



MEDIUM-SIZED PROJECT PROPOSAL

REQUEST FOR GEF FUNDING

AGENCY'S PROJECT ID: 3153
GEFSEC PROJECT ID:
COUNTRY: Angola, Namibia and South Africa
PROJECT TITLE: Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool for the Benguela Coastal Areas (DLIST – Benguela)
GEF AGENCY: UNDP
OTHER EXECUTING AGENCY(IES): UNOPS
DURATION: 3 years
GEF FOCAL AREA: International Waters
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: OP 10: Contaminants-Based: Regional/Global Technical Support Component
GEF STRATEGIC PRIORITY: IW-2 Support for Targeted Learning
ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: March 2005
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY FEE:

FINANCING PLAN (US\$)	
GEF PROJECT/COMPONENT	
Project	748,000
PDF A* (26/07/04)	25,000
<i>Sub-Total GEF</i>	<i>773,000</i>
CO-FINANCING**	
Academic Institutions	158,000
USAID	200,000
Private organizations	62,000
Others (incl. NGOs)	377,800
<i>Sub-Total Co-financing:</i>	<i>797,800</i>
<i>Total Project Financing:</i>	<i>1,570,800</i>
FINANCING FOR ASSOCIATED ACTIVITY IF ANY:	

* Indicate approval date of PDF/A

** Details provided in the Financing Section

CONTRIBUTION TO KEY INDICATORS OF THE BUSINESS PLAN: The project will contribute to the following specific targets of the GEF IW focal area:

- South-south experience sharing, learning, and technological transfer

RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:

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This proposal has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for a Medium-sized Project.

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ACRONYMS

BCLME	Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem
BENEFIT	Benguela Environment Fisheries Interaction and Training
CAPE	Cape Action for People and the Environment
CAPUT	Cape Peninsula University of Technology
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBNRM	Community-Based Natural Resources Management
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CCD	Convention to Combat Desertification
CI	Conservation International
CPA	Community Property Association
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DEA&T	Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (South Africa)
DLIST	Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (South Africa)
EA	Environmental Assessment
FOP	Francois Odendaal Productions
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IBCC	Interim Benguela Current Commission
ICD	Integrated Conservation and Development
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IIM	<i>Instituto de Investigação Marinha</i> or Marine Research Institute
IKM	International Knowledge Management, a regional NGO
IPA	<i>Instituto de Desenvolvimento da Pesca Artesanal</i> or Institute for Development of Artisanal Fisheries
IRDNC	Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation
IW	International Waters
KM	Knowledge Management
LED	Local Economic Development
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
LRC	Legal Resources Centre
MACEMP	Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project
MCM	Marine and Coastal Management
MPRC	Multi-Purpose Resource Centre
MSP	Medium Size Project
NACOMA	Namib Coast Biodiversity Conservation and Management
NAPCOD	National Action Plan to Combat Desertification
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OP	Operational Program
ORASECOM	Orange Senqu River Commission
PDF	Project Development Facility
PPF	Peace Parks Foundation
RANET	Radio and Internet Technology for Communication
RV	Richtersveld
SAP	Strategic Action Program
SCLP	Sustainable Coastal Livelihood Programs
SCSU	Southern Connecticut State University
SDI	Spatial Development Initiative
SKEP	Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Program
SMME	Small, medium and micro enterprise
SMOLE	Sustainable Management of Land and the Environment
TFCA	Transfrontier Conservation Area
UCT	University of Cape Town
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWC	University of the Western Cape
WSSD	World Summit for Sustainable Development

A - SUMMARY

1. The Benguela Current runs parallel to the coastline of South West Africa, from East of Cape Agulhas in South Africa to Northern Angola, and comprises one of four major coastal upwelling systems globally. The Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) is one of the World's most productive marine environments, supporting a rich marine life, including numerous fish, sea birds and marine mammals. Coastal communities have harvested the marine resources of the Benguela Current for millennia. The fishing industry has become an economic mainstay in the region, and provides an important source of livelihoods. In addition, the BCLME's marine resources provide recreational and subsistence use values to all three countries. The primary threats to the marine ecosystem include habitat loss and pollution, increasing exploitation of straddling fish stocks, impacts associated with oil and gas exploration and production, and mining and the introduction of invasive species, including algae, from ship ballast water. If left unchecked, these pressures threaten to undercut the livelihoods of local communities, while also undermining vital global environmental benefits.
2. In 1999, the three countries endorsed a Strategic Action Program (SAP) built on a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA). The SAP identified strategies to address threats documented in the TDA. The GEF/UNDP-supported BCLME Program was initiated in 2002 to implement the SAP. The BCLME Project takes a wider ecosystem-based approach to management that marks a departure from traditional fisheries management, and is laying the foundations for a long-term collaborative management system, overseen by a Regional Commission. Closely associated with the BCLME Program is the BENEFIT Program that operates over much of the same territory and effectively acts as a "scientific arm" to the BCLME Program by focusing on developing research programs and training personnel for this purpose as well as improving the scientific quality of the work of a range of institutions that it is associated with. While the BENEFIT/ BCLME collaboration is assisting to coordinate the management, utilization and protection of transboundary marine and coastal resources, there remains an important gap: knowledge management—to bridge the science with end users of scientific information in local governments and coastal communities. The BENEFIT/BCLME programs are successfully building capacity to remediate threats, yet there is an evermore apparent need to involve local communities much more actively in the management process as the ultimate beneficiaries of GEF-funded efforts.
3. Lack of information sharing has time and again been identified as a major obstacle for effective local community participation. The GEF launched the Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool (DLIST) pilot project in 1999 to assist in the discovery and development of mechanisms that will help overcome this obstacle. DLIST is an online platform (www.dlist.org) for BCLME coastal players with two components: information sharing through a number of functions such as a library, discussion forums, partner kiosks and message board; and distance learning, established as a fully

accredited course on *Sustainable Development in Coastal Areas* at Peninsula Technikon¹ in Cape Town. With the pilot project successfully completed DLIST is now ready to be implemented in the region.

4. The overall aim of DLIST-Benguela is to increase access of local communities to information that is critical to environmental management and sustainable livelihood creation, founded on the Benguela Current's coastal and marine resources. Already through the pilot, as a tool accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, DLIST is ideally positioned to translate the outputs from the science and institutional building actions and investigations of the BCLME and BENEFIT Programs into management action, through mass education and awareness building amongst stakeholder communities. The BCLME Program's focus is on facilitating adaptive management of the LME based on sound science and the active participation of all concerned stakeholders². The Program is providing support for the establishment of an Interim Benguela Current Commission (IBCC). Capacity building, within the IBCC and associated structures is considered key to the sustainable utilization of the array of resources contained in the BCLME, from artisanal fisheries to high tech exploitation of open sea resources. DLIST can contribute to the institution building/ capacity building by including a larger range of stakeholders in the overall management effort, and by broadening the management constituency. This is because DLIST promotes the sharing of ideas between coastal interest groups, different tiers of government and between a wide array of players that include local communities and the private sector. It also brings to its users information on emerging opportunities, shares the "lessons learned" by different sectors of society, and provides DLIST users with a strong and growing information base relating to the BCLME and its coastal areas.
5. Central to the rationale behind DLIST is the fundamental belief that knowledge empowers people and that shared knowledge based on sound principles and solid information can contribute to better governance and sustainable natural resource management, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation through the empowerment of groups and individuals. DLIST provides a platform to connect regional collaborative management programs such as the BCLME Program to their beneficiaries, thereby fostering collective thinking on how to achieve equitable and sustainable development solutions. Thus DLIST addresses the overall aim to protect the BCLME's ecological integrity and sustain the living marine resources that are vital to the sustainable development of coastal communities by narrowing the "information divide" and the

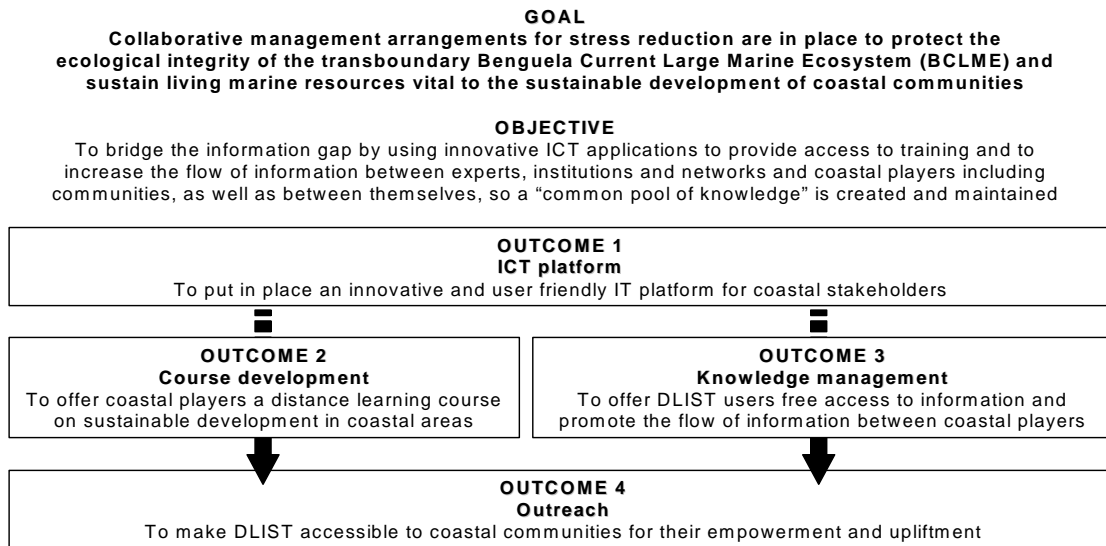
¹ Peninsula Technikon and Cape Technikon are being merged to form the Cape University of Technology (CPUT).

² The BCLME has 5 principal components, spearheaded in support of the SAP:

- (i) institution building and capacity development to facilitate joint management action within the region, leading to the formation of the Interim Benguela Regional Commission;
- (ii) policy and planning: harmonization of sector policies and preparation of joint management plans for fisheries, mariculture, coastal zone development, and other activities;
- (iii) applied research: studies investigating the causes and impacts of environmental variability, as a means of preparing predictive models that may inform management interventions;
- (iv) management action: on-the-ground management activities, including mitigation of harmful algal blooms, measures to prevent major oil spills, and attenuate habitat disturbance;
- (v) fund raising: securing investment finance to address priority unmet management needs.

“knowledge gap.”

6. Following from its goals and objectives DLIST-Benguela proposes four components that can be presented as outcomes:



7. DLIST promotes the sharing of experiences and “lessons learned” between the three countries that share the BCLME and ultimately aims at the empowerment of coastal communities and other players to participate in its management, thereby contributing to the objectives of the GEF’s Waterbody-based Operational Program (OP 8). DLIST’s horizontal and vertical outreach makes it a suitable mechanism to promote the creation of targeted alliances and strategic partnerships to facilitate achievement of waterbody targets (GEF Strategic Priority IW-1) and to promote South-to-South structure learning (GEF Strategic Priority IW-2).
8. While interest in DLIST is still rising, its trajectory is hampered by constraints the pilot phase web platform is experiencing and current limits in terms of what it can offer its users. Funding is sought to improve what the platform currently has to offer in terms of information sharing and distance learning, to boost its outreach to impoverished and rural communities and to expand it into Angolan coastal areas. Already the pilot DLIST has established itself as the main connection to local and regional communities for the UNDP-BCLME Program, and it has already yielded highly promising results in bringing together a wide range of players, including national, provincial and local government as well as NGOs and community-based interest groups. Through collaboration with various partners such as the BCLME Program, government departments, CBO, NGOs, and academic institutions, DLIST intends to expand its influence into regional and local jurisdictions of Angola, a country that is now entering a new era after the ending of a 27-year war.
9. Much discussion has ensued on whether DLIST should be moving away from the current platform sitting on a Washington DC-based server to one in-region. During the pilot phase certain difficulties were experienced in terms of transferring the necessary

capability to the region for fully managing the IT needs of DLIST. Difficulties included, and still do, however now to a much lesser extent, staff turnover, the unfamiliarity of the South African IT environment with ColdFusion, delays in much anticipated training to a point well after the pilot phase had ended, and the amalgamation of Peninsula Technikon with Cape Technikon into the Cape University of Technology (CPUT), a process that has had a long lead time and is only now reaching full speed. Fortunately ColdFusion is becoming increasingly commonly used in Cape Town and local service providers feel confident that they can manage the IT environment of DLIST (but this has not been fully proven, and DLIST cannot afford a lapse in its performance at this stage).

10. While the situation with respect to ColdFusion has improved in South Africa, especially over the last two years, it should be pointed out that DLIST will now be expanding into Angola, a country where IT capability is still growing yet where there is a strong and desire to manage IT environments of platforms aimed at an Angolan audience (the same need exists in Namibia). Another consideration is that a revised knowledge management platform is being developed by UNEP-IW:LEARN that should be investigated. However, considering that the current platform works already for the course component at Peninsula Technikon, unnecessary changeovers may have contrary effects. Considering the overall dynamic environment in terms of IT development and the geographical expansion of DLIST it is thought that hasty changes in terms of IT language and shifts in where the platform is hosted must be avoided, while at the same time regional ownership (obviously based on local conditions) should continue to be encouraged. Considering the number of evolving issues, the compromise may be that that the current server will be based in Washington for another year while it is fully anticipated that the necessary changes and improvements can be planned one step at a time during the first year of the project, with some adjustments and improvements to the platform starting as soon as clarity has been achieved after proper consultation with IT experts as well as those who use the platform on a regular basis.
11. The current DLIST platform already covers the coastal areas along the South African West Coast and parts of Namibia. However, the aim there is to further involve coastal communities in these countries through, for example, the emerging multi-purpose resource centers (MPRCs) and the Activity Centers of the BCLME Program. DLIST will be the major information sharing platform for coastal communities along a stretch of coast some 4000 km long, therewith providing a powerful and effective tool to share scientific findings and policy dialogue with communities on the ground where applicable and relevant. DLIST is therefore ideally positioned to both disseminate information to communities and gather their input on the three main focal areas of the BCLME Program, namely environmental variability, management of living marine resources (as illustrated by discussion threads pertaining to mariculture development, including transboundary perspectives) and of course pollution and biodiversity (where discussion threads from communities have already brought up issues in coastal mining, the Ramsar sites, etc.). The course content of the improved DLIST under the proposed funding will be adapted to meet the requirements of these three broad focus areas. Discussion with Peninsula Technikon staff under the PDF A phase has advanced far in terms of the institute agreeing to make more resources available in the form of

B - COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

1- COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY

12. The project is being submitted for funding under the International Waters (IW) window; all three countries are eligible for GEF funding under article 9b of the GEF instrument as recipients of UNDP technical assistance. Also, the three countries are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Other conventions ratified by the three government that have a bearing on DLIST are: The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea; the 1978 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (1973), modified by the 1978 protocol; the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (1974), protocols of 1978 and 1988, and the Safety of Life at Sea London Convention Protocol (1996); the Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (1969) and the Protocol (1992); the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992).

2- COUNTRY DRIVENNESS

13. The DLIST-Benguela Project enhances linkages between many programs and plans pertaining to coastal management and the livelihoods of coastal communities in the three counties. As an online platform for information sharing and distance learning, DLIST can support and help disseminate biodiversity conservation initiatives that respond to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) such as the Namib Coast Biodiversity Conservation and Management (NACOMA) Project and Angola's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), land degradation initiatives that are relevant in the context of international waters such as Namibia's National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD) and measures to implement the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. However, its main focus will be on supporting regional programs, namely the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) Program and the Benguela Environment Fisheries Interaction and Training (BENEFIT). As a tool accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, DLIST is ideally positioned to translate the outputs from the science investigations under these Programs into management action, through mass education and awareness building amongst stakeholders. DLIST will particularly support ground level structures such as community-driven Multi-purpose Resource Centers (MPRCs), educational outreach initiatives and the cooperatives system that extends along the entire coastline of Angola.
14. The proposed project will make a substantive contribution towards realization of Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) objectives along the Benguela coastline. This will support policy priorities and development strategies in all three countries. Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) is an established concept in Namibia and is widely recognized and supported in the National

15. The project will also strengthen decentralized governance systems for environmental management. Decentralization is in progress in all three countries though at different rates, and encountering different obstacles along the way. In a nutshell, decentralization seeks to transfer political, administrative, legislative, financial and planning authority from the central government to regional and local authority councils. Building on a strong policy and legal base, recent amendments to legislation in all three countries bring new commitment to decentralization. DLIST is already being used by local and regional governments, both for information sharing and distance learning.
16. The project's objectives and activities are responsive to the growing number of integrated development planning exercises in the region, and particularly relevant for the information sharing needs prevailing in Angola in a crucial time after three decades of war. DLIST can strengthen participatory processes by providing a forum where all players can air their views on equal terms. Integrated Development Plans (IDP), HIV strategies, Integrated Conservation and Development (ICD) strategies for the target countries can be displayed on DLIST for comment, as well as biome-wide environmental programs such as the BCLME SAP. DLIST can also play an important role in raising general awareness of priority issues in the region and unblocking progress in certain areas.
17. Finally, training needs are identified in virtually all statements of national priorities, action plans and programs. During a recent gathering of more than forty education ministers from across the African continent, distance learning has been hailed as a "door" to the education of the continent, and increasing funding is made available to institutions in the target countries to prepare them for distance learning alternatives. Emphasis is increasingly being placed on developing ICT capacity of local and regional governments. DLIST provides an ideal web-based platform for distance learning courses as has been shown already during the pilot phase. Existing courses that have a strong focus on coastal development and transboundary management can be adapted to be offered online to a wider audience. The distance learning component of the project, which will be extended to Namibia and Angola, can strengthen cooperation between

C - PROGRAM AND POLICY CONFORMITY

1- PROGRAM DESIGNATION AND CONFORMITY

18. The project is consistent with the GEF's Waterbody-based Operational Program (OP 8) and the OP 10: Contaminants-Based: Regional/Global Technical Support Component. The coastal areas in Angola, Namibia and South Africa flanked by the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) constitute the target area of DLIST-Benguela. The project contributes to an ecosystem approach by bridging the information gap between the different players in the region that depend on coastal and marine resources and have a stake in their management. DLIST promotes the sharing of experiences and "lessons learned" between the three countries that share the same waterbody and ultimately aims at the empowerment of coastal communities and other players to participate in its management.
19. GEF's strategic priority to catalyze financial resources for implementation of agreed actions (IW-1) emphasizes the need for targeted alliances and strategic partnerships among nations, agencies and development partners in order to achieve waterbody targets. These alliances and partnerships cannot be formed unless there is information sharing across vertical and horizontal axes and that is what DLIST-Benguela aims to achieve in the BCLME. DLIST's horizontal and vertical outreach also makes it a suitable mechanism to address cross-cutting issues. DLIST therefore can be viewed as an SP2 targeted learning project, primarily aimed at the BCLME region, but also increasingly involving other LMEs. DLIST places information sharing at the core of development, promotes South-to-South learning experiences and already shares experiences between the west and east coasts of Africa (BCLME and Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystems). Experiences in the three countries are shared on DLIST, where "lessons learned" from poverty alleviation projects have been and will continue to be posted and discussed. DLIST increasingly provides a platform to enhance distance learning focused on sustainable coastal development and make it accessible to a wider audience in different sectors of society. Such South-to-South "structured learning" contributes significantly to GEF's foundational/capacity building work in International Waters (IW-2).

2- PROJECT DESIGN

Background and Rationale

20. The Benguela Current runs parallel to the coastline of South West Africa, from East of Cape Agulhas in South Africa to Northern Angola, and comprises one of four major upwelling systems globally. It is a highly productive ecosystem with rich natural resources, supporting an important global reservoir of biodiversity and biomass of zooplankton, fish, seabirds and marine mammals. The BCLME supports vast populations of commercially exploitable fish species and the inshore marine

21. While the integrity of the BCLME is still largely intact as compared to other coastal environments, the ecosystem faces accelerating threats, which if left unchecked would threaten vital economic and ecological values. The primary threats include habitat loss and pollution, particularly in coastal areas adjacent to urban centers and potentially in mineral, gas and petroleum concessions; increasing exploitation of straddling fish stocks, in the absence of a coordinated regional management framework, threatening populations of sea birds and sea mammals that prey on the resources; and the introduction of alien invasive species, including algae from ship ballast. The transboundary nature of these threats means that regional cooperation will be essential to their mitigation. Information sharing thus becomes key in the present scenario and DLIST can play a crucial role in facilitating knowledge transfer between the different coastal players in the three countries. The aforementioned problems are compounded by increasing environmental variability in the Benguela system, triggered by global environmental changes, and manifest in fluctuations in the abundance and distribution of marine resources, including of commercially important species.
22. In 1999, the three countries endorsed a Strategic Action Program (SAP), signed by seven Ministers from the participating countries, identifying strategies and priority actions required to protect the Benguela ecosystem. The Program built on a thorough transboundary diagnostic analysis of pressures to the system, tracing their anthropogenic and natural determinants, and identifying institutional, policy related and other management related deficiencies. A number of measures have since been taken to facilitate regional cooperation.
23. In 2002, a GEF/ UNDP supported project – the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) Project—was initiated to implement elements of the SAP. The BCLME Project takes a wider ecosystem-based approach to management that marks a departure from traditional fisheries management, and is laying the foundations for a long-term collaborative management system, overseen by a Regional Commission. The key activities are: (i) institution building and capacity development: by facilitating joint management action within the region, leading to the formation of the Benguela Current Commission; (ii) policy and planning: harmonization of sector policies and preparation of joint management plans for fisheries, mariculture, coastal zone development, and

24. The BENEFIT/ BCLME collaboration is assisting to coordinate the management, utilization and protection of transboundary marine and coastal resources. The Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) has been completed and the SAP is in effect. However, while these programs are successfully building capacity to remediate threats, there is an ever more apparent need to involve local communities much more actively in the process. They are the ultimate beneficiaries of the GEF-funded efforts. There remains an unmet need for effective knowledge management—to bridge the science with end users of scientific and other information in coastal communities. Yet there are many barriers to effective local community participation. The most important one, identified over and over during workshops as well as participative and statutory planning processes such as the Integrated Development Planning (IDP) process, is lack of information. Not only lack of information regarding processes, but also with respect to access and opportunity; furthermore, it is well recognized in the new democratic dispensations that information flow should be two-way, thus requiring effective mechanisms by which this can be accomplished, and not only in terms of the now outdated descriptions along a vertical axis, but in fact in terms of a “common pool of knowledge” where the value of information is not necessarily tied to the status of the source. In other words, the masses deserve to have a voice of their own, and that it should be heard, in the same way that the value of good science should be respected.
25. From the above it leads that SAP implementation exercises increasingly need to involve an ever-widening range of stakeholders. While non-renewable resources are becoming exhausted, the rich Benguela Current holds the promise of a better future for the overall three-country region where debilitating poverty is endemic and worsening. Integrated planning is the key to a better and more secure life for the people of the region and the survival of its unique biological and cultural heritage. Access to updated information in user-friendly formats, meeting diverse needs posed by a wide range of stakeholders, is therefore critical in terms of informing mandatory integrated development planning processes. These processes include decentralization in different stages of progress, as well as other processes underway to integrate and coordinate activities around the implementation of multilateral environmental conventions. Furthermore, access to relevant information will help impoverished communities to develop alternative livelihoods to the downscaling mining industry and to face obstacles in the fishing and tourism sectors. If they remain uninformed it is highly likely that opportunities will again pass them by while outside and better-resourced parties will benefit. While DLIST is essentially internet based, it will continue to transcend internet accessibility by spreading information through articles and local papers and newsletters as it has

26. The baseline for the region is lack of information sharing, lack of education opportunities and a poor understanding between stakeholders in the BCLME on how to use its resources, and those in the adjacent coastal areas, in a sustainable manner. Capacity weakness at the systemic level explains this baseline situation. Not only is institutional capacity insufficient, but also information systems and protocols for information dissemination to and from communities are limited. Access to environmental education is limited and appropriate education systems for coastal communities without access to formal education are lacking. The consequences are poor management response, lack of community support for management actions towards sustainable use of resources, such as restrictions on fish harvesting, and weak co-management systems owing to poor capacity on the community side to participate.
27. Table 1 lists some examples in the main categories of stakeholders from the pilot phase. Almost all of them already had formal contact with the DLIST pilot in one way or another, including personal visits to the DLIST pilot secretariat, postings on DLIST, provision of information, etc. and those organizations are denoted by *. Many more stakeholders can of course benefit from the proposed MSP, and probably most of them will fall in the same main categories. Figure 1 again illustrates the wide spread of stakeholder types, while Figure 2 shows the increase of visitors during the pilot phase.

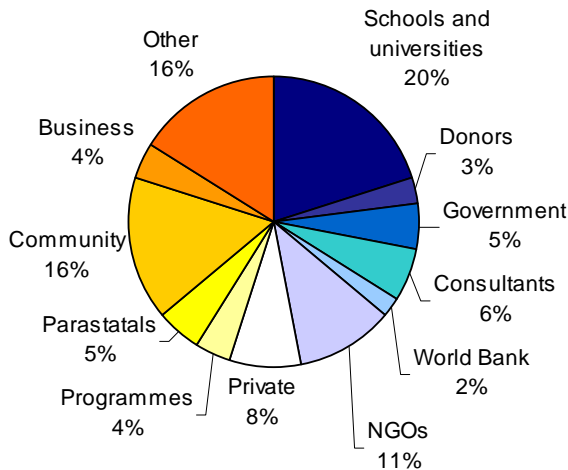


Figure 1: Origin of DLIST registered users during pilot phase

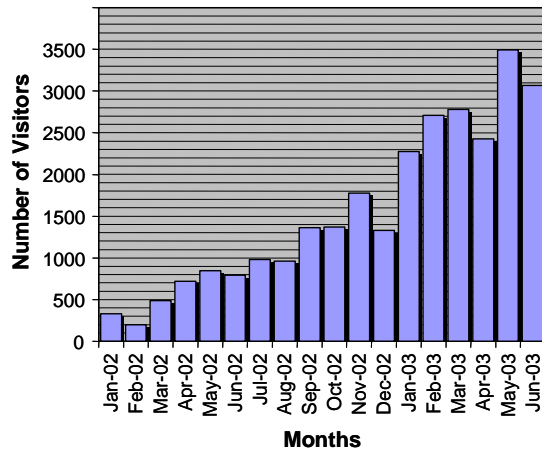


Figure 2: Number of visitors to DLIST during pilot phase

Table 1: Main Stakeholder Groups

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS AND EXAMPLES	INTEREST / CONTRIBUTION
<p>Academic Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peninsula Technikon* – South Africa ▪ University of Delaware – United States of America ▪ The University of Toamasina* – Madagascar ▪ The University of Cape Town (UCT) – South Africa ▪ The University of the Western Cape (UWC) – South Africa ▪ Royal Holloway University of London – England ▪ Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) – United States of America ▪ The University of Namibia (UNAM)* – Namibia ▪ Duke University – United States of America ▪ The Cape University of Technology (CPUT)³ – South Africa ▪ The Polytechnic of Namibia – Namibia ▪ Agostinho Neto University – Angola ▪ The University of Dar es Salaam – Tanzania 	<p>One distance learning course has been accredited at CPUT in South Africa; universities in Namibia and Angola are interested in developing variations of the course; and universities in East Africa have also shown interest in offering courses on the future DLIST Agulhas and Somali.</p>
<p>Community Based Organizations (CBOs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Hondeklipbaai Multi-Purpose Research Centre (MPRC)* – South Africa ▪ The Kookfontein Tourism Development Centre* – South Africa ▪ Feon' ny Ala* – Madagascar ▪ Richtersveld Community-based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Program* – South Africa ▪ The Richtersveld Community Conservancy* – South Africa 	<p>CBOs post their profile on DLIST; voice their concerns and participate in the discussion forums; and access information.</p>
<p>Non Governmental Institutions (NGOs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peace Parks Foundation (PPF) – South Africa ▪ United National Development Program (UNDP) – Namibia/ Angola ▪ Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC)* – Namibia ▪ UNDP section on Biodiversity Conservation to the Ministry of Urban Planning and Environment* – Angola ▪ Fair Trade in Tourism* – South Africa ▪ Green Development Foundation – The Netherlands ▪ Conservation International (CI), Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Unit* – South Africa ▪ Legal Resources Centre (LRC)* – South Africa 	<p>NGOs post their profile on DLIST; voice their concerns and participate in the discussion forums; and access information.</p>
<p>Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alexkor Ltd, Mariculture Department* – South Africa ▪ De Beers Consolidated Mines (Namaqualand Division)* ▪ De Beers Marine* – Namibia and South Africa ▪ NAMDEB – Namibia ▪ Gariep Spatial Development Initiative* (SDI) – South Africa 	<p>Industry follows the discussions and can access and contribute information.</p>

³ CPUT is currently being formed as an amalgamation of Peninsula Technikon and Cape Technikon

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS AND EXAMPLES	INTEREST / CONTRIBUTION
<p>Programs and Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Succulent Karoo Ecosystems Plan (SKEP)* – South Africa and Namibia ▪ Working for the Coast (CoastCare) Program* – South Africa ▪ Hondeklipbaai Working for the Coast (CoastCare) team* – South Africa ▪ The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Committee (ICZMC)* – Namib Coast Biodiversity Conservation and Management Project (NACOMA)* – Namibia ▪ Benguela Environment Fisheries Interaction and Training Program (BENEFIT) – Namibia ▪ Gariiep Spatial Development Initiative (SDI)* – South Africa and Namibia ▪ The Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) Program* – Namibia, Angola, South Africa ▪ The Cape Action for People and the Environment (CAPE) Project – South Africa ▪ Richtersveld NORAD World Heritage Site Program* – South Africa ▪ The Richtersveld Community-based Conservation Project* – South Africa ▪ The Richtersveld GTZ/Transform project* – South Africa ▪ Orange River Mouth Working for Wetlands Program* – South Africa 	<p>Dissemination of information about the programs (some programs such as SKEP used DLIST for information dissemination until own website was created); active involvement in discussions; contribution of documents to the library.</p>
<p>Government Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Richtersveld Local Municipality* – South Africa ▪ The Kamiesberg Local Municipality – South Africa ▪ The Walvis Bay Municipality* – Namibia ▪ The Karas Regional Council* – Namibia ▪ The Hardap Regional Council* – Namibia ▪ The Kunene Regional Council* – Namibia ▪ The Erongo Regional Council* – Namibia ▪ The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of Namibia* ▪ The Office of the Minister of Education of South Africa* ▪ <i>Instituto de Desenvolvimento da Pesca Artesanal</i> or Institute for Development of Artisanal Fisheries* – Angola ▪ The Office of the Deputy Minister of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa (DEA&T)* ▪ The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF)* of South Africa ▪ The Office of the MEC, Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, Conservation and Environment* – South Africa ▪ Marine and Coastal Management (MCM) of the DEA&T* – South Africa ▪ Office Nationale pour l'Environment – Madagascar* 	<p>Participation in discussions; regional planners from Namibia have enrolled in distance learning course; contribution of documents to the library.</p>

28. Interest in DLIST is still rising⁴ in terms of registered users and many more visitors to the website (see Figure 2) but its trajectory is hampered by constraints the pilot phase web platform is experiencing and current limits in terms of what it can offer its users. Funding is sought to improve what the platform currently has to offer in terms of information sharing and distance learning, to boost its outreach to impoverished and rural communities and to expand it into Angolan coastal areas that not only are part and parcel of the BCLME but also show great promise to sustain the larger coastal

⁴ The number of DLIST registered users has increased exponentially from 74 in August 2002 to 308 currently. These registered users represent a wide cross section of society including NGOs, academia, donors, programs, government, the private sector and communities.

populations provided they can be assisted to develop their resources in a sustainable manner.

29. Already the pilot DLIST has established itself as the main connection to local and regional communities for the UNDP-Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) Program, and it has already yielded highly promising results in bringing together a wide range of players, including national, provincial and local government as well as NGOs and community-based interest groups. Although the pilot phase has come to an end, the distance learning part of DLIST has been established as a fully accredited tertiary institution course and several other institutions have now shown an interest in developing their own DLIST applications. To serve the growing DLIST audience, and to further expand its reach, local level moderators will be trained and appointed to stimulate and enrich discussions. The administrator will focus mostly on the smooth running of the web-based platform, but the information content will be improved and its dissemination enhanced by local teams that work closely with the BCLME Program and other relevant entities. The 911 function will be zealously operated to bring environmental assistance to parties on the ground.
30. Through collaboration with various partners such as the BCLME Program, government departments, CBO, NGOs, academic institutions, etc., DLIST intends to expand its influence into regional and local jurisdictions of Angola, a country that is now entering a new era after the ending of a 27-year war. The current DLIST platform already covers the coastal areas along the South African West Coast and parts of Namibia. However, the aim there is to further involve coastal communities in these countries through emerging multi-purpose resource centers (MPRCs) established with poverty alleviation funding. DLIST will also be used to connect the Activity Centers of the BCLME Program with communities and other role players such as the resource centers planned for coastal communities in Angola using a blend of donor and government funding allocated to the Institute for the Development of Artisanal Fisheries (IPA).

Project Logical Framework and Benefits

31. During the pilot phase, the DLIST information sharing platform has been used by a diverse cross section of society (see Figure 1). Already the pilot DLIST has established itself as the main connection to local and regional communities for the BCLME Program and has the potential to serve the same function to other equally important programs in the region and even in other LMEs. Donor programs themselves have made good use of the DLIST pilot to reach a wider audience, the GEF supported Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Plan (SKEP) and the NACOMA Project under preparation being only some examples. During the pilot phase, regional councils and municipalities in Namibia, the SKEP Program, the BCLME Program, and Multi-Purpose Resource Centers (MPRCs), for example, have opened kiosks on DLIST to post documents and make other coastal players aware of their aims and activities. During the MSP the DLIST platform and information sharing functions will be enhanced and new functions added to respond to the needs of coastal players that were assessed during the pilot phase and the PDF phase, and will continue to be assessed for the duration of the project. A common and ever-growing “pool of knowledge” will be created that not only

32. This project also aims to bring DLIST closer to the ground and reach communities in poverty-stricken rural areas. It will use existing and emerging structures to establish focal points for wider access to DLIST based at resource centers. For communities where there are no phone lines it will download DLIST using the World Space satellite (ten satellite download pilots will be established during the MSP). Where literacy levels are low, “bush radio” technology will be utilized as part of a network being developed by RANET (Radio and Internet Technology for Communication⁵) will be utilized, especially in high density coastal population centers (such as in Angola where a large proportion of the population lives along the coast and depends on coastal resources)⁶. Through collaboration with various partners such as the BCLME Program, government departments, CBOs, NGOs and academic institutions, DLIST intends to expand its influence into regional and local jurisdictions of Angola. The Institute for Development of Artisanal Fisheries (IPA) of the Ministry of Fisheries, for example, can play a major role in promoting information sharing with the coastal communities through the support centers that are planned for the coastal provinces. The current DLIST platform already covers the coastal areas along the South African West Coast and parts of Namibia. However, the aim in Namibia is to further involve coastal communities in these countries through emerging MPRCs and museums established with poverty alleviation funding, youth centers, and indigenous groups such as the Richtersveld Sida Hub Community Property Association (CPA) and the Topnaar Foundation Cooperative.
33. Already people such as regional planners, MPRC managers and community leaders have participated in the distance learning part of DLIST and received accreditation from the Peninsula Technikon in Cape Town. In times when distance learning is perceived as the answer to lack of access to training in Africa, the DLIST template can spawn further courses on an as-needed basis, by making existing courses available to distance learners. During the PDF phase, the University of Namibia (UNAM) and the Polytechnic Institute in Namibia, as well as the University Agostinho Neto in Angola have shown interest in adapting semester courses to be offered on a distance learning basis using the DLIST platform. Courses focusing on the BCLME, associated coastal areas and transboundary problems and management solutions will increase cooperation between these institutions as well as other academic and research institutions such as the newly established Marine and Coastal Resources Research Centre in Henties Bay, the Marine Research Institute (IIM) in Angola and also the BCLME Program Activity Centers. The benefits brought by the current distance learning course will be expanded

⁵ Please visit www.ranetproject.net for more information.

⁶ ‘Bush radios’ will be acquired at \$ 6000 each and satellite download equipment at approximately \$ 150 each as well as solar-powered laptops in ten pilots for this exciting new technology with potentially far-reaching implications, thus driving up the equipments item in Table 3.

It is expected that by the end of the MSP over 200 people will have received accredited training because of DLIST.

34. The MSP will be carried out over a period of three years, during which the “lessons learned” during the DLIST pilot phase⁸ and the input gathered during the PDF phase will be used to improve the platform, make it more useful to the coastal communities, and establish stronger roots along the coast that can ensure the sustainability of the project after this period. One goal of the project is to ensure that collaborative management arrangements for stress reduction are in place to protect the ecological integrity of the transboundary Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) and sustain living marine resources vital to the sustainable development of coastal communities. Critical to such arrangements will be the inclusion of the coastal population at large and key role players and stakeholders within it, and this will be promoted through information sharing and distance learning. The Project’s specific objective is to bridge the information gap by using innovative ICT applications to provide training and to increase the flow of information between experts, institutions and networks and coastal players including communities, as well as between themselves, so a “common pool of knowledge” is created and maintained. Annex I presents the logical framework and Tables 1 and 2 in the Monitoring and Evaluation section presents the project’s goals and expected outputs as well as associated indicators.
35. Potential risks include language barriers (now that DLIST will be expanded into Angola), difficult access to computers and internet access, and mismatch of information content on DLIST with information required or held by coastal players. The project will investigate possibilities to enable the use of other languages, particularly Portuguese: a course variation will be created in Angola in Portuguese, and mechanisms are being investigated and will be tested to offer the information in the platform in other languages than English. Communication gaps will be assessed so as to identify suitable ICT and other solutions to bridge the gap between DLIST and communities in rural areas with no access to internet. Finally, the project will (re)assess information sharing needs during the project duration to make sure the platform addresses the evolving needs of coastal players. It will also establish or strengthen strong formal links with programs targeting the BCLME coastal areas to ensure it will continue to be used by these programs as a mechanism to help disseminate results to the wider population.

⁷ In 2004 a record number of 55 students enrolled in the DLIST course Sustainable development in Coastal Areas at Peninsula Technikon, at least ten of them being from other institutions and two being government officials from Tanzania (head of the coastal departmental sections in Zanzibar and Pemba).

⁸ See for example the DLIST Final Report compiled in September 2002 and available on the DLIST website www.dlist.org.

Mabudafhasi, R. (2002). *The Role of Knowledge Management and Information Sharing in Capacity Building for Sustainable Development – An Example from South Africa*. World Bank Institute, WBI Working Papers; and Odendaal, F. (2003). *Can ICT effectively bridge the information and knowledge gap across geographical and social boundaries?* (prepared for the 6th Water Information Summit, Delft, Netherlands, see: www.dlist.org).

Goals, Project Purpose and Objectives

36. The following table presents the project goal and objective, as well as the four project outcomes and associated expected outputs.

PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVE	
Goal To ensure that collaborative management arrangements for stress reduction are in place to protect the ecological integrity of the transboundary BCLME and sustain living marine resources vital to the sustainable development of coastal communities	
Objective To bridge the information gap by using innovative ICT applications to provide access to training and to increase the flow of information between experts, institutions and networks and coastal players including communities, as well as between themselves, so a “common pool of knowledge” is created and maintained	
PROJECT OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	
Outcome 1 ICT platform: to put in place an innovative and user friendly IT platform for coastal stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 An improved DLIST portal that is easier to use, has more functionality and addresses needs of coastal players more efficiently 1.2 Server installed, running, test-driven and maintained and IT staff trained to maintain the server on a long-term basis
Outcome 2 Course development: to offer coastal players a distance learning course on sustainable development in coastal areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Ideas and 'lessons learned' by CAPUT shared and academic institutions in Angola, Namibia and South Africa on board for distance learning course development 2.2 Distance learning courses developed, packaged, available on the DLIST portal and continuously improved and updated during project implementation and a growing number of coastal players with enhanced knowledge on sustainable development in coastal areas 2.3 Teaching staff at institutions in the three countries trained; teaching staff and students' knowledge enhanced through exposure and multiple interaction
Outcome 3 Knowledge management: to promote free access and flow of information between coastal players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 An updated portal that responds to the evolving needs of coastal players 3.2 A dynamic portal built by coastal players where they can access information pertaining to the BCLME coastal areas from a multitude of sources in one single place, disseminate their own information, and enhance their knowledge 3.3 A dynamic portal where coastal players can air their views and raise their concerns and a mechanism to organise and boost new knowledge 3.4 People involved in DLIST trained on knowledge management issues and better prepared to use DLIST as a platform to make things happen on the ground
Outcome 4 Outreach: to make the ICT platform accessible to coastal communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 A growing network of structures, Programs and organisations in the BCLME coastal areas that are linked through DLIST 4.2 Coastal players in the three countries aware of the existence of DLIST and enjoying ready access to DLIST 4.3 "Lessons learned" through DLIST shared with other LMEs and cross-LME links established

Streamlined Incremental Cost Analysis

37. While the BCLME coastal areas are flanked by one of the most productive and richest currents in the world, most coastal inhabitants live in varying degrees of poverty with a large percentage experiencing abject and debilitating poverty. The latent values of different resources and the potential opportunities that they can bring to people are often unknown or known only to a few people. Although tertiary institutes exist, they are either inland or in centers at extreme ends of the long coastlines and often isolated coastal areas. Hence opportunity has remained in the hands of few. There are signs that new policies will be soon underway and that positive political processes are on the move, and that these “winds of change” will bring new opportunities to coastal inhabitants.
38. One such process is decentralization. In Namibia for instance, the Regional Councils in partnership with ground level structures will play an increasing role in coastal planning, policy making, management and development of coastal communities. However, the process is bound to be slow although there are signs that it is picking up. In Angola the *Instituto de Desenvolvimento da Pesca Artesanal* or Institute for Development of Artisanal Fisheries (IPA) has coastal centers planned for the Angolan coastlines that will have training and information sharing as a component. Coastal communities in the other two countries do not have much being offered to them in terms of distance learning and information hearing, although in South Africa MCM and DEA&T do have five new coastal poverty alleviation projects that have limited training components in them.
39. The baseline cost is estimated at \$ 1,000,000 per year, and US\$ 3,000,000 over the life of the project, excluding costs associated with the decentralization programme in Namibia as mentioned above.
40. The Global Environmental Objectives of the project are to build capacity for sustainable use of the region’s marine and resources through distance learning and information sharing. The project will secure GEF incremental funding to complement other financing sourced from the partners in the project, including four tertiary institutions (Agostinho Neto University, Cape University of Technology and Namibia Polytechnic Institute) and IPA. In Angola there are strong indications that decentralization of coastal resource management will eventually be focused on the fishing cooperatives through IPA. More than anything else decentralization is greatly hampered by the lack of information. Laws and decrees aimed at setting decentralization in motion exist, but few people are aware of them. All of these initiatives and mandates are good ones, but they are occurring very slowly. The GEF intervention will provide a powerful mechanism for spreading information to levels of society beyond the privileged and well-informed classes of people. DLIST will make use of existing and soon to be established structures and organization to play its role. Therefore the GEF intervention of \$ 773 000 (including PDF A funds) can have a tremendous incremental effect over the baseline by leveraging co-funding (US\$

3- SUSTAINABILITY (INCLUDING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY)

41. The activities envisaged in this project will result in a wide spectrum of individuals, organizations, programs and structures using and benefiting from DLIST. The platform is fed and sustained by its users, which represent a cross-section of society as the results of the pilot phase have demonstrated (see Figure 1). Increased access is expected to continue with expanding useful knowledge that DLIST will aspire to provide during the implementation phase by bridging the gap between programs and intended beneficiaries. As more and more people, programs and donors access DLIST and use the information sharing and distance learning mechanisms offered, they will become key users of DLIST who will continue posting and accessing information and engaging in debates, which ultimately contributes to local empowerment and uplifting through knowledge.
42. The main vehicle for assuring sustainability will come from mainstreaming DLIST into the activities of tertiary institutions, BCLME management institutions and DLIST partners. The establishment of the Interim Benguela Current Commission (IBCC) is evolving with support from the BCLME Program and institutional links between DLIST and the IBCC will be created. The experience of the pilot was very positive. After a long initial search⁹ for an academic “home” for the DLIST course, a highly appropriate regional solution was found with a strong student feeder stream along the BCLME coastal areas, namely the Peninsula Technikon based in Cape Town. Today, the DLIST course, appropriately named *Environmental Engineering – Sustainable Development in Coastal Areas* is a fully accredited course, now embedded in the annual curriculum offerings of the institute. It had an intake of 55 students in the second year it ran, which even included students from as far away as Tanzania. Students from other institutions also enrolled in the course as it is a first of its kind in South Africa. Local, provincial and regional government planners from all four coastal regions of Namibia and several local governments (municipalities) in Namibia and South Africa have enrolled in the course thus far. There has been interest from Angola, but geographic, language and other barriers have thus far prevented students from taking the course itself (though there has been participation in discussion threads). The challenge will now be to repeat the positive experience with Peninsula Technikon in Angola, which will overcome these constraints.
43. Information sharing is not costly to sustain as it requires no additional hardware to that which already exists. It mostly requires willingness from programs and donors to share information, which is required under the new IW strategy, and eager and willing human resources to manage and maintain networks and systems. Such eagerness is amply illustrated by the Peninsula Technikon, soon to be amalgamated into the Cape

⁹ During this search dialogue with institutions such as the Royal Holloway University of London, Duke University, Connecticut State University, the University of Cape Town ensued during which valuable lessons were learned in terms of constraints in distance learning.

University of Technology that has already started to set aside, and budget for ICT personnel and equipment to carry the distance learning part of DLIST in years to come. As long as there is need for information DLIST will be sustainable, and projects are increasingly being asked to include information sharing components into their design. Existing GEF Programs such as IW:Learn and the BCLME Program, other projects such as SKEP and UNDP Small Grants, as well as conferences such as the forthcoming third GEF IW conference in Brazil can and will be used to help ensure sustainability by encouraging participants to broaden their outreach and providing them with the means to do so. The feasibility of establishing a partial cost-recovery system to operate DLIST will be assessed during implementation.

44. Integrated in the academic institutions' curricula, the distance learning course(s), based in three countries and using two languages, will continue to be offered after project implementation. The DLIST pilot course at Peninsula Technikon continues operating after pilot funding ceased, showing that similar initiatives will be sustainable as long as there is interest from the part of the academic institutions (clearly stated in the letters of commitment from the University of Namibia and Angola's University Agostinho Neto attached to this proposal). It is anticipated that over the three years of the MSP, the information sharing part will also become self-sustainable by DLIST generating enough interest and income from distance learning for a part-time (initially) and, if needed later, a full-time administrator that will make sure DLIST provides sufficient information and services to a large lattice of actively involved and interested role players (already there are over sixty departments, organizations, structures, programs, projects, etc. involved in a direct or indirect way in the pilot, and this number could be over three hundred by the end of the MSP).
45. Significantly, the Peninsula Technikon has already allocated dedicated space for DLIST in its newly built library where staff seconded to DLIST and post-graduate students can collaborate in keeping content fresh and updated, while the ICT needs will be taken care of by the IT Department. The configuration carries the full support of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, and may very well be emulated by the tertiary institutions targeted in the current proposal on a "lessons learned" basis. The institution has also agreed that course fees from students enrolled in the distance learning part of DLIST (meaning students distantly located from the campus *vs* web-assisted students that use DLIST but are still based on-campus) will be made available for the development and maintenance of DLIST. Furthermore, several poverty reduction and other development programs have indicated that they will be willing to pay for using the DLIST facility from their public awareness budgets as DLIST provides a much cheaper alternative to them than to "re-invent the wheel" in terms of building up stakeholder data bases and finding ways of reaching them on a regular basis. Public awareness and involvement can be an extremely expensive process in a target area that is marked by long distances and several international borders that can make workshops prohibitively expensive and cumbersome to organize because of visa constraints. It is thought that the question of financial sustainability can be addressed through a simple feasibility study that will both look at its running costs and analyze the exact information sharing needs of a basket of programs currently in preparation, as well as the second cycle of the BCLME Program.

46. Continued capacity building is critical for the sustainability of DLIST as more people will be enabled to take full advantage of what DLIST has to offer. EcoAfrica was the DLIST implementer during the pilot phase and has played an important role in keeping DLIST active, updated and interactive. During the MSP IKM¹⁰ will continue to play this role as it is ideally positioned to disseminate updated information from both program implementers and beneficiaries. IKM will continue to build local capacity in the three countries in key organizations and structures that can play this role in future, for instance in the MPRCs and Angolan resource centers.
47. DLIST belongs to its users and therefore it is the usefulness of DLIST to its users that can ensure sustainability after the project. By engaging more DLIST partners to disseminate information through DLIST, local moderators to ensure substantiated and useful discussions, focal points to provide the link with the communities, as well as training DLIST users on knowledge management, this project aims to build the capacity among key individuals, organizations and structures that can in the future keep DLIST online, interactive, constantly evolving and fresh. It is also expected that by providing a platform which donor-funded programs can benefit from, funding required after implementation can be guaranteed through collaborative and mutual support between DLIST and those programs.

4- REPLICABILITY

48. The activities envisaged for this project build on the results and experience gained during the pilot phase of DLIST and aim at enhancing the sharing of information and knowledge between different players in the BCLME coastal areas. The design of the DLIST platform is such that it enables sharing of experiences and “lessons learned” from projects and programs through discussion forums, transfer of knowledge through the 911 function, information exchange through the library and photo library, and dissemination of knowledge through partners’ kiosks. Further activities are planned to share and transfer knowledge among DLIST users and partners, such as the workshop about distance learning with participants from academic institutions involved in the three countries, exchange visits and training and backup support on communication, information knowledge and proposal writing that will be provided to DLIST users. Finally, the experience and “lessons learned” through DLIST-Benguela will be shared with other LMEs through cross-visits and links to similar developments. In fact, this experience sharing is already taking place with the Agulhas and Somali LME where a similar DLIST is being planned in the framework of a broad GEF project. Envisaged activities for the DLIST-Benguela project are detailed in the Logical Framework (Annex I).

¹⁰ International Knowledge Management (IKM) is a regional NGO that includes key people from the EcoAfrica team that were involved in the development and maintenance of DLIST as well as members in Namibia, Angola, Botswana, Madagascar and Tanzania. It has implemented several GEF Small Grants through UNDP as well as other funding and is enjoying growing success throughout the region in terms of capacity building.

5- STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

49. DLIST has during the pilot phase served and involved a cross-section of society from government to NGOs, academia and communities. These DLIST users have continuously provided feedback on the project during workshops, in person-to-person meetings and visits to key nodes. Additionally, DLIST users were involved in the PDF preparation phase through calls for input on DLIST, workshops, discussion groups and meetings in the three countries. The discussion groups, workshops and meetings held during the preparation phase have helped identify more organizations, structures and programs that can contribute to, and benefit from DLIST and this process of stakeholder identification will continue during project implementation. The input gathered – in the form of information sharing needs; structures, organizations and programs that should be involved; activities required to disseminate and make DLIST useful in the national/regional contexts; and options for developing course variations in Namibia and Angola – has informed this MSP, while at the same time introducing the project and getting different players on board. A streamlined review process of this proposal, whereby comments were invited from key stakeholders and DLIST users through the portal's discussion forums, has further ensured wide participation.
50. Stakeholder participation is embedded in the project, as DLIST is built and maintained by the different entities and people along the coast. DLIST users participate in the project by using the portal – be it to take part in discussions, contribute or retrieve useful information, keep themselves informed about what happens in the BCLME region, post the profile of their organization or program, access the growing DLIST network, use the 911 function or participate in distance learning courses. Several programs and projects targeting the BCLME coastal areas can build links to DLIST and use the platform to disseminate information and share “lessons learned” with the people that are the ultimate beneficiaries, the communities. Through DLIST coastal communities and other entities can have a voice and access to more opportunities to actively participate in their region's development planning and contribute to poverty alleviation, the ultimate goal of DLIST.
51. Lack of access to computers and illiteracy among communities that need information are social issues that may represent an obstacle to wide stakeholder participation and that need to be considered. The provision, equipping and training of focal points will contribute to making DLIST more accessible to communities in rural areas. DLIST partners and focal points can play a role in bridging the gap between DLIST and people who still cannot use DLIST, by transmitting information orally or through community radio stations. While it is impossible to reach everyone in the coastal areas, DLIST has the potential to link different role players and promote the spread of information through a growing network of informed and updated stakeholders.

6- MONITORING AND EVALUATION

52. Monitoring of the project will be undertaken by the project coordination team together with the focal points and DLIST users. Monitoring and evaluation activities will include

53. It is important to note that DLIST discussion lists are still active two years after the pilot ended (= indicating *de facto* sustainability). During the proposed next phase careful monitoring will be undertaken by extracting number of posters in discussion forums, the number of discussion threads, course enrollees and graduates that are all considered critical indicators of penetration to, and DLIST's impact on the target community, and by juxtaposing such data over the baseline and through analysis of such data every six months. By comparing status of indicators over baseline levels impacts can be measured over the course of the project. More current level participation indicators will be added after an initial collective planning meeting (since such indicators will rely on the efforts of four institutions in addition to the DLIST administrative team).

D - FINANCING

1- FINANCING PLAN

Costing by Activity

54. Based on the results of the preparation phase, the project will address a set of activities¹¹ for each of the four outcomes, costed as described below. As an evolving portal that needs to be continuously refreshed and adapted to meet emerging needs of the coastal players, some activities will be enhanced or further detailed during project implementation.
55. **Outcome 1: ICT platform:** The aim is to improve the DLIST portal to make it more user-friendly and better address the needs of coastal players on a long-term basis, at a cost of US\$ 115,000.
56. *Activity 1.1. Improve and maintain the DLIST portal based on results from the pilot phase and feedback from users during the PDF phase.* The results of the pilot phase and input gathered during the PDF phase will be reviewed to assess IT options for improvement. DLIST existing functions will be improved and new functions added. For example, the architecture of the discussion forums and message board will be improved for easier navigation, and sort and search functions will be added to the library. New

¹¹ Please see Appendix I for more details on project activities and steps.

functions will be added for a photo library and a 911 function¹². Options identified during the PDF phase to enable the use of Portuguese language in the portal will be tested. The improved portal will be loaded in the server and test-driven. During the project period, IT maintenance services will be provided to maintain the portal.

57. *Activity 1.2. Install and maintain server to manage ICT of distance learning courses in South Africa, Namibia and Angola.* Several options are being investigated (see paragraph 9 above), including boosting the IT departments of the institutions mentioned to maintain the DLIST IT platform and adapt it to changing needs, to enlisting the Washington based server to maintain DLIST through the MSP phase. While the latter option is tempting for the sake of convenience, the sustainability issue will not be fully addressed and will again surface at the end of the MSP (see potential compromises under paragraph 9 above). Therefore option for “local ownership” of the platform need to be investigated in trade-offs between financial considerations and increased cost of regional capacity building¹³. Potential servers have been identified although a new one may need to be purchased or the current one up graded. *ColdFusion* license will be acquired and IT staff will be trained to be able to maintain the server on a long-term basis.
58. **Outcome 2: Course development:** Two or three distance learning courses¹⁴ will be offered on DLIST involving several institutions in Namibia and Angola. The course on sustainable development in coastal areas, accredited by Peninsula Technikon, will not only be improved, but also variations of the course will be created that are adapted to the realities of Angola and Namibia, at a cost of \$US 165,000.

¹² The 911 Help Function, which has been operating informally, will be better developed by having experts stand ready to address technical questions, and provide users with assistance they may have difficulty getting elsewhere, for instance reviewing mine rehabilitation plans in community-owned land, explaining mining EA regulations, providing access to key government people that communities may not be aware of, etc. etc. The Photo Library will provide emerging tourism SMMEs with visual material for brochures, CBOs, schools, etc. with illustration material for reports, projects, etc. etc. – a function that has been operating informally but now increased volume of requests warrant an on-line library of photographs relevant to the BCLME and associated coastal areas.

¹³ Peninsula Technikon staff benefited from training by AJH Consultants in Washington but training was far and few between and due to unforeseen circumstances delayed to well beyond the end date of the pilot. The current EcoAfrica IT service provider also benefited from interactions with the consultants but it is clear that training has to be stepped up considerably and delivered systematically, and that a larger group should benefit from training so broader-based back-up team can be created. Training will also include Namibians and Angolans, and will finally extend beyond maintaining the IT base only to include writing, communication and potentially environmental journalism (the Peninsula Technikon journalism department is eager to become involve in this, and discussion with relevant staff indicates high potential for such activities to fall under the umbrella of the journalism department).

¹⁴ The previous pilot was not specifically aligned with the BCLME Program but since the WSSD the synergy was fostered strongly from both sides. Now the courses have to be aligned more closely with BCLME Program objectives, although this will happen to varying degrees in the four institutions that will become involved. CPUPT’s team will now include a strong contingent of staff members that have a strong interest in pollution and public health, the Namibia Polytechnic has a specific interest in living marine resources and Agostinho Neto University has put key biodiversity experts in their team (as well as experts from the Museum of Natural History who attended DLIST meetings at the university).

59. *Activity 2.1. Assess options for distance learning courses in South Africa, Namibia and Angola.* The experience acquired by Peninsula Technikon with the DLIST course during the pilot phase will be shared in a workshop where lecturers and DLIST focal points from the various academic institutions currently interested in distance learning course development will discuss options for course variations.
60. *Activity 2.2. Prepare/improve and offer distance learning versions of courses in South Africa, Namibia and Angola.* Working groups established in the academic institutions involved in DLIST will, supported by specialist input, define the content of the distance learning courses and coordinate the preparation of the modules. Key focus areas for DLIST distance learning are coastal development, coastal populations and livelihoods, coastal and marine resources of the BCLME, threats, transboundary problems and solutions, co-management of coastal and marine resources. Not only lecturers will write modules, but also coastal players such as planners. The courses will be downloaded on the DLIST portal and test-driven during the first semester. The education institutions involved in the distance course will provide matching funds to develop and implement the course(s).
61. *Activity 2.3. Promote tri-frontier exchange of knowledge and training.* Collaboration between the three academic institutions in Angola, Namibia and South Africa will be encouraged, for example through common training program, exchange visits and attendance of final project presentation by students from the other countries.
62. **Outcome 3: Knowledge management:** This outcome aims to enhance DLIST's information sharing functions, with a view to addressing the evolving needs of coastal players, at a cost of US\$ 529,000.
63. *Activity 3.1. Assess information needs of DLIST users on a continuous basis.* The BCLME coastal areas are in a phase of rapid transition, with political, social and economic changes taking place in a context of decentralization. This means that the information needs of players are also evolving and should be continuously assessed. These assessments will be based on field visits and feedback from DLIST users.
64. *Activity 3.2. Enhance information database for BCLME coastal areas.* The DLIST library is growing into one of the most complete set of documents pertaining to the BCLME coastal areas. The library will be greatly enhanced with information from DLIST partners and programs implemented in the target area (e.g. NACOMA) and DLIST users who will contribute a document in exchange for a requested electronic document. DLIST moderators will continuously gather scientific information from different programs targeting the coastal areas (such as the BCLME Program), summarize it and make it accessible as course material and in popular versions on DLIST. Equally important, DLIST will gather broader BCLME-related legal, policy, institutional, investment, etc. information that is of interest to stakeholders from top to bottom, as the IBCC-BCC process evolves. Already registered users request information from DLIST administration regarding local and regional government, donor programs, etc. via direct communication between DLIST administration and those requesting information (in other words, not through the discussion threads that are

65. *Activity 3.3. Promote discussion and creation/management of new knowledge.* The discussion forums are the most popular function of DLIST and have during the pilot phase provided space for coastal players to air their views. In this second phase, local moderators will be engaged in the three countries to stimulate the discussions and make sure that all issues raised have feedback and that the essence of discussions is summarized and made available on DLIST. As a platform that helps empower people through knowledge, DLIST will also provide space where information about “hotspot” areas or issues in the coastal areas can be presented and discussed, which can open doors for further development of those “hotspots”. For example, the Greater !Gariep TFCA is evolving but little is known about it. DLIST can provide a space where the TFCA map can be posted and relevant information organized, thereby promoting its development and the sharing of “lessons learned” with other TFCAs, such as on the border between Angola and Namibia. Another example is the Local Agenda 21 experience in Walvis Bay in Namibia that can be shared on DLIST to promote its replication in other municipalities such as Lüderitz.
66. *Activity 3.4. Provide training and backup support to DLIST users.* The pilot DLIST and the PDF phase showed that DLIST is seen as a mechanism and source of knowledge for continuous learning. A 911 help function will be created whereby a group of resource people will respond to queries from DLIST users or direct them to appropriate people. Furthermore, training and backup support on communication, information knowledge and proposal writing will be provided to DLIST users to enable them to best use the platform to share information to widen their knowledge and apply it.
67. **Outcome 4: Outreach:** The platform will be made more accessible to communities and other players, such as local government and higher level government institutions aimed at the ground (such as IPA in Angola) in the BCLME coastal areas, with a special emphasis on Angola where the platform is still mostly unknown, at a cost of \$US 509,000.
68. *Activity 4.1. Extend the network of DLIST partners and users.* Building upon the discussion groups and workshops held during the PDF phase, a set of local workshops spread along the BCLME coastal areas will gather coastal players to show what DLIST is and discuss how DLIST can be made useful in the local context. Some of these

69. *Activity 4.2. Bring DLIST closer to the ground.* In order to reach the communities in rural and poverty-stricken areas, visits, workshops, road-shows and other events will be organized. Lack of access to computers and internet was identified during the PDF phase as a major obstacle to information sharing through DLIST in the BCLME coastal areas. Real benefits to communities in rural areas with no internet access can only be achieved if ICT infrastructure is provided to focal points close to the communities that need to be empowered. Key information retrieved from DLIST will be spread using the radio stations that will be installed. These focal points will provide wider access to DLIST and are pivotal to DLIST's sustainability after the MSP. Furthermore, these focal points will have a crucial role to play in monitoring the impact of DLIST on community empowerment and poverty alleviation. A number of focal points have already been identified during the PDF phase that will provide matching funds in terms of space for DLIST equipment and moderators, such as the Multi-Purpose Resource Centers (MPRC), the Port Nolloth and Alexander Bay Museums, and the artisanal fisheries support centers in Angola, which will provide matching funds in terms of space and staff time. Matching funding possibilities with RANET, largely funded by USAID is currently being explored for installing the satellite and community radio stations in 10 focal points.
70. *Activity 4.3. Share "lessons learned" with other LMEs.* The experience and "lessons learned" through DLIST-Benguela can be shared with other LMEs through cross-visits and links to similar developments, for example in the Agulhas and Somali LME where a number of stakeholders are already registered in DLIST-Benguela.

Project Implementation Plan

71. The project will be implemented over a period of 36 months (3 years). A project coordinator will be assigned to coordinate project activities and oversee progress in the three countries, and three national coordinators will be responsible for coordination in each of the countries. A highly knowledgeable Chief Technical Advisor will provide senior advice. At the local level, discussion moderators, DLIST partners and focal points will be involved in implementation. Annex II presents a logframe depicting the different outcomes of DLIST-Benguela and their timeline.
72. This project will be executed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) through its Global and Inter-Regional Division in accordance with standard operational, financial guidelines and procedures. The Executing Agency will remain accountable to UNDP for the delivery of agreed outputs as per agreed project work plan schedule, and for financial management, including ensuring cost-effectiveness of project activities. Being a regional project, UNDP Namibia will be the lead UNDP Country Office liaising with UNOPS on the execution of the project. The implementation of this project will be done in close cooperation with the GEF BCLME

Financing plan

73. The total project cost (excluding PDF A) is US \$1,528,000, of which US \$748,000 is being requested from the GEF (see Table 3).

Table 3: Project budget

COMPONENT	GEF (US \$)	OTHER SOURCES (US \$)	PROJECT TOTAL (US \$)
PDF (approval date 26/07/04)	25,000	17,800 ¹⁵	42,800
Personnel	144,000	119,000	263,000
Subcontracts	186,000	120,000	306,000
Training	228,000	131,500	359,500
Equipment	156,000	393,000	549,000
Travel	14,000	16,500	30,500
Evaluation mission(s)	20,000	0	20,000
Miscellaneous	0	0	0
Project total (PDF + project costs)	773,000	797,800	1,570,800
Project total (project costs only)	748,000	780,000	1,528,000

2- COST EFFECTIVENESS

74. DLIST is extremely cost-effective. First, it builds upon a successful pilot that will now go into full-scale deployment along the BCLME. In the pilot phase many lessons were learned with respect to how to run the electronic platform cost-efficiently, how to get the most out of study tours (by having the contacts in industry and on the ground) and how to package, manage and disseminate information sharing over this vast area. DLIST is now poised to make full use of a vast lattice of partners that will all bring their share to empowering communities through learning and information sharing.

3- CO-FINANCING

75. A total of US \$780,000 will be provided through co-financing from different sources as detailed in Table 4. Letters of commitment are attached for some co-financiers, except for some of DLIST's users and partners who represent a multitude of sources that have

¹⁵ In-kind co-finance during PDF-A implementation.

already shown their interest and commitment to DLIST during the pilot phase and the PDF phase. Many of them will be contributing time and space to DLIST by gathering and posting information on DLIST and making venues available for workshops. These contributions will be leveraged specifically because of the GEF intervention proposed here, namely DLIST. Not noted in the table below are also many in-kind contributions such as existing initiatives and structures that can also be used for DLIST but may not make specific contributions because of the current intervention proposed here. Also, a number of coastal players have pledged support for DLIST and a number of experts have committed to providing support to course writing and the 911 function.

Table 4: Co-funding sources

CO-FINANCING SOURCES				
Name of Co-financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount (US\$)	Status*
Cape University of Technology (CPUT), South Africa	Academic Institution	Staff time, space and equipment allocation specifically for DLIST	69,500	Letter of commitment attached
University Agostinho Neto (UAN), Angola	Academic Institution	Staff time, space and equipment allocation specifically for DLIST	29,500	Letter of commitment attached
University of Namibia (UNAM)	Academic Institution	Staff time, space and equipment allocation specifically for DLIST	29,500	Letter of commitment attached
Polytechnic Institute of Namibia	Academic Institution	Staff time, space and equipment allocation specifically for DLIST	29,500	Letter of commitment attached
Francois Odendaal Productions (FOP)	Private organization	Slides for illustrations, educational tools, maps, etc.	32,000	Letter of commitment attached
USAID's Climate Change Program	Bilateral development cooperation agency	Satellite link ups, training and community radio stations	200,000	Letter of commitment attached
DLIST users and partners	Various (NGOs, private, multilateral organizations, government, Implementing Agency)	Staff time, space, equipment	330,000 PDFA: 17,800	Letters of commitment attached for IPA and MPRC

CO-FINANCING SOURCES				
Name of Co-financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount (US\$)	Status*
IKM	NGO	Staff time, space, equipment	30,000	Letter of commitment attached
EcoAfrica	Private organization	Staff time, space, equipment	30,000	Letter of commitment attached
Sub-Total Co-financing (PDF + project costs)			797,800	
Sub-Total Co-financing (project costs only)			780,000	

E - INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

76. Although strong and growing links exist between DLIST and the BCLME Program as well as other programs throughout the region, such links will be formalized to ensure maximal linkage and mutual benefits. For instance, there will be representation of the BCLME Program on the Steering Committee for DLIST, as well as broad-based ground level representation considering the all-important aspirations of DLIST to serve the coastal communities constitution. Failing that, DLIST can easily be perceived as an upstream tool to pacify communities and local level governance structures rather than a mechanism intended for two-way narrowing of the information divide. The Steering Committee's main role will be to oversee the activities of DLIST in terms of guarding its goals and objectives and guiding its actions accordingly.
77. The Steering Committee will be informed by smaller committees/discussion groups spread along the very long target area. An Advisory Group will also be established whose role will be mainly to make sure that DLIST takes full advantage of technological advances and lessons learned from related initiatives. This Advisory Group can include a 3-5 member IT advisory team, consisting of the IW:LEARN CTA, the UNEP-IW:LEARN KM lead and 2-3 others (at least one from in-region, engaged in similar initiatives [particularly across languages], and at least one already familiar with DLIST's technical platform/options such as the consultant's team that backstopped and supported its IT environment until now). As DLIST already links role players and stakeholders electronically the overall linkages can continuously be improved and updated. There will be a discussion thread dedicated purely to the improvement of linkages to make sure that recommendations and directives at improving and expanding DLIST do not remain inside the Steering Committee and Advisory Group only, thus potentially defying the open information sharing objective of DLIST and its sense of independence by restricting power to a select and small group of individuals.

1- CORE COMMITMENTS AND LINKAGES

78. The project addresses in situ conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as other pressing issues in the region, such as desertification and protection of its coastal wetlands, three of which are Ramsar sites. DLIST will facilitate the establishment of linkages and areas of cooperation between the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the CBD and the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD). DLIST will

79. *National and Regional ICT for Development Strategies*: ICT is well recognized as a critical component of Africa's development both at a local and regional level (see for instance the New Partnership for Africa's Development, known as NEPAD, and strategy documents for the Southern African Development Community, known as SADC). Emphasis is increasingly being placed on developing IT capacity of local and regional governments, and DLIST already is the first major distance learning and information sharing tool aimed at sustainable coastal development to be used by the network of regional, local government and strategic partners and communities along the southwestern part of the continent.
80. *Strategy for Implementation and Capacity Development*: DLIST is a platform on which Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), HIV strategies, Integrated Conservation and Development (ICD) strategies for the target countries are displayed for comment, as well as biome-wide environmental plans. DLIST has been the main tool for ICT development in coastal communities along the West Coast of South Africa and Namibia (see; www.dlist.org). It connects a lattice of Poverty Alleviation/Reduction projects of the Department of Environment and Tourism (DEA&T), posts "lessons learned" on a continuing basis, and connects communities for funding opportunities. It has successfully been devolved from Washington to EcoAfrica, a small development organization based in South Africa and is in the process of devolving to a tertiary institution with a strong black empowerment agenda. The Peninsula Technikon based in Cape Town specifically targets communities that were previously disadvantaged by the Apartheid regime. Several existing and emerging community-based multi-purpose resource centers use DLIST as their main information sharing tool and access to fully accredited distance learning.

81. *ICT for Democratic Governance*: DLIST has involved key local and regional government officials and politicians in designing the module on good governance. Politicians including local councilors, mayors, governors, Ministers and even a Deputy Prime Minister have attended DLIST workshops that last 1 – 4 days. Town Clerks, CEOs of Regional Councils, and other administrative personnel also routinely participate in workshops and other DLIST activities. DLIST intends to continue tracking decentralization in Namibia and the installation of the local government system in South Africa. Good governance also involves civil society in a central way, and governance training should therefore involve many groups outside of formal government. DLIST already played an important role in the Integrated Development Planning (IDP) process in the Richtersveld, a process that can best be described as government planning with the people. DLIST is endorsed at high political level (see for instance the speech by the Deputy Minister of DEA&T at the Paris meetings on Oceans and Coasts: Input to WSSD that is posted on DLIST). DLIST is a platform where government and the people can meet easily, openly or anonymously.
82. *Digital Grants Initiative*: DLIST recognizes that lack of access and connectivity is a major stumbling block to development of business enterprises, specifically at the community level. Therefore DLIST will for instance make the SMME strategy for the Richtersveld available to all DLIST users, and will also provide the first clearing house of small and emerging business along the West Coast of South Africa as well as self-help and other service centers, such as donors of small grants (including the GEF Small Grants program spearheaded by UNDP in Southern Africa), micro-lending institutions where small entrepreneurs can gain direct access to finance. Already several local and regional governments are participating and using DLIST as a source of information that will boost local economic development.
83. *Further Linkages*: Fully cognizant of the importance of drawing on information from major players in the IW arena, including organizations such as IUCN (in particular the Global Marine Program) and the various initiatives they support, as well as IW:LEARN under its renewed funding, DLIST will endeavor to build and extend linkages and will make contact with all such entities as soon as the MSP is activated, for the purpose of improving the DLIST platform and making it as relevant and user-friendly as possible to its constituency as well as sharing lessons learned on a global scale. DLIST will also extend invitations to such organisations and programs to make full use of the kiosk function to create a presence on the DLIST portal where they can update DLIST registered used with respect to developments that may be relevant to them.

2- CONSULTATION, COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN AND AMONG IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES, EXECUTING AGENCIES, AND THE GEF SECRETARIAT, IF APPROPRIATE.

84. DLIST has already formed important links to ongoing and planned GEF projects as well as those of other funding sources targeting sustainable development in the coastal areas. DLIST has already during the pilot phase provided the main link between the IW-BCLME Program (UNDP) and the coastal communities that are its ultimate beneficiaries. This link can now be expanded into Angola and strengthened with the

85. The objective of the Management of the Orange River Basin (UNDP) is to improve environmental management in the Orange River Basin. GEF support is being sought to prepare a TDA and SAP, and to fund priority environmental activities including institutional strengthening, building capacity for adaptation and water resource management to maintain ecological reserves. A key focus will be on building the capacity of civil society groups to participate in the activities of ORASECOM, the Basin Commission. DLIST-Benguela activities will make an early contribution in this regard, focusing on the lower Orange River. DLIST will also allow links to be made between BCLME interventions and Orange River Interventions, for example, providing a conduit for distributing information on the environmental variability of the Benguela current, which has a bearing on vulnerability and adaptation issues in the Orange River Basin.
86. The NACOMA project (World Bank) is currently in its PDF B preparatory phase. The objective of NACOMA is to put in place coastal zone management systems that will lead to the sustainable use of resources and the protection of the Namib Coast's biodiversity. DLIST will provide a powerful tool for obtaining information on a collaborative national coastal zone vision from a large amount of stakeholders, as envisaged in the PDF B request. Capacity building and institutional strengthening for conservation and management of the Namibian coastal areas is a key component of NACOMA. DLIST will make an important contribution to this objective, by providing training to the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Committee (ICZMC) and other key partners. In fact, several regional planners have been enthusiastic participants in the DLIST pilot, both in the distance learning component of DLIST as well as discussion forums. During its preparation phase, the NACOMA Project has already used DLIST to post Workshop Proceedings and invite comments from DLIST users.
87. The C.A.P.E Project (GEF funded through WB/UNDP) and the SKEP initiative funded by the CEPF have used DLIST in the past and both target areas also cover coastal areas that fall in the DLIST area. SKEP has in fact opened a kiosk on DLIST during the pilot phase and also used the restricted access moderated discussion forum for planning purposes. SKEP personnel continue to participate in DLIST discussion forums. Contact had been made with C.A.P.E. and it is anticipated that renewed and growing contact will be established with both programmes under the project funded.
88. The funding for the pilot DLIST was channeled through the GEF-funded IW:LEARN Program (UNDP) that is based in Washington. IW:LEARN's mission is to build an Internet-based "global knowledge community" to protect, restore and sustain the world's aquifers, great lakes and river basins, coastal zones, seas and oceans. IW:LEARN

89. DLIST also intends to continue to generate “lessons learned” for modified approaches and applications into other Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) initiatives, notably the Agulhas and Somali Currents LME (A&SCLME) (with interest from the Norwegian Shelf and the Barents Sea). The GEF/UNDP Project “Toward an Ecosystem Approach for Sustaining the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems (A&SCLME)” is currently in the PDF B phase. This Project is one of a set of individual projects involving each of the GEF Implementing Agencies in the same geographic area with work that is linked so that a programmatic approach is developed to conserve the living resources of these two systems and their habitat. As part of the preparation activities, a plan is being developed by EcoAfrica to implement DLIST on the A&SCLME. DLIST-A&SCLME is suitable mechanism to ensure public participation during the GEF project implementation. DLIST-Benguela is already providing a platform to share experiences between the west and east coasts of Africa (BCLME and Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystems). People from Tanzania and Madagascar have registered on DLIST-Benguela and the discussion forum is being used to discuss the obstacles and benefits of implementing DLIST on the East African coast. During DLIST implementation, the experience and “lessons learned” through DLIST-Benguela will be further shared with other LMEs through cross-visits and links to similar developments.

PART III – RESPONSE TO REVIEWS

A - CONVENTION SECRETARIAT

B - OTHER IAS AND RELEVANT EXAS

C - STAP

PART IV – PROJECT CATEGORY ANNEX

Biodiversity		Climate Change	International Waters	Land Degradation	
<u>Conservation</u> <u>Sustainable Use</u> Benefit Sharing PA Outside PA Both PA/Outside Rehab deg habit Control biotech risk Control alien species <u>Indigenous knowledge</u> Legislation threatened species In-country Outside Integration National Decision Minimize adverse impact Protects customary uses Rem action degrade areas Gov Pvt sector Coop Agrobiodiversity	Trust funds <u>Ecotourism</u> <u>Capacity building</u> Policy reform Legislation reform Private sector participation Indigenous peoples comp Income generation Inventory bline data M&E indices Buffer zone development Clearing house mechanism Cojoint management Incentive measures <u>Public awareness</u> Migratory species International conventions Research Science tech group	Efficient equipment Solar Biomass Wind Hydro Geothermal Fuel cells	<u>Transboundary analysis</u> Strategic Action Program Dev Freshwater basin <u>Large marine ecosystems</u> Small Islands <u>Wetland habitat</u> Ship-based Toxic contaminant Global program action demo <u>Fisheries protection</u> <u>Global support</u>		
		Ozone Depletion	Monitoring ODS phaseout Production	Persistent Organic Pollutants	Multiple Focal Area (OP12)
					Multiple Focal Area (Others)

Sectoral Scope		NGO Involvement
Targeted Research Mid-size Investment Technical Assistance <u>Training/Info/Awareness</u> Technology Transfer	<u>NGO execution</u> <u>Community Based Management</u> Private Sector Investment Financial Risk Management	Input to national strategy Participation in consultation <u>Technical input</u> <u>Awareness/Education input</u> <u>Project implementation</u>

ANNEX I: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE IMPACT INDICATORS	BASELINE, MID-TERM AND END OF PROJECT TARGETS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS/ RISKS
<p>Project Goal is to ensure that collaborative management arrangements for stress reduction are in place to protect the ecological integrity of the transboundary BCLME and sustain living marine resources vital to the sustainable development of coastal communities</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inter stakeholder conflicts pertaining to conservation can be successfully mediated ▪ Rising awareness of marine resource management problems triggers community support for co-management systems and harvest restrictions
<p>Project Objective is to bridge the information gap by using innovative ICT applications to provide access to training and to increase the flow of information between experts, institutions and networks and coastal players including communities, as well as between themselves, so a “common pool of knowledge” is created and maintained</p>	<p>Growing number of DLIST registered users that request or contribute information on the portal</p> <p>More distance learning courses available to coastal stakeholders</p> <p>Increased geographical area and societal outreach of DLIST</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 308 ▪ Mid-term target: 500 ▪ End of project: 800 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 1 course in CPUT ▪ Mid-term target: 2 courses prepared and tested in CPUT and/or UNAM, UAN, Polytechnic Namibia ▪ End of project: 4 courses functioning in CPUT, UNAM, UAN, Polytechnic Namibia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: mostly South Africa and Namibia and from cross-section of society ▪ Mid-term target: at least 1/4 from Angola from different layers of society ▪ End of project: 1/3 from Angola from different layers of society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DLIST statistics and monitoring of the portal’s content (usage monitoring will distinguish # users from # of posters from # repeat posters from # viewers, etc. in a given time frame, since all measure different and important aspects of participation). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Political will and realization of importance of knowledge acquisition and information sharing can grow and be maintained over national, regional and district-level political cycles

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE IMPACT INDICATORS	BASELINE, MID-TERM AND END OF PROJECT TARGETS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS/ RISKS
Outcome 1. ICT platform (to put in place an innovative and user friendly IT platform for coastal stakeholders)	New functions are installed and existing functions are improved on DLIST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 6 existing functions¹⁶ ▪ Mid-term target: 6 existing functions improved and 2 new functions added¹⁷ ▪ End of project: 8 functions operating smoothly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DLIST users feedback ▪ DLIST portal performance assessment by IT people ▪ Number of people trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPUT remains committed to DLIST and their IT staff is able to dedicate the required time and dedication to the DLIST server
	People are trained and ready to manage and service the portal and maintain the server	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 2 IT staff trained, 4 DLIST administrators in Cape Town ▪ Mid-term target: 2 more IT staff trained in Cape Town, 4 new DLIST administrators ▪ End of project: 2 more IT staff trained in Cape Town, 4 new DLIST administrators 		
Outcome 2. Course development (to offer coastal players a distance learning course on sustainable development in coastal areas)	Distance learning courses are prepared and offered in the three countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 1 course in CPUT ▪ Mid-term target: 2 courses prepared and tested in CPUT and/or UNAM, UAN, Polytechnic Namibia ▪ End of project: 4 courses functioning in CPUT, UNAM, UAN, Polytechnic Namibia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DLIST portal and Universities ▪ DLIST course statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distance learning course participants are communicating the desirability of knowledge gained to their peers and elders ▪ Education institutions and officials continue

¹⁶ Distance Learning Course, Library, Discussion Forums, Message Board, Kiosks, and Links.

¹⁷ 911 Help Function and the Photo Library

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE IMPACT INDICATORS	BASELINE, MID-TERM AND END OF PROJECT TARGETS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	A
	Number of distance learners with certificate is growing and is more diverse in origin and position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 55 distance learners mainly from South Africa and Namibia ▪ Mid-term target: 90 distance learners including at least 1/6 from Angola and from varied positions ▪ End of project: 200 distance learners including at least 1/4 from Angola and from varied positions 		to support distance learning
Outcome 3. Knowledge management (to promote free access and flow of information between coastal players)	Number of sustainable development programs using DLIST actively to post and discuss information is increasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 3 ▪ Mid-term target: 16 ▪ End of project: 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programs' feedback ▪ DLIST statistics and monitoring of the portal's content ▪ Local moderators feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued support from Government institutions to work collaboratively with local communities to address threats to marine and coastal ecosystems
	Number of postings and interactive discussions on DLIST increases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 608 ▪ Mid-term target: 900 ▪ End of project: 1500 		
	Local moderators are engaged in online facilitation and knowledge "capturing" and organizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: no moderators ▪ Mid-term target: 6 moderators, 2 in each country ▪ End of project: 12 moderators, 4 in each country 		
	Number of documents available on the DLIST library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 147 ▪ Mid-term target: 250 ▪ End of project: 400 		
	Number of photos available on the DLIST photo library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: none ▪ Mid-term target: 500 ▪ End of project: 1000 		

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE IMPACT INDICATORS	BASELINE, MID-TERM AND END OF PROJECT TARGETS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS/ RISKS
	Number of DLIST users utilizing the 911 help function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 5 ▪ Mid-term target: 20 ▪ End of project: 50 		
	Linkages to other sustainable development oriented networks, information nodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 5 ▪ Mid-term target: 25 ▪ End of project: 50 		
Outcome 4. Outreach (to make the ICT platform accessible to coastal communities)	Number of kiosks for DLIST partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 26 ▪ Mid-term target: 35 ▪ End of project: 45 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DLIST statistics and monitoring of the portal's content ▪ Focal points reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued commitment to decentralizing environmental management functions to municipalities ▪ Socio-political environment in project area remains supportive of project objectives
	The number of DLIST focal points increases and they are equipped and trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline: 0 ▪ Mid-term target: 6 ▪ End of project: 10 		

ANNEX II: PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINE

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	ACTIVITIES AND SUB-ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE					
		6	12	18	24	30	36
Outcome 1. ICT platform (to put in place an innovative and user friendly IT platform for coastal stakeholders)							
Output 1.1 An improved DLIST portal that is easier to use, has more functionality and addresses needs of coastal players more efficiently	1.1 Improve and maintain the DLIST portal based on results from the pilot phase and feedback from users during PDF phase						
	1.1.1 Establish a contract with IT company for improving and maintaining the portal	x					
	1.1.2 Review the results from pilot phase and continuous users' feedback and assess with IT company programming and design options for increased and improved functionality	x					
	1.1.3 Implement changes	x					
	1.1.4 Test drive the improved portal	x					
	1.1.5 Maintain and update the portal on a continuous basis, as well as provide IT support to course coordinators and DLIST administrators		x	x	x	x	x
Output 1.2 Server installed, running, test-driven and maintained and IT staff trained to maintain the server on a long-term basis	1.2 Install and maintain server to manage ICT functioning of distance learning courses in South Africa, Namibia and Angola						
	1.2.1 Install server, load programs and test run the server	x					
	1.2.2 Provide IT training and ColdFusion licensing to CAPUT		x				
	1.2.3 Maintain/replace hardware as necessary through 3 years		x	x	x	x	x
Outcome 2. Course development (to offer coastal players a distance learning course on sustainable development in coastal areas)							
Output 2.1 Ideas and 'lessons learned' by CAPUT shared and academic institutions in Angola, Namibia and South Africa on board for distance learning course development	2.1 Assess options for distance learning courses in South Africa, Namibia and Angola						
	2.1.1 Organize and conduct a workshop with key people from the academic institutions in South Africa, Namibia and Angola that will be involved in course development	x					
	2.1.2 Discuss and get commitment from academic institutions to working towards preparation of distance learning versions of accredited courses	x					
Output 2.2 Distance learning courses developed, packaged, available on the	2.2 Prepare/improve and offer distance learning versions of courses in South Africa, Namibia and Angola						

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	ACTIVITIES AND SUB-ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE					
		6	12	18	24	30	36
DLIST portal and continuously improved and updated during project implementation and a growing number of coastal players with enhanced knowledge on sustainable development in coastal areas	2.2.1 Following the Peninsula Technikon example form working groups in each of the academic institutions and appoint focal points	x					
	2.2.2 Discuss course content/adaptation to distance learning version and identify key module writers	x					
	2.2.3 Write modules and case studies, including material sourcing (see outcome 3) and translation when necessary	x	x				
	2.2.4 Package the courses and load them on the DLIST platform		x				
	2.2.5 Offer the new/improved distance learning course as pilots to a small number of distance learners to test them and identify improvement opportunities			x			
	2.2.6 Offer and continuously improve and update the courses during the project duration				x	x	x
Output 2.3 Teaching staff at institutions in the three countries trained; teaching staff and students' knowledge enhanced through exposure and multiple interaction	2.3 Promote tri-frontier exchange of knowledge and training						
	2.3.1 Identify options/needs in courses and in the academic institutions for interaction between the three countries		x				
	2.3.2 Enhanced exposure through interest blocks and tri-frontier discussion forums moderated by specialists		x			x	
	2.3.3 Organize exchange visits for students and teaching staff in the framework of the distance learning courses			x	x	x	x
Outcome 3. Knowledge management (to promote free access and flow of information between coastal players)							
Output 3.1 An updated portal that responds to the evolving needs of coastal players	3.1 Assess information needs of DLIST users on a continuous basis						
	3.1.1 Use visits to key nodes along the coastal areas and workshops during project duration to assess their information needs	x	x		x		x
	3.1.2 Use DLIST discussion forums and specific calls for input into needs assessment		x	x	x	x	x
Output 3.2 A dynamic portal built by coastal players where they can access information pertaining to the BCLME coastal areas from a multitude of sources in one single place, disseminate their own information, and enhance	3.2 Enhance information database for BCLME coastal areas						
	3.2.1 Strengthen and manage the DLIST library, including addition of new items by DLIST partners and associated programs and making items available electronically upon request in exchange for new items		x	x	x	x	x
	3.2.2 Replicate the library in the three academic institutions involved in DLIST and gradually convert all material to electronic format			x			

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	ACTIVITIES AND SUB-ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE					
		6	12	18	24	30	36
their knowledge	3.2.3 Develop and manage a photo and visual media library, where photos and maps of the BCLME coastal areas will be available to registered DLIST users on a non-profit basis		x	x	x	x	x
	3.2.4 Research and source material from other programs targeting the BCLME and create popular versions to be available on DLIST, on an ongoing basis		x	x	x	x	x
	3.2.5 Continuously extract indigenous knowledge from non-conventional sources		x	x	x	x	x
	3.2.6 Continuously update content on DLIST platform (links, 'hotspots' areas and 'big picture' developments, materials emanating from other programs targeting the BCLME, events, opportunities, etc)		x	x	x	x	x
Output 3.3 A dynamic portal where coastal players can air their views and raise their concerns and a mechanism to organise and boost new knowledge	3.3 Promote discussion and creation/management of new knowledge						
	3.3.1 Engage local discussion moderators to moderate the most popular discussion threads and summarize results to post on DLIST		x				
	3.3.2 Provide space for 'hotspot' areas or 'burning issues' along the coastal areas of the BCLME for wider and enhanced information management and access		x	x	x	x	x
Output 3.4 People involved in DLIST trained on knowledge management issues and better prepared to use DLIST as a platform to make things happen on the ground	3.4 Provide training and backup support to DLIST users						
	3.4.1 Organize training on information management, communication and proposal writing to DLIST moderators and other DLIST users			x			x
	3.4.2 Develop and manage a 911 help function to respond to queries from DLIST users about environmental issues and to provide backup support in proposal writing		x	x	x	x	x
Outcome 4. Outreach (to make the ICT platform accessible to coastal communities)							
Output 4.1 A growing network of structures, Programs and organisations in the BCLME coastal areas that are linked through DLIST	4.1 Extend the network of DLIST partners and users						
	4.1.1 Organize and conduct local workshops in South Africa, Namibia and Angola with people involved in DLIST to discuss how the platform can be made more useful and empower people	x					
	4.1.2 Encourage organizations, structures and programs to create kiosks in DLIST and assist CBOs and SMMEs	x	x	x	x	x	x
	4.1.3 Reinforce links with other GEF-funded programs (e.g. BCLME, NACOMA and Protected Areas in Namibia, and NBSAP in Angola)	x	x	x	x	x	x
Output 4.2 Coastal players in the three	4.2 Bring DLIST closer to the ground						

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	ACTIVITIES AND SUB-ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE					
		6	12	18	24	30	36
countries aware of the existence of DLIST and enjoying ready access to DLIST	4.2.1 Organize visits and road-shows to key nodes in coastal areas (especially in the coastal provinces of Angola) together with DLIST partners		x			x	
	4.2.2 Assess communication gaps along the coastal areas that hamper information access		x			x	
	4.2.3 Identify key DLIST focal points in rural and poverty-stricken areas that can help bridge the gap between DLIST and communities		x			x	
	4.2.4 Equip physical DLIST focal points with IT solutions that are suitable and can also serve other information management goals (computers, satellite and community radio stations)		x			x	
	4.2.5 Train DLIST focal points to establish the link with communities and monitor the effects of DLIST on poverty alleviation and community empowerment		x			x	
Output 4.3 "Lessons learned" through DLIST shared with other LMEs and cross-LME links established	4.3 Share "lessons learned" with other LMEs						
	4.3.1 Organize cross visits (e.g. Agulhas and Somali LME, Golf of Guinea LME and Humboldt LME)			x			x
	4.3.2 Establish links with similar developments in Agulhas & Somali LME			x	x	x	x
	4.3.3 Stimulate LME-directed discussion forums		x	x	x	x	x
Outcome 5. Project management and monitoring							
5.1 Senior advice (CTA)		x	x	x	x	x	x
5.2 Project coordination		x	x	x	x	x	x
5.3 National coordination		x	x	x	x	x	x
5.4 Administration		x	x	x	x	x	x
5.5 Field visits and evaluation missions				x			x