

**Framework Convention  
for the Protection of the Marine  
Environment of the Caspian Sea**



Distr.: General  
October 2022  
Original: English

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**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Sixth Meeting  
19-21 October 2022, Baku, Azerbaijan**

**Draft PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET 2023 - 2024**

**Introduction**

Attached as Annex I is the proposed Program of Work (POW) of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols for 2023-2024.

The activities listed in the POW are building on the implementation of the decisions taken at the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention (COP5), Ashgabat, 30 May 2014 (COP5), the extra-ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Moscow, 19-20 July 2018, and the consultations and recommendations of the Preparatory Committee meetings for COP6. The POW includes information on the activities and its proposed sources and modalities of funding, while its Appendix I details the cost of the interim Secretariat and its work. The Aktau Protocol POW and budget is integrated in the POW.

A detailed certified statement of income and expenditure since COP5 is contained in Annex II.

The POW as presented in Annex 1 has to be considered as a bare minimum. Resource mobilization should therefore be high on the agenda of COP6. A Rolling Work Programme consisting of a fully comprehensive overview of projects and activities which have been identified as priority needs for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols is contained in Annex III.

**The Conference may wish to:**

- Welcome the Statement of income and expenditure since COP5, express serious concern about the arrears in contribution payment by IR Iran and Turkmenistan and urge the two countries to as soon as possible ensure the payments due
- Adopt the Programme of Work and budget of the Tehran Convention for 2023-2024
- Decide to continue to collectively provide a contribution of UND 360,000 (USD 72,000 per country per year) to the budget of the Convention and undertake to increase their contribution in cash and/or through staff support
- Consider and decide how to further increase the financial resources for the Convention process in particular for the implementation of the TC auxiliary Protocols

- Express gratitude to UNEP for its continuous contribution and support to the administration of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols

Welcome the Rolling Work Programme and call upon relevant international organizations, including United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Maritime Organization (IMO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO), as well as international funding institutions, as for example the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), to collaborate and support the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols;

<b>AF</b>	Adaptation Fund
<b>Aktau Protocol</b>	Protocol Concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution Incidents to the Tehran Convention
<b>Ashgabat Protocol</b>	Protocol for the Conservation of Biological Diversity to the Tehran Convention
<b>TCIS</b>	Tehran Convention interim Secretariat
<b>EM</b>	Extraordinary Conference of the parties to the Tehran Convention
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Fund
<b>GCF</b>	UN Green Climate Fund
<b>IMO</b>	International Maritime Organization
<b>CASPCOM</b>	Coordinating Committee on Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea
<b>Commission on Aquatic Biological Resources</b>	Commission for the conservation and rational use of aquatic biological resources and management of shared stocks of such resources of the Caspian Sea
<b>CP Moscow Protocol</b>	Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities to the Tehran Convention
<b>NCAP</b>	(Tehran) Convention National Action Plan
<b>NCLO</b>	National Convention Liaison Office/Officers
<b>EIA Protocol</b>	Protocol on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context to the Tehran Convention
<b>Operational authority under the Aktau Protocol Regional Plan</b>	A national organization designated by a State with operational responsibility for dealing with oil pollution incidents in the marine environment
<b>Monitoring Protocol</b>	Draft Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange of the Caspian Sea to the Tehran Convention
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>Aktau Protocol Regional Plan</b>	Caspian Sea Plan Concerning Regional Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution in Cases of Emergency
<b>OSPRI</b>	Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative for the Caspian Sea, Black Sea and Central Eurasia

**SCAP**

Strategic (Tehran) Convention Action Programme

**TC**

Tehran Convention – Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea

## PROGRAMME OF WORK

1 January 2023 – 31 December 2024

Nº	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Implementation	Finance (US\$)	Annotations
1.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	1.1 Administrative and institutional activities in support to the established network of NCLOs	Operational network of NCLOs facilitating implementation of Convention and Protocols	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	120,000 (TC)	In accordance with decision COP2 (p.14)
	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	1.2 <sup>1</sup> TCIS support to TC implementation	TC article 23.4	Caspian Governments with support of UNEP	230,000 (TC) + UNEP contribution	In accordance with decisions COP2 (p.8), COP3 (p.2), COP4 (p.2), COP5 (p.2)
	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	1.3 Administrative activities to ensure contributions to the budget of the Tehran Convention	Cash and in-kind contributions by Contracting Parties secured	Caspian Governments	National budgets	In accordance with decisions COP1 (p.8), COP2 (p.4), COP3 (p.14), COP4 (p.17), COP5 (p.16)
2.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Development of a new Strategic Convention Action Plan	Draft Strategic Convention Action Plan developed and approved	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	20,000 (TC)	In accordance with decisions COP2 (p.1)
3.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Implementation of National Convention	NCAPs/arrangements under	Caspian Governments with	National budgets	In accordance with decisions

<sup>1</sup> Appendix I

Nº	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Implementation	Finance (US\$)	Annotations
		Action Plans/implementation arrangements	implementation.	TCIS support		COP3 (p.8) COP4 (p.11) COP5 (p.8)
4.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	4.1 Activities related to Tehran Convention Protocols (ratification, entry into force and implementation of adopted protocols)	Ratified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EIA Protocol</li> <li>- (Moscow) LBS Protocol</li> <li>- (Ashgabat) Biodiversity Protocol</li> </ul> and agendas/programmes for their implementation in operation	Caspian Governments with support of TCIS and international partners, among others: Espoo, CBD Secretariats and UNEP GPA	100,000 (TC) + contributions of international partners	In accordance with decisions COP4 (p.7) COP5 (p.5) ECOP (p.1)
	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	4.2 Aktau Protocol implantation within the framework of the Regional Plan in accordance with the Work Plan 2023-2024 <sup>2</sup>	Arrangements for the approval of the Regional Plan are completed and the Regional Plan is adopted and operational	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	60,000 (TC) 495,000 (EB) 20,000 (UNEP)	In accordance with the Aktau Protocol Work Plan 2022-2023 as agreed by the Implementation and Operational Authorities Meeting under the Aktau Protocol, 1–3 November 2021
	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	4.3 Continuation of negotiation and adoption of a Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment, and	Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange adopted, signed and awaiting ratification	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	20,000 (TC)	In accordance with decisions COP4 (p.14) COP5 (p.12)

<sup>2</sup> Appendix II

Nº	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Implementation	Finance (US\$)	Annotations
		Information Exchange				
5.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Activities related to monitoring, reporting and information exchange	5.1 Updated Environment Monitoring Programme	Caspian Governments-with support TCIS	20,000 (TC) + national budgets + EB support	In accordance with decision COP4 (p.13)
			5.2 Continuation of the work of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment	Caspian Governments-with support TCIS	40,000 (TC) + national budgets	In accordance with decisions COP5 (p.11, 12)
			5.3 State of the Caspian Sea Environment Report 2017-2021 (SOE-3) under development	Caspian Governments-with support TCIS	(EB)	In accordance with decisions COP4 (p.15) COP5 (p.13)
			5.4 Five National Reports produced, reviewed, and uploaded on the CEIC	Caspian Governments-with support TCIS	20,000 (TC) National budgets	In accordance with decisions COP3 (p.10) COP5 (p.14)
			5.5 Tehran Convention website including the Caspian Environment Information Centre updated and in operation	Caspian Governments-with support TCIS (Information focal points and TCIS)	40,000 (TC) + national budgets	In accordance with decisions COP3 (p.9) COP5 (p.8)
6.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Support for public and stakeholder participation in implementation of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols;	6.1 Public participation strategies of the Tehran Convention Parties updated as part of NCAPs	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	National budgets	In accordance with decisions COP3 (p.11) COP4 (p.12) COP5 (p.9)
			6.2 2023 and 2024 Caspian Sea Day celebrations in five Caspian countries	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	50,000 (TC)	In accordance with decisions COP4 (p.12) COP5 (p.9)

Nº	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Implementation	Finance (US\$)	Annotations
7.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Establishing and promoting cooperation between Tehran Convention and international and regional organizations in support of the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols including development and implementation of international projects	7.1 Collaborative projects with GEF, GCF, AF, UNDP, IMO, FAO, and others	Caspian Governments with support of TCS and international partners	Budgets of donor governments and international organizations	In accordance with decisions COP3 (p.16) COP4 (p.21) COP5 (p.9)
			7.2 Project on "Urbanization and Climate Change Adaptation in the Caspian Sea region" developed, submitted to the Adaptation Fund and in the process of implementation	UNEP, TCIS, UN Habitat, IMO, and Caspian Governments	1,800,000 Adaptation Fund, UNEP	In accordance with decision COP3 (p.15)
			7.3 UNDP-UNEP Project "Addressing marine litter and marine plastic – a systemic approach in the Caspian Sea" in the process of implementation	Caspian Governments together with support of UNDP, UNEP and TCIS	4,039,200 (Government of the Russian Federation through its Official Development Assistance programme) UNDP, UNEP and Caspian Governments	In accordance with the "Official Development Assistance Programme of the Russian Federation" and the Partnership Framework Agreement between the Russian Federation and UNDP, 2015
8.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Collaboration with regional organizations	8.1 Continued cooperation with CASPCOM through a Memorandum of Understanding between CASPCOM and the TC, including in the area of climate	CASPCOM, Caspian Governments with TCS support	15,000 (TC)	In accordance with decision COP5 (p.10)



Nº	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Implementation	Finance (US\$)	Annotations
			change in accordance with TC Art. 16			
			8.2 Cooperation with CAB of the Caspian Sea in accordance with TC Art.14 Memorandum of Understanding between the Thran Convention and the Commission on Aquatic Bioresources of the Caspian Sea	Commission on Aquatic Bioresources, Caspian Governments with support of TCIS	15,000 (TC)	In accordance with decisions COP2 (p.2) In accordance with recommendation of the PrepCom-7 to COP6, September, Baku, Azerbaijan
9.	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Preparatory Meetings for COP7 and the COP7	Preparatory Committee Meetings to review documents for COP7, and COP7 results including Ministerial Declaration and Decisions	Caspian Governments with support of TCIS	40,000 (TC)	
10	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary TC	Jubilee Event hosted by IR Iran	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	25.000 (TC) + host country support	

**Secretariat Cost in USD\***  
**TCIS**  
**2023 – 2024**

Staffing			
	2023	2024	Total
Coordinator <sup>3</sup>	UNEP	UNEP	UNEP
Tehran Convention Officer	80,000	80,000	160,000
Senior Advisor	UNEP	UNEP	UNEP
Translator	20,000	20,000	40,000
Advisor	UNEP	EB/UNEP	UNEP
Communication and Advocacy Officer	UNEP	UNEP	UNEP
Travel	15,000	15,000	30,000
Accommodation / Communication	EB/UNEP	EB/UNEP	EB/UNEP
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115,000</b>	<b>115,000</b>	<b>230,000</b>

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<sup>3</sup> It is estimated that the 33% of this post is dedicated to the Tehran Convention

Nº	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Implementation	Finance (US\$)
<b>The Protocol Concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution Incidents (Aktau Protocol)<sup>4</sup></b>					
1	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Finalization and approval of the Regional Plan Aktau Protocol and implementation of relevant activities	Institutional arrangements completed, and Regional Plan adopted	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	10,000 (TC) 35,000 (EB)
2	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Organization of work of the National Operational Authorities under Aktau Protocol	Comprehensive training workshops in connection with the meeting of the National Operational Authorities under Aktau Protocol	TCIS with support Caspian Governments and OSPRI	20,000 (TC) 45,000 (EB)
3	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Review assessment of National Contingency Plans with Aktau Protocol Plan combined with capacity building workshop to harmonize national action plans with the Aktau Protocol Regional Plan	National Contingency Plans aligned with the Aktau Protocol	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	65,000 (EB)
4	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Exercises and trainings in accordance with the long-term schedule of the Aktau Protocol Regional Plan	1 ALPHA exercise, 2 BRAVO exercises, 1 DELTA exercise held	Caspian Governments with TCIS support	20,000 (TC) 160,000 (EB)

<sup>4</sup> The extrabudgetary resources (EB) listed under the Aktau Protocol implementation are not secured

5	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Developing cooperation with oil and gas industry through OSPRI as well as developing joint programming and other cooperative arrangements	Regional and national recommendations for oil and gas industry cooperation developed	TCIS with support Caspian Governments and OSPRI	35,000 (EB)
6	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Preparation of review of the use of dispersants taking into account international guidelines and national policies in this area	Regional review and national policies on use of dispersants taking into account international guidelines	TCIS with support Caspian Governments	35,000 (EB)
7	Jan. 2023- Dec. 2024	Activities related to Aktau Protocol Regional Mechanism	Regional Mechanism in operation	TCIS with support Caspian Governments	20,000 (UNEP) 120,000 (EB)

**Certified statement of income and expenditure**

*To be added*

## Tehran Convention

### Roadmap for implementation 2023- 2028

#### 1. Introduction

The Framework (Tehran) Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea entered into force on 12th August 2006. The Strategic Action Programme of the Tehran Convention (SCAP) was adopted at the Second Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention (COP2), held from 10 to 12 November 2008 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran as a comprehensive, long term agenda and framework for the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its future Protocols over a period of 10 years. The SCAP was translated in National Programmes of Action (NCAPs) and biennial Programmes of Work (POW) capturing regional coordination and cooperation in support of these NCAPs. Throughout the years ancillary Protocols to the Convention were developed broadening the institutional settings, provisions and procedures for the implementation of the SCAP and NCAPs and forming and formatting the building blocks of a roadmap for future environmental cooperation and progress in the region.

Core element of this roadmap is and remains the Tehran Convention's Programme of Work shaped by the guidance of the COP and based on the expected income from both contributions of the Parties to the budget of the Convention and other contributions in cash or in kind. Throughout the years the need for extra budgetary support increased but could never be fully matched despite the call at each Meeting of the Conference of the Parties upon all donors to consider, continue, renew or increase bilaterally or multilaterally their support to the implementation of the provisions of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols.

In the absence of a definite agreement on the support structure of the Convention, and, as stated in the draft POW for the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COP, TC/COP6/8, today's capacity of the Tehran Convention interim Secretariat (TCIS) and the range of activities and interventions it is able to undertake, has been reduced to a bare minimum. In the meantime, the number of requests for regional cooperation has further increased. For instance, most recently Kazakhstan has submitted new project proposals while Turkmenistan has suggested to revitalize the Caspian Environment Programme (CEP) - the GEF financed programme which served as the basis for the Convention and its POW.

Against that background the TCIS and as a more and more needed part of the Roadmap, TCIS has developed a rolling work programme which could figure as a technical cooperation addendum to the Convention POW, facilitating the discussion and resource mobilization for a range of projects and activities which have been proposed or identified as priority needs for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. The programme is organized in clusters of activities following the sections and articles of the Tehran Convention with special emphasis on the Protocols to the Tehran Convention. Each cluster integrates substantive needs and work as well as related legal, institutional and administrative support.

The rolling work programme has to be seen as a flexible reminder and part of the roadmap, open for further elaboration and implementation of activities for which funding is secured and to which activities can be added at any time. In this context, it should also be noted that the presented activities need to be supported by the Caspian governments by providing in-kind and/or financial contributions. The partial coordination support from the Tehran Convention Secretariat is also accounted for depending on the size of the activities

As with the POW, the responsibility for managing and advancing the implementation of the rolling work programme would lie with the Convention Secretariat supported in cash and in kind by its host organization UNEP and partners within and outside the UN.

## Rolling Work Programme

<b>PREVENTION, REDUCTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION</b>			
Effectively prevent, prepare for and respond to oil pollution incidents in the Caspian Sea through cooperation of the five littoral states by implementing the Aktau Protocol			
<b>Total estimated cost: 380,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
<p>1. Regional Plan under the Aktau Protocol developed and agreed upon including a decision on nature and scope of the regional mechanism (Art. 4).</p> <p>2. Regional mechanism and Caspian-wide coordination structure in place.</p> <p>3. Long-term exercise and training programme for Caspian Sea agreed upon by Parties (Art. 5.4 and Art. 8.1 (d)) and in regular operation.</p>	1. Regional meeting to finalize the Regional Plan under Aktau Protocol including a decision on coordinating regional mechanism.	10,000	<p><u>Status</u></p> <p>The Protocol Concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution Incidents ("Aktau Protocol") entered into force on 25 July 2016.</p> <p>The designation of the National Competent Authorities is ongoing. The Regional Plan under the Aktau Protocol is close to being finalized. Two trainings on the application of the Regional Plan were held.</p>
	2.1 Establish the regional coordination network based on (existing) national mechanisms	50,000	
	2.2 Seed support for regular regional meetings of Operational Authorities.	10,000	
	3.1 Develop and regional meeting to agree upon a long-term exercise and training programme.	10,000	
	3.2 Support holding regular exercises (alpha, bravo, charlie, delta and echo) and trainings.	150,000	



<p>4. Recommendations to ensure compatibility of national plans and systems with Regional Plan developed (Art. 5) and national personnel trained.</p>	<p>4.1 Harmonize national contingency plans and systems with Regional Plan.</p> <p>4.2 Capacity building and training including exchange of information on compatibility of national plans and systems with Regional Plan.</p>	<p>35,000</p> <p>50,000</p>	<p><u>Potential Partners</u></p> <p>Contracting Parties</p> <p>International Maritime Organization (IMO)</p> <p>Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative (OSPRI)</p>
<p>5. International and national private sector resources integrated in implementation of Aktau Protocol.</p>	<p>5.1 Develop regional and national recommendations to integrate international and national private sector resources.</p> <p>5.2 Capacity building on the national level, including regional exchange of information on procedures to integrate international and national private sector resources.</p>	<p>20,000</p> <p>30,000</p>	<p>International and national oil and gas companies</p> <p>Regional Seas Conventions</p>
<p>6. Regional summary of national policies and lists of dispersants have been developed and jointly used.</p>	<p>6. Review and develop national policies and lists on the use of dispersants taking into account international guidelines.</p>	<p>15,000</p>	

<b>PREVENTION, REDUCTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION</b>			
Effectively prevent, control, reduce and to the maximum extent possible eliminate pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources (LBS) through the implementation of the Moscow Protocol.			
<b>Total estimated cost: 500,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. Competent national authorities under the Moscow Protocol designated (Art. 5.1).	1. Contracting Parties designate national authorities under the Moscow Protocol.		<u>Status</u>
2 System and arrangements for LBS related monitoring and assessment developed and operational (Art. 13).	2. Series of regional workshops to develop components of regional monitoring related to LBS.	100, 000	Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities adopted and signed at the fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP4) in Moscow, Russian Federation on December 12, 2012. (Moscow Protocol)
3. Caspian Guidelines on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Caspian Sea (Art. 10).	3. Prepare guidance on integrated management of the Caspian coastal zones based on existing and improved approaches	100,000	
4. Inventories of land-based point sources of pollution along Annex 1 categories, and establishment of list(s) of hotspots (Art. 7.2) of the Moscow Protocol developed.	4. National experts provide information related to inventories of LBS of pollution along Annex 1 and holding of regional workshop on establishment of list(s) of hotspots (Art. 7).	60,000	Priorities for the Moscow Protocol implementation identified in consultation with GPA
5. Common emission limit values as well as common guidelines and	5. With assistance of international and national experts develop and	100,000	<u>Potential Partners</u> Contracting Parties

<p>standards relating to the issues identified in Arts. 5, 6 and agreed upon.</p> <p>6.1 Regional and/or National Programme of Action (NPA) based on pollution source control including measures and timetables developed (Art. 5.2 (a)).</p> <p>6.2. Pollution source control plans, costing and timetables (Arts. 2, 5, Annex V) developed.</p> <p>6.3. Reporting and compliance procedures (Arts. 17, 18) developed and agreed upon.</p> <p>7. Collection of Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practices to ensure access to and transfer of environmentally sound technology, including cleaner production, taking into account the social, economic and technological conditions and criteria set forth in Annex V developed.</p>	<p>agree upon common emission limit values as well as common guidelines and standards relating to the issues identified in Arts. 5 and 6.</p> <p>6 Regional workshop to develop and agree upon Regional and/or National Programmes of Action which include pollution source control plans, costing and timetables and reporting and compliance procedures,</p> <p>7. With the assistance of International and national experts collect and document the Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practice.</p>	<p>110,000</p> <p>30,000</p>	<p>Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)</p> <p>Ecosystem and science divisions of UNEP</p> <p>Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention</p>
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<b>CASPIAN REGIONAL MARINE LITTER ACTION PLAN (CRMLAP)</b>			
To prevent, control, reduce and to the maximum extent possible eliminate pollution of the marine environment from marine litter in order to achieve and maintain an environmentally sound marine environment of the Caspian Sea			
<b>Total estimated cost: 4,000,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. Legal and economic instruments relevant to marine litter.	1. Assist countries in developing national legal and economic instrument and improve legislation to regulate and prevent marine pollution. Develop cooperation under the Tehran Convention in the field of addressing the marine litter problem with international conventions and agreements dealing with marine litter issues. Evaluate the direct costs and loss of income to tourism and fisheries due to marine litter pollution.	160,000	<p><u>Status</u></p> <p>The Caspian Regional Marine Litter Action Plan (CRMLAP) was developed by the national experts with the assistance of the international expert. The CRMLAP will be submitted to the COP6 for its consideration</p> <p><u>Potential Partners</u></p>
2. Integrated waste management, including marine litter.	2. Seek cooperation with river and river basin authorities in order to assess the impacts of litter from riverine inputs on the marine environment. Elaborate, in accordance with national legislation, proposals for decision-makers to address illegal dumping. Propose the introduction of appropriate measures to minimize the use of microplastics that may affect the marine environment.	160,000	

3. Preventing and reducing marine litter from land-based sources.	3. Promote the development of regional sectoral guidelines to prevent and reduce pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources. Identify and systematize the major land-based sources of pollution of the marine and coastal environment. Implement relevant Actions of all other Sections.	80,000	
4. Preventing and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources.	4. Provide assistance and collaborate on the implementation of the requirements of Annex V to the MARPOL Convention related to reception facilities. Prepare a review on the status of marine litter associated with oil and gas production/platforms. Collaborate with representatives of the shipping, fishing, and tourism sectors in developing sectoral guidelines of the prevention and reduction of marine pollution from sea-based sources.	400,000	
5. Monitoring and assessment of marine litter.	5. Carry out monitoring of marine litter at selected pilot sites in the Caspian marine zone. Prepare guidelines for the monitoring and assessment of marine litter for the Caspian Sea region. Promote the development of national and regional marine litter assessment and monitoring programmes	520,000	
6. Scientific research for minimizing pollution by marine litter, including microplastics.	6. Promote scientific research to study various important issues connected to marine litter. Promote scientific research regarding plastic use (e.g. for road construction). Promote scientific research on the	400,000	

7. Facilitation of sustainable development of coastal areas.	<p>distribution and amount of marine litter in the Caspian Sea which contributes to marine pollution.</p> <p>7. Develop regional guidelines for the integrated management of marine and coastal areas. Develop proposals to take necessary measures at the national level to combat illegal landfills, littering beaches and illegal dumping of solid waste or sewage in coastal zones. Develop and implement regional and national programmes to locate, remove and dispose of accumulations/hot spots of sea-based marine litter.</p>	360,000	
8. Removal of existing litter and its disposal.	8. Develop and promote the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders, best practices in relation to Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG). Promote the implementation of a “fishing for litter” environmentally sound practice, in consultation with competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen. Consider and address potential marine litter arising from ship maintenance and ship dismantling.	520,000	
9.1. Regional and international cooperation and reporting on the CRMLAP.	9.1. Establish a Regional Coordinating Group on the CRMLAP. Establish, within the framework of the Regional Coordinating Group on the CRMLAP, a subgroup of experts for the assessment and monitoring of marine litter. This subgroup shall become a part of the Tehran Convention Monitoring Program. Prepare national biennial reports and	400,000	

<p>9.2. Involvement of stakeholders, NGOs and civil society.</p> <p>9.3. Information, education, outreach and public awareness.</p>	<p>regional biennial report on the implementation of the CRMLAP.</p> <p>9.2. Support the involvement of various stakeholders including regional, national, and local authorities, NGOs, and the private sector as well as relevant stakeholders to implement the actions of the CRMLAP. Enhance public participation in addressing marine litter through clean-ups, exploring and implementing the Adopt-a-Beach concept. Convene regional and national stakeholder meetings.</p> <p>9.3. Develop a booklet on the CRMLAP and translate into the Caspian states' national languages. Formulate and implement awareness-raising campaigns and activities, including the development of materials and the organization of workshops and forums, for the stakeholders' involvement, general public participation, various sectors, municipal authorities, local communities' school children and youth and other groups.</p> <p>9.4. Develop and implement education and training programmes for different target groups. Facilitate the application of technical sectoral guidelines for different target groups. Provide technical training and capacity-building to staff from national and municipal governments, port authorities and the shipping</p>	<p>400,000</p> <p>160,000</p> <p>360,000</p> <p>80,000</p>	
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<p>9.4. Training and capacity building.</p> <p>9.5. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the implementation of the CRMLAP at the regional level</p>	<p>industry on the prevention and reduction of marine litter.</p> <p>9.5. Development of a methodology for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the implementation of the CRMLAP at the national and regional levels. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the implementation of the CRMLAP at the national and at the regional levels.</p>		
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<b>PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Effectively protect, preserve, and restore the health and integrity of the biological diversity and the ecosystem of the Caspian Sea through the implementation of the Ashgabat Protocol.			
<b>Total estimated cost: 520,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. Competent national authorities under the Ashgabat Protocol designated (Art. 4).	1. Contracting Parties designate national authorities under the Ashgabat Protocol.		<u>Status</u>
2. System and arrangements for marine related biodiversity monitoring and assessment (Arts. 5 (f), 6 (g)).	2. Series of regional workshops on the improvement and enhancement of biodiversity monitoring and assessment.	100,000	The Protocol for the Conservation of Biological Diversity ("Ashgabat Protocol") was adopted and signed at the fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP5) in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 30 May 2014.
3. Regional Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types of the Caspian Sea (Art. 5 (d), (g)) developed.	3. With assistance of international and national experts develop/update the Regional Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types of the Caspian Sea.	30,000	The priorities for the Ashgabat Protocol implementation identified in consultation with the Convention on Biological Diversity.
4. Regional and national assessments of vulnerability to and impacts of climate change on marine and coastal biodiversity and natural resources carried out.	4. With assistance of International and national experts carry out regional and national assessments of vulnerability to and impacts of climate change on marine and	50,000	<u>Potential Partners</u>

5. Regional and national inventories of threatened or endangered species of flora and fauna; review of their conservation status and conservation regulations carried out (Art 6).	coastal biodiversity and natural resources.  5. Capacity building and training on compiling and managing national inventories of threatened species of flora and fauna.	30,000	Contracting Parties  Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)  Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)  Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)  Ecosystem division of UNEP
6. Caspian Red Book (Art. 6) updatable Red List of Threatened Animals of the Caspian Sea in electronic format developed.	6. Regional workshops to exchange information, compare national inventories and make/agree on a selection of species for a Caspian Red Book.	50,000	
7. Proposal for handling (potential) alien (invasive) and genetically modified species developed (Art. 7).	7. Capacity building and training, including exchange of information on handling (potential) alien (invasive) and genetically modified species.	20,000	
8. Procedures including criteria for the designation and management of shared protected areas developed (Art. 9).	8 and 9. Regional workshop to develop procedures and criteria for the designation and management of shared protected areas	50,000	
10. Regional information strategy, including institutional outreach,	10. With assistance of International and national experts develop and/or	20,000	

<p>public awareness and sensitizing as well as target stakeholders for diverse key topics developed (Art. 17).</p> <p>10.1. Support for start-up projects and ideas (like small grant programs, even internal ones). (Such activities increase public interest and involvement)</p>	<p>update and strengthen regional information strategy, including institutional outreach, public awareness and sensitizing as well as target stakeholders for key topics.</p>		
<p>11. Guidelines on use of selective fishing gear and practices that minimize waste in the catch of target species and that minimize by-catch of non-target species and the endangered species developed (TC Art.14 (d)).</p>	<p>11. Capacity building and training, including exchange of information on use of selective fishing gear and practices that minimize waste in the catch of target species and that minimize by-catch of non-target species and the endangered species.</p>	40,000	
<p>12. Common goals and procedures related to access to genetic resources developed (Art.14).</p>	<p>12. Regional workshop to develop common goals and procedures related to access to genetic resources.</p>	50,000	
<p>13. Common agenda for Caspian biodiversity related technology transfer, science and research, as well as education tools (Arts. 15, 16, 18) developed.</p>	<p>13. Capacity building and training, including exchange of information on Caspian biodiversity related technology transfer, science and research, as well as education tools.</p>	40,000	

14. Expert advisory group on biodiversity established and inter-regional exchanges with other regional mechanisms held (Art. 16).	14. Caspian countries nominate experts to the advisory group on biodiversity and hold regular meetings of the expert advisory group on biodiversity.	20,000	
15. Regional Action Plan for the Caspian seal conservation updated (Art 20.1 (g)).	15.1 With assistance of National experts update the Action Plan for the Caspian seal conservation.	20,000	
	15.2 Implement the Action Plan for the Caspian seal conservation.	tbd	

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>			
Effective and transparent environmental impact assessment procedures in a transboundary context through implementation of the EIA Protocol			
<b>Total estimated cost: 265,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. Competent national authorities under the EIA Protocol designated.	1. Contracting Parties designate the national authorities under the EIA Protocol.		<u>Status</u>  The Protocol on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context was adopted and signed at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Moscow, Russian Federation on July 20, 2018.  The priorities for the EIA Protocol implementation were identified in
2. Establishment of Points of Contact and development by them of standard notification/ communication forms and procedures (Arts. 4, 8).	2. Regional workshop attended by the representatives of the Points of Contact to develop standard notification/ communication forms and procedures.	60,000	
3. Review and adaptation of national legislation (Art. 4) carried out.	3. Capacity building and training including exchange of information on the review and harmonization of national legislation.	30,000	

4. Review and adaptation of national public consultation procedures (Arts. 4, 8).	4. Regional workshop to agree upon public consultation procedures.	30,000	consultation with the Espoo Convention.
5. Procedures for consultation, transparent decision making and post project analysis (Arts. 8, 9, 10, 11) developed.	5. Capacity building and training combined with the agreement on the procedures for consultation, transparent decision making and post project analysis.	50,000	<u>Potential Partners</u>  Contracting Parties  Espoo Convention
6. Procedures for dispute settlement developed and agreed upon (Art.15).	6. Regional workshop to agree upon procedures for dispute settlement.	35,000	
7. Inventory of proposed activities listed in Annex I.	7. With assistance of national experts develop inventory of proposed activities listed in Annex I.	10,000	
8. Training programme for EIA related capacity building agreed upon and implemented.	8. Series of capacity building workshops with test cases/demonstration projects.	50,000	

<b>MONITORING, ASSESMENT AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE</b>			
Effective environmental monitoring, assessment, information exchange and education related to the protection of the marine environment of the Caspian Sea			
<b>Total estimated cost: 260,000</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. National Focal Points and lead institutions for monitoring areas nominated and Network of (ambient) monitoring institutions and (private sector) partners for the implementation of the Environmental Monitoring Programme established.	1. National experts providing information on monitoring institutions and (private sector) parameters including National Focal Points and lead institutions for monitoring.	10,000	<u>Status</u>  Draft Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange developed, and 4 negotiation meetings held.
2. Sets of indicators and parameters developed and agreed upon.	2. and 3. Regional workshop to agree on the sets of indicators and parameters and review gap analysis of monitoring capacity, state of harmonization of methodologies and resource requirements developed by the national experts.	60,000	Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment established, 4 meetings of the Working held.
3. Gap analysis of monitoring capacity, state of harmonization of methodologies and resource requirements developed.			<u>Potential Partners</u>
4. Agreed and implemented measures to fill gaps identified in gap analysis of monitoring capacity, state of harmonization of methodologies and resource.	4. Capacity building and training required to implement the agreed measures identified in gap analysis of monitoring capacity, state of	TBD	Science division of UNEP  GRID-Arendal

	harmonization of methodologies and resource.		European Environment Agency
5. Recommendations for intercalibration exercises for all involved institutions for specific parameters agreed.	5. Regular organisation and implementation of intercalibration exercises for all involved institutions for specific parameters.	50,000	CASPCOM
6. Revised Caspian Environment Monitoring Programme agreed.	6. Regional workshop to revise and update upon the Caspian Environment Monitoring Programme	30,000	
7. Analysis of, and agreement on the character and role of State of Environment reporting in Convention and Protocols related policy and decision making developed and agreed upon.	7. Regional Workshops on data analysis, trends identification and forecasting as part of State of Environment reporting.	20,000	
8. 3 <sup>rd</sup> State of Environment Report developed.	8. With assistance of international and National experts prepare the 3 <sup>rd</sup> State of Environment Report.	50,000	
9. Upgraded and operational Caspian Environment Information Center (CEIC) capable of storing data and sharing information from ambient and compliance monitoring, civil society inputs and exchanges, and	9.1 Contract IT company to upgrade Caspian Environment Information Center (CEIC).	20,000	
	9.2 Nominate and train national Environmental Information Officers	20,000	



<p>other information related to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.</p>	<p>to manage data and information from ambient and compliance monitoring.</p>		
<p>10. Improved and enhanced Communications and Information Sharing (Art. 21.1)</p>	<p>10.1 Create a press bureau embodied in the Tehran Convention website to improve national, regional and international awareness of the Caspian environmental issues, and encourage the media to participate in the dissemination of information.</p> <p>10.2 Strengthen awareness of environmental issues in the Caspian Sea through partnerships with national and international media.</p> <p>10.3 Provide regular training to journalists in order to strengthen environmental journalism and improve media coverage of environmental issues.</p>		
<p>11. Enhanced participation of the public and stakeholders (Art. 21.2)</p>	<p>11.1 Promote the establishment of NGO partnerships to provide support and guidance for improving civil society involvement and</p>		

<p>12. Improved and increased environmental education</p>	<p>strengthening of environmental NGO Networks.</p> <p>11.2 Implement the Caspian Public Participation Strategy through its incorporation in the National Caspian Action Programmes (NCAPs).</p> <p>11.3 Set up "Friends of Caspian" programme, including an annual competition for the local, national and international companies that have achieved the most concrete gains in protection of the Caspian environment in the previous year, in at least two levels (national and international) on the territory of coastal region.</p> <p>12.1 Develop academic curriculum materials focusing on Caspian environmental issues</p> <p>12.2 Promote national and regional academic partnerships at school and university levels</p>		
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	<p>12.3 Provide a basic training course in ecology for local coastal enterprises and targeted populations emphasizing win-win scenarios and sound environmental stewardship.</p>	
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<b>CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE IN THE CASPIAN SEA REGION</b>			
Improved knowledge on the implication of climate change in the Caspian Sea region with special attention given to sea level fluctuations, and Improved overall climatic conditions through actions in the field of maritime and inland transport, energy conservation and energy efficiency			
<b>Total estimated cost: 440,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. Ancillary instrument to the Tehran Convention addressing the implications of sea level fluctuations of the Caspian Sea considered and, if accepted (welcomed) by the Contracting Parties, drafted (TC Art. 16).	1. Series of intergovernmental meetings to consider the need and, if agreed upon, to negotiate the draft text of an ancillary instrument to the Tehran Convention addressing the implications of sea level fluctuations of the Caspian Sea.	150,000	<u>Status</u>
2. Climate Change Task Force consisting of government-nominated experts established.	2. Series of Climate Change Task Force meetings.	50,000	<u>Potential Partners</u> Contracting Parties Science and Climate Change divisions of UNEP CASPCOM
3. Assessment of coastal vulnerability to sea level rise and potential economic losses.	3. Contract international and national experts to carry out an assessment of coastal vulnerability to sea level rise and potential economic losses.	50,000	International Maritime Organization (IMO)

4. Sea level fluctuation scenarios that take into account climate change over the next fifty years and reassess coastal vulnerability to sea level rise and the consequent potential economic losses developed.	4. Regional workshop to develop sea level fluctuation scenarios that take into account climate change over the next fifty years and reassess coastal vulnerability to sea level rise and consequent potential economic losses.	50,000	
5. Regional Climate Change Targeted Integrated Coastal Zone Management Guidelines developed.	5. Contract international and national experts to develop Regional Climate Change Targeted Integrated Coastal Zone Management Guidelines.	100,000	
6. Collection and overview of proven good practices on climate change adaptation from other Regional Seas areas applicable to the Caspian Sea region developed.	6. Contract international expert to develop a collection and overview of proven good practices on climate change adaptation from other Regional Seas areas applicable to the Caspian Sea region.	20,000	
7. Climate Change Information and Knowledge Clearing House (CCICH) within the CEIC to collect/ produce/ exchange climate change-oriented science, knowledge, information and best practices established.	7. Contract IT company to develop Climate Change Information and Knowledge Clearing House (CCICH) within the CEIC.	20,000	

<p>8. System for assessing the port's impact on climate change, including a system for assessing environmental indicators to measure the carbon footprint of ports (CO<sub>2</sub> footprint) developed.</p>	<p>8. Contract international and national experts to develop system for assessing the port's impact on climate change, including a system for assessing environmental indicators to measure the carbon footprint of ports (CO<sub>2</sub> footprint).</p>	tbd	
<p>9. Study of global experience in the use of commercially viable zero emissions vessels and assessment of their use possibility in the Caspian Sea region prepared.</p>	<p>9. Contract international and national experts to carry out study of global experience in the use of commercially viable zero emissions vessels and assessment of their use possibility in the Caspian Sea region.</p>	tbd	
<p>10. Caspian regional programme to improve port energy efficiency and use clean energy for greening port operations and sustainable freight transport systems in the Caspian region developed.</p>	<p>10.1 Capacity building and training on port energy efficiency and use clean energy for greening port operations and sustainable freight transport systems in the Caspian region.</p> <p>10.2 Workshop to develop regional programme to improve port energy efficiency and use clean energy for greening port operations and sustainable freight transport systems in the Caspian region.</p>	tbd	

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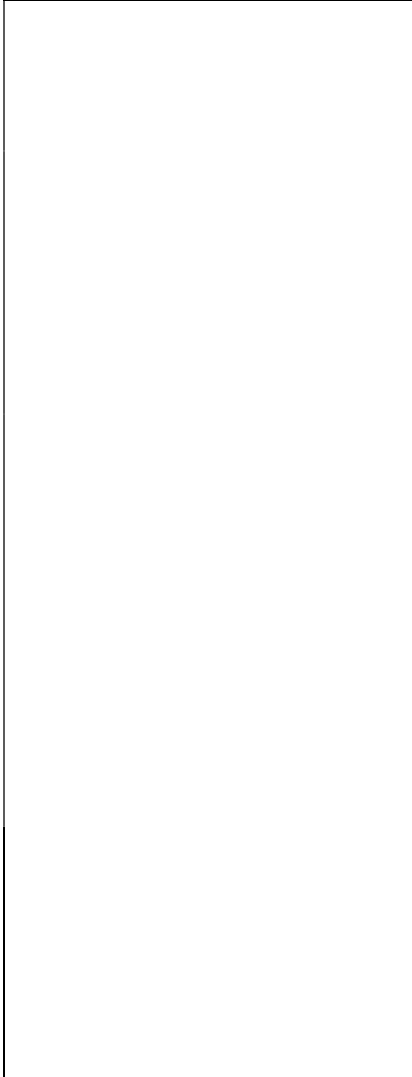
<b>Project “Enhancing knowledge and capacity for the conservation and restoration of the Sturgeon Population in the Caspian Sea”</b>			
Enforcing protection by the Caspian states, enhancing scientific research and monitoring, enabling private sector engagement			
<b>Total estimated cost: 1,588,000 USD</b>			
Output	Activities	Estimated cost USD	Status and Potential Partners
1. Strengthened capacity of the five Caspian states to enforce harmonized and coordinated Caspian sturgeon protection policies and measures.	1.1. Conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between Tehran Convention and CAB;	20,000	<u>Status</u> Concept note developed
	1.2. Organization of five online regional workshops of 2-day and one physical workshop to discuss and review relevant technical documents with government officials and representative of scientific communities aiming at developing of the Regional Caspian Sturgeon Action Plan;	80,000	<u>Potential Partners</u> UNDP, FAO, Development Banks, EU  Contracting Parties to the TC, CAB, National Academies of Science of the Contracting Parties, private sector and NGOs from the Caspian region, international research institutions
	1.3. Development and submission of draft Regional Caspian	20,000	



	Sturgeon Action Plan to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Tehran Convention;		
1.4.	Formulation of national coherent and evidence-based policies in line with the Regional Caspian Sturgeon Action Plan;	50,000	
1.5.	Development of Regional Guidelines for special protection measures for key habitat sites relevant to the life cycle of Caspian sturgeon in line with "Protocol on Biodiversity Protection" under the Tehran Convention;	50,000	
1.6.	Organization of a regional capacity building workshop on applying the Regional Guidelines for special protection measures for key habitat sites relevant to the life cycle of Caspian sturgeon;	50,000	

<p>2. Enhanced scientific network and knowledge repository on the life cycle, habitats, breeding grounds and feed base of Caspian sturgeon.</p>	<p>1.7. Provision of catalytic financial support for establishment of protective measures to selected key habitat sites relevant to the life cycle of Caspian sturgeon;</p>	<p>100,000</p>	
	<p>2.1. Organization of three online regional workshops and one physical workshop with representatives of scientific communities and government officials to develop specifications for establishment of a scientific hub for applied science in the field of Nature-based Solutions for Caspian sturgeon;</p>	<p>100,000</p>	
	<p>2.2. Support for the implementation of the joint monitoring programme of the Caspian states for the assessment of measures and Nature-based Solutions directed at the restoration of habitats and replenishment</p>	<p>20,000</p>	

	of natural sturgeon populations in the Caspian Sea.		
2.3.	Organization of five Scientific Expert Group Meetings (20 experts for 2 day) to support implementation of the joint monitoring programme and research;	150,000	
2.4.	Development of a geographical information system of the key habitat sites relevant to the life cycle of Caspian sturgeon;	15,000	
2.5.	Development of a toolkit for Sustainable Aquaculture Practices and a training programme for the Caspian sturgeon breeding and food stock management;	55,000	
2.6.	Organization of a regional capacity building workshop on applying the Toolkit for Sustainable Aquaculture Practices and the training	40,000	

<p>3. Created enabling conditions for the development of fish farms in the Caspian coastal areas in a socially equitable and scientifically sound manner.</p>	<p>programme for the Caspian sturgeon breeding and food stock management;</p> <p>3.1. Conducting a desk study on the successful social programmes for fishery communities implemented in the Caspian Sea region and globally;</p> <p>3.2. Development of various public-private partnership schemes to carry out social programmes aimed at the creation of alternative sources of income for the fishery communities considering local context and economic potential of various sectors;</p> <p>3.3. Provision of catalytical support to the public-private partnership carrying out social programmes aimed at the creation of alternative sources of income;</p>	<p>20,000</p> <p>40,000</p> <p>50,000</p>	
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	3.4. Creation of a digital Caspian network of fish farms to enable transfer of knowledge and skills;	45,000	
	3.5. Development of recommendations for the technology transfer to the Caspian Sea region needed for improved operation of the fish farms;	20,000	
	3.6. Organization of 5 national capacity building workshops on the sturgeon breeding and feed stock management.	10,000	