



WIO-SAP Mid Term Review

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Introduction

- MTR undertaken approximately four years into project implementation
- The MTR commenced in late October 2021 and ended in late January 2022
- MTR used a participatory approach. Stakeholders consulted were NC Secretariat, PMU, NC Focal Points, WIO-SAP Focal Points, demonstration projects, international organisations

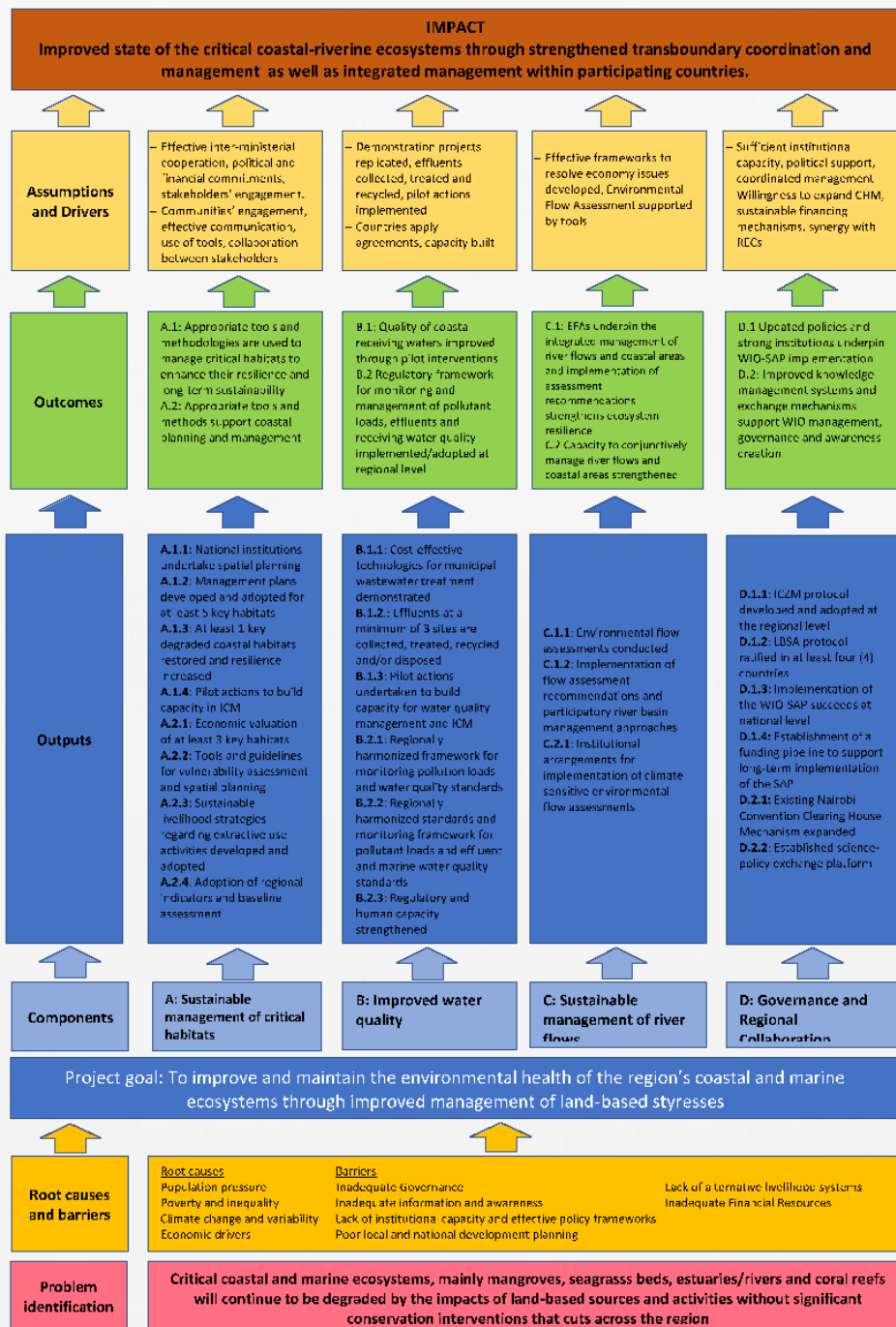
MTR process

- **Sources of primary data and information:**
 - Desk-top review of key project documents;
 - Skype/telephone consultations with PMU staff to discuss their facilitating and oversight role
 - Skype/telephone consultations with implementing partners
 - A questionnaire for other key partners as available
- **Data analysis**
- **Preparation of the report**

Evaluation criteria

- Strategic Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Financial Management
- Efficiency
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Sustainability

Theory of Change



Ratings 1

Criterion	Rating
Strategic relevance	HS
Quality of project design	S
Effectiveness	MS
Financial management	S
Efficiency	MS
Monitoring and reporting	S

Ratings 2

Sustainability	
Socio-political	L
Financial	L
Institutional	HL

Ratings 3

Factors affecting performance	
Preparation and readiness	MU
Quality of project management and supervision	HS
Stakeholder participation and cooperation	HS
Responsiveness to human rights and gender equality	HS
Environmental, social and economic safeguards	HS
Country ownership and drive-ness	S
Communication and public awareness	HS

Overall project rating

SATISFACTORY

Achievement progress by component

- A: 73.5%
- B: 59.4%
- C: 55.0%
- D: 71.5%

Conclusions

- The WIO-SAP project is highly relevant
- Strong point of the project is integration of a large group of stakeholders in its implementation: sustainability
- The MTR noted some weaknesses in the PRF, notably the end-of-project output indicators
- Progress achieved by 31 December 2021 has been variable among the 4 components
- Implementation of the WIO-SAP project, after initial delay, has been largely on track since in spite of COVID

Lessons learned 1

- Long period of project design and delay between CEO's approval of the project and start of the project implementation put the project and the implementing and executing agencies at significant reputational risk.
- Good coordination is essential for successful implementation of complex projects.
- Support to local communities is the best buy in for the project and a guarantee for long-term sustainability of the project results.
- Create synergy with complementary projects in the region.
- Establish an effective implementation monitoring system.

Lessons learned 2

- Gender mainstreaming should be one of the most important features of the project.
- Outputs related to capacity building, institutional strengthening and communication and public awareness are more likely to be completed by mid-term and/or end-of-project than actual change in the state of the environment.
- It is absolutely necessary to define the mid-term targets.
- Planning the time for implementation of the project's activities should be realistic.

Recommendations 1

- Recommendation 1: Revise the WIO-SAP Project Results Framework (PRF).
- Recommendation 2: Develop indicators on gender mainstreaming and integrate them into the PRF and the monitoring system.
- Recommendation 3: Nairobi Convention Secretariat and PMU should together review all activities and outputs and decide on how best to implement them, and which institutions could assist them.
- Recommendation 4: Improve reporting on co-financing.

Recommendations 2

- Recommendation 5: Step up efforts towards implementing partners to provide co-financing in accordance with their pledges.
- Recommendation 6: Make fund disbursement approval process more efficient in order to reduce the time needed to disburse funds.
- Recommendation 7: Prepare exit/sustainability strategy for WIO-SAP
- Recommendation 8: Expand the resource mobilisation strategy by engaging more actively towards integration of the private sector into the implementation of the project's results and the SAP.

Recommendations 3

- Recommendation 9: Raise awareness on the value of demonstration projects for the local communities.
- Recommendation 10: Accelerate efforts towards Nairobi Convention Contracting Parties to adopt/sign the ICZM protocol and target several countries that might ratify it.
- Recommendation 11: Speed up the implementation of the Water Quality Monitoring Framework/Guidelines and associated capacity building at national level.
- Recommendation 12: Accelerate efforts towards all Nairobi Convention Contracting Parties that have not signed the LBSA Protocol yet to sign it, and towards 2 countries to ratify it.

Recommendations 4

- Recommendation 13: Implementing partners should begin consolidating and documenting lessons, good practices, and experiences, and increasing interaction with each other.
- Recommendation 14: The countries should consider further actions to accelerate implementation of the MSP projects in the region, possibly by developing a project proposal to be financed by GEF.
- Recommendation 15: Develop a proposal for a “no-cost” extension of the project for 12 months until December 2023 to allow sufficient time to achieve outcomes that have been delayed.

PRF Revision 1

- *A.1.1 – New spatial plans prepared for at least three [3] key marine and coastal zones in at least 3 countries by 2020 (previously it was 5);*
- *A.1.4 - By 2020, at least 3 ICZM plans for target coastal zones will be developed, involving wide stakeholder dialogue including women and civil society (previously it was 5);*
- *B.1.2 - By 2020, At least 50% of the treated wastewater from hotspots reused and recycled at two hotspots (previously it was three).*

PRF Revision 2

- The description of the Output B.2.2 should be as follows: *Regionally harmonized standards and monitoring framework for pollutant loads and effluent and marine water quality standards adopted by at least three (3) countries through participatory national and regional consultations (previously 5).*

PRF Revision 3

- The description of the Output D.1.2 should be as follows: *LBSA protocol ratified in at least 6 countries and supported in all countries through the development of policy briefs, model legislation and capacity building to practitioners.*
- Gender participation should be increased to 30% in the implementation of project activities,

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