



IWOC6

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*UNEP/MAP – GEF Strategic
Partnership for the Mediterranean
Large Marine Ecosystem:
The MedPartnership*

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Introduction of the Project: What?

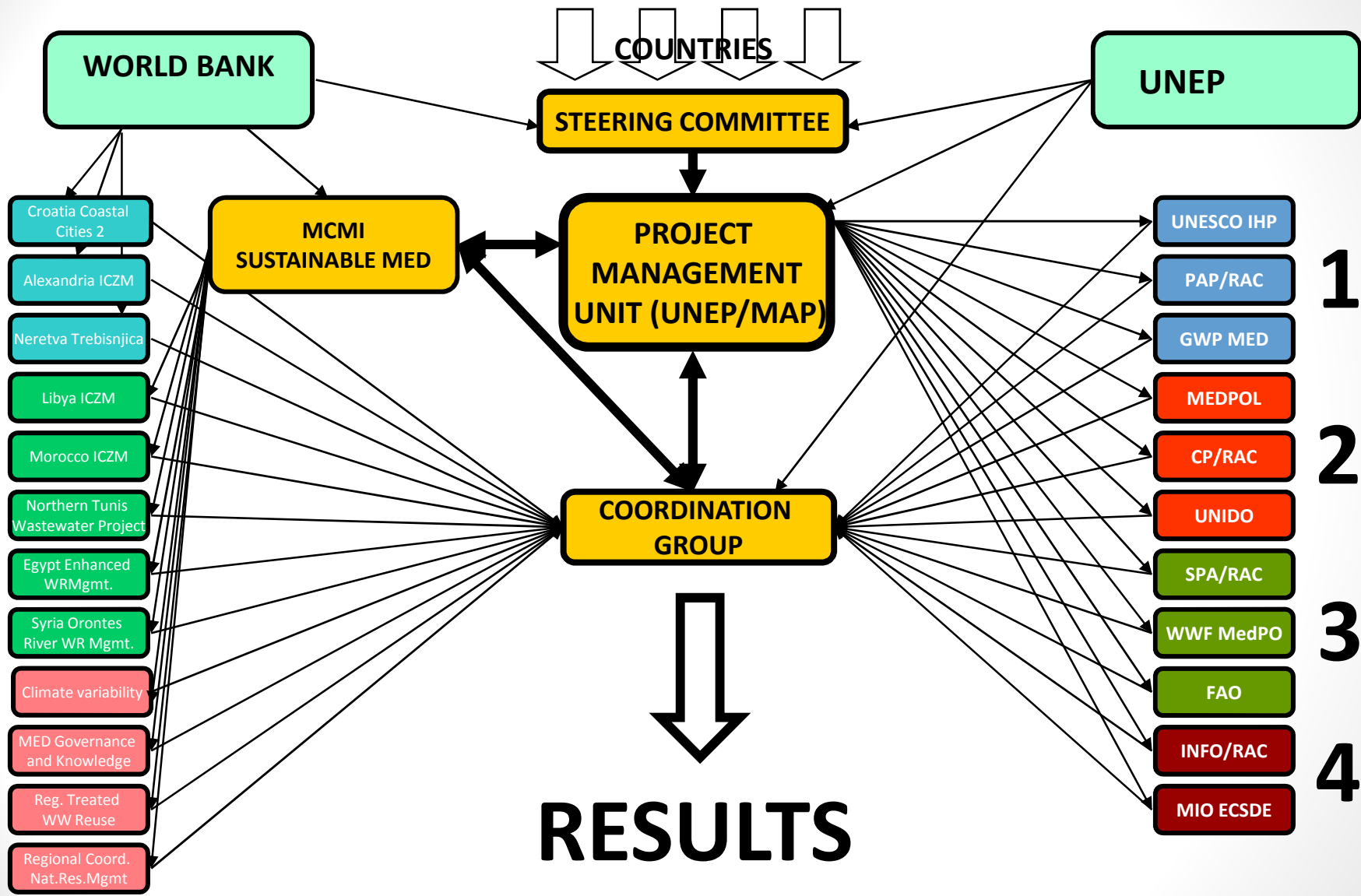
- Continuation of (and building upon) the previous GEF Project run by UNEP/MAP:
 - review and update of the existing TDA
 - Design and elaboration of two SAPs: Strategic Action Program to address pollution from land-based activities (SAP-MED); and Strategic Action Program for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity (SAP- BIO).
- New Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (PAP/RAC, 2008), which was adopted in January 2008 and came into force in March 2011.

Introduction of the Project: How?

- Partnership: UNEP/MAP and World Bank
- 12 countries and Palestine Authority
- 12 executing partners
- 6 big donors + countries' and agencies' co-financing
- 2 major components: Regional Project and Investment Fund
- 4 sub-components and more than 10 investment projects
- 46 demonstration projects
- 50 mil. USD Regional Project; 75 mil. USD Investment Fund



MedPartnership Structure



Project Objectives

- to assist countries in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and National Action Plans to reduce pollution from land-based sources, and preserve the biodiversity and ecosystems of the Mediterranean from degradation: facilitation of policy, institutional and legal reforms;
- to assist countries in the implementation of the ICZM Protocol: assistance to countries in advancing their ICZM and IWRM plans (and including the management of aquifers);
- to leverage long-term financing; and
- to ensure through the replication process embedded in the Barcelona Convention and MAP systems the sustainability of activities initiated within the project beyond its specific lifetime.

Project Outcomes

Investment Fund

- Innovative, cost-effective investments in specific country contexts promoted and/or implemented

Regional Project

- Harmonized policy, legal and institutional reforms promoted and induced;
- Knowledge gap aimed at reversing marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion filled, in accordance with priorities agreed by the countries in the SAP MED and SAP BIO; and
- Ground for the future implementation of the ICZM Protocol prepared.

Results in Stress Reduction

- Rationalisation of water use at demonstration enterprises improved (reduction of 40% at least in half of the companies as a result of the implementation of TEST)
- Reduction of pollution loads at the industrial demonstration enterprises (Aprox. 30% reduction of pollution loads in at least half of the companies as a result of the implementation of TEST)
- Demonstrations still underway and results under quantification, but initial results indicate target will be met

Results in Environmental Status

The project did not originally propose water resource and environmental status indicators, however the proposal is to link the project actions on the ground with the work underway of the Ecosystem approach, led by UNEP/MAP, which had defined and agreed upon 11 ecological objectives and 54 indicators for the future monitoring of the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, which compliments the EU Marine Strategic Directive. The first report of these indicators will be presented in 2012.



Process Results

- The ICZM Protocol entered into force with 6 ratifications on March 24th 2011 (the fastest entry of all Protocols to the Barcelona Convention) and the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) has been drafted through an inclusive process, with final approval pending.
- A total of over 20 workshops/training sessions have been undertaken so far including: the management of marine protected areas (with over 200 MPA practitioners trained), the implementation of environmental sound technology (4 workshops, 10 training sessions and total of 746 man/days of training), and four workshops for capacity building for the implementation of the ICZM protocol.
- Regarding aquifer management, the assessment of risk and uncertainty of coastal aquifer in the Nador Lagoon and Bou Areg aquifer is now completed, and regarding marine protected areas, Morocco, and marine surveys of the Ain Al-Ghazala marine and coastal area in Libya, which were used to declare the site as an MPA, were also completed.

Conclusion

- Complex project: the biggest ever in the Mediterranean region
- The idea of partnership: not easy to achieve
- Implementation under influence of political and economic situation in the region
- Policy reform process underway in the region, stimulated and assisted by the project
- Regional capacities for environmental management improved
- Environmental stress reduction yet to be determined
- Replication started: some practices may be replicated during the lifetime of the project



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Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large

Marine Ecosystem

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Thank you!

