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<b>ASIA-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION</b>						
<b>Thirty-fifth Session</b>						
<b>Cebu, the Philippines, 11-13 May 2018</b>						
<b>Update on resource mobilization to support sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in the APFIC region</b>						

As the world's fishery resources and the aquatic ecosystems become increasingly threatened by pollution, habitat destruction, climate change and overfishing, there is a need to address the long-term sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Resource mobilization is an important element to assist countries attain their sustainable development goals. When developed and implemented in a collaborative and coordinated manner, external funding can provide excellent catalytic or up-scaling funds to innovative approaches at the regional and local levels.

While the contributions of the sector to customs, cultures, food security, livelihoods and national economies and the benefits from investing in responsible fisheries and aquaculture are well acknowledged – especially in Asia-Pacific region -, the sector received only approximately 0.24% of total Official Development Assistance to Asia-Pacific countries over the 2006-2015 period, while the total volume of ODA to agriculture reached 9.9 percent in 2013<sup>1</sup>. Similarly, from 2010 to 2015, global ODA fisheries allocations decreased by over 30%, while grants for non-fisheries sectors increased by over 13%<sup>2</sup>. These **trends signal a likely gap in support to the sector** that is not consistent with global goals for the sector, such as the Sustainable Development Goal 14.

The FAO, with the mandate to promote and support the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its related instruments and to provide neutral fora to bring together relevant actors to discuss issues related to international cooperation and multistakeholder approaches to fisheries and aquaculture management, has and continues to support countries in the identification and access to ODA to support sustainable development in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

This paper provides a follow up to the 34<sup>th</sup> APFIC Session agenda item on FAO/GEF initiatives for regional cooperation in fisheries management (*APFIC/16/10 Rev. 1*) and includes a brief look at

<sup>11</sup> Source: FAO AIDmonitor accessed 24 April 2018 - <http://www.fao.org/aid-monitor> - values are indicative only as they do not include aid-like flows outside of the OECD DAC statistics nor do they include domestic resources to the sector.

<sup>22</sup> Blasiak and Wabnitz. 2018. Aligning fisheries aid with international development targets and goals. Marine Policy. Volume 88, February 2018, Pages 86-92

the broader landscape of financial mechanisms available to support the sector to inform on ODA available to the sector and current FAO efforts and to seek guidance on future resource mobilization efforts in the region.

### Global Environment Facility

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is an independent financial mechanism that provides support to developing countries and projects that benefit country commitments to the global environment<sup>3</sup>. In addition to its GEF Trust Fund, the GEF also administers the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) and the Adaptation Fund. There has been a strong match between FAO and GEF strategic and programme priorities and the sector has collaborated on areas relating to biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, and international waters in the APFIC region (e.g. BOBLME, REBYC-II CTI, ISLME-see *APFIC/16/10 Rev. 1* for a summary of these projects). The list of FAO-implemented GEF projects under development or implementation in APFIC include:

Title of GEF project	Status
GCP/RAS/289/GFF “Enabling transboundary cooperation for sustainable management of the Indonesian Seas. Indonesian Seas large marine ecosystems (ISLME)”	Implementation
GCP/CPR/043/GFF “Securing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in China's Dongting Lake Protected Areas”	Implementation
GCP/CPR/045/GFF “Demonstration of Estuarine Biodiversity Conservation, Restoration and Protected Area Networking in China”	Implementation
GCP/INS/303/GFF “Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into Inland Fisheries Practices in Freshwater Ecosystems of High Conservation Value (IFish)” (Indonesia)	Implementation
GCP/LAO/022/LDF “Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas (CAWA) in Lao PDR”	Implementation
GCP/BGD/055/LDF “Community-based Climate Resilient Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Bangladesh”	Project approved
GCP/MYA/020/LDF “FishAdapt: Strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of fisheries and aquaculture-dependent livelihoods in Myanmar”	Implementation
GCP/MYA/025/GFF “My-Coast: Ecosystem-Based Conservation of Myanmar’s Southern Coastal Zone”	Formulation of project document commenced
GCP/CMB/037/LDF “Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Cambodia’s Coastal Fishery Dependent Communities”	Formulation to commence after LDCF Council approval June 2018

<sup>3</sup> The GEF supports the implementation of key international environmental conventions, such as the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, etc.

BOBLME-II SAP implementation “Sustainable Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Programme”	Formulation – Technically Cleared awaiting GEF Council Approval in June 2018 to commence program and project formulation (Programme framework provided in Annex 1)
IkanAdapt: Strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of fisheries and aquaculture-dependent livelihoods in Timor-Leste	Formulation - technically approved, awaiting LDCF funds replenishment

The GEF is currently moving into its 7<sup>th</sup> replenishment period (2018-2022) and the replenishment’s programming directions<sup>4</sup> show great alignment to goals within the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. The underlying logic of GEF-7 places agriculture and food systems as key drivers of environmental degradation/change and, therefore, will support efforts to be more biodiversity-positive in priority sectors, including fisheries. The GEF-7 strategy explicitly addresses “national and shared fisheries by supporting existing policy goals and targets established through RFMOs, the 2009 Port State Measures Agreement and the FAO Voluntary Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines. Improving shared management of marine fisheries will also include promoting technology to support monitoring, compliance and surveillance with particular focus on combatting Illegal Unreported, Unregulated (IUU) fisheries.” Ridge to Reef and Source to Sea programmes also provide cross-sectoral efforts for aquatic ecosystems improvements of direct benefits to fisheries and aquaculture systems.

In addition to the traditional GEF Focal Areas (Biodiversity, Land Degradation, Climate Change, Chemicals, and International Waters) the GEF-7 Programme includes the three Impact Programs (IP). The IP in this GEF7 program are new and “innovative” and the *Food Systems, Landscape Restoration & Commodities* IP is of particular relevance to the aquatic food production sectors and could support the transition to biodiversity-positive fish value chains.

Examples of GEF-7 FAO readiness support to the sector include 1) a FAO TCPF activity to identify fisheries priorities and partners and how these map to GEF 7 priorities in the Gulf of Thailand and Lower Mekong River Basin areas; 2) GEF-7 IW/BD/CC concept development (e.g. India); and 3) support to integrated Source to Sea (e.g. Myanmar and Philippines) and Food Systems IP proposals (e.g. Laos). Similar GEF-7 regional proposals could be supported depending on country and partner priorities.

An ideas note on the contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to the GEF-7 Strategy and draft concept notes to stimulate discussion is provided in APFIC/18/INF 11.

GEF national focal points may be found at [https://www.thegef.org/focal\\_points\\_list](https://www.thegef.org/focal_points_list)

### **The Green Climate Fund**

The Green Climate Fund was established at the 16th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC in 2010. The fund will promote the shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways and will provide support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

<sup>4</sup> The GEF 7 Programme Directions is available at [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF-7%20Programming%20Directions%20-%20GEF\\_R.7\\_19.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/GEF-7%20Programming%20Directions%20-%20GEF_R.7_19.pdf) and the GEF project database is available at <https://www.thegef.org/projects>

Countries may access funds in two ways: directly through accredited subnational, national or regional implementing entities, or via accredited international entities, such as UN agencies, and international financial institutions. The GCF Board has defined key investment priorities<sup>5</sup> which target many challenges directly relevant to fisheries and aquaculture, including support for reducing emissions and enhancing the resilience of people’s livelihoods and food security.

There is great scope for support to building climate resilience fisheries and aquaculture sectors and communities in these funds, either through targeted projects or broader, cross-sectoral area-based initiatives.

The FAO is supporting countries to investigate and develop concept notes for the GCF Board. Country agriculture sectors’ priorities have, to this point, primarily focused on agriculture crop sectors and forestry GHG mitigation priorities but there is great potential for fisheries and aquaculture national and regional-level proposals, which would fill a gap in the GCF portfolio.

GCF National Designated Authorities or focal point designations may be found at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/how-we-work/tools/country-directory>

**International Climate Initiative (IKI)**

Since 2008, the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) has been financing climate and biodiversity projects in developing and newly industrialising countries, as well as in countries in transition.

The IKI funds projects<sup>6</sup> in: 1. Mitigating greenhouse gas emissions; 2. Adapting to the impacts of climate change; 3. Conserving natural carbon sinks with a focus on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+); and 4. Conserving biological diversity at both the national<sup>7</sup> and regional levels.

In APFIC area, the FAO has supported support to fisheries and aquaculture sectors access to these funds through the following projects:

Title	Agencies	Status
Supporting developing countries to integrate the agricultural sectors into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)	UNDP/FAO	Implementation
Fishing for Climate Resilience: Empowering vulnerable, fisheries dependent communities adopt ecosystem-based-adaptation measures to secure food and livelihoods	RARE-led consortium	Formulation

**Fish for Development**

Norway has provided assistance in fisheries and aquaculture to developing countries in APFIC for many years, including to the global EAF Nansen program, support to the development and implementation of the SSF Guidelines, support to the BOBLME and direct bilateral assistance.

<sup>5</sup> The GCF strategic plan is available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/who-we-are/about-the-fund/governance#strategic-plan>

<sup>6</sup> See <https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/about-the-iki/iki-funding-instrument/>

<sup>7</sup> For a listing of cooperation and priority countries/regions, see [https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/fileadmin/Dokumente/2017/2018\\_IKI\\_Call\\_List\\_of\\_Countries.pdf](https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/fileadmin/Dokumente/2017/2018_IKI_Call_List_of_Countries.pdf)

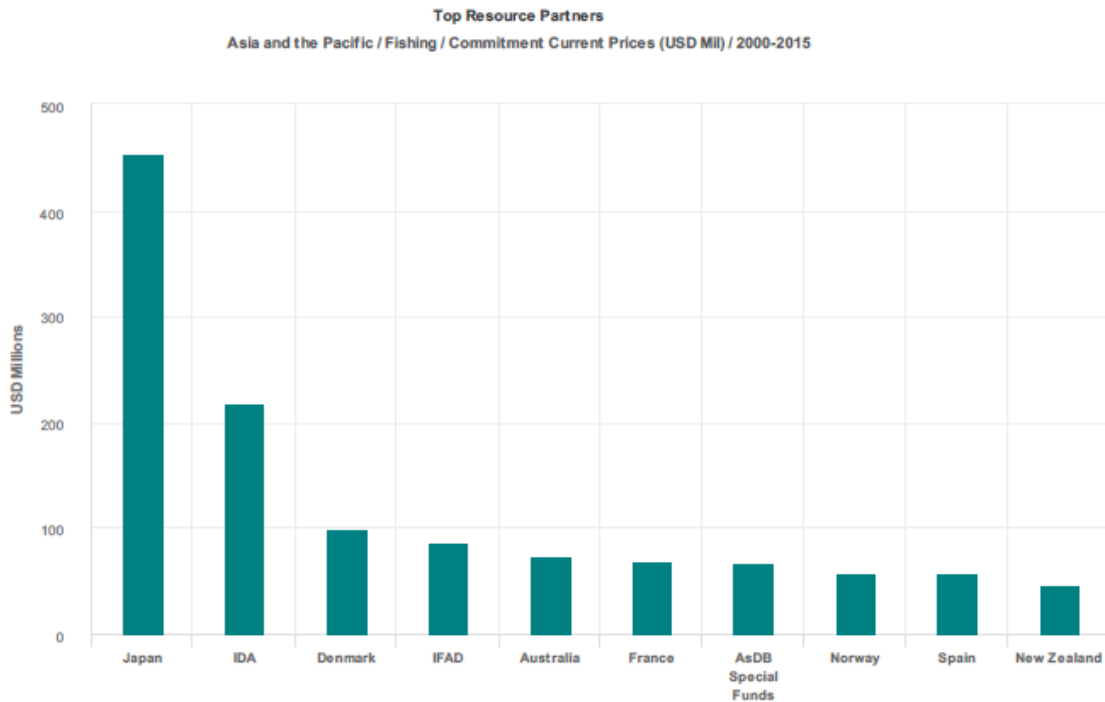
Through the FfD<sup>8</sup>, the Norwegian government wants to “utilize Norway’s comparative advantage to meet the demand from developing countries” and focusses on the following main components:

- Resource management, legislation and the combating of fisheries-related crime
- Research and development, including the EAF Nansen programme
- Private sector development, including aquaculture

### Additional resource partners

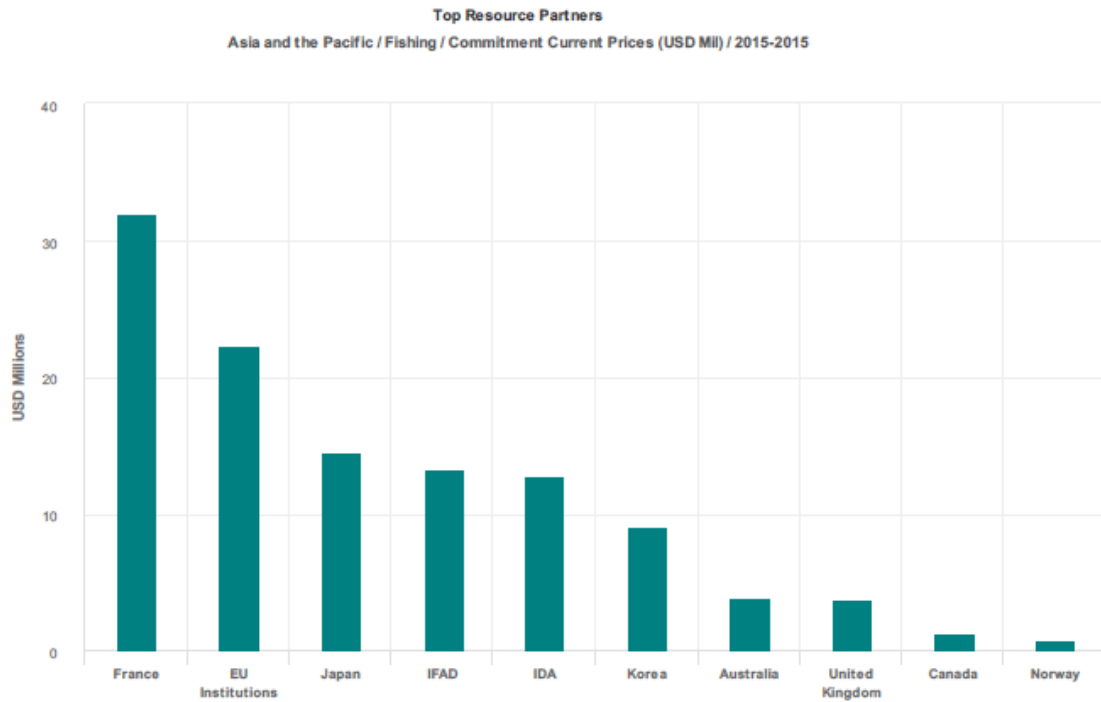
In addition to the resource partners mentioned above, the top historic ODA resource partners and recipients at the national level in the fisheries sectors are presented below:

### Top ODA resource partners in Asia Pacific fishing sector (cumulative 2000-2015)

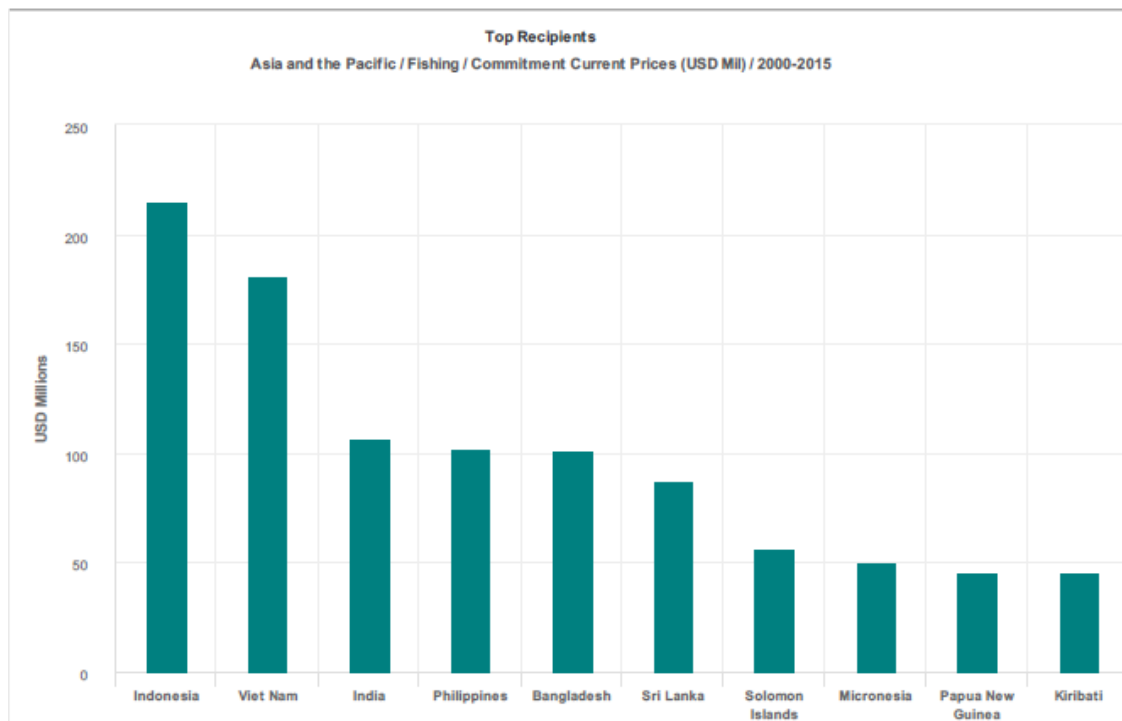


<sup>8</sup> The NORAD Fish for Development policy document is available at <https://www.norad.no/globalassets/filer-2017/programmer/fish-for-development/fish-for-development-policy-document-february-2018.pdf>

## Top ODA resource partners in Asia Pacific fishing sector (2015)



## Top ODA resource recipients in Asia Pacific fishing sector (cumulative 2000-2015)



Source: FAO AIDmonitor

Increased national, regional and global efforts are needed to ensure that the fisheries and aquaculture systems, value chains and dependent communities are given adequate and targeted attention in efforts to attain the SDG, including in the available financial mechanisms.

### **SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMISSION**

1. The Commission is requested to reflect on the role of APFIC as a potential executing agency for regional programmes and projects and advise the Secretariat on next steps and to report back to APFIC by October 2018.
2. The Commission is invited to recommend any significant priority areas (national and regional) that could form the basis of further national efforts and regional cooperation with these programmes through the APFIC framework.
3. The Commission is invited to guide on how APFIC may support fisheries and aquaculture participation/readiness in the national-level funding prioritization processes in support of Blue Growth.

**Annex 1. Sustainable Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Programme framework under GEF-6**

Program Title:	Sustainable Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Programme		
Country(ies):	Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand	GEF Program ID: <sup>9</sup>	9909
Lead GEF Agency:	FAO	GEF Agency Program ID:	645046 (FAO)
Other GEF Agenc(ies):	ADB (select) (select)	Re-Submission Date:	25 January 2018
Other Executing Partner(s):	Regional and sub regional executing partners include BOBP-IGO, SEAFDEC, IUCN/MFF, UN Environment (e.g. COBSEA, GPA), UNIDO; APFIC; National execution partners include Ministries of Fisheries and Agriculture, Ministries of Environment, and other national agencies from all 8 participating countries	Program Duration (Months)	60
GEF Focal Area (s):	International Waters; Climate Change Mitigation		
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>		

Program Components	Program Outcomes
<p>Component 1: Sustainable management of fisheries</p> <p>(SAP theme 1; FAO led)</p>	<p>1.1 The ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) institutionalized at national level for targeted transboundary fish stocks (e.g. Hilsa, Indian Mackerel)</p> <p><i>Increased abundance and biomass by 5-10% (from 2014 baseline)</i></p> <p><i>At least 2 EAFM plans incorporating climate change vulnerability analysis of fisheries implemented in each country leading to 20% increase in landings of higher value demersal and pelagic species for geographically defined Fisheries Management Units</i></p> <p><i>National and regional platforms established or strengthened to involve grassroots stakeholders in management decision-making</i></p> <p><i>EAFM training embedded in national and regional training institutions and training provided to around 200 practitioners in each country</i></p> <p>1.2. IUU catch in the BOBLME reduced</p> <p><i>20% reduction in IUU of BOBLME phase 1 baseline for selected fisheries</i></p> <p><i>BOBLME countries join and implement a Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) on IUU fishing (this will take into account existing initiatives, e.g. in Southeast Asia)</i></p>

<sup>9</sup> Program ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

	<p><i>8 National Plans of Action (NPOAs-IUU) and national IUU Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) systems and Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) strengthened</i></p> <p><i>Tools for promoting best practices, such as MCS, Port State Measures (PSM) and traceability, policies and national actions, to combat IUU fishing developed and implemented in national pilot/investment projects. Countries supported in acceding to the PSMA</i></p> <p><i>Regional capacity development programme on port inspections, MCS and traceability implemented with 20 national fisheries staff trained in each country</i></p>
<p>Component 2: Restoration and conservation of critical marine habitats and protection of biodiversity  (SAP theme 2; FAO led)</p>	<p>2.1. Coastal and marine managed areas (MMAs) contribute to conservation of biodiversity and blue carbon</p> <p><i>At least two MMAs established or strengthened to address issues related to climate change, transboundary fisheries, Vulnerable Ecosystems (VEs), biodiversity and/or Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species (covering 2,000,000 ha of marine areas)</i></p> <p><i>Regional capacity development programme promoting best practices in management and evaluation of MMAs and training of 200 practitioners at all levels</i></p> <p>2.2. National MMAs established or strengthened resulting in improved MMA management effectiveness at national level (with STAR funding; without STAR funding, mainly bilateral donor funding to be used; CCM funding for Bangladesh will be used for the Sundarbans (Reserve) Forest)</p> <p><i>Conservation of blue carbon (mangroves, seagrass), associated biodiversity, and ETP species (200,000 ha of habitat, approx. 2 million t CO<sub>2</sub>, of which &gt;50% in the Sundarbans)</i></p> <p><i>Conservation of coral reefs, associated biodiversity and ETP species (200,000 ha under more effective management, leading to improved status)</i></p> <p>2.3 Regional consensus and agreements on reduction of threats to marine biodiversity in coastal and open waters</p> <p><i>A regional plan of action for ETP species (e.g. whale sharks and sea turtles)</i></p> <p><i>Legislative frameworks on ETP species harmonized across countries</i></p> <p><i>Assessment of efficacy of NPOAs for sharks</i></p>
<p>Component 3: Management of coastal and marine pollution to improve ecosystem health  (SAP theme 3; ADB led)</p>	<p>3.1. Pollution from discharge of untreated sewage and wastewater; solid waste and marine litter<sup>10</sup>; and nutrient loading reduced or minimized in selected hotspots in river, coastal and marine waters; promotion of cleaner fishing ports and addressing abandoned fishing gears at 8 hotspots applying ICM approaches</p> <p>Countries enabled and supported to actively participate in the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM), addressing nutrient over-enrichment and oxygen depletion from land based pollution of coastal waters, at selected hotspots (e.g. Chilika Lake) and dissemination of best practices.</p> <p>Documented practice of nutrient reduction measures, and measurable reduction of nutrient pollution in selected hotspots.</p>

<sup>10</sup> Activities and targets for marine litter are not programmed using GEF-6 funds.

	<p>8 fishing ports covered by sewage management systems and improved waste management; 5% reduction in marine litter (solid waste / marine litter to be addressed using bilateral donor funds)</p> <p>Outcome 3.2. Demonstration Investments in Eco-Waste Infrastructure Solutions: Mandalay City</p> <p><i>Water resources management and climate resilience integrated with urban development through inter-sectoral planning mechanism</i></p> <p><i>Demonstration investments in freshwater ecosystems restoration / rehabilitation at project sites (e.g. Thingaza Creek, Kantawgyi Lake) contributing to reduced pollution loads in mid-basin of Ayeyarwaddy River</i></p> <p><i>Capacity strengthened for Mandalay City Development Committee and Environmental Conservation Department(Myanmar) and other agencies, to monitor ecosystem health, water quality and water use efficiency at project sites, including Taung Tha Man Lake</i></p> <p><i>Increased public awareness of multiple benefits from improved water resources management at project sites, as well as downstream locations</i></p> <p><i>Good practices and models for investments in integrated water resources management, including monitoring systems, shared across the BOBLME countries</i></p>
<p>Component 4: Improved livelihoods and enhanced resilience of the BOBLME</p> <p>(SAP theme 4; FAO &amp; ADB joint leads)</p>	<p>4.1. Enhanced resilience of the BOBLME and reduced vulnerability to natural hazards, climate variability and change of selected coastal communities</p> <p><i>Resilience plans developed based on valuation of ecosystem services and threats related to livelihoods in at least one pilot coastal area per country to support decision making in the BOBLME at regional, national and local levels</i></p> <p><i>Inclusion of coastal fisheries and aquaculture in poverty reduction and development, as well as climate change policies, strategies and planning processes promoted</i></p> <p><i>Gender considerations mainstreamed into relevant policy and regulatory frameworks</i></p> <p>4.2. Enhanced sustainable livelihoods and diversification for selected coastal communities</p> <p><i>Alternative livelihood options, for both men and women, identified along the fisheries value chain and other blue growth opportunities, such as tourism</i></p> <p><i>Livelihood diversification for women piloted in at least one site per country</i></p> <p><i>Access to innovative financial services and insurance mechanisms to enhance resilience and improve livelihoods promoted</i></p> <p><i>Regional capacity development programme on alternative livelihoods and promotion of decent work opportunities, including social protection for empowerment and enhanced participation in coastal and marine resource management and conservation</i></p>
<p>Component 5: Regional mechanism for planning, coordination, and monitoring of the BOBLME, knowledge</p>	<p>5.1. Strengthened institutional mechanisms at regional and national levels for planning, coordination and monitoring of the BOBLME</p> <p><i>Consortium for the Conservation and restoration of the BOBLME (CCR-BOBLME) established and institutionalized to promote</i></p>

<p>management and programme coordination</p> <p>(SAP crosscutting theme; FAO led)</p>	<p><i>stakeholder participation and awareness, ecosystem assessment, and application of best practices in implementation of the SAP</i></p> <p><i>Long-term partnership arrangements agreed for sustainable regional coordination mechanism and sustainable financing for ecosystem-based management in the BOBLME</i></p> <p><i>8 National inter-sectoral coordination committees established to strengthen the regulatory and institutional frameworks and to develop national implementation plans in support of SAP/NAP implementation (including EAFM plans, NPOAs-IUU, ETP plans, pollution monitoring plans)</i></p> <p><i>Stakeholder consultation mechanism established for engagement with civil society, cooperatives, and the private sector</i></p> <p><i>Baseline data (fisheries, trends and threats of critical habitats and ETP species, pollution, oceanography, and climate change), monitoring systems, and information repository established at national and regional levels</i></p> <p>5.2. Adaptive results-based management and sharing of information and lessons learned</p> <p><i>Effective Programme and Child Project management arrangements established</i></p> <p><i>Regional information sharing mechanism enabling broad access to best practices and lessons learned in the participating countries and among Child Projects</i></p> <p><i>Program findings and lessons learned identified and contribute to IW Learn and LME Learn</i></p> <p><i>Monitoring system operating and providing systematic and regular reporting on programme and child project progress, and progress towards reaching BOBLME SAP target</i></p>
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