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**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AROUND LMEs IN SUPPORT OF THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

**Draft agenda**

**Over-arching goal**

To provide global forum for GEF-funded and other marine and coastal practitioners (LME, MPA, MSP, ICM, LMMA), leaders, international and national organizations and institutions, aimed at sharing experiences and lessons and forging alliances and collaboration for ecosystem-based ocean governance and management, in pursuance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular the SDG14. The Annual Consultation Meeting of Large Marine Ecosystem and Coastal Partners contributes to the development of LME-centred partnerships by engaging marine, coastal management, biodiversity and coastal climate change adaptation project leaders in meeting that objective.

**Objectives of the Consultative Meeting**

The Annual LME Consultative Meeting has an overall aim to provide support to the LME Community with the objective to:

* Foster a mutually supportive global network of leaders and institutions engaged in marine and coastal ecosystem-based management by providing a forum for project (LME, ICM, MPA, MSP, climate change adaptation and other) leaders and practitioners to discuss issues relative to the projects’ implementation and priority issues requiring common responses;
* Mobilize knowledge resources, and review the emerging scientific and practical applications and tools to support the implementation of LME, marine and coastal portfolio of projects;
* Share lessons learned from existing efforts with regard to the GEF LME:LEARN and IW:LEARN projects (i.e. regional networks, capacity building via training and twinning, etc.) and identify future priorities to be undertaken within the LME portfolio; and
* Strengthen regional ocean governance mechanisms through enhanced collaboration between Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) programs, Regional Seas programs and Regional Fisheries Bodies (including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations), and the wider stakeholder community.

In addition to the above general objectives, each Consultative Meeting has a number of specific objectives that are linked to the specific theme the meeting focuses on. The LME21 meeting will focus on **building partnerships** **towards achieving SDGs in the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda**.

An **LME** **partnership** is the arrangement where partners agree to cooperate and collaborate to advance their mutual interests by sharing ownership, as well as the responsibility for managing a Large Marine Ecosystem and engage in defining and solving respective problems, and exploring and exploiting sustainable development opportunities. The partnerships assume a shared vision among partners, and a willingness to work together in a spirit of collaboration and cooperation towards creating conditions for sustainable developments within realms of an LME. All LME initiatives operate within a certain form of formal and/or informal partnership. Their characteristics differ depending on the nature of the problem the LME partnerships are confronted with, level of willingness of partners to work towards solving problems, political and economic conditions, environmental challenges etc.

Stepping up action on the ground and increasing impact at scale requires continuous investment and collaboration in supporting the management of LMEs. This process assists countries move towards sustainable development by unlocking the potential for sustainable socio-economic development including through the development of a Blue Economy, including blue carbon restoration, marine spatial planning and economic valuation of marine resources. The optimal way to get there is through a concerted effort and this requires strategic partnerships between all stakeholders. In short, **the LMEs must become everyone’s business**.

The LME Consultative Meeting should not prescribe the exact requirements each partnership should meet, but be the forum for exchanging the experiences, in particular the good practices, in building and maintaining partnerships, proposing minimum requirements for a successful partnership, pointing towards desired outputs and outcomes, and creating framework for successful implementation of the SDG14 targets. The meeting should also be a gathering place for all those that have been hitherto involved in existing partnerships, but also for new actors that will bring enhanced vision to the partnership including representatives of business sector, international and national financing institutions, NGOs and other. The aim of the meeting is not to create new partnerships as an immediate goal, but to create platform where new initiatives to achieve 2030 Agenda’s goals will materialize through partnerships in the future.

The LME21 meeting aims, *inter alia*, to:

* Mobilize practitioners and partners to enhance the LME community’s efforts towards implementation of SAPs as well as implementation of the Agenda 2030 agenda, in particular SDG14 targets;
* Present latest development in solving the critical issues important for the implementation of LME projects and programs, such as coastal resilience, pollution, fisheries, coastal degradation etc;
* Discuss and approve the medium term program of work (roadmap) of future LME consultative meetings;
* Inform potential partners of the benefits that creating alliances with the LME initiatives may bring;
* Advise on the transformation of the TDA-SAP process from an almost exclusively “problem-solving” mechanism towards a “leveraging-opportunities” investment framework.

**Expected outcomes and outputs**

* Existing and potential future partners in LME partnerships brought together and informed of the benefits of their cooperation and collaboration and exchanged good practices and lessons learnt for establishing and maintaining partnerships;
* Progress in reaching SDG 14 targets through implementation of SAPs presented;
* Projects’ operatives informed of the latest development in scientific subjects relevant to the implementation of the projects and the ways to achieve that;
* Validated medium term roadmap of LME annual consultative meetings;
* Proposals for the revision of the TDA-SAP process;
* Proposed agenda topics, time and place of the 22nd LME Consultative Meeting in 2020; and
* Agreed strategy for the LME Community participation at the forthcoming oceans events.

**AGENDA AT A GLANCE**

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**DAY ONE**

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| **WEDNESDAY. 18 SEPTEMBER 2019** |
| **1 – Opening**  |
| **Session Chair** | **Wojciech Wawrzynski, ICES**  |
| **Rapporteur** | **James Oliver, IUCN** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 09:3010:00 | Welcome  | * Julian Barbiere, IOC/UNESCO
* Andrew Hudson, UNDP
* Christian Severin, GEF
* Captain Juan Camilo Forero, Colombian Ocean Commission
 | Plenary, individual addresses | To welcome the participants and to present the objectives of the meeting.  |
| 10:0010:25 | The Large Marine Ecosystems Approach to the United Nations Ocean Sustainable Development Goal and Decade of Ocean Science: 35 Years of Global Movement, 1984-2019 | Ken Sherman, presented by John Patrick Walsh, CRC | Plenary, presentation | A historical overview of the LME approach. |
| 10:2510:50 | The LME Partnerships: Challenges and Opportunities  | David Vousden, Rhodes University, South Africa | Plenary, presentation | Over the past two decades, many lessons and best practices have arisen from the development and adoption of partnerships within the LMEs, which can be very usefully replicated in other regions. An analysis of the current LME partnerships and an outline of the challenges and opportunities facing future partnerships in view of implementation of SDG14 targets |
| 10:5011:00 | Objectives and structure of the LME21 Annual Consultative Meeting | Ivica Trumbic, GEF LME:LEARN PCU | Plenary, presentation | Outline of the meeting’s objectives and procedure to manage its course |
| ***Coffee break 15 minutes (11:00 – 11:15)*** |
| **2 – LME Implementation Progress** |
| **Session Chair** | **Ivica Trumbic, GEF LME :LEARN** |
| **Rapporteur** | **Wojciech Wawrzynski, ICES** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 11:1512:30 | Brief introduction of new LME, MSP, MPA, ICM, climate change, and fisheries projects, assisted by a visual aid (1-2 slides, 5-7’ each):9369 Implementation of the Strategic Plan of Ecuador Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network * 4746 Pacific SIDS Fisheries Conventions
* 6920 Implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas Regional and National Strategic Action Programs
* 9451 Caribbean Regional Oceanscape Project
* 10076 Pacific Central American Coastal LME
* 9949 North Brazil Shelf LME Mangroves
 | Project representatives:* X. Chalen (9369)
* D. Vousden (4746)
* A. Gonzales (6920)
* S. Scott (9451)
* S. Coello (10076)
* E. Cobo/ S.Banks (9949)
* L. Galbiati (9545)

Moderated by the session chair | Plenary, interventions from the floor | Introduction of new projects to the community, what they are working towards and where the project is being implemented. Focus is on new developments, issues, pressing “highlights” and products. The projects will present their objectives and outcomes. |
| 12:3013:00 | GEF LME:LEARN impact  | Natalie Degger, GEF LME:LEARN PCU | Plenary, presentation, interventions from the floor | Major outcomes of the GEF LME:LEARN project with a focus on its contribution to the global and regional networking. Reflections from the three projects on what they have benefitted and how. |
| ***Lunch break 90 minutes (13:00 – 14:30)*** |
| **3 – The LME Partnership Approach** |
| **Session Chair** | **Vladimir Mamaev, UNDP** |
| **Rapporteur** | **Jill Raval, UN Environment** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 14:3014:40 | The LME Partnership Approach: Introduction and overview of the session | Manolo Clar Massanet, GEF LME:LEARN  | Plenary, presentation | Overview of why this session is useful and how it will work. |
| 14:4015:00 | Introduction to the clinics | Clinics moderators:* A. Gonzales, PEMSEA
* L. Galbiati, UN Environment/MAP
* F. Mangisi-Mafileo, SPC
* L. Walker CLME+
* Tim Andrews (SAPPHIRE)
 | Panel, moderated by Manolo Clar Massanet, GEF LME:LEARN | Four selected partnerships will very briefly introduce their partnerships (with a focus on their particularities/particular strengths). This will help participants in choosing the clinics they want to attend, as they will only be able to ask questions to 3 out of the 5 partnerships through the clinics. |
| 15:0016:30 | Clinics: How the existing LME Partnerships work and what challenges they face  | Multi –level coordination (PEMSEA) | Aimee Gonzales, PEMSEA (Muralla room) | Breakout sessions  | * Three rounds of 30’ each
* Participants will select 3 clinics to attend based on the information provided ahead of the meeting
* Each clinic begins with the top 5 lessons learned through each process.
* The attendees to the clinic will have 25 minutes to ask questions and interact with the Partnership representative
* Each clinic will have a moderator and rapporteur to capture the discussions
* Once the timer sounds, participants will move to their next selected clinic
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| Funding partnerships (Med Programme) | Lorenzo Galbiati, UN Environment / MAP (Canones room) |
| Action planning for SIDS (Pacific Ridge to Reef) | Fononga "Inga" Mangisi-Mafileo, The Pacific Community SPC (Corales room) |
| Regional Framework for Ocean Governance (CLME+ Partnership) | Laverne Walker, CLME+ (Vela room) |
| Science to Policy (SAPPHIRE) | Tim Andrew, SAPPHIRE (Manglar room) |
| ***Coffee break 15 minutes (16:30 – 16:45)*** |
| 16:4517:10 | Report from the clinics (5’ each) | Clinics moderators | Plenary, reporting | A summary of each clinic will be presented using the predetermined template |
| 17:1017:45 | Discussion | Panel: Clinics moderators (see names above), moderated by Manolo Clar Massanet, GEF LME:LEARN | Panel | Discussion will be directed towards role of the LME Community in forging and consolidating LME-based partnerships  |
| ***Special presentation*** |
| 17:4518:00 | REVOCEAN: Potential for a partnership | Alex David Rogers, REVOCEAN | Plenary, presentation | Research priorities for the LME projects especially in relation to plastic pollution, overfishing and environmental impacts of fishing and climate change impacts. |
| ***Reception offered by GEF LME:LEARN (20:00 – 22:00)*** |

**DAY TWO**

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| **THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2019** |
| **4 - Implementation of SDGs** |
| **Session Chair** | **Gonzalo Cid, NOAA** |
| **Rapporteur** | **Ivica Trumbic, GEF LME:LEARN PCU** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 09:0009:20 | Tracking LMEs’ progress in SAP implementation and achieving SDG14 targets: Quick summary overview | Andrew Hudson, UNDP | Plenary, presentation | Summary result of a questionnaire/checklist sent to LME projects to identify their progress in implementation of SAPs and contributions to SDG14. Graphical presentation of the results. |
| 09:2011:00 | Detailed elaboration of LMEs’ progress in SAP implementation and advancing SDG14: Results of the questionnaire | LME Project Managers:* A. Gonzales (PEMSEA)
* D. Vousden (OFNP)
* A. Gonzales (ATSEA)
* L. Galbiati (MEDLME)
* S. Siriraksophon (SCS)
* S. Coello (Humboldt LME)
* P. Debels (CLME+)
* Y. Guo (YSLME)

Moderated by Andrew Hudson | Panel discussion | Project managers, divided in two panel groups, provide more details on governance reforms and investments that have to date been delivered under their SAPs and how these contribute to SDG14. |
| ***Coffee break 15 minutes (11:00 – 11:15)*** |
| **4 - Implementation of SDGs (continued)** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 11:1512:40 | Rethinking TDA/SAP approach: from “problem-solving” to “leveraging-opportunities-to-solve problems” in the context of SDGs | Panel members:* Patrick Debels, CLME+
* Aimee Gonzales, PEMSEA
* Lorenzo Galbiati, UN Environment/MAP

Moderator: Chris Severin, GEF | Panel discussion | Revisiting the TDA/SAP approach with a view to redrafting the current methodology where more attention should be given to the sustainable “blue economy” opportunities (instead of only focusing on environmental problems) to identify win/win opportunities and facilitate engagement with Private Sector. The business community should be told that LME community is trying to preserve resource base that is allowing them to develop their businesses. Introduction by Patrick Debels, who will also define the concept of “interactive governance in support of the Agenda 2030”. |
| 12:4013:00 | Developing future framework for LME reporting towards enhancing SAP contributions to SDG monitoring and reporting | Virginie Hart, GEF LME:LEARN | Plenary, presentation | A view to improve the reporting on SDG implementation in LME projects based on the findings of the LME DIM Workshop in Paris in July 2019. |
| ***Special presentation*** |
| 13:0013:15 | Oceans and Human Health: Challenges and opportunities | Jose Ernesto Mancera Pineda, Universidad Nacional de Colombia | Plenary, presentation | The marine environment contributes significantly to human health. At the same time, the marine environment is under pressure from human activities. Presentation will explore LME projects’ role in improving the human health. |
| ***Lunch break 60 minutes (13:15 – 14:30)*** |
| **5 – Technical site visit (14:30 – 18:30)** |

**DAY THREE**

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| **FRIDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2019** |
| **6 – The Large Marine Ecosystems are everyone’s business** |
| **Session Chair** | **Manolo Clar Massanet, GEF LME:LEARN PCU** |
| **Rapporteur** | **Virginie Hart, GEF LME:LEARN** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 09:0009:15 | Bringing the Private Sector to the Table: Lessons from the Regional Networks | Natalie Degger, GEF LME:LEARN PCU | Plenary, presentation | Sharing who LME:LEARN has brought to the table at a regional level (Asia and Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa), what advice was given from each region, and an introduction into how the breakout groups will work |
| 09:1510:30 | Investment and partnership opportunitiesFour breakout groups:Conserving Marine and Coastal Areas through Environmentally Sustainable Blue Economy Strategies Sustainable Fisheries ManagementWater and Wastewater ManagementTransforming Plastic Life Cycles | Moderators: To be confirmed | Breakout session | Through a round table discussion and breakout groups, this session aims to open up dialogue between stakeholders operating within LMEs, and to explore potential investment and partnership opportunities.The group moderator will provide 5 minutes opening on:* A quick introduction on the theme and initial potential investment and partnership opportunities at global level; and
* What specific potential financing and partnering institutions are most relevant to the theme to explore.

Breakout session moderators will ask to the audience the following questions to open the discussion:1. What are the benefits of your project to the business community?
2. What specific investment and partnership opportunities have you identified in your respective LMEs or projects?
3. What specific potential financing and partnering institutions are most relevant to the theme to explore?
4. What success stories do you have to share in partnering with the business community?
5. How do we prepare our community for an LME Investment Forum?
6. What specific steps can the marine community take to help get us there?
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| 10:3011:00 | Group reporting and discussion | Panel: Group moderators Moderator:Manolo Clar Massanet, GEF LME:LEARN  | Panel | The breakout group moderators will provide a brief report. A panel discussion with attendees from the private sector will take place |
| ***Coffee break 15 minutes (11:00 – 11:15)*** |
| **7 - Advancing ocean science and applications** |
| **Session Chair** | **Cesar Toro, IOC-IOCARIBE** |
| **Rapporteur** | **Natalie Degger, GEF LME:LEARN PCU** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 11:1511:30 | Cumulative effects of multiple human stressors in marine systems | Paula Cristina Sierra-Correa, INVEMAR | Plenary, presentation | Presentation will discuss ecosystem responses to human activities and with a view to operationalize ecosystem-based management and possible actions within the coastal and marine projects. Brief presentation of INVEMAR. |
| 11:3011:45 | Recent advances in understanding the effects of climate change on the world’s oceans | Wojciech Wawrzynski, ICES | Plenary, presentation | Key messages on the consequences of different levels of 21st century climate change for ocean ecosystems and ocean dependent communities. Focus on what the LME projects can achieve during their implementation |
| 11:4512:00 | A Civil Society Action Programme for the Wider Caribbean | Nicole Leotaud, CANARI | Plenary, presentation | Showcasing how civil society made its own Strategic Action Programme, aligned with the CLME+ SAP |
| 12:0012:15 | UN Decade on the Ocean Science: Progress Report | Julian Barbiere, IOC-UNESCO | Plenary, presentation | How to involve LMEs in the decade: how to frame LMEs contribution and what are the benefits for the Decade.  |
| 12:1512:30 | A new phase of GESAMP | David Vousden | Plenary, presentation | A view on the revised GEAMP role by its newly elected president. |
| 12:3013:00 | Discussion |  | Moderator:Cesar Toro, IOCARIBE | Discuss possible new themes to be included in future meetings and ways and means to transform scientific results into policy proposals. |
| ***Lunch break 90 minutes (13:00-14:30)*** |
| **8 – Closing session** |
| **Session Chair** | **Julian Barbiere, IOC-UNESCO** |
| **Rapporteur** | **Ivica Trumbic, GEF LME:LEARN** |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Name** | **Format of the session** | **Objectives of the session** |
| 14:3014:45 | Medium term LME Community Strategic Framework: Presentation of the framework and discussion | Ivica Trumbic, GEF LME:LEARN PCU | Plenary, presentation | Medium Term Strategic Framework will be presented, outlining the format and potential subjects for discussion. Relevant key messages from LME21 sessions will be summarized. Discussion on the strategy and approval. |
| 14:4515:30 | Discussion on the Medium Term Strategy | Moderator: Ivica Trumbic, GEF LME:LEARN PCU | Plenary, discussion | Proposals will be sought to amend the strategy. |
| 15:3016:00 | Discussion on the strategy to address the important ocean events in the near future | Moderator: Mish Hamid, GEF LME:LEARN PCU | Plenary, discussion | The meetings that the message will be transmitted to are: Marine Regions Forum (Germany), Our Ocean 2019 (Norway), UN Oceans Conference in 2020 (Portugal) |
| ***Coffee break 15 minutes (16:00 – 16:15)*** |
| 16:1517:30 | Closing discussion | Panel members:* Isabelle Vanderbeck, UN Environment
* Yinfeng GUO, YSLME
* Sombon Siriraksophorn, SCS
* Chris Severin, GEF
* Jada Anderson
* Jesus, Aguacar

Moderator: Vladimir Mamaev, UNDP | Panel  | Reflections on the meeting; date and place on the next meeting;subjects to be discussed at the next meetings |
| 17:30 | Closure of the meeting |