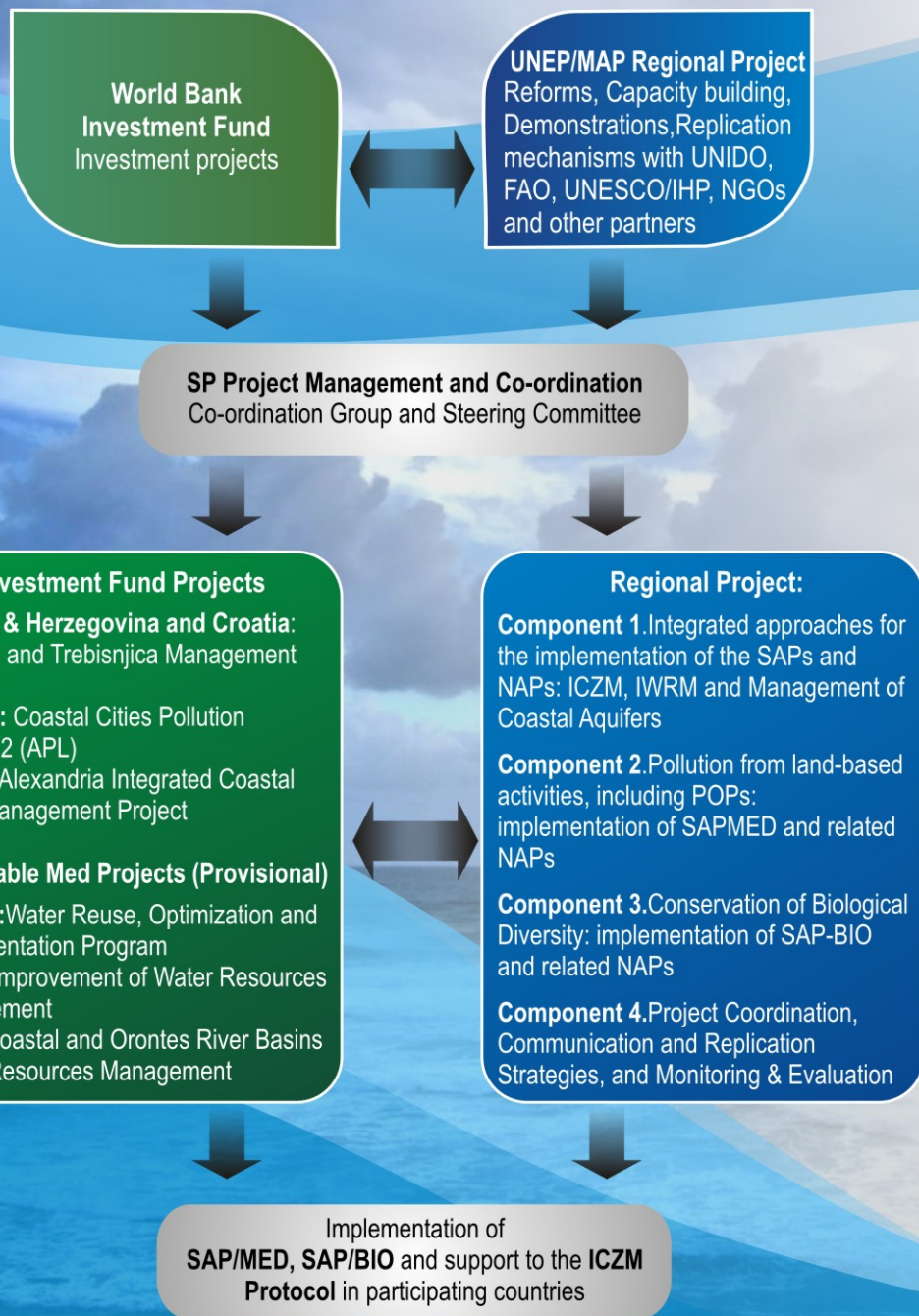


## Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean LME

## UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

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### The Partners



Together for the Mediterranean Sea

# Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

Together for the Mediterranean Sea





## A New Partnership for the Mediterranean

In the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), the countries of the Mediterranean have joined forces with the World Bank, regional and international organizations as well as non governmental organizations (NGOs) to create a *Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (LME)*. This Partnership enables a coordinated and strategic approach to catalyze the policy, legal and institutional reforms, and the investments necessary to reverse the degradation trends affecting this unique large marine ecosystem, including its coastal habitats and biodiversity.

**UNEP/MAP is the regional institution that supports and coordinates the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and Protocols adopted by all Mediterranean riparian countries to protect the marine and coastal environment.**

The Strategic Partnership is the largest project in history in the Mediterranean, with funding of over 100 million US\$ including investments and co-financing, and is the first project to bring together some of the main partners working in the Mediterranean for joint implementation of actions.

With the financial support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other partners, including the EU and all participating countries, the project will be implemented in close association with other relevant initiatives, such as Horizon 2020 for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean, the Integrated European Maritime Policy, and the World Bank/GEF Sustainable Mediterranean Program, amongst others. The project also contributes to the sustainable development objectives of the Union for the Mediterranean.

The major environmental concerns and 101 hotspots in the Mediterranean were identified in the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA). The actions for their remediation were identified and agreed in two Strategic Action Programs (SAPs) aimed at reducing land-based sources of marine pollution (SAP-MED) and protecting biodiversity and living resources and their habitats (SAP-BIO).

### A coordinated and sustainable approach for the protection of the Mediterranean

In order to support the countries in the implementation of the two SAPs, as well as to support the implementation of the new Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol to the Barcelona Convention, the Strategic Partnership will address the need for financial resources and investments (led by the World Bank) and the assistance in policy, legislation and institutional reforms, as well as the demonstration and transfer of technical knowledge and best practices (led by UNEP/MAP) to achieve the goal of improving the environmental conditions of the Mediterranean Sea.

Executing partners of the project include UNESCO/IHP, FAO, UNIDO, UNEP/MAP's regional activity centers (CP/RAC, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC and INFO/RAC) and the programme MEDPOL. Non-governmental organizations include GWP-Med, MIO-ECSDE and WWF.



## The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean will result in:

- A long term partnership for joint planning and financing in the Mediterranean, facilitating effective and efficient use of resources in addressing countries' priorities for protection of the marine and coastal environment;
- The improvement of environmental conditions in 15% of Hotspots and sensitive areas of national priority;
- More sustainable use of coastal resources through use of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and aquifer management;
- The reduction of pollution from land based sources through the demonstration and adoption of environmentally sound technology;
- More sustainable use of fisheries resources through the adoption of an ecosystem based approach to fisheries, and improved protection of critical biodiversity through the management of a coherent network of Marine Protected Areas;
- The replication and scaling up of investment projects and demonstrations during the 5 year lifespan of the project.

The Project will be carried out in the following GEF eligible countries: **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.** The Palestinian Authority also participates.

