

AGENDA ITEM 11: SAP M&E FRAMEWORK AND SOME

SUB-AGENDA ITEM 11.2: GOVERNANCE EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

The Governance Effectiveness Assessment Framework (GEAF)

1. Background:

Output 5.2. under the CLME+ Project Results Framework states that *‘a prototype CLME+ ecosystem status and 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 went on to adopt the “*Governance Effectiveness Assessment Framework*” (GEAF) as an important planning and monitoring tool and is promoting its systematic use for monitoring and evaluation under the CLME+ Project and its Sub-Projects. In extension, it is now recognized that the GEAF provides an important tool in the context of the Monitoring and Evaluation of SAP implementation, in particular the evaluation of progress at the level of the individual (Sub)Strategies and the over-arching SAP Objectives.

The GEAF framework comprises seven categories of indicators which are intended to provide a full picture of whether good governance is in place and whether governance is being effective. The indicator categories are:

- Governance architecture
- Governance process
- Ecosystem pressure
- Ecosystem state
- Stakeholder engagement
- Social justice
- Human well-being

The objective of the CERMES contribution to Output 5.2 described in this document is to develop a full suite of indicators in these seven GEAF categories to support the M&E of the CLME+ SAP. This will be a strategic-level regional monitoring and reporting activity that is intended to inform policy. It is not a management tool. In addition to its regional level application, the GEAF will also be applied in the M&E of the four CLME+ Sub-Projects (flyingfish, spiny lobster, shrimp and groundfish, and EBM), whose aim is to catalyze implementation of the corresponding SAP (Sub-)Strategies.

This activity is critical for determining progress towards SAP objectives and for updating the SAP for the next phase of implementation. It is also a key source of information for input to the “State of the Marine Environment and associated Economies in the CLME+ region” (CLME+ SOME) reporting mechanism (for more information see the separate brieflet on SOME).

2. Progress and Status:

This activity has been progressing steadily and in concert with the other components of the CLME+ Project upon which it is dependent. Suites of GEAF indicators were developed for each of the three major CLME+ transboundary issues: fisheries, pollution and habitat degradation. Together these will provide a view of the status of EBM/EAF in the CLME+/Wider Caribbean Region. The starting point of these were sets of guiding questions. Then it was determined what information would be needed to answer each question and where the information could be obtained. These questions and information were reviewed by the CLME+ PCU and by Project Partners at a SAP M&E Framework development workshop in Cartagena, January 2018.

The approach is to acquire information on these indicators for (a) the baseline period 2011-2015 and (b) the first period of SAP Implementation (2016-2020). Comparison of these two periods will indicate progress towards SAP objectives.

So far, Excel workbook templates for the three CLME+ transboundary issues have been set up to hold the data, provide preliminary analysis and graphical representation. Baseline data have been entered in these workbooks and baseline data acquisition is ongoing. Data on the first five GEAF categories have been the easiest to conceptualize and the most readily available. This is because the indicators for the latter two categories (“social justice” and “human well-being”) are less conventional and clear, and are under development. In all cases there is the need for countries and agencies to provide further input.

Number of indicators in each category, for each transboundary issue				
Indicator category	Fisheries	Pollution	Habitat degradation	Total Regional
Governance architecture	3	3	3	9
Governance process	7	6	6	19
Ecosystem pressure	3	4	3	10
Ecosystem state	1	1	4	6
Stakeholder engagement	8	6	12	26
Social justice	8	3	2	13
Human well-being	7	4	4	15
Total	37	27	34	98

Interaction is also ongoing with the lead executing agencies of each of the four CLME+ Subprojects that are catalyzing the adoption and implementation of the EBM/EAF approach which is called for under the corresponding SAP (Sub-)Strategies. The intention of this collaboration is to determine what, if any additional indicators will be required to develop a GEAF approach for monitoring such advances towards EBM/EAF. In each case, progress to date has somewhat been limited by the rate of implementation of the concerned Subprojects.

Demand for input to the SOME Report has been limited to introductory material but is expected to increase as the report takes shape. This will include GEAF data and supporting text.

3. Way Forward and Next Steps:

Indicator development, data gathering and entry will continue until all baseline data have been obtained, both at the regional level and for the EBM/EAF cases promoted through the CLME+ Subprojects. This is expected to be finalized by the end of the first quarter of 2019. Uptake of GEAF outputs into SOMEE with supporting narrative and documentation will continue throughout SOMEE development.

4. Proposed Action:

The PSC Meeting is invited to (a) note the progress with the development of the GEAF indicator framework, and (b) encourage key IGOs and countries from the CLME+ region to provide feedback on the GEAF as it is being further developed, as well as (c) provide the data needed to complete the baseline and the evaluation of SAP implementation progress to date.

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