

TRACKING OF ATSEA-2 MTR MANAGEMENT RESPONSE AS OF 13 SEPTEMBER 2022

NOTE: Tracking and reporting of status will be done on a periodic basis based on completion dates identified. The same will be shared with UNDP COs periodically (particularly with UNDP IDN and TL).

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OVERALL PROJECT:

<p>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 1. Re. Attainability of End of Project Targets Within the Project Timeframe – <i>In accordance with UNDP and GEF policies, the UNDP CO in Indonesia as the Principal Project Representative should prepare and submit request for an extension of 12-18 months in order to recover the time lost due to the slow project start and COVID-19 restrictions.</i> The start of implementation of the project was delayed due to the protracted negotiations for obtaining agreements and official signatures on documents for the project management arrangements and slow recruitment of the regional and national project teams. COVID-19 restrictions imposed in early 2020 caused further delays in implementation. Consequently, numerous project activities had to be postponed and/or modified. Despite several adaptive management actions of the project teams the delivery of several outputs was slower than originally expected. There is a risk that not all end-of-project (EOP) targets will be achieved by the original project completion date of June 2024.</p>					
<p>Management Response: The Project welcomes the recommendation. In line with this, the ATSEA-2 Project Team initiated its assessment of the remaining multi-year work plan and budget to identify the most feasible timeframe for the extension for the project, which will be submitted to the Implementing Partners, Implementing Agency and Executing Agencies for further review. Based on the result of the assessment and discussions with relevant project partners, the Project Team, in collaboration with the IA and EAs, will seek further guidance and approval from the RSC as Project Board and to complete the required UNDP/GEF requirements for the proposed no-cost extension.</p>					
Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Complete a comprehensive work plan and budget assessment of available funding, forecast expenditures for the project, and develop scenario on most feasible timeframe for project extension.	31 August 2022	RPMU and NCUs	Initiated	The work plan and budget assessment are ongoing at per country and regional level to provide initial reference to the Project Team and Project Board.	Status: Completed Comment: Review of remaining deliverables and budget for 2022, draft AWP and Budget for 2023, and forecast deliverables and expenditures for 2024 presented by RPMU and NCUs at the Project Planning Workshop conducted in Bali on August 10 and 11, 2022. The assessment shows a

					project extension of 1 year for Indonesia component, 9 months extension for Timor-Leste component, and 6 months extension for the Regional and PNG component to end of 2024, based on their varying original end dates. The AWP and Budget were further refined and are ready for submission to NPB meetings scheduled in September and the 4 th RSC scheduled in November 2022. Zoom Meeting with UNDP BRH, UNDP Indonesia, PEMSEA and RPMU was also conducted on August 26, 2022 wherein further guidance was provided on process requirements to facilitate request for project extension.
1.2 Building on the assessment, complete the proposed Work Plans and Budget for 2023 and 2024 (including the most feasible no-cost extension period) and submit to UNDP, PEMSEA, NPBs and RSC.	14 October 2022	RPMU and NCU	Initiated	Parallel to the assessment, the NCUs and RPMU are already developing draft AWP and Budget for 2023 and 2024 with budget assessment on possible extension period.	Status: Initiated Comment: As part of ongoing preparation for NPB and RSC meetings, copies of proposed AWP and Budget will be shared by first week of October.
1.3 Convene the NPBs per country to review the proposed work plans and budget for Country Components, and the RSC to review the regional component and overall proposal for project extension and	30 September (NPBs) 05 November 2022 (RSC)	NCUs, RPMU, UNDP, PEMSEA Implementing Partners per country/NPBs, and RSC	Not initiated	To be scheduled and organized with NPBs and RSC.	Status: Initiated Comment: Preparation for NPB and RSC meetings ongoing wherein the proposed AWP and Budget will be submitted for review and approval. NPB meetings scheduled:

corresponding work plans and budget.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Indonesia (Sept.20-21) ➤ PNG (Sept. 22) ➤ TL (end of Sept.) RSC meeting (Nov. 2-3)
1.4 Upon final RSC approval, RPMU will coordinate with UNDP and PEMSEA to formalize the extension of the project based on the agreed most feasible timeframe.	16 December 2022	RPMU PEMSEA UNDP	Not initiated	The RPMU will seek further guidance from UNDP on the process.	Status: Initiated Comment: Preparation for RSC meeting ongoing wherein the proposed AWP and Budget will be submitted for review and approval.
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 2. Re. Application of Theory of Change for Project Monitoring – <i>The RPMU in cooperation with the NCUs should use the ATSEA-2 ToC in monitoring of the progress in the project implementation in order to identify early indicators of progress or lack of progress towards achievement of the planned targets and to facilitate prioritization of activities.</i> The ATSEA-2 Project Document was prepared at the time when an explicit Theory of Change (ToC) was not yet required for GEF projects. Upon recommendation of the 2 nd RSC meeting, a comprehensive ToC for the project was prepared and subsequently presented to the countries. The ToC provides a framework and causal links between intermediate and final results. It will be desirable to use the ToC in monitoring of the project results. This can be particularly important when the intended impacts are longer-term and information about intermediate outcomes is needed to inform decisions.					
Management Response: The Project would like to further clarify that in line with the GEF and UNDP M&E reporting requirements, the key bi-annual and annual monitoring reports pertaining to Project Assurance Report (PAR) and Project Implementation Report (PIR) are currently aligned or based on the Project's approved Strategic Results Framework (SRF). The Theory of Change (ToC) that was completed by the Project in 2021 has been further recommended by the 3 rd RSC to serve as key reference to guide the development of the ATS Strategic Action Plan (SAP) Monitoring System as well the updating of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), SAPs and National Action Programs (NAPs) in 2022-2023. Recognizing the value of the MTR recommendation on the ToC, the ATSEA-2 Project Team will take into account the elements of the ToC together with the existing SRF as part of its internal quarterly monitoring and reporting, in order to ensure that elements of the ToC are already considered and reflected when subsequent PAR and PIR reports are developed and submitted to UNDP and GEF.					
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1.1 Align the ToC with the AWP and SRF-based internal quarterly M&E reporting system of ATSEA-2 and ensure that further reporting to GEF	30 September 2022 (to be applied up to end of project reporting)	RPMU and NCUs	Not initiated	The RPMU and NCUs will ensure to reflect this starting from the next internal quarterly reporting and will be maintained up to end of the project reporting.	Status: Initiated Comment: Internal quarterly M&E report format for RPMU and NCUs slightly adjusted to reporting.

improved fish gear/techniques shall be defined better following existing national/local legislations for easier monitoring. For PNG, baselines in support of the EOPs and indicators will be updated based on planned assessments to be conducted as part of the South Fly Artisanal Fishery Management Plan (SFAFMP). The results arising from Outcome 2.1 interventions also contributes to achieving the Objective level target on ATS region's contribution to move globally over-exploited fisheries to more sustainable levels and in in this case it is important to set clear parameters that assessment and monitoring on fish stocks will focus on Red Snapper as key regional commodity and ATSEA-2 target.

Apart from Outcomes 1 and 2.1 cited above, the Project would like to provide further information that based on most recent discussions and confirmation from Indonesia and Timor-Leste, the Overall Project Objective on Landscapes and Seascapes (Indicator #3 with End of Project Target of 800,000 ha coverage on MPAs) would need further adjustment. Based on the final Marine Spatial Planning completed for the newly established Kolepom MPA in Indonesia, the coverage is only up to 353,287ha (lower than the 555,000 original target), whereas in the case of Betano-Klakuk in Timor-Leste, the assessment and boundary mapping, recently completed and currently undergoing stakeholder consultation, indicated that the coverage is only 20,906 ha (lower than the 90,000 original target). The assessment in Betano covers only up to 2 nautical miles outer boundary as the maximum allowed in MPAs in Timor-Leste as confirmed by MAF. While the support to existing MPAs in SE Aru in Indonesia (covering 114,000ha) and Nino Konis Santana in Timor-Leste (covering 55,660 ha) remains the same. In line with this, the new overall total coverage would amount only to 543,853ha (lower than the 800,000 target). Taking into consideration the results of country assessments, the Project would like to seek further guidance from UNDP and to seek further feedback from the RSC on the revision of the EOP.

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1.1 For Outcome 1.1: The RPMU, in cooperation with the NCUs and PEMSEA, will develop alternative target related to RGM and submit the same for discussion in the 4 th RSC Meeting	05 November 2022	RPMU, NCUs, PEMSEA	Initiated	Concerns about the End of Project Target has been raised in internal project M&E meetings. The project team will proceed to formulate alternatives.	Status: Initiated Comment: Preparation of document for RSC meeting initiated
1.2 For Outcome 2.1: On monitoring and reporting on regional Red Snapper fish stocks, the RPMU will facilitate further assessment building on the completed regional baseline estimates on Red Snapper and the ongoing assessment in Probolinggo and Merauke. RPMU will	30 June 2023	RPMU, NCUs	Initiated	The data collection in Probolinggo and Merauke is ongoing as well as additional primary data gathering are being conducted related to fisheries in the 3 countries as part of the ongoing TDA updating. Data generated from these initiatives will be further used to update the regional baseline estimate	

	also continue coordination with NCUs in the completion of assessments to establish more updated baselines to facilitate better measurement of progress on reduced fishing effort and use of sustainable fishing gears and techniques (more specific proposed actions on this are provided under the country component recommendations below)				on Red Snapper at the regional level.	
1.4	Related to the End of Project Target on the project's support to expanding and ensuring effectiveness of MPAs in the region, the NCUs will submit the final Marine Spatial and Zoning Plan of Kolepom MPA to NPB Indonesia, and the Final Assessment in Betano-Klakuk to NPB Timor-Leste for final review and confirmation of the hectare coverage.	30 September 2022	NCU Indonesia and Timor-Leste; and NPBs in Indonesia and Timor-Leste	Initiated	The Marine Spatial /Zoning Plan in Kolepom MPA has been completed and the final coverage has been confirmed. The reduction on coverage in Kolepom was also raised by Indonesia in the RSC meetings. While the Assessment in Betano-Klakuk has been completed and MAF has confirmed that measurement of up to 2 nautical miles outer boundary is the maximum allowable limit in the country, but stakeholder consultations is still ongoing. The results of these assessments were also reported in the PIR 2022. NPB meetings in both countries are targeted to be conducted in October, in preparation also for the RSC meeting in November.	Status: Initiated Comment: For Indonesia: Indonesia's NPB meeting is scheduled on September 20-21, 2022. All meeting documents are ready including MTR recommendations on targets for modification. For Timor-Leste: Preparation for NPB meeting in TL ongoing including development of meeting documents which will include MTR recommendations. TL's NPB meeting is scheduled in end of September 2022.
1.5	The final decision arising from the NPBs will be submitted to the 4 th RSC Meeting in 2022 and	05 November 2022	NCU Indonesia and Timor-Leste; RPMU; RSC	Not initiated	The 4 th RSC meeting is targeted to be convened in November of 2022. This matter will be included as part of the meeting	Status: Initiated Comment: Preparation for RSC meeting initiated

included in the subsequent PAR and PIR reporting to UNDP and GEF to serve as official basis for the reduction of the EOP on hectare coverage on MPAs.				agenda (<i>subject to further consultation with UNDP on process related to changing of EOPs</i>).	
1.6 UNDP will facilitate the updating of the EOP.	30 June 2023 (in time with next PIR Reporting)	UNDP Indonesia	Not initiated	The results of the Kolepom and Betano assessments have already been reported as part of PIR 2022, but further confirmation on changing of EOPs are still subject to further discussion/confirmation as cited above.	
<p>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 4. Re. Exit Strategy – <i>The PEMSEA, RPMU and NCUs should prepare an exit strategy for the project with emphasis on formalisation of financial commitments of the countries to the RGM functionality and the SAP/NAPs implementation.</i></p> <p>Financial mechanisms for SAP/NAPs implementation and for functioning of the RGM beyond the time boundaries of the project are critical for sustainability of the ATSEA-2 results. The completed Financial Landscape Assessment indicated that the original expectation of secured contributions from the ATSEA-2 countries is not realistic as the short-term financial sustainability will be dependent on donor funding for Phase-3 of the project.</p> <p>Management Response: The Project Document has stipulated measures on sustainability and replicability which will mainly depend on the success of ATSEA-2 to establish the regional and national mechanisms with wider stakeholder engagement, and corresponding financial mechanism to support longer term regional collaboration and implementation of the updated SAP and NAPs, as well as country support to align and mainstream updated SAP and NAPs priorities in national development programs or plans.</p> <p>In line with the ATS countries SAP vision, the Project agrees with the MTR recommendation and is committed to continue carrying out the project target activities in support of RGM, SAP and NAPs. The Project will work closely with the countries and other project partners to secure commitments and support, and to systematically plan the transition into an RGM, including the completion and adoption of the updated SAP and NAPs to guide post ATSEA-2 regional collaboration and action, and completion of the 5-Year Sustainable Financing Plan in support of the SAP and NAPs implementation and RGM operations, formalized through a Ministerial Declaration.</p>					
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1.1 Secure RSC approval on the preferred or most viable RGM model and	05 November 2022	RPMU	Initiated	Building on country recommendations a consolidated RGM model has been developed and agreed	Status: Initiated Comment: National consultations on the

transition plan at the 4 th RSC Meeting.				upon with National Advisers. Country consultations are ongoing.	consolidated RGM model conducted in Indonesia and Timor-Leste in August 2022, while the consultation in PNG is scheduled on September 21 and 22, 2022. While a zoom meeting is being scheduled with AUS.
1.2 Roll out the transition plan at the regional and national level in cooperation with the countries, including developing the key elements of the RGM	30 December 2023	RPMU, NCUs, NPB and RSC	Not initiated	This will serve to test the operation of the RGM before the formal adoption through a Ministerial Declaration.	
1.3 Complete the updated SAP and NAPs and secure country endorsements at NPB and RSC level.	30 December 2023	NCUs and RPMU NPB and RSC	Not initiated		
1.4 Complete the 5-Year cost estimate and Sustainable Financial Plan, conduct country consultations, and coordinate with countries to secure initial country commitments for financial support for RGM and the implementation of updated SAP and NAPs.	30 December 2023	RPMU	Initiated	Initial scoping and consultations were undertaken as part of the Financial Landscape Assessment	
1.5 Secure high-level country commitment in all ATS countries to formally recognize the RGM as long-term regional collaboration mechanism by adopting the RGM with Financial Plan, as well as the updated SAP	30 January 2024	NCUs and RPMU NPB and RSC	Not initiated	.	

and NAPs through a Ministerial Declaration.					
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 5. Re. ATSEA Programme Sustainability – <i>UNDP in cooperation with the beneficiary countries should initiate consultations with the GEF OFPs from the ATS beneficiary countries regarding the potential preparation of ATSEA-3 project concept.</i> The time for full achievement of several outcomes could exceed the lifetime of the ATSEA-2 project and will require follow-up donor financing. GEF-8 that is currently being finalised appears to be one of the funding sources for a follow-up phase of the project.					
Management Response: The ATSEA-2 Project Team is committed to work closely with UNDP and PEMSEA and the ATS countries in this endeavor. The ongoing updating of the TDA, SAP and NAPs may serve as basis in developing the Project Concept for ATSEA-3 with the key objective of ensuring continuity in regional and country efforts and to support long-term implementation of the SAP and NAPs.					
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1.1 Under UNDP's guidance, secure country support and commitment to pursue the development of ATSEA-3 Project through discussion with NPBs and RSC.	05 November 2022	UNDP, PEMSEA RSC	Not initiated	The recommendation for Phase 3 will be first discussed at the Project Board meeting on 15 August 2022. It is expected that building from the meeting discussion, next steps will be further clarified.	Status: Initiated Comment: Zoom Meeting with UNDP BRH, UNDP Indonesia, PEMSEA and RPMU was conducted on August 26, 2022 wherein further guidance was provided on process requirements to pursue the development of ATSEA-3. As part of the requirements, the same agenda will be included in all NPB meetings in September 2022 to explain the process, rationale and requirements and target securing of initial country support to pursue the development and submission of a project concept for ATSEA-3. The same will be tabled at the 4 th RSC in November 2022.

1.2 In close consultation with the ATS member countries UNDP (and PEMSEA) to take the lead (with RPMU support) in facilitating the development of PIF and securing of country endorsements.	28 February 2023	UNDP, PEMSEA (with RPMU assistance)	Not initiated		
1.3 UNDP to facilitate submission of country endorsed Project Identification Form (PIF) alongside with a Project Preparation Grant (PPG) request for GEF's review and approval	31 May 2023	UNDP, PEMSEA, RSC/RCC (with RPMU assistance)	Not initiated		
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 6. Re. NIMC operationalization – <i>The RPMU in cooperation with PEMSEA and the NCUs in cooperation with the participating countries should ensure that all three NIMCs are fully functional through ensuring permanent representation of stakeholder institutions on the NIMCs. Furthermore, the ATSEA-2 project teams should map existing national and regional sustainable development planning processes and identify short- and medium-term opportunities for mainstreaming the SAP/NAPs priority actions into the national development policy and planning frameworks.</i> Results of this work should be presented for consideration of the NIMCs. Relevance of the ATSEA-2 interventions to the needs and priorities of the beneficiary countries is an important factor of the project sustainability. Fully operational NIMCs will serve as an effective vehicle for mainstreaming the ATS SAP/NAPs priority actions into relevant national development plans.					
Management Response: The Project would like to clarify that the NIMC in PNG has been established and has been operating since 2021, while the NIMC in Timor-Leste was informally convened with an 8 member task team in 2020, and was formally established through a Declaration in June 2022. In the case of Indonesia, the institutional assessment and documents to support legality of NIMC have been completed, however the formal establishment and operationalization of NIMC in Indonesia was hampered by the ongoing reorganization of MMAF. Recognizing the value of the MTR recommendation to pursue deeper and more meaningful engagement and function of NIMC to support mainstreaming of SAP and NAP priorities in country programs and plans, the Project will pursue the formalization of the NIMC in Indonesia within 2022 and support further strengthening of all NIMCs in the three countries by incorporating joint planning, sharing of relevant information and programs, and reporting of ongoing programs or initiatives that are already aligned with ATSEA programme as part of regular agenda of the NIMC meetings. The NIMC will also be tapped to play a crucial role in the process of updating and review of the country NAPs to ensure that priority areas that will be identified and agreed upon will be submitted for consideration in subsequent national development programs, and relevant plans and/or policies.					
Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no	Comments	

			longer applicable)		
1.1 Conduct regular NIMC meetings to undertake collaborative planning, discussion, and reporting of progress, strategies and approaches in support of the ATSEA programme, SAP and NAPs.	10 June 2024	NCUs NIMCs	Initiated	Note that NIMC meetings in PNG and TL have already been undertaken and will continue on an annual or biannual basis. Subsequent NIMC meetings in all 3 countries will include regular agenda on SAP and NAP joint planning and reporting.	
1.2 Engage the NIMCs in each country in the updating process of SAP and NAPs to identify areas of alignment and support, and secure inputs from the NIMC members in the updated SAP and NAPs and corresponding SAP and NAP Financial Plans.	30 December 2023	NCUs NIMCs	Not initiated	The updating of SAP and NAPs are targeted to commence by December 2022 up to 2023	
1.3 Upon completion and endorsement of the updated SAP and NAPs at NPB/NIMC and RSC/RCC level, secure country commitments to submit key priorities of the SAP and NAPs in their respective country or relevant Ministries development programs or plans.	30 November 2023	NCUs and RPMU NIMCs RSC/RCC	Not initiated	The updated SAP and NAPs are expected to be endorsed at least at NPB and RSC level by 2023	
1.4. Include country commitments to mainstream updated SAP and NAP priorities in their national development planning and programmes	30 January 2024	RPMU and NCUs NPBs ATS Countries	Not initiated	The Ministerial Forum is expected to be convened in 2024	

as part of the 2 nd ATS Ministerial Declaration.					
<p>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 7. Re. RSC Meetings– <i>PEMSEA and RPMU in cooperation with the Implementing and Executing Agencies should more actively use options for holding ad-hoc intersessional meetings of the RSC to ensure timely approval of important documents, effective management of project risks and endorsement of critical decisions needed for implementation of the project.</i></p> <p>The MTR observed that the RSC has duly executed its oversight function for the project. However, several important documents were prepared and had to wait until the meeting of the RSC. Increased frequency of the RSC meetings will accelerate approval of important decisions for critical actions in the project implementation.</p> <p>Management Response: The Project would like to clarify that as part of the adopted ToR of the RSC, ad hoc intersessional meetings may be convened upon request. In the past years, the Project has also organized thematic RSC discussion to secure RSC guidance and inputs on crucial regional reports or assessments. One intersessional RSC meeting was also organized in 2020 as part of management response to gauge impact and provide guidance in project implementation at the time of COVID.</p> <p>Noting the value of accelerating approval and to ensure more effective project management, the ATSEA-2 Project Team concurs with the recommendation and will coordinate and secure RSC approval to put in place a mid-year RSC meeting (preferably virtual to save cost) as part of its regular meetings. The mid-year meetings are envisioned to mainly facilitate intersessional review of key progress as well as review and guide possible adjustment in annual work plan and budget as deemed necessary.</p>					
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1.1 Secure RSC approval on the inclusion of mid-year/intersessional RSC meeting in its annual activities/meetings, or to organize intersessional high-level thematic discussions as needed.	05 November 2022	RPMU	Not initiated	This may form part of the Project Board discussion on August 15 , 2022 or may be tabled for further discussion and confirmation at the 4 th RSC Meeting in November 2022.	Status: Initiated Comment: Preparation for RSC ongoing. MTR recommendations and agreed management actions included in the meeting agenda.
1.2 Upon concurrence from RSC, the RPMU to include convening of the mid-year RSC meetings as part of its annual work plan.	05 November 2022	RPMU	Not initiated		
<p>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 8. Re. Enhancing Community Understanding and Engagement of SAP/NAP Implementation – <i>PEMSEA and the RPMU should consider preparation of popular versions of the updated SAP/NAPs for better information of the target communities.</i> The project ultimate goal</p>					

is protection and sustainable management of ATS marine and coastal resources through implementation of the regional SAP and related NAPs. More active involvement of target beneficiary communities could be ensured if the local leaders and community-based organisations fully understand the need for the SAP/NAPs actions particularly in cases of impacts of the actions on local livelihood and subsistence challenges.

Management Response: The Project concurs with the MTR recommendation and will pursue the inclusion of development of supporting information materials and conduct of awareness building activities as part of the SAP and NAPs implementation. In particular, local Communication Plan linked to specific target activities at the site levels will be developed and customized on their needs and priorities. Key products and activities to be pursued may include: brochures, posters, project sign boards, community environmental contests, local policy briefs which can serve as reference for public consultations and local strategic planning, targeted information materials and engagement of targeted stakeholders, etc.

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1.1 Support NCUs in developing local communication plans to guide information dissemination and stakeholder activities in support of SAP and NAPs implementation	30 December 2023	RPMU and NCUs	Not initiated	An ATSEA-2 Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed at the regional level and will serve as guide in further development of specific local communication plans	
1.2 Develop different types of information materials or products and activities that would cater to specific target local stakeholders and beneficiaries	30 December 2023	RPMU and NCUs	Not initiated		
1.3 Tap media networks of ATSEA-2 to facilitate wider reach	10 June 2024	RPMU and NCUs	Not initiated		

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INDONESIA COMPONENT

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 9. Re. Relevance or Attainability of Some End of Project Target and Activities – *The RPMU in cooperation with the NCU Indonesia should conduct a critical revision and reassessment of the following elements of the project SRF which were observed to be either not relevant or not attainable:*

- *Modify Activity 2.1.3-8 on IUU fishing through conducting a study to establish a baseline on IUU fishing in FMA 718 in Aru and Merauke areas as project sites*
- *Modify Activity 2.1.3-10 on improved provincial registration of vessel systems for a more specific definition of the target vessel systems in Maluku and Papua covering three commodities (red snapper, shrimp, and barramundi)*
- *Revise the EOP target for Indicator 16 through utilization of new MPA management effectiveness scoring of EVIKA and potentially adopt a new indicator for the Kolepom MPA to comply with Indonesian government requirements*
- *Reconsider relevance of Activity 2.3.2-16 on the feasibility study for ecotourism development in the Kolepom MPA*
- *Modify Activities 2.3.3-6 and 2.3.3-7 on conducting a feasibility study on alternate livelihood tourism opportunities for the communities in Aru Islands, Rote, and Merauke and possibly other sites through education for local communities on turtles' conservation while providing alternative nature-based livelihoods or capacity building options*
- *Reconsider relevance of Activity 2.4.3-4 on technical training for maintenance and repair of the solar-powered water desalination units and eventually replace with activities related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects, for access to safe and affordable drinking water*
- *Modify the EOP targets for under Indicators 13 and 14 to make them clearer and more specific and attainable*

Management Response: The Project concurs with the MTR recommendation and will pursue the clarification of each the identified EOPs with concern. In particular, the Project would like to propose modification on the following two (2) targets related to Protected Area Management Effectiveness Score of SE Aru and Support to Water Desalination Plant in Nusa Manuk, for further confirmation with the NPB and RSC:

- In compliance with both the MMAF requirement on the use of the EVIKA system and the ATSEA-2 Project requirement on the use of the METT system, the NCU will pursue assessment for both systems and report results at mid-term (within 2022) and end of project. It should be noted that the Project's end of project METT rating of 92 (from baseline of 39) was also deemed unrealistic taking into consideration that more mature MPAs in Indonesia have yet to reach the rating of 80 METT. Thus, a proposed target of not more than 70 METT (50-85% for EVIKA) will be submitted for consideration as new EOP.
- For target output to provide capacity in maintenance and repair for Nusa Manuk's water desalination plant, it should be noted that the facility has been broken way before the start of the ATSEA-2 project and this was further confirmed in inspections of ATSEA-2. Given the remaining available limited time and resources, the ATSEA-2 Project Team proposes to drop the target and reallocate the intervention to Landu Tii of Rote Ndao which has the same issues as Nusa Manuk on access to clean water. Since the project team already have interventions in the location, there will be higher impact by providing a more comprehensive intervention in Landu Tii. This location was also identified as hotspot for oil spill and climate impact.
- Note: The proposed change in hectare coverage in the newly established MPA in Kolepom is included as part of Management Response under Recommendation or Issue #3.

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<p>1.1 Submit the MTR recommendation and convene the NPB and RSC to secure their approval and to formalize the change of EOP and activity level, as follows:</p> <p>Activity level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baseline IUU fisheries in 718 with specific focus in Aru and Merauke area - Improve fishing vessel registration at the provincial level for red snapper, shrimp and barramundi in Maluku and Papua - Modify feasibility tourism assessment to feasibility for fisheries processing product or another relevant alternative livelihood - Propose changing of location for WASH project from Nusa Manuk to Landu Tii <p>End of Project (EOP) Target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Align EVIKA and METT tracking tools to support management effectiveness in SE Aru - Specify the EOP of reduce fishing pressure and 	30 September 2022	NCUs NIMCs NPB RSC	Initiated	<p>This will be targeted for submission at the NPB meeting for early September 2022 and for further discussion and confirmation at the 4th RSC Meeting in November 2022.</p> <p>The assessment on fishing vessel from 3 commodities has already been identified in the EAFM assessment and IUU assessment</p>	<p>Status: Initiated</p> <p>Comment: NPB meeting is scheduled on September 20-21, 2022. All meeting documents including targets with suggested modifications included in the agenda.</p>

improve use fish/gear techniques based on further assessments					
1.2 Collaborate with MMAF and Provincial Government of Maluku and Papua to escalate initiatives on fishing vessel registration	30 December 2023	NCUs NIMCs NPB	Initiated	The fisheries fishing vessel registration is already ongoing as part of the EAFM action plan implementation. NCU will further assist the Provincial Governments in the process	
1.3 Conduct an assessment on EVIKA and METT for SE Aru to see how EVIKA aligns with the METT system and report both EVIKA and METT scores (at mid-term or within 2022 and end of project) to comply both with the ATSEA-2 project requirement on METT and the internal country requirement on EVIKA.	30 September 2022 and 30 January 2024	NCUs NIMCs NPB	Initiated	Expert to do the assessment has been engaged. Result for assessment this 2022 is expected to be available by end of September 2022. The second rating will be done by end of project.	Status: Initiated Comment: Method/guidance for the assessment covering both EVIKA and METT will be discussed at the NPB meeting scheduled on September 20-21, 2022.
1.4 Conduct feasibility study on fisheries processing product or another relevant alternative livelihood	30 December 2022	NCUs NIMCs NPB	Initiated	The TOR has been developed and under procurement process from UNDP for Aru and Merauke. The implementation forms part of the EAFM action plan for Red Snapper, Shrimp and Barramundi Feasibility study in Rote Ndao is already available and is being implemented since 2021	
1.5 Collaborate with MMAF, local government and other partner to manage gap assessment related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) for access to safe and affordable drinking water in Landu Tii	30 December 2023	NCUs NIMCs UNDP	Not initiated	Actions will build on recommendations and will be aligned with ICM action plan that has already been developed	

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 10. Re.– Administrative and Procurement Procedures for Indonesia Component- *The UNDP CO in Indonesia in cooperation with the NCU should conduct a critical review of the procurement and other administrative assistance and identify causes of delays.* Several project stakeholders perceive the administrative and procurement procedures under UNDP CO Indonesia causing delays in the project implementation.

Management Response: The ATSEA-2 Project Team is committed to work closely with UNDP procurement unit to identify the gaps or aspects causing delays in the procurement process and to jointly identify strategic actions. The project team also seeks further guidance from UNDP to manage the procurement and financial process from field site locations where there are limited access and facilities.

Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Coordinate with UNDP to identify major issues or cause on delay of administration and procurement processes	30 September 2022	NCUs UNDP	Initiated	The issue has been raised and initially discussed at Senior Management Team level, further guidance from UNDP is needed	Status: Initiated Comment: NCU has raised the issues in PSM and PSM has already undertaken actions to speed up the process. A separate discussion is also being arranged to discuss other concerns that are coming from other team (FRMU) requiring a different modality for financial requirement.
1.2 Conduct vendor registration for potential stakeholders that are or will be involved in project implementation and promote potential vendors from hotel, car rentals and other third party particularly in project sites	30 December 2023	NCUs NPB UNDP	Initiated	The registration in relation to current activities is already ongoing. More explanation of UNDP procedure will need to be provided to potential vendors in field sites	
1.3 Identify an additional team to support administration and procurement staffing to further	30 September 2022	NCUs NPB UNDP	Initiated	The additional scope of work from administration staff from NCU has already been	Status: Initiated

support and facilitate more efficient administration process and secure approval of the same in the NPB meeting				approved by the NPD. The hiring process is ongoing. Further process will be undertaken for the development of TOR for procurement support.	Comment: Related to status under 1.1 above.
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 11. Re.– NPB Indonesia Meetings- <i>The NCU Indonesia should intensify consultations with the NPB and UNDP Indonesia for focusing more on performance and achieving results through arrangement of the NPB meetings at least semi-annually (at the middle and the end/beginning of the year).</i> The once per year frequency of meetings of the NPB Indonesia is not sufficient for achieving needed decisions for smooth implementation of the planned activities in Indonesia.					
Management Response: The Project welcomes the recommendation. In line with this, the ATSEA-2 Project Team has initiated in 2021 the convening of at least 2 NPB meeting in a year to track project implementation and arrange the strategic workplan. The ATSEA-2 Project Team will coordinate further with the NPB to discuss more strategic issues and design a more performance and results-based agenda. Specific issues will be further identified and tackled at technical meetings with resulting major recommendations elevated to the NPB for final review and decisions.					
Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Coordinate and facilitate periodic meetings with NIMCs or MMAF related to technical issues based on thematic issues	28 January 2024	NCUs NPB UNDP	Not initiated	The formalization of NIMC will be pursued within 2022. Periodic meetings will be convened once NIMC is fully operational.	
1.2 NCU to ensure and arrange at least 2 (two) NPB meetings in a year focusing more on performance and results-based agenda	28 January 2024	NCUs NPB UNDP	Not initiated	NCU will seek further assistance from UNDP and consult further with the NPB in developing a template MoM/guide for conducting results-based NPB meetings	

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TIMOR-LESTE COMPONENT

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 12. Re. Stakeholder Ownership of Project Interventions– *The Timor-Leste NCU in cooperation with the UNDP CO should ensure inclusion of additional stakeholders, in particular, local authorities at Suco level need to be more involved in the decision-making on implementation of projects in their areas for reinforcing their ownership of project interventions for community development, coastal management, and environmental protection, in particular with respect to IUU fishing in the Timor Sea*

Management Response: The Project notes the findings and recommendations and is fully committed to ensure that key stakeholders are properly informed and engaged in the activities being or to be undertaken in their respective sites or areas, including in Suco as suggested by the MTR. This will be undertaken by ensuring proper identification, notification, and engagement of relevant stakeholders on the different activities as part of the roll out of ICM plan and other livelihood related initiatives in concerned communities. A pre- and post- activity simple survey will also be included as part of regular initiative to track stakeholder feedback and concerns.

Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 With support from site mobilizer, identify and engage relevant stakeholders at the site level in various project activities	08 March 2024	NCU	Initiated	The site mobilizer is already undertaking actions in mobilizing relevant stakeholders to ensure that they are properly informed and engaged in the activities being or to be undertaken in their respective sites or areas, including in Suco	Status: Initiated Comment: Site mobilizer already undertaking actions for more active stakeholder engagement. NCU also plans to hire additional site mobilizer.

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 13. Re. Measurement of Impacts of Livelihood Initiatives– *The NCU in cooperation with the RPMU should strengthen the M&E system to reflect the activities more comprehensively as a ‘bridge’ between UNDP ATSEA 2 project and the Government of Timor-Leste, and to gather evidence on the impact of the community livelihoods support projects in the country.*

Management Response:

The Project notes the findings and recommendations and is fully committed to ensure that the M&E system is strengthened to reflect the activities more comprehensively as a ‘bridge’ between UNDP ATSEA 2 project and the Government of Timor-Leste. The project is already monitoring and reporting impacts of various livelihood activities through the adopted ICM plan etc. and will further ensure extra effort to gather evidence on the impact of the community livelihoods support projects in the country as the ICM Plan implementation progresses. The project is also considering recruiting an M&E officer to support the NCU, with expertise in communication who will further assist the project in communicating its activities and results on the ground as well as their respective impacts on community livelihoods in the country. The M&E for the UNDP country office has also been providing support towards M&E related activities and will strengthen it in coordination with the project site mobilizers to collect all the relevant evidence on the impact of the community livelihood support projects in the country.

Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Implement and monitor the impacts of the ICM Plan implementation for Posto Administrative Barique in Manatuto Municipality	08 March 2024	ATSEA-2 PMU and UNDP TL CO	Initiated	ATSEA-2 will support specific community-based activities in support of the ICM plan in PA Barique. The activities under the plan will be implemented by a selected NGO following the issuance of a call for proposals, where different NGOs have expressed interest. Final selection of appropriate NGO is expected by September. The community-based activities will include M&E to gather evidence on the impact of the community livelihoods support projects.	
1.2 Recruit an M&E expert to support the NCU	30 December 2022	ATSEA-PMU/UNDP TL Country Office	Not initiated	The recruitment of the Communication Assistant/M&E will be initiated and finalized by early 2023	
1.3. Conduct a refresher training on M&E for relevant project staff	30 March 2023	RPMU UNDP CO	Not initiated	A briefing on M&E on basic M&E terminologies and process specific to the requirements of UNDP and GEF in support of ATSEA-2 M&E requirements were provided to the National Project Coordinator by the M&E Specialist of RPMU. However, a refresher training with additional elements on impact/results-based monitoring and reporting is further needed for the national project coordinator as well as other NCU staff.	

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 14. Re. Alternative Livelihood Tourism Initiatives – *The NCU in cooperation with the RPMU should conduct comprehensive planning for alternate livelihood support projects for communities in the targeted municipalities. Beneficiary community groups should be supported in development of business plans and sharing of success stories in order to identify opportunities for making the best possible use of their comparative advantages and optimize achievement of results.*

Management Response:

The project takes note of the recommendation and in coordination with RPMU, the beneficiary community groups will be supported accordingly to support sharing of success stories and identifying opportunities for making the best possible use of their comparative advantages and optimize achievement of results. The project is already doing this by offering financial and cooperatives management trainings etc. for the established cooperative and other beneficiary group members. The project will further continue to build on these to continue improving the ability of targeted beneficiary community groups for good and sustainable results.

Four (4) calls for proposals have been issued and potential NGOs/CBOs/CSOs have expressed interest to facilitate the implementation of the specific livelihood activities related to marine turtles conservation, establishment of drought resilient home gardens and ICM plan implementation. The actions to be undertaken includes promotion of ecotourism and livelihood opportunities for the local communities—through the established local groups/cooperatives—while strengthening the management of marine coastal resources. Through these engagements, the selected NGOs will implement activities following a clear business framework and ensure more systematic execution of activities, including monitoring and reporting of impacts or benefits. The capacity of these NGOs/CBOs/CSOs will also be strengthened to further help in sustaining the results.

Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Complete the process for Call for proposals	31 August 2022	UNDP CO ATSEA-2 PMU	Initiated	The review of proposals and contract awards to be finalized in August 2022 and activities implementation to start in September 2022 for a period not exceeding one year.	Status: Completed Comment: Contracts have already been signed by the selected NGO. Implementation of work has just been initiated.
1.2 Coordinate with RPMU for a comprehensive planning to ensure more strategic and systemic design and implementation of targeted alternate livelihood support projects	31 August 2023	NCU RPMU	Initiated	Discussions and coordination are ongoing Key strategic points to be considered include: identification of the stakeholders, conduct of pre and post engagement surveys, development and stakeholder consultation and awareness building on a clear business plan for community-based alternative	

				livelihoods, and inclusion of regular monitoring of impacts to beneficiaries.	
1.3 Carry out and monitor the implementation and impacts of the agreed plans in close consultation with the targeted communities and supporting NGOs/CBOs/CSOs	08 March 2024	NCU RPMU	Not initiated	To be undertaken upon roll out of the plans	

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA COMPONENT

Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 15. Re. Capacity Building for South Fly Artisanal Fishery Management Plan Implementation – <i>PEMSEA in cooperation with the NCU and RPMU should ensure provision of capacity building on AFMP management and enforcement to the local governments in the SFD communities.</i> The flagship deliverable for the Papua New Guinea component is the development of the Artisanal Fisheries Management Plan (AFMP for the South Fly District (SFD). It is expected that the Plan will be officially gazetted and will thus become a law to be incorporated into local legislation at the village level. Successful implementation of the Plan will require effective management of the AFMP by the fishing villages' authorities.					
Management Response: The Project concurs with the recommendation. The draft SFAFMP which is currently undergoing stakeholder consultation includes an EAFM training to facilitate better understanding and support to the adoption and implementation of the SFAFMP. As part of long-term implementation of the SFAFMP, capacity building plan and support to strengthen enforcement of SFAFMP will be further developed together with NFA and the South Fly Stakeholder Committee once it is formally established by end of 2022/early 2023.					
Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Develop training and awareness materials on the SFAFMP	30 November 2022	NCU PNG, Eco Custodian Advocates	Initiated	EAFM Training materials available, SFAFMP summary information poster generated as part of the plan development	Status: Initiated Comment: SFAFMP summary information disseminated during the

					field activity conducted in August 29 to September 2, 2022. Key updates and next steps related to SFAFMP implementation will also be tabled for discussion at the Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF) meeting and National Project Board (NPB) meeting in PNG on September 21 and 22, 2022.
1.2 Conduct EAFM training(s) on the SFAFMP	31 August 2022 and 31 March 2023	NCU PNG, Eco Custodian Advocates	Not Initiated	An EAFM training is already targeted to be conducted in August 2022. Additional EAFM training is expected to be conducted by 2023 upon roll out of the SFAFMP	Status: Completed for 2022 Comment: EAFM Training was conducted from 29 August to 2 September, concurrent with the management plan consultation with fisheries managers in South Fly
1.3 Conduct Awareness on SFAMP in South Fly villages	30 June 2023	NCU PNG	Initiated	Some awareness building activities have been undertaken during the initial field work to collect data. It will be a continuing activity	
1.4 Artisanal fishery data collection training	31 March 2023	NCU PNG	Not Initiated	Villagers will be trained on simple data collection so they can collect important data from the start of implementation to monitor effectiveness	
<p>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 16. Re. <i>The RPMU in cooperation with PEMSEA and the NCU PNG should conduct a critical revision and reassessment of the EOP targets for Output 2.1.1 in the project SRF:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reset the target for Indicator 13 on more sustainable production of dried fish maw to also cover production and use of fish maw carcass;</i> • <i>Redefine the target for Indicator 14 on improved use of fishing gears by artisanal fisheries in line with the South Fly Fore-coast AFMP</i> <p>Indicators 13 and 14 in the project SRF are poorly defined and there are no specific activities defined in the Project Document for achievement of the respective EOP targets for PNG. Assessments completed under the project proved that the EOP targets were determined based on outdated baseline data and therefore unrealistic and unclear.</p> <p>Management Response: For supporting information, it should be noted that the production and trade of dried fish maw remains to be unregulated in PNG which makes monitoring and reporting difficult at this time. In line with this, NFA is in the process of developing a management plan for the fish maw fishery. As part of that process, NFA will be collecting data on fish maw harvest including in South Fly. This NFA work aligns with ATSEA-2 objectives for managing fish maw harvest. The project will collaborate with NFA on fish maw management in South Fly. The project therefore concurs with the recommendation. To address this, further surveys have to be conducted in South Fly communities to collect quantitative data on current fish maw harvest and the fishing gear used by the artisanal fishers to complement some baseline data collected for the artisanal fisheries management plan. Once the key fish maw target species have been identified and their populations have been estimated then their sustainable harvest rate can be determined and harvest quota set.</p>					

Baseline data on fishing gear used need to be updated before the management plan is implemented and fishing gear restrictions applied. Once the baseline fishing gear use and the gear restrictions are known then a target for improved use of fishing gears can be set.					
Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Collaborate with NFA and develop a field work proposal for fish maw data collection	30 September 2022	NFA, NCU PNG	Initiated	NFA has started on the proposal in 2022 and the proposal is at review stage.	Status: Initiated Comment: Collection of fish maw harvest data has been initiated. Villagers who attended the EAFM training (Aug 29-Sept. 2, 2022) were asked to also complete the dataset on fish maw harvest. The same dataset is currently being validated by the National TDA updating team in PNG. Presentation and further discussion on the fish maw data collection is part of the agenda of the SPF and NPB meetings in PNG scheduled on September 20-21, 2022.
1.2 Conduct quantitative data collection on fish maw harvest and the use of fish carcass	31 March 2023	NFA, NCU PNG	Not initiated	There will be primary data collected for the TDA updating process. Some of these data will be on fish maw harvest which will complement the data collected by NFA and ATSEA project for fishery management in South Fly.	
1.3 Sustainable harvest assessment and fish maw harvest target setting	28 April 2023	NFA, NCU PNG	Not initiated		
1.4 Confirm baseline data on fishing gear use and based on this set the targets for the SFAFMP	30 December 2022	NFA, NCU PNG	Not initiated	There will be further primary data collected for the TDA updating process to update or confirm baseline data on fishing gear use.	

1.5 Assess/monitor compliance of small-scale fishers on the SFAFMP on the use of sustainable fishing gears and techniques	10 June 2024	NFA, NCU PNG	Not initiated		
Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 17. Re. Other Resources for Strengthening of Community Livelihood Activities – <i>PEMSEA and UNDP in cooperation with the RPMU and PNG NCU should assess options for re-allocation of the project funds to the PNG component and consider reaching out to the private sector (e.g. Ok Tedi Development Foundation) for joint activities and additional support to implementation of community level activities, including linking with the GEF Small Grants Programme in PNG and with the Australian High Commission in PNG.</i> Budget allocation for the PNG component in the approved Project Document is underestimated and lack of funding can negatively affect roll out of the South Fly AFMP and completion of the first NAP for PNG. Implementation of community-level livelihood activities in the SFD will be strengthened through attracting additional resources from various available sources of financing.					
Management Response: The project concurs with the recommendation. The NCU PNG will discuss the budgetary constraints of the PNG component with RPMU, PEMSEA, and UNDP and explore options for making funding available to successful implementation and completion of projects in PNG. NCU PNG will also conduct joint planning as part of its periodic NPB and NIMC/SPF meetings to discuss with NFA and other development partners potential collaboration and co-financing support (in cash or in kind) for relevant aspects of the projects.					
Key Action(s)	Completion Date	Responsible Unit(s)	Tracking		STATUS UPDATE (as of 13 September 2022) Based on information from RPMU and NCUs per country
			Status (initiated; not initiated; completed; no longer applicable)	Comments	
1.1 Develop 2023 AWP and budget (including a work plan and budget estimation for 2024) and discuss with RPMU, PEMSEA and UNDP	31 August 2022	NCU PNG	Initiated	2023 AWP and budgeted planning in progress	Status: Initiated Comment: The proposed AWP and Budget for 2023 as well as projections for 2024 have been developed and will be submitted for review by PNG's NPB which is scheduled to meet on September 22, 2022.
1.2 Discuss and establish formal arrangements with cross sectoral development partners	31 March 2023	NCU PNG, NFA	Initiated	As part of NFA's co-financing commitment to the Project, a more detailed financial plan will be discussed and included as part of the	Status: Initiated Comment: Recent meeting was conducted with the Australian High

(e.g. Small Grants Programme, Australian High Commission, etc.) for in cash or in-kind support on specific ATSEA-2 PNG activities				ATSEA-2 PNG AWP and Budget for 2023 and 2024 to facilitate targeted delivery of NFA's support. Moreover, talks of MOU or LOA with Australian High Commission have been initiated but further discussions need to be conducted to identify more concrete collaboration and actions.	Commission (AHC) with PNG wherein AHC expressed initial support to target activities related to South Fly.
1.3 Discuss with NFA to mainstream National Secretariat role as part of a functional unit of NFA	31 March 2023	NCU PNG, NFA	Not initiated		
