

1. Background information

1.1 SAP BIO, the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region

1. The Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO) (Ref. 6) is the result of a long process of consultations during the 2001-2002 period, including the CPs to the Barcelona Convention and a large number of international and/or regional organisations, the preparatory activities assisted by GEF. The SAP BIO provides a logical base for the conservation of the Mediterranean marine and coastal biodiversity, within the framework of sustainable use and through the implementation of the revised SPA/Biodiversity Protocol, adopted in 1995. SAP BIO includes principles, approaches, measures, targets, timetables and priorities for action, as well as a priority list for intervention and investments ("Investment Portfolio"). The SAP BIO issues are analysed and actions identified at national (N) and regional (R) levels.

2. SAP BIO includes 30 Regional Priority Actions (RPAs), 58 NAPs (with five more added after inclusion of Montenegro), and an Investment Portfolio counting for 247 actions, the total investments needed estimated at the end of 2003 at 154,5 mil \$. NAPs in the Portfolio were costed at pre-feasibility level or as estimates, but not prioritised. The RPAs were estimated or costed with break-down, and prioritised.

3. The SAP BIO Provisions for follow up envisaged: (i) start of implementation of NAPs and Regional priority actions; (ii) establishment/adaptation of related institutional arrangements (N, R); (iii) establishment of relevant co-operation (N, R); (iv) provisions for financial support (N, R); (v) refining and prioritising of N, and refining of R Investment Portfolios; (vi) formulation and adoption of SAP BIO Operational R, N Programmes; (vii) inclusion of Operational programmes into national plans; (viii) provision of assistance to countries; and (ix) launching implementation. It was assumed that these Provisions might be met in a 2-years period after the adoption of SAP BIO, i.e. during the 2004-05 biennium.

4. SAP BIO was adopted by the 13th OMCPs, in Catania, November 2003 (Ref. 2). The respective OMCPs recommendations envisaged: a Launching Conference by the end of 2004; funding to be looked for through GEF, with noted interest of France through FFEM. The Secretariat was requested to carry out the Provisions for follow up concerning: (i) the Preparatory phase, (ii) launching of SAP BIO, and (iii) identification of mechanisms for financing and implementation. But, no funds were allocated in the 2004-2005 budget for SAP BIO preparatory/launching phase.

5. During 2004 started the preparatory activities for the SAP BIO component of the Regional UNEP/GEF/SP-MED-LME project (Ref. 17, further on: the Regional Project).

6. The 14th OMCPs, held in Portoroz in November 2005 (Ref. 4), noted: (i) that the SAP BIO relevant recommendations were not matched by corresponding budgetary allocations, and (ii) a renewed impetus needed to be given to efforts with GEF, with recommendations on SAP BIO to be more forceful. The Meeting requested SPA/RAC to: (i) further integrate SAP BIO into its programme of activities, (ii) prepare project proposals and seek funding for its implementation exploring possibilities with external donors, (iii) seek funding through GEF support, (iv) continue co-operation for the implementation of SAP BIO with relevant organisations, agencies and institutions, and (v) to strengthen co-operation with PAP/RAC and REMPEC in order to carry out integrated projects for the protection of ecosystems against pollution and for promotion of the marine biodiversity. The 2006-2007 budget approved 44.000 Euro in 2006 and 40.000 in 2007 for the implementation of SAP BIO sub-component in the frame of the Regional Project, and to support countries in the implementation of NAPs.

7. The 1st Meeting of the SAP BIO Advisory Committee (Ref. 8), Tunis, April 19, 2006, reviewed the SAP BIO progress from its adoption in 2003. The Meeting noted that although many of activities agreed are ready for implementation, modest progress was made due to absence of funds. The need was stressed to reinforce SAP BIO within the Regional Project by: development of a network of MPAs; support to strengthening the existing MPAs; and support for establishment of new ones. ToRs for and reactivation of the Committee were discussed and agreed upon, and a Meeting of National Correspondents, requested to be convened, to discuss the next steps for implementation of SAP BIO.

8. The Committee meeting discussed the document "Stakeholders analysis on potential partners and financial sources for the SAP BIO GEF PDF B Project", taking note of following important findings:

- (i) chronic under-funding and unpredictable fluctuations of funding MPAs,
- (ii) a marked sub-regional disparity in allocation of funds, in EU countries 43 \$/ha/y, in non-EU ones 4,5 \$/ha/y, in N. African ones 1,0 \$/ha/y, while MPAs are needing 60-1.000 \$/ha/y; the need for strong policy actions on funding MPAs was emphasised,
- (iii) PAs in many developing countries seem not to be a national priority and therefore depend on international aid and nature funds, estimates indicate that only 10% of the needs is secured
- (iv) as possible international funding sources: EU: LIFE, SMAP, INTERREG; GEF; ODA Agencies, debts swap for nature; were identified,
- (v) possibilities for funding MPAs: from fisheries policies, Natura 2000; tourism and recreation as funding sources; concessions, for recreational diving in particular;
- (vi) finally, a Plan B is recommended as needed for funding: natural resource subsidies, payment for ecosystem services, market related sources (enhance fees, concessions ...); partnership with economic and social sector, contribution from private companies ...
- (vii) the networks of interest: ecological networks, SPA, SPAMI, MAB Biosphere Network, EU Natura 2000, Emerald Network; need for/opportunities of synergies/optimisation emphasised.

9. The same Meeting discussed also the document "Regional Programme to implement SAP BIO related to creating new MPAs - draft ideas" (Ref. 15). The document elaborated possible actions within the context of the Regional Project, to support launching and sustain MPAs, focusing at sustainability, replicability and capacity building:

- (i) enhancing institutional and legal aspects,
- (ii) strengthening technical capacity by: selecting and networking MPAs; planning/zoning; managing; monitoring; and ensuring research and education,
- (iii) enhancing financial and economic aspects, and
- (iv) enhancing social and cultural aspects: partnership, communicating, adapting.

10. During the 2005-06 period, the SAP BIO component of the Regional Project was elaborated (Ref. 18). The whole Regional FP Brief was presented to UNEP/GEF for reviewing and adoption, see details in Chapter 1.2. further on. Immediately before the II. Meeting of SAP BIO Advisory Committee, MAP and SPA/RAC were informed that the MPAs sub-component cannot be funded by GEF within the Regional Project.

11. The 2nd Meeting of SAP BIO Advisory Committee, held in Tunis, on 1 March, 2007 (Ref. 10). reviewed the process of launching the implementation of SAP BIO. Following recommendations of the 15th OMCPs, the Meeting discussed:

- (i) the composition and ToRs for its membership for the 2006-07 and 2008-09 mandates (adopted for 2006-07, to be adjusted for the 2008-09 biennium);
- (ii) hitherto progress on implementation of SAP BIO by RAC/SPA, at national (Algeria, Libya, Montenegro, Tunis), regional levels, and member organisations; a Questionnaire to be sent to member organisations to check their progress on SAP BIO);
- (iii) progress and problems related to the MPAs component of the Regional Project, (progress: the SAP BIO component prepared and included in the GEF Regional FP Brief;

problems, announced the MPAs sub-component not to be funded by GEF - alternative options were considered, further discussions to be held with MEDU and GEF PDF B Project Manager)

(iv) integration of SAP BIO in the RAC/SPA programme for the 2008-2009 biennium (recommendations: need for implementation indicators to assess the SAP BIO process; to incite countries; to focus on homogeneous sub-regional areas and on capacity building inside regional sub-units, need for effective project demonstration activities, targeted at recipient communities within or adjacent to MPAs boundaries or buffer zones, with chances of success and replicability; to include other regional organisations; to prepare a Joint Operational Plan to be presented to the forthcoming Meeting of NFPs for SPAs; to prepare a meeting of donors,...).

1.2. Overview of the UNEP/GEF/SP-MED-LME project

(full title: "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem - Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas", briefly: Regional Project, Ref. 17)

12. As mentioned in point 5. above, preparatory activities for the Regional Project started in 2004. The initial SPA/RAC-WWF document on identification and development of SAP BIO actions was prepared by the end of 2004. Following generally recognised need to increase the number and strengthen the management of MPAs, the SAP BIO component was focussed at MPAs as the first sub-component, fisheries as the second one.

13. During 2005, "Mediterranean Strategy to implement the SAP BIO related to MPAs", was prepared by SPA/RAC, WWF MED PO and FAO (Ref. 15). The Strategy aimed at: (i) strengthening of the legal framework for MPAs, (ii) strengthening of the MPA Network at regional level, and (iii) creation of new MPAs. After the 1st Meeting of the reactivated SAP BIO Advisory Committee, the Meeting of National SAP BIO Correspondents was convened in Alicante on 12-13. May 2006. The Alicante Meeting defined and provisionally adopted the mandate for National Correspondents during the implementation phase of SAP BIO. Two working meetings of SPA/RAC, WWF MED-PO, GFCM and FAO followed in June 2006 in FAO Rome, finalising the SAP BIO component of the Regional FP Brief.

14. The comprehensive full Regional Project, the SAP BIO component included, was developed during 2005 and in early 2006 and presented as UNEP/GEF/SP-MED-LME Project Brief, version August 2006. After the reviewing procedure, a second, revised and amended version was finalised in March 2007, to be presented to the GEF Council at its June 2007 Meeting.

15. The beneficiaries of the Regional Project are 12 CPs as GEF eligible ones: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey, plus the Palestinian Authority.

16. In August 2006 FP Brief version, the SAP BIO activities were structured under Component 2, with two sub-components:

Sub-component 2.1. "Conservation of Biological Diversity: Implementation of SAP-BIO and Related NAPs related to the development of the Mediterranean MPAs Network" (GEF contribution 3,292.500\$), envisaged the implementation of 6 activities: (i) Establishment of co-ordination mechanisms for regional MPA management, (ii) identification and planning of new MPAs, (iii) Improved management of MPAs, (iv) establishment of a regional MPA network monitoring capacity, (v) ensuring financial sustainability of R, N MPA networks, and (vi) improving the legal governance frameworks for MPAs, and

Sub-component 2.2. "Sustainable use of Fisheries Resources through Development and Application of Ecosystem-based Management Approaches" (GEF contribution 687.500 \$)

envisaged 3 activities: (i) establishment of the Ecosystem Approach at R and sub-R levels, (ii) reduction of by-catch of regionally important species, and (iii) identification and addressing unsustainable fishing practices at regionally representative MPA sites.

(In the March 2007 version of the FP Brief the SAP BIO related sub-component is included as Sub-Component 3.1, with no changes in the six elaborated activities)

17. Funding commitments made by beneficiary countries accounted at 0,25 mil \$ each for five years (except Albania committing 0,1 mil. \$), totalling for 2,1 mil. \$, all in-kind. The RAC/SPA contribution amounts at 0,6 mil. \$ in cash and in-kind. From donors side, the French engagement for biodiversity is recorded as 1,8 mil. \$ and the Spanish one might reach 3 mil. \$..

18. Due to changes of GEF programming policies and practice, during the reviewing process and constraints the SAP/BIO component faced owing to RAF issues, the biodiversity/MPAs sub-component had to be excluded from GEF funding. Therefore, following options were considered by the 2nd Meeting of the Advisory Committee: (i) to submit the sub-component to GEF separately, (ii) to submit it included, but not requesting GEF reviewing and funding, the co-funding raised to be kept for MPAs, (iii) to submit it included, asking funding from IW or other GEF FAs, and (iv) to submit the full Regional Project to the November 2007 GEF Council.

19. A letter by SPA/RAC Director was mailed on March 2. 2007. to UNEPMAP Co-ordinator. The GEF PDF B PM replied confirming that the whole Regional Component will be submitted to the forthcoming June GEF Council, but that the MPAs sub-component will not be subject to review and approval. Suggestion was made Option (ii) in point 18. to be followed, i.e., to wait for RAF; the co-funding raised by SPA/RAC and WWF to be allocated to the MPA sub-component.

20. Subsequent contacts with donors:

(updated information to be included by SPA/RAC, upon contacts made, after the 8th Meeting of NFPs for SPAs)

2. Progress on SAP BIO after its adoption

2.1. Progress during the 2003-2005 period.

21. After the adoption of SAP BIO in 2003, initial activities concerning SAP BIO were hindered by the fact that no budgetary allocations were made for its start, although regular SPA/RAC activities related to SPAs and BD specific APs were in fact contributing to it. The key efforts aimed at the preparatory actions to define and formulate the SAP BIO component of the Regional Project. In 2005 the "Mediterranean Strategy to implement the SAP BIO related to MPAs", was prepared (see paragraph 11. above).

22. Due lack of funds and focusing on SAP BIO activities of the Regional Project, activities related to Provisions for SAP BIO follow up (see point 3. above) could not be implemented.

23. The 7th Meeting of RAC/SPA FPs, held on 31 May - 3 June 2005 in Seville (Ref. 7), summarising the progress of activities related to SAP BIO registered: (i) the prepared National Report and NAPs of Montenegro, to be incorporated in SAP BIO, (ii) attendance at the Stocktaking meeting for the Regional Project, in October 2004, (iii) preparation of the SAP BIO component of the Regional project, (iv) as new lines of work recommended for integration in SAP BIO: the Programme on coralligenous and the Programme of sustainable

use of marine and coastal biodiversity. Finally, the Meeting proposed funds within a specific BL to be approved for the SAP BIO.

24. The SAP BIO related recommendations of the 14th OMCPs, are presented in paragraph 6 above.

2.2. Progress during the 2006-2007 period

25. The preparation of the Regional project SAP BIO component, as in the preceding period, was the key SAP BIO related activity. The meeting of SAP BIO National Correspondents was convened in May 2006, to discuss SAP BIO Implementation, and several meetings of the GEF biodiversity project partners took place to finalise it (see paragraph 13 above).

26. Implementation of individual SAP BIO NAPs. Support to develop the following activities was provided:

a. Algeria:
- NAP for setting up a programme to collect data on the Monk seal: a field mission in the western coast of Algeria, to identify eventual critical monk seal habitats.
- NAP for setting up a network for monitoring of *Posidonia oceanica* meadows: a 3-year Project elaborated on inventorying, mapping and monitoring of *Posidonia* meadows in four southern Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Turkey).

b. Libya:
- NAP on proposed new marine and coastal protected areas and national parks: to identify sites of conservation interest and set up a mid-term programme for establishing a representative network of MPAs, a field mission was carried out in 2006 on Farwa Lagoon and Gara Island, the proposals finalised by end 2006. Proposals for two islands in the Gulf of Sirte and the Ain Al Ghazala lagoon in preparation.
- NAP for the conservation of marine and coastal birds: a field mission in Ghara and Elba Islands and Benghazi Lake in 2006, to identify the existing colonies of *Sterna bengalensis*. A second survey and census carried out in 2007, to identify endangered and threatened bird species, birds density and diversity, and raise people's awareness.
- NAP for the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats: a nesting sites monitoring was undertaken in Sirte.

c. Montenegro:
- NAP on inventory and mapping of sensitive areas: agreement to support initial actions
- NAP for the identification of new PAs needing appropriate status of protection: catalysing actions for the creation of Katici island MPA, to start in 2007.

d. Tunisia:
- NAP for a pilot monitoring of *Posidonia* meadows, as part of the four countries' project mentioned under Algeria.

e. Transversal support:
- seminar cycle "Expertise on Project Cycle Approach and LF" to support NAPs funds raising by countries was organised (intended for spring 2007 but so far suspended),
- fisheries, 3 fisheries restricted areas set up in IWs, to be further promoted as MPAs.

27. Activities relevant to SAP BIO, implemented by other institutions members of the Advisory Committee, are presented in the document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.308 Inf.3,

"Implementation status by Regional Institutions Members of the Advisory Committee". A Summary of members' activities is presented as Annex III of the present document (to be added after the FP meeting upon additional contributions by further Advisory Committee members or their partners).

3. The actual problems and challenges

28. The key issues, relevant for the actual situation might be summarised as follows:

- SAP BIO is a complex, multi-faceted and long-term oriented strategic programme, requesting a comprehensive approach, heavy investments with sustainability of funding and inventive approach to donors, full involvement of national and regional bodies, capacity for implementation, careful and adaptive programming and phasing, involvement of and harmonisation with a large number of partners and stakeholders. Therefore, detailed Provisions for follow up were elaborated for its preparation and launching (see para. 3)
- Due to reasons predominantly outside SPA/RAC influence, the SAP BIO Provisions for follow up were not yet implemented.
- Integration of SAP BIO activities in the regular SPA/RAC programme. Such integration, in addition to the programming and implementation aspects, presupposes adequate funding by the SPA/RAC budget. This was met partially in the 2006-07 budget, funds focused at the MPAs sub-component of the Regional project. So far, a certain progress towards implementing SAP BIO has been achieved as part of regular SPA/RAC programme through activities: (i) within the seven adopted MAP RAPs, (ii) assistance to countries, and (iii) transversal themes. But, despite recommendations of two OMCPs, the hitherto integration of SAP BIO activities into regular SPA/RAC programme should be assessed as weak.
- Integration/harmonisation with other relevant bodies. Other relevant bodies and institutions contributed provided a significant contribution with collateral or directly or indirectly supporting activities but independently planned and implemented. Therefore, the synergies achieved were weaker than those possible, although chances for a certain harmonisation with external activities were provided by the reactivation of the SAP BIO Advisory Committee. The problem was identified by the 2nd Committee Meeting, calling for a Joint Operational Programme. The present initiative on sharing responsibilities among Committee members institutions might greatly contribute further on to the integration and/or harmonisation of activities, increasing thus their efficiency, cost-effectiveness and synergies.
- The analysis summarised in paragraph 8. above, emphasised some key issues and problems, related to MPAs. Interpreted at the SAP BIO level as a whole, these problems might read: (i) SAP BIO not yet being recognised as national priority, (ii) chronic under-funding and unpredictable fluctuations for funding, and (iii) marked sub-regional disparity in allocation of funds - all confirming the heavy dependency of SAP BIO implementation on international funding and donors.
- The approach to donors and funding should be considered as one of immediate key issues, as well as for the long-term period. High donors commitments for SAP BIO component of the Regional Project might be a good experience. Future actions, due to the complexity of SAP BIO imply somewhat different, targeted approaches, aiming at long-term partnership with individual donors.
- Reviewing SAP BIO. As a comprehensive and long-term strategic document adopted by the CPs, SAP BIO does not need presently any official revision, but a realistic and flexible approach to funding, planning and implementation. Nevertheless, this issue is to be considered due to the elapsed time after SAP BIO adoption in 2003 and start of the Preparatory Phase in 2009). Change of some priorities, if needed, might be adopted within operational planning (f. ex. in R priorities, to upgrade priority of impacts of climate

change). In addition, the preparation of an updated analysis might be envisaged (cf. the SAP MED OD and the revision in 2005 of the MED TBDA, Ref. 1 and 1a).

- The key activity during the 2004-2007 period was the elaboration of the SAP BIO MPAs sub-component of the Regional Project. Its recent exclusion from GEF funding requires reconsideration of operational plans and re-confirmation of donors commitments under new conditions. Its late announcement opens quite insurmountable problems concerning a timely presentation of an adapted programme, firstly to the 8th Meeting of NFPs for SPAs, and to the 15th OMCPs later on. It seems justifiable to envisage keeping the implementation of the MPAs sub-component within the Regional Project, funded exclusively by donors and MAP/SPA-RAC contributions, as well as of the beneficiary countries, adapting the programme as appropriate. A second option, implying lower funding, would be the implementation of selected pilot actions, promising tangible results within a reasonable period; to open doors for subsequent funding of the remaining component programme.
- The present SPA/RAC capacity for implementation of SAP BIO. With the Operational plan for the 2008-09 biennium adopted, the full involvement of only one staff person (presently the SAP BIO Programme Officer) will not suffice for its implementation. The same is far more valid for Phase I. Therefore, the staffing needs for the subsequent implementation periods should be subject of analysis in 2009, to identify measures to be adopted.
- Institutional arrangements at regional level. The present arrangements, recently operationally improved (Operational Programme, sharing of responsibilities, ToRs of the Advisory Committee and membership revised, mandate of National Correspondents revised) might meet the needs for the Preparatory 2008-09 phase. What is needed is the establishment of a small *ad hoc* working group, to assist SPA/RAC to implement actions envisaged till the 15th OMCPs, as well during the Preparatory phase. Finally, additional staffing for SAP/BIO should be considered as needed.
- Institutional arrangements at national level. As envisaged by the SAP BIO Provisions for follow up, these arrangements have to be defined during the Preparatory Phase, assistance to countries to be provided by SPA/RAC.
- Approach to funding. The 2008-09 Operational Plan must be supported with a clear and realistic approach to funding. The possible funding sources presently are: (i) the unspent SAP BIO funds for 2007, if any, (ii) the regular SPA/RAC budget for the 2008-09 biennium, (iii) donors funds, approved for LME MPAs sub-component, and (iv), those hopefully to be secured by Donors Conference. In addition the value of contribution of SPA/RAC Regional AP and transversal actions, as well as of those implemented by other partners within their regular programmes and budgets should be taken into account. Here it should be taken into account that only a limited part of funds from donors support will be operational in 2009, due to budgetary reasons and practices. Therefore, despite the limited framework of the SPA/RAC budget, most of the activities planned the biennium have to be secured from It, while activities to be hopefully supported by donors have to be understood as tentative, pending donors commitments and their operational availability.

29. The analysis presented in the preceding points leads to key priorities to be considered when programming the SAP BIO activities for the next biennium:

- a. Integration of SAP BIO activities in the regular SPA/RAC programme, the SPA/RAC budget to provide funds for actions to be implemented prior hopeful donors contributions
- b. Implementation of Provisions for follow up
- c. Funding related activities, the Donor's Conference, including the preparatory activities
- d. Preparation of the (i) Outline for the SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme, and (ii) SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme, with phasing, to contain a detailed

programme for the I. Operational Phase and the general lines for the subsequent ones

e. Detailed elaboration of selected demo actions supported by donors and implementation of respective preparatory activities, to secure their start early in 2010.

30. Due to still open questions the following procedure has been envisaged :

- a. Meeting of NFPs for SPAs to discuss and evaluate this document as a draft Outline and provide recommendations for its revision and/or amending, if needed and as appropriate,
- b. During the period after the Meeting of NFPs till the OMCPs, SPA/RAC to perform immediate actions presented in Chapter 4. below, and
- c. in accordance with results of (a) and (b) above, SPA/RAC to finalise this Outline including the SAP BIO Operational Plan and budget and present it to the meeting of MAP NFPs and the 15th OMCPs.

4. Actions to be implemented between the Meeting of NFPs for SPAs and the OMCPs

31. In line with paragraph 30 above, the following actions should be performed by RAC/SPA after the Meeting of NFPs till the meeting of MAP NFPs and the 15th OMCPs:

- a. intensify discussions with donors committed for the MPAs sub-component of the Regional Project and clarify their commitments within the new situation (RAC/SPA to be assisted by MED Unit and the GEF PDF B Project Manager),
- b. define status, timetable and modalities of implementing the MPA sub-component,
- c. initiate activities to define sharing of responsibilities among Advisory Committee member institutions,
- d. undertake initiatives to identify possibilities for external funding of immediate actions in 2008, if any,
- e. in line with the results of the above activities update/finalise the Outline, the 2008-09 SAP BIO Operational Plan and budget in particular, to be presented to the MAP NFPs and the 15th OMCPs.
- f. Due to tight deadlines and multi-sectoral/multidisciplinary nature of actions to be implemented, a small ad hoc working group to assist RAC/SPA to implement activities under c. d. and e. above, should be immediately established.

5. Tentative SAP BIO Operational Plan for the 2008-09 biennium

32. In line with the SAP BIO Provisions for follow up and priorities proposed in paragraph 29, the SAP BIO 2008-09 Operational Plan should envisage:

- a. To review SAP BIO: refining concepts, policies, R priorities and refine the Investment Portfolio, if needed and as appropriate
- b. Countries to update, prioritise NAPs and NAs; refine and prioritise N Investment Portfolios
- c. Donors and Donors Conference: to contact potential donors, elaborate targeted proposals, obtain Donors declarations of interest, prepare and convene Donors Conference
- d. Prepare and adopt the Outline for the SAP BIO "Umbrella" Operational Programme for the 2010 -2025 period, including the IPP
- e. Countries to prepare N SAP BIO Strategies and Programmes, SPA/RAC to assist
- f. Prepare, adopt SAP BIO "Umbrella" Operational Programme for the 2010-25 period
- g. Countries to define national SAP BIO arrangements for Operational Phases
- h. Regional SAP BIO arrangements to be defined for the Operational Phases
- i. The MPAs sub-component to start implementation, accordingly with the framework to be agreed upon and funds provided

- j. Meetings of the SAP BIO Advisory Committee and of the SAP BIO National Correspondents to be convened
- k. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation
- l. To design and prepare implementation of sub-regional actions and NAPs having obtained commitments for donors support, securing thus their start early in 2010

6. Justification and annotation of planned actions

Justification and short annotation for each of the actions proposed are presented below.

33. Reviewing and refining SAP BIO. The action is needed as prerequisite for subsequent actions, in particular for donors related ones, and for NAs and N Operational Programmes. Responsibility: of SPA/RAC, a small ad hoc group to assist. Outcomes: a short analytical document, recommendations to upgrade or amend details, to be used for operational programming. Adoption process: Outcome to be presented to responsible bodies for consideration, if needed to be presented to the 16th OMCPs for adoption as Addendum to SAP BIO. In addition to involvement of the SPA/RAC staff, costing will be part of expenses of the ad hoc group, if established, to be envisaged within the SPA/RAC budget.

34. Updating, prioritising NAPs and National actions, refining and prioritising National Investment Portfolios. The action is also a prerequisite for subsequent actions, in particular for donors related ones, and preparation of Operational Programmes. Highest national priorities to be included in proposals for donors and included in documents for the Donors Conference. Refining of Investment Portfolios: to reduce fragmentation; define: time scale and grouping, phasing, prioritising, implementability aspects, funding strategies. Responsibility of relevant national institutions, initial action and assistance to be provided by SPA/RAC. Outcomes: updated national documents, "fiches" for high priority actions, inputs to SAP BIO Addendum, if prepared. Expenses, to be covered by national sources, assistance by SPA/RAC budget.

35. Donors and Donors Conference. The action implies: (i) defining approaches and strategy; identifying priority issues/actions to be proposed for support; (ii) identifying potential partners, targeting/liasing them with actions of their interest, providing in advance, if possible, non-obliging expressions of interest; (iii) preparing and convening the Conference. Involvement and support of highest SPA/RAC/MAP levels is needed. The funds hopefully approved by donors might be operational in the post-Conference next fiscal year only, therefore the Conference should be convened in the second quarter of 2008, a more realistic timing is the third quarter of 2008. Outcomes: SAP BIO priorities for potential support defined, donors/potential partners identified and contacted, Conference documents prepared, Conference implemented, actions funded to be included in Operational Plan and Umbrella Programme. Costs, in addition to involvement of the SPA/RAC staff, will be related to displacements, consultations meetings and as part of expenses of the ad hoc group. The expenses of the Donors Conference should be covered by donors support, otherwise have to be envisaged within the SPA/RAC budget.

36. Outline for the SAP BIO "Umbrella" Operational Programme. A preliminary document, to include updated inputs related to refining of SAP BIO, revised and/or refined national documents and results of Donors Conference, needed as precursor to the Umbrella Programme. The document should be reviewed by the SAP BIO Advisory Committee and the Meeting of National Correspondents, to be used as input for drafting the Umbrella Programme. Outcome: the Outline and accompanying documents, if any. Costs, in addition to involvement of the SPA/RAC staff, will be part of expenses of the ad hoc group, to be envisaged within the SPA/RAC budget. Expenses of the Meetings of the Advisory Committee and of the National Correspondents have to be provided within the SPA/RAC budget.

37. National SAP BIO Strategies and Programmes. These documents have to be the basis for concerted national short- and long-term plans and actions, integrated into national planning and funding systems. The documents have to be harmonised with and up to a certain level integrated into the Umbrella Operational Programme. As inputs for their drafting the Outline for the Umbrella Programme has to be used. N Programmes should define: actions, phasing, responsibilities, funding, prerequisites, deadlines and reporting/monitoring/evaluation. In addition, N Strategies should focus on sustainability by applying economic instruments and or other regular sources, and on defining and establishing provisions for implementation of NAs. N Strategies should also provide inputs for establishment of National institutional arrangements, see point 39 below. SPA/RAC assistance to countries will be needed, a guiding document to be prepared by SPA/RAC staff, missions and a meeting, probably. Expenses, in addition to involvement of the SPA/RAC staff, will relate to the missions and one Instructive Meeting, to be

envisaged within the SPA/RAC budget. Alternative or additional option would be to include a comprehensive programme of this action in proposals for donors support, and adapt its implementation to funds secured.

38. SAP BIO "Umbrella" Operational Programme. SAP BIO as a long-term operation needs a comprehensive, realistic and flexible programme structured in phases, each phase elaborated at respective planning level. Integration of elements of National Programmes, and of a number of regional issues are needed. Among others the Umbrella Programme should include:

- identification/definition of opportunities and needs for involvement of other MAP components,
- the regional funding strategy, identification of potential sources/partners, sustainability
- international co-operation and harmonisation
- grouping of NAPs of countries eligible for international funding, to be proposed as grouped thematic or sub-regional projects
- regional participatory strategy and actions
- phasing, operational/orientative timetables and costing estimates
- phasing: I. Phase: priority actions to be implemented in 2010-2011 and 2012-2013 biennia, II. Phase: the 2014-2020 period, III. Phase: the 2021-2025 period.
- measures and actions related to co-ordination, harmonisation and management,
- the Interactive Participatory Programme,
- the resulting institutional arrangements, and
- progress reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

The Umbrella Programme should be drafted by the ad hoc group (upon revised and amended Outline), assisted by RAC SPA as appropriate, and finalised by SPA/RAC. Outputs: the draft and the final version of the SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme. Revision of draft by the SAP BIO Advisory Committee, the Meeting of National Correspondents, and Meeting of NFPs for SPAs, adoption of the final version by the 2009 OMCPs.

39. National SAP BIO arrangements. Actual N SAP BIO arrangements, while efficient during SAP BIO formulation and adoption, proved as not adequate for launching and implementing the envisaged N actions. Nevertheless, for the Preparatory Phase (i.e. the 2008-09 biennium), the existing arrangements should be kept, to be upgraded for the Operational Phases. Although a certain general approach is recommended, country specific arrangements for upgrading are needed. The action for 2008-09 should include: (i) a draft proposal by SPA/RAC, based on analysis of hitherto experiences and opinions/specific proposals by countries (Questionnaire), (ii) review by the respective meetings (Advisory Committee, National Correspondents, NFPs), (iii) adoption of the final proposal by the 2009

OMCPs. Costs: in addition to regular costs of the SPA/RAC staff, part of costs of the ad hoc group, if established.

40. Regional SAP BIO arrangements. At regional level, mandate/ToRs for the Advisory Committee and National Correspondents should be analysed and adapted to experiences after the revisions made in 2007. Such analysis most probably will not find the need for new, additional regional institutional arrangements, but is important to plan it to keep coherence with a proper adaptive management. Harmonisation with other MAP Centres and programmes should be analysed and adequate arrangements recommended, if found needed and as appropriate. Finally, the SPA/RAC capacity for implementing the Operational Phases of SAP BIO should be analysed and all feasible ways for upgrading the SAP BIO implementation by the MAP system proposed. Other elements and procedure are same as for the N arrangements.

41. Starting the implementation of the MPAs sub-component. This action will be planned in accordance with the framework and funding still to be agreed upon (information and text will be updated by SPA/RAC for the Meeting of MAP NFPs). Implementing pilot and/or other actions, as part of MPAs project or eventual High Seas project or separate individual actions, pending results of initiatives ongoing and those to be undertaken.

42. Design of and preparatory activities for early implementation in 2010 of sub-regional actions and NAPs having obtained commitments for donors support. The action is indispensable in order to avoid risks resulting from further loss of time in case of further delays of implementation of activities having got the donors support. In addition planning the action and providing initial SPA/RAC funds for this activity will be a proof of determined intentions of SPA/RAC-MAP concerning the start of implementation of SAP BIO, and at the same time a counterpart contribution to much larger donors funds, all incentives for raising Donors interest and securing their involvement. The action will be implemented by SPA/RAC, assisted by the ad hoc group, and by committed donors. Each individual design will have to be approved by respective donor(s) and included in the SPA/RAC - SAP BIO Operational Plan for the 2010-11 biennium.

43. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation

- a. Reporting: Periodicity- probably half yearly. Reports by: (i). ad hoc group, if established, (ii) by SPA/RAC staff-expert responsible, by staff-expert responsible for MPAs, if operational. The related mailing list will be defined by SPA/RAC. In addition: two-way communication with stakeholders should be established and maintained, half-yearly press releases and/or conferences, to be envisaged.
- b. Monitoring and evaluation: (i) as part of regular respective SPA/RAC activities, (ii) by the SAP BIO Advisory Committee, (iii) by the National Correspondents, (iv) by the Meeting of NFPs. Monitoring and evaluation by listed bodies will be made through meetings envisaged by the regular programme. Others meetings, if needed, would require additional funding.

44. Implementing the SAP BIO Interactive Participatory Programme, to include also: awareness raising; involvement of NGOs and stakeholders and relevant capacity building. After the Meeting of NFPs, the Interactive Participatory Programme will be elaborated by the RAC staff, assisted by the ad hoc group of experts, to be included in the SAP BIO Operational Plan for the 2008-09 biennium.

45. Optional: Joint Operational Programme. Preparation of such a Joint Programme has been recommended by the 2nd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (see paragraph 11. above). Its purpose would be to harmonise, co-ordinate and integrate up to a realistically possible level the programmatic orientation and plans of the institutions members of the Advisory Committee, contributing thus to increased synergies, efficiency and cost-

effectiveness of the SAP BIO implementation. As inputs for such a Joint Programme, agreement on sharing responsibilities and the Outline for the Umbrella Operational Programme would be used. The draft proposal should be prepared by the SPA/RAC staff, if needed assisted by the ad hoc group, or by Committee members or their representatives. Such a draft should be reviewed by the meeting of the Advisory Group, and finalised afterwards, to serve as input for Operational Programmes and planning, as well as the basis for monitoring and evaluation by the Committee. The costs, in addition to involvement of the SPA/RAC staff should be covered by member institutions, the involvement of the ad hoc group, if any as part of the respective hoc group expenses, to be envisaged within the SPA/RAC budget. Note: this activity should be considered as optional, some aspects concerning adoption and legal status of such document to be cleared.

7. Funding/planning strategy

46. Due to presently some of the funding problems still open, the funding and planning strategy for the 2008-09 biennium has to be conceived in a flexible way, capable for and subject to revision and/or updating, pending provision of funds and their operational availability. As presented in Chapter 3. above (see in particular in paragraph 28. the 3rd, 6th and 12th bullet, the possible funding sources presently are: (i) the regular SPA/RAC budget for the 2008-09 biennium, including the remaining SAP BIO funds for 2007 if any and re-allocable, (ii) donors funds, approved for LME MPAs sub-component, (iii) funds to be secured by Donors Conference. In addition, (iv) the value of contribution of SPA/RAC Regional Action Plans and of transversal actions, as well as (v) value of external actions contributing to SAP BIO, implemented by other partners within their regular programmes and budgets should be presented as evaluated contributions.

47. Despite the limited framework of the SPA/RAC budget, some of the planned activities, primarily priorities as well as the prerequisites for the Donors Conference have to be secured from the SPA/RAC budget for 2008-09 biennium. Would the donors funding for MPAs not be confirmed, selected pilot and promotional actions should be included in the proposals for funding for the Donors Conference. The same should be applied for other high priorities whose funding will not be secured from MTF sources. The support to countries for preparation and assistance while implementing selected SAP BIO national or sub-regional actions should be matched by beneficiaries' counterpart contribution. Finally, all priorities not supported by reliable and confirmed sources for 2008-09 and 2010-11 periods will have to be planned within SAP BIO "Umbrella" Operational Programme for implementation in the subsequent Implementation Phases.

8. Budget and timetable proposal for the SAP BIO 2008-09 Operational Plan

48. The budget for the implementation of SAP BIO actions in the 2008-09 biennium, as elaborated in Chapters 5 and 6, is presented in the Table shown in Annex II. In order to provide for a comprehensive but transparent presentation, actions are grouped in accordance with funding sources and actions' type:

- I. Group: Actions funded through the regular SPA/RAC budget
- II. Group: Actions related to the SAP BIO MPAs sub-component, to be hopefully funded by donors previously committed within the Regional GEF LME project (see Chapter 1.2, paragraphs 16-18)
- III. Group: Actions to be funded by donors, as result of the Donors Conference to be convened probably in third quarter of 2008, programme proposal to be defined early in 2008, the final programme and budget to be defined after the Conference
- IV and V Groups: estimated values of SPA/RAC transversal and Regional Action Plans contribution to SAP/BIO, as well as of those implemented by partners
- V. Group: estimated values of SAP BIO related reporting, monitoring and evaluation

49. Due to open questions still present, the difference of nature and quality of various Groups of actions and respective figures is obvious:

Group I. is the proposed programme and budget for SAP BIO. Its approval within proposed costing would fully satisfy the requests of the 13th and 14th OMCPs for integration of SAP BIO into regular SPA/RAC programme. Moreover this would guarantee the implementation of the SAP BIO Provisions for follow up, i.e. of the SAP BIO Preparatory phase. Finally its approval is the prerequisite for preparing the Donors Conference, inciting donors support and involvement, and providing indispensable actions immediately after the Conference, prior operational availability of donors funds.

Groups II. and III.: actions and figures will be defined pending donors commitments, and the resulting definition of status and timing, separately for MPAs and Proposals for Donors Conference.

Groups IV. and VI.: figures estimated by SPA/RAC might be considered as realistic evaluations after budgetary discussion at the 8th FP meeting, making parts of regular SPA/RAC budget, i.e. not to be understood as requests for additional funds.

Group V.: evaluation of external activities will be made after the 2008 Meeting of SAP BIO Advisory Committee.

9. Responsibilities, institutional and implementation arrangements

50. Institutional arrangements for the Preparatory phase (2008-09 biennium) in principle will follow the actual organisational structure. Arrangements for the I. Implementation Phase (2010-2014) will be analysed, discussed and approved as part of the SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme, in line with the respective funds secured and the resulting programme.

51. Accordingly, for the Preparatory Phase the following arrangements and responsibilities should be applied:

- MAP/MED Unit in the role corresponding to SAP BIO Implementing Agency (IA)
- SPA/RAC in the role of SAP BIO Executing Institution/Agency
- MAP partners: other Centres and Programmes, in particular PAP/RAC, REMPEC and MED POL
- Other MAP partners, co-financiers and beneficiaries: the CPs
- External partners: as appropriate, presently institutions/bodies members of the SAP BIO Advisory Committee, future members, if any,
- Specific partners: other UN bodies and Agencies, other donors, as appropriate (f. ex. GEF, EU programmes, etc.) on a case by case basis.

52. The mandate and responsibility for overseeing and guidance will be

- SPA/RAC within its regular mandate
- the reactivated SAP BIO Advisory Committee with the mandate / TORs updated in 2007
- the SAP BIO National Correspondents with the mandate updated in 2007
- the NFPs for SPAs, the MAP FPs, and the OMCPs within their regular mandates.

Concerning Donors, early in 2008, as part of preparatory activities for the Donors Conference, upon consultations with potential ones, the status/role of Donors within institutional arrangements will be defined. Various alternatives might be taken into consideration: (i) donors to be included in the Advisory Committee, or (ii) a Donors SAP BIO

Steering Committee to be established, or (iii) other, if proposed by Donors and/or if appropriate.

Concerning individual CPs, as envisaged by the SAP BIO Provisions for follow up, the establishment of country specific arrangements has been recommended. Therefore specific approaches and solutions should be sought for and applied. Some forms of National SAP BIO Steering Committees or Advisory Boards might be considered, to be chaired by a high level national responsible, activities to be supported by the responsible Ministry and/or donors; membership to include: representatives of responsible national Ministries/Agencies, of reputed institutes and/or institutions, donors, as well as reputed professionals/scientists. For operational details, see paragraph 39 above.

53. The SPA/RAC and MEDU/MAP implementation arrangements for SAP BIO will function following in principle the present organisational structure. The SPA/RAC capacity for SAP BIO to be gradually strengthened in accordance with the expanded and intensified Plans / Programmes. As presented in paragraph 28, 8th bullet, firstly the SAP BIO Programme Officer, the only professional staff member presently responsible for SAP BIO, should be relieved of all operational duties other than SAP BIO. Secondly, an Assistant SAP BIO Programme Officer should be engaged early in 2008 as permanent staff or as a mid-term secondee the relevant expenses supported by donor(s). The implementation arrangements and respective organisational structure for the I. Implementation Phase will be analysed in 2009 and included in the SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme. In addition, the SPA/RAC structure responsible for SAP BIO will be assisted by international experts, ad hoc groups or teams, to provide for the needed multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary coverage, harmonisation and integration.

10. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation.

10.1. Reporting

54. Regular reporting will be implemented as follows, see also paragraph 43:

- a. periodicity - half yearly,
- b. by: ad hoc group(s), by SPA/RAC staff-expert responsible, by responsible for implementation of MPAs if operational,
- c. mailing list to be established by SPA/RAC,
- d. in addition: two-way communication with stakeholders, half-yearly press release, press conferences, 1 page summary for high level decision makers.

Formats and reporting details and instructions will be defined by SPA/RAC

10.2 Monitoring and evaluation

55. Monitoring and evaluation will be implemented taking into account: (i) the LFA presented as Annex I., (ii) specific instructions in case of actions implemented within external projects, or (iii) on a case by case basis for specific cases. The process will be implemented as follows, see also paragraph 43:

- a. within regular SPA/RAC monitoring and evaluation activities
- b. by the SAP BIO Advisory Committee, at meetings in 2008 (one), and in 2009 (one)
- c. by the ad hoc group(s)
- d. by the National Correspondents.

Formats and relevant details and instructions will be defined by SPA/RAC.

Annex I. Logical Framework Analysis

ANNEX I. SAP/BIO Tentative Operational Plan for the 2008-09 biennium

Logical Framework Analysis

Objective(s)	Activity(ies)	Output(s)	Actors (A), Partners (P)	Achievement indicators	Assumptions(Asm) Risks (Rs)
To provide sound updated inputs for Outline of Umbrella Programme, and for Donors Conference	1. Reviewing/refining Regional SAP BIO priorities and Regional Investment Portfolio	refined SAP BIO R priorities, RAPs, and R Investment Portfolio, deliverable as document	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm., NatCorr, NFPs for SPAs	Timely preparation, and approval by supervisors	Asm: Biennial Progr./ Budget approved; good quality; harmonisation Rs: late preparation, poor harmonisation with external actions, unrealistic costing estimates
To provide updated and prioritised inputs for: Outline for SAP BIO Umbrella Programme, N SAPs, Donors Conference	2. Updating NAPs and refining and prioritising National Investment Portfolios	Updated, prioritised and refined NAPs, and N Inv. Portfolios, deliverable as document	A: Nat. bodies, assisted by SPA/RAC	Timely preparation, approval by national bodies, integration into national plans	Ass: Biennial Progr./ Budget approved; N SAPBIO arrangements operational; N R funds provided Rs: : late delivery, unrealistic costing
To provide input for Donors Conference and basis for drafting SAP BIO Umbrella Programme.	3. Preparing Outline for SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme	Outline, deliverable as document	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm., NatCorr. P: Potential Donors	Timely preparation, approval by supervisors; inciting and successful as input for D Conference	Ass: Biennial Progr./ Budget approved Rs: late delivery, unrealistic planning - weak D response
To: prepare quality documents for Donors Conference; identify and sensitise Donors; provide for their declarations of interest	4. Preparing documents for Donors Conference; consultations, displacements included	Donors Conference documents; proposals for sub-regional and national APs to be proposed for funding; declarations of interest	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm. P: Potential, identified Donors	Timely preparation, approval by supervisors; inciting and successful as input for Donors Conference	Ass: Biennial Progr./ Budget approved, activities 1-3 implemented timely ans well Rs: late delivery, unrealistic planning -

Objective(s)	Activity(ies)	Output(s)	Actors (A), Partners (P)	Achievement indicators	Assumptions(Asm) Risks (Rs)
To: present proposals for Donors support for SAP BIO programmes / actions, commit Donors. <u>One of key objectives of Preparatory Phase</u>	5. Donors Conference	Conference Report and documents, Donors commitments the resulting supported programme	RA: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm., NA: NatCorr P: Potential Donors	No. of Ds participated, commitments undertaken, No. of actions to be supported, total of funds committed	Asm: Biennial Progr./ Budget approved, activities 1-4 timely and well prepared Rs: Activity 4 poorly or lately implemented, weak Ds response
To create Strategic National documents to guide implementation of National SAP BIO Programmes	6. Preparing N SAP BIO Strategic Action Plans	N SAP BIO SAPs (dd)	A: National bodies, assisted by SPA/RAC P: Potential Donors	SAPs timely prepared and approved by National bodies No of CPs having prepared National SAPs	Asm: nat. SAP BIO arrangements operational, SPA/RAC to provide ass. to countries, respective R, N funds approved Rs: Asm not met timely or met partially, or not met at all
To provide: supervision, monitoring, harmonisation, advice, recommendations and approval of planned / implemented activities	7. Meetings of: - SAP BIO Advisory Committee (2 in 2008, 1 in 2009) - SAP BIO National Correspondents (1 in 2008, 1 in 2009)	Meeting Reports and Reference documents (dd)	A: SPA/RAC, Adv. Comm, N. Corr P: Potential and committed Donors	Planned meetings held timely and successfully	Asm: Biennial Progr./ Budget approved, inputs timely and well prepared Rs: late implementation of meetings, poor quality of ref. docs., weak Ds involvement and support
To prepare and adopt a comprehensive medium and long-term programme for implementation of SAP BIO <u>One of key objectives of</u>	8. Preparing and adopting the SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme for the 2010-2025 period	The SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme for the 2010-2025 period	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm., NatCorr., NFPs for SPAs, other MAP Centres and Programmes P: Involved Donors	Document to be approved by the 16th OMCPs; sustainability and all prerequisites for early implementation of the I.Phase to be secured	Asm: Activities 1-7 as prerequisites timely implemented, quality inputs prepared Rs: poor quality of inputs, questionable sustainability, weak

Preparatory Phase					Donors involvement
Objective(s)	Activity(ies)	Output(s)	Actors (A), Partners (P)	Achievement indicators	Assumptions(Asm) Risks (Rs)
To design selected sub-R and N actions supported by donors commitments, and implement respective preparatory activities to provide for their start early in the I. Implementation Phase	9. Design/preparing implementation of selected sub-regional actions, and / or of selected NAPs, and or other actions to be funded by donors	Selected/supported Sub-R actions and National actions designed, the needed respective preparatory activities implemented	RA: SPA/RAC R expert teams; AdvComm, NatCorr, NA: National bodies and expert teams P: committed Donors	Outputs and preparatory activities presented in 2009 to the 16th OMCPs and approved	Asm:Biennial Progr./ Budget approved; N SAP BIO arrangements operational, donors funds committed, SPA/RAC assisted teams and countries as needed Rs: Assumpt. not met
To: prepare analysis, and provide timely for strengthened operational capacity adequate to enlarged programme and new needs	10. Analysis of and strengthening the SPA/RAC capacity for SAP BIO	Analysis prepared, measures adopted and implemented, capacity strengthened, No. of staff increased	A: SPA/RAC P: Donors, in case of secondement	Analysis approved; measures implemented; No. of staff timely increased	Asm: Approved by Biennial Programme / Budget; or secondement secured by donors contribution Rs: staff involved in non - SAP BIO activities; assumpts not met
To: - identify areas for MPAs, - establish new MPAs, - strengthen MPAs management, - establish MPAs Med Network	11. Implementation of the GEF-MPAs sub-component (pending definition of sub-component support, status and programme)	Pending: - reconfirmation of donors commitments; - definition of sub-component status and programme; - GEF project approved and operational (if MPAs included)	A:MEDUnit, SPA/RAC, UNEP, GEF P: Donors committed for MPAs sub-component	pending resolving prerequisites, definition of status, programme and support	Asm: Ds commitment reconfirmed, status within or outside GEF project defined, GEF project operational, or prerequisites for separately implem. of the sub-component met Rs: assumpts not met
To provide means and conditions for successful implementation of activities 1-11	12. Progress of implementation of the Operational Plan: reporting, monitoring, evaluation	Reports, recommendations; Problems identified, resolved; Implementation successful / improved	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc groups, Adv. Comm., Nat. Corr. NFPs for SPAs	Reports timely presented, problems identified, measures proved as adequate, evaluation positive, implem. improved	Asm: Flow of inform. / reporting / evaluation timely and adequate; proposed measures realistic and applicable Rs: assumpts not met.

Annex II. Estimated Budget

ACTIVITIES/ PLANNED ACTIONS	EXPECTED OUTPUTS	INITIATIVES/ ACTORS (A) PARTNERS (P)	BUDGET, Euros						
			2008			2009			
			MTF	EC	Ext	MTF	EC	Ext	
<u>I. SAPBIO THROUGH SPA/RAC BUDGET</u>									
1. Reviewing R SAPBIO priorities, refining R Inv. Portfolio.	Reviewed R priorities, refined R Inv. Portf.	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm., NatCorr, NFPs for SPAs	7 000						
2. Updating NAPs and refining and prioritising National Investment Portfolios	Updated NAPs; Refined and prioritised National Investment Portfolios	A: Nat. bodies, assisted by SPA/RAC			40 000				
3. Preparing Outline for SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme	Outline prepared as input for Donors Conference and draft SAP Bio Umbrella Operational Programme	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm, NatCorr. P: Donors (Ds)	7 000		8 000				
4. Preparing documents for Donors Conference; consultations, displacements included	Missions; contacts; proposals of N and sub-reg. pilot actions; Donors declarations of interest	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm. P: Potential Donors (Ds) ,	20 000						
5. Donors Conference, implementation	Conference Report and documents (deliverables), Ds commitments and a supported programme	RA: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm., NA: NatCorr P: Potential Ds	10 000		50 000				

ACTIVITIES/ Planned Actions	EXPECTED OUTPUTS	INITIATIVES/ ACTORS (A) PARTNERS (P)	BUDGET Euros					
			2008			2009		
			MTF	EC	Ext	MTF	EC	Ext
6. SAP BIO National SAPs	Nat. SAP BIO SAPs, SPA/RAC assistance to countries	A: Nat. bodies, assisted by SPA/RAC P: Potential Ds						15 000 +**
7. Meetings of SAP BIO Advisory Committee (2 in 2008, 1 in 2009)	Meetings reports and Reference documents	A: SPA/RAC, Adv. Comm, P: potential / committed Ds	16 000			3 000		5 000
8. Meetings of SAP BIO National Correspondents (1 in 2008, 1 in 2009) .	Meetings reports and Reference documents	A: SPA/RAC, NatCorr P: potential / committed Ds	10 000					10 000
9. SAP BIO Umbrella Operational Programme for 2010-2025	Programme drafted, finalised and adopted	A: SPA/RAC, ad hoc group, AdvComm, NatCorr, NFPs, MAP RACs- Progrs, Ds						20 000

ACTIVITIES/ Planned Actions	EXPECTED OUTPUTS	INITIATIVES/ ACTORS (A) PARTNERS (P)	BUDGET Euros					
			2008			2009		
			MTF	EC	Ext	MTF	EC	Ext
10. Design/preparation of selected sub-RAPs and NAPs and preparatory activities for actions to be funded by donors	Sub-RAPs (Posbl. themes: Inventory & cartography. Climate change, Indicators, Aliens, Fish Reserves) and NAPs formulated; assistance to countries provided to start implement. in early 2010	A: RAC staff, P: partial co-funding				17 000		**
11. SAPBIO Participatory programme	Biennial and long term Participatory Programmes	A:RAC staff, stakeholders, P: Donors	****	****	****	****		****
SAPBIO LAUNCHING ACTIVITIES THROUGH SPA / RAC BUDGET, <u>TOTAL</u>			70 000		98 000	20 000		50 000 + **** * as se-condee
12. Strengthening SPA/RAC capacity for implementation of SAP BIO	One permanent or seconding SAP BIO Assistant Programme Officer	SPA/RAC	22 000			23 000		Alternati ve * as se-condee

* pending results of contacts with donors, to be defined by SPA/RAC before meeting of MAP NFPs, and included in the proposal for the 15th OMCPs

** in accordance with results of Donors Conference and of donated funds available in 2009, or

*** using revolving fund, if applicable,

**** from regular programmes and budgets, estimates of contributed values to be included in brackets, not additional request from budget

ACTIVITIES/ PLANNED ACTIONS	EXPECTED OUTPUTS	INITIATIVES/ ACTORS (A) PARTNERS (P)	BUDGET, Euros					
			2008			2009		
			MTF	EC	Ext	MTF	EC	Ext
II. Reg. GEF Project, MPAs sub-component	Implementation of the Regional GEF Project - MPAs sub-component Coordination and implementation of the project	A: SPA/RAC, MEDU, GEF P: French and Spanish donors, other donors	60 000		*	60 000		*
III. Actions funded by donors, as result of Donors Conference	to be defined early in 2008							** ***
IV. SPA/RAC RegAPs or transversal SPA/RAC activities	to be listed by SPA/RAC	A: SPA/RAC, national inst./ authorities	****			****		
V. External activities implemented by partners (adv. Comm. members)	to be included by SPA/RAC, upon questionnaires and next meeting of Adv. Comm.	A: members of Adv. Comm., others			****			****
VI. Reporting, monitoring, evaluation	regular and ad hoc reports	A: SPA/RAC, NFPs, Adv. Comm., P: Dons, other partners	****			****		****

* pending results of contacts with donors, to be defined by SPA/RAC before meeting of MAP NFPs, and included in the proposal for the 15th OMCPs

** in accordance with results of Donors Conference and of donated funds available in 2009, or

*** using revolving fund, if applicable,

**** from regular programmes and budgets, estimates of contributed values to be included in bracketts, not additional request from budget

**Annex III. Summary of answers to Questionnaires on SAP BIO
implementation by Advisory Committee members**

(to be prepared by SPA/RAC)

Annex IV

List of Reference documents

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- 1.a. UNEP-MAP-MEDPOL, 2005. Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for the Mediterranean Sea
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3. UNEP-MAP, 2003. Draft Strategic Assessment of the General Framework of the Barcelona Convention, UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/5
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5. UNEP/MAP, 2006. External Evaluation of the Mediterranean Action Plan, UNEP(DEC)/MED WG. 297/3
6. UNEP-MAP RAC SPA, 2003. Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO), UNEP(DEC)/MED IG 15.9
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13. UNEP-MAP RAC SPA, 2007. Assessment on Mediterranean countries' needs for legal, policy and institutional reforms to strengthen the creation and management of marine protected areas, UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.309/Inf.5
14. UNEP-MAP RAC SPA, 2007. Priorities and Future Implementation of SAP BIO, UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 309/4

References related to MPAs sub-component of the UNEP/GEF/SP-MED-LME Regional project:

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16. UNEP/GEF/SP-MED-LME, 2006. Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component: Implementation of agreed actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas, Project Brief
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18. UNEP-MAP RAC/SPA - WWF MED PO, 2005. GEF Mediterranean Regional Project under Strategic Partnership: Contribution of RAC/SPA and WWF for the PDF-B document