UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2011 (1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012)

1. PROJECT GENERAL INFORMATION

Project Title:	Addressing Transboundary Concerns in the Volta River Basin and its
	Downstream Coastal Area
Executing Agency:	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in close collaboration with UNEP DHI Centre for Water and Environment
Project partners:	Volta Pasin Authority
Project partners:	 Volta Basin Authority Direction Générale de l'Environnement (Ministère de l'Environnement et la Protection de la Nature) – DGE Bénin Direction Générale de l'Eau (Ministère de l'Energie et de l'Eau) – DGEau Bénin Direction Générale des Ressources en Eau (Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Hydraulique et des Ressources Halieutiques) DGRE Burkina Faso Direction Générale de la Conservation de la Nature (Ministère de l'Environnement et du Cadre de Vie) DGCN Burkina Faso Direction des Ressources en Eau (Ministère de l'Environnement des Eaux et Forêts) Cote d'Ivoire Direction des Politiques Environnementales et de la Coopération (Ministère de l'Environnement des Eaux et Forêts) Cote d'Ivoire Water Resources Commission (Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing) – WRC Ghana Environmental Protection Agency (Ministry of Environment Science and Technology) – EPA Ghana Secrétariat Technique Permanent du Cadre Institutionnel de la Gestion des Questions Environnementales (Ministère de l'Environnement et de l'Assainissement) - STP/CIGQE Mali Direction Nationale de l'Hydraulique (Ministère de l'Energie, des Mines et de l'Eau) – DNH Mali Direction de l'Environnement (Ministère de l'Environnement, du Tourisme Caractiàre Caractiàre Nage
	Tourisme et des Ressources Forestières) Togo • Direction Générale de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement – DGEA Togo • InterimGuineaCurrent Convention
	 Economic Community Of West African States/Water Resources Coordination Centre – ECOWAS/WRCC EU Volta Project Volta HYCOS Project
	 Projet d'Amélioration de la Gouvernance de l'Eau dans le Bassin de la Volta - PAGEV
	 Global Water Partnership /West Africa Water Partnership - GWP WAWP Syndicat Interdépartemental pour l'Assainissement de
	l'Agglomération de Paris (SIAAP) France

Participating	Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali and Togo
Countries:	

GEF project ID:	1111	IMIS number*1:	GFL/2328-2731-4957
Focal Area(s):	International waters	GEF OP #:	
GEF Strategic Priority/Objective:		GEF approval date*:	7 August 2006
UNEP approval date:	22 May 2007	First Disbursement*:	31 July 2007
Actual start date ² :	31 July 2007	Planned duration:	48 months
Intended completion date*:	July 2011	Actual or Expected completion date:	December 2012
Project Type:	FSP	GEF Allocation*:	\$5,347,380
PDF GEF cost*:	\$497,500	PDF co-financing*:	\$151,000
Expected MSP/FSP Co-financing*:	\$10,871,231	Total Cost*:	\$16,867,111
Mid-term review/eval. (planned date):	January 2011	Terminal Evaluation (actual date):	N/A
Mid-term review/eval. (actual date):	July 2011	No. of revisions*:	2
Date of last Steering Committee meeting:	28 February 2012	Date of last Revision*:	13 March 2012
Disbursement as of 30 June 2012*:	US \$4,134,726	Date of financial closure*:	N/A
Date of Completion ³ *:	N/A	Actual expenditures reported as of 30 June 2012 ⁴ :	US \$3,441,747
Total co-financing realized as of 30 June 2012 ⁵ :	US \$4,105,711	Actual expenditures entered in IMIS as of 30 June 2012*:	US \$3,205,975
Leveraged financing: ⁶	Nil		

¹ Fields with an * sign (in yellow) should be filled by the Fund Management Officer

²Only if different from first disbursement date, e.g., in cases were a long time elapsed between first disbursement and recruitment of project manager.

³ If there was a "Completion Revision" please use the date of the revision.

⁴ Information to be provided by Executing Agency/Project Manager ⁵Projects which completed mid-term reviews/evaluations or terminal evaluations should attach the completed cofinancing table as per GEF format.

⁶ See above note on co-financing and Glossary (Annex 1)

Project summary ⁷	This project for integrated management of the Volta River basin, titled
	"Addressing Transboundary Concerns in the Volta River Basin and its
	Downstream Coastal Area" has a primary focus on addressing the major
	environmental problems and issues of the basin causing degradation of
	the environment by human activities. The long-term goal is to enhance
	the ability of the countries to plan and manage the Volta catchment
	areas within their territories and aquatic resources and ecosystems on a
	sustainable basis. The Project has three main components with associated objectives identified by the root cause analysis carried out
	during the project preparation process: (i): Build capacity and create a
	regional institutional framework for the effective management of the
	Volta Basin; (ii): Develop regional policy, legal and regulatory
	frameworks for addressing transboundary concerns in the Volta Basin
	and its downstream coastal areas; and (iii): Initiate national and regional
	measures to combat transboundary environmental degradation in the
	Volta Basin. The activities to be undertaken will provide a strong
	foundation for the long term sustainable environmental management of
	the Volta Basin.A preliminary Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)
	and a preliminary Strategic Action Programme have been prepared, and these serve as the basis for preparation of this project proposal. The full
	Global Environment Facility (GEF) project will update and expand the
	TDA, and will develop a regionally agreed SAP, following clarification of
	some aspects of the environmental status of the region as well as
	building grounds for SAP implementation. The project recognizes the
	complex and interlinked nature of Volta River basin and aims to develop
	a more sectorally-coordinated management approach, based on IWRM,
	both at the national and the regional level, with a strong emphasis on an
	expanded role for all stakeholders within a participatory management
	framework, especially the private sector. The Project will demonstrate in a replicable manner, integrated land and water management
	strategies. The demonstrations will stress the development of cross-
	sectoral management approaches which will address the requirements
	for institutional realignment and appropriate infrastructure; adoption of
	new modalities for sectoral participation; enhancement of regional
	capacity to manage the basin in a sustainable manner; linkages to the
	social and economic root causes of environmental degradation; and the
	overall need for sustainability
Project status	The project is fully up and running. The Project Management structure

Project status FY2009 ⁸	The project is fully up and running. The Project Management structure consisting of the Project Management Unit, the Regional Project Steering Committee, National Focal Points (institutional and operational focal points) and National Implementation Committees have proven to be effective in ensuring stakeholder involvement at all levels. Implementation of the Project is still largely on course, despite delays in the initiation of certain activities. Also, the project work-plan has been updated in order to address changes required and to keep it abreast with ongoing processes. Much effort is being put in establishing partnerships with other projects, programmes and organisations active in the Volta region in order to enhance project outcomes as well as ensure longer-term sustainability.
	Upon UNEP recommendation, the second Project Steering Committee meeting was postponed. After initial studies at national and regional

⁷ As in project document ⁸ Please include additional lines to keep prior year implementation status (if any)

	levels on stakeholder participation, information exchange and institutions, the project is in a position to undertake the TDA, which is a primary activity for the next reporting period.
Project status FY2010	Even if there was an initial delay in signing MOAs with riparian countries, the demonstration projects activities are ongoing: establishment of demo project management bodies, organisation of coordination meetings at national level, ongoing preparation of the inception reports by each country (including revue of demo logframe, work plan and budget), construction of wastewater network in Kara (funded by SIAAP). The Volta Basin Information Sharing System has been developed and patiented pathematical in the use and papellebaration with

volta Basin information Sharing System has been developed and
national partners trained in its use and population in collaboration with
the VBA. After initial studies at national and regional levels on
stakeholder participation, information exchange and institutions, the
project has initiated the process for TDA finalisation and draft TDA
reports have been submitted by national consultants.

Project status FY2011	During the reported period, six national TDA reports have been drafted and reviewed by the PMU and TDA Regional Experts. In view of the regional TDA finalization, the causal chain analysis has been conducted and regional thematic reports on water resources, ecosystems, economy and governance are currently under review. The population of the VB ISS is still going on as planned and the project has contributed to support VBA coordination activities including the establishment of the observatory and implementation of joint activities with key project partners and canacity building activities (training and
	with key project partners and capacity building activities (training and awareness creation).
	Despite the initial delays in starting the demonstration projects, their
	implementation is ongoing though there have been some challenges e.g. in Cote d'Ivoire (owing to security) and Benin (planning activities).

Project status FY2012	The project is fully up and running. The Project Management structure consisting of the Project Management Unit, the Regional Project Steering Committee, National Focal Points (institutional and operational focal points) and National Implementation Committees have proven to be effective in ensuring stakeholder involvement at all levels. The MTE was conducted and its recommendations including PMU management response discussed during the 4 th PSC meeting. During the reported period, thematic reports on basin water resources, ecosystems, governance analysis and economic status were prepared by TDA regional experts. The regional TDA document has also been prepared, reviewed, updated and translated into French. SAP team established at national and regional level and, note for SAP development prepared (including its link with VB water charter and master plan, methodology and updated. Preparation of TDA validation and SAP workshop completed. The population of the VB ISS is still going on as planned and the project has contributed to support VBA coordination activities including the establishment of the observatory, stakeholder's forum, contribution/review of studies and implementation of joint activities with key project partners and capacity building activities (training and awareness creation). Despite the initial delays in starting the demonstration the trainelementation is anagement.
	the demonstration projects, their implementation is ongoing.

Planned contribution	The project has been developed based on the GEF International Waters				
to strategic priorities/targets ⁹	Focal Area- Strategic Priorities in Support of WSSD Outcomes. In particular, the following two priorities are listed:				
priorities/targets	 Priority 2. Expand global coverage of foundational capacity building 				
	addressing the two key program gaps with a focus on cross-cutting				
	aspects of African transboundary waters and support for targeted learning.				
	 Priority 3. Undertake innovative demonstrations for reducing contaminants and addressing water scarcity issues with a focus on engaging the private sector and testing public-private partnerships. Although specifics on how the GEF Volta project will contribute to addressing these priorities are not stated in the project document, it is clear that most activities of the project fall within the categories of capacity building (in various forms) and demonstration functions (whether through actual demonstration projects or the development of guidelines). 				

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVE

State the global environmental objective(s) of the project¹⁰

The project's overall objective is to enhance the ability of the riparian countries to plan and manage the Volta River Basin and its downstream coastal area (including aquatic resources and ecosystems) on a sustainable basis, by achieving sustainable capacity and establishing regional institutional frameworks for effective management; developing national and regional priorities; and effective legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks and management tools as a basis for action as well as initiating national and regional measures to achieve sustainable ecosystem management.

The Project has three main components with associated objectives identified by the root cause analysis carried out during the project preparation process and updated during the inception phase as follows:

- Specific Objective n° 1: Build capacity, improve knowledge, and enhance stakeholders involvement to support the effective management of the VRB
- Specific Objective n° 2: Develop river basin legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks and management instruments for addressing transboundary concerns in the Volta River Basin and its downstream coastal area
- Specific Objective n° 3: Demonstrate national and regional measures to combat transboundary environmental degradation in the Volta Basin

⁹ For Full Size Projects this information is found in the front page of the project Executive Summary; for Medium-Sized Projects the information appears in the MSP brief cover page.

¹⁰ Or immediate project objective

Please provide a narrative of progress made towards meeting the project objective(s). Describe any **significant** environmental or other changes (results) attributable to project implementation. Also, please discuss any major challenges to meet the **objectives** or specific project **outcomes** (not more than 300 words)

- 1. Specific Objective 1: During this reporting period the Project Management Unit (PMU) was fully functional and has executed the project in close collaboration with the Interim Volta Basin Authority and with the support of key institutions/partners (National Focal Points, UNEP/DGEF, UNOPS KEOC). The 6 NOFPs appointed by national authorities have provided support to the National Project Coordinators to manage, on a day-to-day basis, the project activities at the country level. The project staff was trained and regularly updated on UNOPS procedures, rules and regulations and also participated in the training workshop organised by UNOPS KEOC on UNOPS project management methodology and implementation. The 4thProject Steering Committee Meeting was held in Abidian. Cote d'Ivoire in February 2012 and participants were briefed on the status of the implementation of project activities planned for year 2011, the work plan and budget for 2012 and challenges faced by the project since 2008. Support was provided to the VBA for the review, editing, printing and dissemination of its strategic plan as recommended during the VBA Expert and VBA Council of Ministers meetings. Study reports were disseminated, and used by different project partners and also for the TDA and SAP analyses. The population of the Volta Basin Information Sharing System is still going on as planned. As part of its collaboration plan with ongoing initiatives, the project has contributed and/or co-organised joint activities with the IUCN/PAGEV and, VB Observatory mainly. The project monitoring and evaluation plan was implemented as per the approved inception report. The main mandatory reports (2011 annual report, 2012 work plan, project implementation report, guarterly and financial reports) were prepared by the PMU and approved by the UNEP/DGEF and the PSC. The MTE was completed and report discussed during the 4th PSC meeting. Upon VBA request, the budget allocated for awareness raising campaigns on IRB management for stakeholders has been reallocated to support the organisation of VBA 2nd Technical forum extended to discussions on stakeholders involvement. Nevertheless, sensitization and awareness creation activities were conducted during various field visits: implementation of Demo 3 in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, Demo 1 in Burkina Faso and Mali and Demo 2 in Togo, IUCN/PAGEV activities in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Togo. IWRM, IRB management, transboundary water and associated environmental issues, agricultural practices, land and river bank degradation were discussed with stakeholders at the local and grassroots levels.
- 2. Specific Objective 2: The specific objective 2 of the project aims to finalize and agree on a geographically specific, quantitative TDA and contribute to the development of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and Action Plan for the National Parts of the VRB (APNP-VRB) that address issues of priority transboundary concerns. A transboundary diagnostic analysis is an important tool/approach that GEF has adopted towards the development of a Strategic Action Programme. This reporting period was mainly dedicated to the finalisation of the TDA document of the Volta River Basin both at national and regional level with a strong implication of major stakeholders involved in the sustainable management of water and associated environmental resources of the basin. Thematic reports on basin water resources, ecosystems, governance analysis and economic status were prepared by TDA regional experts, reviewed and commented by the PMU and finalised. Thematic reports were updated with long delays affecting the overall process mainly the validation of the regional TDA and the launching of the SAP process both at national and regional level. The regional TDA document has been drafted, reviewed by key partners, updated and translated into French. TORs for SAP consultants prepared and SAP team established at national and regional level. Note for SAP development prepared (including its link with VB water charter and master plan) and SAP methodology and work plan updated. Preparation of TDA validation and SAP workshop completed (TORs, information note, involvement of decision makers and stakeholders, etc.)
- 3. **Specific Objective 3:** Based on the revised Demo Project documents, discussions with national partners and MOAs signed with countries, national project implementation bodies are

implementing the Demo Projects as per updated work plans and budgets. As result of a study funded by MCA Burkina Faso for the development of the early warning system in the framework of the Demo Project 1, the HEC-RAS model has been chosen as the hydrological model for flood forecasting including management, rehabilitation and management of the Lery Dam. Its adaptation to the project area is completed. Testing of the model is ongoing and MCA Burkina Faso will share the first results and organise training for partners from Mali and Burkina Faso shortly. In Malithecollection of data needed to run the hydrological model is ongoing. With regard to the Demo Project 2 in Togo, MOA was drafted by the PMU, reviewed by SIAAP and national partners (Togo), shared with UNEP for non-objection, and signed by UNOPS KEOC and SIAAP.The construction of the wastewater network initially planned (about 5000 linear meters) in Ewawu area (Kara, Togo) and funded by the SIAAP has been completed. Several studies were conducted on the construction of a small scale treatment plant and its connection to the network in Ewawu area. Also, the environmental impacts assessment and the feasibility study for the connection of mosques, schools, restaurants and other major public/private institutions to the network were completed and the reports are available.Kara Municipality organised several sensitisation and awareness creation activities mainly in the framework of the resettlement and water and environmental sanitation issues were addressed during this exercise. In Benin, the Demo brief has been prepared and grant agreement signed by UNOPS and Benin government. Inception phase of the Demo is ongoing. As for the **Demo project 3**, the PMU is yet to receive updated project stress reduction indicators, work plan and budget but the other activities are ongoing as planned. Project Management Structures established in the 2 countries are functioning while administrative assistance/support appointment still pending in Cote d'Ivoire. A Joint Water Resources Commission/Ministry of Environment/GEF-Volta Project monitoring mission was organised to support project implementation in Ghana. Also Project implementation activities assigned to partners' are ongoing as per work plan following the community entry phase. Support was provided to national institutions for a better understanding of key issues addressed by Demo 3. Several consultative meetings and discussions were organised in demo side (Ghana) and nurseries established in Ghana side for subsequent planting in view of river bank protection (about 15000 seedling of different species as at reporting period). Discussions were held with Côte d'Ivoire partners on project implementation which is picking up following the resolution of the political crises in the country. Also, trainings, awareness creation and reforestation activities were conducted and according to information received from national partners 12 000 seedlings were raised during the reported period.

Please provide a narrative of progress towards the stated GEF Strategic Priorities and Targets if identified in project document ¹¹ (not more than 200 words)

Most of the GEF Volta Project activities contribute to addressing the two strategic priorities. Some of the key achievements in this regard are:

- Operationalization of the project: During the reported period the Project Management Unit (PMU) was fully functional and has executed the project in close collaboration with the Interim Volta Basin Authority and with the support of key institutions/partners (National Focal Points, UNEP/GEF, UNOPS KEOC)
- Training/updating of PMU staff on UNOPS procedures, rules and regulation, project management
- TDA prepared, reviewed, updated and translated into French
- SAP process ongoing: Team established at national and regional level, implementation note completed, methodology and work plan updated
- · Implementation of collaboration framework signed with the VBA
- Volta basin convention entered into force and accord de siege signed between VBA and Burkina Faso government
- Development of the VB ISS and its ongoing population
- Support provided for the review and editing of VBA Strategic Plan

¹¹ Projects that did not include these in original design are encouraged to the extent possible to retrofit specific targets.

- Participation, contribution, organisation/co-organisation of joint activities (meetings, workshops, trainings) with project partners: IUCN/PAGEV, VB Observatory, WASCAL, GWSP, VBA, GCLME, etc.
- Finalisation of national TDA reports
- Regional TDA document regional TDA thematic reports drafted, reviewed and updated
- Implementation of Demo projectsin riparian countries as per demo work plans and approved budgets

3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

Based on inputs by the Project Manager, the UNEP Task Manager¹² will make an overall assessment and provide ratings of:

- (i) Progress towards achieving the project objective(s)- see section 3.1
- (ii) Implementation progress see section 3.2

Section 3.3 on Risk should be first completed by the Project Manager. The UNEP Task Manager will subsequently enter his/her own ratings in the appropriate column.

3.1 Progress towards achieving the project objective (s)

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
Outcome 1.1: <i>Project</i> <i>Managed and</i> <i>coordinated to</i> <i>partners</i> <i>satisfaction</i>	Project management and co-ordination bodies established	None	PMU and all project organs operational and effective		 The PMU is fully functional and executing the project in close collaboration with the Volta Basin Authority and with the support of key institutions/partners (National Focal Points, UNEP/DGEF, UNOPS KEOC) Project staff trained and regularly updated on UNOPS policy, administrative instructions, procedures, rules and regulation (including UN mandatory courses, Prince 2 and project Management Certification) 4thPSC meeting conducted in February 2012. Several meetings organised at national levels by the NIC (TDA/SAP process, National coordination, Demo project, etc): at national level, project activities have been jointly implemented by minstriesin 	S

¹² For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					charge of water and environment; recruitment of consultants, meeting, workshops, review of national/regional reports, implementation of demo projects, policy briefs, etc.	
Outcome 1.2: Capacity & participation of stakeholders in VRB	Ministries of environment and water resources are both represented in the Project Steering Committee		(None)	Ministries of environment and water resources participate in the project activities	• For each riparian country, the ministries in charge of water and environment are represented at the PSC and NIC and are participating in the project activities	S
management strengthened	All relevant stakeholders participate in project activities and have access to project reports, publications, database, etc	Not existing	All stakeholders identified and their actions understood; MOUs developed to support key collaborations, e.g. VBA, EU Volta project, IUCN PAGEV project		 List of key stakeholders, ongoing and planned initiatives updated. Stakeholders involved in project activities both at national and regional levels (TDA, trainings, demo project, PSC, NIC, etc.) NOFPs updated new /amended UNOPS procedures, rules and regulations Abridged version of the VBA Strategic plan prepared and translated into French. Proposed design has been discussed and agreed upon with the VBA. Printing company selected on competitive basis and selection report approved by UNOPS KEOC. Printing completed and document disseminated The collaboration with key project partners is ongoing and the project has contributed to, participated in and/or co-organised activities, workshops or meetings with GCLME, GLOWA, IUCN/PAGEV, Volta HYCOS, SIAAP, GWSP, WASCAL, IWMI, and Volta Observatory. 	S

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					 The project supported and financed the VBA for the organisation of its second technical forum involving major VBA partners and stakeholders both at regional, national and local levels. The forum debated how to harmonize various water related initiatives in the basin, including the GEF project. Support provided to IUCN/PAGEV for the preparation of PAGEV 3 Participation of project team (including national focal points, VBA, representatives of ongoing initiatives, local stakeholders and NGOs) in several meetings, mainly: IUCN PAGEV 11th and 12th steering committee meetings, ii 6th GEF Biennial International Waters Conference, 1st African Regional Targeted Workshop for GEF IW Projects., 1st regional forum on the status of water quality in the Volta Basin, Volta Basin water audit validation workshop, etc. Contribution to the preparation and participation in: i-) the 3rd VBA ground water workshop, ii-) the first VBA workshop on water related diseases held in Benin in August 2011, iii-) 1st Meeting of the Forum of Parties Involved in the Development of the Basin held in Burkina Faso in January 2012, 	
					of the Forum of Parties Involved in the	

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					Development of the Basin held in Ouagadougou Burkina Faso in January 2012, the Volta Basin Authority's (VBA) 5th meeting of the Experts Committee and its 4th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the VBA held February 2012 in Abidjan Côte d'Ivoire	
	Institutions have the capacity to manage and monitor data in support of the implementation of SAP and APNP-VRB, and provide coordinated data transfer to VBA observatory	None	Existing data is inventoried and CHM established	Countries contributing data to the CHM	 The reports (national and regional) of the study on data inventory and assessment, including data sharing mechanism, training gaps and training plan were disseminated during the reporting period and used as guideline/reference for the preparation of regional TDA reports and other studies conducted by various partners at national and regional levels List of existing metadata within each country updated during the TDA process Volta Basin Information Sharing System (VB-ISS) development discussed with key project partners. The population of the VB-ISS is on-going: the population is currently being done by VB Observatory (with the support of UNEP DEWA and PMU) based on information (meta data) available at the observatory (including those received from countries) 	MS
	Involvement of stakeholders in SAP and APNP-VRB process and roles detailed in SAP and APNP-VRB documents	None	Stakeholders contribute to the TDA process	Stakeholders have contributed to national and regional SAP processes	 Plan for involving stakeholders in the TDA/SAPimplemented and Stakeholders participated in national/regional TDA/SAP discussions/meetings, meetings, 	S

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
	National institutions have the capacity to implement the SAP and APNP-VRB	None	National institutions and partners understand the TDA and SAP processes	National institutions engaged in TDA and SAP processes and are positioned to implement the SAP by incorporating SAP priorities into other national and/or regional initiatives	 provided support to consultants for data collection, etc. Draft regional TDA report shared and commented on by project stakeholders Key stakeholders involved are: scientists, resources persons (water resources experts, lawyers, environmentalists, and economist), NGO, project partners, national/regional institutions, decentralized communities, etc: national/regional TDA planning/validation workshops, national thematic meetings, data and information collection, review on various TDA reports (nation/regional TDA, regional thematic TDA documents, etc.), advocacy in view of the involvement of high level authorities, etc. Workshops and meetings organized during the reported period provided an opportunity for knowledge sharing and exchange, including establishment of network between the GEF-Volta Project partners. During these workshops, project partners were regularly updated on development related to the TDA/SAP: presentation of TDA/SAP methodology/concept, its implication for the Volta River Basin and the role of national/regional institutions, key findings of the Volta Basin TDA (including priority problems and areas of 	MS

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					concerns, governance analysis and socioeconomic context)	
Outcome 1.3: Knowledge base expanded & basin-wide communication mechanism in place	VBA database developed and updated at regional and national levels	No database for VBA exists	Equipment procured development underway.	VBA database (CHM) developed by year 4 and functional	 Equipment procured (server, ArcGIS hardware and associated accessories) in 2009 and development completed in 2010. The VB ISS data set hosted by UNEP DEWA has been migrated to the VBA server host. Also the Volta Basin data portal page was developed and linked with the VBA web page and this is be the point of access for all data portal related to Volta Basin. The population of the VB-ISS by VBA is ongoing as planned. It's difficult to quantify the quality of information at the present stage. Major data are: hydrometorologycal data, socioeconomic data, data on basin ecosystem, existing reports, documents, maps and metadata Participation and contribution to different coordination meetings of the Observatory organized by the VBA 	MS
	Contributions to the establishment of regional Volta Basin Observatory completed and approved by the VBA	Volta Basin Observatory to be established, with funding by French GEF	Existing metadata understood and synthesized	CHM is functional and supports the observatory operations	 Participation to VBA and VBO meetings, workshops (see above) and i-) contribution to 2 key studies on the assessment of the basin's socioeconomic and environmental situation and analysis of the problem areas and issues regarding sustainable management of water resources, ii-) 	MS

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					 updating of the basin water audit, iii) stakeholders meeting and fora, etc. Sharing of data and information collected during the TDA process CHM is functional and supports the observatory operations: studies, basin characterisation and monitoring, information, sensitization, and awareness creation, development of indicators, HYCOS Project, etc. 	
	At least 2 thematic studies carried out	Thematic studies to be identified will fill in gaps identified by TDA and national experts		2 thematic studies carried out on water and related natural resources of the Volta River Basin by year 3	 Activity cancelled owing to similar work being undertaken by VBO with ADB funding 	N/A
Outcome 2.1: VRB regional coordination mechanisms supported	VRB Convention into force	Convention signed by the riparian countries	Convention ratified by at least 4 of the riparian countries	VRB convention enters into force and VBA functional	 The Convention entered into force in August 2009. During the reported period, Côte d'Ivoire has joined the other 5 riparian countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali and Togo) by ratifying and depositing the ratification document Importance of the VRB Convention and its ratification were discussed with high level authorities during different meetings and workshops 	HS
Outcome 2.2: Transboun dary	TDA revised, finalized and endorsed by the Project Steering committee	Preliminary TDA prepared	TDA endorsed by the project Steering	TDA endorsed by the project Steering committee and	 Several TDA discussions organised with VBA, UNEP, UDC and other key partners Six national TDA documents completed 	MS

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
<i>Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) updated and finalised</i>		under PDF- B phase of the project	committee by the end of year 2	informing management	 4 Thematic reports prepared by TDA regional experts, reviewed and finalised: Ecosystems, Water resources, Governance and Economy. Additional data and information collected Regional TDA document drafted, , UDC, VBA, VBO and other resource persons, updated, translated into French and shared with project partners Due to budget constraints the validation workshop has been combined with SAP planning workshop scheduled for the 3rd Quarter of 2012 and will be reflected in the next PIR 	
Outcome 2.3: Action Plans for the National Parts of the VRB (APNP- VRB) developed	APNP-VRB finalised and endorsed at country level	IWRM plans at various stages of development for each country.	Methodology developed and agreed	APNP-VRB endorsed at country level by year 4	 Taking into consideration national development in terms of IWRM and, to avoid duplication, it has been decided to prepare Action Sheets for the National Part of the Volta River Basin (ASNP-VRB) which will be annexed to the SAP document. Indeed, plan to addressed problems in national parts of the basin are part of national IWRM plans National Action Sheet template with associated guidelines have been prepared, translated into French and shared with project partners TORs for the recruitment of national facilitators in view of the development of ASNP-VRB prepared, reviewed and finalised by PMU and shared with national partners 	MS

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
	Key inter-sectoral transboundary issues identified and plan for sectoral harmonisation developed with relevant sectors and agreed for inclusion in IWRM process	Inter- sectoral harmonizatio n as part of the IWRM process needed in all countries and ongoing and substantial work	APNP-VRB methodology includes IWRM considerations; stakeholders understand links between APNP- VRB and SAP processes and IWRM	APNP-VRB process highlighted for mainstreaming into national IWRM processes	 Work plan updated and note for the implementation of the SAP process including (ASNP-VRB) prepared taking into consideration experience of west Africa international river basins, ongoing and planned initiative and VBA context National facilitators recruited and grant agreements with countries prepared by UNOPS Transboundary issues to be addressed by the ASNP-VRB discussed during national/regional meetings, workshops, and also in national/regional TDA documents and regional thematic reports Major inter-sectoral transboundary issues highlighted both in national TDA and IWM plans and links discussed during various TDA and IWRM meetings and workshops organised at regional and national levels 	MS
Outcome 2.4: Strategic Action Programme (SAP) prepared	SAP drafted, finalized and endorsed at ministerial level (Water and Environment Ministers)	No SAP exists for Volta River Basin	Methodology for SAP process developed; national partners trained on TDA/SAP	SAP endorsed at ministerial level by the end of year 4	 Several conceptual and coordination discussions/meetings with UNEP, VBA, UDC and other partners Action Sheet template with associated guidelines have been prepared, translated into French 	MS

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
			processes		 TORs for the recruitment of SAP regional consultants prepared, reviewed and finalised by PMU SAP regional team established on a competitive basis Note for the implementation of the Volta Basin SAP process prepared taking into consideration experience of west Africa international river basins, ongoing and planned initiative and VBA context (mainly its plan to also have a water charter and master plan) Key steps of the Volta Basin SAP process (including roles, responsibilities and deadlines) prepared and discussed with key partners Transboundary issues to be addressed by the SAP discussed during national/regional meetings, workshops, and also in national/regional TDA documents and regional thematic reports TORs and agenda of the SAP planning workshop finalised and workshop rescheduled to July/August 2012 taking into consideration availability constraints of 	
	Volta Basin Authority (VBA) adopts SAP into their work plan	Volta River Basin Authority established in 2007 but with no SAP	VBA participates in and advocates for TDA/SAP process	Volta Basin Authority (VBA) adopt SAP into their work plan as mechanism for the implementation of the Volta River Basin	 important stakeholders The VBA has been involved in the TDA/SAP process: establishment and review of national TDA reports and regional thematic reports, regional TDA document, national/regional TDA/SAP workshops and meetings; preparation of 	MS

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
		to implement or other strategic planning of activities based on agreed priorities		Convention by the end of year 4	 TOrs for the recruitment of SAP national/regional consultants, outlines and guidelines of various reports, discussions on TDA/SA methodology and wok plan, link between Volta Basin SAP, water charter and master plan, etc: VBA collaboration framework includes commitment to endorse the project outcomes 	
Outcome 3.1: 3 Demo Project successfully implemented	3 Demo projects executed resulting in stress reduction (see demo logframe) and analyzed for their replicability	None	Six demo project starting at the beginning of year 2	Six demo projects executed by year 4	 Demo Project 1 Upon MTE and PSC recommendations, MOA signed with Mali government has been extended to 31 December 2012 National project implementation bodies established in Mali and functional. Inception report finalised and disseminated Support provided to project team in Mali for the budget reallocation, updating of demo work plan and implementation of planned activities Organisation of coordination meetings with MCA Burkina Faso and national partners (Mali and/or Burkina Faso) for the implementation of the Demo Project Adaptation of the hydrological HEC RAS model to the basin area has been completed. Testing of the model has been completed but MCA Burkina Faso is yet to share the 1st results. In Mali, Collection of data needed to run the hydrological model is on-going as planned and hydro-meteorological 	Demo 1: MU Demo 2 Togo: S Demo 2 Benin: MU Demo 3: MS Overall: MS/MU

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					 equipment procured and installed well-maintained GIS mapping of the project area in Burkina Faso updated. Its extension to the project area in Mali discussed and planned with national partners and MCA Burkina Faso and budget reallocation for bathymetric measurement in Mali side completed The project has contributed to the establishment of the bilateral committee in view of a joint management of the basin funded by the IUCN Sourou IWRM project Demo Project 2 The report of the study on the appropriate technology for the construction of the small scale treatment plant and its connection to the network in Ewawu area has been reviewed and validated by SIAAP, the GEF Volta Project and Kara Municipality. The construction of the wastewater network initially planned (about 5000 linear meters) in Ewawu area (Kara, Togo) and funded by SIAAP has been completed during the reported period. Study for the construction of the treatment plant completed. Study for the construction of the treatment plant and its othe treatment plant completed. 	

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					Feasibility study completed and report	
					available. Sensitisation of Ewawu's	
					inhabitants in ongoing	
					 Pending the completion of the treatment plants 	
					 Kara Municipality organised several 	
					sensitisation and awareness creation	
					activities mainly in the framework of the	
					resettlement and water and environmental	
					sanitation issues were addressed during this exercise	
					 In Benin the Demo Document has been 	
					prepared, reviewed by PMU and finalised.	
					This includes (situation analysis, logframe,	
					activities, work plan, institutional	
					framework, budget	
					 MOA drafted by the PMU, reviewed by 	
					Benin Partners and signed by UNOPS	
					KOEC and Benin Directorate of	
					environment	
					• Establishment of Demo Team in Benin is	
					ongoing and inception workshop planned for August 2012.	
					Demo Project 3	
					• Upon MTE and PSC recommendations,	
					MOAs signed with the governments of	
					Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana have been	
					extended to 31 December 2012	
					 National project implementation bodies 	
					established and functional.	
					Demo project activities are ongoing as	
					planned. Project Management Structures	

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					 established in the 2 countries are functioning. Organisation of coordination meetings with national partners in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire for the implementation of the Demo Project Inception phase of the Demo project completed in the 2 countries and project partners mobilised for activities' implementation Project implementation partners' activities are ongoing as per work plan following the community entry phase. Support provided to national institutions for a better understanding of key issues addressed by Demo 3. Several consultative meetings and discussions were organised in demo side and nurseries established in Ghana side for subsequent planting in view of river bank protection (about 15000 seedlings of different species as at reporting period). In Côte d'Ivoire, project implementation is picking up following the resolution of the political crises in Côte d'Ivoire. Also, reforestation activities were conducted and according to information received from national partners 12 000 seedlings were raised during the reported period Community awareness carried out at project hotspot and initial community entry discussion undertaken to establish 	

Project Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of Project Target	Project Manager Report 30 June 2012	Rating
					 community implementation committees Trainings on Improved Charcoal production conducted, and the preparation for the flood monitoring and river channels dredging have been completed in Ghana, while awareness creation activities have been conducted in Côte d'Ivoire. Demo Projects. Midterm evaluation3 Report of the 3 Demo midterm evaluation finalized and discussed during the 4th PSC meeting 	
Outcome 3.2 ¹³ : Replication strategy for demonstration project developed and initiated	Six national Demo projects are prepared to be submitted to co- funding partners	None	Demonstration projects underway	Key issues in demonstration projects have been identified and incorporated into a replication strategy	Removed from project work plan following MTE assessment	NA

Overall rating of project progress towards meeting project objective(s) (*To be provided by UNEP GEF Task Manager. Please include columns to reflect all prior year ratings*)

FY2009 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and explaining reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods
S/MS	Regional components well underway with quality workplans and processes. Demonstration projects require additional technical support to get quality documents and workplans.
FY2010 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and explaining reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods
MS	Regional activities, such as TDA/SAP process, now well underway. Some demos are still significantly delayed. This is common at this stage in a project (and therefore not too worrying), but it is highlighted here especially to

	focus effort on this during the next critically important year of implementation.
FY2011 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and explaining reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods
MU	Implementation challenges (e.g. resignation of TDA Team Leader, security situation in Cote d'Ivoire, various challenges with demos) are now seriously impacting the progress towards achieving project objectives. An additional no cost extension of a year will be necessary to complete the TDA/SAP process and the demo projects.
FY2012 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and explaining reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods

Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU rating (To be completed by UNEP GEF Task Manager in consultation with Project Manager)

Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?	
Better document the involvement of stakeholders in TDA/SAP process	PMU	March 2013	
Finalise the TDA document and prepare a draft SAP by December 2012	PMU/UNEP	December 2012	
Document the population of the VB ISS and make it online to key stakeholders selected by VBA, including UNEP and GEF	PMU/VBA	December 2012	
Finalize the update of project website, including recent documents and information	PMU	December 2012	
Demo Project: conduct field visits, support demo team for the review of wok plan and budget reallocation, better monitor the implementation update demo work plan	PMU, Demo Teams, NIFP	January 2013	

This section should be completed if project progress towards meeting **objectives** was rated MS, MU, U or HU during the previous Project Implementation Review (PIR) or by the Mid-term Review/Evaluation (*To be completed by Project Manager*).

previous PIR	Action(s) taken	By whom	When
5	Project budget has been reallocated to support the DA/SAP process	PMU in collaboration with UNEP. VBA	November – December 2011

Problem(s) identified in previous PIR	Action(s) taken	By whom	When
resources to support TDA/SAP process as highest priority			
Following the recommendations of the MTE, reassess the demo projects, scaling back in cases where it is unlikely projects can achieve objectives in remaining period	Completed: Demo project activities, work plan and expected results reviewed/updated and budget reallocated	National partners in collaboration with PMU	November – December 2011
Rapid recruitment of a new TDA Team Leader; Finalization of the TDA and start of the SAP processes to take place simultaneously so as to recoup lost time	Team Leader recruited, Regional TDA finalised and validation workshop planned for Q3-2012. TORs finalised and SAP regional and national team in place as planned. SAP planning and TDA validation workshops planned for Q3-2012 as back to back workshops. SAP methodology and work plan updated. Note and guidelines for the implementation of the SAP prepared (including its link with VB water charter and Master plan) TDA/SAP process ongoing as planned	Project Management Unit in collaboration with UNEP, VBA ,UDC, national partners and consultants,	Q2-2011 - Now

3.2 Project implementation progress

Outputs	Planned completion date ¹⁴	Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
Output 1.1: Project Managed and coordinated to partners satisfaction				
Activity 1.1.1. Establish the Project Management Unit and governance system including: PMU, MOUs, PSC, PTF, NFP, NIC etc	Q2-2008	Completed (100%)	PMU and all project organs operational and effective	S

¹⁴Planned completion dates are from on the 2010 PIR the extension of the project to December 2012

Outputs		Planned completion date ¹⁴	Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
Activity 1.1.2.	Develop and implement project monitoring and evaluation plan	Continuous	100% of activities planned for the reported period	M&E plan developed, updated based on MTE recommendations, approved by PSC and currently under implementation	S
Activity 1.1.3.	Identify linkages with other partners, develop and implement collaboration plan (including collaboration framework with the VBA)	Continuous	100% of activities planned for the reported period	Collaboration with key partners ongoing as discussed and planned. The project continues to follow up and when necessary strengthen the initiated collaboration arrangement. VBA has remained the coordinating body for this collaboration. Also new collaboration opportunities have been discussed with US EPA, USAID and Kfw	S
Activity 1.1.4.	Carry out project reports (PIR and annual report, monthly brief, study reports)	Continuous	IR, Annual report (2011) 2012 work plan& budget: completed (100%)	Reports prepared as planned and widely disseminated. Key study, meeting and workshop reports were prepared and disseminated	S
Activity 1.1.5.	Document project implementation and communicate results through publications, regional and internal reports, project newsletter and project website <i>(just for the record)</i>	Continuous	100% of activities planned for the reported period	Reports on project implementation (including briefing notes) prepared, shared and discussed with project partners during various regional and international meetings/workshops	S
	apacity & participation of stakeholders nement strengthened				
Activity 1.2.1.	Conduct training on TDA/SAP process for NFPs	Q3-2008	Completed (100%)	N/A for this period	NA
Activity 1.2.2.	Analysis of national institutions and stakeholders and preparation of stakeholders involvement plan	Dec-2008	Completed (100%)	Studies reports used for the preparation of thematic and TDA reports and by VBA and other partners for various studies on the Volta Basin 1 st VBA forum of parties held based on the results of institutions and stakeholders analysis	MS
Activity 1.2.3.	Conduct training sessions for national	Q2-2009	Completed in 2011	As recommended by the MTE no activity	MS

Outputs		Planned completion date ¹⁴	Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
	institutions and stakeholders on IWRM and IRB management			planned for the reported period.	
Activity 1.2.4.	Conduct training sessions for national institutions on data management and monitoring and, clearinghouse system	Q3-2009	Completed (100%)	No activity planned for the reported period	S
Activity 1.2.5.	Conduct training on SAP implementation at national and regional levels(cancelled, pending additional funds)	Q4-2011	Not planned for the reported period	As recommended by the MTE, cancelled, pending additional funds	
	nowledge base expanded & basin-wide n mechanism in place				
Activity 1.3.1.	Conduct study on data inventory and assessment	Dec-2009	Completed (100%)	 Although the study has been completed in 2009, one should highlight the following: Study result used for the establishment of the VB ISS Study result used by VB Observatory, national partners and national/regional consultants for the finalisation of the TDA and by VBA and project partners for the preparation of technical reports Information related to existing Metadata categories & data hosting institutions updated during the TDA process, shared with VB Observatory 	S
Activity 1.3.2.	Develop hydrological and coastal hydrodynamic model of the Volta basin and its Downstream Coastal Area	June 2010	NA	N/A, owing to the delays and need to reallocate budget, his activity has been transferred to the VB Observatory at the end of the EU Volta project and IUCN is providing support to VB Observatory in that regard	NA
Activity 1.3.3.	Carry out thematic study on relations between catchments area and stream flow	Q2-2010	NA	N/A; As result of coordination discussions undertaken with the VBA and the EU Volta project, it has been decided to develop the	NA

Outputs		Planned completion date ¹⁴	Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
				hydrological model and carry out the thematic studies through the implementation of the EU Volta Project and also in framework of the Volta Basin Observatory activities	
Activity 1.3.4.	Carry out thematic study on the relations between Volta basin and its Downstream Coastal Area, using ICARM concept	Q2-2010	NA	N/A; As result of coordination discussions undertaken with the VBA and the EU Volta project, it has been decided to develop the hydrological model and carry out the thematic studies through the implementation of the EU Volta Project and also in the framework of Volta Basin Observatory activities	NA
Activity 1.3.5.	Support and/or contribute to studies on the establishment of the Volta Basin Observatory through database, data collection and data sharing protocol	Continuous	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	The project has contributed to 100% of activities planned in the framework of the VB Observatory Population of the VB ISS is ongoing as planned	MS
Activity 1.3.6.	Organize one scientific workshop in collaboration with key partners (UNESCO, GTZ, GLOWA, WASCAL, etc.)	End of the project	N/A	Not planned for the reported period	
Activity 1.3.7.	Develop and update project website	Continuous	Website developed and regularly updated	Website updated as planned	MS/MU
Output 2.1: V supported	RB regional coordination mechanisms				
Activity 2.1.1.	Advocate at Ministerial level and through project meetings, workshops and reports, the importance of ratifying the basin convention	Q4-2009	100%	VB convention entered into force in 2009	S
Activity 2.1.2.		Dec 2013	100% of activities planned for the reported	VBA fully participates in the TDA/SAP process	MS

Outputs		Planned completion date ¹⁴	Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
	and APNP-VRB into the VBA policies, strategies and plans		period completed		
Output 2.2: Tra (TDA) updated	ansboundary Diagnostic Analysis I and finalised				
Activity 2.2.1.	Review the preliminary TDA, identify gap and prepare detailed methodology for TDA finalisation and SAP/APNP-VRB development	Dec 2008	Completed (100%)	Completed in 2008 Report disseminated and used by project's consultants and partners for various studies	S
Activity 2.2.2.	Organize starting regional/national workshops with national, regional and international institutions and stakeholders	Q2-Q3-2009	100%	Not planned for the reported period. Completed in 2010	S/MS
Activity 2.2.3.	Update and complete the TDA document including situation analysis and causal chain analysis	April 2012	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	Regional TDA document updated (including 4 regional thematic reports, 6 national TDA documents) and subject to initial reviews and then revised.	S
Activity 2.2.4.	Organize regional validation workshop with national, regional and international institutions and stakeholders, including PSC and VBA	July 2012	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	Validation workshop planned for August 2012. TORs for the validation workshop completed and invitation letter sent to participants. PMU has made practical arrangement for a successful organization of the workshop in Cotonou, Benin Activity significantly delayed, though optimistic that things are back on track now.	MS
Activity 2.2.5.	Finalise the regional TDA document (including thematic reports) based of the validation workshop recommendations	Dec 2012	N/A	Not planned for the reported period, Activity significantly delayed, though optimistic that things are back on track now.	MS
Activity 2.2.6.	Edit, print and the regional TDA	May 2013	N/A	Not planned for the reported period	NA

Outputs	•		Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
	document (including thematic reports)				
Activity 2.2.7.	Disseminate TDA document (including regional/national TDA, Thematic TDA reports)	May 2013	N/A	Not planned for the reported period	NA
	ction Plans for the National Parts of the (RB) developed				
Activity 2.3.1.	Prepare the National Action Plans documents	Q4-2012	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	TORs for the recruitment of national facilitators prepared and recruitment completed by Project National Focal Points based on countries procedures	MS
Activity 2.3.2.	Organize APNP-VRB validation workshops in each riparian country	Q4-2012	N/A	Not planned for the reported period	MS
Activity 2.3.3.	Finalize and submit APNP-VRB documents to national authorities for endorsement	Q4-2013	N/A	Following the revisions to work program after the MTE, this is not planned for the reported period	NA
Activity 2.3.4.	Edit, print and disseminate APNP- VRB documents	Q4-2013	N/A	Following the revisions to work program after the MTE, this is not planned for the reported period	NA
Output 2.4: Sa	trategic Action Programme (SAP)				
Activity 2.4.1.	Organize starting regional/national workshops with national, regional and international institutions and stakeholders	July 2012	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	Starting workshop planned for July 2012. TORs for the starting workshop completed and invitation letter sent to participants. PMU has made practical arrangement for a successful organization of the workshop in Cotonou, Benin	MS
Activity 2.4.2.	Prepare the Strategic Action Programme document, including SAP implementation guideline, monitoring	Q1-2013	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	TORs prepared for regional SAP consultants Recruitment of regional SAP consultants completed	MS

Outputs		completionStatus as of 30 JunePdate142012 (%)		Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating		
	& evaluation system for SAP implementation, long term financing strategy for the SAP			Note of the implementation of SAP (including its link with VB water charter and Master plan) completed Several coordination and harmonization discussions and meetings with VBA, UNEP, UDC and other key partners			
Activity 2.4.3.	Organize validation regional workshop with national, regional and international institutions and stakeholders	Q1-2013	N/A	Not planned for the reported period	MS		
Activity 2.4.4.	Submit the SAP document to: i-) the Steering Committee for approval and, ii-) the Ministers in charge of Water and Environment for the endorsement of the SAP document (ideally in conjunction with VBA Ministerial meeting)	Q2-2013	N/A	Following the revisions to work program after the MTE, this is not planned for the reported period	NA		
Activity 2.4.5. New Activity has been added	Start the fundraising process by establishing contact and involving some donors/partners in the TDA/SAP process: American EPA, World Bank, African Water Facility, BOAD, KfW, etc	Continuous		A briefing note on the GEF Volta Project has been prepared by the PMU in collaboration with the VBA and used as basis for discussion during visits paid to Kfw, World Bank and American EPA headquarters and also USAID West Africa Office by the regional project coordinator and the VBA Executive Director. Key issues discussed during these visits are additional financial support requested for SAP preparation and implementation, implementation of demo projects, capacity building activities and also for the finalization of VBA establishment.	S		

Outputs		Planned completion date ¹⁴	Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
Output 3.1: 3 Demo Project successfully implemented					
Activity 3.1.1.	Review and update demo project documents (logframe, activities, budget, M&E plan and work plan) and prepare inception reports	Dec 2008	Completed (100%)	Completed in Q1-2009	?
Activity 3.1.2.	Implement the Demo project no 1: Joint management by Burkina Faso and Mali of a flow release warning system in the Sourou river valley (tributary of Black Volta River or Mouhoun)	Dec 2012	90% of activities planned for the reported period completed	 HEC-RAS model adapted to project area and testing ongoing Hydro-meteorological installed in Mali and data collection ongoing in the 2 countries Delay in the finalisation and dissemination on the model testing report Several coordination meetings organised with MCA and national partners from Burkina Faso and Mali Bilateral convention prepared as agreed with IUCB IWRM Project 	MU
Activity 3.1.3.	Implement the Demo project no 2: Installing and comparing technological models of waste water treatment in the Cities of Kara (Togo) and Natitingou (Benin)	Dec 2012	100% of activities planned for the reported period completed	 As explained in the section 3.1 activities are ongoing as planned. Also a project brief has been prepared for the national part of the basin in Benin and Grant agreement signed with the country for its implementation Demo in Togo: technical reports finalised and network construction and awareness creation activities completed as planned 	S for Togo MU for Benin
Activity 3.1.4.	Implement the Demo project no 3: Restoring and protecting the river beds of the Black Volta River (Côte d'Ivoire & Ghana) and its tributaries through participative campaigns of reforestation	Dec 2012	75% of activities planned for the reported period completed	As explained in the section 3.1 activities are ongoing as planned. The only problem one could highlight was the delay in the extension of contractual agreements between UNOPS and national institutions. This has been solved early March 2012	MS
Activity 3.1.5.	Evaluate the implementation of the	Dec 2012	100% of activities	Implementation of demo evaluated during the	S

Outputs	Outputs		Project Manager Status as of 30 June 2012 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
three Demo projects			planned for the reported period completed	project MTE and report finalized and discussed during the 4 th PSC meeting	
project develop	eplication strategy for demonstration bed and initiated(on hold, could be part I APNP VRB process)				NA
Activity 3.2.1.	Develop six national Demo projects based and TDA/SAP priorities, including financial plan and replication plan			On hold, could be part of the SAP and APNP VRB process	
Activity 3.2.2.	Submit the six national Demo projects to riparian countries for approval			On hold, could be part of the SAP and APNP VRB process	
Activity 3.2.3.	Incorporate the replication plan in the SAP			On hold, could be part of the SAP and APNP VRB process	

Overall project implementation progress ¹⁵ (To be completed by UNEP GEF Task Manager. Please include columns to reflect prior years' ratings):

FY2009 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the rating for this FY and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period						
S	Work well underway, though partners will inevitably introduce some delays.						
FY2010 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the rating for this FY and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating ince the previous reporting period						
MS	Delays and challenges with demos now impacting implementation progress. Getting all of the demos on track (and at the same time, not delaying the SAP process too much) should be main priorities. Some delays in management processes (e.g. vehicle procurement and UDC contract).						

¹⁵Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Marginally Satisfactory (MS), Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)

FY2011 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the rating for this FY and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
MU	The TDA/SAP process is now significantly delayed and the resignation of the Team Leader will bring additional delays to the process, necessitating an extension of the project. A number of the demonstration projects are now also significantly delayed. Some of these delays (e.g. Cote d'Ivoire) are outside the control of the project, whereas for others (e.g. Benin) additional efforts must be made to establish activities or alternatively they must be abandoned.
FY2012 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the rating for this FY and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period

Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU rating. (To be completed by UNEP Task Manager in consultation with Project Manager¹⁶)

Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Better document the involvement of	PMU	March 2013
stakeholders in TDA/SAP process		
Finalise the TDA document and prepare a draft	PMU/UNEP	December 2012
SAP by December 2012		
Document the population of the VB ISS and	PMU/VBA	December 2012
make it online to key stakeholders selected by		
VBA, including UNEP and GEF		
Finalize the update of project website,	PMU	December 2012
including recent documents and information		
Demo Project: conduct field visits, support	PMU, Demo Teams, NIFP	January 2013
demo team for the review of wok plan and		
budget reallocation, better monitor the		
implementation update demo work plan		

This section should be completed if project **progress** was rated MS, MU, U or HU during the previous Project Implementation Review (PIR) or by the Mid-term Review/Evaluation (*To be completed by Project Manager*).

Problem(s) identified in previous PIR	Action(s) taken	By whom	When
Following recommendations of	Project budget has been reallocated to support the	PMU in collaboration	November –

¹⁶ UNEP Fund Management Officer should also be consulted as appropriate.

Problem(s) identified in previous PIR	Action(s) taken	By whom	When
the MTE, reallocate project resources to support TDA/SAP process as highest priority	TDA/SAP process	with UNEP, VBA	December 2011
Following the recommendations of the MTE, reassess the demo projects, scaling back in cases where it is unlikely projects can achieve objectives in remaining period	Completed: Demo project activities, work plan and expected results reviewed/updated and budget reallocated	National partners in collaboration with PMU	November – December 2011
Rapid recruitment of a new TDA Team Leader; Finalization of the TDA and start of the SAP processes to take place simultaneously so as to recoup lost time	Team Leader recruited, Regional TDA finalised and validation workshop planned for Q3-2012. TORs finalised and SAP regional and national team in place as planned. SAP planning and TDA validation workshops planned for Q3-2012 as back to back workshops. SAP methodology and work plan updated. Note and guidelines for the implementation of the SAP prepared (including its link with VB water charter and Master plan) TDA/SAP process ongoing as planned	Project Management Unit in collaboration with UNEP, VBA ,UDC, national partners and consultants,	Q2-2011 - Now

3.3. Risk

There are two tables to assess and address risk: the first "risk factor table" to describe and rate risk factors; the second "top risk mitigation plan" should indicate what measures/action will be taken with respect to risks rated **Substantial** or **High** and who is responsible to for it.

RISK FACTOR TABLE

Project Managers will use this table to summarize risks identified in the **Project Document** and reflect also **any new risks** identified in the course of project implementation. The <u>Notes</u> column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, **as relevant**. The "Notes" column has one section for the Project Manager (**PM**) and one for the UNEP Task Manager (**TM**). If the generic risk factors and indicators in the table are not relevant to the project rows should be added. The **UNEP Task Manager** should provide ratings in the right hand column reflecting his/her own assessment of project risks.

				Pro	ject	Mana	ager	Rati	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ting	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK	1														
Project mar	nagement															
Management structure	Stable with roles and responsibilities clearly defined and understood	Individuals understand their own role but are unsure of responsibilities of others	Unclear responsibilities or overlapping functions which lead to management problems	X						PM: TM: Individuals generally understand their own roles, however, there has been some confusion over IA and EA roles in the request for pre- selection letters		x				
Governance structure	Steering Committee and/or other project bodies	Body(ies) meets periodically but guidance/input provided to	Members lack commitment Committee/body does not fulfil its	x						PM:		Х				
				Pro	oject	Mana	ager	Rati	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ting	
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Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK	1								I						
Project mar	nagement															
	meet periodically and provide effective direction/inputs	project is inadequate. TOR unclear	TOR							TM: PSC certainly fulfils its role during the annual meetings, the challenge is to maintain the role and influence between meetings and for them to assume ownership and responsibility for the project.						
Internal com- munications	Fluid and cordial	Communication process deficient although relationships between team members are good	Lack of adequate communication between team members leading to deterioration of relationships and resentment	X						PM: TM: No concerns.	X					
Work flow	Project progressing according to	Some changes in project work plan but without major	Major delays or changes in work plan or method of	Х						PM:		x				

				Pro	oject	Mana	ager	Rati	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ating	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK															
Project mar	nagement															
	work plan	effect on overall timetable	implementation							TM: There will be at least two no-cost extensions to the project, so work plans and budgets have had to be adjusted accordingly, but things seem largely under control now.						
Co-financing	Co-financing is secured and payments are received on time	Is secured but payments are slow and bureaucratic	A substantial part of pledged co- financing may not materialize		x					PM: Countries account for in-kind contribution but some of them still have challenge in mobilising cash contribution. This should not affect the deliverables since cash contribution are in most cases less than 20% of amounts pledged by countries TM: Mobilzing co- finance remains a challenge and risk, though there have been some positive developments on this side.			X			

				Pro	oject	Mana	ager	Rati	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ting	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK															
Project mar	nagement															
Budget	Activities are progressing within planned budget	Minor budget reallocation needed	Reallocation between budget lines exceeding 30% of original budget		X					PM: Budget reallocated based on MTE recommendations. No cost extension anticipated for 2013 will have budget implication and lead to the reduction of projection staff TM: Budget reallocations needed to sustain the PMU operations in light of no-cost extensions.		X				
Financial management	Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for	Financial reporting slow or deficient	Serious financial reporting problems or indication of mismanagement of funds	X						PM: TM: No concerns.	Х					
Reporting	Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and are complete and	Reports are complete and accurate but often delayed or lack critical analysis of	Serious concerns about quality and timeliness of project reporting	X						PM:	X					

				Pro	oject	Mana	ager	Ratir	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	iting	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK				•											
Project mar	nagement															
	accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues	progress and implementation issues								TM: Project reporting is generally of high- quality and without delays.						
Stakeholder involvement	Stakeholder analysis done and positive feedback from critical stakeholders and partners	Consultation and participation process seems strong but misses some groups or relevant partners	Symptoms of conflict with critical stakeholders or evidence of apathy and lack of interest from partners or other stakeholders	X						PM: TM: MTE noted that stakeholder involvement is strong on government agencies and weaker in civil society.		X				
External com- munications	Evidence that stakeholders, practitioners and/or the general public understand project and are regularly updated on progress	Communications efforts are taking place but not yet evidence that message is successfully transmitted	Project existence is not known beyond implementation partners or misunderstand- ings concerning objectives and activities evident	X						PM: TM: No concerns.	X					

				Pro	oject	Mana	ager	Rati	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ting	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK															
Project mar	nagement															
Short term/long term balance	Project is addressing short term needs and achieving results with a long term perspective, particularly sustainability and replicability	Project is interested in the short term with little understanding of or interest in the long term	Longer term issues are deliberately ignored or neglected	X						PM: TM: Its difficult to assess this now.	-	X				
Science and technological issues	Project based on sound science and well established technologies	Project testing approaches, methods or technologies but based on sound analysis of options and risks	Many scientific and /or technological uncertainties		x					PM: TM: Earlier concerns expressed about the relationship to or duplication with other basin processes has minimized now.	X					
Political influences	Project decisions and choices are not particularly politically driven	Signs that some project decisions are politically motivated	Project is subject to a variety of political influences that may jeopardize project objectives	x						PM: TM: No concerns.	x					

				Pro	ject	Mana	ager	Ratir	ng	Notes	Tas	k Ma	anag	er Ra	ting	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Pow	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL	RISK															
Project mar	nagement															
Other, please specify. Add rows as necessary										TM: NA						

				Pro	ject	Mana	ager	Rati	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ating	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
EXTERNAL	RISK															
Project cont	ext															
Political stability	Political context is stable and safe	Political context is unstable but predictable and not a threat to project implementation	Very disruptive and volatile		X					PM: Countries are stable, but elections bring a risk of slowed project implementation Also ongoing situation in Mali and the risk of new clashes in Côte d'Ivoire could be an issue TM: Noted and agreed.	-	X				
Environmental conditions	Project area is not affected by severe weather events or major environmental stress factors	Project area is subject to more or less predictable disasters or changes	Project area has very harsh environmental conditions	X						PM: TM: No special concerns.	x					
Social, cultural and economic factors	There are no evident social, cultural and/or economic issues that may affect project performance and results	Social or economic issues or changes pose challenges to project implementation but mitigation strategies have been developed	Project is highly sensitive to economic fluctuations, to social issues or cultural barriers		X					PM: The overall economic situation makes it difficult for countries to honour co- finance commitments. TM: Agreed. There is a risk that these challenges could remain in the SAP implementation project.			X			

				Pro	ject	Mana	ager	Ratir	ng	Notes	Tas	sk Ma	anag	er Ra	ting	
Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
EXTERNAL I	RISK	•							a							
Project conte	ext															
Capacity issues	Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners	Weaknesses exist but have been identified and actions is taken to build the necessary capacity	Capacity is very low at all levels and partners require constant support and technical assistance		X					PM: Technical and managerial capacity in most of the project countries is limited. The Project and its partners are addressing this issue with VBA coordination TM: Agreed.			X			
Others, please specify																

If there is a significant (over 50% of risk factors) discrepancy between Project Manager and Task Manager rating, an explanation by the Task Manager should be provided below

N/A

TOP RISK MITIGATION PLAN
Rank – importance of risk
Risk Statement – potential problem (condition and consequence)
Action to take – action planned/taken to handle the risk
Who – person(s) responsible for the action
Date – date by which action needs to be or was completed

Rank	Risk Statement ¹⁷		Action to Take	Who	Date
	Condition	Consequence			

Project overall risk rating (Low, Medium, Substantial or High) (*Please include PIR risk ratings for all prior periods, add columns as necessary*):

FY2012 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Medium	
FY2011 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Substantial	Delays in the TDA/SAP process during this reporting period signal substantial risk to the project achieving its objective. Some progress in demos since last PIR reporting, but still some delays.
FY2010 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Medium	Significant delays in demo projects and TDA development
FY2009 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Medium	Co-finance uncertainties, capacity issues and delays associated with demo projects put the overall project at medium risk.

¹⁷Only for Substantial to High risk.

4. RATING MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Based on the answers provided to the questions in 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 below, the **UNEP Task Manager** will provide ratings for the following aspects of project monitoring and evaluation:

- (i) Overall **quality** of the Monitoring & Evaluation plan
- (ii) Performance in the **implementation** of the M&E plan

4.1. Does the project M&E plan contain the following: Baseline information for each outcome-level indicator Yes X No 🗆 SMART indicators to track project outcomes Yes X No 🗆 • A clear distribution of responsibilities for monitoring project progress. Yes X No 🗆 4.2. Has the project budgeted for the following M&E activities: Mid-term review/evaluation Yes X No 🗆 • Terminal evaluation Yes X No 🗆 Any costs associated with collecting and analysing indicators' related information Yes X No \square (as part of the demonstration projects)

Please rate the **quality** of the project M&E plan (use HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU): S

4.3 Has the project:

•	Utilized the indicators identified in the M&E plan to track progress			
	in meeting the project objectives;	Yes X	No 🗆	
٠	Fulfilled the specified reporting requirements (financial, including			
	on co-financing and auditing, and substantive reports)	Yes X	No 🗆	
٠	Completed any scheduled MTR or MTE before or at project			
	implementation mid-point;	Yes X (MTE co	mpleted)	No 🗆
٠	Applied adaptive management in response to M&E activities	Yes X 🛛	No	
٠	Implemented any existing risk mitigation plan (see previous section)	Yes 🗆	No N/A yet	

Please rate the performance in implementing the M&E plan (use HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU): S

4.4. Please describe activities for monitoring and evaluation carried out during the reporting period¹⁸

• Key project report prepared and disseminated: 2010 PIR, 2011 Annual report (narrative and financial), 2012 work plan and budget, PSC meeting report

¹⁸Do not include routine project reporting. Examples of M&E activities include stakeholder surveys, field surveys, steering committee meetings to assess project progress, peer review of documentation to ensure quality, etc.

• Quarterly reports (narrative and financial) prepared as requested

- 4th PSC meeting held in Abidjan in February 2012, report finalised and disseminated
- MTE completed and report discussed during PSC meeting
- National implementation committee meetings were organised in each riparian country
- Some technical reports were prepared at national and regional levels as per the project work plan
- Demo project indicators updated by national partners based on MTE recommendations
- Overall project indicators, activities and expected outputs/outcomes updated by national partners based on MTE recommendations
- Project staff meeting organised on monthly basis
- Quarterly engagement discussions held as planned

4.5. Provide information on the quality of baseline information and any effects (positive or negative) on the selection of indicators and the design of other project monitoring activities

Baseline information for the tracking of stress reduction indicators is very limited. For example, data on water quality (N, P, BOD, COD, etc.), sediment yield into rivers, Water flow, Runoff, Infiltration, Evaporation, Precipitation, Basin protection and Vegetation index are scarce, incomplete and sometimes non-existent. This will affect the monitoring of stress reduction indicators and the general state of the environment as a result of the demonstration projects.

4.6. Provide comments on the usefulness and relevance of selected indicators and experiences in the application of the same.

The initial set of indicators as defined in the initial Project Document was found inadequate. A revised set of indicators has been developed and inserted in M&E Plan developed during the inception period. Nevertheless the monitoring of the stress reduction through the implementation of demo projects could be affected by the lack/quality of data and also the capacity of project partners to collect relevant data and information as expected. It is therefore recommended to review and update stress reduction indicators during the implementation of each demo project

4.7. Describe any challenges in obtaining data relevant to the selected indicators; has the project experienced problems to cover costs associated with the tracking of indicators?

The project could experience challenges in obtaining data for stress reduction indicators through the implementation of demo projects. Realistic stress indicators can't be monitored in a so short period allocated to the overall project.

4.8. Describe any changes in the indicators or in the project intervention logic, including an explanation of whether key assumptions¹⁹ are still valid The fact that the indicators defined in the initial project brief were not appropriate has led to the deep review of the project M&E plan. Even though a proper M&E framework is now in place and functional, stress reduction indicators may be reviewed during the inception phase of the demo projects. Indicators could be updated by the end of the project MTE

4.9. Describe how potential social or environmental negative effects are monitored
 Potential social or environmental negative effects will be monitored through the implementation of demo projects

¹⁹ Assumptions refer to elements of the "theory of change" or "intervention logic" (*i.e., the problem is a result of A, therefore, if we change B, this will lead to C*) and not to pre-conditions for project implementation. It is a common mistake to include statements such as "political will" as an assumption. This is rather a necessary condition to implement the project.

4.10. Please provide any other experiences or lessons relevant to the design and implementation of project monitoring and evaluation plans.

5. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS

5.1. Please summarize any experiences and/or lessons related to project <u>design</u> and <u>implementation</u>. Please select relevant areas from the list below:

Conditions necessary to achieve global environmental benefits such as (i) institutional, social and financial sustainability; (ii) country ownership; and (iii) stakeholder involvement, including gender issues.

- Institutional arrangements, including project governance: the involvement of national partners from the ministries of water and environment has created opportunity for a better application of IWRM principles. The expansion of this experience at the VBA level will present incremental environmental benefit for the Volta River Basin management
- Engagement of the private sector: the approach by which the project engages with community partners and government institutions is different from the one of private sector. This sometimes constitutes a challenge to finalising financial agreement between the project and private sector like SIAAP for the implementation of the demo project 2 in Togo
- Capacity building: combining capacity building activities with similar project partners helps to reduce capacity building costs while achieving better results. For example the facilitation support provided to IUCN project for training of national partners in Togo, co-organisation of joint workshops with IUCN/PAGEV and VB Observatory on groundwater, agricultural water and Volta Basin Information Sharing system has helped to reduce individual project commitment while reaching expected results
- Scientific and technological issues: addressed through the implementation of demo projects: hydrological model for early warning system in the Sourou basin, construction of wastewater network and treatment plant in view of water pollution control and reduction in Kara, tree planting in view of river bank protection and reduction of soil loss, erosion and river sedimentation
- Interpretation and application of GEF guidelines: The project generally used TDA/SAP approach toward the creation of knowledge base to develop the action plan for the basin. This reduces the stress and rigour of reinventing approaches to understand the root cause of the problems in the basin;
- Factors that improve likelihood of outcome sustainability: addressed within the demo 3 through the promotion of improved charcoal production by the women's groups that are traditionally reasonable for charcoal production through tree cuttings
- Factors that encourage replication, including outreach and communications strategies: local stakeholders commitment, involvement and interest, use of local competencies and materials and possibility to replicate IUCN/PAGEV model for community involvement in river bank restoration
- Financial management and co-financing: it has been difficult to mobilise cash co-finance contribution pledged by riparian countries during the project development phase