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Tenth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical  
Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Protocol  
Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife  
(SPA/W) in the Wider Caribbean Region

Virtual, 30 January – 1 February 2023

## **ACP MEAs III PROJECT HALF YEARLY REPORTS**

**January 2021 – June 2022**

*This meeting is being convened virtually. Delegates are kindly requested to access all meeting documents electronically for download as necessary.*

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## Report Format – ACP MEAs 3 Programme

### Identification:

- Partners Name: **Cartagena Convention Secretariat**
- Budget line: BAC ***SB-014126.09***
- POW 2020-2021 Sub-programme: **Sub-programme 3 Healthy and productive ecosystems (SDG 14.1/2/5)** (*Linked to approved 2021/2022 Cartagena Convention Work Plan and Budget*)

### I. Introduction

This chapter will briefly mention the objectives, mandate and focus of the programme and the related activities and highlight few major achievements in bullet form.

This narrative and accompanying expenditure reports cover the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021- 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021. The expenditure report reflects a combination of expenses from year 1 savings of USD 62,116.13 that were brought forward into 2021 and the 2021 partial disbursement of 90,000. Due to the impacts of the pandemic, there have been further savings in 2021 especially for travel and meeting costs.

The activities of the UNEP Cartagena Convention Secretariat are being executed under Component 2 of the overall project which focuses on better management of coasts and oceans and effective implementation of the related Regional Seas Conventions. This Component will be achieved through the following 4 outputs:

- **Expected output 2.1: Strengthened Governance Frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and associated protocols.** Under this output, the Secretariat's existing governance mechanisms will be reinforced to strengthen support to Contracting Parties and encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols by Non-Contracting Parties. The major highlights for the reporting period are:
  - Online Training on Basic Principles of Negotiations and Environmental Diplomacy delivered by the UNEP Law Division to focal points of the Convention and its Protocols (held virtually from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021).
  - Successful convening of the Fifth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (5<sup>th</sup> LBS STAC) (15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021); Ninth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC) (17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March; 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021).
  - [5<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the LBS Protocol](#) (26<sup>th</sup> July 2021); [11<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the SPAW Protocol](#) (27<sup>th</sup> July 2021); [19<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties \(COP\) to the Cartagena Convention](#) (28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021). Meetings were also successfully held with focal points to the STAC meetings (pre-STAC) and the COPs (pre-COP).
  - COP Decisions on matters related to encouraging ratification of the Convention and its Protocols by Non-Contracting Parties, greater collaboration with Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the establishment of a working group to finalize the Regional Strategy of the Caribbean Environment Programme, and how to respond to the issue of sustainable blue economy.
  - Progress made in ratification discussions by many Governments including preparation of submissions by the Governments of Suriname for ratification of the Cartagena Convention

- and its Protocols, by Saint Kitts Nevis for the ratification of the LBS and SPAW Protocols and ratification of the SPAW Protocol by the Government of Nicaragua in May 2021.
- Development of a paper on a sustainable blue economy that was presented to the 16<sup>th</sup> COP
  - [Update of the 2020-2030 Draft Caribbean Environment Programme Regional Strategy for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean](#) and decision to establish a working group to finalize the document (16<sup>th</sup> COP Decisions IV.1).
  - Discussions held with officials of the Dominican Republic and process begun to assist with the country's implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) through hiring of a national consultant.
  - Selection of consultant to produce a video highlighting the impacts and work of the Secretariat and the benefits of ratification of the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.

Due to the last-minute unavailability of the selected consultant to update the CEP Strategy under Result 2.1.1 for which USD 10,000 had been committed and reported as spent in the 2020 expenditure report, those funds were carried forward to 2021. The original proposed output was completed through an agreement with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute and co-financing from the Swedish Government. The resulting savings of USD 10,000 was reallocated to a video production consultancy co-financed by the GEF IWECO project. This output, expected to be completed by the second half of 2021 will further support ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its protocols (further explained in section two of this report). The operational expenses made during the reporting period cover office maintenance and a partial contribution for the recruitment of a new Associate Finance and Budget Officer who is assisting with project reporting and the processing of agreements and payments.

- **Expected output 2.2: Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas.** The Secretariat, through its Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Sub-Programme, aims to continue working towards establishing a functional ecological network of SPAW-listed protected areas (MPAs) covering interconnected marine and associated habitats and ecosystems for restoring and sustaining the health of oceans. Ecological networks of protected areas present opportunities for scaling up and enhancing conservation actions and building resilience across interconnected ecosystems and habitats. Finalising the development of an ecological network of MPAs in the Wider Caribbean marks an important step towards fulfilling the aims of the Cartagena Convention and UNEP's Regional Seas Programme for the Wider Caribbean. Funded activities during the January-July 2021 period were specific to Activities 2.2.1, 2.2.2 and 2.2.3. The major highlights are:
  - Completed publications on: An Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean; The [Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\) report](#); Development of the [Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum report](#); [Protected Areas Management Effectiveness \(PAME\) of SPAW Sites: Survey Report](#); How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Assessment.
  - Graphic design of the [SPAW Protected Areas of the Wider Caribbean](#) booklet being finalized.
  - Update of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM) database.

- **Expected output 2.3: Measures for reducing the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment in the four regions developed.**

The Secretariat, through its Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) Sub- Programme, aims to support countries in the Wider Caribbean in reducing their plastic and solid waste generation and implementing measures to prevent the influx of waste from entering the region's marine environment.

Activities during January-July 2021 period were specific to Activities 2.3.1 to 2.3.6. The major highlights are:

- The [Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy](#) was adopted by the 5<sup>th</sup> COP to the LBS Protocol and subsequently by the 16<sup>th</sup> COP to the Cartagena Convention in July 2021.
  - In anticipation of the commencement of activities in late 2021, discussions and preparatory work have commenced to identify Contracting Parties in which community-based interventions for wastewater management and plastics reduction can be implemented.
  - Discussions were held with Suriname and Guyana on the continuation of ecosystem-based management activities initiated under the UNDP GEF CLME+ Project.
  - Discussions were held with the Global Water Partnership-Caribbean to support community-based projects on wastewater reuse.
  - Agreement by the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) to manage community-based projects on solid waste and marine litter.
  - Finalized Compendium of Case Studies on Solid Waste Management.
  - Development of new knowledge management materials on solid waste, plastics and microplastics.
- **Expected output 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.** The Secretariat, through its Communication, Education, Training and Awareness (CETA) Sub-Programme aims to improve environmental awareness and sensitivity in the Wider Caribbean on the importance and value of the region's coastal and marine resources. This will be implemented through public awareness and education activities, capacity-building sessions and greater access to data and information. The major highlights for the reporting period are:
    - Research and compilation of updated information on the status of bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam across the Wider Caribbean.
    - Development of knowledge management products through a graphic artist consultancy co-financed by the GEF IWeco Project.
    - Development and update of a project page on the Secretariat's website.

## 2. [Progress Made](#)

In this chapter will contain the following sections to seek information

- a. Short descriptions for key outputs and outcomes.

**Expected output 2.1: Strengthened Governance Frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and associated protocols.**

*Activity 2.1.1 Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.*

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries were not able to proceed with any national face-to-face workshops.
- As a result of the above, various approaches have been taken to promote ratification including through bilateral discussions and virtual engagements. Presentations were made to representatives from Grenada, Suriname and St. Kitts and Nevis to promote ratification.
- From 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the Secretariat hosted an online training for focal points on basic principles of negotiations and environmental diplomacy in collaboration with the UNEP Law Division. The training provided remote capacity-building on the institutional and governance structure of Multilateral Environmental Agreements with specific focus on the Cartagena Convention and role of the Secretariat, as well as training on negotiation, Rules of Procedures, drafting and adopting Recommendations and Decisions, and other applicable procedures and concepts. This training also prepared focal points for their participation and engagement in the STAC meetings and COPs held later in 2021.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) Meeting of the Cartagena Convention's LBS Protocol successfully convened virtually from 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Discussions were held with focal points prior to the STAC (pre-STAC) on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March to present the Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy and Action Plan, as well as information papers on wastewater and nutrients, and integrated water resources management which were further discussed at the STAC meeting. The consultations support implementation of the LBS Protocol and the control, reduction and prevention of marine pollution. The opportunity was also used to encourage ratification by Non- Contracting Parties, who were invited to attend these meetings as observers.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> STAC of the SPAW Protocol was successfully held virtually on 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (session 1) and 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (session 2). Focal points participated in pre-STAC meetings on 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to discuss issues related to marine mammals, marine protected areas and ecosystems, the management of SPAW-listed species and proposals for listing species. The opportunity was also used to encourage ratification by Non-Contracting Parties.
- Key Decisions to strengthen the governance and work of the Cartagena Convention were taken at the 19<sup>th</sup> IGM and 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the Convention from 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Prior to this, Contracting Parties met virtually on 26<sup>th</sup> July for the 5<sup>th</sup> COP to the LBS Protocol and on 27<sup>th</sup> July for the 11<sup>th</sup> SPAW COP. The 16<sup>th</sup> COP agreed, inter alia, that the Secretariat would strengthen its governance structure and collaboration with Regional Activity Centres, Regional Activity Networks and UNEP HQ (Decision III), enhance synergies with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Regional Seas Programmes, conventions, and the international global agenda as appropriate, by collaborating on topics of interest to the Wider Caribbean (Decision I.1), and also urged all Non-Contracting Parties to ratify the Convention and its Protocols (Decision IX.1).
- It was also announced at the 16<sup>th</sup> COP that on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 the Government of Nicaragua deposited its instrument of ratification of the SPAW Protocol to Colombia, as Depositary of the Convention and its Protocols, thus becoming the 18<sup>th</sup> SPAW Contracting Party.
- In commemoration of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention, a video consultant was selected to produce a short video that highlights the impact of the Secretariat's work in the region. The video will directly support discussions with Non-Contracting Parties to encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols. The consultancy is co-financed by the GEF IWECO Project.

Activity 2.1.2 Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no national and/or regional face-to-face workshops were conducted. The work of the Secretariat took place primarily through virtual means and in-kind personnel support.
- The [2020-2030 Draft Caribbean Environment Programme Regional Strategy for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean](#) was updated through financial support from the Government of Sweden. Contracting Parties provided comments on this final draft and requested the development of a resource mobilization strategy and higher-level indicators. The ACP MEA 3 project will support this effort during the second half of 2021. As per Decision IV.1 of the 16<sup>th</sup> COP, the Secretariat will compile comments on the CEP Strategy and establish a working group to finalize the document.
- The Secretariat prepared and presented to the 16<sup>th</sup> COP an [information paper on the sustainable blue economy](#). This document was developed in response to the decision of Contracting Parties at the 15<sup>th</sup> COP, encouraging the Secretariat “to work with other regional agencies and Contracting Parties to gain a better understanding of ongoing blue economy initiatives in the Wider Caribbean Region. Requesting that the Secretariat prepare an information paper based on its findings to be presented at the next Conference of Parties.”
- Under Decision IV.3 adopted at the 16<sup>th</sup> COP, the Secretariat will formulate the work that needs to be done under the Convention “to support and arrive at sustainable blue economies”.

Activity 2.1.3 Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions

- Discussions were held with representatives of the Ministry of Environment of the Dominican Republic for the Secretariat to provide consultancy support for the country’s effective implementation ratification of the MARPOL Convention. The Dominican Republic will be assisted in the development of national regulations to support the implementation of the MARPOL Convention and its Annexes.

**Expected output 2.2: Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas:**

Activity 2.2.1 Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines

- The Secretariat completed a publication on “[An Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean](#)”. The report includes a review of the ecological components that connect SPAW Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), as well as the existing cooperative efforts among a wider set of MPAs that are part of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM). The analysis presented is an overview of the ecological factors that interconnect the Caribbean’s marine environment, as a basis for building cooperation between SPAW and other MPAs of the region to enhance their roles in protecting ecosystem functions and populations of key species. The report includes an Atlas of SPAW Protected Areas.
- The [CAMPAM database](#) includes data on 1069 MPAs from 44 countries and territories in the Wider Caribbean Region. Two webinars were held in 2020 to guide access and navigation.

*Activity 2.2.2 Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of Marine Protected Areas.*

- The [Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\) report](#) was developed in response to the [Decision made by Contracting Parties at the 10<sup>th</sup> SPAW COP in June 2019](#), for the Cartagena Convention Secretariat to “undertake a comprehensive review to determine [the] impact of CaMPAM activities thus far, envisaged to evaluate effectiveness and guide future work with a view towards ensuring activities linked to overall SPAW Protocol activities/goals”.
- The [Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\)](#) was developed in consultation with Contracting Parties and partners. As a result of this report, Recommendation V, paragraphs 5 and 6, of the 9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC referring to Protected Areas was endorsed by the 11<sup>th</sup> SPAW COP. This network development plan sets out options for consideration towards strengthening the institutional sustainability of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM). Both reports were translated into Spanish and French with support from the ACP MEA 3 project.
- 6 coordination meetings were held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic to discuss the SPAW STAC-9 Recommendations and Work Plan and Budget for 2021-2022. The meetings were attended by SPAW national focal points to discuss and establish the way forward in the implementation of the ACP MEA Project and Protected Areas.
- 3 webinars were delivered to disseminate the results of consultancies and to promote outputs.

*Activity 2.2.3 Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks*

- As part of Result 2.2.3 the publication “How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Assessment” was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union ACP MEAs Project in collaboration with the 11th European Development Fund through the BIOPAMA Programme.
- The “Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME) of SPAW Sites: Survey Report” is the first assessment of its kind for management effectiveness of SPAW-listed Protected Areas (a total of 35) and sets the baseline for the Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME). It relies on a survey to probe the inefficiencies, areas where support is needed and identifying best practices for effective management of the Protected areas. This survey was conducted to understand the management effectiveness of Protected Areas (PAs) and develop a wide-ranging assessment of all SPAW sites in the Wider Caribbean Region. It outlines the problems experienced by SPAW site managers while undertaking management effectiveness assessments and scoping in the areas where managers require support for better management in the future.
- The “SPAW Protected Areas of the Wider Caribbean” booklet is a comprehensive document that features 35 Marine Protected Areas under 9 SPAW Contracting Parties. The list also details the area of extension (in sq. km) of each MPA along with the IUCN Category (I, II, III or IV) it belongs to. The term ‘Unknown’ refers to the MPAs where the IUCN designation is not known (refer to Annex I for detailed explanation).
- The report “An Evaluation of Connectivity Between SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean” includes a review of the ecological components that connect SPAW MPAs, as well as the existing cooperative efforts among a wider set of MPAs that are part of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM). The analysis presented within this report is an



overview of the ecological factors that interconnect the Caribbean's marine environment as a basis for building cooperation between SPAW and other MPAs of the region to enhance their roles in protecting ecosystem functions and populations of key species. This report includes an Atlas of SPAW protected areas.

- Support was provided under this activity for the translation of working documents and information papers into Spanish and French for the SPAW STAC, SPAW COP and IGM. This is in keeping with the Rules of Procedure of the Convention for the provision of documents in the official working languages of the meeting, and which also facilitates greater engagement and discussion with Contracting Parties. Interpretation into English, Spanish and French was also secured for these meetings. The KUDO platform was also procured for the convening of the second session of the SPAW STAC in April 2021 which allowed further discussion by Contracting Parties on marine biodiversity issues.

**Expected output 2.3: Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.**

While limited funds were received under the project for implementation of activities under this output, several preparatory and complementary activities continued to take place which will directly support the project outputs and which the project will build on with funds received to date and with future disbursements.

*Activity 2.3.1 Convene national/regional capacity building meetings & workshop(s) involving at least 10 non- Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.*

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no national and/or regional face-to-face meetings or workshops were conducted. The work of the Secretariat took place primarily through virtual means such as the convening of the LBS Pre-STAC, 5<sup>th</sup> LBS STAC, LBS Pre-COP and the 5<sup>th</sup> LBS COP.
- Support was provided under this activity for the translation of working documents and information papers into Spanish and French for the LBS STAC, LBS COP and IGM. This is in keeping with the Rules of Procedure of the Convention for the provision of documents in the official working languages of the meeting, and which also facilitates greater engagement and discussion with Contracting Parties. Interpretation into English, Spanish and French was also secured for these meetings with project support.

*Activity 2.3.2 Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.*

- The [Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy](#), developed with co-financing from the GEF UNDP CLME+ project, and which was adopted at the 5<sup>th</sup> LBS COP and endorsed at the 16<sup>th</sup> COP to the Cartagena Convention, will form the basis for support under the project to develop national strategies on nutrients management.
- Discussions have taken place with the UNEP Regional and Sub-Regional Offices to identify countries for supporting the development of National Marine Litter/Plastics Reduction Strategies and Action Plans. These will be guided by the Secretariat's new Regional Marine Litter Strategy which was also endorsed at the 5<sup>th</sup> LBS COP and which complements the Regional Marine Litter Action Plan of 2014.

- Work on Domestic Wastewater Action Plans will be incorporated, as appropriate, in National Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategies as well as building on work done through the IDB UNEP GEF CReW+ Project for which the Secretariat is a co-executing agency.

*Activity 2.3.3 Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.*

- Discussions were held with representatives from Suriname and Guyana to further the work completed on ecosystem-based management under the UNDP GEF CLME+ project and it was agreed that EBM Projects for this Activity will be done in these two countries. The previous interventions focused on identifying pollution hotspots and implementing measures to rehabilitate degraded mangroves though the participation of community members and new activities will seek to enhance and further build on these efforts.

*Activity 2.3.4 Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.*

This activity will complement the work of the GEF CReW+ Project where countries in the Wider Caribbean Region are receiving support for the implementation of small-scale and replicable solutions to improve water and wastewater management. Countries such as St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica have already begun the process of finalizing national activities which includes defining actions to implement institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory reforms for Integrated Water and Wastewater Management (IWWM). This activity will enable support to other LBS Contracting Parties covered by the project's scope that will not benefit from the CReW+ Project. Initial discussions took place with countries interested in receiving project support and will be formalized in the second half of 2021.

*Activity 2.3.5 Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater*

- Following several meetings and discussions with representatives of the Global Water Partnership Caribbean (GWP-C), it was agreed that a Small-Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) will be developed between the Secretariat and GWP-C for implementation of this activity. This will be through a demand-driven grant proposal process. In preparation for this, the GWP-C in collaboration with the Secretariat launched a call for proposals of small-scale integrated water resources management (IWRM) and IWWM projects in the Caribbean. One proposal has been reviewed thus far, and as a result of the small number of proposals received, additional efforts will be made to promote this opportunity.

Activity 2.3.6 Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme

- The Secretariat held discussions with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, co-host of the Caribbean Node on Marine Litter, on the implementation of community-based projects. The GCFI agreed to manage these interventions through submission of grant proposals and the development of a selection criteria for the projects was completed.
- The Secretariat's compendium of 28 case studies on solid waste management will also be a valuable resource for these community projects. The compendium was developed in collaboration with the Caribbean Tourism Organization with input from various authors across the Wider Caribbean. The document was also presented as an [information document](#) at the 5<sup>th</sup> LBS COP.

**Expected output 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.**

Activity 2.4.1 Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam

- The Secretariat's matrix and [interactive map](#) on the status of bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam across the Wider Caribbean was updated with information on Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Aruba and Belize.
- The graphic artist, recruited in 2020 with project support and co-financing from the GEF IWECO Project, finalized the design of 29 factsheets which included templates for future factsheets that can be used to promote the work of the Secretariat including thematic factsheets on marine pollution and marine biodiversity.
- Graphic design of the following publications were also completed: 3-page guide on "How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME) Assessments", Compendium of Case Studies on Solid Waste Management; booklet on SPAW-listed MPAs (being finalized).
- These communication outputs will be launched through webinars and promoted through the Secretariat's website and social media in the second half of 2021.

Activity 2.4.2 Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity

- A [project page](#) on the Secretariat's website was created and continues to be updated with the upload of outputs and project newsletters.
- The Communications, Education, Awareness and Communication Programme continued to promote issues of marine biodiversity and marine pollution through multiple outreach events including through webinars, social media and during the intergovernmental meetings of the Secretariat.

Table (b) activities undertaken, countries reached out, links to baseline, links to targets and status of the activity (completed, underway, initiated etc.), budget made available, budget spent and remaining budget

This table reports the cumulated expenditure from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021 and the balance available. In addition to the budget below, \$10,000 was also disbursed for operational expenses, and \$694.83 (Administrative Cost) towards the recruitment of an Associate Finance and Budget Officer.

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.1</b>	<b>Reinforcement of Regional Seas Conventions Governance Frameworks and associated protocols</b>	Underway	2023	2021: Cartagena Convention/ Oil Spills Protocol (26); SPAW (18) LBS (15)	At least 2 new Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention by the end of the Project and 5 new Parties to the SPAW and LBS Protocols	Suriname and Haiti (Cartagena Convention and Oil Spills Protocol)  LBS Protocol: St. Kitts, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Cuba, Dominica  SPAW Protocol: Costa Rica, Jamaica, Saint Kitt and Nevis, Turks and Caicos Islands, Mexico, Haiti, Suriname, Dominica	<b>50,000</b>	<b>5545.64</b>	Funds allocated for a specific activity in 2020 for updating the CEP Strategy were returned due challenge in the recruitment process. Those funds were reallocated for use in 2021
<b>2.1.1</b>	<b>Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.</b>	Engagements with countries have initiated.	2023	2021: Cartagena Convention/ Oil Spills Protocol (26); SPAW (18) LBS (15)	Same as above under Result 2.1	Same as above under Result 2.1	<b>10,000</b>	<b>0</b>	Face-to-face workshops delayed due to COVID-19.
<b>2.1.2</b>	<b>Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/approach and</b>	Planning underway	2022	2018 - No Mechanism, Strategy or Roadmap in Place	By end of project, permanent mechanism, strategy and roadmap adopted	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention. Potential Champion Countries: Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica.	<b>40,000</b>	<b>5545.64</b>	Support for Spanish and French provided through funds that were received from the advance disbursement associated with the IGM and Cartagena Convention COP(30,000)

	<b>road map for enhancing oceans governance</b>								Discussions ongoing that resources could support RAC/RAN Institutional Review and Analysis
<b>2.1.3</b>	<b>Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions</b>	Underway	2023	22/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex 1/II 19/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex III, 18/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex IV, 21/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex V, 12/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex VI, 13/24 have ratified OPRC 90, 2/24 have ratified OPRC HNS 2000, 12/24 have ratified Ballast Water 2004	At least 50% increase in the number of ratifications for each of the maritime legal instruments by 2021	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and will be demand driven.	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	Request for support received from the Dominican Republic; Terms of Reference already drafted and being reviewed.
<b>Result 2.2</b>	<b>Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas</b>	Underway	2023	Zero networks	1 Network fully operational by the end of the project using the approved guidelines	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and will be demand driven. Focus on SPAW Listed MPAs: Belize, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, French West Indies, Dutch Caribbean, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, USA, Grenada.	<b>145,000</b>	<b>86,265.63</b>	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.2.1	Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines	Underway	2023	Zero networks	1 Network fully operational by the end of the project using the approved guidelines	Same as above in Result 2.2	0	0	Will complement similar initiatives within the wider UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Will be supported by several partners including SPAW RAC, IUCN and MPA AD HOC working group
2.2.2	Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of MPAs.	Underway	2023	No steering committee or working group dedicated for MPAs Networking	1 SPAW Working Group approved at COP	Same as above in Result 2.2	50,000	46,500	Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the CaMPAM finalized.  The assessment was presented during STAC-9 for COP-11 adoption. The Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the CaMPAM was developed in consultation with Contracting Parties and partners. The Secretariat, SPAW RAC, IUCN and MPA AD HOC working group, Consultant.

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.2.3	<b>Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks</b>	Underway	2024	No steering committee or working group dedicated for MPAs Networking  No PAME tools in 35 SPAW-listed PAs	1 SPAW Working Group approved at COP  Ten 2-3-page guideline documents on the PAME tool. PAME assessment at Least in 5 SPAW Listed MPAs	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>95,000</b>	<b>39,765.63</b>	Support for Spanish and French provided through funds that were received from the advance disbursement for the SPAW STAC, SPAW COP and the development of management effectiveness guidelines (40,000)
2.2.4	<b>Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs</b>	Not yet initiated	2024	35 MPAs listed under SPAW December 2019	At least 3 new SPAW MPAs by 2024	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
2.2.5	<b>Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management</b>	Not yet initiated	2024	n/a	At least 8 protected areas selected to create the network	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.3</b>	<b>Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.</b>	Marine Litter Strategy completed.	2024	No Regional Strategy/Updated Marine Litter Action Plan	Regional Caribbean Marine Litter Strategy Plan Developed and Adopted by end of project.	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>20,000</b>	<b>5545.63</b>	
<b>2.3.1</b>	<b>Convene national/regional capacity building meetings &amp; workshop(s) involving at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No regional capacity building workshops conducted	At least 3 regional workshops convened to promote LBS Protocol ratification and possible amendments to the LBS Protocol and its Annexes by end of project.	Same as above in Result 2.3	<b>20,000</b>	<b>5545.63</b>	Face-to-face workshops delayed due to COVID-19.  Support for Spanish and French provided through funds that were received from the advance disbursement for the LBS STAC and LBS COP (20,000)
<b>2.3.2</b>	<b>Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No national pollution reduction action plans in place	At least 3 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol develop national pollution reduction action plans by end of project.	Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis	0	0	Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction and Marine Litter Strategies will form the framework for this support.



Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.3.3	<b>Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	2021 - Three countries completed pilot projects on EBM approach	2021 - Additional three countries piloting EBM approach	Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia	0	0	Activity to enhance initial EBM efforts in Suriname and Guyana
2.3.4	<b>Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No updated legislation/regulations on wastewater management in compliance with the LBS Protocol	At least 4 LBS Protocol Contracting Parties develop/update wastewater regulations in compliance with the LBS Protocol Annex III	Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	Activity to be done in coordination with GEF CReW+ Project

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.3.5	<b>Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No rural community-based wastewater projects in participating LBS Contracting Parties	At least 4 rural community-based interventions for wastewater management.	Guyana., Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti	0	0	Will be managed through partnership with GWP C
2.3.6	<b>Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	2018 - Two Countries	2021 - 6 additional countries	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.	0	0	Will be managed through partnership with GCFI and in collaboration with the MPA work under SPAW
2.3.7	<b>Conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan for the Wider Caribbean Region to reduce pollution from ships with focus on plastics reduction.</b>	Not yet initiated	2023	No feasibility study conducted.	Feasibility Study conducted and recommendations provided to Cartagena Convention Conference of Parties.	Regional – All Countries targeted	0	0	Will be implemented through RAC REMPEITC

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available	Budget spent	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.4</b>	<b>Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.</b>	Underway	2024	Lack of sufficient awareness-raising activities	At least 5 targeted awareness activities for selected audiences developed and implemented.	Regional – All Countries targeted	0	0	
<b>2.4.1</b>	<b>Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam</b>	Initiated	2024	2018 - 10 countries	By 2022 - 75% of Contracting Parties have implemented bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam	Same as above in Result 2.4	0	0	
<b>2.4.2</b>	<b>Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity</b>	Underway	2024	25% of Contracting Parties provided comprehensive water quality data for State of Pollution Report 2017	At least 75% of Contracting Parties submit water quality data for inclusion in State of Pollution Report (SOCAR) by 2022	Same as above in Result 2.4	0	0	

**Table (c) Impact matrix that will provide information on key lessons learnt, impact (focus on gender, participation, specific contributions of the actions for policy, implementation, influence), communication reach out**

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.1: Reinforcement of Regional Seas Conventions Governance Frameworks and associated protocols</b>					
2.1.1 <b>Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.</b>	Language used during meetings was gender sensitive		The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee meetings (March 15-19 LBS and SPAW; April 14-15-SPAW) as well as the meetings with focal points prior to the Cartagena Convention COPs (June 21-25, 2021) provided an opportunity to encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocol.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 press release on the COP</li> <li>• 49 working and information documents for 16<sup>th</sup> COP</li> </ul>	16 <sup>th</sup> COP Decision IX.1 on the ratification of the Convention and its Protocols
2.1.2 <b>Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/ approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance</b>		Support of the CLME+ Oceans Governance Mechanism and its meetings. Decision VII of the 16 <sup>th</sup> COP requests the Secretariat's participation in the follow on PROCARIBE+ project.	Updated 2020-2030 Regional Strategy shared and discussed with focal points.  Information paper on sustainable blue economy reviewed by focal points.	1 CEP Strategy  1 Information paper	Sustainable blue economy issues
2.1.3 <b>Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions</b>		Support to MARPOL ratification	Terms of reference for consultancy drafted and being finalized.		Support to Global MEAs

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.2 Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas</b>					
2.2.1 Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines				One document on MPAs listed under the SPAW Protocol	
2.2.2 Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of MPAs.		Protected Areas Working Group	<p>ACP-MEAs III project Reports and Assessments were presented to SPAW Contracting Parties as Information Documents for their consideration and for STAC-9 for their recommendations and potential endorsement:</p> <p><a href="#">Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM) report</a></p> <p><a href="#">Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM)</a></p> <p><a href="#">CaMPAM Database and Citizens Science Monitoring</a></p> <p>Developing an Ecological Network between the SPAW-listed MPAs of the Wider Caribbean.</p> <p>The reports contribute to the capacity development of MPA Managers in the Wider Caribbean Region and the database enhances knowledge and participation</p>	<p>Regional PAME Guideline developed to be used by the Regional Advisers national trainings.</p> <p>One 3-page guide on “How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME) Assessments”.</p>	<p>The Secretariat continues to identify synergies between the ACP MEAs III Project and the implementation of the SPAW Protocol including projects and work done by the SPAW RAC and the Protected Areas Working Group.</p> <p>Contracting Parties request that the Protected Areas Working Group , in collaboration with the Secretariat and SPAW-RAC, as appropriate, review the recommendations presented in the “Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of CaMPAM” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.41 Add.1) and the “Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.10) and present an options paper to STAC10 that assesses the feasibility of implementing the recommendations and suggests possible means of doing so in the short, medium-, and long-term.</p>

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>2.2.3</b>  <b>Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks</b></p>			<p>The SPAW Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee meetings as well as the meetings with focal points prior to the Cartagena Convention COPs provided an opportunity to encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols and further encourage synergies between the LBS and SPAW Protocols.</p>		<p>State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report                       Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030</p>
<p><b>2.2.4</b>  <b>Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs</b></p>					<p>State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report                       Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030                       UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)                       Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)</p>
<p><b>2.2.5</b>  <b>Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management</b></p>					<p>State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report                       Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030                       UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)                       Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)</p>

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.3 Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.</b>					
2.3.1 Convene national/regional capacity building meetings & workshop(s) involving at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.			The LBS Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee meetings (March 15-19) as well as the meetings with focal points prior to the Cartagena Convention COPs (June 21-25, 2021) provided an opportunity to encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols and further encourage synergies between the LBS and SPAW Protocols.		5 <sup>th</sup> LBS COP Meeting Decisions
2.3.2 Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.			The Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy adopted by Contracting Parties at the 5th LBS COP and subsequently at the 16th COP to the Cartagena Convention.	1 Regional Strategy translated into Spanish, with French translation underway	Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)  Regional Marine Litter Action Plan and Strategy for the Wider Caribbean Region.
2.3.3 Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.			Two projects will be implemented in Suriname and Guyana on ecosystem-based management and under their national pollution prevention plans and strategies.		

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>2.3.4</b>  <b>Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.</b></p>			<p>GEF CReW+ project is supporting the development/update of national legislations</p>		<p>Integrated Water and Wastewater Management                      Global Wastewater Initiative                      Sustainable Development Goal 6</p>
<p><b>2.3.5</b>  <b>Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater</b></p>			<p>GWP-C in collaboration with the Secretariat launched a call for proposals of small-scale IWRM and IWWM projects in the Caribbean.</p>	<p>One proposal has been reviewed thus far.                      Grant promoted at webinars attended by members of the Secretariat</p>	



Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>2.3.6</b></p> <p><b>Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.</b></p>			<p>Discussions with GCFI helped to finalize the way forward for the community-based interventions; selection of the projects is underway.</p> <p>Compendium of 28 case studies will be a valuable resource for these community projects.</p>		<p>Regional Marine Litter Strategy</p> <p>Objectives of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter</p> <p>UNEP Medium Term Strategy</p>
<p><b>2.3.7</b></p> <p><b>Conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan for the Wider Caribbean Region to reduce pollution from ships with focus on plastics reduction.</b></p>				<p>Not yet initiated</p>	<p>Management of ship-generated waste</p>

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.</b>					
<p><b>2.4.1</b> Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam</p>		<p>Support to UNEP's Clean Seas campaign and efforts to encourage more countries to implement bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam</p>	<p>At least 4 countries have made continued updates in their legislations on single-use plastic, based on recent research</p>	<p>Interactive map showing the status of single-use plastics and Styrofoam available on the Secretariat's website.</p>	<p>Guided by the Secretariat's Communications Strategy and strategic objectives of the CEP Strategy</p>
<p><b>2.4.2</b> Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity</p>	<p>Social media posts use gender sensitive language</p>		<p>STACs, pre-STACs, COPs and pre-COP provided opportunity to share various public awareness materials produced by the Secretariat</p>	<p>Webpage updated for consistency with other Convention and to upload the ACP MEA Digest Newsletters.</p>	<p>Guided by the Secretariat's Communications Strategy and strategic objectives of the CEP Strategy</p> <p>Support to the UN Decades on Ocean Science and Ecosystem Restoration</p> <p>Support to efforts for greater communication and advocacy in UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy, to communicate scientific information in a language that is accessible to all and can influence and stimulate decision-making as well as environmental action.</p>

### 3. [Planning for Future](#)

This section will focus on activities planned for the subsequent half year/year, plans/ideas for scaling up and follow up on outcomes, suggestions for budget and activity adjustments and a timetable of planned actions and budgets needed.

Ideas about how the completed actions link up to other processes in the country(ies), regions, inter-regional cooperation, links to institutional actions within the hubs and larger regional and global processes (like AMCEN, LAC Ministerial, COPs etc.).

### 4. [Lessons Learnt](#)

This short section will focus issues and challenges faced during the period of reporting, steps taken to overcome the challenges and a synopsis of lessons learnt for the future. Include information if the project helped you leverage additional funds, partnerships, visibility and the related.

- Several linkages and co-financing established which we can provide based on our status reports – e.g. for AMEP this would include GWP C, BASEL Convention, GEF CReW+ Project, GCFI/Regional Marine Litter Node, co-financing from GEF IWeco, CLME+.
- Challenges in conducting virtual meetings.

### 5. [Communications](#)

In this section, the report will focus on how the programme has implemented the communication plans, visibility secured (including through social media) and impacts of the communication. It is encouraged that the report will provide specific web-links, publications and other material developed and means of reach out, including through the institutional channels.

The Secretariat continues to maintain its webpage on the programme and add periodic updates. Contributions were also made to the ACP MEA newsletter which has also been shared with LBS and SPAW focal points and through the CaMPAM network.

The ACP MEA programme's social media pages are also supported through retweets and resharing of announcements, outputs and programme updates provided to LBS and SPAW focal points.

## Report Format – ACP MEAs 3 Programme

### Identification:

- Partners Name: **Cartagena Convention Secretariat**
- 1. Budget line: BAC ***SB-014126.09***
- 2. POW 2020-2021 Sub-programme: **Sub-programme 3 Healthy and productive ecosystems (SDG 14.1/2/5)** (*Linked to approved 2021/2022 Cartagena Convention Work Plan and Budget*)

### 3. Introduction

This chapter will briefly mention the objectives, mandate and focus of the programme and the related activities and highlight few major achievements in bullet form.

This narrative report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021, while the expenditure report presents cumulative expenses and committed funds from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

The activities of the UNEP Cartagena Convention Secretariat are being executed under Component 2 of the overall project which focuses on better management of coasts and oceans and effective implementation of the related Regional Seas Conventions. This Component will be achieved through the following 4 outputs:

- **Expected output 2.1: Strengthened Governance Frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and associated protocols.** Under this output, the Secretariat's existing governance mechanisms will be reinforced to strengthen support to Contracting Parties and encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols by Non-Contracting Parties. The major highlights for the reporting period are:
  - **2.1.1 : 5th Conference of Parties to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS)** (26<sup>th</sup> July 2021); **11th Conference of Parties to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW)** (27<sup>th</sup> July 2021); **19th Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the 16th Conference of Parties (COP) to the Cartagena Convention** (28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021). Meetings were also successfully held with focal points in June 2021 prior to the COPs (pre-COP). COP Decisions were endorsed on matters related to the ratification of the Convention and its Protocols by Non-Contracting Parties, greater collaboration with Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and how to respond to the issue of sustainable blue economy.
  - 2.1.1: Progress made in ratification discussions by many governments including preparation of submissions by the Governments of Suriname for ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, by Saint Kitts Nevis for the ratification of the LBS and SPAW Protocols, and ratification of the SPAW Protocol by the Government of Nicaragua in May 2021 (press release produced).
  - **2.1.1:** Virtual workshops convened in English (3<sup>rd</sup> November) and Spanish (26<sup>th</sup> November) with Non-Contracting Parties to the Convention's Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land- Based Sources and Activities (LBS) to promote ratification, identify barriers to ratification and develop a list of capacity building needs.
  - **2.1.1:** Ongoing development of a video to highlight the milestone achievements of the Secretariat relating to oceans governance.
  - **2.1.1:** Presentation on solid waste at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Clean Pacific Roundtable on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

- **2.1.2:** The [2021-2030 Draft Caribbean Environment Programme \(CEP\) Regional Strategy for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean](#) was updated and presented to the 16<sup>th</sup> COP.
  - 2.1.2: In response to a Decision taken at the 15<sup>th</sup> COP, the Secretariat prepared and presented an [information paper on sustainable blue economy](#) to the 16<sup>th</sup> COP.
  - 2.1.2: Financial support provided for the translation of documents for the LBS and SPAW COPS and 19<sup>th</sup> IGM/16<sup>th</sup> COP enabling greater sharing of information and best practices.
  - **2.1.3:** Agreement reached to support Dominican Republic's implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) through an external consultancy with the potential for replication within and outside the region.
- **Expected output 2.2: Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas.**

The Secretariat continued to work towards establishing a functional ecological network of SPAW-listed protected areas (MPAs) covering interconnected marine and associated habitats and ecosystems for restoring and sustaining the health of oceans.

Ecological networks of protected areas present opportunities for scaling up and enhancing conservation actions and building resilience across interconnected ecosystems and habitats. Finalising the development of an ecological network of MPAs in the Wider Caribbean marks an important step towards fulfilling the aims of the Cartagena Convention and UNEP's Regional Seas Programme for the Wider Caribbean.

The major highlights for the reporting period are:

- 2.2.1: Meeting to be held on Marine Protected Areas in response to 9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC Recommendation 5 on identifying synergies between the ACP MEAs III project and the implementation of the SPAW Protocol.
- 2.2.1: Meeting with focal points held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity on the preliminary concepts on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECM).
- 2.2.1: Completed publication: An Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean.
- 2.2.2: Completed publications: The [Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\)](#) and the [Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum](#).
- 2.2.2: Job Opening published in December 2021 for a Protected Areas Management Analyst to develop 2 Options Papers that assess the feasibility of implementing the recommendations of the "Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of CaMPAM" report and the "Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean" report in response to Recommendation 5 (No. 6) of the 9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC.

- 2.2.2: [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) signed with OSPAR Commission at its 2021 Ministerial Meeting in Caicas, Portugal in October 2021.
  - 2.2.3: Completed publications: [Protected Areas Management Effectiveness \(PAME\) of SPAW Sites Survey Report](#) and [How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Assessment](#).
  - 2.2.3: Financial support provided for the translation of documents for the SPAW COP and 19<sup>th</sup> IGM/16<sup>th</sup> COP enabling greater sharing of information and best practices.
  - 2.2.4 and 2.2.5: Agreement drafted with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) to provide grants for the management of marine protected areas (Will also support implementation of Activity 2.3.6).
- **Expected output 2.3: Measures for reducing the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment in the four regions developed.**

The Secretariat will be supporting countries in the Wider Caribbean in reducing their plastic and solid waste generation and implementing measures to prevent the influx of waste from entering the region's marine environment.

Activities during the reporting period were specific to Activities 2.3.1 to 2.3.6. Given that funds have not yet been received for full implementation of the activities, the major highlights reflect preparatory activities and those implemented with co-financing by the Secretariat:

- 2.3.1: Financial support provided for the translation of documents for the LBS COP and 19<sup>th</sup> IGM/16<sup>th</sup> COP enabling sharing of information and best practices relating to reducing marine pollution.
- 2.3.2: The [Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy](#) was adopted by the 5<sup>th</sup> COP to the LBS Protocol and subsequently by the 16<sup>th</sup> COP to the Cartagena Convention in July 2021. Financial support was mobilized through the UNEP Global Partnership on Nutrient Management to develop nutrient valuation case studies in Jamaica and Barbados, which will complement outputs from this activity.
- 2.3.2: Consultations carried out with the UNEP Regional and Sub-Regional Offices to identify countries that require support for the development of National Marine Litter/Plastics Reduction Strategies and Action Plans.
- 2.3.3: The Secretariat followed up with representatives from Suriname and Guyana on proposed activities to further the work completed on Ecosystem-Based management under the UNDP GEF CLME+ project.
- 2.3.4 Collaborative mechanisms established with the GEF CReW+ Project on water and wastewater management for implementation in 2022.
- 2.3.5: Draft agreement developed with Global Water Partnership Caribbean (GWP C) to implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol. Formal launch and requests for proposals made through social media and distribution networks.

- 2.3.6: Agreement drafted with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, co-host of the Caribbean Node on Marine Litter, for the implementation of community-based projects for Marine Litter Management in 2022. ((Will also support implementation of Activity 2.2.4 and 2.2.5).
- 2.3.6. Launch of a Compendium of case studies on solid waste management practices in the Wider Caribbean.
- **Expected output 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.** The Secretariat, through its Communication, Education, Training and Awareness (CETA) Sub-Programme aims to improve environmental awareness and sensitivity in the Wider Caribbean on the importance and value of the region's coastal and marine resources. This will be implemented through public awareness and education activities, capacity-building sessions and greater access to data and information. The major highlights for the reporting period are:
  - Development of knowledge management products through a graphic artist consultancy co-financed by our GEF IWeco Project.
  - Support provided for the video productions as described under Output 2.1.1.
  - Publication of congratulatory messages on the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the entry into force of the Cartagena Convention in 1986.
  - Regular Updates of the ACP MEA project page on the Secretariat's [website](#).

#### 4. [Progress Made](#)

In this chapter will contain the following sections to seek information

- a. Short descriptions for key outputs and outcomes.

#### **Expected output 2.1: Strengthened Governance Frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and associated protocols.**

##### Activity 2.1.1 Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.

- Key Decisions to strengthen the governance and work of the Cartagena Convention were taken at the 19<sup>th</sup> IGM and 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the Convention from 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Prior to this, Contracting Parties met virtually on 26<sup>th</sup> July for the ~~5<sup>th</sup> COP to the LBS Protocol~~ and on 27<sup>th</sup> July for the ~~11<sup>th</sup> SPAW COP~~. The ~~16<sup>th</sup> COP~~ agreed, inter alia, that the Secretariat would strengthen its governance structure and collaboration with Regional Activity Centres, Regional Activity Networks and UNEP HQ (Decision III), enhance synergies with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Regional Seas Programmes, conventions, and the international global agenda as appropriate, by collaborating on topics of interest to the Wider Caribbean (Decision I.1), and also urged all Non-Contracting Parties to ratify the Convention and its Protocols (Decision IX.1).
- It was also announced at the 16<sup>th</sup> COP that on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 the Government of Nicaragua deposited its instrument of ratification of the SPAW Protocol to Colombia, as Depositary of the Convention and

its Protocols, thus becoming the 18<sup>th</sup> SPAW Contracting Party. The Secretariat issued a [press release](#) in November 2021 to announce this ratification.

- During November 2021, the UNEP Cartagena Convention Secretariat hosted two workshops for Non-Contracting Parties to its Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS). The objective of the workshops was to assess the level of national progress in the ratification of the LBS Protocol, identify major barriers to ratification and the type of support that could be provided by the Cartagena Convention Secretariat, the LBS Regional Activity Centres (RACs) and Regional Activity Networks (RANs), through ongoing programmes, projects and activities including the ACP MEA project. The workshop with English-speaking countries was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and attended by a total of 16 persons. The session with Spanish-speaking convened on 26<sup>th</sup> November with 23 persons in attendance.
- Following the aforementioned workshops, a matrix was shared with Non-Contracting Parties to obtain an outline of their required areas of support from the Secretariat and LBS Regional Activity Centres (RACs) that would form the basis for support under the project in 2022.
- A consultant was hired to develop a video highlighting the milestone achievements of the Secretariat, as well as a series of short videos to raise aware on the sargassum influx in the region and efforts being made to utilize sargassum as a resource. This effort is jointly funded by the GEF IWEco Project. The video outline of the commemorative video was completed, along with interviews with present and former staff, partners and project beneficiaries. The video is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2022.
- On 17<sup>th</sup> November, the Secretariat participated as a panelist in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Clean Pacific Roundtable and delivered a presentation on marine litter and solid waste management practices in support of South-South cooperation under the project.

*Activity 2.1.2 Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance*

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no national and/or regional face-to-face workshops were conducted. The work of the Secretariat took place primarily through virtual means and in-kind personnel support.
- The [2021-2030 Draft Caribbean Environment Programme Regional Strategy for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean](#) was updated through financial support from the Government of Sweden. Contracting Parties provided comments on this final draft and requested the development of a resource mobilization strategy and higher-level indicators. As per Decision IV.1 of the 16<sup>th</sup> COP, the Secretariat will compile comments on the CEP Strategy and establish a working group to finalize the document. Project funds will be used in 2022 to support this completion.
- The Secretariat prepared and presented to the 16<sup>th</sup> COP an [information paper on the sustainable blue economy](#). This document was developed in response to the decision of Contracting Parties at the 15<sup>th</sup> COP, encouraging the Secretariat “to work with other regional agencies and Contracting Parties to gain a better understanding of ongoing blue economy initiatives in the Wider Caribbean Region” and “requesting that the Secretariat prepare an information paper based on its findings to be presented at the next Conference of Parties.”
- Under Decision IV.3 adopted at the 16<sup>th</sup> COP, the Secretariat will formulate the work that needs to be done under the Convention “to support and arrive at sustainable blue economies”.



- Support was provided under this activity for the translation of working documents and information papers into Spanish and French for the LBS and SPAW COPs, and the IGM. This is in keeping with the Rules of Procedure of the Convention for the provision of documents in the official working languages of the meeting, and which also facilitates greater engagement and discussion with Contracting Parties. Interpretation into English, Spanish and French was also procured for these meetings.

Activity 2.1.3 Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions

- While this activity was not expected to take place until Year 3 of the project, based on a request from the Government of the Dominican Republic, a Job Opening was advertised for a national consultant to assist the Dominican Republic with the country's implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). The selection process is ongoing as the selected candidate was not able to accept the position due to other commitments. The other recommended candidates are being reviewed.
- Further to discussions with the Government of Barbados, a request was received to support implementation of IMO Conventions which will be facilitated with project support in 2022.

**Expected output 2.2: Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas:**

Activity 2.2.1 Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines

- A meeting will be planned for the first half of 2022 to further organize activities related to Protected Areas. This is to support Recommendation 5, numeral 5 of the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC-9) to the SPAW Protocol, which requests that the Secretariat *continue to identify synergies between the ACP MEAs III Project and the implementation of the SPAW Protocol including projects and work done by the SPAW RAC and the Protected Areas Working Group.*
- The Secretariat organized a meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to present to SPAW National Focal Points the preliminary concepts on "Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECM)" as part of the ongoing negotiations of the CBD Global Biodiversity Framework 2022-2030. This was also in preparation for the "Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Capacity-Building Workshop for the Wider Caribbean and Central America on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures in the Marine Fishery Sector" to be held in April 2022.
- The Secretariat completed a publication on "[An Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean](#)". The report includes a review of the ecological components that connect SPAW Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), as well as the existing cooperative efforts among a wider set of MPAs that are part of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM). The analysis presented is an overview of the ecological factors that interconnect the Caribbean's marine environment, as a basis for building cooperation between SPAW and other MPAs of the region to enhance their roles in protecting ecosystem functions and populations of key species. The report includes an Atlas of SPAW Protected Areas.

*Activity 2.2.2 Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of Marine Protected Areas.*

- The [Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\) report](#) was developed in response to the [Decision made by Contracting Parties at the 10<sup>th</sup> SPAW COP in June 2019](#), for the Cartagena Convention Secretariat to “undertake a comprehensive review to determine [the] impact of CaMPAM activities thus far, envisaged to evaluate effectiveness and guide future work with a view towards ensuring activities linked to overall SPAW Protocol activities/goals”.
- The [Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\)](#) was developed in consultation with Contracting Parties and partners. As a result of this report, Recommendation V, paragraphs 5 and 6, of the 9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC referring to Protected Areas was endorsed by the 11<sup>th</sup> SPAW COP. This network development plan sets out options for consideration towards strengthening the institutional sustainability of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM). Both reports were translated into Spanish and French with support from the ACP MEA 3 project.
- The Secretariat published a Job Opening in December 2021 for a consultant to develop 2 Options Papers for presentation to the 10<sup>th</sup> SPAW Scientific and Technical Committee Meeting. This is in response to Recommendation 5, numeral 6 of the 9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC which requested that the papers be developed following a review of the recommendations presented in the [Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum \(CaMPAM\) report](#) and [Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean](#) reports.
- The Secretariat signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) with the OSPAR Commission at its 2021 Ministerial meeting in Cascais, Portugal in October 2021. The purpose of this MOU is to provide a framework of cooperation and understanding, and to facilitate collaboration between the Cartagena Convention and OSPAR Secretariats to further shared goals and objectives regarding the mutual protection and enhancement of the marine environment in the Atlantic.

*Activity 2.2.3 Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks*

- The [Protected Areas Management Effectiveness \(PAME\) of SPAW Sites: Survey Report](#) is the first assessment of its kind for management effectiveness of SPAW-listed Protected Areas (a total of 35) and sets the baseline for the Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME). It relies on a survey to probe the inefficiencies, areas where support is needed and identifying best practices for effective management of the Protected areas. This survey was conducted to understand the management effectiveness of Protected Areas (PAs) and develop a wide-ranging assessment of all SPAW sites in the Wider Caribbean Region. It outlines the problems experienced by SPAW site managers while undertaking management effectiveness assessments and scoping in the areas where managers require support for better management in the future.
- The publication “[How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Assessment](#)” was finalized in English, French and Spanish. The publication was done in collaboration with the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund through the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme.
- Support was provided under this activity for the translation of working documents and information papers into Spanish and French for the SPAW COP and IGM.

Activity 2.2.4 Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs and Activity 2.2.5: Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management

- An agreement was drafted with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) for the organization to support these two activities as well as Activity 2.3.6. GCFI is a partner in the MPACoast learning network of marine resource managers in the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coral Reef Conservation Programme which supports regional priority MPAs.
- GCFI will implement all aspects of a small grants programme in support of effective marine protected area management (consisting of at least 5 small grants for example on MPA management effectiveness, capacity assessments and other management priorities).

**Expected output 2.3: Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.**

While limited funds were received under the project for implementation of activities under this output, several preparatory and complementary activities continued to take place which will directly support the project outputs and which the project will build on with funds received to date and with future disbursements.

Activity 2.3.1 Convene national/regional capacity building meetings & workshop(s) involving at least 10 non- Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no national and/or regional face-to-face meetings or workshops were conducted. Discussions at the virtual workshops were conducted in support of Activity 2.1.1, with specific capacity building support to be provided through the technical assistance of the Secretariat's Marine Pollution Regional Activity Centres (LBS RACs).
- Support was provided under this activity for the translation of working documents and information papers into Spanish and French for the LBS COP and IGM.

Activity 2.3.2 Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.

- The [Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy](#), developed with co-financing from the GEF UNDP CLME+ project, and which was adopted at the 5<sup>th</sup> LBS COP and endorsed at the 16<sup>th</sup> COP to the Cartagena Convention, will form the basis for support under the project to develop national strategies on nutrients management. To support the implementation of the Strategy, and within the framework of an Economic Valuation Pilot Project financed by the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM), the Secretariat is in the process of recruiting a consultant to develop two case studies on Nutrient Management Valuation in Jamaica and Barbados. The analysis will support the Secretariat's efforts to develop new regional quantitative discharge standards for nitrogen, and possibly also for phosphorus.
- Saint Lucia was identified as a beneficiary country to receive support for the development of a Marine Litter/Plastic Reduction Strategy and Action Plan. This is being undertaken in collaboration with the UNEP Science Division which has provided additional co-financing. This activity will be guided by the Secretariat's new Regional Marine Litter Strategy which complements the Regional Marine Litter Action Plan of 2014.

Activity 2.3.3 Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.

- The Secretariat followed up with representatives from Suriname and Guyana on the implementation of the proposed ecosystem-based management activities. While strong commitment was received, both countries requested additional time to consult with national stakeholders and obtain formal government endorsement.
- Implementation is expected to begin on receipt of funds for 2022

Activity 2.3.4 Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.

- This activity will complement the work of the GEF CReW+ Project where countries in the Wider Caribbean Region are receiving support for the implementation of small-scale and replicable solutions to improve water and wastewater management. Countries such as St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago have finalized national activities which include defining actions to implement institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory reforms for Integrated Water and Wastewater Management (IWWM). This activity will enable support to other LBS Contracting Parties covered by the project's scope but are not benefitting from the CReW+ Project. Initial discussions took place with countries interested in receiving project support and will be formalized in the first half of 2022.

Activity 2.3.5 Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater

- The Secretariat and the Global Water Partnership Caribbean (GWP-C) finalized an agreement for the implementation of community-based, integrated wastewater management activities with additional co-financing from the GEF CReW+ Project. The GWP-C has developed a work plan and budget for the implementation of the proposed interventions in the Wider Caribbean Region. During the reporting period, a Call for Proposals was issued for community-based interventions for wastewater management.

Activity 2.3.6 Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.

- The draft agreement with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute as mentioned under Activities 2.2.4 and 2.2.5 will also support the implementation of community-based projects through the submission of grant proposals. The development of a selection criteria for the small grants was completed.
- The Compendium of Solid Waste Management Practices, developed in collaboration with the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) was launched at a [webinar](#) held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**Expected output 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.**

*Activity 2.4.1 Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam*

- The graphic artist, recruited in 2020 with co-financing from the GEF IWeco Project, continued to work on the design of reports and factsheets on marine pollution and marine biodiversity.
- Coordination support to the video producer referenced under Activity 2.1.1 included reviews of the proposal for the commemorative and sargassum videos, preparing the list of interviewees and scheduling interviews, as well as, acquiring footage and photos.
- One article was submitted for inclusion in the ACP MEA Newsletter in September 2021, and three were submitted for December 2021.
- Communication outputs were uploaded to the Secretariat's website and will continue to be promoted via social media during 2022 using the branding guidelines for the project.

*Activity 2.4.2 Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity*

- The [project page](#) on the Secretariat's website was updated with outputs and project newsletters.
- In commemoration of the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention (October 11), the Secretariat produced and disseminated various social media cards highlighting congratulatory messages from our Regional Activity Centres, namely, the Institute of Marine Affairs, the Centre of Research and Environmental Management of Transport and the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre – Caribe, as well as from the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, co-host of the Caribbean Node on Marine Litter Node and with whom the Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding.
- The Secretariat continued to promote its work on marine biodiversity and marine pollution at multiple outreach events including webinars and social media.

**Table (b) activities undertaken, countries reached out, links to baseline, links to targets and status of the activity (completed, underway, initiated etc.), budget made available, budget spent and remaining budget**

**This table reports the cumulated expenditure and committed funds from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and the balance available. In addition to the budget below, \$10,000 was also disbursed for operational expenses.**

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.1</b>	<b>Reinforcement of Regional Seas Conventions Governance Frameworks and associated protocols</b>	Underway	2023	2021: Cartagena Convention/ Oil Spills Protocol (26); SPAW (18) LBS (15)	At least 2 new Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention by the end of the Project and 5 new Parties to the SPAW and LBS Protocols	Suriname and Haiti (Cartagena Convention and Oil Spills Protocol)  LBS Protocol: St. Kitts, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Cuba, Dominica  SPAW Protocol: Costa Rica, Jamaica, Saint Kitts-Nevis, Mexico,	<b>136,609</b>	<b>32,666.67</b>	
<b>2.1.1</b>	<b>Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.</b>	Underway	2023	2021: Cartagena Convention/ Oil Spills Protocol (26); SPAW (18) LBS (15)	Same as above under Result 2.1	Same as above under Result 2.1	<b>36,458</b>	<b>10,000</b>	Face-to-face workshops delayed due to COVID-19. Based on additional feedback from meeting of focal points, targeted support for ratification will be based on country specific needs and be facilitated by our Regional Activity Centres.
<b>2.1.2</b>	<b>Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the</b>	Underway	2022	2018 - No Mechanism,	By end of project, permanent mechanism,	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention. Potential Champion	<b>72,468</b>	<b>22,666.67</b>	Resources were used to support translation and presentation of key strategic documents at the Meeting

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
	development of a regional strategy/approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance			Strategy or Roadmap in Place	strategy and roadmap adopted	Countries: Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica.			of Contracting Parties for the Cartagena Convention and Protocols. Funds will be used to finalize a Resource Mobilization Strategy and the 2021-2030 Strategy for the Secretariat.  UNEP HQ provided co-financing support to enable a Strategic Review of the Cartagena Convention Secretariat and for a RAC/RAC Institutional Review. Project funds could support the implementation of these recommendations.
2.1.3	Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions	Planning Underway	2023	22/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex 1/II 19/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex III, 18/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex IV, 21/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex V, 12/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex VI, 13/24 have ratified OPRC 90, 2/24 have ratified OPRC HNS 2000, 12/24 have ratified Ballast Water 2004	At least 50% increase in the number of ratifications for each of the maritime legal instruments by 2021	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and will be demand driven.	27,682	0	The revised work plan adjusted the start of this activity to 2021. USD 24,000 is allocated to the consultancy to support the Dominican Republic.  Additional request for support received from the Government of Barbados.



Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.2</b>	<b>Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas</b>	Underway	2023	Zero networks	1 Network fully operational by the end of the project using the approved guidelines	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and will be demand driven. Focus on SPAW Listed MPAs: Belize, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, French West Indies, Dutch Caribbean, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, USA, Grenada.	<b>263,295</b>	<b>103,386.66</b>	
<b>2.2.1</b>	<b>Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines</b>	Underway through co-financing	2023	Zero networks	1 Network fully operational by the end of the project using the approved guidelines	Same as above in Result 2.2	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	Will complement similar initiatives within the wider UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre.  Will be supported by several partners including SPAW RAC, IUCN and MPA AD HOC working group
<b>2.2.2</b>	<b>Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of MPAs.</b>	Underway	2023	No steering committee or working group dedicated for MPAs Networking	1 SPAW Working Group approved at COP	Same as above in Result 2.2	<b>116,894</b>	<b>46,500</b>	Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the CaMPAM finalized.  The assessment was presented during STAC-9 for COP-11 adoption. The Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the CaMPAM was developed in consultation with Contracting Parties and partners. The Secretariat, SPAW RAC, IUCN and MPA AD HOC working group, Consultant.



Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.2.3	<b>Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks</b>	Underway	2024	No steering committee or working group dedicated for MPAs Networking  No PAME tools in 35 SPAW-listed PAs	1 SPAW Working Group approved at COP  Ten 2-3-page guideline documents on the PAME tool. PAME assessment at Least in 5 SPAW Listed MPAs	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>146,401</b>	<b>56,886.66</b>	“How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Assessment” finalized in English, French and Spanish.
2.2.4	<b>Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs</b>	Not yet initiated	2024	35 MPAs listed under SPAW December 2019	At least 3 new SPAW MPAs by 2024	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>133,952 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	
2.2.5	<b>Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management</b>	Not yet initiated	2024	n/a	At least 8 protected areas selected to create the network	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>25,000 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.3</b>	<b>Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.</b>	Underway	2024	No Regional Strategy/Updated Marine Litter Action Plan	Regional Caribbean Marine Litter Strategy Plan Developed and Adopted by end of project.	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>454,142</b>  <b>(No allocation of funds for Year 1)</b>	<b>22,666.66</b>	Regional Marine Litter Strategy developed with co-financing and will form basis for future activities. Savings to be used to promote dissemination of the strategy and support to national implementation.
2.3.1	<b>Convene national/regional capacity building meetings &amp; workshop(s) involving at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.</b>	Underway	2024	No regional capacity building workshops conducted	At least 3 regional workshops convened to promote LBS Protocol ratification and possible amendments to the LBS Protocol and its Annexes by end of project.	Same as above in Result 2.3	<b>94,940 (Year 2)</b>	<b>22,666.66</b>	Face-to-face workshops delayed due to COVID-19.  The Secretariat through its preparatory meetings of focal points, meetings of Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee and Conference of Parties for the Cartagena Convention LBS Protocols enabled capacity building activities to be conducted. Project funds supported the development and translation of all documents relevant to the Protocol and for convening of those meetings.  This was provided through the advance disbursement for the LBS STAC and COP. (20,000)

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.3.2	<b>Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No national pollution reduction action plans in place	At least 3 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol develop national pollution reduction action plans by end of project.	Jamaica, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis	<b>62,208 (Year 2)</b>	0	Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction and Marine Litter Strategies will form the framework for this support. Co-financing was mobilized to support the development of national nutrient reduction strategies in Jamaica. This will enable selection of another country for implementation.
2.3.3	<b>Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.</b>	Discussions initiated	2023	2022 - Two countries completed pilot projects on EBM approach	2022 - Additional two countries piloting EBM approach	Suriname and Guyana	<b>80,000 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	Activity to enhance initial EBM efforts in Suriname and Guyana

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.3.4	<b>Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No updated legislation/regulations on wastewater management in compliance with the LBS Protocol	At least 4 LBS Protocol Contracting Parties develop/update wastewater regulations in compliance with the LBS Protocol Annex III	Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago	<b>60,747 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	Activity to be done in coordination with GEF CReW+ Project
2.3.5	<b>Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater</b>	Initiated	2023	No rural community-based wastewater projects in participating LBS Contracting Parties	At least 4 rural community-based interventions for wastewater management.	Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Dominica Republic, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines	<b>80,000 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	Will be managed through partnership with GWP C. Final selection of countries based on grant application process and use of specified selection criteria.
2.3.6	<b>Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter</b>	Initiated.	2024	2018 - Two Countries	2021 - 6 additional countries	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.	<b>76,247 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	Will be managed through partnership with GCFI and in collaboration with the MPA work under SPAW. Final countries will depend on grant application process and use of specified selection criteria.

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
	<b>Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.</b>								
2.3.7	<b>Conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan for the Wider Caribbean Region to reduce pollution from ships with focus on plastics reduction.</b>	Not yet initiated	2023	No feasibility study conducted.	Feasibility Study conducted and recommendations provided to Cartagena Convention Conference of Parties.	Regional – All Countries targeted	0	0	Will be implemented through RAC REMPEITC
<b>Result 2.4</b>	<b>Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.</b>	Underway	2024	Lack of sufficient awareness-raising activities	At least 5 targeted awareness activities for selected audiences developed and implemented.	Regional – All Countries targeted	0	0	
2.4.1	<b>Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam</b>	Initiated	2024	2018 - 10 countries	By 2022 - 75% of Contracting Parties have implemented bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam	Same as above in Result 2.4	21,000	10,000	Support for graphic artist consultancy co-financed by GEF IWeco.

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.4.2	<b>Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity</b>	Underway	2024	25% of Contracting Parties provided comprehensive water quality data for State of Pollution Report 2017	At least 75% of Contracting Parties submit water quality data for inclusion in State of Pollution Report (SOCAR) by 2022	Same as above in Result 2.4	7500 (Year 2 only)	0	

**Table (c) Impact matrix that will provide information on key lessons learnt, impact (focus on gender, participation, specific contributions of the actions for policy, implementation, influence), communication reach out**

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.1: Reinforcement of Regional Seas Conventions Governance Frameworks and associated protocols</b>					
2.1.1 <b>Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.</b>	Language used during meetings was gender sensitive	Ratification of the Convention's SPAW Protocol	Government of Nicaragua ratified the SPAW Protocol in May 2021.	Press release issued to announce the SPAW Protocol ratification. The release was also promoted on social media and is on the Secretariat's website.	
2.1.2 <b>Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/ approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance</b>		Support of the CLME+ Oceans Governance Mechanism and its meetings. Decision VII of the 16 <sup>th</sup> COP requests the Secretariat's participation in the follow on PROCARIBE+ project.			Sustainable blue economy issues
2.1.3 <b>Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions</b>	Gender consideration applied in the review of applications	Support to MARPOL ratification		Job Opening circulated on the Secretariat's social media pages.	Support to Global MEAs

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.2 Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas</b>					
2.2.1 Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines				One document developed on MPAs listed under the SPAW Protocol and on the Secretariat’s website	
2.2.2 Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of MPAs.		Protected Areas Working Group	<p>ACP-MEAs III project Reports and Assessments were presented to SPAW Contracting Parties as Information Documents for their consideration and for STAC-9 for their recommendations and potential endorsement:</p> <p><a href="#">Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM) report</a></p> <p><a href="#">Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM)</a></p> <p><a href="#">CaMPAM Database and Citizens Science Monitoring</a></p> <p>Developing an Ecological Network between the SPAW-listed MPAs of the Wider Caribbean.</p> <p>The reports contribute to the capacity development of MPA Managers in the Wider Caribbean Region and the database enhances knowledge and participation</p>	<p>Regional PAME Guideline developed to be used by the Regional Advisers national training.</p> <p>One 3-page guide on “How to conduct Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME) Assessments”.</p>	The Secretariat continues to identify synergies between the ACP MEAs III Project and the implementation of the SPAW Protocol including projects and work done by the SPAW RAC and the Protected Areas Working Group.



Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>2.2.3</b> <b>Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks</b>			The SPAW COP provided an opportunity to encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols and further encourage synergies between the LBS and SPAW Protocols.		State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report  Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030
<b>2.2.4</b> <b>Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs</b>					State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report  Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030  UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)  Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)
<b>2.2.5</b> <b>Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management</b>					State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report  Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030  UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)  Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)
<b>Result 2.3 Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.</b>					
<b>2.3.1</b>			The LBS COP provided an opportunity to encourage ratification of the Convention and its		5 <sup>th</sup> LBS COP Meeting Decisions

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
Convene national/regional capacity building meetings & workshop(s) involving at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.			Protocols and further encourage synergies between the LBS and SPAW Protocols.		
2.3.2 Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.			The Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy adopted by Contracting Parties at the 5th LBS COP and subsequently at the 16th COP to the Cartagena Convention.	1 Regional Strategy translated into Spanish, with French translation underway	Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)  Regional Marine Litter Action Plan and Strategy for the Wider Caribbean Region.
2.3.3 Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.			Two projects will be implemented in Suriname and Guyana on ecosystem-based management and under their national pollution prevention plans and strategies.		
2.3.4 Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties			GEF CReW+ project is supporting the development/update of national legislations		Integrated Water and Wastewater Management  Global Wastewater Initiative  Sustainable Development Goal 6

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.					
2.3.5 Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater			GWP-C in collaboration with the Secretariat to implement small-scale IWRM and IWWM projects in the Wider Caribbean Region.	One proposal has been reviewed thus far. Grant promoted at webinars attended by members of the Secretariat	
2.3.6 Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.			Discussions with GCFI helped to finalize the way forward for the community-based interventions; selection of the projects is underway. Compendium of 28 case studies will be a valuable resource for these community projects.		Regional Marine Litter Strategy  Objectives of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter  UNEP Medium Term Strategy

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>2.3.7</b></p> <p><b>Conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan for the Wider Caribbean Region to reduce pollution from ships with focus on plastics reduction.</b></p>				<p>Not yet initiated</p>	<p>Management of ship-generated waste</p>
<p><b>Result 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.</b></p>					
<p><b>2.4.1</b></p> <p><b>Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam</b></p>		<p>Support to UNEP’s Clean Seas campaign and efforts to encourage more countries to implement bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam</p>	<p>At least 4 countries have made continued updates in their legislations on single-use plastic, based on recent research</p>	<p>Interactive map showing the status of single-use plastics and Styrofoam available on the Secretariat’s website.</p>	<p>Guided by the Secretariat’s Communications Strategy and strategic objectives of the CEP Strategy</p>
<p><b>2.4.2</b></p> <p><b>Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity</b></p>	<p>Social media posts use gender sensitive language</p>		<p>COPs and pre-COP meeting provided opportunity to share various public awareness materials produced by the Secretariat</p>	<p>Webpage updated for consistency with other Convention and to upload the ACP MEA Digest Newsletters.</p>	<p>Guided by the Secretariat’s Communications Strategy and strategic objectives of the CEP Strategy</p> <p>Support to the UN Decades on Ocean Science and Ecosystem Restoration</p> <p>Support to efforts for greater communication and advocacy in UNEP’s Medium-Term Strategy, to communicate scientific information in a language that is accessible to all and can influence and stimulate decision-making as well as environmental action.</p>

## 5. Planning for Future

This section will focus on activities planned for the subsequent half year/year, plans/ideas for scaling up and follow up on outcomes, suggestions for budget and activity adjustments and a timetable of planned actions and budgets needed.

Ideas about how the completed actions link up to other processes in the country(ies), regions, inter-regional cooperation, links to institutional actions within the hubs and larger regional and global processes (like AMCEN, LAC Ministerial, COPs etc.).

### Results 2.2:

- Develop a Terms of Reference for the SPAW Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) Network Working Group
- Organize capacity building initiatives for Protected Area (PA) Managers on Protected Areas (PAs) establishment, Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) and financial sustainability in the Caribbean.
- Provide five small grants to enhance PAME in at least five SPAW listed MPAs.

### Results 2.3:

- Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges for Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol
- Develop national pollution reduction action plans for Contracting Parties of the LBS Protocol.
- Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.
- Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management for Contracting Parties.

### Results 2.4:

- Develop a report on the shift towards the use of environmentally friendly alternatives to single-use plastics and Styrofoam in the Wider Caribbean
- Develop information materials, such as articles and factsheets, to document lessons learnt under all other activities.
- Document the progress of community-based interventions.

## 6. Lessons Learnt

This short section will focus issues and challenges faced during the period of reporting, steps taken to overcome the challenges and a synopsis of lessons learnt for the future. Include information if the project helped you leverage additional funds, partnerships, visibility and the related.

- The continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have affected the possibility of convening national face-to-face workshops.

- The importance of synergies and working across the four thematic areas – Governance, Pollution, Marine Biodiversity and Communications –has been further emphasized.
- South-South Exchanges are important and beneficial, for e.g., participation in the Pacific Roundtable.
- Virtual meetings can promote greater participation, inclusiveness and transboundary cooperation with different Regional Seas, Biodiversity and Chemical Conventions.
- The identification of strategic partnerships early in the process provide opportunities for co-financing, for e.g. through Global Environment Facility-funded projects: CReW+ on water and wastewater management, Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (IWEco), the UNDP GEF Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+) Project, Global Water Partnership Caribbean, Caribbean Node on Marine Litter and the BASEL Convention. While this has delayed implementation, it will result in greater impact on the ground.
- Several of the COP16 Decisions on governance, MPAs and pollution were catalyzed.

## 7. [Communications](#)

In this section, the report will focus on how the programme has implemented the communication plans, visibility secured (including through social media) and impacts of the communication. It is encouraged that the report will provide specific web-links, publications and other material developed and means of reach out, including through the institutional channels.

The Secretariat continued to maintain its webpage on the programme and provided periodic updates. Four articles were submitted for the ACP MEA newsletter.

The ACP MEA programme's social media pages were supported through retweets and resharing of announcements. Copies of outputs and programme updates were also provided to LBS and SPAW focal points of the Convention. Communications guidelines are shared with consultants and partners to ensure the appropriate use of the project logo on all project outputs.

## Report Format – ACP MEAs 3 Programme

### Identification:

- o Partners Name: **Cartagena Convention Secretariat**
- 1. Budget line: BAC ***SB-014126.09***
- 2. POW 2020-2021 Sub-programme: **Sub-programme 3 Healthy and productive ecosystems (SDG 14.1/2/5)** (*Linked to approved 2021/2022 Cartagena Convention Work Plan and Budget*)

### 3. Introduction

This chapter will briefly mention the objectives, mandate and focus of the programme and the related activities and highlight few major achievements in bullet form.

This narrative report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, while the expenditure report presents cumulative expenses and committed funds from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

The activities of the UNEP Cartagena Convention Secretariat are being executed under Component 2 of the overall project which focuses on better management of coasts and oceans and effective implementation of the related Regional Seas Conventions. The Secretariat's progress on these activities is detailed below.

**1.1** A National United Nations Volunteer joined the Secretariat on 1 June 2022 and has been providing programmatic and administrative support to the project.

**Expected output 2.1: Strengthened Governance Frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and associated protocols.** Under this output, the Secretariat's existing governance mechanisms will be reinforced to strengthen support to Contracting Parties and encourage ratification of the Convention and its Protocols by Non-Contracting Parties. The major highlights for the reporting period are:

- a) **2.1.1:** Non-Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols engaged during the following meetings and encouraged to make progress towards ratification: [2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Environment Facility-funded CReW+ project 'An integrated approach to water and wastewater management in the Wider Caribbean Region using innovative solutions and sustainable financing mechanisms' Project](#) (27-28 April 2022); [10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre – Caribe \(RAC REMPEITC-Caribe\)](#) (18-19 May 2022).
- b) **2.1.1:** Progress on ratification of the Convention and all of its Protocols made by the Governments of Suriname, of the Marine Biodiversity and Land Based Sources of Marine Pollution Protocol by Saint Kitts and Nevis and the LBS Protocol by St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- c) **2.1.1:** Ratification of the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols, and associated Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) related to climate change, pollution and biodiversity, promoted at the [Ninth Meeting of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for Environmental Sustainability \(COM:ES-09\) in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States](#) (31 May - 2 June 2022).
- d) **2.1.1:** Participation in the Risk Forum on Resilience to Climate Change in Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean Through Integration of Engineered and Nature-Based Solutions (June 13- 16, 2022, Barbados)
- e) **2.1.1:** Participation in the United Nations Ocean Conference (27 June – 1 July 2022, Lisbon, Portugal) and several side events to promote the work of the Secretariat.

- f) **2.1.1:** Development and formal launch of a [video](#) to highlight the milestone achievements of the Secretariat relating to oceans governance. Two other versions of the video are currently being finalized to provide Spanish and French captions.
- g) **2.1.1:** Joint missions for the Coordinator of the Cartagena Convention Secretariat and the Head of the UNEP Ecosystems Division being planned to support enhanced Governance and support to the work of the Secretariat.
- h) **2.1.2:** The update of the [2021-2030 Regional Strategy for the Caribbean Environment Programme \(CEP\)](#) is ongoing and a consultant will be hired during the second half of 2022 to complete.
- i) **2.1.2:** Discussions in progress with other Regional Seas Conventions to develop a study on options to use sustainable blue economy in the context of biodiversity finances and contributing to the post- 2020 global biodiversity framework.
- j) **2.1.2.:** Exchanges on common areas of concern were held with other Regional Seas Conventions during the 22<sup>nd</sup> [Annual meeting of the Regional Seas Programme](#).
- k) **2.1.2:** Procurement of translators and interpretation services is ongoing for the 10th Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (10<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC) and 6th Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (6<sup>th</sup> LBS STAC). This will enable greater sharing of information and discussion among Parties.
- l) **2.1.3:** Consultancy to support the Dominican Republic's implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) to be re-advertised as previous postings did not receive satisfactory applications.
- m) **2.1.3:** Request received from the Government of Barbados for technical assistance to update its National Oil Spills Contingency Plan and the National Dispersant Use Policy. A technical Oil Spill Consultant will be recruited to support this initiative.

## **Expected output 2.2: Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas.**

The Secretariat continued to work towards establishing a functional ecological network of SPAW-listed protected areas (MPAs) covering interconnected marine and associated habitats and ecosystems for restoring and sustaining the health of oceans.

Ecological networks of protected areas present opportunities for scaling up and enhancing conservation actions and building resilience across interconnected ecosystems and habitats. Finalising the development of an ecological network of MPAs in the Wider Caribbean marks an important step towards fulfilling the aims of the Cartagena Convention and UNEP's Regional Seas Programme for the Wider Caribbean.

The major highlights for the reporting period are:

- a) **2.2.1:** A meeting of the experts of the Protected Areas Working Group was held in May 2022 to discuss the upcoming tasks of the Working Group and the consultancy to develop two Options Papers on the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM).
- b) **2.2.1:** Collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and various partners on the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Capacity-Building Workshop for the Wider Caribbean



and Central America on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in the Marine Fishery Sector in April 2022.

- c) **2.2.2:** A Protected Areas Management Analyst was onboarded in June 2022 to develop two Options Papers that assess the feasibility of implementing the recommendations of the “Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of [CaMPAM](#)” report and the “[Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean](#)” report in response to Recommendation 5 (No. 6) of the 9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC.
- d) **2.2.3:** A publication on ‘[Creating A Marine Protected Area Network in the Wider Caribbean](#)’ is being updated.
- e) **2.2.3:** Procurement for the translation of documents for the 10th SPAW STAC and 6th LBS STAC through financial support from ACP MEAs III.
- f) **2.2.4 and 2.2.5:** Agreement signed with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) to provide grants for the management of marine protected areas (will also support implementation of Activity 2.3.6).

**Expected output 2.3: Measures for reducing the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment in the four regions developed.**

The Secretariat will be supporting countries in the Wider Caribbean in reducing their plastic and solid waste generation and implementing measures to prevent the influx of waste from entering the region’s marine environment.

Activities during the reporting period were specific to Activities 2.3.1 to 2.3.6. Major highlights reflect preparatory activities and those initiated including through co-financing by the Secretariat:

- a) **2.3.1:** Procurement of translators and interpreters for the 10th SPAW STAC and 6th LBS STAC (28 Nov. – 2 Dec. 2022).
- b) **2.3.1:** Financial support was mobilized through the GEF CREW+ project to develop recommendations for amendments to the LBS Protocol to facilitate increased reuse of domestic wastewater including adoption of new criteria or standards for domestic wastewater discharges.
- c) **2.3.1** The Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA), one of the Regional Activity Centres for the LBS Protocol, in collaboration with the Association for Caribbean States (ACS) has been planning a one-week workshop on Microplastics Monitoring in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of 2022 (subject to formal confirmation).
- d) **2.3.2:** Financial support was mobilized through the UNEP Global Partnership on Nutrient Management for the development of two nutrient valuation case studies for Jamaica and Barbados, which complement this activity.
- e) **2.3.2:** Further to consultations carried out with the UNEP Regional and Sub-Regional Offices, Saint Lucia was identified as a beneficiary country to receive support for the development of a National Marine Litter/Plastics Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.
- f) **2.3.2:** The Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) and the Centre for Research and Environmental Management of Transport (CIMAB), Regional Activity Centers for the LBS Protocol, will support the development of nutrient reduction strategies in 2 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol.

- g) **2.3.2:** The IMA and CIMAB planned a regional workshop for July 2022 on the index of coastal eutrophication and harmful algal blooms.
- h) **2.3.2:** In June 2022, the Government of Dominica, requested the support of the Cartagena Convention Secretariat in the preparation of their National Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan.
- i) **2.3.3:** The Secretariat has been drafting agreements with the Governments of Guyana and Suriname to build on and replicate the successful implementation of previous ecosystem-based management activities under the UNDP GEF CLME+ project.
- j) **2.3.4** Collaborative mechanisms established with the GEF CReW+ Project will enable institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory reforms on water and wastewater management in 18 participating countries of the Wider Caribbean. An agreement was signed with the LBS RACs in May to support the development of recommendations to amend legislation on wastewater management.
- k) **2.3.5:** An agreement was signed with Global Water Partnership Caribbean (GWP-C) in January 2022 to implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol. Formal launch and [requests for proposals](#) made through social media and distribution networks.
- l) **2.3.6:** In May 2022, an agreement was signed with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, co- host of the Caribbean Node on Marine Litter, for the implementation of community-based projects for marine litter management in 2022 (will also support implementation of Activities 2.2.4 and 2.2.5).

**Expected output 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.** The Secretariat, through its Communication, Education, Training and Awareness (CETA) Sub-Programme aims to improve environmental awareness and sensitivity in the Wider Caribbean on the importance and value of the region's coastal and marine resources. This will be implemented through public awareness and education activities, capacity-building sessions and greater access to data and information. The major highlights for the reporting period are:

- a) **2.4.1:** Development of knowledge management products through a graphic artist consultancy supported through funding by the GEF IWeco Project.
- b) **2.4.1:** Support provided for the video productions as described under Output 2.1.1.
- c) **2.4.2:** Contributions to the ACP MEAs III newsletter and regular updates of the ACP MEA project page on the Secretariat's [website](#).
- d) **2.4.2:** Input provided to the Regional Seas brief on the project in preparation for the UN Ocean Conference.
- e) **2.4.2:** Launch of the Secretariat's new electronic newsletter.

#### 4. [Progress Made](#)

In this chapter will contain the following sections to seek information

- a. Short descriptions for key outputs and outcomes.

### **Expected output 2.1: Strengthened Governance Frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and associated protocols.**

#### Activity 2.1.1 Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.

- a) During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting of the GEF CReW+ project and the [10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of RAC REMPEITC-Caribe](#), Non-Contracting Parties were reminded of the importance of the Convention and its Protocols as regional governance frameworks that address marine environmental challenges and safeguard the marine and coastal environment. The Secretariat encouraged governments to ratify the Convention and its Protocols and to liaise with the Secretariat if assistance was needed in this regard. The 10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of RAC REMPEITC-Caribe agreed that strengthened collaboration is needed among the Convention's Regional Activity Centres as well as maritime and environmental agencies, especially in areas of common interest, such as plastic waste management and the detection of oil spills and sargassum.
- b) The Government of Suriname prepared a submission for ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, while the Governments of Saint Kitts and Nevis and Dominica are reviewing cabinet submissions for the ratification of the Protocols Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) and Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS).
- c) The Secretariat, in collaboration with the UNEP Caribbean Sub Regional Office (CSRO) and with the support of the GEF Biodiversity and Land Degradation Unit, participated virtually in the Ninth Meeting of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for Environmental Sustainability in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) from 31 May to 2 June 2022. A presentation and brief, which were developed on UNEP's support to Small Island Developing States of the OECS, promoted ratification of the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols, and associated MEAs related to climate change, pollution and biodiversity. UNEP also recommended that the OECS actively engage in the ongoing discussions to develop a new legally binding agreement on plastics, including through the development of national marine litter strategies and action plans. *(see further details on marine litter under Activity 2.3.2)*
- d) At the Risk Forum on *Resilience to Climate Change in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Caribbean* held in Barbados from June 13 – 16. The Secretariat attended the event in-person to share the experiences and best practices of the Convention in building resilience in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through current projects.
- e) At the UN Ocean Conference held from 27 June – 1 July 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal, the Secretariat was represented in-person by the UNEP Regional Seas Coordinator at various [side events](#), and by staff virtually. The 6 events were: (i) Plastics and Circular Economy—Community to Cabinet in Action, (ii) Addressing water quality, models of good governance, and the climate crisis to enhance the resilience of coastal communities, (iii) Marine Pollution: Tackling land-based sources through multi- stakeholder action, (iv) How Plastic Waste Shipments Undermine Real Solutions to Ocean Plastic Pollution, (v) A Perspective to Reduce Climate Change Impacts Through Restoration and nature- based solutions in Marine-coastal Ecosystems, a Review of Case Studies, and (vi) Ocean and Coastal Observation and Monitoring at scale: Co-Designing the value chain from data to impact through a partnership approach.
- f) The Secretariat's [35<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative video](#) was finalized and [launched on 21 June 2022](#). The event was held virtually and included the participation of the ACP MEAs III Programme Manager, the Secretariat's Acting Coordinator, the Head of the UNEP Ecosystems Integration

Branch, a representative from the Government of Jamaica, the Minister of Environment, National Beautification and the Blue and Green Economy of Barbados, as well as representatives from the Secretariat's Regional Activity Centres and Network. The launch was attended by 76 persons across the globe and the video has since garnered over 180 views on YouTube. The event was also featured in the UNEP Regional Seas Weekly Newsletter in June 2022.

- g) The Secretariat continued to collaborate with other Regional Seas Conventions and regional stakeholders on common issues such as ocean acidification, marine litter and sargassum. A regional workshop on coastal eutrophication, including its linkages to sargassum was organized together with the OSPAR Commission for July 2022, to share regional experiences (*see Activity 2.3.2 on the workshop*). The Secretariat also participated in monthly meetings organized by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Ocean Acidification programme which promotes governance and capacity-building on ocean acidification in the region.
- h) Bilateral visits with Non-Contracting Parties are being planned for the Coordinator of the Cartagena Convention Secretariat and the Head of the UNEP Ecosystems Division for October 2022. The visits are being scheduled to Cuba and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to promote ratification of the LBS Protocol, and to Antigua and Barbuda to encourage ratification of the SPAW Protocol.

Activity 2.1.2 Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance

- i) The update of the [2021-2030 Regional Strategy for the Caribbean Environment Programme \(CEP\)](#) is ongoing and will be finalized through support from the ACP MEAs III programme.
- j) Discussions with other Regional Seas Conventions are ongoing to develop a study on options to use sustainable blue economy in the context of biodiversity finances and contributing to the post- 2020 global biodiversity framework. The focus of the study will be to analyse the role of ocean policy tools for sustainable blue/ocean-based economies. Project funds will be used in 2022 to support its completion.
- k) During the [22<sup>nd</sup> Global Annual Regional Seas Meeting](#), the Secretariat had exchanges with other Regional Seas Conventions on common areas of concern. These included advancing blue economy experiences at the regional scale, the role of Regional Seas in the negotiations on the UNEA resolution 5/14 on 'End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument' and the design of a global integrated programme on emerging and priority issues that connect the regional seas for a wider impact in addressing the three planetary crises through accessing the GEF-8 funding opportunity.
- l) The [Tenth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the SPAW Protocol \(10<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC\)](#) and the [Sixth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the LBS Protocol \(6<sup>th</sup> LBS STAC\)](#) will be held from 28 November 2022 to 2 December 2022. Support will be provided through the ACP MEAs III project for the procurement of translators and interpretation services in keeping with the Rules of Procedure of the Convention for the provision of documents in the official working languages of the meeting, and to also facilitate greater engagement and discussion among Contracting Parties. (*This activity is complemented by Activities 2.2.3 and 2.3.1*)

Activity 2.1.3 Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions

- m) While this activity was not expected to take place until Year 3 of the project, based on a request from the Government of the Dominican Republic, a Job Opening was advertised for a national consultant to assist the Dominican Republic with the country's implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). As the selected candidate was not able to

accept the position due to other commitments, the position will be re-advertised. The results of the Job Opening will be provided in the next semiannual report.

- n) In response to a request from the Government of Barbados, the Secretariat will provide technical assistance to support the country's implementation of IMO Conventions. During the reporting period, a Terms of Reference was drafted for the recruitment of a consultant to update the Barbados National Oil Spills Contingency Plan and the National Dispersant Use Policy.

## **Expected output 2.2: Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas:**

### Activity 2.2.1 Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines

- a) The first meeting of the experts of the Protected Areas Working Group was held on 31 May 2022 to discuss the upcoming tasks of the Working Group. The meeting also included an introduction to the consultant selected to develop two Options Papers on the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM). This consultancy supports Recommendation 5, numeral 5 of the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the SPAW Protocol (9<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC), which requests that the Secretariat continue to identify synergies between the ACP MEAs III project and the implementation of the SPAW Protocol, including projects and work done by the SPAW Regional Activity Centre and the Protected Areas Working Group.
- b) The Secretariat delivered a presentation at the [Sustainable Ocean Initiative Capacity-Building Workshop for the Wider Caribbean and Central America on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures \(OECMs\) in the Marine Fishery Sector](#) that was held on 20-21 April 2022 and 27-28 April 2022. The workshop was conducted virtually and convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in collaboration with various partners, including the Cartagena Convention Secretariat. The Secretariat presented an overview of the work of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, with a focus on the objectives of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol and its important role in improving ocean governance. Collaborations with partners on project activities were also highlighted with particular focus on the conservation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) as well as ecosystem-based management and the implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries.

### Activity 2.2.2 Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of Marine Protected Areas.

- c) The Secretariat published a Job Opening in December 2021 for a consultant to develop two Options Papers for presentation to the 10<sup>th</sup> SPAW Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting. The consultancy began on 1 June 2022 and is for a period of 4 months. As reported under activity 2.2.1, discussions were held with experts of the Working Group for their input to the development of the first draft of the CaMPAM Options Papers to be submitted on 1 August 2022.

### Activity 2.2.3 Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks

The publication "[Creating A Marine Protected Area Network in the Wider Caribbean Strengthening Connections and Collaboration to Conserve the Caribbean Ecosystem](#)" is currently being updated to highlight the importance of the SPAW Protocol and provide updates on the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) across the region.

- d) Support is being provided under this activity for the procurement of translators and interpreters translation for the 10<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC and 6<sup>th</sup> LBS STAC. (linked to Activities 2.1.2 and 2.3.1)

Activity 2.2.4 Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs and Activity 2.2.5: Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management

- e) An agreement was signed in May 2022 with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) to support the implementation of Activities 2.2.4, 2.2.5, as well as Activity 2.3.6. GCFI is a partner in the [MPAConnect](#) learning network of marine resource managers in the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coral Reef Conservation Programme which supports regional priority MPAs.

GCFI will implement all aspects of a small grants programme in support of effective marine protected area management (consisting of at least 5 small grants, for example on MPA management effectiveness, capacity assessments and other management priorities). [The criteria](#) were developed by GCFI and will be promoted on their listserv, social media and website. The Secretariat will also promote on its website and distribution channels. The deadline to submit applications is 10 August 2022.

### **Expected output 2.3: Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.**

While limited funds were received under the project for implementation of activities under this output, several preparatory and complementary activities continued to take place which will directly support project outputs and which the project will build on with funds received to date and with future disbursements.

Activity 2.3.1 Convene national/regional capacity building meetings & workshop(s) involving at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.

- a) As mentioned under Activities 2.1.2 and 2.2.3, the ~~10<sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC and 6<sup>th</sup> LBS STAC~~ will be convened in the last quarter of 2022 and support is being provided by the project through the procurement of translators and interpreters.
- b) The Institute of Marine Affairs and the Centre for Research and Environmental Management of Transport, the two Regional Activity Centres (RACs) for the Land Based Sources of Marine Pollution Protocol are supporting the development of guidelines for domestic wastewater classifications and recommendations for amendments to the LBS Protocol to facilitate increased reuse of domestic wastewater. This initiative, under the GEF CReW+ project, will build on the previous work of the State of the Cartagena Convention Area (SOCAR) report and the Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy. Co-financing is also being provided by the Swedish Government.
- c) A one-week virtual course titled “Microplastics in the Caribbean: Sources, Impacts and Monitoring Methodologies” will be launched through the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) in collaboration with the Association of Caribbean States. The course is scheduled for 31 October 2022 to 4 November 2022.

Activity 2.3.2 Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.

- d) The [Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy and Action Plan](#), developed with co-financing from the [UNDP GEF Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems \(CLME+\) project](#) and endorsed by the 16<sup>th</sup> COP to the Cartagena Convention, will form the basis for support under ACP MEAs III to develop national strategies on nutrients management. To support the implementation of the Strategy, and within the framework of an Economic Valuation Pilot Project financed by the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM), the Secretariat has recruited

a consultant who is currently developing two case studies on Nutrient Management Valuation in Jamaica and Barbados. The analysis will support the Secretariat's efforts to develop new regional quantitative discharge standards for nitrogen, and possibly also for phosphorus.

- e) Saint Lucia was identified as a beneficiary country to receive support for the development of a Marine Litter/Plastic Reduction Strategy and Action Plan. This is being undertaken in collaboration with the UNEP Science Division which has provided additional co-financing. A National Consultative Workshop to develop a National Source Inventory on Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter in Saint Lucia was held on 29 April 2022. The National Source Inventory will provide input for the National Action Plan on marine litter and plastic pollution, which will then be submitted through the appropriate national process for approval and formalization. A high-level meeting was scheduled for July 2022 to present the findings of the National Source Inventory report (including the results of the data collection) and the draft Marine Litter Action Plan.
- f) The Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) and the Centre for Research and Environmental Management of Transport (CIMAB) are supporting the development of national pollution/nutrients reduction strategies and plans with examples of domestic, agricultural, industrial, and shipping-based pollution for one English-speaking and one Spanish-speaking Contracting Party to the LBS Protocol. This activity will support the Secretariat's work under the GEF CReW+ Project and is co-financed by the Swedish Government (SIDA grant).
- g) Through funding from the Government of Sweden (SIDA Grant), the IMA and CIMAB planned a Regional Workshop on the Index of Coastal Eutrophication and Harmful Algal Blooms in Trinidad and Tobago for 25-26 July 2022. The workshop will strengthen national and regional policies for the control, reduction and prevention of marine pollution with a focus on nutrient reduction.
- h) The Secretariat will engage in further discussions with the Government of Dominica to support their preparation of a National Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan as one of the financed activities under this ACP MEA 3 programme.

Activity 2.3.3 Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.

- i) The Secretariat has been working with the Governments of Guyana and Suriname to finalize draft cooperation agreements for the implementation of ecosystem-based management (EBM) projects. The EBM project in Suriname will promote an integrated approach to pollution reduction and marine habitat restoration. Ecosystem-based adaptation is promoted through a pilot on gender-based climate change action in Saramacca, Suriname on the improved management of mangroves. Guyana will develop capacity-building initiatives surrounding EBM, specifically, mangrove management. This will build on lessons learned from the EBM pilot projects implemented under the UNDP GEF CLME+ Project and support the implementation of activities under their national pollution prevention plans and strategies.

Activity 2.3.4 Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.

This activity will complement the work of the GEF CReW+ Project where countries in the Wider Caribbean Region are receiving support for the implementation of small-scale and replicable solutions to improve water and wastewater management. Countries such as St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago have finalized national activities which include defining actions to implement institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory reforms for Integrated Water and Wastewater Management (IWWM). This activity will enable support to other LBS Contracting Parties covered by the project's scope but are not



benefitting from the CReW+ Project. Agreements with the LBS RACs, IMA and CIMAB will support the Secretariat's efforts to develop recommendations to amend the legislation and/or regulations for wastewater discharges in Spanish and English-speaking LBS Contracting Parties.

Activity 2.3.5 Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF-funded Projects on Wastewater

- j) The Secretariat and the Global Water Partnership Caribbean (GWP-C) finalized an agreement for the implementation of community-based, integrated wastewater management activities with additional co-financing from the GEF CReW+ Project. The GWP-C has developed a work plan and budget for the implementation of the proposed interventions in the Wider Caribbean Region. During the reporting period, [a Call for Proposals](#) on short-term small-scale Integrated Water Resources and Wastewater Management (IWWM) projects was reopened to facilitate additional submissions, with a deadline of 15 January 2022. After review by both the Secretariat and GWP-C, the following proposals were accepted:
- a. Integrated Health Outreach (Antigua and Barbuda)
  - b. Dominica Water and Sewerage Company. Ltd (Dominica)
  - c. Brightline Institute & Global Partnership, Inc. (Dominican Republic)
  - d. Richmond Vale Academy (St. Vincent and the Grenadines)

Activity 2.3.6 Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.

- k) The agreement with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute as mentioned under Activities 2.2.4 and 2.2.5 will also support the implementation of community-based projects through the [submission of grant proposals](#). The development of a selection criteria for the small grants was completed.

**Expected output 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.**

Activity 2.4.1 Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam

The graphic artist, recruited with co-financing from the GEF IWEco Project, continued to work on the design of reports and factsheets on marine pollution and marine biodiversity. The following documents were developed with graphic design: 1 brief on seagrasses along with 1 social media card, 1 brief on the purpose and recommendations of the Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy along with 3 social media cards, 1 poster for World Oceans Day, 1 poster for World Environment Day, design of 1 SPAW booklet on marine protected areas, and design of 1 SPAW report on developing a functional ecological network in the Caribbean.

- a) Support for the video production referenced under Activity 2.1.1 included reviews of the draft commemorative video, planning and coordinating the video launch, and reviewing the Spanish and French translations of the video captions. Assistance was also provided for the continued review of the draft sargassum videos which are financed by GEF IWEco and will support the Secretariat's work on marine biodiversity.



Activity 2.4.2 Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity

- b)** One article on wastewater management was contributed to the ACP MEAs III project newsletter for the first quarter of 2022. The [project page](#) on the Secretariat's website was updated with outputs and project newsletters and the monthly digests in which the Secretariat's activities have also been featured. The Secretariat will continue to promote outputs via social media and other channels during 2022 in accordance with the branding guidelines for the project.
- c)** In June 2022, the Secretariat contributed to a joint publication by the ACP MEAs III project in preparation for the UN Ocean Conference. The brief, titled "A Drop in the Ocean," was part of publicity efforts as outlined in the ACP MEAs III communication strategy.
- d)** The Secretariat prepared a new electronic newsletter for launch in mid-July 2022. The quarterly newsletter featured updates on the overall work of the Secretariat, with dedicated sections for country news, activities implemented by the Regional Activity Centres, and updates on the ACP MEAs III and other projects.

**Table (b) activities undertaken, countries reached out, links to baseline, links to targets and status of the activity (completed, underway, initiated etc.), budget made available, budget spent and remaining budget**

**This table reports the cumulated expenditure and committed funds from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – 30th June 2022 and the balance available.**

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.1</b>	<b>Reinforcement of Regional Seas Conventions Governance Frameworks and associated protocols</b>	Underway	2023	2021: Cartagena Convention/ Oil Spills Protocol (26); SPAW (18) LBS (15)	At least 2 new Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention by the end of the Project and 5 new Parties to the SPAW and LBS Protocols	Suriname and Haiti (Cartagena Convention and Oil Spills Protocol)  LBS Protocol: St. Kitts, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Cuba,  SPAW Protocol: Costa Rica, Jamaica, Saint Kitts-Nevis, Mexico,	<b>89,975.05</b>	<b>46,633.71</b>	
<b>2.1.1</b>	<b>Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.</b>	Underway	2023	2021: Cartagena Convention/ Oil Spills Protocol (26); SPAW (18) LBS (15)	Same as above under Result 2.1	Same as above under Result 2.1	<b>26,298</b>	<b>10,160</b>	The LBS Regional Activity Centres under their agreement will support the ratification of non-Contracting Parties through a series of workshops (hybrid and virtual). This initiative will be jointly funded by the ACP MEAs III, GEF CReW+ Projects and the Government of Sweden (SIDA Grant).
<b>2.1.2</b>	<b>Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform</b>	Underway	2022	2018 - No Mechanism,	By end of project, permanent mechanism,	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention. Potential Champion	<b>35,994.29</b>	<b>36,473.71</b>	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
	<b>the development of a regional strategy/approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance</b>			Strategy or Roadmap in Place	strategy and roadmap adopted	Countries: Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica.			UNEP HQ provided co-financing support to enable a Strategic Review of the Cartagena Convention Secretariat and for a RAC/RAC Institutional Review. Project funds will support the implementation of these recommendations.
<b>2.1.3</b>	<b>Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions</b>	Planning Underway	2023	22/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex 1/II 19/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex III, 18/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex IV, 21/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex V, 12/24 have ratified MARPOL Annex VI, 13/24 have ratified OPRC 90, 2/24 have ratified OPRC HNS 2000, 12/24 have ratified Ballast Water 2004	At least 50% increase in the number of ratifications for each of the maritime legal instruments by 2021	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and will be demand driven.	<b>27,682</b>	<b>0</b>	The revised work plan adjusted the start of this activity to 2021. USD 24,000 is allocated to the consultancy to support the Dominican Republic.  The Secretariat will support the Government of Barbados to update its National Oil Spills Contingency Plan and the National Dispersant Use Policy for Barbados
<b>Result 2.2</b>	<b>Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas</b>	Underway	2023	Zero networks	1 Network fully operational by the end of the project using the approved guidelines	All Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and will be demand driven. Focus on SPAW Listed MPAs: Belize, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, French West Indies, Dutch Caribbean, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, USA, Grenada.	<b>664,848.18</b>	<b>113,450.82</b>	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.2.1	Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines	Underway through co-financing	2023	Zero networks	1 Network fully operational by the end of the project using the approved guidelines	Same as above in Result 2.2	72,356	20,000	Will complement similar initiatives within the wider UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Will be supported by several partners including SPAW RAC, IUCN and MPA AD HOC working group
2.2.2	Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of MPAs.	Underway	2023	No steering committee or working group dedicated for MPAs Networking	1 SPAW Working Group approved at COP	Same as above in Result 2.2	135,125	47,963.87	Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the CaMPAM finalized.  The assessment was presented during STAC-9 for COP-11 adoption. The Strategic Directions and Network Development Plan for the CaMPAM was developed in consultation with Contracting Parties and partners. The Secretariat, SPAW RAC, IUCN and MPA AD HOC working group, Consultant.

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.2.3	<b>Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks</b>	Underway	2024	No steering committee or working group dedicated for MPAs Networking  No PAME tools in 35 SPAW-listed PAs	1 SPAW Working Group approved at COP  Ten 2-3-page guideline documents on the PAME tool. PAME assessment at Least in 5 SPAW Listed MPAs	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>211,401</b>	<b>45,486.95</b>	
2.2.4	<b>Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs</b>	Not yet initiated	2024	35 MPAs listed under SPAW December 2019	At least 3 new SPAW MPAs by 2024	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>133,952 (Year 2)</b>	<b>0</b>	
2.2.5	<b>Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management</b>	Not yet initiated	2024	n/a	At least 8 protected areas selected to create the network	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>225,465</b>	<b>0</b>	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
<b>Result 2.3</b>	<b>Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.</b>	Underway	2024	No Regional Strategy/Updated Marine Litter Action Plan	Regional Caribbean Marine Litter Strategy Plan Developed and Adopted by end of project.	Regional – all countries targeted	<b>625,420.20</b>  <b>(No allocation of funds for Year 1)</b>	<b>146,117.80</b>	Regional Marine Litter Strategy developed with co-financing and will form basis for future activities. Savings to be used to promote dissemination of the strategy and support to national implementation.
2.3.1	<b>Convene national/regional capacity building meetings &amp; workshop(s) involving at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.</b>	Underway	2024	No regional capacity building workshops conducted	At least 3 regional workshops convened to promote LBS Protocol ratification and possible amendments to the LBS Protocol and its Annexes by end of project.	Same as above in Result 2.3	<b>174,376.20</b>	<b>6,177.80</b>	Face-to-face workshops delayed due to COVID-19.  The Secretariat through its preparatory meetings of focal points, meetings of Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee and Conference of Parties for the Cartagena Convention LBS Protocols enabled capacity building activities to be conducted. Project funds supported the development and translation of all documents relevant to the Protocol and for convening of those meetings.  This was provided through the advance disbursement for the LBS STAC and COP. (20,000)

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.3.2	<b>Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No national pollution reduction action plans in place	At least 3 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol develop national pollution reduction action plans by end of project.	Jamaica, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis	<b>42,208</b>	<b>20,000</b>	Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction and Marine Litter Strategies will form the framework for this support. Co-financing from the SIDA Grant was mobilized to support the development of national nutrient reduction strategies in Jamaica and Barbados.
2.3.3	<b>Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.</b>	Discussions initiated	2023	2022 - Two countries completed pilot projects on EBM approach	2022 - Additional two countries piloting EBM approach	Suriname and Guyana	<b>98,563</b>	<b>0</b>	Activity to enhance initial EBM efforts in Suriname and Guyana. Draft agreements are being reviewed by the Governments of Suriname and Guyana

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.3.4	<b>Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.</b>	Discussions initiated	2024	No updated legislation/regulations on wastewater management in compliance with the LBS Protocol	At least 4 LBS Protocol Contracting Parties develop/update wastewater regulations in compliance with the LBS Protocol Annex III	Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago	<b>115,528</b>	<b>0</b>	Activity will be done in coordination with the GEF CReW+ Project and will be managed through agreements with the LBS RACs.
2.3.5	<b>Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater</b>	Initiated	2023	No rural community-based wastewater projects in participating LBS Contracting Parties	At least 4 rural community-based interventions for wastewater management.	Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Dominica Republic, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines	<b>18,885</b>	<b>120,000</b>	Will be managed through partnership with GWP C. Final selection of countries completed based on grant application process and use of specified selection criteria.
2.3.6	<b>Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction,</b>	Initiated.	2024	2018 - Two Countries	2021 - 6 additional countries	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.	<b>152,494</b>	<b>0</b>	Will be managed through partnership with GCFI and in collaboration with the MPA work under SPAW. Final countries will depend on grant



Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
	reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.								application process and use of specified selection criteria.
2.3.7	Conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan for the Wider Caribbean Region to reduce pollution from ships with focus on plastics reduction.	Not yet initiated	2023	No feasibility study conducted.	Feasibility Study conducted and recommendations provided to Cartagena Convention Conference of Parties.	Regional – All Countries targeted	23,366	0	Will be implemented through RAC REMPEITC. Endorsement of activity by RAC REMPEITC Steering Committee and Meetings/Heads of Maritime Administrations.
Result 2.4	Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.	Underway	2024	Lack of sufficient awareness-raising activities	At least 5 targeted awareness activities for selected audiences developed and implemented.	Regional – All Countries targeted	31,974.46	10,025.54	

Activity number	Description of activity	Status of action (completed/ underway/ initiated/ planning underway)	Expected Date of completion	Baseline (refer to baselines that are being set now)	Target(s) (refer to targets in the project proposal/new ones being set now)	Countries/ Region(s) Of implementation	Budget available (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Budget spent (Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3)	Remarks (challenges etc.)
2.4.1	Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single-use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam	Initiated	2024	2018 - 10 countries	By 2022 - 75% of Contracting Parties have implemented bans on single-use plastics and Styrofoam	Same as above in Result 2.4	10,974.46	10,025.54	Support for graphic artist consultancy co-financed by GEF IWEco.
2.4.2	Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity	Underway	2024	25% of Contracting Parties provided comprehensive water quality data for State of Pollution Report 2017	At least 75% of Contracting Parties submit water quality data for inclusion in State of Pollution Report (SOCAR) by 2022	Same as above in Result 2.4	21,000	0	

**Table (c) Impact matrix that will provide information on key lessons learnt, impact (focus on gender, participation, specific contributions of the actions for policy, implementation, influence), communication reach out**

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Result 2.1: Reinforcement of Regional Seas Conventions Governance Frameworks and associated protocols</b>					
<b>2.1.1</b> <b>Convene national promotional consultative workshops on the Cartagena Convention, its Protocols and related MEAs.</b>	Language used during meetings was gender sensitive	Ratification of the Convention and its SPAW and LBS Protocols	<p>Government of Suriname has prepared submission for ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols.</p> <p>The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis is reviewing submissions for the ratification of the SPAW and LBS Protocols; as well as St. Vincent and the Grenadines for ratification of the LBS Protocol.</p>	35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video launched to promote the work of the Convention and raise awareness of its Protocols and related MEAs	International Environmental Governance

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>2.1.2</b></p> <p><b>Regional/regional consultative workshops to inform the development of a regional strategy/ approach and road map for enhancing oceans governance</b></p>		<p>Options paper will provide inputs to post- 2020 CBD framework.</p>	<p>Translation of documents will facilitate greater engagement and discussion among Contracting Parties</p> <p>The 22nd Global Annual Regional Seas Meeting held in collaboration with other Regional Seas Conventions supported discussions about advancing regional blue economy experiences and the involvement of Regional Seas in the UNEA 5/14 resolution negotiations.</p> <p>Annual Meeting also helped improve cooperation with other RS Conventions to develop options paper on sustainable blue economy in the context of biodiversity finances and contributing to the post-2020 CBD framework.</p>		<p>Sustainable blue economy issues</p>
<p><b>2.1.3</b></p> <p><b>Provide consultancy support to draft and/or update national legislation and regulations for countries that have not yet ratified relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions</b></p>	<p>Gender consideration applied in the review of applications</p>	<p>Support to MARPOL ratification</p>	<p>Implementation of the MARPOL and IMO Conventions by the Governments of the Dominican Republic and Barbados respectively.</p>	<p>Job Opening to be readvertised on the Secretariat’s social media pages and shared with partners.</p>	<p>Support to Global MEAs</p>
<p><b>Result 2.2 Development of regionally representative networks of Marine Protected Areas</b></p>					
<p><b>2.2.1</b></p>	<p>Language used during</p>	<p>Protected Areas Working Group</p>	<p>Kickoff Meeting held for the Experts of the Protected Areas Working Group. The</p>		

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<b>Develop an operational network of SPAW MPAs according to existing guidelines</b>	meetings was gender-sensitive.	Support to the Convention on Biological Diversity – Aichi Biodiversity Target 11	meeting provided the Experts with information on the status and way forward for the three tasks of the Working Group.  The Sustainable Ocean Initiatives (SOI) Workshop, held in collaboration with the CBD and other partners helped to promote the Secretariat’s work on MPAs and fisheries in the region.	The SOI workshop was promoted on the <a href="#">Secretariat</a> ’s and the CBD’s website.	Support to Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures (OECMs)
<b>2.2.2 Establish SPAW MPAs Networking Group to lead the Inter-Regional network of MPAs and for enhancing CaMPAM Network of MPAs.</b>	Gender consideration applied in the review of consultancy applications.	Support to the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM).	The ongoing consultancy for the development of two Options Papers to be presented at the 10 <sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC (Nov. 2022) will guide the development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the region and enhance the CaMPAM Network of MPAs.		Regional representative network of MPAs
<b>2.2.3 Develop Management Effectiveness Guidelines for SPAW Regional MPA Networks</b>		SPAW Protocol	The publication “Creating A Marine Protected Area Network in the Wider Caribbean - Strengthening Connections and Collaboration to Conserve the Caribbean Ecosystem” is currently being updated. The updated publication will help to enhance knowledge on the SPAW Protocol and MPAs in the region.  Financial support being provided for translation for the 10 <sup>th</sup> SPAW STAC and 6 <sup>th</sup> LBS STAC will allow for wide sharing of documents for the upcoming STACs.		Support to effective MPA management

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>2.2.4</b> Provide technical support, monitoring and research to Governments to enable their establishment of new SPAW MPAs</p>			<p>Agreement signed to provide grants for the management of marine protected areas.</p>		<p>State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report</p> <p>Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030</p> <p>UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)</p> <p>Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)</p>
<p><b>2.2.5</b> Provide capacity building and training for selected Government officials as well as MPA Managers and staff through national and regional workshops to improve the MPA Management</p>			<p>Agreement signed to provide grants for the management of marine protected areas.</p>		<p>State of Nearshore Marine Habitat Report</p> <p>Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030</p> <p>UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)</p> <p>Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)</p>
<p><b>Result 2.3 Reduction of the influx of waste (plastics and other forms of human and industrial liquid and solid waste) entering the marine environment of the four regions.</b></p>					
<p><b>2.3.1</b> Convene national/regional capacity building meetings &amp; workshop(s) involving</p>		<p>LBS Protocol</p>	<p>Guidelines under development for domestic wastewater classifications and recommendations for amendments to the LBS Protocol will facilitate increased reuse of domestic wastewater.</p>		<p>Amendments to the LBS Protocol as recommended from the recent State of Pollution Report.</p>

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
at least 10 non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol on pollution.					
<p><b>2.3.2</b>  <b>Develop national pollution reduction action plans for at least 5 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol with a priority focus on national marine litter/plastics reduction (at least two), domestic wastewater and nutrients reduction strategies and action plans.</b></p>	Language used during meetings was gender-sensitive.	National pollution prevention action plans.	<p>Support ongoing to Jamaica and Barbados to develop national strategies on nutrients management. This will support the development of new regional quantitative discharge standards for nitrogen, and possibly phosphorus.</p> <p>Ongoing support to St. Lucia for the finalisation of a National Marine Litter/Plastics Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>Regional workshop on Index of Coastal Eutrophication planned (July 2022) to strengthen national and regional policies for the control, reduction and prevention of marine pollution with a focus on nutrient reduction.</p>		<p>Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)</p> <p>Regional Nutrients Pollution Reduction Strategy and Action Plan</p>
<p><b>2.3.3</b>  <b>Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM)</b></p>	In Suriname, a pilot on gender-based climate change	National pollution prevention plans and strategies.	The activities currently being planned in Suriname and Guyana to build on and replicate the successful implementation of previous Ecosystem-Based Management activities under the UNDP GEF CLME+ project will promote an integrated approach		Support to Ecosystem-based Management approaches

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
<p><b>projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in at least two selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.</b></p>	<p>action is planned.</p>		<p>to pollution reduction and marine habitat restoration.</p>		
<p><b>2.3.4 Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges in at least 6 Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol in compliance with the Cartagena Convention - Annex III thus assisting them in complying with their targets under the protocol as well as those under Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation.</b></p>			<p>Guidelines for domestic wastewater classification and recommendations to amend the LBS Protocol will support Contracting Parties in meeting their obligations under the Protocol and associated SDGs.</p>		<p>Integrated Water and Wastewater Management Global Wastewater Initiative Sustainable Development Goal 6</p>
<p><b>2.3.5 Implement innovative decentralized, rural community-based interventions for</b></p>			<p>GWP-C in collaboration with the Secretariat to implement small-scale IWRM and IWWM projects in the Wider Caribbean Region.</p>	<p>Four proposals selected. Grant promoted at webinars attended by members of the Secretariat</p>	



Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
wastewater management in at least 4 Contracting Parties working with Civil Society/NGOs and in partnerships with larger GEF Funded Projects on Wastewater					
2.3.6 <b>Design and Implement at least four community-based projects with a focus on plastic reduction, reuse and recycling as part of the Global Marine Litter Partnership, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter and the Trash Free International Programme.</b>			The Agreement signed with the GCFI will support the implementation of community-based projects for marine litter management.		Regional Marine Litter Strategy  Objectives of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter  UNEP Medium Term Strategy
2.3.7 <b>Conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan for the Wider Caribbean Region to</b>				Not yet initiated	Management of ship-generated waste and compliance with the MARPOL Convention.

Description of Activity (from above table)	Gender response	Policy link (ref to specific Contribution made. Eg. inputs To post 2020 CBD framework)	Impact (short description. Eg. the CBD SBI 3 meeting helped informed participation of focal points in CBD meeting)	Communication action (details of web updates, tweets, social media reach, publications made etc. PLEASE describe and quantify)	Links to overall institutional issue(s) and focus
reduce pollution from ships with focus on plastics reduction.					
<b>Result 2.4: Document best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management at community level.</b>					
2.4.1 Engage industry and major users of plastic to identify and implement appropriate alternatives to single- use plastic and other packaging material like Styrofoam	Factsheets include gender-sensitive language		Increased public awareness on pollution and its impacts on marine biodiversity in the region.	10 reports and factsheets on marine pollution and marine biodiversity created	Guided by the Secretariat’s Communications Strategy and strategic objectives of the CEP Strategy
2.4.2 Deliver a targeted and dedicated education and awareness raising program on pollution and marine biodiversity	Social media posts use gender sensitive language		Several national and regional meetings provided the opportunity to share various public awareness materials produced by the Secretariat.	Webpage updated for consistency with other Convention and to upload the ACP MEA Digest Newsletters.  A new electronic newsletter prepared for launch in mid-July 2022.  A joint publication, titled ‘A Drop in the Ocean, was prepared for the UN Ocean Conference.	Guided by the Secretariat’s Communications Strategy and strategic objectives of the CEP Strategy  Support to the UN Decades on Ocean Science and Ecosystem Restoration  Support to efforts for greater communication and advocacy in UNEP’s Medium-Term Strategy, to communicate scientific information in a language that is accessible to all and can influence and stimulate decision-making as well as environmental action.

## 5. [Planning for Future](#)

This section will focus on activities planned for the subsequent half year/year, plans/ideas for scaling up and follow up on outcomes, suggestions for budget and activity adjustments and a timetable of planned actions and budgets needed.

Ideas about how the completed actions link up to other processes in the country(ies), regions, inter- regional cooperation, links to institutional actions within the hubs and larger regional and global processes (like AMCEN, LAC Ministerial, COPs etc.).

### Result 2.1:

- a) The Secretariat will participate in the 6<sup>th</sup> Project Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Environment Facility-funded project Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (GEF IWeco) to be held from 18 - 20 July 2022. Non- Contracting Parties to the Convention's LBS and SPAW Protocols will be encouraged to further their ratification efforts.
- b) The Secretariat and the Association of Caribbean States will hold discussions in July 2022 to further enhance cooperation.
- c) The Secretariat will participate in the [Meeting of the Directors and Heads of Maritime Administrators of the Caribbean](#) to be held on 28 and 29 July 2022.
- d) The [Twentieth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Seventeenth Conference of Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region](#) will convene during the week of 27-31 March 2023.

### Results 2.2:

- a) Develop a Terms of Reference for the SPAW Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) Network Working Group.
- b) Organize capacity building initiatives for Protected Area (PA) Managers on Protected Areas (PAs) establishment, Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) and financial sustainability in the Caribbean.
- c) The Mediterranean Protected Areas Network (MedPAN) Regional experience sharing Workshop on MPA management effectiveness will be held in October 2022. The Convention has submitted a proposal to share in the presentations at the session.
- d) The [Tenth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the SPAW Protocol](#) will be held virtually during the week of 28 November to 2 December 2022.
- e) The [Twelfth Conference of Parties to the SPAW Protocol](#) will convene during the week of 27- 31 March 2023.

Results 2.3:

- a) Develop/Update national legislation and/or regulations on wastewater effluent discharges for Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol.
- b) Develop national pollution reduction action plans for Contracting Parties of the LBS Protocol.
- c) The Secretariat will participate in a Regional Workshop on the Index of Coastal Eutrophication Potential (ICEP) and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) hosted by the LBS RACs in Trinidad from 25- 27 July 2022.
- d) Implement local/national Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) projects promoting an integrated approach to pollution reduction and habitat restoration in selected countries who are parties to both the LBS and SPAW Protocols.
- e) The Secretariat will co-host a technical session on marine litter at the [7th International Marine Debris Conference \(7IMDC\)](#) in Busan, Republic of Korea.
- f) The [Sixth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the LBS Protocol](#) will be held virtually during the week of 28 November to 2 December 2022.
- g) The [Sixth Conference of Parties to the LBS Protocol](#) will convene during the week of 27-31 March 2023.

Results 2.4:

- a) The Secretariat will develop a technical brief in support of the UNEA-5.2 landmark resolution on plastics. The brief is expected to outline the sources, quantities, presence, impacts and other key information on plastics that can assist Caribbean decision-makers in their negotiations. This will substitute the report on the shift towards the use of environmentally friendly alternatives to single- use plastics and Styrofoam in the Wider Caribbean.
- b) Develop information materials, such as articles and factsheets, to document lessons learnt under all other activities.
- c) Document the progress of community-based interventions.

6. [Lessons Learnt](#)

This short section will focus issues and challenges faced during the period of reporting, steps taken to overcome the challenges and a synopsis of lessons learnt for the future. Include information if the project helped you leverage additional funds, partnerships, visibility and the related.

- a) The continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have affected the possibility of convening national face-to-face workshops.
- b) The importance of synergies and working across the four thematic areas – governance, pollution, marine biodiversity and communications –has been further emphasized.
- c) South-South exchanges are important and beneficial.
- d) Virtual meetings can promote greater participation, inclusiveness and transboundary cooperation with different Regional Seas, Biodiversity and Chemical Conventions.

- e) The identification of strategic partnerships early in the process provide opportunities for co- financing, for e.g., through Global Environment Facility-funded projects: CREW+ on water and wastewater management and Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (IWEco), Global Water Partnership Caribbean, Caribbean Node on Marine Litter and the BASEL Convention. While this has delayed implementation, it will result in greater impact on the ground.

## 7. [Communications](#)

In this section, the report will focus on how the programme has implemented the communication plans, visibility secured (including through social media) and impacts of the communication. It is encouraged that the report will provide specific web-links, publications and other material developed and means of reach out, including through the institutional channels.

The Secretariat continued to maintain its webpage on the programme and provided periodic updates. One article was submitted for the ACP MEAs III newsletter.

The ACP MEAs III programme's social media pages were supported through retweets and resharing of announcements. Copies of outputs and programme updates were also provided to LBS and SPAW focal points of the Convention. Communications guidelines are shared with consultants and partners to ensure the appropriate use of the project logo on all project outputs.