

REPORT OF THE 3rd VIRTUAL REGIONAL CONSULTATION ON

Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus

(BE: CLME+)

Belize City, Belize

14 December 2020



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Report of the 3rd Virtual Regional Consultation for the Project, “Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus (BE: CLME+)”, Belize City, Belize, 14 December 2020

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BE: CLME+	CAF/FAO/GEF Project - Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus
CAF	Development Bank of Latin America (Corporación Andina de Fomento – Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina -CAF)
CERMES	The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CNFO	Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IW	International Waters
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning
PIF	Project Identification Form
ProDoc	Project Document
STAR	The System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
UWI-CERMES	University of the West Indies - Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies

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OVERVIEW

1. The 3rd Virtual Regional Consultation for the project entitled, “Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus (BE: CLME+)”, was held via GoToMeeting on 14 December 2020. It was convened and hosted by the CRFM Secretariat in Belize City, Belize.
2. The purpose of the Consultation was to update project beneficiaries countries (*Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Panama, and Saint Lucia*) and institutional partners on the progress already achieved in formulating the Project Document (ProDoc), and to clarify the timeline for the remaining work, to ensure finalization of the ProDoc by the new deadline.
3. The Consultation agreed upon the following specific priority actions required of the countries:
 - a. *Beneficiary countries must submit the best available estimates of the hectares of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) that will be created or expanded and/or where management effectiveness of their MPA(s) be enhanced through the project intervention.*
 - b. *Each beneficiary countries must submit co-financing letters for an aggregate value of at least US\$1.5 million, to cover all components of the project over its 4-year cycle.*

The co-financing eligible for inclusion:

 - i. *must provide complementary project support from non-GEF sources during the implementation timeline;*
 - ii. *must demonstrate the relevance of the co-financing identified to the GEF project for which funding will be sought;*
 - iii. *Separate letters are required for each entity in the country that would provide national-level co-financing support.*
 - c. *Beneficiary countries are also required to complete the Tracking Tool for GEF-7 Protected Area Projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area. One tool (providing the relevant baseline information) must be completed for each MPA;*
 - d. *Actions (a, b and c) must be completed and submitted to the Consultant on or before Friday, 8 January 2021, to enable the Consultant to make the required updates to the ProDoc before the Regional Validation Workshop, slated for 25-26 January 2021.*
 - e. *After the Validation Workshop, the document will be refined for submission to the GEF on 12 February 2021, allowing adequate time for the CRFM to address any feedback provided during the course of the GEF’s review by the ultimate deadline of June 2021.*
4. It was noted that although the activities were behind the original schedule, due to the challenges experienced over the course of 2020 arising from the covid-19 pandemic, it was not a major problem, since the GEF had extended the deadline for all projects in the same round, to June 2021. However, it is imperative that the ProDoc is completed well in advance of the extended deadline, to allow time for the ProDoc to be submitted to the GEF by 12 February 2021, and to allow the Project Development Team adequate time to address all feedback that the GEF would offer after reviewing the ProDoc submitted.

5. The entire process must be completed by the end of June 2021, as the GEF's will not consider a ProDoc submitted after its very strict deadline.

AGENDA ITEM 1: WELCOME REMARKS AND ROLL CALL

6. CRFM Executive Director, Mr. Milton Haughton, welcomed participants and led the roll call. Mr. Terrence Phillips also welcomed the participants on behalf of FAO/WECAFC.
7. A list of the persons who participated in the virtual consultation appears at *Appendix I*. (CAF's representative was unable to attend.)

AGENDA ITEM 2: REVIEW OF AGENDA, PURPOSE OF MEETING, CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT PREPARATION AND REMAINING TIMELINE

8. The Executive Director reviewed the Provisional Agenda, which was adopted without changes. The adopted Agenda appears at *Appendix II*.
9. The purpose of the meeting was clarified, and the background of the project development process was reviewed.
10. The process of conceptualizing the project began in 2017 but became more formalized in March 2018. Significant progress has been made since, and the partners were now in the final stages of completing the draft ProDoc for submission to the GEF for review. It was noted, however, that important information from some countries was still outstanding.
11. The Executive Director explained that this Consultation was called to address the information gaps for completion of the ProDoc prior to the planned validation workshop. The information needed include: (i) the estimated area, in hectares, of MPAs to be created or expanded and/or to benefit from enhanced management effectiveness as a consequence of the project's interventions; (ii) the need for letters from co-financing sources, their relevance & suitability to the proposed project; (iii) the need to complete the Tracking Tool for GEF-7 Protected Area Projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area, for each MPA to be expanded or that will otherwise benefit from the project's planned interventions. The meeting will also agree suitable dates for the Regional Validation Workshop, as well as the remaining timeline for the completion of the GEF Project Document.
12. The Timeline for Completion of the ProDoc, which was amended during a previous Virtual Consultation held in July 2020, incorporates new achievement dates and additional milestones to enhance delivery. The updated timeline appears at *Appendix III*.
13. The third draft of the ProDoc was completed after a brief delay, and the document was shared with the participants.
14. The Project Validation Workshop was initially scheduled for 22-23 October. The COVID-19 Pandemic had resulted, for a period, in lockdowns, office closures, and work-from-home arrangements, as well as limitations in the ability to execute field activities and delay in gathering information from the

countries. Consequently, the Validation Workshop was rescheduled (tentatively for 21-22 January 2021). The final submission of the ProDoc, initially programmed for 10 November 2020, is now scheduled for 12 February 2021.

15. It was emphasized that despite the extension of the GEF deadline, the document must be submitted long before. Past experience with the GEF entailed a few rounds of GEF review, and all major concerns raised by the GEF will need to be resolved early enough, so that a ProDoc that satisfies the GEF's standards and expectations can be completed and submitted before the GEF deadline of June 2021.
16. Participants were advised that feedback on the 3rd draft ProDoc and additional information required for its completion should be submitted on or before 8 January 2021, so that the Consultant can promptly address them. All major changes to the ProDoc need to be made prior to the January 2021 Validation Workshop, as the time allotted for the workshop is to be dedicated to the review and refinement of the document. This would ensure an efficient and effective process.
17. Two weeks after the Validation Workshop, the completed ProDoc should be completed and circulated to stakeholders and submitted to the GEF for consideration.
18. The significant work of the beneficiary countries in assisting with gathering the information needed to put together the ProDoc and the efforts made to refine the draft (which had 144 pages) were recognized. The work of three consultants (the MSP/IW Consultant, the Value Chain Specialist, and the Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist) had been completed. The tremendous work done by the consultants was also recognized. The remaining work on the ProDoc was being done mainly by the Lead Project Development Consultant.
19. Participants were encouraged to maintain momentum in collecting and submitting the outstanding information during the weeks following the Consultation to avoid further delay.

AGENDA ITEM 3: MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAs) TO BE CREATED OR EXPANDED

20. Mr. Noel Jacobs, Project Development Consultant, discussed the project's commitment under GEF Project Core Indicator 2: Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (in hectares). (Section E of the 3rd draft ProDoc, pages 5-6.)
21. The commitment made in the PIF was for at least 230,000 Ha (combined area) of new MPAs established or expanded in at least 5 participating countries. The countries were asked to provide the details to account for how the benchmark would be accomplished.
22. Although a determination of the precise size would ordinarily be subject to national consultation processes involving stakeholders and authorities, the agency responsible for the protected area could provide a well-informed, best estimate of what the area would be. At the mid-term and terminal evaluations for the project, the countries would be able to report on any variations and update the information with respect to the initially estimates provided.
23. Guyana had indicated that it intends to create a new MPA, which could contribute substantially towards the target. Barbados and Jamaica were also expected to make substantial contributions. Panama had already provided information on the expansion of an MPA. Information was also available for Belize,

but clarity was still needed on which of the existing MPAs would benefit from management improvements under the project. For the MPAs to be expanded, the size of the anticipated expansion (in hectares) would need to be specified. Countries need to provide the full details of their expected contributions to demonstrate to the GEF, in the ProDoc, how the 230,000 hectares would be accounted for.

24. The contributions to the 230,000 hectares would need to be classified as follows:
 - a. MPAs to be newly formed;
 - b. MPAs to be expanded; and/or
 - c. MPAs to benefit from enhanced management efficiency.
25. **Saint Lucia** committed to completing their internal process by 8 January 2021, including the evaluations necessary to provide the details requested. They had already provided a very detailed matrix to the Consultant, and from the MPAs listed therein, they would only need to highlight those which would benefit from project support, and to elaborate on the manner in which project support would be utilized.
26. The Consultant clarified that there is no terrestrial component to the project. The hectares to be included under Project Core Indicator 2 must be marine areas that would benefit from support under the GEF project. The information to be submitted by the beneficiary countries must detail what the GEF project funding would be used for.
27. Furthermore, with respect to Project Core Indicator 5, the Consultant explained that this would encompass the total area of marine habitat under improved practices (through Marine Spatial Planning), but it would exclude the MPAs. He noted that the number of hectares to be targeted for Core Indicator 5 will be determined during project implementation.
28. **Barbados** also undertook to provide the requested details within the timeline, with support from Coastal Zone authorities. They were assured that they may include already declared MPAs that would benefit from improved management, particularly for sustainable use.
29. The CERMES Representative informed that countries could look for information on their respective MPAs in the [World Database on Protected Areas \(WDPA\)](#), and they could view their profiles in the [Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway](#). For further assistance with obtaining MPA data, they were also advised to contact Dr. Julian Walcott, Technical Officer, Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway (BIOPAMA Programme) at CERMES via e-mail: walcott.julian@gmail.com.
30. **Belize** also indicated that it would be able to provide the requested information in time.
31. The participants were assured that the Consultant (Mr. Jacobs) will be available throughout the holiday period to address any queries or requests for assistance from the countries.
32. The ProDoc had explained in substantial detail the baseline information per country, and the same would need to be done for the specified indicators.
33. Although the matrix provided on page 6 of the ProDoc listed 11 indicators, not all will be applicable to the project. One example is Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO₂e). Only indicators 2, 5, 7, 8 and 11 will apply. Indicator 11 (Number of direct beneficiaries

disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment - Males: 80,000 and Females: 8,000) is applicable to all GEF projects. The matrix of Project Indicators appears at *Appendix IV*.

AGENDA ITEM 4: SPECIFIC CO-FINANCING INFORMATION REQUIRED

34. The Project Development Consultant explained the intricacies of the co-financing information required.
35. Countries are required to identify the source of co-financing from government, donor, private sector, civil society, or other sources; the caveat being that other GEF sources of funding could not be included.
36. Countries must state why the source of co-financing is relevant for the project, and demonstrate how they are comparable or complementary to the project. Related objectives, activities, and outputs/outcomes may be elaborated to support the justification for inclusion.
37. The section will include the information sourced from 6 participating countries and the three partner agencies (CAF, CRFM, and FAO).
38. Whereas one letter with total co-financing was accepted by GEF in the past, they are now requiring distinct letters from each source, rationalizing and describing the relevance to the project. A co-financing letter that had been submitted by Panama was shared with the participants. The sample letter appears at *Appendix V*.
39. The co-financing letter should not be addressed directly to the GEF Secretariat, but to CAF as the Implementing Agency. It should refer to the project name and the GEF Project Number (included in the PIF and ProDoc) in the subject line.
40. In its body, the co-financing letters should stipulate the value of the co-financing for the respective source, and the schedule for which the co-financing would be applied. If the letter is for multi-year co-financing, the value for each specific year should be detailed). Additionally, the timeline should correlate with the project implementation timeline. At the mid-year evaluation (2 years after the commencement of the project), the CRFM would report on progress based on the identified schedule.
41. If a single source would account for a country's US\$1.5 million minimum co-financing allocation for the 4 years, then only one letter is required. However, if co-financing will be drawn from multiple sources, unique letters are required for each source. Letters should demonstrate how the co-financing support would fit within the project framework. The US\$1.5 million, committed to the GEF in the approved PIF, should cover all project components over its 4-year implementation period.
42. **Panama** had already exceeded the required US\$1.5 million in co-financing for the project with the two co-financing letters submitted, and an additional co-financing letter was to be submitted by that country.
43. The Consultant reiterated that all the co-financing letters are required prior to the Validation Workshop.
44. In the case of **Barbados**, government contributions from the line budgets of Fisheries and Coastal Zone authorities would be detailed in separate letters, elaborating on the relevance of co-financing to respective components (e.g. value chain for Fisheries versus MSP for Coastal Zone), and the specified amounts. No specific contribution formula is required.

45. An IDB Blue Economy project was being implemented in Barbados, and so the portion of that project which would overlap with the GEF project's timeline could be included as a complementary source of co-financing.
46. A co-financing letter template is to be provided to the countries, based on the Panama letter.
47. The opportunity for one-on-one updates will also be afforded to country representatives who arrived to the Consultation late.

AGENDA ITEM 5: GEF-7 BIODIVERSITY TRACKING TOOL FOR EACH MPA

48. Another requirement which countries are expected to fulfil on or before 8 January 2021 is the provision of baseline data. Every GEF project that would benefit from funding through the Biodiversity (BD) window, particularly if it involves protected areas, is expected to utilize the tracking tool.
49. An updated version is used for each GEF replenishment, so the tool used for GEF 6 has been modified. Since STAR Allocation resources from countries would be utilized under the Biodiversity window, countries are required to fill out separate tools for each of the protected areas that would benefit.
50. **Barbados** had increased its contribution from its STAR Allocation from US\$100,000 to US\$500,000. The overall project budget has consequently increased by US\$400,000.
51. Virtually all of the information required in the tracking tool will need to be provided by persons with local knowledge of the management agencies or persons involved in the management of the protected area. It is recommended that the MPA management completes the form.
52. The Project Development Consultant explained the purpose and structure of the tool. He noted that Section I (tab 1 of the spreadsheet) is for general information. The first page of the ProDoc has the project information required. Other descriptive information on the protected area is to be inputted into Section I.
53. Section II (tab 2) is more complicated and may require consultation to gather the required information. These include indicators to monitor and evaluate project impact. Countries will be able to specify the indicators that they would like to use for each protected area, for evaluation at the mid-term period and at the end of the project implementation period to measure progress or success.
54. Countries may use 1 or 2 indicators and are not required to come up with a long list of indicators for M&E purposes.
55. Countries are expected to fill out the column for "Project Start-up" on or before 8 January 2021. Some cells have predefined choices.

AGENDA ITEM 6: BASELINE METT SCORES OF MPAS TO BE EXPANDED OR TO BENEFIT FROM MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT

56. If the MPA will be benefiting from project support through improvements in management effectiveness, the METT (Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool on tab 2 – Data Sheet 4) will need to be completed. If the MPA had not previously been subjected to management evaluation, the assigned score at Project Start-up should be “0”. However, the GEF would expect to see improvements in the score at the mid-term and completion of the implementation period.
57. The GEF’s Biodiversity lead will likely review the submissions personally, to get a good understanding of the MPA’s baseline state, and the potential states at the mid-term and end-of-term periods.
58. Countries were advised to seek out any existing baseline information on the relevant MPAs, particularly if they had benefited from GEF funding. There may be existing biodiversity tools completed at the country level, and these could ensure consistency in reporting. All projects ever funded by the GEF since its inception are listed on its website by country. (Access the GEF’s Projects Directory [HERE](#).)
59. Other projects utilize similar tools that could be useful information sources. The GEF-7 Tracking Tool was developed based on the model utilized by the World Bank and the WWF. Even if the country-specific tools are for different protected areas, they could nonetheless serve as very useful frames of reference.
60. The Tracking Tools provide a clear picture of the criteria that the GEF will be using to monitor and evaluate the project’s impact over the implementation period.
61. The completed tools, providing the baseline information at Project Start-Up, are required from the countries on or before 8 January 2021.
62. Countries will need to first confirm which MPAs will benefit from project intervention. A separate Tracking Tool would then need to be created for each.

AGENDA ITEM 7: UPDATE ON REGIONAL VALIDATION WORKSHOP & CLOSURE

63. Mr. Milton Haughton, CRFM, reiterated the need for the countries to submit all the requisite information on or before Friday, 8 January 2021. The required submissions are:
 - i. The details of existing or new MPAs to be included, as per Project Core Indicator 2;
 - ii. The co-financing letters for a minimum of US\$1.5 million per country;
 - iii. The MPA-specific tracking tools;
 - iv. All substantive feedback on the 3rd draft ProDoc in track changes.
64. These submissions are critical for preparing the revised ProDoc that would be presented at the Validation Workshop.

65. The Consultant invited the countries to promptly submit their feedback for any corrections, adjustments, or clarifications they would like to be reflected in the ProDoc, particularly with respect to their country-specific information.
66. After consultation with the countries, the Validation Workshop (which had been proposed for 21-22 January 2021) was fixed for 25-26 January 2021.
67. The CRFM Secretariat would be closed for the holidays (from Friday, 18 December 2020 to Monday, 4 January 2021), but would issue the invitation for the virtual Validation Meeting prior to its closure.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean
Large Marine Ecosystem Plus (BE: CLME+)
14 December 2020*

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AGENDA

ITEM	Sessions	BZ Time
ITEM 1	Welcome Remarks & roll call <i>Milton Haughton, CRFM</i>	08:30 – 08:40
ITEM 2	Review of Agenda, Purpose of Meeting, Current Status of Project Preparation and Remaining Timeline <i>Milton Haughton, CRFM</i>	08:40 – 08:50
ITEM 3	Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to be created or expanded <i>Noel Jacobs, Project Development Consultant</i> Questions & Answers	08:50 – 09:15
ITEM 4	Specific Co-financing Information Required <i>Noel Jacobs, Project Development Consultant</i> Questions & Answers	09:15 – 09:45
ITEM 5	Baseline METT Scores of MPAs to be expanded or to benefit from management enhancement <i>Noel Jacobs, Project Development Consultant</i> Questions & Answers	09:45 – 10:15
ITEM 6	GEF-7 Biodiversity Tracking Tool for each MPA <i>Noel Jacobs, Project Development Consultant</i> Questions & Answers	10:15 – 10:45
ITEM 7	Update on Regional Validation Workshop & Closure <i>Milton Haughton, CRFM</i>	10:45 – 10:55

TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION OF PRODOC
(Updated December 2020)

MILESTONE	PLANNED ACHIEVEMENT DATE - July 2020	ACHIEVEMENT /REVISED ACTIVITIES & DATE
1. Project Inception Workshop	5-6 March 2020 – completed	5-6 March 2020 – completed
2. Hiring Complete PPG Consulting Team	Lead Consultant – Hired	Lead Consultant – Hired
	MSP/IW Consultant – Hired	MSP/IW Consultant – completed
	Fisheries Value Chain Specialist – Hired	Value Chain Specialist – completed
	Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist – Hired	Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist – Completed
		Regional Consultation 2 July-completed
3. First Draft PRODOC	21 ST July 2020	1 st Draft PRODOC -21 st July 2020 - completed
4. Second Draft PRODOC	31 st August 2020	2 nd Draft PRODOC – delayed /completed – Nov20
		3 rd Draft PRODOC – delayed – completed
5. Third Draft PRODOC	9 th October 2020	Regional Consultation – 14 Dec 2020 Final submissions from countries – 8 Jan 2021
6. Validation of PRODOC – Regional Workshop	22-23 October 2020	Delayed – New date: 21-22 January 2021
7. Final PRODOC produced	10 th November 2020	Delayed New date - 12 February 2021
8. PRODOC process completed & submitted to GEF	15 th December 2020	Delayed New date -12 Feb 2021

Note: Activities in green text were not in the original schedule but included to refine the process Activities in red text will be completed after their originally scheduled date.

APPENDIX IV

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

		Expected at CEO Endorsement
1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	New MPAs established or expanded in at least 5 countries (at least 230,000 Ha)
3	Area of land restored (Hectares)	
4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)(Hectares)	
5	Area of marine habitat under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	To be determined (Total MSP area – Total MPA area)
Total area under improved management (Hectares)		
6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO ₂ e)	
7	Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	5
8	Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	45,000
9	Reduction , disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	Males: 80,000 Females: 8,000

SAMPLE CO-FINANCING LETTER

(Panama submission)

Panama, December 2nd, 2020
OCTI-187-2020

Doctor
RENE GOMEZ GARCIA-PALAO
Senior Executive
Directorate for Sustainability, Inclusion and Climate Change
Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)

Subject: Co-finance letter for the GEF project under the GEF-7 “*BE-CLME+: Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus*”.

Dear Dr. Gomez:

I am pleased to address you, with the purpose of expressing the interest of the Ministry of the Environment in the project: “*BE-CLME+: Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities Through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus*”, which will be presented to the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The Ministry of Environment of Panama hereby expresses its support for the above-mentioned project, to be funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) serving as GEF Implementing Agencies, and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) as Project Executing Agency. We expect the development of this project will help us to increase capacity building on our Caribbean coast using the Marine Spatial Planning approach as a key element in the country’s broader Blue Economy agenda.

The Ministry of Environment of Panama has identified co-financing for this GEF-7 project in the amount of US\$ 1,081,057.00 (US\$ 951,057.00 in 2021 and US\$ 130,000.00 in 2022). These resources are primarily related to Components 1 and 2: Implementing cross-sectoral Marine Spatial Planning and Inclusive Sustainable Fisheries Value Chains, being two issues critical to the success of our Marine Protected Areas.

.../...

TRACKING TOOL

Below is a snapshot of the *Tracking Tool for GEF-7 Protected Area Projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area*. The Microsoft Excel version of the Tracking Tool is available via the shared Google Drive folder. Click [HERE](#) to access it. Please note that there are two separate tabs: one for Section I and another for Section II.

Tracking Tool for GEF-7 Protected Area Projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area		
GEF 7 Objective 2: Improving Financial Sustainability, Effective Management, and Ecosystem Coverage of the Global Protected Area Estate		
SECTION I		
PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TOOL IS ONLY FOR USE FOR GEF-7 Protected Area Projects		
I. General Data	Please indicate your answer here	Notes
Please complete this section for all projects under Objective 1.		
Project Title	Conservation of wildcats and prey species through public-private partnerships and human-jaguar conflict management in Panamá	
GEF Project ID		
Agency Project ID		
Implementing Agency		
Project Type		FSP or MSP
Country		
Region		
Date of submission of the tracking tool		Month DD, YYYY (e.g., May 12, 2010)
Name of reviewers completing tracking tool and completion date		Completion Date
Planned project duration		years
Actual project duration		years under implementation to date
Lead Project Executing Agency (ies)		
II. Total Extent by Biome	Please indicate your answer here	
Please complete this table with the total extent of protected areas targeted by the project by terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biome.		
Please complete this section for all projects under Objective 1.		
Terrestrial (insert total hectares for terrestrial coverage)		ha
Freshwater (insert total hectares for freshwater coverage)		ha
Marine (insert total hectares for marine coverage)		ha
III. Targeted Protected Areas	Please indicate your answer here	
Please complete the table below for the protected areas that are the target of the GEF intervention (i.e. completing a METT). Add new tables (copy/paste rows) for each protected area, as needed.		
Use N/A for not applicable.		
1. Protected Area		
Name of Protected Area		
Is this a new protected area that is being established through this project intervention?		Yes = 1, No = 0
Area in Hectares		
Biome type		Please select from the drop-down list.
Global designation or priority lists		Please select from the drop-down list.
Local Designation of Protected Area		(E.g., indigenous reserve, private reserve, etc.)
IUCN Category		Please select from the drop-down list.
2. Protected Area		
Name of Protected Area		
Is this a new protected area that is being established through this project intervention?		Yes = 1, No = 0
Area in Hectares		
Biome type		Please select from the drop-down list.
Global designation or priority lists		Please select from the drop-down list.
Local Designation of Protected Area		(E.g., indigenous reserve, private reserve, etc.)
IUCN Category		Please select from the drop-down list.

Report on the 3rd Regional Virtual Consultation on the Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus (BE: CLME+)

Tracking Tool for GEF-7 Protected Area Projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area

GEF 7 Objective 2: Improving Financial Sustainability, Effective Management, and Ecosystem Coverage of the Global Protected Area Estate
SECTION II: Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool for Protected Areas

Note: Please complete the management effectiveness tracking tool for EACH protected area that is the target of the GEF intervention to improve management effectiveness and create a new worksheet for each.

Structure and content of the Tracking Tool - Objective 1, Section II:

The Tracking Tool has five data sheets:

Data Sheet 1: Records details of the assessment and some basic information about the site, such as name, size and location etc.

Data Sheet 2: Provides a specific list of threats that the project is addressing.

Data Sheet 3: Condition of biodiversity in the protected area.

Data Sheet 4: Assessment Form: the assessment is structured around 30 questions presented in table format which includes three columns for recording details of the assessment, all of which should be completed.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TOOL IS FOR USE ONLY IN GEF-7 Protected Area PROJECTS

Data Sheet 1: Reporting Progress at Protected Area Sites

Questions	Please indicate your answers here			Notes
	Project Start-up	Midterm	Project Completion	
Name, affiliation and contact details for person responsible for completing the METT (email etc.)				Protected Area Management Authority; Email:
Date assessment carried out				Month DD, YYYY (e.g., May 12, 2010)
Name of protected area				
WDPA site code (these codes can be found on www.protectedplanet.net)				
Country				
Location of protected area (province and if possible map reference)				
Date of establishment				
Ownership details (please choose 1-4)				1: State 2: Private 3: Community 4: Other
Management Authority				
Size of protected area (ha)				
Number of Permanent staff				
Number of Temporary staff				
Budget (US\$) for recurrent (operational) funds - excluding staff salary costs				
Annual budget (US\$) for project or other supplementary funds - excluding staff salary costs				
What are the main values for which the area is designated				
List the two primary protected area management objectives in below:				
Management objective 1				
Management objective 2				
No. of people involved in completing assessment				
Including: (please choose 1-8)				1: PA manager 2: PA staff 3: Other PA agency staff 4: Donors 5: NGOs 6: External experts 7: Local community 8: Other

Data Sheet 2: Key Biodiversity Indicators Used in This Protected Area

At project start-up, identify and list up to five key biodiversity indicators that are monitored on a regular basis in the protected area; these indicators can relate to any/all trophic levels OR using other indicators. For each identified indicator, provide the current (project start-up) status of that indicator in numerical terms or with a short description (see examples below), as appropriate. The examples are only illustrative and the protected area manager should use the indicators that currently are being monitored and/or will be monitored.

At project midterm and at project completion, provide updates on the status of the same indicator(s) identified at project start.

The overall condition of biodiversity -- based on the status of the indicator(s) identified here -- will be reported on in Question 30 in Data Sheet 4 (METT Assessment Form). Therefore the inputs here require focused analysis to assess whether trends are positive, negative or neutral.

Indicator	Project Start-up	Midterm	Project Completion	Comments (optional)
<i>Example Indicator 1: Degree of soil compaction and/or erosion, as indicated by test sites compared with exclosures</i>				
<i>Example Indicator 2: Average total area of grassland burnt by fire per year, as indicated by plotting GPS points following fire events</i>				
<i>Example Indicator 3: Total area deforested or with forest significantly degraded, as indicated by satellite imagery</i>				
<i>Example Indicator 4: Estimated population of a key herbivore species as indicated by dung counts</i>				
<i>Example Indicator 5: Estimated population of a key carnivore species as indicated by camera traps</i>				
Indicator 1: Estimation of the number of jaguars (Keystone and Umbrella species) using camera traps in Chagres National Park				
Indicator 2: Total area deforested or with forest significantly degraded, as indicated by satellite imagery				
Indicator 3				
Indicator 4				
Indicator 5				

PROJECT SUMMARY

The GEF-7 multi-country (Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Panama and Saint Lucia) project (GEF ID 10211) “Blue Economy (BE): Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus (CLME+): Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus” will promote blue economy development in the CLME+ through marine spatial planning (MSP) and marine protected areas (MPAs), ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF), and sustainable fisheries value chains. The project will be seeking to address the marine environmental threats to leveraging national climate - resilient blue economies in the Caribbean, which are hampered by several key barriers and management and policy gaps. Some of the main challenges refer to the limited implementation of the ecosystems approach to fisheries management and insufficient integration of climate-resilient blue economic development; inadequate knowledge and enabling frameworks for Caribbean fisheries value chains, and inadequate capacity at both the regional and national levels to institutionalize sustainable fisheries within blue economy approaches that promote sustainable development benefits.

Among the expected results of the project, are focused climate-smart investments into national and regional marine spatial planning efforts that inform development and implementation of national blue economy strategies; establishment of a regional MSP for ecosystem-based fisheries and new or expanded national MPAs in five Caribbean countries; establishment of inclusive sustainable fisheries value chains; and knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation, drawing also knowledge and experiences of climate-resilient blue economies from other regions and other Global Environment Facility (GEF) International Waters projects, in partnership with IW: LEARN.

The project countries are comprised of five Member States of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), namely Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Panama. The Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) is the lead implementing agency, with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as co-implementing agency, while the CRFM is the executing agency. The full project grant provided by the GEF is USD 6.2 million, with the co-financing being USD 40.1 million.

CRFM

The CRFM is an inter-governmental organisation whose mission is to “Promote and facilitate the responsible utilisation of the region’s fisheries and other aquatic resources for the economic and social benefits of the current and future population of the region”. The CRFM consists of three bodies – the Ministerial Council, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the CRFM Secretariat.

CRFM members are Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and The Turks and Caicos Islands.

