

Management Response to the Terminal Evaluation

Title of the project:	Global Sustainable Supply Chains for Marine Commodities (GMC) Project
ID GEF Project:	5271 (GEFSEC ID)
TE mission completion date:	August 31, 2021
Date of Management's response:	August 31, 2021
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Context, background and conclusions

The Global Sustainable Supply Chains for Marine Commodities Project (GMC) addresses key aspects of the market forces that drive overfishing by mainstreaming sustainability in the value chain of important commodities from developing countries, improving emerging tools such as corporate sustainable purchase policies, sustainable marine commodities platforms (SMCP), and fisheries improvement projects (FIP), developing national capacities, and generating learning to be shared worldwide. The project aims to (1) engage major seafood buyers in the main world markets (EU, Japan, US) into responsible sourcing, providing tools to prepare and implement sustainable seafood sourcing policies, (2) adapt the concept of green commodities platforms (currently used in agriculture) to the seafood value chain, support public-private SMCPs in Costa Rica, Ecuador, Indonesia and the Philippines to generate experience that could be used in other countries, (3) support the stakeholders of these platforms to develop practical experience with fisheries improvement projects and upgrade existing tools for FIP implementation and monitoring, and (4) upgrade existing information platforms in support of sound decision making, and capturing, documenting and disseminating the learnings of the project. The project target fisheries include Mahi-mahi and large and small pelagic fish in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, Indonesian tuna, Filipino octopus, and blue swimming crab fisheries in Indonesia and the Philippines.

UNDP is the GEF implementing agency (IA). The project operates in the four countries and has an International Project Coordination Unit (IPCU) comprising staff from UNDP and facilitating partner, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP).

The ProDoc-recommended model tested in the three inter-regional countries not only achieved, but surpassed the expected results indicators, whereas the hybrid model implemented in one of the countries fell far short of expectations—despite Costa Rica having invested considerable time and energy. Valuable lessons were captured from the implementation of the project in all countries and these will be invaluable for future projects following the GMC model.

While the overall project is rated as being **Highly Satisfactory**, the project primarily focused on the economic dimension of sustainable development and recommendations in the original Environmental, Social Safeguards Plan were not incorporated into the ProDoc. Consequently, key issues such as biodiversity considerations linked to reducing bycatch (defines as incidental and intentional capture of CITES-protected species and the destruction of marine habitats), human and labor rights were not included in the project. Although the inclusion of gender mainstreaming was also overlooked, the project's leadership found innovative solutions to fund a badly needed gender strategy midway through implementation.

The project led to several unexpected, positive results, which included the creation of a regional management organization that now focuses specifically on mahi-mahi fishery in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, considerable co-financing and in-kind contributions from artisanal fishers, and the active involvement of fishermen in monitoring and data collection. The GMC model is likely to be sustained, whereas this is unlikely with the Green Commodity approach, given that is overly simplistic for a complex sector like fisheries and the dynamic ecosystems that drive them.

While the GMC overachieved in meeting its expected results, there remain several shortcomings, specifically the incipient gender responsive focus that requires considerable work for mainstreaming into seafood commodity supply chains, as well as the absence of attention to negative ecosystem resilience-uncoupling outcomes such as bycatch, and human and labor rights. A second phase that expands the scope to build on the lessons from GMC-1, must further develop the GMC Theory of Change and it could be built on the TE's reconstructed ToC that could provide the framework for a real-time M&E platform that is based on SMART outcomes, including triple bottom-line development

impacts, and not the standard output targets that are widely used in the fishery sector and also for measuring effectiveness. It is imperative that the second phase be linked to adaptive management principles built into the outcome-focused M&E platform. Testing the validity assumptions and risk-reducing measures related to the GMC2 model will help capture lessons on a real time basis and allow for adjusting the model as required in real time, rather than at the end of the project.

The second phase could very well be framed as a valuable contribution to the rudderless¹ **Blue Economy paradigm**, *which is far from the stable development concept that it promises to be.*² Given the lack of consensus over a definition for the Blue Economy, it is unlikely that there will be any formal guidance on this question in the immediate future, unless new examples, such as contributions to a GMC are tested.

Until now, the GMC has focused on National Export-oriented commodity supply chains aimed at the international markets. This should be continued to improve the effectiveness of mainstreaming GMC-1 sustainability along supply chains. However, a high priority should be placed on adapting FIPs to small-scale fisheries and to develop and test new tools to engage them into fishery improvement projects. The second line could be non-export-oriented markets in which supply chains deliver seafood products to domestic markets such as fresh seafood sold to tourism restaurants and hotels (e.g., Cabo Verde, Roatan and other Caribbean destinations), in local markets, salted-dried fish or as frozen fillets provided by artisanal and small-scale fishers.

Finally, all original member countries should be allowed to participate, and the new government may be willing to take up the approach. However, the geographic scope should be extended to Africa (e.g., Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Cape Verde), as there could be attractive donor support from organizations such as Swedish International Development Assistance, Nordic Development Fund, African Development Bank, the MAVA and the Waitt Foundations.

Recommendations and the management response for the next series of actions are presented below.

¹ To date the emerging literature on the Blue Economy has focused heavily on the lack of clarity and consistency around the many different interpretations of the term ([Winder and Le Heron, 2019](#)), as well as the implications of this [incoherence](#) for oceans [governance](#) ([Hadjimichael, 2018](#)). At the second (sectoral) and third (cross-sectoral) levels there are at present no formal or informal 'check and balances' which articulate which industrial developments can be considered a legitimate component of the Blue Economy, or how the overall concept should be enacted in practice ([Voyer et al., 2018](#)).

² Childs, J. & C. Hicks. 2019. Securing the blue: political ecologies of the blue economy in Africa. *Journal of Political Ecology* 26 (1):323-340.

Recommendations and management response

Terminal Evaluation Recommendation				
DESIGN				
<p>Recommendation: 1 It is highly recommended that a second phase be developed to continue efforts to mainstream other dimensions of sustainability (e.g., bycatch reduction, greater importance place on human and indigenous rights) into seafood supply chains, while rebuilding and protecting fish stocks, biodiversity and livelihoods. The subsequent phase must also be anchored to a robust, flexible Theory of Change that includes key assumptions to drive an adaptive management process, all of which are essential for learning by experimenting with context-specific complexities associated with the multisectoral, and multidisciplinary management challenges of the fishery sector. Outcomes must be SMART. It is also imperative that the project incorporate the lessons and good practices (FIPs, Governance Platform and Seafood buyer-seller Roundtable good practices) from Phase 1. All countries should be part of the process, as long as the explicit guidelines and conditions for participation are followed, and new countries should be welcome, provided that a fixed percent co-financing contribution is provided under a government-private partnership arrangement.</p>				
Management Response				
Design a concept note or PIF/project proposal and PPG phase that incorporates the key measures below				
Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
1.1 UNDP hires a consultant with multidisciplinary background to design the concept note for a second phase. The design will take into account the recommendations and key actions in this management response matrix. The concept note will be presented to the GEF Secretariat.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The GMC Project through the UNDP and SFP		Preliminary discussions that require further expansion to include key partners
1.2 UNDP and SFP develop criteria and guidelines outlining conditions for partner inclusion in GMC 2 (their experience and knowledge offers communities of practice examples to new country members) in direct coordination and consultation with the GEF Secretariat.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The GMC Project through the UNDP and SFP		Preliminary discussions that require further expansion to include key partners
1.3 UNDP hires a consultant/team with multidisciplinary background to design the PIF/project proposal for the GEF and other possible donors for a second phase. The design will take into account the recommendations and key actions in this management response matrix. The PIF/project proposal is to be coordinated with the participating countries to agree upon expected outcomes and actions and to distribute associated costs if possible.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP and the consultant/team, with GMC Project support until project close, are in charge of designing the second phase of the project, including a potential PIF and/or a project proposal		To be initiated

1.4 UNDP leads virtual meeting of interested parties to discuss the way forward for GMC2 and to discuss expand potential donors to be approached. These could include the Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, Caribbean Development Bank, Inter American Development Bank, Swedish International Development Assistance, the Nordic Development Fund and various philanthropic foundations such as MAVA, Waitt, Pew and MacArthur, among others.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP and the consultant/team, with GMC Project support until project close, are in charge of designing the second phase of the project, including a potential PIF and/or a project proposal		To be initiated
1.5 Compile lessons from GMC 1 and other similar projects and initiatives to help design GMC2	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP and the consultant/team, with GMC Project support until project close, are in charge of designing the second phase of the project, including a potential PIF and/or a project proposal		To be initiated
1.6 Develop a preliminary and robust Theory of Change pathway leading to the expected development impacts for GMC 2, together with assumptions, risk-reducing measures and SMART outcomes.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP and the consultant/team, with GMC Project support until project close, are in charge of designing the second phase of the project, including a potential PIF and/or a project proposal		To be initiated
1.7 Calculate a preliminary budget to be included in the PIF/project proposal for achieving the expected results.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP and the consultant/team, with GMC Project support until project close, are in charge of designing the second phase of the project, including a potential PIF and/or a project proposal		To be initiated

DESIGN

Recommendation 2: Prepare a Concept Note for future sustainable marine commodity supply chains projects, the design team must interdisciplinary, capable of thinking outside the box with different eyes and who understands Management and Action plans, lead the dialogue about how to create a triple bottom-line fisheries project with an integrated environmental, social, gender and human rights focus from the beginning, doing things differently, bringing in innovation through a multidisciplinary focus – a really well thought out one. Up to date information is required, along with gender fishery profiles, gender analyses, among others. Transparency, dynamic dialogue and trust are fundamental ingredients that must be the highest priority for participating countries to instill in their Governance Platforms, carefully screening to include actors from different levels of supply chains who are committed to work in synergy and for positive change.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1				
Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
2.1 Formulate the project design (PIF/project proposal for the GEF or other donors) for a second phase by a multidisciplinary team and framed to improve clarity and consistency for the Blue Economy (BE) metaphor and key considerations of the circular economy based on critical reviews and alternative outcome-focused approaches, specifically focusing on measurable outcomes that can help to fill in some of GMC-1's gaps. At a minimum, these tools should focus on building ecological resilience (reduced habitat destruction, capture of CITES-listed species, protection of spawning aggregation areas and MPAs), incorporating human and labor rights into sustainable marine commodity certifications and a stronger gender component. and strengthening private sector participation that promotes impact investments.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP and the consultant/team, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal		To be initiated
2.2 For the PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), consider the inclusion of activities towards the design of a country-specific, real-time, participatory (fisherfolk, women, private sector, NGOs and academia) M&E platform with baselines established and guidelines to measure the effectiveness in achieving triple bottom line development impacts (outcomes) which is linked to BE and CMSP component outcomes. The platform should be built on free-ware, rather than expensive GIS software.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated
2.3 For the PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), consider the mainstreaming of sustainable seafood supply chains in both Export and Domestic markets. Local markets should not only target fresh, frozen and salt-dried seafood sold in local markets, but also link to tourism venues, like hotels and restaurants, following the lessons SFP has learned in the Philippines.	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated
2.4 The design of GMC2 will consider that at least two countries host the project through a high-level intersectoral coordinating authority (e.g., the BAPPENAS Indonesia example).	Immediately to capture funding cycles	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

IMPLEMENTATION

Recommendation 3: For similar projects, or a future phase 2 of the GMC, it is recommended that the **IPCU start operations alongside the beneficiary countries (and not afterwards) within the same start-up period**, allowing all the IPs to benefit from the management structures and lessons learned, thus that will undoubtedly also contribute to efficiency and therefore to the expected results. This should not exclude testing new approaches, if they are built on adaptive management principles, solid assumptions and good communication structures with the other participating partners. There should be at least a non-binding expression of financial commitment from the private sector for support.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
3.1 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG) indicate that all participating partners/countries are to initiate in unison with an Inception Phase (national inception workshop) in each country, followed by an integrated inception workshop with all approaches described. This should outline fluid communication mechanisms among partners and the Coordinating Unit, and should outline approaches for a country-specific, real time, integrated (social, environmental and economic dimensions) M&E platform focusing on outcomes and adaptive management principles.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated
3.2 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), participating countries must provide a letter of commitment from their government and wherever possible, demonstrate a non-binding financial commitment from the private sector, public sector or a private-public partnership.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

IMPLEMENTATION

Recommendation 4: Future FIPs must ensure that participating countries are complying with their commitments to international agreements (e.g., CBD Biological Diversity, UNCLOS , UCHR , Universal Declaration of Human Rights). Those countries should also look to raise the institutional bar to de-politicize

outside influence from powerful private sector interests and donor/executing/implementation agencies, while harmonize intersectoral coordination from the highest levels of government similar to the excellent model provided by BAPPENAS and the incipient model re-emerging in Ecuador.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
4.1 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), protocols and operational guidelines for the constitution of Governance Platforms are to be promoted in FIPs, including selection criteria for who is allowed to participate in the dialogue spaces. The guidelines are to also contain a fail safe clause that outlines actions to be taken when outside interests try to influence or interfere with the operational governance process. Data sharing arrangements and corresponding protocols will also be promoted.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

CROSS-CUTTING EFFECTIVENESS

Recommendation 5: A second phase should also have sufficient funding to cover costs to identify root cause analyses of key elements contributing to the degradation of marine biodiversity and other ecosystem services, ensuring that participating fishing nations health, safety and environmental safeguards, especially for reducing Bycatch (e.g., habitat protection, complying with the CBD specifications and pertinent protocols, IUU bycatch, as well as innovative approaches by Squire et al 20201a, b), and develop context-specific Management Plans, together with their associated Action Plans that are measured by SMART outcome targets. A Phase 2 design must include the FAO's Fishery Code of Conduct and the Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries, which has shortcomings, but is an adequate starting point for addressing the complexities, uncertainty and unpredictability of the human interactions with ecosystem dynamics. The linear, Agroecosystem approach should remain with the sector where it belongs.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
5.1 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), a rigorous costing analysis of the implementation costs for each component and actions is to be undertaken by each country, as well as the costs associated to the International Coordinating Unit.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

	or more extensive project is developed			
5.2 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), all participating countries are to make commitments to abide at a minimum by the FAO's Fishery Code of Conduct and the Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries, among others.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

CROSS-CUTTING EFFECTIVENESS

Recommendation 6: A climate adaptation component should be integrated into the second phase, given the impacts that climate changes will have on fisheries of the future, as it will help avoid missing an opportunity for timely and urgent action, before it becomes problematic. A 3-stepwise approach testing widely used ecosystem-risk assessment methods (see references in) could benefit Phase 2 from its early design to prepare for the impacts of climate change on future fisheries management for climate change.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
6.1 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), a consultant/team expert/s on Climate Adaptation in Fisheries are to develop safeguards and concrete actions for ensuring that GMC2 is working to integrate climate adaptation strategies and actions. This must include a robust ecosystem risk assessment and corresponding mitigation measures.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries	A team of experts would potentially include SFP together with partner countries, thematic scientific advisors	To be initiated

CROSS-CUTTING EFFECTIVENESS

Recommendation 7: A second phase should also build upon the Phase 1 success with creating public-private partnership at the national and global levels while participating international NGOs should always contribute, rather than request funds or provide significant in-kind contributions.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
7.1 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), lessons from the GMC1 experiences are to be considered in creating public-private partnerships and reinforce/formulate guidelines for minimum private sector investments and the mechanisms for accessing them and explore the design and implementation of new financing solutions that will contribute to sustainability, innovation and scaling-up mechanisms. The cofinancing structure should also calculate a reasonable estimate of in-kind contributions from artisanal fisherfolk associations and governments at baseline levels and throughout the implementation period.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated
7.2 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), NGOs are to bring to the FIP significant monetary or in-kind contributions approved by the FIP to justify their participation.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

CROSS-CUTTING EFFECTIVENESS

Recommendation 8: A second phase should expand its focus on the social dimensions of sustainable marine commodity supply chains to include results-based indicators that build on the Phase 1 Gender Strategy and mainstream a responsive approach addressing gender equality/equity into an adaptive, learning framework developed in Governance Platforms. It is imperative that the strategy and implementation framework includes realistic budgets that ensure that the actions derived from the Project not only have the responsive gender approach, but it must also start from a deep root cause analysis of the situation of women (gender analysis with primary information) in supported fisheries to ensure that gender-strategic action plans are adapted to context-specific realities, and other key elements

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1				
Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
8.1 During PIF/project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), frame a causative results chain for each GMC2 component per participating country and develop a clear, causative path toward the immediate and overall objectives. Additionally, each country should allocate a budget to hire a national gender team to develop gender analyses that can contribute to an overarching approach that can be tested as a gender inclusion model for the Blue Economy/circular economy approach.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries	Ideally would include UNDP, SFP together with partner countries, thematic gender advisors	To be initiated
8.2 During the development of the PPG/project proposal, a gender analysis and strategy will be developed for the GMC2 that builds off of the GMC1 experiences. Cost distribution among countries for in country gender analysis will be considered.	During PPG phase	The UNDP in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated
8.3 During the GMC2 implementation phase (narrative included in PIF or PPG phase, when applicable), guidelines will be developed to outline similar approaches to mainstreaming gender into the FIPs	During implementation phase, considerations are required during PIF and PPG narrative	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal, PPG preparation and implementation phase in coordination with partner countries		To be initiated

CROSS-CUTTING EFFECTIVENESS

Recommendation 9: Human and labor rights abuses must be addressed along commodity supply chains – from harvest to the table- during a second phase. SFP seems well-positioned to explore collaboration opportunities with leaders such as the Danish Institute for Human Rights’ (DIHR) work with Pursuing a Human Rights-based Approach to Fisheries and Aquaculture, as should be progressive donors like Swedish International Development Agency who funded their work.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
9.1 During the GMC2 implementation phase (narrative included in PIF or PPG phase, when applicable), in close coordination with leading human rights organizations working in the fishery sector (e.g., Danish Institute of Human	During implementation phase,	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing	SFP has initiated conversations	To be initiated

Rights, ILO) a strategy will be developed for mainstreaming HR into the marine commodity value chains with a certification standard.	considerations are required during PIF and PPG narrative	the PIF/project proposal, PPG preparation and implementation phase in coordination with partner countries	with DIHR, as has UNDP-Ecuador. Ideally would include UNDP, SFP together with partner countries, DIHR and other thematic specialists	
9.2 During PIF/Project Proposal and preparation phase (PPG), the project will evaluate the use/incorporation of the human rights guide to the SDGs and the Indigenous Navigator on Human Rights developed by the Danish Institute of Human Rights, as well as their Sector Wide Impact Approach (SWIA) in the fishery sector and link it to the M&E Platform for each FIP.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries	SFP has initiated conversations with DIHR, as has UNDP-Ecuador. Ideally would include UNDP, SFP together with partner countries, DIHR and other thematic specialists	To be initiated

SUSTAINABILITY				
Recommendation 10: Phase 2 should allocate funds and develop an action plan to develop specific solutions to facilitate small-scale fishers to report and verify sustainable practices, including IT development to ensure technological equity and justice. Currently, small-scale fisheries (SSF) cannot afford e-logbooks and the private industrial companies in Ecuador have provided funds for SSF to buy them. However, this is an exception, and the financial gap must be filled to allow SSF to report.				
Management Response See management response for Recommendation 1				
Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
10.1 During PIF/Project Proposal and preparation phase (PPG), a representative portion of the budget (or cofinancing) will target assisting small-scale fishers to comply with electronic reporting and monitoring requirements.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries	Ideally would include UNDP, SFP together with partner countries, FIPs	To be initiated

	or more extensive project is developed			
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SUSTAINABILITY

Recommendation 11: A high priority should be placed on advancing the institutionalization of COREMAHI for Eastern Pacific Mahimahi fishing nations, as it offers a viable mechanism for improving the coordinated management of the Mahimahi and associated bycatch. The extent to which the Code of Conduct should be agreed upon by signatory nations should be examined carefully to ensure that it is sufficiently robust for sustainably managing the fishery, including reducing bycatch, yet palatable for countries who might be reluctant to sign.

Management Response

See management response for Recommendation 1

Key measures	Execution time	Responsible Units	Tracing	
			Comments	Status
11.1 To the extent possible, during PIF/Project proposal and preparation phase (PPG), technical and financial support will be given to strengthen COREMAHI's governance in the Eastern Pacific. Similar actions will be explored to create regional bodies that could help fill the kinds of gaps that COREMAHI has done for supporting IATT.	Incorporate in PIF/project proposal by December 2021 Requires continuous monitoring as PPG or more extensive project is developed	The UNDP, with the support of the GMC project until project close, is in charge of designing the PIF/project proposal and PPG preparation in coordination with partner countries	Ideally would include UNDP, SFP together with Eastern Pacific partner countries, FI	To be initiated