



# INTERNATIONAL WATERS RESULTS NOTES

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## Reducing and Preventing Land-based Pollution in the Rio de la Plata/Maritime Front through Implementation of the FREPLATA Strategic Action Program

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ARG/09/G46 - URU/09/G31 Project Status: Active



1. Enhancement and development of new framework and capacities for bilateral and inter-jurisdictional cooperation in the harmonization of reduction of land based sources of pollution, it's prevention and mitigation.
2. Innovative platforms to enhance collaboration between public and private sectors (Public-Private Partnership) will be established through Cleaner Production (CP) approaches with strong replication potential for up scaling throughout industrial sectors. Highly replicable pilot projects for testing these new approaches of land-based pollution mitigation will be implemented.
3. Bi-national Water Quality Monitoring Program and an Integrated Bi-national Environmental Information System will provide critical management tools to support decision-making, planning processes and technical interventions.

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## **PROJECT OBJECTIVE:**

**To advance towards sustainability of the uses and resources of the Rio de la Plata/Maritime Front through the implementation of the Strategic Action Program (SAP) with regards to reduction and prevention of land-based pollution.**

## **RESULTS: PROCESS**

**Implementation of institutional reforms and strengthening at bi-national and national levels, as proposed in the SAP, to address priority transboundary environmental problems**

### **INDICATOR # 1 Effective national inter-ministry coordination**

Under the project structure (Steering Committee) both countries have achieved an adequate institutional framework, where bilateral commissions (CARP and CTMFM) of Treaty of RPMF beside the national environmental agencies are involved (at highest political level) in the leadership of the Project to ensure a sustainable implementation of NAPs through public policies and government programs.

### **INDICATOR # 2 Financial sustainability of joint transboundary waters institutions**

The Project Steering Committee has established funding mechanisms to ensure the financing sustainability of the Integrated Monitoring Program (IMP) and the Bi-National Integrated Information System (IBIS).

National and bi-national institutions with responsibility on monitoring water quality in the project area (navy, environmental agencies, hydrographic services), and those related in the maintenance or inputs provision for the IBIS (universities, fisheries agencies), have agreed a strategy of co-financing of IBIS and the IMP during the project, which will be the basis for ensuring their long term sustainability.

## **RESULTS: STRESS REDUCTION**

**Enhanced capacities and tools to prevent and mitigate pollution promote greater collaboration between public and private sectors, especially at provincial and municipal levels**

### **INDICATOR # 1 Cleaner Production plans formulated and agreed with stakeholders**

Further, countries have established inter-jurisdictional national committees (ie RIIGLO - Network of Local RPMF Governments) in which local authorities are actively involved in monitoring and control of water quality, and in the development of collaborative public-private approaches to reducing and controlling pollution. The Interjurisdictional Municipal Commissions works to strengthen relations between the authorities at national, provincial and local levels in order to harmonize standards and develop mechanisms for control and prevention of pollution. The key stakeholders (industry, public service companies and NGOs) are involved in the implementation of Cleaner Production (CP) to reduce point pollution loads in order to reduce toxic stress of RPMF.

### **INDICATOR # 2 Pilot projects demonstrate stress reduction measures on priority concerns**

Pilot Projects allow to highlight and quantify the reduction of stress through the experiences to: reduction of wastewater discharge of nutrients in the Bay SB (protected wetland), the introduction of good agricultural practices to reduce pollution water in St. Lucia wetlands and reduction discharges of chromium in the tannery sector.

## **RESULTS: WATER RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS**

### **Monitoring Program and Integrated Information System to support decision taking and management of the RPMF**

#### **INDICATOR # 1 A Monitoring Program of water quality agreed at binational level.**

National and bi-national institutions are working to implement a sustainable Integrated Monitoring Program and water quality indicators (physical/chemical, microbiological and biological) for the national exclusive jurisdiction and Common Use Waters of the Rio de la Plata. The information generated in the monitoring program (31 parameters), will allow to assess the quality of water and sediments, identifying changes in the contaminants levels (mg / l ug / g) and the state of the environment of RPMF.

#### **INDICATOR # 2 Integrated Bi-national Information System (IBIS) developed to support management of the RPMF**

Key stakeholders from different jurisdictions are working in the basic contents and making institutional arrangements for the management and maintenance of the IBIS system, with a capacity to collect, compare and analyze information received from different agencies.

The objective is to provide updated information on the RPMF system to support the decision-making and planning frameworks, including the bi-national monitoring program.

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