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## **UNDP Capacity Building Activities in the field of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea – 2012-2013**

**Input to the 2013 Secretary General's Report on Oceans and the Law of the Sea**

**28 June 2013**

### **Executive Summary**

Over the past twelve months, UNDP's Water and Ocean Governance Programme (WOGP) has made significant contributions to strengthening developing country capacities in ocean and coastal area management. UNDP, through its GEF International Waters portfolio, supported efforts towards establishing a permanent regional institutional mechanism for the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem; supported the nine countries of the Agulhas/Somali Large Marine Ecosystems in conducting national and regional marine assessments to inform regional ocean and coastal strategic planning; supported the development of 5-year national implementation plans in eight countries committed to implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia; and enhanced monitoring, data management, stock assessment and other aspects of fisheries management in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. UNDP/GEF supported a range of integrated water resources and wastewater management initiatives in the Pacific Island Countries which helped to reduce coastal pollution and habitat degradation; assisted the 27 countries of the Caribbean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) in completing three sub-regional transboundary diagnostic analyses which informed the development of a regional Strategic Action Programme for the CLME which was technically adopted by the CLME Steering Committee in February 2013 and is presently undergoing formal adoption by the participating governments; and supported efforts by Argentina and Uruguay in the Rio de la Plata/Maritime Front to improve watershed management, agree upon environmental monitoring standards, define water quality goals, and develop public-private partnerships focused on cleaner production. At the global level, the GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Partnerships program continued to play a highly catalytic role in building developing country capacity to comply with the Global Convention on Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments and to stimulate R&D and investment in ballast water treatment technologies. In 2012, UNDP/GEF published a large suite of signature ocean governance, both as input to Rio+20 and to the post-Rio dialogue.