



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission



# VOLUME 5 METHODOLOGY FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

METHODOLOGY FOR THE  
GEF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS  
ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Published by the United Nations Environment Programme in September 2011.

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ISBN: 978-92-807-3118-7

DEW/1323/NA

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#### CITATION

For bibliographic purposes, this document may be cited as:

IOC-UNESCO, 2011. Methodology for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme. Volume 5. Methodology for the Assessment of Large Marine Ecosystems, UNEP, viii + 115 pp.

Linguistic Editor: Peter Sanders

Technical Editor: Pinya Sarasas

Cover Design: Audrey Ringler (UNEP, Kenya)

Design and Layout: Pinya Sarasas (UNEP, Kenya)

Cover photo: © Rich Carey

**METHODOLOGY FOR  
THE GEF  
TRANSBOUNDARY  
WATERS  
ASSESSMENT**

**VOLUME 5**



**METHODOLOGY  
FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF  
LARGE  
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO would like to thank the following for their contribution to the development of the TWAP LME assessment methodology:

Members of the TWAP LME Working Group; Members of the other TWAP Working Groups; Marie-Christine Aquarone (NOAA LME Program, Rhode Island, USA); Hermanni Backer (Helsinki Commission, Finland); Al Duda (GEF Secretariat, Washington, DC); Albert Fischer and Keith Alversen (IOC-UNESCO, Paris; coordinators, TWAP Open Ocean Working Group); Charles Ehler (IOC-UNESCO, Paris); Lucia Fanning (Marine Affairs Programme, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada); Francine Kershaw (UNEP-WCMC, UK); Samuli Korpinen (Helsinki Commission, Finland); Ljubomir Jetic (Croatia); Patrick McConney (CERMES, Barbados); Alberto Pacheco (UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, Nairobi); Rebecca Shuford (NOAA Fisheries Office of Science and Technology, Maryland); Alexander Tkalin, UNEP, Regional Seas-NOWPAP, as reviewer of the LME methodology document; GRID-Arendal (Arendal, Norway; hosting the second LME meeting); participants of the 12th Annual LME Consultative Committee Meeting (July 2010, Paris); participants of the Twelfth Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (September 2010, Bergen); and participants of the Conference 'A Unified Approach for Sustainability in a Changing World' (October 2010, Lisbon); TWAP Project Secretariat (Elina Rautalahti, Joana Akrofi, Salif Diop); and many others who made valuable contributions to the project.



## PREFACE

The GEF Medium Size Project (MSP) *Development of the Methodology and Arrangements for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme*, approved in January 2009, was envisioned as a partnership among existing programmes, which was considered to be more cost effective than the conduct of an independent data and information gathering exercise. The Project Objective was to develop the methodologies for conducting a global assessment of transboundary waters for GEF purposes and to catalyse a partnership and arrangements for conducting such a global assessment.

This Project has been implemented by UNEP as Implementing Agency, UNEP Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA) as Executing Agency, and the following lead agencies for each of the water systems: the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for transboundary aquifers including aquifers in small island developing states (SIDS); the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC) for lake basins; UNEP-DHI Centre for Water and Environment (UNEP-DHI) for river basins; and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO for LMEs and the open ocean.

This Project resulted in developed methodologies for the following five transboundary water systems: (i) groundwater aquifers; (ii) lake/reservoir basins; (iii) river basins; (iv) large marine ecosystems; and (v) open oceans.

The results of this Project are presented in the TWAP MSP Publication, *Methodology for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme*, which consists of the following six volumes:

- *Volume 1 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary Aquifers, Lake Basins, River Basins, Large Marine Ecosystems, and the Open Ocean;*
- *Volume 2 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary Aquifers;*
- *Volume 3 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary Lake Basins;*
- *Volume 4 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary River Basins;*
- *Volume 5 – Methodology for the Assessment of Large Marine Ecosystems; and*
- *Volume 6 – Methodology for the Assessment of the Open Ocean.*

The volume 1 is a summary of the detailed methodologies described in volumes 2 – 6. At the back cover of the volume 1 is attached a DVD that contains electronic version of all six volumes.



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