



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project
THE GEF TRUST FUND

Submission Date: 14 September 2009

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

GEF PROJECT ID¹: 3990 **PROJECT DURATION:** 24 months

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY(IES): Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, and Tunisia. The Palestinian Authority also participates.

PROJECT TITLE: Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean.

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNEP, (select), (select)

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): UNEP Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP), MAP's Regional Activity Centers (RACs): Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC) and Blue Plan (BP/RAC); and Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med).

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): International Waters

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): SP1, SP3

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT (if applicable): Mediterranean Sustainable Development Program, ("Sustainable Med")

INDICATIVE CALENDAR*	
Milestones	Expected Dates mm/dd/yyyy
Work Program (for FSP)	11/01/09
CEO Endorsement/Approval	03/01/11
Agency Approval Date	06/01/11
Implementation Start	08/01/11
Mid-term Evaluation (if planned)	08/01/12
Project Closing Date	09/01/13

* See guidelines for definition of milestones.

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: Support to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention ICZM Protocol through the development of region wide coordination mechanisms and tools to address climate variability in the Mediterranean Region.

Project Components	STA	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative GEF Financing ^a		Indicative Co-Financing ^a		Total (\$) c = a + b
				(\$ M) a	%	(\$ M) b	%	
Component 1. Regional climate variability monitoring programme developed	STA	<p>1.1. Regional consensus on the development, programme framework and implementation of a long term programme to monitor climate variability in the marine and coastal zone</p> <p>1.2. Regional data platform on climate research supports planning and management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional monitoring programme, including objectives, targets, impact indicators² and implementation plan; ▪ Agreed methods for integration of climate variability related environmental and socioeconomic indicators into national ICZM strategies and plans; ▪ Analysis of data, models³ and capacity gaps for monitoring and tracking climate change and variability; ▪ Web-based regional climate research database . 	410,000	21	1,500,000	79	1,910,000
Component 2. Knowledge base strengthened	STA	2.1 Climate variability and impacts understood	Based on existing data, complimentary projects in the region, and data produced by the project:	990,000	26	2,800,000	74	3,790,000

² Based on Impacts of Europe's changing climate — 2008 indicator-based assessment Joint European Environment Agency (EEA), European Commissions Joint Research Centre (JRC) and World Health Organization (WHO).

³ Including the results of major regional research programs such as Hydrological cycle in the Mediterranean Experiment (HYMEX), Integrated Project - Climate Change and Impact Research: the Mediterranean Environment (CIRCE), among others.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional analysis of sea-level rise and storm surges, changes in water characteristics, marine acidification – vulnerable areas/hotspots identified, including river deltas; • Climate change models applied at finer resolution in a min of 2 coastal zone areas (co-financed) and results analyzed; • Environmental and economic impacts to coastal communities, water quality and availability, marine and coastal biodiversity and fisheries assessed in 2-5 critical areas and responsive actions identified. • TDA for the Med Basin updated with respect to climate change and climate variability, including mechanisms for their implementation and funding options. 					
Component 3. Strengthened partnerships, capacity and exchange support the implementation of the ICZM protocol and dissemination of project experiences and lessons	TA	<p>3.1. Enabling environment for ICZM protocol ratification and implementation strengthened</p> <p>3.2 Increased capacity, forged partnerships and joint actions support ICZM protocol implementation.</p> <p>3.3. Project experiences and lessons disseminated to larger IW community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interministerial Coordination Committees established and technically supported to facilitate multisectoral dialogue contributing to Med policy and management processes, including ICZM protocol ratification; ▪ Development of standard methods and tools for mainstreaming climate variability considerations into national ICZM planning and practices in synergy with other related national plans (IWRM, NSSD, CCA, etc); ▪ Mainstreaming ICZM protocol into national plans ▪ Awareness raising for Policy makers in participating countries on implications of climate variability and ICZM protocol; ▪ Mediterranean Platform of exchange strengthened and promoting best practices and the identification of most efficient and cost effective tools available; ▪ Regional and National level training and technical tools and options, modeling and technologies available through workshops and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) training platform; ▪ Possible Centers of Excellence in Mediterranean Region identified and strengthened for assessing climate variability; ▪ Project website (following IW:Learn guidance), participation in IWC, production of IWENS, 	669,045	25	2,000,000	75	2,669,045

			use of GEF 4 IW tracking tool.					
Component 4. Project Management				229,500	25	700,000	75	929,500
Total project costs				2,298,545	25	7,000,000	75	9,298,545

B. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE and by NAME (in parenthesis) if available, (\$)

Sources of Co-financing	Type of Co-financing	Project
Project Government Contribution	Unknown at this stage	4,500,000
GEF Agency(ies) – UNEP/MAP	Unknown at this stage	300,000
Bilateral Aid Agency(ies)	Unknown at this stage	1,000,000
Multilateral Agency(ies)	Unknown at this stage	1,000,000
Private Sector	(select)	
NGO	Unknown at this stage	
Others	(select)	200,000
Total Co-financing		7,000,000

C. INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR THE PROJECT (\$)

	Previous Project Preparation Amount (a)	Project (b)	Total c = a + b	Agency Fee
GEF financing	0	2,298,545	2,298,545	229,855
Co-financing	0	7,000,000	7,000,000	
Total	0	9,298,545	9,298,545	229,855

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES)¹

GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
			Project (a)	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	International Wa	Mediterranean	2,298,545	229,855	2,528,400
(select)	(select)				
Total GEF Resources			2,298,545	229,855	2,528,400

¹ No need to provide information for this table if it is a single focal area, single country and single GEF Agency project.

² Relates to the project and any previous project preparation funding that have been provided and for which no Agency fee has been requested from Trustee.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. STATE THE ISSUE, HOW THE PROJECT SEEKS TO ADDRESS IT, AND THE EXPECTED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED:

Recent research on climate variability and its impacts in the Mediterranean (such as the MEDClivar project⁴, CIRCE⁵ among others) along with the findings contained in the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are all in agreement on the broad future trends in climate variability in the Mediterranean, in spite of the complexity of factors controlling Mediterranean climate. According to the IPCC Fourth assessment report, by the end of the century the rise in temperatures is expected to be between 2.2 °C and 5.1 °C. At the same time overall rainfall is also likely to decrease while the occurrence of extreme climatic events (flooding and drought) ought to intensify by 2100. An analysis of IPCC model projections for the 21st century finds a continuing decrease in precipitation that extends throughout the Mediterranean region and reaches values as high as 20% less of the current mean precipitation by the end of the century⁶. Sea-level is predicted to rise by between 30-40 cm by 2100, and changes will occur to water mass circulation. Marine acidification is likely to occur with some dramatic consequences to the balance of marine and coastal biodiversity.

During the 20th Century, air temperature in the Mediterranean basin was observed to have risen by 1.4 to 4 °C depending on the sub-region. As such, the countries of the Mediterranean are already witnessing the impacts of climate change/variability in the coastal zone and water sheds of the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem such as decreasing water availability, increased incidents of flooding and forest fire. Climate variability in the Mediterranean is controlled by physical processes responsible at both the local level, such as changes in the surface properties and land use, and global level, such as the changes in the large scale atmospheric circulation associated with global warming, the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO), tropical monsoon and El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO). The range of climate variability over time is much greater than climate changes that are predicted. Over the last 40-50 years it should be noted that sea level trends within the Mediterranean basin differ significantly (increasing and decreasing) from those of the nearby Atlantic Ocean⁷. It is unclear for how long the Mediterranean Sea can sustain this behaviour different from the open ocean, although unlikely for more than 20-30 years. This also raises the question whether the Mediterranean Basin future sea level scenarios can be based on the global ones, as they do not include the relevant forcing mechanisms.

The countries of the Mediterranean recognize that with current projections there will be a number of climate impacts, including increased summer temperatures and decreased annual precipitation, increased water-related extreme phenomena like floods and persistent droughts, enhanced water scarcity and increased desertification, the loss of- or shift in vegetation zones, threatened food production as a result of increased irrigation demands and more numerous incidents of plant diseases, human health hazards, particularly with regard to infectious diseases and increased heat-related mortality. It is critically important to understand these relationships and further investigate how climate variability will impact the coastal zone communities, natural resources and marine and coastal biodiversity of the Mediterranean.

Despite these patterns and forecasts since the 1990's, a common Mediterranean voice on climatic issues has, until now, been very discreet in the international arena. One reason is that countries along the Mediterranean rim belong to different geographical groups when it comes to negotiating international law on the subject. The 15th Ordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the

⁴ The Mediterranean Climate Variability and Predictability. Endorsed by the European Science Foundation and implemented from 2006 to 2011

⁵ European Commission Climate Change and Research in the Mediterranean project

⁶ Mediterranean Precipitation Changes in IPCC Model Simulations: Relative Role of Dynamic and Thermodynamic Processes (Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 9, 09297, 2007)

⁷ Tsimplis and Baker, 2000, Woolf et al. 2003

Mediterranean and its Protocols, (Barcelona Convention) was held in Almeria (Spain) on the 15-18 January 2008. Climate Change was one of the main agenda items and one of the decisions of the Almeria Declaration included agreement on use of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol as the basis to address the practical response to the impact of climate change on Mediterranean coastal ecosystems. This project is designed to support countries with this process.

ICZM is a long established management approach in Mediterranean coastal regions. Its importance for the regional countries has been strengthened by the adoption of the ICZM Protocol in Madrid on 21 January 2008. The countries have recognized the need for a systematic programme to develop and conserve resources in an area that has been subject to extreme pressures over the last few decades. The Mediterranean ICZM protocol is intended to reap development benefits through implementation of a management approach that will facilitate sustainable economic growth; help conserve natural habitats and species; assist in controlling pollution of coastal waters; contribute to the more efficient use of coastal resources; help rehabilitate degraded resources; provide mechanism and tools for rational resource allocation based on appropriate valuation of ecosystem services; and help mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change. The ICZM protocol is the first regional ICZM legal instrument that deals extensively with the issue of climate change, both at the strategic level (by requesting countries to mainstream climate change issues into national ICZM strategies and plans) and local levels (by requesting countries to define, *inter alia*, the coastal setback zone).

This project, through three technical components, will assist countries to implement the ICZM Protocol by facilitating region wide coordination mechanisms, national actions and the development of tools to address climate variability in the Mediterranean. The three project components address:

1. Development of regional climate variability monitoring programme

This component will develop a long term regional climate variability monitoring program with consensus on objectives, targets, impact indicators and implementation modalities. The programme will be supported by a web-based regional data platform on climate research which will be linked with other data platforms, including MAP's regional activity center on Information (INFO/RAC). The monitoring program and database will be integrated into national and regional ICZM monitoring processes and in doing so, will contribute to on-going work within the ICZM protocol to the Barcelona Convention.

2. Strengthening of knowledge base

In order to enrich our understanding of climate variability in the Mediterranean, this component will ensure that current models assessing scenarios and impacts of climate variability are applied to the region⁸, and will assist countries to more precisely calculate the impacts of climate variability to their marine and coastal zone. In partnership with other regional programmes (such as MedClivar), it will include latest results on the regional and global processes influencing climate variability such as the influence of the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) and Indian monsoon, predicted changes in marine salinity and marine acidification. It will focus on the coastal watersheds, with emphasis on risks to water availability and quality and marine ecosystems (including agriculture and fisheries), and other risks to be further defined, likely to include coastal erosion and landslides. Ultimately, based on the findings of these studies, the TDA for the Mediterranean Basin will be updated with respect to climate change and climate variability.

3. Strengthening partnerships, capacity and exchange for implementation of the ICZM protocol and dissemination of project experiences and lessons

Increased capacity, strengthened partnerships and joint actions will create an enabling environment for implementation and ratification of the ICZM protocol. Countries who have not yet signed the ICZM protocol (Albania, Egypt and Libya) will be assisted to have a greater awareness of the opportunity and value of the ICZM protocol and its implementation. At the national level, inter-ministerial committees will contribute to multi-sectoral dialogues on policy and management processes in the Mediterranean, and facilitate the mainstreaming of the ICZM protocol into national

⁸ Such as work undertaken by the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research UK Met Office.

plans. Targeted capacity building will enable stakeholders to fulfill these roles. In addition to strong platforms for exchange within the region, project experiences will be shared within the larger international waters community, through IW:Learn, IWC, IWENS, among others.

The global environmental benefits of this project are the knowledge on climate variability is closely linked to global oceanographic and atmospheric circulation and therefore is of value to the global community of researchers and institutions on climate/variability research. Climate change/variability is a global issue, and monitoring programme and impact assessments will all be broadly shared on a regional as well as global scale for possible replication. The Mediterranean Sea itself is historically, culturally and in terms of biodiversity considered an area of global importance for protection. Guidance on cross-sectoral coordination and integration of climate change/variability into ICZM will be transferred to other LME projects.

The project, proposed for a two year duration, is designed as a phase 1 of 2 projects and an additional project to the GEF Strategic Partnership of the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (SPMed), now under implementation. As such, it will utilize the management and coordination structure of the UNEP component of the SPMed, and will benefit from the replication and communication strategy developed for the project. Activities under the UNEP component of the SPMed were developed to respond to priority actions agreed in the Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for the Mediterranean Sea (developed between 1997 and 2003). However climate variability and their impacts were not detailed during their analysis and development.

The project is also designed to support the World Bank (WB) “Mediterranean Sustainable Development Program” (“Sustainable MED”), which will further develop investment projects to address sustainable development issues such as de-pollution, the sustainable management of vulnerable ecosystems and climate change. The results of the project will be shared with all stakeholders of the “Sustainable MED” and the technical assistance component of the MSDP, to be coordinated by the WB center in Marseilles, will participate in the regional training activities under Component 3.

The project will utilize UNEP MAP and its RAC’s and other executing partners’ work at regional and national levels to ensure that synergies are created with national ICZM and IWRM plans, as well as other regional initiatives related to Climate Change including the establishment of Marine protected areas, the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries, the work plan for the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSDD) the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), the implementation of the UfM Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean, etc.

It should be noted that several additional Mediterranean Basin countries have requested to participate in the project, but due to the time required to receive endorsement letters, have not been included in this proposal. However should additional Mediterranean GEF eligible countries wish to participate and provide their endorsement letters during the beginning of the project preparation phase, they will be included in the project at no additional cost to GEF.

B. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL/REGIONAL PRIORITIES/PLANS:

The proposed project is in line with the National Communications⁹ developed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). All participating countries have either signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention¹⁰. All countries with the exception of Turkey are parties to the Kyoto protocol.

It has been recognized that ICZM is the best mechanism to ensure a harmonized approach to the integrated management of the coastal zone, and as such the ICZM protocol to the Barcelona Convention was drafted, agreed and currently 15 of the 22 contracting members to the Barcelona

⁹ Of the participating GEF eligible countries, National Communications have been submitted by Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey

¹⁰ Montenegro, as a new state has ‘acceded’ to the Convention.

Convention have signed the protocol and the proposed plan is for the protocol to come into force (upon ratification of 6 countries) by the end of 2009. Participating countries still pending signature are Albania, Egypt, and Libya. All countries address coastal zone management in their national plans and legislative framework, and are currently working towards the more integrated ICZM, with the assistance of the WB, PAP/RAC (amongst others) and includes the implementation of Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMPs) in 9 out of 12 participating countries¹¹.

C. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH [GEF STRATEGIES](#) AND STRATEGIC PROGRAMS:

The project addresses the Strategic Objective “to play a catalytic role in addressing transboundary water concerns by assisting countries to utilize the full range of technical assistance, economic, financial, regulatory and institutional reforms that are needed”, by aiming towards protection of fisheries, water and coastal and marine habitats vulnerable to climate change, through ICZM planning.

The project addresses Strategic Program 1: Restoring and Sustaining Coastal and Marine Fish Stocks and Associated Biological Diversity, in particular related to the text that states “Consistent with the ecosystem-based approach in addressing multiple stresses through ICM and linkages to upstream basin management through Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), the focal area will pursue collaboration on inter-linkages among GEF focal areas (especially biodiversity) that can sustain livelihoods, food security, and coastal habitats as a contribution to marine-related Johannesburg targets.”

D. JUSTIFY THE TYPE OF FINANCING SUPPORT PROVIDED WITH THE GEF RESOURCES:

Currently, the proposed financing plan will come from participating countries, executing partners, bilateral aid and multilateral agencies, to be fully detailed during the PPG phase of the project. The project has been conceived to be cost effective, in terms of complimenting several initiatives in the region which will be described below and in section H. UNEP/MAP will provide co-financing in cash and also in-kind, (all components) as the project is in line with its five year strategy currently under development, with specific focus on climate change/vulnerability assessments and integration of priorities into national planning and ICZM, as has been requested by Mediterranean countries. GWP-MED will contribute financing and support to the project through their future planned work on the harmonization of ICZM and IWRM plans in the region (under Component 3). Blue Plan will bring funding through their planned activities on the development of impact indicators for climate change (Component 1), and the U.K Meteorological office have indicated their interest in providing free modeling data to participating countries (Component 2). PAP/RAC will bring in additional resources for Component 3 as part of its ongoing commitment with UNEP/MAP to assist countries in the signature, ratification and implementation of the ICZM protocol. Other sources of co-financing will be finalized during the project preparation phase.

E. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

The current proposal has been designed to compliment the following initiatives:

The **GEF UNEP WB Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean LME (SPMed)**, whose regional component led by UNEP addresses Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), groundwater and aquifer management, pollution from land-based sources, ecosystem approach to fisheries and marine protected area (MPA) development and management. These actions are based on the priorities identified in the Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from land-based sources (SAP-MED), the Strategic Action Programme for the conservation of biological diversity (SAP-BIO) along with the National Action Plans (NAPs) developed during the GEF UNEP project “Determination of Priority Actions for the Further Elaboration and Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea”, completed in 2006. As such GWP-Med and PAP/RAC, responsible for the execution of activities related to IWRM and ICZM respectively, will participate in this proposal to ensure

¹¹ Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey, with Montenegro under development.

incorporation of climate variability into the development of ICZM planning and respected practices at the national and regional level. In addition the current proposal is designed to add to the SPMed, and will utilise the Coordination mechanism (Steering Committee meetings, Coordination group meetings), will be hosted with the project management unit (PMU) in Athens, Greece, and will benefit from the Replication and Communication strategies to be implemented as part of the SPMed.

Also of importance to the region is the **Union for the Mediterranean (UFM)**, a multi-lateral cooperation framework marking an important step forward for the Euro-Mediterranean partnership. Its main objective is to launch and reinforce a number of key initiatives¹² which will focus on issues including: the De-pollution of the Mediterranean; Maritime and Land Highways and Alternative Energies: Mediterranean Solar Plan. Although specific projects under the UFM have yet to be identified, a partnership will be established under the MSDP to compliment investments and technical assistance towards achieving the goals of the UFM.

More recently a WB GEF “**Mediterranean Sustainable Development Program**” (Sustainable MED) was proposed as the overarching umbrella coordinating actions with the aim to integrate the environment within the economic development agenda, thereby sustaining the resource base of the region to ensure water and food security and the livelihood of its communities through: supporting priority projects promoting environmentally sound development including sustainable surface and groundwater management; foster capacity building in the South as well as technology transfer between the North and the South; mobilizing financial resources for the southern countries; and enhancing collaboration among countries, multi and bi-lateral organizations, the private sector, NGOs, and the civil society at large, ensuring sustainable development in the Mediterranean. This is in line with the priorities of the Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) as agreed by Ministers who signed the declaration of the Paris summit for the Mediterranean, held in Paris on July 13, 2008. The Programme will consist of an Investment Component and a technical assistance component, supported by the WB Marseilles Centre. The WB have submitted¹³ a Regional project on Coordination on Improved Water Resources Management and Capacity Building (Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, West Bank and Gaza, Syria, and Tunisia, as well as other Arab cooperating countries). This proposal will coordinate closely with the WB to ensure that activities compliment each other in addressing climate change vulnerability. Data and assessments will be shared, and the project will provide guidance for the further development of Investment Fund proposals of the “Sustainable MED” addressing vulnerable areas to climate variability/change.

This current project is therefore aimed to filling in the need for a more regional approach to climate variability in the Mediterranean marine and coastal zone, supporting the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean (SPMed) and both SPMed and this proposal will be considered as part of the overarching MSDP.

In addition to the above, the project compliments the ongoing work of the National Communications in participating countries, GEF projects such as the UNDP Full Size Project “Adaptation to Climate Change in the Nile Delta through Integrated Coastal Zone Management Climate Change” and the UNDP “Identification and Implementation of Adaptation Response Measures in the Drini-Mati River Deltas” (both recently approved by GEF). It will collaborate with the Mediterranean Climate Variability and Predictability (MEDClivar) programme, organisations working on climate modelling and research in the region.

F. DISCUSS THE VALUE-ADDED OF GEF INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT DEMONSTRATED THROUGH INCREMENTAL REASONING :

At the regional workshop on Climate Change in the Mediterranean, held in Marseilles by Blue Plan on the 22-23rd October 2008, where over 100 national and regional experts participated, it was concluded that the region to which the Mediterranean countries belong is one of the areas most vulnerable to the various impacts of the climate change currently underway. These impacts are likely

¹² Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, Paris, 13 July 2008

¹³ to the June 2009 GEF Council

to trigger a rise in sea-levels, greater coastal erosion, a weakening of natural coastal defenses, whilst also placing a strain on ecosystems already affected by deforestation, increasing water scarcity, disrupting fish stocks and prompting the renewed outbreak of epizootics and vectoral diseases. The climate threat is arising at a time when most Mediterranean countries are also having to face up to the energy, economic and ecological challenges of globalisation against a backdrop of general population growth. The combination of these various challenges could well affect the efficiency if not the relevance of the economic investments made over the last few years and give rise to unprecedented social problems.

At the same time, countries' capacity to respond to these scenarios is hampered by insufficient data and lack of consensus on policy options and possible response measures, which have often been done without the involvement of all regional partners and without the benefit of appropriate and cost effective tools and technologies and policy experiences that have been developed within and beyond the region. Without GEF support, countries will continue to deal with ICZM and adaptation on a local and national level in implementation of the ICZM protocol, without access to climate change/variability assessments, data tools and methods required to develop the most cost-effective adaptation measures to protect coastal communities, and natural resources, and will lack exchange of best-practices within the Mediterranean region.

With GEF support, the project will ensure that climate change modeling and data is available throughout the region, a long-term monitoring of climate change variability and risks to the marine and coastal zone is agreed and indicators defined and, gaps are analyzed, that countries have the appropriate knowledge, data related to the impacts of climate change particularly related to water quality and resources, biodiversity etc. As a result of the forums and platforms created and strengthened in the project, the Mediterranean Basin countries will have the policy tools and capacity to contribute to a range of management processes, most notably, the implementation of the ICZM protocol.

G. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS, THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVE(S) FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE INCLUDING RISK MITIGATION MEASURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN:

Risks	Mitigation measures
Little political willingness to develop and implement long-term monitoring programme (Low)	Countries knowledge enhanced of environmental and economic costs of climate variability (through activities of Component 2) Full participation in project design and execution through national and regional level partnerships and capacity building
Lack of coordination in national ministries for full ownership and participation in project activities (Low)	Utilize ICZM national intersectoral groups. Transparency in planning and implementation; involving stakeholders in decision making. Component 3 to ensure national partnerships established and fully functional.
Limited participation of various stakeholders in project execution (Low)	National and regional level stakeholder involvement spanning sectors, partnership, exchange network and capacity building implemented. Centres of excellence established/enhanced for climate change research.
Inappropriate data, modeling and assessments undertaken (Low)	Participation of global as well as regional climate variability research centres and experts i.e. Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research UK Met Office among others.

H. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

A regional approach to understanding climate variability and implementing the ICZM protocol has a number of cost-effective advantages, in terms of the transfer knowledge and skills between countries, to apply best practice, to promote the adoption of policy reforms throughout the region and to enhance the replication of successful pilot projects to achieve regional objectives. This overall strategic approach incorporating a comprehensive suite of actions and investments is a more cost-

effective and higher impact vehicle to demonstrate benefits than a series of individual projects. Such a strategic approach will also help to promote action over a specified and shorter period so that more tangible results can be achieved in a shorter timeframe.

By complimenting the GEF project SPMed, the project is supported by the overall coordination structure of this project, is hosted by UNEP/MAP, and compliments the proposed activities to be executed by PAP/RAC and GWP-Med. It also will benefit from the communication and replication structure of the SPMed. It also used existing Intersectoral coordination to be established in the ICZM and IWRM process. In terms of assessments and modeling, whilst building upon past and ongoing initiatives, the National Communications etc, it will benefit from existing models already developed.¹⁴

I. JUSTIFY THE COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF GEF AGENCY:

UNEP has the convening power to bring countries and relevant non-state stakeholders together to explore their mutual goals and objectives with respect to shared ecosystems. The success of UNEP in co-hosting the IPCC and in fostering the development and negotiation on global environmental issues, including four multilateral agreements for which the GEF acts as the financial mechanism; the 14 regional seas conventions and action plans; and many others, attests to the impact of this power.

UNEP has always had a particular strength in working at the global, regional and subregional level and has led the field in GEF for its normative and exploratory work in different fields of interest to the GEF. Examples include the work on environmental governance, international waters, and in global assessments such as the Global Environmental Outlook (GEO) and Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA).

With a mandate to focus on keeping the global environmental situation under review, UNEP has developed expertise in global environmental monitoring and assessment, and early warning on emerging issues. This expertise will assist the governments and agencies of the Mediterranean to base their decisions and investment on the best scientific and technical information available.

With its long experience in working at the regional level, UNEP has demonstrated its capacity in fostering transboundary collaboration. Thanks to its network of regional offices and established collaboration with regional and sub-regional bodies, UNEP has intimate knowledge of the geo-political environment and has been building this resource to help countries to understand the systems and to tackle problems that cross boundaries. As a relevant example, UNEP through its Regional Seas Programme supports the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), which has been working the last 30 years in the marine and coastal zone of the Mediterranean, with a strong network of experts and its Regional Activity Centers, notably in relation to this project, the Blue Plan Regional Activity Center for environment and development and Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC) focusing on coastal zone management and the Regional Activity Center for biodiversity conservation and specially protected areas (RAC/SPA). UNEP/MAP and its Regional Activity Centres will execute the GEF UNEP regional component of the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, which complements this proposal.

¹⁴ i.e. the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research UK Met Office models, available to all the GEF eligible countries


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

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) or [regional endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
ABESHI, Pellumb	Secretary General	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Management, Albania	29 th July 2009
ECHIRK, Djamel	Inspector General of Environment	Ministere d'Amenagement deTerritoires et l'Environnement, Algeria	15 th June 2009
Gordana Ruklić	Head of International Relations Department,	Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction Republike Austrije 14, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia	12 th June 2009
ABOUL AZM, Mawaheb	Chief Executive Officer Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs, Egypt	16 th June 2009
AMER, Mohamed	Member, Board of Environmental General Authority	Environmental General Authority Libya	17 th June 2009
Sinisa STANKOVIC	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Protection, Montenegro	16 th June 2009
Mohamad BENYAHIA	Director of Partnership, Communication and Cooperation	Ministry of Energy, Mining, Water and Environment, Morocco	31 th July 2009
M. Dali Najeh	General Director, Environment and Quality of Life	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development Tunisia	29 th July 2009
Dr. Mohamed Eila	Deputy Director	General Environment Quality Authority, Palestinian Authority	16 th June 2009

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
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