activities. According to information gathered during interviews, 8 months after workshop, despite reminders from UNEP/MAP, this agreement has still not been signed by the Ministry of

[43] Page 118 of annex F of project document
[44] Report of Second Coordination Group Meeting, Rome (Italy), 18-19 October 2010

Environment of Algeria. It is therefore recommended that this agreement be signed as soon as possible in order not to delay further the implementation of activities for this pilot project.

A-45. **2.1.4 Recycling of lead batteries**. Given the political situation in Syria, activities have stopped in Syria. It is unlikely that the implementation phase of the pilot project could be undertaken. One option could be to develop practical guidelines for ESM of lead batteries based on the Syria experience (reports) and on Basel Convention guidelines that would be disseminated to the other countries through a regional workshop and subsequently dissemination at national level through workshops where major stakeholders would be invited.

A-46. **2.1.5. Assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea**. Activities for this pilot project are on track and the objectives are likely to be met as planned in the project document. For example, MEDPOL has already developed the terms of reference for the purchase two licenses of ArcGIS 10 for Desktop—Basic, software and there is provision for training on the use of the software. Adoption of model by countries is foreseen in 2013.

A-47. **2.1.6. Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) for industrial effluents and the Establishment of Environmental Quality Standards (EQS)..** No major delays encountered for this pilot project. Activities are being run as planned. For example, the terms of reference on the preparation of ELV/EQOs web-based software and the relevant guidelines for its use for several pollutants have been developed. The bidding exercise is underway to recruit consultant to develop software[45]. For impact, it is essential that end users (authorities that deliver permits and licenses, monitoring bodies, etc.) of this software receive the appropriate training.

A-48. **2.1.7 Permit, Inspections and Compliance Systems**. According to feedback gathered during field missions, the planned meeting for end 2012 has not taken place and it is anticipated planned meetings for 2013 will also not be held as the task manager for that activity at MEDPOL has been transferred and not replaced yet. It is therefore recommended that a new task manager at MEDPOL be assigned for this activity as soon as possible

Sub-component 2.2: Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST-MED)

A-49. This sub-component is being successfully implemented and expected to be completed by June 2013 as planned in the project document. Replication initiatives in new set of companies have started since May 2012, and funds (7 M Euro from EU) have already been secured for the second phase (TEST MED II). This second phase will be run in 9 countries including the 3 participating countries (Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia) and 150 companies will be targeted, starting in the second half of 2013.

Sub-component 2.3: Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies

A-50. Overall, this sub-component has suffered significant delays for various reasons including the political situation and/or events related to the Arab Spring in Syria, Libya, Egypt and Tunisia). As a result there has been a change in countries: Libya, Syria and Lebanon replaced by Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina. The change of task manager for component 2 at MEDPOL centralization was also responsible for causing delay of at least 6 months to the implementation of activities. In addition, the centralized tendering procedure through UNOPs, Nairobi for the purchase of PCB analysers and chemicals that cost more than 50,000 USD also caused much delay (8 months). As a result the implementation process has been seriously affected and the work plans that became inappropriate had to reviewed and adapted three times, and approved at the three successive steering committees. At national level, the momentum that was created after the first mission of the international consultant and MEDPOL was lost due to these long delays. In Egypt for example, during the first mission undertaken in Sept 2011, MEDPOL indicated that PCB analysers would be provided for the PCB inventory exercise. In that respect, teams were set up in Cairo and Alexandria in consultation with the electrical companies, main owners of transformers, and work plans were devised for the inventory exercise. A good working spirit was established amongst the different stakeholders. However, during the

[45] Interview data

evaluation mission carried out in Nov 2012, the Egyptian counterparts indicated that more than one year after this first mission, they still have not received those analysers necessary for inventory. They pointed out that the momentum created initially was fading out and that the utilities started to lose interest in the project. They also indicated out that there were cases where potentially PCB contaminated decommissioned transformers were sold to metal recyclers as a result of this long delay.

A4. Sources of cost effectiveness

A-51. MEDPOL has more than 30 years of experience in different aspects of environmental protection and monitoring. In particular, MEDPOL assists Mediterranean countries to protect the marine environment in the framework of the Barcelona Convention by the implementation of the Land-Based Sources, Dumping, and Hazardous Wastes Protocols.

A-52. CP/RAC, established in 1996 based on a decision agreed by the Parties to the Barcelona Convention, has substantial experience in building capacity and contributing to the exchange of knowledge in such areas as adopting cleaner production and pollution prevention as well as factors of competitiveness and economic performance for SMEs or reducing the generation of hazardous chemicals including PCBs and their use by means of the best available techniques (BAT) and the best environmental practices (BEP).

A-53. Sub-component 2.2, MED TEST, is built on the TEST program that UNIDO started in 2000 in the Danube River Basin to reduce transboundary river pollution coming from different industries including food, beverages etc. of the participating countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia. Since then UNIDO has accumulated significant amount of experience as TEST has been replicated in several Regions worldwide within industrial hot spots areas. In addition, the national executing partners of MED TEST, National Cleaner Production Centres of the participating countries, indicated that thanks to the good line of communication that exist between them and the enterprises, it was not difficult convince potential enterprises to get embarked in the project. In the three countries, UNIDO indicated that they have been able to leverage a total of $ 278,300 as co-funding from the participating enterprises. However, during the mission in Tunisia, the evaluation team was told that the funds paid by the companies correspond to fees that the NCPC normally charge for providing services.

A-54. All the participating countries of sub-component 2.3, except Bosnia & Herzegovina that has not yet submitted its National Implementation Plan (NIP)[46], are benefitting from experience gained and the institutional structure set up in the context of the preliminary PCB inventory undertaken during NIP enabling activities. Egypt, which submitted it's in NIP in June 2006, is further benefitting from experience gained in a project "*Sound Management for Hazardous Chemical Substances*" funded by the Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA) (2006 – 2008). This project included a partial inventory of the Shubra el Kheirma industrial area in the vicinity of Cairo. The JICA inventory assessed all the power stations in the area, as well as a sample of public and privately-owned facilities.

B1. Sustainability

Socio-political sustainability:

A-55. The Arab Spring turmoil that occurred in some of the participating countries has seriously affected implementation of activities in sub-components 2.1 and 2.3. For example, the contracts of the international PCB consultants recruited in Jan 2011, date at which the Arab Spring started, had their contract terminated as they were not able to perform their duties as per the TORs. As a result of the Arab Spring and other political changes, the pilot project on recycling of lead batteries has stopped in Syria and, Syria and Libya have been replaced by Turkey and Bosnia & Herzegovina in Sub-component 2.3 for the ESM of PCBs. Finally, the activity 2.1.1 (Phosphogypsum management pilot project) and most activities of sub-component 2.3 have suffered significant delays: more than1 year in most cases, 2 years for activity 2.1.1.

A-56. Fresh protests erupted in Egypt in November 2012 (just after the field mission of the evaluation team) and these may be affecting day to day communications and project implementation. For

[46] http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NIPs/NIPSubmissions/tabid/253/Default.aspx

instance, despite numerous requests (email) for information from the MedPartnership focal point of Egypt, the evaluation team did not receive any response.

A-57. On the other hand, TEST MED does not seem to have been affected by the Arab Spring. The timing of implementation may have contributed to this effect as activities were well on track before protests of Arab Spring started. Also the protests were in the capital cities whereas the participating companies were located generally far from the cities (e.g. Alexandria for enterprises in Egypt). This was confirmed during the field mission; interviewees indicated that the participating enterprises, mostly private companies, were generally not affected by the protests as the main reason for these protests was for change at governmental level.

Financial resources:

A-58. Sub-components 2.1 and 2.3: According to the revised budget planning, approved at the third project steering committee, there have been changes in the funds allocation for the different components. In particular, it is noted with some concern that for these two sub-components there have been a reduction of budget allocation of about $ 1,000,000 (GEF: $140,000 and cash co-funding: $ 860,000) with sub-component 2.3 (PCBs) suffering a reduction of about $ 910,000 (GEF: -$160,000 and cash co-funding: - $750,000) while for sub-component 2.1 budget allocation has been reduced by about $90,000 (GEF: + $20,000 and cash co-funding: - $110,000). Reasons for these changes were not given and it is not clear to what extent this decrease will affect the delivery of outputs for these sub-components especially for sub-component 2.3 where the budget reduction is significant (16% reduction of initially planned budget including in-kind contributions).

A-59. In one clear example however, the reduction by USD 500,000 of MTF funds available for PCB destruction ((BL 2213) could theoretically reduce the quantity of PCBs that could be destroyed by some 180 tonnes. Failure to mobilise outstanding MTF co-finance linked to component 2 activities can be expected to affect many aspects of MEDPOL's work.

A-60. It is also worthy to note that activities of sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 correspond to pilot projects aiming to reduce or eliminate pollution stress (e.g. Cr from tanneries, Pb and mercury from phosphogypsum wastes or destruction of PCBs). For impact, it is necessary that these pilot projects are successfully implemented. Table 4 of the main text indicates that as at June 2012, a significant amount of co-funding (about £ 1.5 M from MTF) for component 2 had not been made available for project activities. It is essential that this cash co-funding be mobilised in order not to compromise chances of success for these two sub-components to ensure impact.

A-61. Sub-component 2.2: The TEST approach has been successfully implemented in 43 enterprises of the three participating countries: Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia. For an initial investment of $17,801,342 to implement identified measures for cleaner production and for energy, water and raw material saving, those enterprises have made an overall annual profit of $18,316,909. It is clear that the TEST approach has proven to be very profitable. However, an issue was raised during interviews regarding the availability of funds at low interest rate (soft loans) for investment for those measures that require large investment. Many stakeholders indicated that the high commercial interest rate prevailing currently is seen as a deterrent for sustainability and replicability of TEST.

A-62. Most probably, one of the main reasons why the enterprises were willing to invest is the opportunity for a high rate of profit return that this project offered. What is not sure, however, is the willingness of the companies to invest for the protection of the environment. Indeed, although 10 enterprises have undertaken actions to obtain ISO certification, only one enterprise has taken initiatives to construct a waste water treatment plant. Certainly, the general feedback during the evaluation at the industrial level is that once an enterprise has successfully obtained the ISO 14000 accreditation[47] it will make the appropriate effort to maintain this level rather than having to go through a new and costly reappraisal. For many companies that trade with European countries, obtaining ISO 14000 was a driving factor as it is becoming more difficult to

[47] ISO 14000 family addresses various aspects of environmental management. It provides practical tools for companies and organizations looking to identify and control their environmental impact and constantly improve their environmental performance

export to EU zone as regulations are becoming more stringent and having products manufactured in ISO accredited enterprises certainly help in bringing down barriers. However, for the WWPT issue, although many participating companies have identified this option as a measure for environmental protection, it is not clear whether investment will be made for their constructions unless laws are enforced. UNIDO and national authorities should explicitly monitor / follow up activities to ensure that these treatment facilities are built.

Institutional framework and governance:

A-63. Sub-components 2.1 and 2.3: Impact of the project for these two sub-components largely depends on whether the planned policy reforms would be actually adopted and enforced by respective governments of the participating countries. It is anticipated that this would happen for most activities but given the delays encountered, there are risks this may not be the case for some activities (2.1.1, 2.1.3 and 2.3.1) during the project life.

A-64. For the different activities to ensure impact, the capacity of relevant authorities must also be built accordingly. For example, for activities 2.1.2 (Cr in tanneries), 2.1.3 (lube oil) and 2.1.4 (lead batteries), it is important that the capacities of inspectors be adequately enforced.

A-65. For PCBs (sub-component 2.3), the capacity (for PCB identification in particular) of the customs must be built to make sure that PCBs do not enter the country. It is also important that ESM schemes be developed and implemented at utility level to ensure that cross contamination, likely to be the main source contributing to increase the amount of PCB contaminated equipment in a country, does not occur and that potentially contaminated PCB equipment are no longer being sold to metal recyclers.

A-66. For activities 2.1.5 (assessment of riverine inputs) and 2.1.6 (setting ELV and establish EQS), it is essential that end users (e.g. authorities that deliver permits or set limits) of the software / database receive the appropriate training.

A-67. In the case of the phosphogypsum pilot project (activity 2.1.1), awareness of the project is high at country level, and GCT, state company and owner of phosphate processing plants, has clearly indicated their will to find a solution for the Ghannoche production site that discharges all its phosphogypsum wastes into the Gulf of Gabes.

A-68. Sub-component 2.2 TEST MED: For this sub-component, chances for sustainability beyond the project life are high as key changes have been brought by the project to sustain efforts for cleaner production, in particular: a) enhanced national capacity to deliver integrated services to the industrial sector; b) increased awareness within the industrial sector for cleaner production and environmental protection; and c) increased awareness within environmental authorities.

A-69. During the evaluation mission, the national executing counterparts for this project, the National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPC), that have a long experience dealing with the industrial sector in their respective countries, have indicated that they have integrated the main elements of the TEST approach in their scheme of duties. However, they noted that there was a need to specifically identify individual consultants with the required skills to work with the CPCs and companies in future if they were to include other industrial sectors not covered by the project so far. Although their capacity has been built during the project, they also felt that support from UNIDO is still required.

B2. Catalytic role and replicability

Sub-component 2.1

A-70. One of the objectives of activity 2.1.1 was “to facilitate the transfer of know how related to environmental management of phosphogypsum from Tunisia to Syria and Lebanon in issues related to the improvement of legislative and institutional framework”. Given that Lebanon has pulled out of this pilot project and the political situation in Syria, it is unlikely that replication in these two countries would occur. It is however anticipated that experience gained and lessons learnt in Tunisia would be shared with these countries and other countries of the region where phosphogypsum waste management is a problem.

A-71. For activity 2.1.2, according to the project document, it is planned "to prepare and to implement Guidelines on Cr and BOD control in tannery's effluents with the collaboration of all concerned countries (including Albania, Algeria, Egypt and Turkey)". The evaluation team does not foresee any major constraint in the development of such guidelines if the small scale pilot project envisaged for this activity is successfully implemented in Turkey.

A-72. For activity 2.1.3, being run in Algeria, one of the planned objectives is to "to transfer the know-how and the expertise of the Tunisian and Bosnia-Herzegovina authorities on the organization of the lubricating oil recycling and regeneration system to Algeria and other concerned countries (Albania, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine and Syria)". According to planned activities for the second part of this pilot project in Algeria, it is not envisaged, in the context of the small scale pilot project, for the actual recycling of used lubricating oil and the regeneration system, but rather for the collection only. So transfer of know-how in the context replication purposes is not possible within the project life. However, Tunisia and Bosnia-Herzegovina sharing their experience and expertise on recycling of used oil and regeneration system with the other countries within the project life is considered feasible by the evaluation team.

A-73. In the case of activity 2.1.4 that was run in Syria, it was planned "to transfer the gained know-how and the expertise on the lead batteries recycling to Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey". Implementation has stopped due to war. However, even if the situation in Syria allowed for project implementation to continue, it was not planned the actual recycling of lead batteries but rather to implement on a small scale a pilot project for collection of used lead batteries[48]. As mentioned earlier, to benefit from outputs already delivered (reports of consultant) practical guidelines for the sound management of lead batteries based on reports for Syria and on Basel Convention guidelines could be developed, and disseminated to other countries through a regional workshop.

A-74. For activities 2.1.5 and 2.1.6, it is planned "to introduce ELV and EQS in the legislation of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia and Turkey, for all substances included in the SAP targets for the protection of the Mediterranean marine ecosystem" and to "to propose changes in the institutional framework of the GEF-eligible countries to ensure the proper use of the ELV and EQS for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea" respectively". The evaluation team does foresee any major difficulty for these objectives to be met as the main tasks (development of software and models, creation of data, GIS mapping, etc.) for these two activities are being undertaken by international consultants recruited by UNEP/MAP.

A-75. For activities 2.1.7 to 2.1.9, the major objective is to enhance and update the inspectorates in the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria and Turkey. At midterm, only one meeting has been organized so far. In that context, it is difficult to assess the replicability of these activities. It would be more appropriate to undertake assess this aspect at the end of the project.

Sub-component 2.2

A-76. The results, outcomes and lessons learned of the MED TEST project were shared with other countries of the Mediterranean Countries, EU and other stakeholders at a regional workshop held in Vienna in September 2012. This workshop was very successful as seven million Euro has already been secured from EU for a replication of MED TEST that will target 150 enterprises covering 10 countries. The results of the MED TEST project are also reported in the 'Water Management page' of the UNIDO sub-site "*Environmental Management*" at: www.unido.org/MEDTEST.

A-77. At national level, lessons learned were shared through organization of national seminars in each of the countries and results published in brochures for dissemination. The outcomes of the project were also promoted to other enterprises through introductory seminars on the TEST approach. The potential for replication is very high and many enterprises have shown interest in the TEST approach during those promotion activities[49]. However, as mentioned earlier under

[48] Interview data from MEDPOL
[49] Interview data

the sustainability section, the associated costs with the first phase of the TEST approach and high investment costs for change in technology were seen as a major barrier by many stakeholders of the industrial sectors. The availability of soft loans is seen as a possible solution by many of the stakeholders interviewed.

Sub-component 2.3

A-78. The Stockholm Convention (SC) recognizes that it will require time and resources for parties to eliminate PCBs on a global level. In that context, SC sets the goal of 2025 for phasing out the use of equipment containing PCBs (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks), and the treatment and elimination of the recovered PCBs by 2028.

A-79. This sub-component is helping the participating countries to build their capacities for the environmental sound management of PCBs, in particular to carry out a partial inventory, phasing out and disposal of an agreed quantity[50] of PCBs and PCB contaminated equipment. It is anticipated that the capacity built through this project will help the countries to meeting the Stockholm Convention 2028 goal to totally phase out PCBs through other initiatives. For example, in Egypt, synergies of this project with a WB project being developed for the "*Integrated and sustainable POPs Management*" that include the total elimination of PCBs is expected. This WB project will cost $ 23,600,000 with GEF financing at a level $8,100,000 and other donors co-financing $15,500,000.

C1. Preparation and Readiness

A-80. As discussed in the section A Introduction of this Annex 6, component 2 has been modified and the original sub-component 2.2 "sustainable financing mechanisms for pollution control" has been removed. The removal of this sub-component has impacted on the feasibility of activities of sub-component 2.1 where pilot projects are planned for recycling wastes that depend greatly on financial mechanisms for the set-up of recycling facilities. The evaluation considers this to be a weakness. The planned recruitment of a joint PMU/MAP sustainable finance officer may address this.

Sub-component 2.1

A-81. Although the project document contains nearly 800 pages of annexes including a detailed description of the different components, the evaluation felt that the indicators[51] proposed for some activities of this sub-component are poor probably due to inadequate consultation during the preparation phase of the project. For the activity 2.1.1 for example, the objectives as set in the project document are feasible within the scope of the project. However, the indicators proposed in the annexes (50% pollution reduction at the demonstration sites: min. 1.03 tons cadmium (Cd), 90.75 tons mercury (Hg) and 0.93 lead (Pb) indicate an inadequate preparation phase of this activity. If a proper consultation were carried out prior to the proposal of these indicators, it would have been evident that the only option to stop pollution in the Gulf of Gabes due to the discharge of phosphogypsum wastes is the construction of an appropriate landfill. This construction is beyond the scope of the project and the running of a small scale pilot project as proposed in the project document is irrelevant. The pulling out of Lebanon from this pilot project suggests an inadequate consultation with the relevant authorities during the preparatory phase.

A-82. The evaluation also considers that the proposed indicators for activity 2.1.2 (Cr from tanneries) are inappropriate. Given that only a small scale pilot project is envisaged for this activity[52] and up scaling is not planned, (at least planning and costing of activities in project document not appropriate for this), the reduction of minimum of 76.5 tons of Cr and 1,755 tons of BOD from tannery effluents avoided in Turkey as mentioned as indicators (Table E5, annex 5 of the project document) for this activity is not likely to happen during the project life.

[50] Given the delays encountered by the project, this quantity needs to be re-discussed and agreed upon (see recommendations)
[51] Annex E, Table E5, page E-15
[52] Interview data, MEDPOL

A-83. Activities 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 concern the recycling of wastes: used lubricating oil and used lead batteries respectively. Generally, the recycling of wastes is normally undertaken by private companies, which means investment and profit making. For these two activities, unless facilities for recycling these two wastes already exist in the two countries (Algeria and Syria) where the pilot projects are being run, otherwise no mention about the setting up of such facilities are mentioned in the project document. And this would have implied the identification of a private partner, risk assessment and environmental impact assessment permits, investment for construction of facilities and development of a business plan / model. On the other hand if such facilities existed, which is not stated in the project document, the pilot projects would have been for the implementation of collection systems only. The evaluation team considers that the design of this sub-component is poor and could have been improved by integration of the elements mentioned above as the information regarding of existence of such recycling facilities could have been easily obtained during the preparatory phases. Furthermore, as the actual recycling of used oil is not planned but rather the implementation of a pilot project for the collection of used oil on a small scale and no up-scaling

A-84. In view of the above, this sub-component could have benefited greatly from a more prolonged preparatory phase, which would have allowed for more and better consultation with national counterparts that would have allowed a better understanding of the situation and an improved project design.

Sub-component 2.2

A-85. The project strategy, design, in particular the intervention logic, and implementation approach is based on UNIDO's substantial experience in implementing industrial environmental projects and in particular the TEST programme in the Danube River Basin and in China. The criteria to choose countries having cleaner production centres, which eventually acted as national executing counterparts, helped also in facilitating the implementation process. Indeed, these centres, already involved with the industrial sector, helped in the identification of enterprises and facilitated the initial contacts between the project and the enterprises. As funds became available, activities were successfully executed by the national counterparts aided by locally recruited technical experts. The whole implementation process was adequately supervised and monitored by UNIDO.

Sub-component 2.3

A-86. The evaluation team considers that the Arab Spring, delays in procurement and change in task manager are not the only reasons for delays that this sub-component suffered. The lack of coordination at national level, due to unclearly defined roles of stakeholders in the project document, and poor communication between project management and national counterparts, (roles were not clearly defined) also caused delays seen in this sub-component. In that context, this component could have benefited from a similar team and expert group with clearly defined roles as those (constitutions reproduced below) planned for activity 2.3.4 in annex F of the project document.

- PCB capacity building team. This team will be in charge of the management and implementation of the capacity building activities of the PCB Project. This team is composed by the CPRAC with the collaboration of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and the Basel Convention Regional Centre-Cairo. This budget item will cover some necessary administrative-technical support, equipment, accessories, travel, etc. for this overall management.
- Establishment of an international and national expert group on capacity building. Ten (10) International and National consultants will be engaged for project implementation. These consultants consist of one (1) International Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), (1) Assistant for the Chief Technical Advisor (ACTA), five (5) National Technical Advisors (NTA) (one in each country), three (3) International technical /policy experts.

A-87. Of course, the constitution of the PCB team for the whole sub-component 2.3 would have been different from that proposed for activity 2.3.4 above. It would have included national counterparts and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. utilities) and would have worked closely with the expert group that would have guided in the execution of activities especially those activities

like inventory, phasing out, collection, transport and storage that require elaborate and proper planning and frequent field missions.

A-88. This sub-component 2.3 could also have been improved by planning a proper PCB inventory and estimating the associated costs. The information on PCBs came mainly from NIP reports, and these data are very preliminary and they are not based on actual chemical testing but rather on estimate based methods. The cost associated with a proper inventory (e.g. the purchase of equipment for PCB analysis) was not considered in the costing of this sub-component.

C2. Implementation Approach

A-89. Except for sub-component 2.2 (MED TEST), fully executed by UNIDO, the overall management of the component 2 is done by MEDPOL with the cooperation of CP/RAC and Basel Convention Regional Centre in Egypt making use of their in kind contributions for two activities (2.3.3 and 2.3.4) in sub-component 2.3.

A-90. MEDPOL staffing for this component is a task manager with partial support for administrative purposes. Given the number of pilot projects in this component and the amount of work that this requires, the evaluation feels that the task manager could benefit from more internal support to ensure proper project implementation. As planned CP/RAC has recruited a chief technical advisor (CTA) for coordination at regional level, and at national level a National Technical Advisor has been recruited in each country for coordinating activities at national level. UNIDO staffing is considered adequate for the MEDTEST, a project manager (PM) for overall management and a CTA and providing supervision and guidance with the help of the PM.

A-91. Generally, the approach adopted by the executing partners was similar. The first step is to establish or set up national counterparts. For the sub-components 2.1 and 2.3, they are generally the Ministry of Environment. For the TEST MED project, they were the NCPCs and technical centres located at the Ministry of Industry. These national counterparts are responsible for executing activities at national level with technical support, whenever required, provided by national or international consultants recruited by UNEP/MAP on recommendation by MEDPOL or the executing partner (CP/RAC or UNIDO). For example, in the case of pilot projects on phosphogypsum wastes or used oil, national consultants have been recruited by UNEP/MAP for country situation assessment. For TEST, although UNIDO could provide some technical support, consultants were recruited to assist national counterparts for successful implementation of project activities.

A-92. In the case of MED TEST, a Project Advisory Board constituted by relevant stakeholders from the NCPCs, pollution control institutes, and from government was also set up in each of the countries to monitor progress and to provide guidance. In particular, it has played an important role in the selection of enterprises. For the two other sub-components, similar national boards or steering committees are not planned. The evaluation feels that having such committees at national level would have definitely benefitted the project in terms of visibility, awareness at national level and ownership.

A-93. For the MED TEST MED project, the approach is considered appropriate delivering successfully in terms of outputs (saving on water and energy, environmental gain, high rate of return) and outcomes (environmental awareness, cleaner production approach, adoption of TEST approach). For the other two sub-components, although the approach seems appropriate, it is however too early for a meaningful assessment.

C3. Country Ownership, Stakeholder Participation and Public Awareness

A-94. For sub-components 2.1 and 2.3, the national counterparts of the project are generally ministries, and for the MED TEST the focal points were cleaner production centres and technical centres located at Ministry of Industry as well as private consulting firms.

A-95. Whilst for MED TEST Project Advisory Boards were established in the countries, no formal national steering bodies are planned in the project document for sub-components 2.1 and 2.3. For many activities, ad-hoc stakeholder groups constituted by major stakeholders were formally

created on the initiative of the lead authority. For example, in the case of the phosphogypsum pilot project (activity 2.1.1), the ministry of environment is leading the stakeholder group constituted by the relevant ministries and GCT, owner of the phosphate processing plants in Tunisia. At the first meeting of this group that coincided with the evaluation mission, the findings of the assessment of the country situation were presented to the group by the national consultant. For the lubricating oil pilot project, a national workshop was held in April 2012 at the Ministry of Environment to review the progress achieved and to decide on the next steps. During this workshop, attended by representatives of different ministries, local authorities, private sector, NGO, MAP national focal point, MEDPOL and CP/RAC, it was agreed to establish an inter-sectorial working group headed by the Algerian MAP focal point that would guide the continuation of the project. Similar activities have occurred for sub-component 2.3 where the national counterparts have been involved since inception, and in most countries the institutional capacity built since NIP enabling activities is likely to benefit the project.

A-96. For sub-components 2.1 and 2.3, the country ownership seems to be adequate however the evaluation considers that if the appropriate national steering bodies with the appropriate terms of reference were planned in the project document, the country ownership would have been much higher and the project would have been more visible at national level.

A-97. In the case of MED TEST, the evaluation considers the country ownership to be satisfactory. The Project Advisory Boards were directly involved in the monitoring and supervision of the project. They were also involved in the selection process for the enterprises, the identification of industrial sectors the project should focus on, and in negotiations between the enterprises and the project including signature of agreements. The NCPCs were directly involved in the execution of activities and have integrated elements of the TEST approach in their portfolios of service (e.g. Tunisia).

A-98. In terms of dissemination, UNIDO has created a webpage www.unido.org/MEDTEST that reports the lessons and results of MED TEST within the UNIDO website where it is mentioned that MED TEST was run in the context of the MedPartnership project. CP/RAC has also created a website (http://pcbsmed.org/) but no national information or data regarding PCBs of the four countries (Egypt, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Turkey) has been posted yet. For the component 2, there is no evidence of general public awareness through popular media so far.

C4. Financial Planning and Management

A-99. UNEP is managing the funds allocated for activities that MED POL is implementing while UNIDO and CP/RAC are managing their own funds.

A-100. For Sub-component 2.1 and 2.3, see section B1 Sustainability on financial resources, the discussion about changes in the funds allocation that may affect MEDPOL's work for these two sub-components and also the need to mobilise cash co-funding to ensure impact.

C5. Monitoring and Evaluation

A-101. A specific monitoring and evaluation procedure for Component 2 and its sub-components, except for sub-component 2.2 that reports directly to GEF, is given in Annex F of the project document. Following this procedure, the MEDPOL task manager indicated that reports on progress made by the project are submitted to the CU every six months. The task manager also indicated that biannual progress reports are submitted for the MEDPOL Focal Point meeting that is held every 2 years. Although the evaluation did not get copies of these reports, the task manager said that these are available.

A-102. For TEST MED, UNIDO indicated that the standard procedures for reporting and monitoring were followed and reports were submitted. UNIDO also indicated that they contributed to the annual PIR of the Medpartnership project. This is indeed reflected in the PIR reports that the evaluation consulted. At national level progress is monitored by the PAB. It is to be noted that midterm evaluation has not been undertaken for this stand-alone project.

Conclusions, Lessons and recommendations

Conclusions

A-103. Component 2 was originally planned to have four sub-components, however the sub-component "Sustainable financing mechanisms for pollution control activities" has been removed but the objective of Component 2 that reads "to develop, draft and issue national and regional legal, policy and institutional reforms that address SAP-MED and the NAP priorities, to implement targeted actions for reducing pollution in the Mediterranean and to facilitate the financial sustainability of future NAP implementation activities" has not been modified accordingly. The removal of this sub-component has impacted on the feasibility of activities of sub-component 2.1 as pilot projects for recycling depend greatly on financial mechanisms for the setting up of recycling facilities. The planned recruitment of a joint PMU/MAP sustainable finance officer may address this.

A-104. The Arab spring and other political events have caused country change or project implementation to stop. For example, Libya, Syria and Lebanon have been replaced by Bosnia-Herzegovina and Turkey for sub-component 2.3 and the implementation of the pilot project on recycling of lead batteries in Syria has stopped.

A-105. The Arab Spring plus other factors have affected the delivery of products / outputs for many of the activities of sub-components 2.1 and 2.3. However, in many cases the activities are back on track. For example, for most activities of sub-component 2.1, consultants have been recruited and reports submitted.

A-106. For activities 2.1.7 to 2.1.9 relative to enhancing national capacities of the countries for inspection and permits, due to movement of the task manager, implementation has stopped; only one meeting has happened so far.

A-107. For sub-component 2.1, the anticipated pollution stress reduction[53] set out in the project document is not likely to happen due a poor design of this component and inappropriate consultation during preparation phases.

A-108. Sub-component 2.2, the MED TEST project, is being successfully implemented in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. Through an appropriate implementation approach with adequate supervision and monitoring from UNIDO, the MED TEST has delivered successfully both in terms of outputs (saving on water and energy, environmental gain, high rate of return) and outcomes (environmental awareness, cleaner production approach, adoption of TEST approach). With appropriate sources of funding, potential for replication is high.

A-109. The Arab Spring and other political events have particularly impacted on implementation process for sub-component 2.3. For example, as the consultants could not fully perform their duties according to the relevant TORs in the countries (Egypt, Syria, Libya), their contract were terminated. As a result of the Arab Spring and also change in Task Manager and delays in procurement, this sub-component has suffered more than 2 years delay. Given the amount of work left to be done for this sub-component, an extension of the project would be required for successful completion of activities (see recommendation section).

A-110. Implementation of the some of the proposed recommendations below would require funding over and above what is currently allocated in the project budget. The evaluation considers that the associated costs to these recommendations would largely be covered by the funds that would be saved from recommendation 9. About US$ 1.1 million would be saved against the original budget if only 500 tons of PCB are planned to be destroyed. The equivalent saving on the 2012 budget is USD 600,000.

A-111. There is also a need for a proper analysis on the extent to which delivery of sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 would be impacted if MTF funds are not mobilised.

[53] Stress reduction indicators given in Table E5 of annex E of project document

Table 6-1. Lessons

Conclusion/Context	Lessons
Component 2 has been redesigned. Originally, it was comprised of 4 sub-components but the sub-component 2.2 "*sustainable financing mechanisms for pollution control*" has been removed". The removal of this sub-component has impacted on the feasibility of activities of sub-component 2.1 where pilot projects are planned for recycling wastes that depend greatly on financial mechanisms for the set-up of recycling facilities. The evaluation considers this to be a weakness. As a result it is unlikely that the pollution stress reduction as planned in the project document is not likely to happen (Para A-4 & A-5)	Inappropriate redesigning of project proposals may lead to unrealistic expected outcomes
This pilot project for management of phosphogypsum slurry started with more than 2 years delay due to Lebanon late decision not to participate in this activity, political instability and also changes at Ministerial level. Tunisia requested to start activities in 2012. The late decision of Lebanon not to participate in the project suggests inappropriate consultation during preparatory phases. (Para A-41)	Proper consultation during preparatory phases avoids delays in project implementation.
The three reports submitted by the consultant (Spanish), recruited for the pilot project on used oil recycling, were of very poor quality. The reports were not comprehensible due to the poor level of the language (English). (Para A-15)	Recruiting consultants with adequate level in the reporting language ensures comprehensive reports.
For the MED TEST, a Project Advisory Board (PAB), constituted by relevant stakeholders from the CPCs, pollution control institutes, and from government was set up in each of the countries to monitor progress and to provide guidance. In particular, it has played an important role in the selection of enterprises. For the two other sub-components 2.1 and 2.3, similar national boards or steering committees are not planned. The evaluation feels that having such committees at national level would have definitely benefitted the project in terms of visibility, awareness at national level and ownership.(Para A-94)	Planning the appropriate institutional infrastructure / bodies with clearly defined roles / TORs increases chances for successful project implementation.

Table 6-2. Summary and Recommendations

Component/ Activity (Funds)	Original Context / Objectives	Status / Findings**	Recommendation/ Remarks	Responsibility	Cost implication
2.1.1 Phosphogypsum slurry management· (Total funds: $260,000: Co-financing: $140,000; GEF: $120,000)	2. The Pilot Project on management of phosphogypsum was to be carried out in three eligible countries: Lebanon, Tunisia and Syria. The objectives of the pilot project are: - to facilitate the transfer of know how related to environmental management of phosphogypsum from Tunisia to Syria and Lebanon in issues related to the improvement of legislative and institutional framework - to manage the disposal of phosphogypsum slurry in Lebanon; the preparation and implementation of a management scheme for the phospogypsum slurry in Lebanon; - to trigger the cooperation with phosphate fertilizer companies and relevant national authorities from Lebanon, Tunisia and Syria.	Initially, planned to be run in Lebanon and Syria, this pilot project started with more than 2 years delay due to Lebanon late decision not to participate in this activity. It now being run in Tunisia. Furthermore, due to political instability and also changes at Ministerial level, Tunisia requested to start activities in 2012. At midterm the following activities / results have been undertaken / achieved in Tunisia: • A national consultant was recruited to assess the current situation of phosphogypsum wastes in Tunisia (phase 1) and the final report was submitted in October 2012. The consultant made a presentation of major findings to all major stakeholders during a meeting attended by the evaluation team. • The four phosphate processing sites in Tunisia produce a total of 8,084,000 tons of dry phophogypsum waste annually. While the Ghannouche site releases (900,000 tons/year) all its phophogypsum wastes in the Gulf of Gabes without prior treatment, the phosphogypsum wastes of the three other sites are stockpiled as heaps in the open air close to the processing plants. • The stress reduction from the release of phosphogypsum slurry into the sea is not likely to happen within the project life. Indeed, for the sound management of phosphogypsum wastes at the Gannouche site, a small scale pilot project is not envisaged as the only available sound option is to stop discharging the waste into the sea and store them in proper landfills. However, the cost for building such a landfill is beyond the scope of the project. But the Groupement Chimique Tunisien (GCT), a state owned	4.1. The national authorities (Ministry of Environment / ANPE) should lead the phosphogypsum stakeholder group and facilitate procedures so as to implement the remaining activities without further delay, in particular: the development of proposals for policy reforms for the proper management of phosphogypsum wastes, and feasibility and economic studies for the construction of a landfill.	MEDPOL, National Tunisia MedPartnership Focal Point, MoE	Marginal country cost

		company and owner of the phosphate production company, is willing to construct an adequate landfill at Sebkha El Mkhachrma located 25 km from the Ghannouche site if this option is technically feasible and if funds are available. In any case, the building of this landfill will not happen during the project life. However, the project can provide technical assistance to national authorities or facilitate access bilateral or international funds for the construction of the landfill.			
2.1.3 Lubricating oil recycling and regeneration (Total funds: $310,000; Co-financing: $160,000; GEF: $150,000)	This pilot project is being run in Algeria. The objectives of this pilot project are: - to improve the legislative and institutional framework for the recycling and regeneration of used lubricating oil in Algeria; - to prepare and to implement a Pilot Project on organizing a system for recycling and regeneration of lubricating oil in Algeria; - to transfer the know-how and the expertise of the Tunisian and Bosnia-Herzegovina authorities on the organization of the lubricating oil recycling and regeneration system to Algeria and other concerned countries (Albania, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine and Syria).	This pilot project is being run in Algeria. At midterm, the achievements for this pilot project are: • International consultant (Spanish) subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 for (i) Assessment of state of the art (Phase 1); (ii) Proposal for policy reform (Phase 2); and (iii) Initiation of a lubricating oil pilot recycling system in Algeria (Phase 3) • Three reports corresponding to the three phases have been submitted by consultant. However, it should be noted that the language (French and English) of the reports is very poor and this makes the reports quite incomprehensible. • Algerian authorities held a national workshop on 25 April 2012 at the premises of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation in Algiers to review the progress achieved on the implementation of the pilot project for management of lube oils and agree on the next steps. 36 experts coming from different ministries, local authorities, private sector, NGO, MAP national focal point as well as the task manager of Component 2 (UNEP/MAP MEDPOL) and CP/RAC participated in the workshop. During this workshop, it was agreed to establish an inter-sectorial working group under the direction of the Algerian MAP focal point that should guide the continuation of the project activities that should assist in achieving the following:	4.2. It is recommended that actions are taken so that the agreement between UNEP/MAP and Algerian authorities is signed by 31 March 2013 in order not to delay further the implementation of remaining activities for this pilot project. In case of non-signature within the set deadline, this activity should be cancelled and funds reallocated to other activities.	MEDPOL, Algeria MAP National Focal Point, UNEP/MAP	No cost

		- Policy framework for effective lube oil management in Algeria improved - Introducing best practices for the management of lube oils in Algeria - Capacity Building; Public and decision maker awareness enhanced At midterm, eight months after workshop, the agreement between UNEP/MAP and Algerian authorities has still not been signed. It is therefore recommended that actions are taken for this agreement to be signed as soon as possible in order not to further delay implementation of activities. One of the planned objectives of this pilot project is "to transfer the know-how and the expertise of the Tunisian and Bosnia-Herzegovina authorities on the organization of the lubricating oil recycling and regeneration system to Algeria and other concerned countries (Albania, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine and Syria)". According to planned activities in the second part of this pilot project in Algeria, it is not envisaged for the actual recycling of used lubricating oil and the regeneration system, but rather for the collection only in the context of a small scale pilot project. So transfer of know-how in the context replication purposes is not possible within the project life. However, Tunisia and Bosnia-Herzegovina sharing their experience and expertise on recycling of used oil and regeneration system with the other countries within the project life is feasible.			
2.1.4 Lead batteries recycling in Syria (Total funds: $264,000; Co-financing: $140,000; GEF: $124,000	This Pilot Project was to be carried out in the following eligible countries: Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Palestine, in according of specific actions in the NAPs. The objectives are: - to improve the legislative and institutional framework for the	The initial phases of this pilot project were implemented in Syria. At midterm, the first and part of phase II of the pilot project are completed and reports submitted. The achievements are: Inception workshop undertaken and report drafted International consultant subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 to carry out the first two phases of the pilot project	4.3. Given that the implementation of activities has stopped in Syria due to political situation, to take advantage of results already achieved, it is recommended that practical guidelines for the ESM of used lead batteries be developed, based on the Syria	SC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL	Small cost to project

	recycling of lead batteries in Syria; - to prepare and implement a project on organizing a system for recycling lead batteries in Syria; - to transfer the gained know-how and the expertise on the lead batteries recycling to Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey.	Two Reports have been submitted The first report deals with Phase I of the project (October 2010 – Feb 2011). This report analyses the existing situation concerning the overall management of lead batteries in Syria: from legislation to existing practices for the management of used batteries in Syria. The second report that covers part of phase II (60%) was submitted in October 2011, It deals in details with major issues of policy reforms and capacity needs for the ESM of lead batteries in Syria. It is unlikely that the implementation of the final phase of this pilot project could be undertaken given the political situation in Syria. (Para A-44)	experience and on the Basel Convention guidelines, and disseminated to the other countries of the project through a regional workshop.		
2.1.6 Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) for industrial effluents and the Establishment of Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) (Total funds: $270,000; Co-financing: $150,000; GEF: $120,000)	3. The main objectives of this activity are: - to introduce ELV and EQS in the legislation of Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia and Turkey, for all substances included in the SAP targets for the protection of the Mediterranean marine ecosystem; - to propose changes in the institutional framework of the GEF-eligible countries to ensure the proper use of the ELV and EQS for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea.	At midterm the achievements are: • The Dutch company Deltares was subcontracted by UNEP/MAP in 2010 for testing a model to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury in the Gulf of Lion and Izmir Bay • Report submitted by Deltares in January 2012. The main recommendation of the report is that in view of the large amount of hot spots around the Mediterranean and the diversity of these sites, in terms of their natural environment and the socio-economic conditions, it is recommended that an easily applicable method to be made available to water managers and policy makers. The successful implementation of such a method probably would require a Guidance Document and a supporting software tool. No major delays encountered for this pilot project. Activities for this pilot project are on track and the objectives are likely to be met as planned. For example, the terms of reference on the preparation of	4.4. To ensure impact of this pilot project, It is recommended that the capacity of the relevant end-users (inspectors, authorities that deliver permits, etc,) be built to be able to use this software adequately.	UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, countries	Project cost ($50,000 to $100,000)

		ELV/EQOs web-based software and the relevant guidelines for its use for several pollutants have been developed. The bidding exercise is underway to recruit consultant to develop software.			
2.3 Environmentally sound management of PCBs and disposal (Total funds: $5,730,000; Co-financing: $3,280,000; GEF: $2,450,000)	The purpose of this sub-component project is: - To introduce environmentally sound management (ESM) to all stages of the 'life-cycle' of electrical equipment containing or contaminated by PCBs. - To assist national authorities and owners in developing a sound policy for the ESM of PCBs based on principles of ESM, taking into account the provisions of the SC and the BC. - To create conditions for a sound decision making process with respect to the demonstration/disposal activities. - To pave the road for the implementation of NIPs through on-the-job training on PCBs contaminated oil and equipment disposal proc The planned activities for this sub-component are: - Activity 2.3.1: Review and reforming institutional and legal frameworks for implementation of ESM of PCBs - Activity 2.3.2: The implementation of demonstration projects to appropriately management	376. Activities 2.3.1; 2.3.2 and 2.3.5 are being implemented by MEDPOL while CP/RAC is implementing activities 2.3.3 and 2.3.4. Originally planned to be run in Albania, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Libya, this pilot project is presently being run in Albania, Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina due to political unrest in Syria, Lebanon and Libya. At midterm, the following achievements have been made: • Three international PCB experts / consultants were recruited by UNEP/MAP in August 2010 for policy reforms for life cycle management of PCBs, for PCB inventory, and for the design and establishment of temporary storage facilities in the five countries respectively. A first mission was undertaken by the three consultants in Albania in Jan 2011. During the Arab Spring in March/April 2011, as the consultants could not fully perform their duties according to the relevant Terms of Reference (TOR), it was mutually agreed between UNEP/MAP and the first two consultants to terminate the contracts. However, the third consultant, still under contract, undertook missions to Egypt (Sept 2011), and the new countries Bosnia Herzegovina (May 2011) and Turkey (Nov 2011) and reports were submitted. Despite those missions, there is no evidence that the assessment of legal and institutional framework of the participating countries (Activity 2.3.1) has been undertaken. • The third consultant developed a short guide for preliminary identification of PCBs to help countries in the identification of PCBs. A progress report was submitted in July 2012 and it highlights these main findings:	4.5. To facilitate coordination activities at national level it is recommended that the NTA recruited in the context of Activity 2.3.4 also acts as national coordinator for the whole sub component 2.3. The task manager together with CP/RAC will decide on the duration of this agreement. Funds, saved on PCB destruction can used for this purpose 4.6. To facilitate the implementation of activities, in particular for PCB inventory, it is also recommended to constitute a national task team. The task team will be constituted by the National Coordinator, representatives of utilities, and representatives of relevant ministries. 377. 378.	SC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC, countries	Project cost ($100,000) Country cost (In kind)

	and disposal of PCBs and facilitate the implementation of NIPs and SAP-MED - Activity 2.3.3: Technical capacity for ESM of PCBs equipment - Activity 2.3.4: Awareness of importance of ESM of PCBs equipment and - Activity 2.3.5: National capacity to implement PCBs phase-out and disposal programs.	- The project management team is operational in each country - Only 1 demonstration sites have been identified. (Egypt) - For all 4 countries the equipment needed for the implementation of the project have been evaluated. - The primary inventory evaluation in all countries leads to the conclusion that most of transformers are not PCB oil transformers but mineral oil transformers contaminated with PCBs. - The cross contamination in the maintenance workshops is the main source of PCB contaminated transformers. Situation analysis reports for the four countries available but legal infrastructure review not done. Presently, 92.9 tonnes (Egypt: 17 tonnes; Bosnia: 10.9 tonnes and Turkey 65 tonnes) have been identified and declared ready to be disposed of. Tendering Overall, this sub-component has suffered significant delays for various reasons including the Arab Spring and political situation in Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Syria), change of task manager for component 2 at MEDPOL, and delays in procurement of PCB analyzers. (A-49)			

		There is no evidence that reviews of existing institutional, legal, regulatory and administrative frameworks and technical norms and standards, have been undertaken by the consultants in order to recommend for policy reforms. (Para A-37)	4.7. Given the delays that this sub-component has suffered and the severe time constraint, it is recommended that these reviews (activity 2.3.1) are cancelled. However, it is strongly recommended that practical guidelines for lifecycle ESM of PCBs to be developed and put into practice in utilities. It is recommended that customs are also aware of these guidelines	UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC, national coordinators / stakeholders, utilities	Neutral
	.	Most data available is not based on actual chemical testing but rather on estimation, a proper inventory using appropriate PCB analyser needs to be undertaken in all the countries for the identification of PCBs (Para A-87). Due Arab Spring and political events, there have been change in countries where the project would be run. Turkey and Bosnia-Herzegovina have replaced Syria, Lebanon and Libya Originally planned to be run in five countries, this sub-component is now being run in four countries with two new countries. To date, only 92.9 tonnes (Egypt: 17 tonnes; Bosnia: 10.9 tonnes and Turkey 65 tonnes) have been identified and declared ready to be disposed. It is unlikely that the target of 870 tonnes of PCBs to be destroyed be reached. (Para A-38	4.8. It is recommended that realistic target values for PCB destruction for all the countries including the new ones be discussed and agreed upon. It is not likely that this new figure be more than 500 tons as compared to the 870 tons planned in project document. 4.9. Given the severe time constraint, in countries where PCB inventories have not started 12 months before closure of the project, it is recommended inventories in those countries be cancelled. For these	PSC,UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC, countries, PCB consultant PSC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC	At least $450,000 GEF funds saved Cost saving ($ 1.1 M)

			countries, only the amount of PCBs already identified will be exported for destruction. In the other countries, inventory activities should stop 12 months before closing date of the project even if PCB target values have not been reached. 4.10. Recycling of obsolete transformers and capacitors is common practice in many parts of the world, which is also the case in the countries where the PCB project is being run. It is therefore recommended that utilities ensure that only non PCB contaminated obsolete equipment is sold to metal recyclers. It is also recommended that identified PCB equipment should be adequately safeguarded.	MEDPOL, CP/RAC, PCB consultant, utilities, national authorities	
			4.11. A significant amount work remains to be undertaken for this component that include: ESM practical guidelines development and its implementation, capacity building for ESM, PCB inventories, development of phase out plans, identification of temporary storage site, inventory exercise, phase out, transport and storage of PCBs, procedures to export	PSC, MEDPOL, UNEP/MAP, CP/RAC	MEDPOL staffing costs ($ 120,000 to $150,000)

			PCBs for destruction, etc. It is recommended that an extension of one year be granted to this sub-component to allow for completion activities.		
		.	4.12. Besides cross-contamination, importation is the other source by which the load of PCBs in a given country can be increased, as PCBs have never been produced in the participating countries. It is recommended that the capacity of customs be built for ESM of PCBs sfor adequate control on importation of products and thus preventing importation of PCB.	UNEP/MAP, CP/RAC, MEDPOL, countries	Marginal project costs
Components 2.1 and 2.3		Staffing of MEDPOL (an officer in charge acting as task manager at 90% supported by an administrative staff at 50% time) responsible to implement activities for a significant number of pilot projects involving more than 10 countries is considered not adequate by the evaluation.	4.13. It is recommended that the position of task manager be filled by a full time staff with internal support of one full time administrative staff from MEDPOL until closure of activities to ensure successful implementation of remaining tasks.	PSC, UNEP/MAP MEDPOL	MEDPOL staffing costs ($30,000 to 50,000)
			4.14. The sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 are to regain their momentum and the coming year will be an extremely active project phase and will place a significant workload on the already busy	PSC, UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL	

			MEDPOL staff. If recommendation 4.13 does not materialise in the first quarter of 2013, it is recommended that cancellation of a number of activities of sub-components 2.1 and 2.3 should be considered at the next PSC meeting. Funds saved will be re-allocated to other components. 4.15. In the case of cancellation of MEDPOL PCB activities, it is recommended that PCB activities implemented by CP/RAC be maintained.	SC, UNEP/MAP, CP/RAC	

*Destruction of 1 ton of PCBs costs about US$ 3,000: destroying 500 tonnes instead of 870 tonnes implies a saving against the original budget of about US$ 1.1 M
** It is difficult to estimate the financial status (remaining funds and amount sent to date) for activities as financial sheets submitted to the evaluation team include budget lines covering multiple activities. However as at Dec 2012 GEF money expenditure on Sub-component 2.1 was US$201,657; and on Sub-component 2.3 was US$ 187,192

Annex 7. Review of Effectiveness: Application of the GEF IW Tracking Tool

Select GEF Replenishment:	GEF-4

GEF Project ID: 26000	GEF Implementing Agency: UNEP
Project Title: Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its Coastal Areas ("MedPartnership")	
GEF Allocation ($USD): US$ 8,991,000 for International Waters US$ 2,900,000 for POPs US$ 1,000,000 for UNIDO	Countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. The Palestinian Authority also participates

A	PROCESS INDICATORS					
		Select project's Operational Program(s), Strategic Program(s), or objective(s) below. If multiple OP/SP/Obj is appropriate for a given indicator then select "Multiple" from the dropdown list:				
		OP/SP/Obj 1	**OP/SP/Obj 2**	**OP/SP/Obj 3**		
		Fish stocks and biodiversity	***Nutrient enrichment***	***Water resources***		
	Indicators	*Scroll down menu of ratings*			*Notes:*	Ratings
1	Regional legal agreements and cooperation frameworks	4	4	2	The overall regional legal framework is the Barcelona Convention and its protocols. A *Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean* has been drafted.	1 = No legal agreement/cooperation framework in place 2 = Regional legal agreement negotiated but not yet signed 3 = Countries signed legal agreement 4 = Legal agreement ratified and entered into force
2	Regional management institutions (RMI)	3	3	1	The overall RMI for the project is UNEP MAP. Additional RMIs exist or may be created for some pilot or demonstration projects (notable tranboudary basins).	1 = No RMI in place 2 = RMI established but functioning with limited effectiveness, < 50% countries contributing dues 3 = RMI established and functioning, >50% of countries contributing dues 4 = RMI in place, fully functioning and fully sustained by at or near 100% country contributions
3	Management measures in ABNJ incorporated in Global/Regional Management Organizations (RMI) institutional/ management frameworks	NA	NA	NA	The project is not concerned with areas beyond national jurisdiction	1 = No management measures in ABNJ in (RMI) institutional/ management frameworks 2 = Management measures in ABNJ designed but not formally adopted by project participants 3 = Management measures in ABNJ formally adopted by project participants but not incorporated in RMI institutional/management frameworks 4 = Management measures in ABNJ fully incorporated in RMI institutional/ management frameworks
4	National Inter-Ministry Committees (IMCs)	1	1	1	IMCs are included as an indicator in the project logframe but there although no specific activities in this area are anticipated in the project document. National level coordination has been limited to date.	1 = No IMCs established 2 = IMCs established and functioning, < 50% countries participating 3 = IMCs established and functioning, > 50% countries participating 4 = IMCs established, functioning and formalized thru legal and/or institutional arrangements, in most participating countries
5	National/Local reforms	2	1	2	National reforms related to aquifer management, water management, and, in some countries, to ICZM and MPAs have been identified.	1 = No national/local reforms drafted 2 = National/ local reforms drafted but not yet adopted 3 = National/legal reform adopted with technical/enforcement mechanism in place 4 = National/ legal reforms implemented
6	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA): Agreement on transboundary priorities and root causes	4	4	1	The Med TDA was updated in a previous project. A TDA supplement for aquifers will be developed in the final year of the project building on studies initiated in all countries.	1 = No progress on TDA 2 = Priority TB issues identified and agreed on but based on limited effect information; inadequate root cause analysis 3 = Priority TB issues agreed on based on solid baseline effect info; root cause analysis is inadequate 4 = Regional agreement on priority TB issues drawn from valid effect baseline, immediate and root causes properly determined
7	Revised Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)/Strategic Action Program (SAP) including Climatic Variability and Change considerations	1	1	1	A complementary climate variability project has been approved and the inception phase is underway (GEF Project #3990)	1 = No revised TDA or SAP 2 = TDA updated to incorporate climate variability and change 3 = revised SAP prepared including Climatic Variability and Change 4= SAP including Climatic Variability and Change adopted by all involved countries
8	TDA based on multi-national, interdisciplinary technical and scientific (MNITS) activities	1	1	1	The 2005 TDA does not include a technical nannex based on MNITS activties	1 = TDA does not include technical annex based on MNITS actives 2 = MNITS committee established and contributed to the TDA development 3 = TDA includes technical annex, documenting data and analysis being collected 4 = TDA includes technical annex posted IWLEARN and based on MNITS committee inputs
9	Development of Strategic Action Plan (SAP)	3	4	1	SAP-BIO was adopted in 2003 SAP-MED (pollution) was adopted in 1997 and has associated NAPs	1 = No development of SAP 2 = SAP developed addressing key TB concerns spatially 3 = SAP developed and adopted by ministers 4 = Adoption of SAP into National Action Plans (NAPs)
10	Proportion of Countries that have adopted SAP	12/12 - Both SAPs were adopted by the Barcelona Convention Conference of Parties				Number of countries adopted SAP / total number of countries - e.g.. 3 countries adopted /10 total countries in project, so 3/10
11	Proportion of countries that are implementing specific measures from the SAP (i.e. adopted national policies, laws, budgeted plans)	This is not systematically tracked				Number of countries implementing adopted SAP / total number of countries - e.g.. 3 countries implementing /10 total countries in project, so 3/10
12	Incorporation of (SAP, etc.) priorities with clear commitments and time frames into CAS, PRSPs, UN Frameworks, UNDAF, key agency strategic documents including financial commitments and time frames, etc				This project has engaged addition regional actors in support of the SAPs. A review of SAP implementation at national level is planned through a parallel initiative.	1 = No progress 2 = Limited progress, very generic with no specific agency/government(s) commitments 3 = Priorities specifically incorporated into some national development/assistance frameworks with clear agency/government(s) commitments and time frames for achievement 4 = Majority of national development/assistance frameworks have incorporated priorities with clear agency/government(s) commitments and time frames for achievement

STRESS REDUCTION INDICATORS			
Indicators	*Scroll down menu of ratings*		Ratings
Are there mechanisms in place to produce a monitoring report on stress reduction measures?	2	SR indicators are given for some of the pilot and demonstration projects and it is expected that monitoring measures will be in place for each intervention.	1 = No mechanisms in place to monitor/report change 2 = Some national/regional monitoring mechanisms, but they do not satisfy the project related indicators. 3 = monitoring mechanisms in place for some of the project related indicators 4 = Mechanisms in place and sustainable for long-term monitoring
Stress reduction measurements incorporated by project under management of:	*Choose Management Mechanism from list below:*	*Please specify the area currently under protection out of total area identified by project below (e.g. 10,000/100,000 Ha):*	Management Mechanisms: 1 = Integrated Water/River Resource Management (Watershed, lakes, aquifers) 2 = Integrated Coastal Management (Coast) 3 = Marine Spatial Planning (Marine)
		This data is not available. The project is implemeting over 70 pilot and demonstation activities. Some are studies and assessments, or will lead to plan development but not implementation. At this stage stress reduction is apparent in the TEST and MPAs projects.	
Local investment #1 - Sub- component 2.2: TEST Projects in Egypt, Morocco & Tunisia (UNIDO)	*Stress Reduction Measurements (Choose up to five)*		*Please enter amount/value of respective stress reduction below:*

	2	1 = Municipal wastewater pollution reduction - N, P & BOD (kg/yr)
		2 = Industrial wastewater pollution reduction - pollutant; estimated kg/yr
		3 = Agriculture pollution reduction practices - ha of practices; estimate of N, P & BOD kg/yr
		4 = Restored habitat, including wetlands - ha restored
		5 = Conserved/protected wetland, MPAs, and fish refugia habitat - ha applied
		6 = Reduced fishing pressure - tons/yr reduction; % reduction in fleet size
		7 = Improved use of fish gear/techniques - % vessels applying improved gear/techniques
		8 = Water use efficiency measures - m^3/yr water saved
		9 = Improved irrigation practices - m^3/ha/yr water saved
		10 = Alternative livelihoods introduced - # people provided alternative livelihoods
		11 = Catchment protection measures - ha under improved catchment management
		12 = Aquifer pumping reduction - m^3/yr water saved
		13 = Aquifer recharge area protection - ha protected
		14 = Pollution reduction to aquifers - kg/ha/year reduction
		15 = Invasive species reduction - ha and/or #'s of targeted area
		16 = Other - please specify in box below
			BOD: 3,238 tonnes / yr
			COD: 4,535 tonnes/yr

	8		9.7 million m^3/yr water saved
	43 'Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies' (TEST) Projects in three countries (Egypt, Morocco, Egypt) under component 2.2 (UNIDO). These are fully documented as case studies. Indicators are based on those given in the 2012 PIR. (www.unido.org/MEDTEST)		
Local investment #2 - Sub- component 3.1: MPAs (WWF & SPA/RAC)	*Stress Reduction Measurements (Choose up to five)*		*Please enter amount/value of respective stress reduction below:*

	5	1 = Municipal wastewater pollution reduction - N, P & BOD (kg/yr)
		2 = Industrial wastewater pollution reduction - pollutant; estimated kg/yr
		3 = Agriculture pollution reduction practices - ha of practices; estimate of N, P & BOD kg/yr
		4 = Restored habitat, including wetlands - ha restored
		5 = Conserved/protected wetland, MPAs, and fish refugia habitat - ha applied
		6 = Reduced fishing pressure - tons/yr reduction; % reduction in fleet size
		7 = Improved use of fish gear/techniques - % vessels applying improved gear/techniques
		8 = Water use efficiency measures - m^3/yr water saved
		9 = Improved irrigation practices - m^3/ha/yr water saved
		10 = Alternative livelihoods introduced - # people provided alternative livelihoods
		11 = Catchment protection measures - ha under improved catchment management
		12 = Aquifer pumping reduction - m^3/yr water saved
		13 = Aquifer recharge area protection - ha protected
		14 = Pollution reduction to aquifers - kg/ha/year reduction
		15 = Invasive species reduction - ha and/or #'s of targeted area
		16 = Other - please specify in box below
			Management plans have been completed for 6 MPAs
			6 New MPAs are in the process of declaration
			(areas not available)

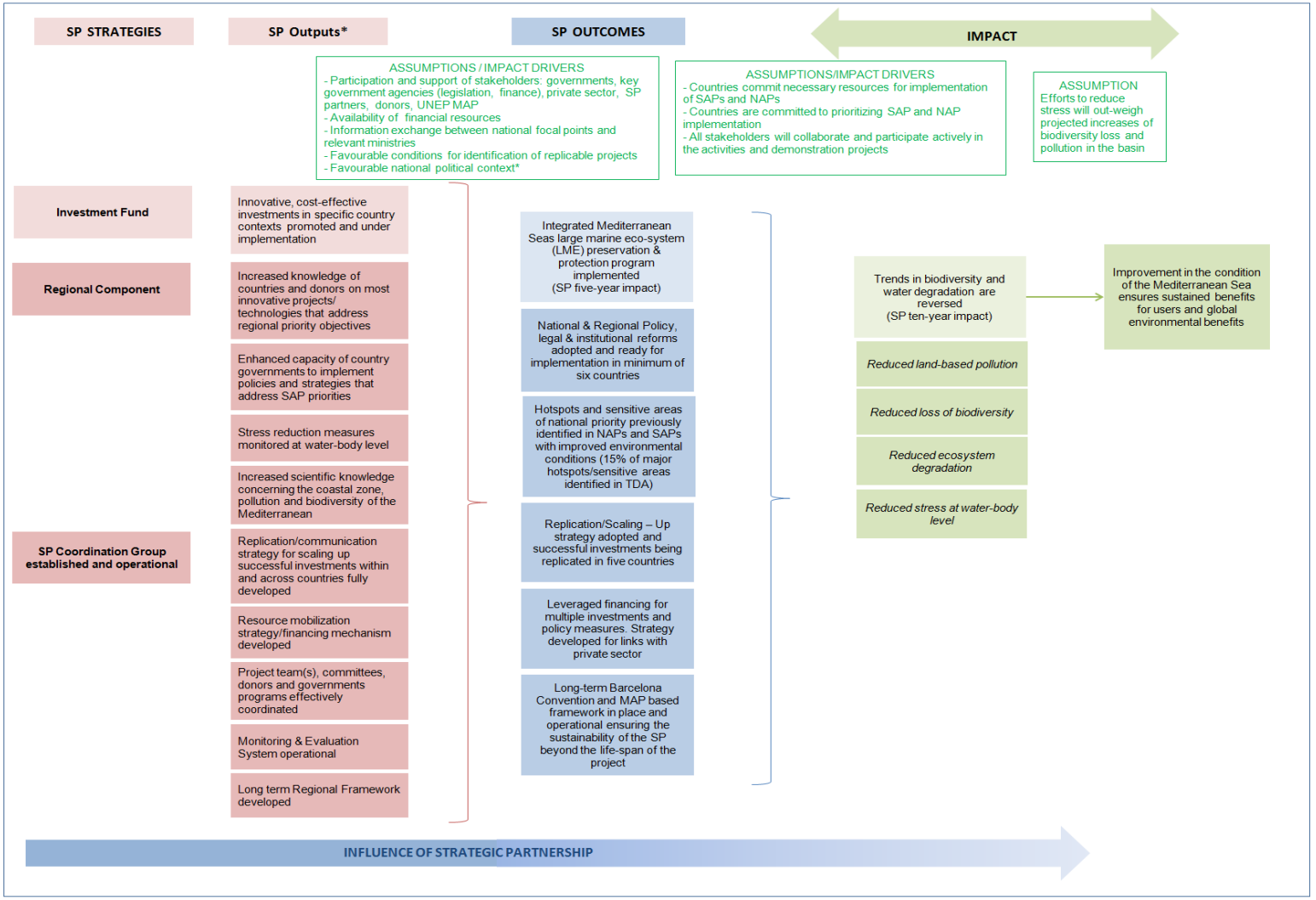
	MPA management plans completed and submitted for approval or approved in Croatia (Brijuni National Park, Kornati National Park, MIjet National Park, Lastovo Archipelago Nature Park, Telašçica Nature Park); Algeria (Taza); Kas-Kekova (Turkey) (WWF) Five or six new MPAs are in the process of declaration in Albania (Porto Palermo Bay), Algeria (Réghaïa area), Libya (Ain Al-Ghazala and, potentially, El-Kouf), Montenegro (Kotor Bay) and Tunisia (Kuriat Islands) (RAC/SPA with WWF at Ain Al-Ghazala)		

WATER, ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS Indicators			
Indicators			Ratings
Are there mechanisms and project indicators in place to monitor the environmental and socioeconomic status of the waterbody?	2		1 = No mechanisms in place 2 = Some national/regional monitoring mechanisms, but they do not satisfy the project related indicators. 3 = Monitoring mechanisms in place for some of the project related indicators 4 = Mechanisms in place for project related indicators and sustainable for long-term monitoring

IW:LEARN Indicators			
Indicators			Ratings
Participation in IW events (GEF IWC, Community of Practice (COP), IW:LEARN)	3	Project partners participated actively in the 6th GEF Biennial International Waters Conference. The project is represented at the Barcelona Convention host through the EA and fully integrated into BC processes.	1 = No participation 2 = Documentation of minimum 1 event or limited COP participation 3 = Strong participation in COPs and in IWC 4 = Presentations with booth participation and hosting of staff/twinning
Project website (according to IW:LEARN guidelines)	3	The site is largely in line with the mandatory items on the checklist. It has not been regularly updated since mid 2012 but there are plans in place to address this. There is basic information on the project on the IW though some links are broken	1 = No project website 2 = Website not in line with IW:LEARN guidelines, not regularly updated 3 = Website in line with IW:LEARN guidelines, not regularly updated 4 = Website in line with IW:LEARN guidelines, regularly updated

Annex 8. Review of Outcomes to Impacts

Figure 8-1. Theory of Change for the Strategic Partnership



* Based on SP logframe

Notes on Figure 8-1

- The strategies are based on the three categories of outputs described in the project logframe, and are further specified using the associated outputs. Two of these strategies: 'Regional Component implemented' and 'Strategic Partnership Coordination Group established and operational' are funded through the Regional Component project. The third is presented as a necessary component for achievement of project impacts.
- The description of five-year outcome is based on the five process indicators associated with the project stated outcome.
- The description of the ten-year impact is based on the four indicators for stress reduction and environmental impacts associated with the project's long-term goal.
- Intermediate outcomes are not described in the logframe.
- Assumptions are derived from the assumptions in the logframe. These are also described as impact drivers since the project can be expected to directly influence these conditions as a result of planned interventions (e.g. stakeholder engagement plan, resource mobilisation strategy, knowledge generating activities, and M&E system).
  - Assumptions for achievement of outcomes include the participation and support of identified stakeholders, availability of resources, and information exchange at national level.
  - Assumptions for achievement of impacts include commitment by countries of resources for implementation of SAPs and NAPs, prioritization of SAP and NAP implementation, and that all stakeholders will collaborate and participate in activities including demonstration projects.

Figure 8-2. Theory of Change for the MedPartnership Regional Component

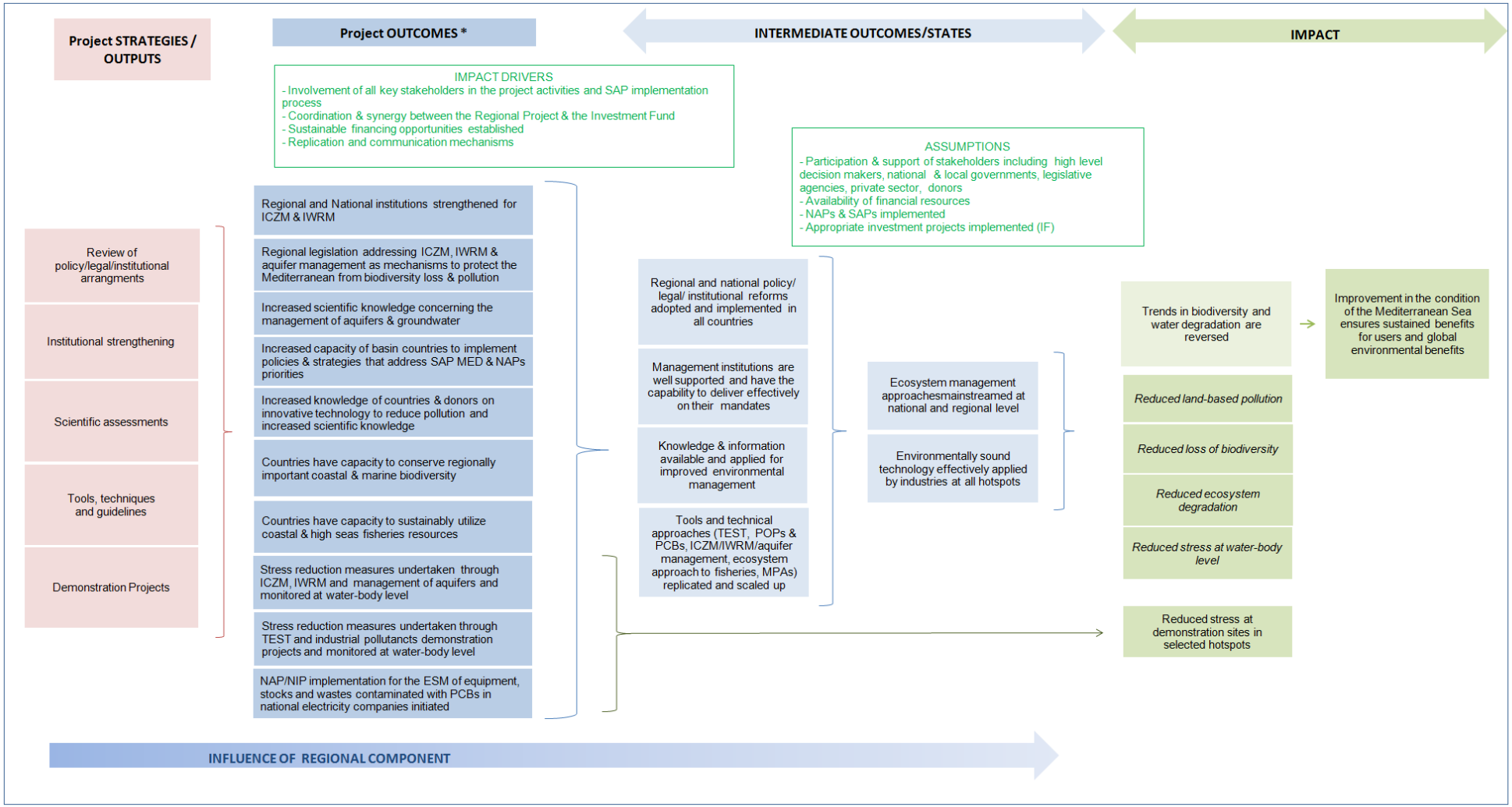


Figure 8-3. Results and Ratings of Review of Outcomes to Impact (ROtI)

Results rating of project entitled: ***Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its Coastal Areas ("MedPartnership")***

Objective

- To promote and induce harmonized policy, legal and institutional reforms and fill the knowledge gap aimed at reversing marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion, in accordance with priorities agreed by the countries in the SAP MED and SAP BIO and to prepare the ground for the future implementation of the ICZM Protocol.

Outputs / Strategies	Outcomes	Rating (D – A)	Intermediary	Rating (D – A)	Impact	Rating (+)	Overall
Policy/legal/institutional reforms Institutional strengthening Scientific assessments Tools, techniques and guidelines Demonstration projects	Regional and National institutions strengthened for ICZM & IWRM Regional legislation addressing ICZM, IWRM & aquifer management as mechanisms to protect the Mediterranean from biodiversity loss & pollution from land based sources Sustainable financing opportunities established Increased scientific knowledge concerning the management of aquifers & groundwater Increased capacity of basin countries to implement policies & strategies that address SAP MED & NAPs priorities Increased knowledge of countries & donors on innovative technology to reduce pollution and increased scientific knowledge Countries have capacity to conserve regionally important coastal & marine biodiversity Countries have capacity to sustainably utilize coastal & high seas fisheries resources Effective project management of the regional component established and coordination & synergy between the Regional Project & the Investment Fund Replication and communication mechanisms are designed & implemented for Replicable Practices (RPs), with results communicated & disseminated Involvement of all key stakeholders in the project activities and SAP implementation process Stress reduction measures underway through ICZM, IWRM and management of aquifers and monitored at water-body level Stress reduction measures underway through TEST and industrial pollutancts demonstration projects and monitored at water-body level NAP/NIP implementation for the ESM of equipment, stocks and wastes contaminated with PCBs in national electricity companies initiated	D	Regional and national policy/ legal/ institutional reforms adopted and implemented in all countries Management institutions are well supported and have the capacity to deliver effectively on their mandates Knowledge & information available and applied for improved environmental management Tools and technical approaches (TEST, POPs & PCBs, ICZM/IWRM/aquifer managment, ecosystem approach to fisheries, MPAs) replicated and scaled up	C	Trends in biodiversity and water degradation are reversed ↓ Improvement in the condition of the Mediterranean Sea ensures sustained benefits for users and global environmental benefits	+	DC+ / Moderately Likely
	Rating justification: *The project's intended outcomes have not been fully delivered but many are on course. There are existing and project supported processes that will allow for continuation of different sub-components and the overall partnership initiative in support of SAPs and NAPs.*		**Rating justification:** *The rating reflects that measures designed to move toward intermediate states have started and have not yet produced results.*		**Rating justification:** *The overall DC+ rating corresponds to 'moderately likely'. Further discussion is provided in the evalution text.* *The '+' rating related to impact reflects stress reduction results from the TEST and MPA interventions (based on the GEF IW criteria for stress reduction).*		

Ratings:

Rating scale for outcomes and progress towards 'intermediate states'

Outcome Rating	**Rating on progress toward Intermediate States**
D: The project's intended outcomes were not delivered	**D:** No measures taken to move towards intermediate states.
C: The project's intended outcomes were delivered, but were not designed to feed into a continuing process after project funding	C: The measures designed to move towards intermediate states have started, but have not produced results.
B: The project's intended outcomes were delivered, and were designed to feed into a continuing process, but with no prior allocation of responsibilities after project funding	B: The measures designed to move towards intermediate states have started and have produced results, which give no indication that they can progress towards the intended long term impact.
A: The project's intended outcomes were delivered, and were designed to feed into a continuing process, with specific allocation of responsibilities after project funding.	A: The measures designed to move towards intermediate states have started and have produced results, which clearly indicate that they can progress towards the intended long term impact.

Six point scale for translation of ratings for 'achievement of outcomes' and 'progress towards intermediate states to ratings for the 'Overall likelihood of impact achievement'.

Highly Likely	Likely	Moderately Likely	Moderately Unlikely	Unlikely	Highly Unlikely
AA AB BA CA BB+ CB+ DA+ DB+	BB CB DA DB AC+ BC+	AC BC CC+ DC+	CC DC AD+ BD+	AD BD CD+ DD+	CD DD

Annex 9. Project Expenditure and Co-finance

Table 9-1 Statement of Expenditure by UNEP budget line, as of 31 December 2011[54]

[54] Revised figures made available in 2013 indicate that expenditure against the GEF budget had risen to 38% at the end of 2012

			2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	Expenditure to End 2011	2012 Expenditure IMIS to 30/6/2012	GEF Budget (2012)	Remaining Budget	Expenditure to end 2011
		UNEP BUDGET LINE/OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE		US$	US$	US$	US$	US$	US$	US$	%
10		**PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT**									
	1199	Project Personnel Total	1,223.29	217,578.47	317,546.17	330,404.53	866,752.46	72,230.41	1,950,792.46	1,011,809.59	44.4
	1299	Consultants Total		0.00	251,941.67	87,243.74	339,185.41	110,188.76	966,464.71	517,090.54	35.1
	1399	Administrative support Total	308.10	243.39	19,113.57	10,071.45	29,736.51	11,400.00	211,670.53	170,534.02	14.0
	1699	Travel on official business Total	0.00	0.00	20,688.15	35,604.11	56,292.26	9,086.98	206,743.39	141,364.15	27.2
	1999	**Component Total**	**1,531.39**	**217,821.86**	**609,289.56**	**463,323.83**	1,291,966.64	**202,906.15**	**3,335,671.09**	**1,840,798.30**	**38.7**
20		**SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT**									
	2101	UNESCO - Management of Coastal Aquifer and Groundwater		0.00	442,500.00	11,206.25	453,706.25	0.00	1,770,000.00	1,316,293.75	25.6
	2102	FAO - Promotion of the sustainable use of fisheries resources		0.00	155,000.00	-58,856.00	96,144.00	377,822.00	800,000.00	326,034.00	12.0
	2201	PAP/RAC - Integrated Coastal Zone Management		14,156.21	81,843.79	161,892.77	257,892.77	0.00	950,000.00	692,107.23	27.1
	2202	GWP-Med - Integrated Water Resources Management		0.00	50,000.00	92,457.00	142,457.00	0.00	500,000.00	357,543.00	28.5
	2203	CP/RAC - Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs		34,290.13	25,709.87	0.00	60,000.00	0.00	400,000.00	340,000.00	15.0
	2208	MIO-ECSDE - NGOs Involvement in the region		29,035.00	20,965.00	54,000.00	104,000.00	0.00	150,000.00	46,000.00	69.3
	2210	MOU with countries to prepare bankable projects for financing (MEDPOL)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.0
	2211	Sub-Project Documents with countries to strengthen inspection system (MEDPOL)		0.00	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00	0.00	100.0
	2212	Sub-Project Documents with countries for activities 2.1.1,2.1.2,2.1.3,2.1.4 (MEDPOL)					0.00	0.00	160,000.00	160,000.00	0.0
	2213	Sub-Project Documents with countries to ensure the financial support to the disposal process (MEDPOL)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,920,000.00	1,920,000.00	0.0
	2214	Country Support Programme (SPCSP)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	192,101.48	192,101.48	0.0
	2215	SSFA Assess the river inputs (MEDPOL)		0.00	0.00	84,948.32	84,948.32	0.00	84,948.32	0.00	100.0
	2216	MIO-Communications Activities		0.00	100,000.00	184,835.00	284,835.00	0.00	284,835.00	0.00	100.0
	2217	Communication Sub-Contract					0.00	0.00	302,710.00	302,710.00	0.0
	2218	Replication Sub-Contract Comp 1					0.00	0.00	192,000.00	192,000.00	0.0
	2219	Replication Sub-Contract Comp 2					0.00	0.00	128,000.00	128,000.00	0.0
	2220	Replication Sub-Contract Comp 3					0.00	0.00	133,000.00	133,000.00	0.0
	2999	**Component Total**	**0.00**	**77,481.34**	**879,518.66**	**530,483.34**	**1,487,483.34**	**377,822.00**	**8,011,094.80**	**6,145,789.46**	**18.6**
30		**TRAINING COMPONENT**									
	3299	Group trainingTotal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		85,000.00	85,000.00	0.0
	3399	Meetings/conferencesTotal	0.00	0.00	51,110.76	2,840.85	53,951.61	39,720.78	264,554.96	170,882.57	20.4
	3999	**Component Total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**51,110.76**	**2,840.85**	**53,951.61**	**39,720.78**	**349,554.96**	**255,882.57**	**15.4**
40		**EQUIPMENT & PREMISES COMPONENT**									
	4999	**Component Total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**		**0.00**	**0.00**	NA
50		**MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT**									
	5299	Reporting costs Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,545.97	2,545.97	0.00	74,679.15	72,133.18	3.4
	5599	Evaluation Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120,000.00	120,000.00	0.0
	5999	**Component Total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**2,545.97**	2,545.97	**0.00**	**194,679.15**	**192,133.18**	1.3
	TOTAL		**1,531.39**	**295,303.20**	**1,539,918.98**	**999,193.99**	**2,835,947.56**	**620,448.93**	**11,891,000.00**	**9,055,052.44**	**23.8**

Figure 9-2 Summary of Expenditure by Component, as of 31 December 2011

Based on approved 2012 budget for GEF funding only; excludes direct funding to UNIDO for sub-component 2.2

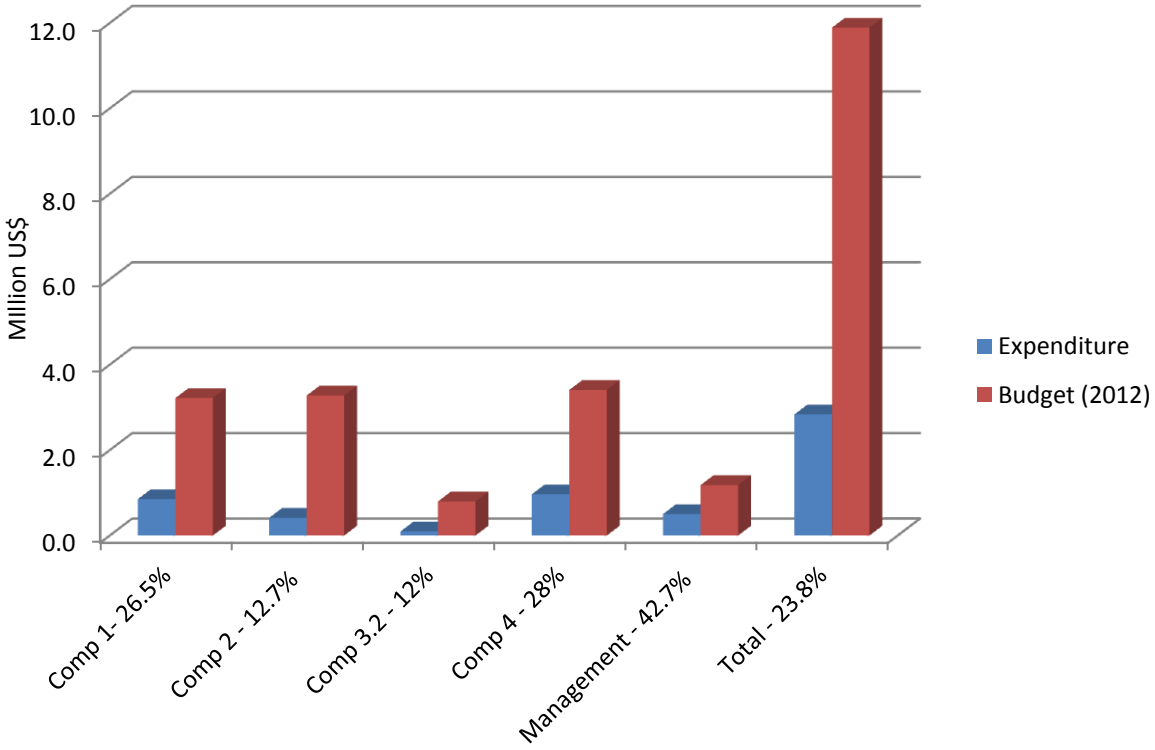


Table 8-3 Summary of Co-finance based on information available as of 30 June 2012

Co financing (Source / Type)	Cash		In kind		Unspecified		Total		
GRANTS [a]	**Planned**	**Actual**	**Planned**	**Actual**	**Planned**	**Actual**	**Planned**	**Actual**	**%**
Governments	**6.273**	**3.525**	**13.100**	**4.211**	**0.000**	**0.496**	**19.373**	**8.232**	
France/FFEM for Biodiversity	1.820	1.332					1.820	1.332	73
France/FFEM for UNESCO [b]	1.333	0.000	0.000			0.496	1.333	0.496	37
Government of Spain (AECID)	2.520	1.416					2.520	1.416	56
Government of Italy (through UNESCO)	0.600	0.778					0.600	0.778	130
Albania			0.800	0.257			0.800	0.257	32
Algeria			1.000	0.321			1.000	0.321	32
Bosnia and Herzegovina			1.250	0.402			1.250	0.402	32
Croatia			2.750	0.884			2.750	0.884	32
Egypt			1.000	0.321			1.000	0.321	32
Libya			1.250	0.402			1.250	0.402	32
Morocco			1.000	0.321			1.000	0.321	32
Montenegro			0.800	0.257			0.800	0.257	32
Syria			1.250	0.402			1.250	0.402	32
Tunisia			1.000	0.321			1.000	0.321	32
Turkey			1.000	0.321			1.000	0.321	32
Other - Coexecuting Agencies	**1.040**	**0.451**	**2.463**	**0.315**	**1.752**	**2.363**	**5.255**	**3.130**	
UNEP/MAP (based on MTF)	0.250	0.451	0.750	0.315			1.000	0.766	77
PAP/RAC					0.152	0.175	0.152	0.175	115
CP/RAC	0.200		0.200		0.000	0.069	0.400	0.069	17
SPA/RAC [c]					0.600	0.453	0.600	0.453	75
INFO/RAC [d & e]			0.343	0.000			0.343	0.000	0
FAO/GFCM			0.800	0.000			0.800	0.000	0
UNESCO	0.440	0.000			0.000	0.232	0.440	0.232	53
GWP-Med					1.000	1.318	1.000	1.318	132
MIO-ECSDE	0.150	0.000			0.000	0.117	0.150	0.117	78
World Bank			0.370	0.000			0.370	0.000	0
Other	**8.514**	**4.399**	**1.780**	**1.066**	**0.675**	**0.000**	**10.970**	**5.465**	
National Authority of Palestine			1.000	0.321			1.000	0.321	32
Mediterranean Trust Fund (through MEDPOL)	2.000	0.041	0.330	0.745			2.330	0.786	34
European Commission	2.765	2.246					2.765	2.246	81
MAVA Foundation (through WWF)	2.450	2.112					2.450	2.112	86
Basel Convention (through World Bank for specified activities)	0.250	0.000					0.250	0.000	0
Sicily Region, Italy (later IMELS) (through INFO/RAC) [d & e]	1.049	0.000					1.049	0.000	0
LUND University, Sweden (through UNESCO) [d]					0.200	0.000	0.200	0.000	0
IGME (Geological Survey), Spain (through UNESCO)					0.100	0.000	0.100	0.000	0
FAO-TCP (through UNESCO)					0.300	0.000	0.300	0.000	0
European Space Agency (through UNESCO)			0.450	0.000			0.450	0.000	0
METAP (through PAP/RAC) [c d]					0.075	0.000	0.075	0.000	0
Total co-financing (FSP)	**15.827**	**8.375**	**17.343**	**5.592**	**2.427**	**2.860**	**35.598**	**16.827**	47

Notes on co-financing table:

This summary does not include the UNIDO-administered co-finance for the TEST project.

a. There were no loans, credits or equity investments for the regional component. The reporting format has therefore been changed to highlight reallocation of cash co-financing to in kind (notably related to MTF funds for MEDPOL).

b. These funds are reported by UNESCO but not channelled through UNESCO and therefore categorised as in kind.

c. METAP funds have directly reported by PAP/RAC.

d. This agency is no longer involved in the project.

e. These funds will not materialise as a result of reallocation of activities. Executing partners undertaking related activities have committed to provide additional co-financing in this area, not yet reported.

Annex 10. The Evaluators

Sarah HUMPHREY, PhD

Profile

Over 20 years working on environmental research and policy, project and programme development and institutional strengthening with a wide range of non-governmental, intergovernmental and research organisations in Europe and Africa.

Technical background in environmental management, policy and governance, sustainable development, conservation, and project and programme evaluation

Education

Open University Business School: MBA

Department of Marine Sciences and Coastal Management, University of Newcastle, PhD

King's College, University of London: BSc.

Employment

From 2008	Consultant in Environment, Sustainable Development and Conservation for WWF, IUCN, UNEP, EC, and others
2000 - 2007	WWF International, Gland, Switzerland Programme Officer, Africa and Madagascar Programme
1999 – 2000	European Commission, Brussels, Belgium Stagiaire, Environment Directorate: Nature, Coastal Zones and Tourism
1997 - 1999	University of Newcastle, UK Research Associate, Department of Marine Sciences and Coastal Management
1996 - 1997	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Zanzibar, Tanzania Development Officer
1990 - 1995	IUCN - The World Conservation Union, Switzerland & Kenya Research Assistant then Programme Officer, Marine and Coastal Programme

Nee Sun (Robert) CHOONG KWET YIVE, PhD

Profile

Currently, associate professor in Chemistry at the University of Mauritius teaching Analytical and Physical Chemistry at under graduate and post graduate levels. Research interests include environmental pollution by heavy metals, POPs and PAHs. Expertise in project development and evaluation

Education

PhD Chemistry, University of Montpellier, France