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GEF IW Project Concept Note
Cover Page

Project title	Advancing Area and Ecosystem Based Management to support enabling activities toward the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement in the Eastern Pacific Ocean
Type of Project	Two-step Medium Size Project (MSP)
Countries	IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members
GEF Implementing Agency	FAO
Executing Partners	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
Project Duration (months)	60 (4 years)
Total GEF Resources	USD 5 million

Concept Note – GEF8 IW focal area[1]

Advancing Area and Ecosystem Based Management to support enabling activities toward the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement in the Eastern Pacific Ocean

Background and Project Outline

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) is one of the most relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies (IFBs) in place promoting meaningful and productive cooperation towards enabling activities for the implementation of the "Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction" (BBNJ Agreement), which was adopted on 19 June 2023. Most of the extensive area under the IATTC competence in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, from the northern parts of Canada to the southern parts of Chile and from the coastline to French Polynesia, is located in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). In addition, many provisions of the 2003 Antigua Convention, which governs the IATTC and entered into force in 2010, are in line with the objectives, goals and principles of the BBNJ Agreement with regards to the recognition of the vital importance of improving the health and resilience of marine biodiversity of ABNJ, including through better area and ecosystem based management of marine ecosystems and their marine living resources. As stressed by the IATTC Secretariat in several global fora, including most recently at Third United Nations Conference on Oceans (UNOC3), the progress achieved until now by the IATTC as one of the most advanced Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) in a wide-array of matters relating marine biodiversity in ABNJ, represents the result of joint efforts of its Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) as well as a wide range of stakeholders, partner entities and organizations, including environmental NGOs and the fishing industry sector. This progress has allowed, among others, the development and adoption of science-driven conservation and management strategies and an increased awareness of the need to implement ecosystem-based approaches even prior to the adoption of the BBNJ Agreement. Nevertheless, for IATTC to be able to effectively facilitate the enabling activities of the BBNJ Agreement for the benefit of its Members and Cooperating Non-Members and beyond, it is now urgent and necessary to ensure that initial progress made by IATTC is accelerated and promoted further, in a way that will underpin the provisions of the BBNJ Agreement across the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

IATTC has long been regarded as a leader in the science-based assessment and management of tropical tuna and tuna-like species, and on associated and dependent species, in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Being one of the oldest Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), IATTC underwent a sweeping overhaul of its legal framework as a result of the adoption of the abovementioned 2003 Antigua Convention. This convention significantly broadened the original mandate of IATTC and represented a watershed event in fisheries management and governance. Significantly, on the same year that the Antigua Convention was adopted, the IATTC also adopted for the first time a spatio-temporal closure through the establishment of an area in ABNJ in which fishing activities were prohibited during a period of the year. Not only this area is still in force almost twenty years following its establishment, but it also set a precedent for other RFMOs in relation to area and ecosystem-based management. Among others, it is worth noting that the 2003 Antigua Convention resulted in endowing IATTC with the responsibility to also address the impacts of fishing activities on

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[1] The language/wording used in this concept note is not to be regarded as being final as the future formulation of the project, and specifically its components/outcomes/outputs, will ultimately depend on possible changes in the GEF programmatic directives and/or on the guidance to be provided in due course by the relevant GEF Implementing Agency

tuna and tuna-like species as well as associated and dependent species. This prompted a marked advancement of the Eastern Pacific Ocean agenda toward the conservation and improved management of its ABNJ, which are known to be facing increased threats from overfishing, climate change, habitat degradation and marine biodiversity loss.

As the BBNJ Agreement is poised to soon enter into force, IFBs like IATTC will be called upon to support efforts by their Members and Cooperating non-Members toward ensuring its implementation at global, regional and sub-regional levels, consistent with their mandates as relevant to the substantial Parts of the BBNJ Agreement, such as Part III on Area-Based Management Tools (ABMTs), including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

The project that is presented in this concept note aims to advance scientific knowledge and tools required to support decision-making by IATTC related to promoting better area and ecosystem-based management against the background of Part III of the BBNJ Agreement. This work aligns with the initial guidelines adopted by the GEF Council in December 2023 and the developments that followed, including the launch of the GEF BBNJ enabling activities project to which a number of IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members currently participate. At the same time, this project will also contribute to operationalizing Part V of the BBNJ Agreement, by bringing about much needed opportunities to promote Capacity Building and the Transfer of Marine Technology (CBTMT) in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, also leveraging investments and contributions from key IATTC developed countries Members (i.e. EU, Japan, USA) and the private sector.

As has been most recently emphasized on occasion of the meetings of the BBNJ preparatory commission which took place in 2025 at the United Nations General Assembly, while there is little doubt that ABMTs, including MPAs, have many benefits to offer for the protection of marine biodiversity in ABNJ, the actual decision-making process on the location, size, creation and monitoring of activities within ABMTs, including MPAs, is yet to be operationalized at-scale in ABNJ. These decisions and processes can have profound impacts on the potential costs and benefits of ABMTs, including MPAs, across multiple dimensions (e.g. conservation, food security, job security), particularly in pelagic ecosystems characterized by dynamic habitats and highly mobile species and fishing fleets. Modeling tools and a robust understanding of spatial ecological, social, and economic dynamics are therefore needed to help in the design and monitoring of ABTMs, including MPAs, that will stand the best chance of maximizing environmental benefits while minimizing tradeoffs or unintended consequences.

This project will focus on collecting key missing data and developing methodologies, models and best practices that will enable IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members to simulate and evaluate the conservation and economic impacts of alternative ABMTs proposals, so that relevant stakeholders, including from the private sectors, are empowered to take informed decisions. To this end, and consistent with the principles spelled out in the BBNJ Agreement, best available scientific knowledge will be collected and analyzed under this project in order to facilitate the assessment of the distribution, movement and dynamics of IATTC target and vulnerable key non-target species of Eastern Pacific Ocean's ABNJ. The resulting "modeling toolbox" and guidelines to be developed under this project will support the design of effective ABMTs, including MPAs, thereby contributing to build the capacity of scientists and policymakers of IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members in designing and monitoring sound ABMTs, including MPAs, pursuant to the provisions in Part III of the BBNJ Agreement.

Effective ABMTs, including MPAs, will depend on reliable scientific data. To promote enabling activities towards the implementation of Part III of the BBNJ Agreement, and in recognition of the role that IFBs can play in this regard, it is hence crucial for relevant IFBs to develop and disseminate best-

practices so that such best practices can be regarded in the future as a reference point by the Conference of the Parties (CoP) of the BBNJ Agreement when recommending the establishment of ABMTs, including MPAs. In this regard, it is worth emphasizing that IATTC is a leading RFMO when it comes to regularly collecting and analyzing extensive data relating to many different aspects of tuna and tuna-like species as well as associated and dependent species in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Nevertheless, applying these data to inform the establishment of ABMTs, including MPAs, will require, as a first step, that a number of outstanding data gaps be addressed.

This project will make this possible by supporting the launch of a regional telemetry network focused specifically on IATTC's key prioritized shark species to improve the understanding of their movement patterns, connectivity, habitat use and, most importantly, the identification of areas of biological significance (e.g., nursery areas and aggregation sites). This proposed telemetry network, data management and partnership platform will also serve as a tool to support collaboration with other telemetry programs focused on key vulnerable species (e.g., billfish, mobulids, sea turtles), throughout the region, in addition to those directly supported by IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members. By leveraging existing datasets and ongoing telemetry programs, gaps in coverage can be identified and more effectively addressed as a result of this project, ensuring that the identification of important locations and environmental characteristics for the design of future ABMTs, including MPAs, is based on comprehensive coverage of the region. The envisioned final result of this undertaking will be a multi-stakeholder network of electronic tag users, sharing a platform housing both existing electronic tagging datasets aggregated through the telemetry network and future electronic tagging datasets generated through the telemetry network for prioritized highly migratory marine species. These datasets will be invaluable for elucidating important movement corridors, connectivity patterns and areas of biological significance, informing decision-making processes within IATTC on area and ecosystem-based management of the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

Because effective ABMTs, including MPAs, depend also on a robust understanding of both ecological and social dynamics, this project will analyze fishing fleet behavior and effort dynamics in response to spatial closures and oceanographic environmental changes and how these behaviors affect the conservation of marine biodiversity in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. This will allow IATTC to predict how fishing activities could shift geographically as a result of potential ABMTs, including MPAs, supporting realistic projections of fisheries management effectiveness under different area and ecosystem-based scenarios and with the involvement of the fishing industry. This fleet dynamics component will include research on the social and economic drivers of fishing fleets operating in the EPO, along with integration of existing and new technologies such as Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), and as Satellite synthetic aperture radar (SAARs), in partnership with IATTC's technology providers and partners (e.g. GFW). The tools developed to integrate and use these technologies in this project could help support efforts to monitor compliance with ABMTs in the ABNJ in the future.

Project outline

Overfishing, environment-driven habitat shifts, and scientific guidance and data gaps are among the core challenges that could hinder effective area and ecosystem-management and thereby undermining the goals of the BBNJ Agreement in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. This project addresses these gaps by advancing the development, understanding and application of scientific tools and by enhancing stakeholders' capacity in the design and monitoring of ABMTs, including MPAs. In addition to being fully aligned with the BBNJ Agreement objective and goals, this project is also consistent with GEF-8 International Waters (IW) focal area strategy and objectives and therefore has the potential to successfully address biodiversity loss in the Eastern Pacific Ocean by contributing to the improved management of its ecosystems and living resources. Leveraging the IATTC framework and governing

rules, efforts will be promoted at the level of Members and Cooperating non-Members during the whole life-cycle of the project and beyond. The project will be instrumental in developing guidelines and modeling tools for IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members, all outcomes relating to the design and monitoring of ABMTs, including MPAs, will be made available to the CoP of the BBNJ Agreement through the modalities which will govern the relationships between the CoP and IFBs.

Project Description

Project Objective

The objective of this project is to enable IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members to promote enabling activities towards the implementation and application of the BBNJ Agreement across the Eastern Pacific Ocean by **strengthening the scientific, technical and institutional basis for area and ecosystem-based management** toward enhanced conservation and sustainable use of BBNJ.

Specifically, this objective will be pursued through the following components:
   i)   **Co-developed modelling tools** for area and ecosystem-based management that support scientific knowledge required for the establishment of ABMTs, including MPAs.
   ii)   **Improved spatial data collection of, and related scientific analysis,** of movement dynamics of IATTC target and key non-target shark species, as well as fishing fleet behavior, in ABNJ of the Eastern Pacific Ocean to promote the application of the BBNJ Agreement, across the Eastern Pacific Ocean.
   iii)   **Enhanced integration of emerging technologies** in understanding the spatio-temporal dynamics of tuna fishing fleets in the EPO, and their potential responses to area-based management.
   iv)   **Project monitoring and evaluation and knowledge dissemination**.

Table 1: Project Overview

Project Objective:			
Component	**Outcome**	**Output**	**Budget**
Component 1: Co-developed modeling tools for area and ecosystem-based management that support the establishment of ABMTs, including MPAs, across the Eastern Pacific Ocean, pursuant to Part III of the BBNJ agreement	**Outcome 1.1:** Enhanced capacity of IATTC's stakeholders to apply area and ecosystem-based management tools and evaluate the need for ABMTs, including MPAs, in support to the conservation and sustainable use of BBNJ at the regional level	**Output 1.1.1:** Toolbox for simulation models and empirical methods for assessing conservation and socioeconomic impacts of ABMTs scenarios identified and applied, accounting for environmental change and species distribution in ABNJ. **Output 1.1.2:** Best-practice guidelines for area and ecosystem-based management co-developed with the direct involvement of IATTC's stakeholders in view of the establishment of ABMTs, including MPAs, across the Eastern Pacific Ocean. **Output 1.1.3:** Evaluation of proposed ABMTs across the	$ 1,000,000

		Eastern Pacific Ocean for the establishment of ABMTs, including MPAs	
Component 2: Improved spatial data collection for - and related scientific analysis of - movement dynamics of IATTC target and key non-target species to inform enabling activities towards the implementation of ABMTs, including MPAs, across the EPO	**Outcome 2.1:** Area and ecosystem-based management better accounts for knowledge of spatial ecology and movement dynamics of IATTC target and non-target species across the Eastern Pacific Ocean, and promotes data collection and analysis by IATTC stakeholders in support of improved area and ecosystem-based management of BBNJ	**Output 2.1.1:** Regional spatial telemetry platform integrating electronic tag datasets on Eastern Pacific Ocean key target and vulnerable species (e.g., tuna, sharks, billfish, mobulid, sea turtles) **Output 2.1.2:** IATTC's stakeholders' involvement in data collection and analysis of IATTC target and non-target species movement patterns promoted to inform the design of ABMTs, including MPAs, in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. **Output 2.1.3:** Integration of movement data to identify areas of biological significance and environmental drivers to inform the design of ABMTs, including MPAs, in the Eastern Pacific Ocean	$ 3,000,000
Component 3: Improved understanding of spatio-temporal dynamics of fishing fleets in the EPO through integration of emerging technologies, in support of the design and monitoring of ABMTs, including MPAs, across the Eastern Pacific Ocean underpinning collaborative approaches to ABNJ spatial governance	**Outcome 3.1:** Area and ecosystem-based management better accounts for understanding of fishing fleet dynamics in the EPO, in support of improved area and ecosystem-based management of BBNJ.	**Output 3.1.1:** Synthesis of existing data and knowledge around fishing fleet dynamics in the EPO. **Output 3.1.2:** Tools for the use and integration of emerging technologies for monitoring fishing behavior (e.g. remote sensing technologies developed in collaboration with GFW) developed, integrated into the design of ABMTs, including MPAs, in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, and disseminated to IATTC' Members and Cooperating non Members, and other relevant parties.	$ 750,000
Component 4: Project monitoring and evaluation and knowledge dissemination.	**Outcome 4.1:** Ensured adaptive project management, coordination, monitoring and evaluation throughout project lifetime and implementation	**Output 4.1.1:** Project management and coordination structures in place **Output 4.1.2:** Project monitoring, evaluation and	$ 250.000

		reporting systems established and implemented	
	Outcome 4.2: Set up knowledge systems toward broader dissemination of results, including through enhanced stakeholders' consultation and institutional cooperation	**Output 4.2.1:** Improved information platform available to IATTC's Members and Cooperating non-Members to foster area and ecosystem-based management	
		Output 4.2.2: Enhanced stakeholders' cooperation, including from relevant institutions and the private sector	

Practical benefits in project lifespan

The project is expected to contribute to the enhanced conservation of Eastern Pacific Ocean marine biodiversity in ABNJ by developing the foundation for science-based area and ecosystem-based management leveraging from the IATTC experience and framework. It will also contribute to the resiliency of living marine resources in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, thereby supporting regional food security and coastal livelihoods which are dependent on BBNJ conservation. Additionally, the project will strengthen regional cooperation among IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members in support of enabling activities towards the implementation of Part III of the BBNJ Agreement by informing the design and monitoring of ABMTs, including MPAs, across the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

Key outcomes

The project will deliver four transformative outcomes which, together, will be instrumental to strengthening BBNJ-aligned area and ecosystem-based management across the Eastern Pacific Ocean, contributing to global biodiversity targets in ABNJ, including those under SDG-14 and the Global Biodiversity Framework. This will be pursued through the following principles, tools and approaches:
- **Capacity Building in Area and Ecosystem-Based Management**: IATTC's stakeholders, including but not limited to IATTC's Members and Cooperating non-Members, will have improved capacity in relation to the design and monitoring of ABMTs, including MPAs, as well as in their overall creation, consistent with the novelties introduced by the BBNJ Agreement.
- **Improved Scientific Understanding of Spatial Ecology**: Enhanced knowledge of habitat use and movement patterns of key target and non-target species (e.g., sharks, billfish, mobulids, sea turtles) as well as of fleet behaviour will contribute to inform BBNJ aligned conservation strategies to be adopted by IATTC, specifically those aimed at reducing anthropogenic impacts on vulnerable non-target species and those aimed at supporting food security and blue transformation.
- **Strengthened Provision of Technical Assistance to facilitate enabling activities towards the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement in the Eastern Pacific Ocean**: through targeted capacity building tools, including those available under Part V of the BBNJ Agreement, collaborative governance will be fostered for the benefit of IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members as well as IATTC's stakeholders at large. This will be done pursuant to the general principles in the BBNJ Agreement, including transparency, and taking into account the special conditions in developing countries across the Eastern Pacific Ocean region.
- **Robust Monitoring and Adaptive Management**: a comprehensive and flexible monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system will be set up in order to ensure accountability and to track

progress toward meeting the project objective, enhancing the project's long-term impact on ABNJ governance and securing project durability beyond its life cycle.

Innovation

The project will bring about significant innovation through creation of open-access best practice guidelines and a "modelling toolbox" integrating biological, ecological and fleet behaviour data within the broader IATTC data collection framework. This will trigger simulations of ABMTs scenarios in support of enabling activities towards the implementation of Part III of the BBNJ Agreement across the Eastern Pacific Ocean. By generating and combining telemetry data, species distribution models and fishing fleet behaviour, the project will provide the basis for actionable guidance in spatial planning under dynamic environmental and policy conditions, becoming a reference point for the work of other IFBs, including specifically RFMOs. The project will also propose the development of regional systems and data management platforms for BBNJ in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, a crucial step toward (i) transboundary ecological monitoring in support to ABNJ governance and (ii) the empirical evaluation of the outcomes of ABMTs scenarios in view of their establishment. Innovation will also be embodied in the creation of a strong link between IATTC and the BBNJ Agreement, as a result of the project, demonstrating that positive relationships can be built with IFBs in relation to the enabling activities towards the implementation of the substantial parts of this agreement.

Building on GEF and other projects (baseline)

This project builds directly on several relevant GEF-funded and non GEF-funded complementary initiatives in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, including but not limited to:

- **FAO-GEF Common Oceans ABNJ Program**: This project draws, among others, lessons from the RFMOs' experience in developing scientific tools, governance models, and cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms in ABNJ. It builds specifically on methods piloted for ecosystem-based fisheries management through bycatch mitigation and area-based planning. IATTC is directly involved in this program thorough its tuna child project.
- **GEF IW:LEARN**: This project promotes data-sharing and knowledge management approaches developed through IW:LEARN, particularly in integrating modelling tools and best practices, stakeholder engagement strategies, and capacity development. ABNJ have become increasingly important to it, in addition to the traditional large marine ecosystems, and IATTC will share information and participate in IW:LEARN initiatives.
- **IATTC's Strategic Science Plan**: The project will generate outcomes for, and directly integrate data and findings from, multiple key goals of the IATTC's 2026-2030 strategic plan, such as the Biological Sampling Program to inform species life history and population models, the Tuna Tagging Program to support movement dynamics of target species, and the EAFM-Climate resilient fisheries workplan that aims to develop ecosystem-advice products, better understand ecosystem's vulnerability and develop climate-informed planning inputs.
- **Other animal movement and BBNJ Regional Initiatives**: The project aligns with work conducted by multiple organizations in the EPO (e.g., SPFRMO, the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), PACA, CMAR, Stanford, PEW, Ocean Tracking Network) related to animal movement and ABNJ marine spatial planning, including through better coordination in enabling activities towards the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement.

By building on the outputs, data, and stakeholder networks established by this baseline, the proposed project will maximize synergies, reduce duplications and contribute to bring about a coherent regional framework in support to science and governance of ABNJ in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

Financial and Institutional Sustainability

The project will be designed in a way that will build a lasting foundation of institutional, technical and human capacity, supporting enabling activities towards the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement in the Eastern Pacific Ocean beyond its foreseen life-cycle. Sustainability, both financial and institutional, will be pursued through the following mechanisms:

- **Mainstreaming within IATTC structure**: best practices, scientific tools, telemetry platform and modelling frameworks to be developed will be embedded within IATTC's routine research and scientific advisory committee and working groups operations. This will ensure continuity of the project through the execution of IATTC's core activities and in line with IATTC scientific strategic plan.
- **National and Regional Co-Financing**: IATTC Members, Cooperating non-Members and wide array of partners will be encouraged to allocate co-financing (in-kind and funds) for participation, training, telemetry expansion and implementation of ABMTs, including MPAs, through this project.
- **Integration with BBNJ processes**: by contributing directly to build adequate knowledge base, tools and practices relevant to the regional enabling activities towards the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement, this project will position stakeholders involved to contribute to tailor key provisions on the protection of BBNJ to the specificities of the Eastern Pacific Ocean.
- **Partnerships with research and academic institutions and with the private sector**: the project will promote institutional linkages with a suite of activities being pursued and undertaken by universities, research organizations, NGOs and civil society organizations engaged in the IATTC framework. Similarly, leveraging on the engagement of the private sector within IATTC, this project will also bring in a practical angle and result in a meaningful contribution by the industry to regional enabling activities towards the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement.
- **Open Access and interoperability**: all IT tools and technology outputs to be produced and developed under this project, except for those considered confidential due to the sensitive nature of the data, will be made openly available and, to the extent possible, interoperable with other global platforms (e.g., Ocean Tracking Network, Animal Telemetry Network, FAO-Tuna Atlas, BBNJ Clearing-House Mechanism) and with the BBNJ arrangements and bodies to maximize uptake, visibility and continued utility.

Together, these mechanisms will ensure that the project not only delivers impactful results, but also catalyses long-term change in regional scientific cooperation and institutional readiness for area and ecosystem-based management of BBNJ.

Gender-sensitive, inclusive Stakeholder Engagement

Community Participation

The project will actively involve a wide array of IATTC stakeholders, including fishers, fisheries organizations, scientists, students, NGOs and other relevant actors, particularly those dependent on living marine resources managed by IATTC to ensure that their experiences and perspectives inform progress towards BBNJ-aligned area and ecosystem-based management. Stakeholder representatives from IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members will actively participate in workshops and training opportunities to co-develop modelling tools and best-practice guidelines for spatial planning under the project. These opportunities will integrate local ecological knowledge, to enhance the traits needed to design ABMTs, including MPAs, and ensure socioeconomic benefits. Stakeholders'

discussion and consultation fora will be held at key project stages (e.g., telemetry study implementation, data collection, model and guideline development) to gather feedback and build trust in close coordination with other organizations, such as the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC). To ensure accessibility, workshops and training materials will be bilingual (i.e., English and Spanish), and virtual participation options will be provided for remote participants.

Gender and Social Inclusion

In line with GEF's Gender Equality Policy, the project will prioritize gender-responsive and socially inclusive approaches to ensure equitable participation of women, youth, and minority groups. A Gender Action Plan will be developed during the project preparation grant (PPG) phase, based on available information to identify barriers and opportunities for women in area and ecosystem-based management of BBNJ and in light of the provisions in the BBNJ Agreement on gender. The project will look for, and take advantage of, opportunities through a participatory approach to increase the profile and role of women in ABNJ decision-making at the level of the Eastern Pacific Ocean and contribute to make a targeted effort to advance positive growth through a gender lens. Specific activities and related indicators will target women, youth, underrepresented groups and local communities, including through trainings. Gender-disaggregated data will be collected and reported to monitor equitable benefits.

Engagement with Private Sector

The project will engage private sector to leverage expertise, resources and innovation for progressing in area and ecosystem-based management of BBNJ. Key private sector partners include fishing industry stakeholders (e.g., tuna fishing companies operating in the Easter Pacific Ocean), who will provide opportunities for partnerships and participate in workshops to co-design management scenarios that balance conservation and economic aspects. A stakeholder-project partner roundtable will be convened annually to align project outputs with food and job security needs, taking also into account the inputs from the private sector and fostering sustainable practices and potential additional co-financing opportunities.

GEF Core Indicators

The project will contribute to the following Cis: "CI 2: Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use", "CI 7: Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management", "CI 8: Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels" and "CI 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments". The determination on targets associated to these indicators in the different stages of the project cycle, as well as the methodologies for their determination, will be made in due course in the framework of planned stakeholders' consultations, mainly with IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members.