

## **AGENDA ITEM 11: SAP M&E FRAMEWORK, GEAF AND SOME**

### **SUB-AGENDA ITEM 11.1: SAP MONITORING & EVALUATION FRAMEWORK**

#### **A Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Framework for measuring progress and impacts of SAP Actions and Strategies**

##### **1. Background:**

The politically endorsed 10-year CLME+ SAP (2015-2025) contains 76 priority Actions, organized under 6 Strategies and 4 Sub-Strategies. Section 3 of the SAP document calls for the development and implementation of a SAP Monitoring & Evaluation Framework and the deployment of a Regional Environmental Monitoring Programme (REMP). This Section of the SAP document further projects that the M&E Framework will be composed of two elements: (a) frequent monitoring of the progress obtained with regard to the implementation of the Programme's Strategies, Actions and Activities; and (b) periodic evaluation of the Programme's performance in terms of outputs produced and outcomes achieved.

Annex 7 to the CLME+ SAP contains a "draft set of selected key SAP indicators". However, it is to be noted that this draft set merely provided an early partial indication of how measurement of progress with SAP implementation could potentially be dealt with using an approach based on a combination of Governance Architecture and Performance, Stress-Reduction and Environmental and Socio-Economic Status indicators. It therefore does not constitute a formally endorsed indicator framework for SAP implementation monitoring and evaluation. The development and adoption of a formal, comprehensive SAP M&E Framework, with associated baseline and target values, remained a pending task at the time of SAP country endorsement.

In recognition of the above, Output 5.2. under the CLME+ Project Results Framework states that "*a (...) SAP implementation M&E mechanism will be developed during CLME+ Project implementation, and progressively expanded and improved throughout the project's duration*".

The CLME+ Project Document further refers to the adoption of the "*Governance Effectiveness Assessment Framework*" (GEAF) as an important planning and monitoring tool and promotes its systematic use for monitoring of progress and evaluation of results under the CLME+ Project and its Sub-Projects. Being aligned with the SAP document's reference to the use of different indicator types, it is recognized, in extension, that the GEAF can provide an important tool for evaluating progress towards the over-arching and (Sub-)Strategy-specific Objectives of the CLME+ SAP.

With the adoption of GEAF for SAP evaluation purposes being the subject of a separate Meeting Document under Agenda 11, the current Document focusses on the evaluation of progress relative to the implementation of all individual Actions under the CLME+ SAP, and associated timelines and targets.

## 2. Progress and Status:

In 2016, the CLME+ Environmental Mapping & Reporting Specialist (EMRS), Ms. Andrea Salinas, was recruited to support the development of the CLME+ SAP M&E Framework (reported on under this Document) and the “*State of the Marine Environment and associated Economies*” (CLME+ SOME) reporting mechanism (reported on under a separate Meeting Document). The EMRS was also to ensure linkages with the “Caribbean Marine Atlas – Phase 2” geospatial data platform (the latter aiming to provide geospatial data sets in support of both aforementioned efforts). Ms. Salinas initiated her duties towards the end of May 2016.

In July 2017, the CLME+ SAP Interim Coordination Mechanism (ICM), consisting of 8 Inter-Governmental Organizations with a key mandate on the marine environment in the CLME+ region, became formally established through the signing by these Parties of an MOU (see the corresponding Meeting Document under Agenda Item 7, Sub-Item 7.1). This MOU specifies as one of the core functions of the ICM: “*to coordinate, cooperate, and, where feasible and appropriate, take action to implement, monitor and evaluate, in a cost-effective and synergistic manner, the CLME+ SAP*”.

The conceptual approach to SAP monitoring was developed and fine-tuned during 2016 and 2017 by the EMRS and PCU Senior Technical Staff, with feedback from PEG and CLME+ SAP ICM members. The M&E Framework of the SAP has two components: (1) a monitoring set of indicators for each Action under the SAP and (2) an evaluation set of indicators for each Strategy and for the SAP as a whole; with the 1<sup>st</sup> one being the subject of this Document.

A template “Methodological Sheet” was developed for this purpose by the CLME+ PCU, to be used to establish and adopt the protocols for long-term monitoring of SAP Actions. This sheet now allows to systematize the identification and deployment of indicators, and to log baseline, targets and status, for the different Actions under the SAP (1 sheet per indicator; note that several indicators may be required to adequately monitor progress). This template is provided as “Resources” material to this Meeting and is available through the Project Website Intranet.

Preliminary results from SAP indicator development exercises conducted by the CLME+ PCU were taken for review, revision and pre-adoption to the CLME+ PEG and CLME+ SAP ICM meetings organized during the second semester of 2017.

At the end of January 2018, a 2-day SAP M&E workshop was organized by the CLME+ PCU, in which the CLME+ SAP ICM members and a limited number of other invited key stakeholders participated.

The Methodological Sheets for the different indicators are now being further filled by the CLME+ PCU - with the support of PEG and ICM members, where applicable/deemed beneficial or necessary. The Sheets are subsequently to be presented for review/revision and pre-endorsement by relevant technical bodies such as e.g. the WECAFC Joint Working Groups. Endorsement of the selected Indicators, their baseline and target values is expected to occur

at the level of the Membership of the CLME+ SAP ICM. Approval of the overall conceptual approach to SAP monitoring will be sought from the ICM Constituencies (CLME+ SAP endorsing countries).

The ICM agreed to the following process for the further development of the SAP monitoring framework:

- 1) PCU and partners identify indicators for each Action
- 2) PCU and partners establish baseline and target years and values for each indicator and develop draft methodological sheets
- 3) Indicators and sheets are reviewed by the ICM and pre-endorsed. The ICM agrees on the organization that will be in charge of regular/long-term reporting
- 4) ICM members present the indicators and sheets to their technical bodies (Joint Working Groups, STAC, etc) for review
- 5) Methodological sheets are completed incorporating feedback from technical bodies
- 6) ICM organizations start data collection and reporting of the indicators in alignment with their individual responsibilities
- 7) Lessons learned are collected and discussed by the ICM; any necessary measures to improve the reporting mechanism are implemented

To date, indicators for 34 SAP Actions were agreed at the January M&E workshop, as reported by the EMRS. Baseline and target values were set for indicators corresponding to 29 Actions. So far, partial Methodological Sheets have been developed for indicators corresponding to 11 SAP Actions.

Shortly following this workshop, Ms. Salinas resigned from her position as the CLME+ EMRS.

### 3. Way Forward and Next Steps:

Subsequent to the resignation of the CLME+ EMRS in February 2018, a re-recruitment process was initiated. Recruitment of the CLME+ “*Monitoring and Mapping Specialist*” (MMS), Mr. John Knowles, has recently been completed in May 2018. The MMS will steer and continue the development and formal adoption of the Indicator Framework for monitoring of progress in SAP implementation. He will be supported in this role by the recently recruited “Senior Environmental Reporting Specialist” (SERS), Ms. Sherry Heileman, and Senior PCU Technical Staff.

The CLME+ MMS will also be responsible for the conceptual design, and subsequent implementation, operationalization and maintenance of the web version of the SAP M&E Framework, to be implemented on the CLME+ Hub (currently under development: [www.clmeplus.org](http://www.clmeplus.org)). The web version of the SAP M&E Framework will allow visitors of the CLME+ Hub to dynamically visualize and track progress with the implementation of Actions under the different (Sub)Strategies of the CLME+ SAP (including baseline values, current progress, and (distance-to-)targets (as applicable).

Dynamic linkages will further be established between the CLME+ Hub and its SAP M&E Section, and the Caribbean Marine Atlas – Phase 2 (CMA2, <http://www.caribbeanmarineatlas.net>) Geonode, the latter providing a repository of source geospatial information relevant to SAP monitoring purposes. SAP M&E-related data layers will be

uploaded and made permanently available to the CLME+ stakeholder community through this geonode. Combined, CMA2 and the SAP M&E and SOMEE Sections under the CLME+ Hub will constitute the online *Regional Environmental Monitoring Programme* (REMP) called for under the CLME+ SAP.

Milestones and delivery deadlines are specified in the revised Project Results Framework (Agenda Item 13, proposal for adoption by the PSCM).

#### **4. Proposed Action:**

The PSC Meeting is invited to (a) note the progress with the development of the conceptual framework for measuring progress with the implementation of the priority Actions under the CLME+ SAP; to (b) encourage key IGO's and countries from the CLME+ region to provide inputs and feedback for the further development, adoption and deployment of the indicator framework.

#### **Related PSCM2 "Background Materials" and "Resources":**

- *CLME+ SAP Action Indicators Methodological Sheet (template)*