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HEALTHY OCEANS • HEALTHY ECONOMIES • HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

PROBLUE

PROBLUE is a new Umbrella 2.0 program, housed at the World Bank, that supports the development of integrated, sustainable and healthy marine and coastal resources.

PROBLUE Development Partners



France



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FOREWORD

Oceans are our lifeblood. Healthy oceans provide jobs and food, sustain economic growth, regulate the climate, and support the well-being of coastal and urban communities. Oceans are the largest carbon sink on the planet. They are used to transport more than 80 percent of all goods shipped worldwide. Globally, one in 10 livelihoods depends on fisheries.

Yet our oceans are on the brink. Worldwide, a third of fish stocks are fished beyond biological sustainability. There is so much plastic entering the oceans that we cannot accurately assess the extent of the problem. Rising sea levels and temperatures mean more frequent and extreme storm surges. Our oceans are under significant environmental stress, eroding the natural capital upon which future growth and generations depend.

October 26, 2018 marked the beginning of PROBLUE and a vision for a healthier, more sustainable planet. This new program is working with client governments to address head on these urgent blue economy issues in an integrated and sustainable way. PROBLUE will improve the management of fisheries and aquaculture; address marine pollution; promote the sustainable development of sectors such as maritime transport and tourism; capitalize on coastal nature-based solutions to contribute to the mitigation, resilience, and adaptation to climate change; and help build the capacity of governments to manage their marine and coastal resources.

In PROBLUE's first eight months, colleagues worked tirelessly to assemble a team, build the infrastructure, and solicit proposals to operationalize the fund. PROBLUE has played an integral role in mainstreaming the Blue Economy agenda both inside and outside of the World Bank.

Over the next year, PROBLUE will deliver the analytical work, provide technical assistance, and support blue economy projects around the globe. We are truly at a crucial moment in history, and the global community must act swiftly to innovate and apply solutions. PROBLUE is part of the solution, playing an integral role in catalyzing these efforts.

I hope you enjoy this annual report and its compelling illustration of PROBLUE's progress in its first year as it works to advance healthy and sustainable oceans for all. I would like to especially thank our donors, partners, staff, and the PROBLUE Secretariat for their drive and passion for the mission: you made PROBLUE a reality.



KARIN KEMPER

Global Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy Global Practice
World Bank Group

PROBLUE, World Bank, 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20433, U.S.A.

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Fiscal Year (FY) runs from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019; the financial contribution and expenditures reported are reflected up to June 30, 2019; all dollar amounts are in U.S. dollars (\$) unless otherwise indicated.

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	I
1. WHY THE BLUE ECONOMY?	1
WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?	1
PROBLUE: A KEY COMPONENT OF THE WORLD BANK'S BLUE ECONOMY PROGRAM	3
2. ABOUT PROBLUE	4
THE WORLD BANK AND THE BLUE ECONOMY	4
PROBLUE'S FOUR PILLARS	6
Pillar 1: Improved Fisheries Governance	6
Pillar 2: Marine Litter and Pollution Management	7
Pillar 3: Blueing Oceanic Sectors	9
Pillar 4: Integrated Seascapes	9
SUMMARY OF PROGRESS	10
PROFISH ALLOCATIONS	11
3. COMMUNICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT	12
ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS	12
PUBLICATIONS	13
KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT	13
4. RESULTS AND MONITORING	15
5. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND ADMINISTRATION	17
PROBLUE PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW	17
PROBLUE FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF APPROVED GRANT AMOUNTS AND DISBURSEMENTS	18
PROFISH PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW	20
PROFISH PORTFOLIO SUMMARY	22
ANNEX 1	24
LIST OF PROBLUE PROJECTS BY CURRENT STATUS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION	24
ANNEX 2	25
LIST OF PROFISH PROJECTS BY CURRENT STATUS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION	25



1. WHY THE BLUE ECONOMY?

Oceans cover two-thirds of the planet's surface. They touch all human life, providing nutrition, livelihoods, climate regulation, and recreation. Policy makers and governments are giving increasing attention to the importance of oceans and ocean resources as drivers of economic growth and providers of key ecosystem services that improve quality of life. As the international community is looking with heightened urgency at the broad threats to oceans, which include overexploitation, overdevelopment, pollution including plastics from land-based and marine sources, and climate change, it has become apparent that oceanic sectors must be developed in a holistic and integrated fashion.

Key international actors such as the United Nations (UN), the Group of Seven (G7), the Group of Twenty (G-20), and the World Bank Group have coalesced around the Blue Economy agenda to address this need. Put simply, the blue economy is the sustainable and integrated development of economic sectors in healthy oceans. The driving principle behind the concept is that oceanic sectors are inextricably interlinked and cannot be considered in isolation. Preserving the health of oceans and defending the livelihoods, food security, and well-being of all who depend upon them is contingent on a thoughtful, strategic approach—a blue economy approach—to the development of economic activities that rely on or affect oceans.

Adopting a blue economy lens enables the World Bank and its partners to propose optimal development strategies for countries that depend on clean oceans for growth, jobs, and food. These strategies rely on thorough diagnostic analyses, such as Blue Public Expenditure and Institutional Reviews, valuation of blue natural capital, and cost accounting for marine pollution and plastic litter, that provide

policy makers with the necessary information to choose among sectors and formulate long-term plans for inclusive and sustainable growth.

These decisions are particularly important for clients in fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) contexts, such as many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and least-developed coastal countries, who face myriad competing options for the best use of their ocean resources. Because these countries are in some cases wholly dependent on oceans for growth, food, and jobs, choices must be made carefully with an eye toward long-term outcomes. Effective management of oceanic development through a blue economy is necessary to alleviate poverty and raise median income while ensuring sustainability and environmental responsibility.

WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?

Marine resources, both coastal and oceanic, provide irreplaceable benefits and services that align with the World Bank Group's twin goals of eliminating extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity. The 2017 UN Ocean Conference estimated that 37 percent of the



Djibouti, November 2016. Photo credit: Charlotte De Fontaubert / The World Bank

world's population lives in coastal communities, many of which are dependent on oceans for health, nutrition, sustainable livelihoods, and decent work. Oceans are also drivers of sustainable, long-term economic growth and environmental stability, which highlights the significance of protecting ocean, marine, and coastal resources for the benefit of all.

In part, the significance of oceans for sustainable global development is a result of the wide range of economic activities that oceans support. Fisheries are an obvious example of an ocean resource that drives global growth, but other significant sectors include maritime shipping, which facilitates most global trade, energy generation and extraction via offshore wind farms and drilling platforms, and tourism and recreation, which in many developing countries and SIDS is a central driver of growth.

However, oceans are in crisis: marine pollution and plastic litter, along with the growing impacts of climate change, endanger marine ecosystems, the health of coastal communities, and the resources and services that drive growth. Furthermore, growing demand for oceanic and land-based resources may worsen existing overexploitation of ocean resources and services while increasing plastic consumption and litter flows. Without a coordinated response, these threats will further deplete fisheries (of which over 30 percent are overfished), destroy coastal wetlands, and cause pernicious effects on the natural assets that attract tourism to coastal communities. These challenges are exacerbated by governance problems, especially in areas beyond national jurisdiction, and usage conflicts among sectors, which can be resolved only through improved and better integrated management.

PROBLUE: A KEY COMPONENT OF THE WORLD BANK'S BLUE ECONOMY PROGRAM

The PROBLUE Umbrella 2.0 program, a key part of the World Bank's Blue Economy program, provides the World Bank with a vehicle to provide catalytic funding to formulate and scale up solutions to these pressing challenges for our client countries. Development partners support, PROBLUE builds on the World Bank's comparative advantage to coordinate regional and global action, within and outside of the institution, across four pillars: (1) Improved Fisheries Governance; (2) Marine Litter and Pollution Management; (3) Blueing Oceanic Sectors; and (4) Integrated Seascapes.

Working across these pillars enables the World Bank, in cooperation with strategic partners such as UN Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN, International Maritime Organization (IMO), the G7, and the G-20, among many others, to provide the resources to link analytical work and policy dialogue with country-level and regional operations on the ground. PROBLUE works within the World Bank's overall Blue Economy program, including the soon-to-be-released Blue Economy Action Plan (BEAP), to change the way the World Bank does business

in oceans by leveraging World Bank Group's lending resources and technical expertise to influence country priorities and World Bank programs and respond to emerging and urgent challenges, such as the marine plastics crisis. Given that the World Bank has a portfolio of over US\$5 billion (with an additional US\$1.6 billion in the pipeline) of ocean-related investments and activities, PROBLUE has the capacity to influence this blue development across the globe and contribute significantly to the achievement of the sustainable development goals (SDG), particularly SDG 14 (life below water), and the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and sustainably boosting shared prosperity.

As one of the first pilot Umbrella 2.0 programs at the World Bank, PROBLUE is a testament to the urgency felt by our leadership to develop solutions to the crisis in the world's oceans. The World Bank's Blue Economy program continues to grow, and in a reflection of the institution's commitment to achieving a global blue economy with our clients and partners, the World Bank Group's Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice has been rebranded as the Environment, Natural Resources *and Blue Economy* Global Practice (ENB).

2. ABOUT PROBLUE

THE WORLD BANK AND THE BLUE ECONOMY

The World Bank has had a long history of engagement with ocean issues. In the early 2000s, the World Bank and development partners launched the Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH), which leveraged over US\$1 billion in fisheries investments over its lifetime, and launched a series of groundbreaking analytical reports, including the 2008 *Sunken Billions* report, which highlighted the importance of fisheries for prosperity and growth.

Subsequent iterations of PROFISH recognized the importance of other oceanic resources on development outcomes. PROFISH is now an associated trust fund of the PROBLUE Umbrella 2.0 and, although remaining legally distinct, is managed as part of the Umbrella. Note that Iceland's outstanding PROFISH contribution has been transferred to the PROBLUE MDTF. This annual report covers the entire PROBLUE Umbrella 2.0 program, which includes the PROBLUE MDTF and the PROFISH trust funds.

Beyond its initial focus on fisheries, the World Bank also worked increasingly on issues related to coastal management and more recently pushed for increased programming in the marine litter and pollution space, recognizing that the overall health and cleanliness of oceans is integral to their productivity. In parallel, improved analytical information and diagnostic tools were developed and operations launched across all oceanic activities, including shipping and ports, coastal tourism, and offshore renewable energy.

Against this backdrop of relatively diverse and sometimes conflicting activities, the concept of the Blue Economy program emerged and coalesced as the World Bank, UN, G7, G-20, and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), among others, began to recognize the need for better integrated management of ocean ecosystems, including fisheries and other oceanic resources, and better tools to address the plastic and pollution threat to ocean health. In this context, the World Bank began its blue economy efforts at a broad, global level and in close partnership with several UN agencies. A first report, *The Potential of the Blue Economy: Increasing Long-term Benefits of the Sustainable Use of Marine Resources for Small Island Developing States and Coastal Least Developed Countries*, was published and presented at UN Headquarters in 2017. Since then, as requested by our client countries and supported by development partners, the World Bank has worked to develop its own approach and definition of the blue economy, including through the launch of PROBLUE.

After initial discussions with development partners in the spring and summer of 2018, PROBLUE raised nearly \$150 million in pledges by the end of the year. Following legal effectiveness in October 2018, the ENB Global Platforms team began to operationalize the PROBLUE concept, culminating in the first annual work plan and budget (AWP) being approved by the PROBLUE Partnership Council in February 2019. From October 2018 to June 30, 2019 (the period covered by this annual report), the



Bagamoyo, Tanzania, March 2017. Photo credit: Daniel Mira-Salama / The World Bank

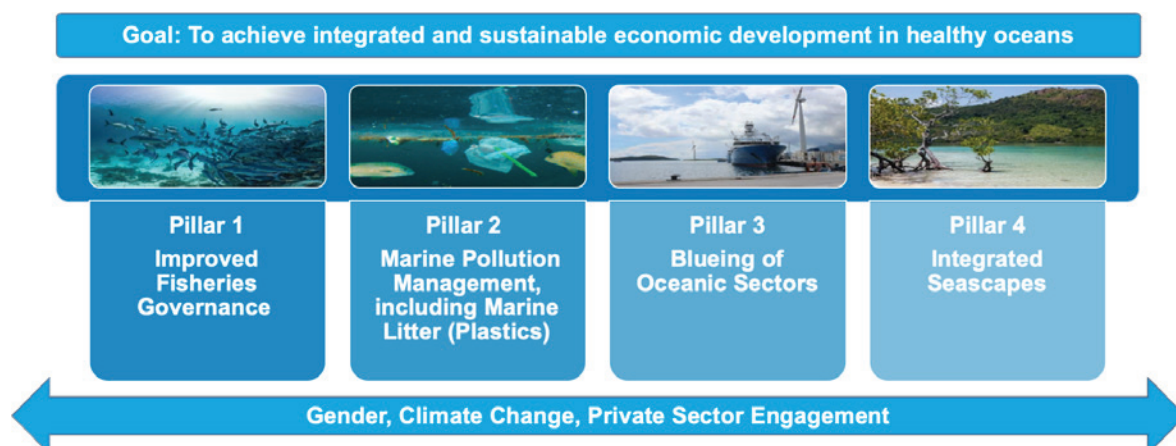
PROBLUE Secretariat focused on launching the operation of the trust fund; advertising funding availability to World Bank operations staff; supporting in-depth dialogue with partners, clients, and regional teams; and beginning to allocate funds to support select activities.

In its brief existence, PROBLUE has played a key role in promoting the blue business line and mainstreaming blue economy thinking in the World Bank and beyond. The blue economy has the attention of senior leadership, who have launched high-level initiatives such as the World Bank Group Marine Litter Working Group, and the International Development Association (IDA) Marine Litter Initiative. The World Bank's Blue portfolio has now grown to over US\$5

billion in ocean-related investments, with over US\$1 billion in the pipeline. The World Bank has over 30 analytical activities under way and has partnered with more than 60 countries around the world to build sustainable ocean economies for the benefit of those who depend upon them.

As PROBLUE moves into fiscal 2020, it will seek to influence, either directly through programming or indirectly through global partnerships, how stakeholders perceive and manage ocean resources. PROBLUE will continue its partnership with World Bank teams, client countries, and other organizations to identify and support activities with a transformational impact on oceans.

PROBLUE'S FOUR PILLARS



PROBLUE is structured around four pillars: (1) Improved Fisheries Governance; (2) Marine Litter and Pollution Management; (3) Blueing Oceanic Sectors; and (4) Integrated Seascapes. Although these pillars guide PROBLUE's engagement with the Blue Economy, maximizing the use and impact of PROBLUE funding and meeting the demands of our clients requires an integrated and synergetic approach to supported activities. The PROBLUE Secretariat is encouraging teams to submit cross-pillar proposals and is confident that multisector activities will make up a substantial portion of activities supported. In addition, Pillars 3 and 4 are providing the analytical backbone for holistic blue economy diagnostics and planning in-country while tying together the many sectors that make up the blue economy.

In addition to the four pillars, PROBLUE tightly integrates cross-cutting issues, including gender equality, climate change, private sector engagement, and operations in FCV contexts. The PROBLUE program recognizes that fulfilling the Blue Economy's ambition of inclusivity and sustainability requires taking a mainstreamed approach to issues such as gender equality and climate change. The PROBLUE Secretariat is working with its partners, including with

U.S. Agency for International Development gender-based violence and environment programming specialists, to make women and girls key players in promoting and benefiting from oceanic development. Furthermore, the PROBLUE team is working with climate and disaster risk-management specialists to ensure that climate resilience and adaptation are at the heart of PROBLUE activities. The PROBLUE team has also strengthened ties with International Finance Corporation (IFC) to bring in private sector perspectives and develop collaboration in countries and at the global level; IFC is also a core member of the Marine Litter Working Group.

Pillar 1: Improved Fisheries Governance

The objective of PROBLUE's first pillar is to improve governance in fisheries and aquaculture. Pillar 1 builds on the success of the World Bank's long-running PROFISH program. Although PROBLUE does not replace PROFISH, PROBLUE's wider scope enables supporting activities in a more systemic way, enhancing the impact of our work on fisheries. Pillar 1 is organized around three components: (1) generating and sharing knowledge; (2) country-level project identification and preparation/implementation support; and (3) investments in fisheries management and aquaculture.

As presented in the February 2019 AWP, the initial work program for Pillar 1 is organized around a set of priority areas, including governance, transparency, subsidies and trade, disease prevention and new development models in aquaculture, gender equity, and climate change resilience. The initial focus of activities is on global analytical pieces intended to inform the development of future operations, including analytic work in quantifying the ecosystem approach to fisheries management, including the optimal extraction of forage fisheries for fish meal, the building of capacity for biosecurity in aquaculture, and the development of a toolkit to assess the status of the fisheries sector to help innovate and enhance World Bank project preparation with our client countries.

The management and reporting cycles of PROFISH have been aligned with those

of PROBLUE Pillar 1, with the exception of the development of the Blue Economy Development Framework, which was launched under PROFISH and is encompassed by Pillar 4. Although financial information is reported separately for the time being, management of the two programs has been streamlined to ensure consistency and alignment, reduce transaction costs, and promote efficiency.

The February 2019 AWP allowed for spending of as much as US\$6.6 million for halting fisheries overexploitation and US\$1.4 million for sustainable aquaculture development, for a total allocation of US\$8.0 million. For all pillars, additional funds have been set aside for technical input and activities performed by the Secretariat in support of teams implementing activities and preparing proposals.

TABLE 2.1. Pillar 1—Summary Financial Information as of June 30, 2019 (in US\$)

Thematic Area	A. Endorsed Under Feb 2019 AWP	B. Grant Approved	C. Under Preparation	Expected Grant (B+C)
Halting overexploitation of fisheries	6.6 million	0.40 million	0.25 million	0.65 million
Sustainable aquaculture development	1.4 million	0.00 million	0.52 million	0.52 million
Technical support	-	0.20 million	-	0.20 million
TOTAL	8.0 million	0.60 million	0.77 million	1.37 million

Pillar 2: Marine Litter and Pollution Management

The objective of PROBLUE's second pillar is to prevent and reduce marine litter and pollution. Pillar 2 encompasses plastics and the circular economy, issues that have attracted increased attention from policy makers over the last few years. Pillar 2 has four components: (1) creating foundations for marine litter and pollution operations; (2) country-level project identification and preparation/implementation support for marine litter prevention and management; (3) country-level project identification and preparation/implementation

support for marine pollution prevention and management; and (4) investments in marine litter and pollution management.

As presented in the February 2019 AWP, Pillar 2 is prioritizing activities designed to prevent marine pollution and marine plastics in particular: first, targeting improved solid waste management and developing circular economy and upstream reduction of plastics; second, preventing multiple sources of pollution in enclosed ecosystems where sources are intertwined; and third, prevention of marine

plastics pollution and improving solid waste management in ports and maritime transport. Pillar 2's initial work program is organized around a set of priority areas at the global, regional, and country levels. This includes the development of tools that will support decision-making in countries both by facilitating the identification and sequencing of investments and policy reforms and by better understanding and quantifying the costs of pollution beyond plastics. Further work includes the creation of and participation in platforms and partnerships that address plastics in areas where demand for remedial actions is high; work in support of innovation and behavior change tailored to country and sector contexts; analytical products that increase country-level impacts by improving understanding of the plastic landscape from its production to plastic leakages; and finally work that accelerates the development of cost-effective quick-win operations.

Awareness-raising work under Pillar 2 has supported World Bank Group corporate initiatives to tackle the marine plastics problem. The World Bank Group launched the Marine Plastics Working Group and has created an IDA Marine Litter Initiative to provide supplemental IDA allocations in situations of urgent need.

The February 2019 AWP allowed spending of as much as US\$12.5 million for work related to plastics, US\$1.5 million for marine pollution management, and US\$1.0 million for marine pollution management specific to ports and transport, for a total of US\$15.0 million. Since the AWP was approved, the PROBLUE Pillar 2 team has provided support and advice for about 20 country dialogues and regional engagements in East Asia, South Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, North Africa, West Africa, and around the Black Sea. Several of these dialogues are cross-pillars and extend beyond Pillar 2 activities. Some of the dialogues between PROBLUE and teams are in preparation for additional country and regional upstream work that will help governments identify opportunities and propose the initial design of investments, whereas others are expected to support actual project preparation in fiscal 2020.

Many of these dialogues are expected to turn into country and regional activities aimed at preventing marine plastic pollution and funded by PROBLUE in fiscal 2020.

TABLE 2.2. Pillar 2—Summary Financial Information as of June 30, 2019 (in US\$)

Thematic Area	A. Endorsed Under Feb 2019 AWP	B. Grant Approved	C. Under Preparation	Expected Grant (B+C)
Plastics	12.50 million	0.65 million	3.65 million	4.30 million
Marine pollution	1.50 million	0.00 million	0.45 million	0.45 million
Marine pollution in ports and transport	1.00 million	0.00 million	0.00 million	0.00 million
Technical support	-	0.20 million	-	0.20 million
TOTAL	15.00 million	0.85 million	4.10 million	4.95 million

Pillar 3: Blueing Oceanic Sectors

The objective of PROBLUE's third pillar is to support economic opportunities in traditional and new economic activities in a more sustainable way. Pillar 3 covers a range of existing and novel economic activities that must be understood and incorporated under the Blue Economy to promote optimal growth and sustainability. Pillar 3 has three components: (1) generating and sharing knowledge; (2) country-level project identification and preparation/implementation support; and (3) investments in blue, sustainable oceanic activities.

As presented in the February 2019 AWP, Pillar 3's initial work program is organized around a set of priority areas that focus particularly on the development of global analytical work that identifies the opportunities for, and impediments to, the sustainable economic

development of various oceanic sectors.

The work plan specifically identifies tool development for sustainable coastal tourism; shipping, transport, and ports; environmental issues of seawater desalination; and options for marine-based renewable energy, such as offshore wind power. Such knowledge products will assist in incorporating these economic sectors in the broader Blue Economy concept to prevent detrimental effects to ocean health.

The February 2019 AWP allowed for spending as much as US\$0.5 million for work in shipping, transport, and ports; US\$0.8 million for work related to sustainable coastal tourism; US\$0.5 million for renewable energy generation, including offshore wind power; and US\$0.5 million for assessing and managing the impacts of desalination, for a total of US\$2.3 million.

TABLE 2.3. Pillar 3—Summary Financial Information as of June 30, 2019 (in US\$)

Thematic Area	A. Endorsed Under Feb 2019 AWP	B. Grant Approved	C. Under Preparation	Expected Grant (B+C)
Shipping and ports	0.50 million	0.00 million	0.25 million	0.25 million
Coastal tourism	0.80 million	0.00 million	0.40 million	0.40 million
Offshore wind energy	0.50 million	0.00 million	0.00 million	0.00 million
Desalination	0.50 million	0.00 million	0.00 million	0.00 million
Technical support	-	0.20 million	-	0.20 million
TOTAL	2.30 million	0.20 million	0.65 million	0.85 million

Pillar 4: Integrated Seascapes

The objective of PROBLUE's fourth pillar is to strengthen integrated and sustainable management of coastal and marine areas. Pillar 4 promotes cross-sectoral, upstream planning to assist SIDS and coastal least-developed countries in developing the full potential of their blue economy. The diagnostic and planning tools under the remit of Pillar 4 are at the heart of PROBLUE. Pillar 4 has four components: (1) the Blue Economy Development Framework; (2) regional and global collaboration, including

financial innovation; (3) country-level project identification and preparation/implementation support; and (4) improvements in resilient coastal and marine management.

Pillar 4 encompasses the development of the Blue Economy Development Framework, also financed under PROFISH, which is being piloted in three countries: Kiribati, India, and Vietnam. In addition, preliminary discussions are ongoing with teams in Africa for an additional pilot site to be funded under PROBLUE.

As presented in the February 2019 AWP, Pillar 4's initial work program is organized around a set of priority areas, including advocacy work for innovative planning and management in the context of climate change, the development of diagnostic and analytic tools to design and implement investment operations and country road maps, the development of innovative financing mechanisms, and technical support

to upstream seascape work in country strategy documents and investment operations.

The February 2019 AWP allowed for spending of US\$0.6 million of PROBLUE funding for the Blue Economy Development Framework (BEDF), US\$0.5 million for work related to nature-based solutions for resilience; and US\$2.1 million for financial innovation and mobilization for blue growth, for a total of US\$3.2 million.

TABLE 2.4. Pillar 4—Summary Financial Information as of June 30, 2019 (in US\$)

Thematic Area	A. Endorsed Under Feb 2019 AWP	B. Grant Approved	C. Under Preparation	Expected Grant (B+C)
Blue Economy Development Framework	0.60 million	0.50 million	0.00 million	0.50 million
Nature-based solutions for resilience challenges	0.50 million	0.45 million	0.00 million	0.45 million
Mobilizing finance for blue growth	2.10 million	0.06 million	0.00 million	0.06 million
Technical support	-	0.20 million	-	0.20 million
TOTAL	3.20 million	1.21 million	0.00 million	1.21 million

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

Since the endorsement of the PROBLUE AWP in February 2019, the Secretariat has focused on the operationalization of the trust fund, including the development of the operations manual and standard procedures, recruitment, outreach with colleagues to generate demand for PROBLUE support, and development partners communication. Although proposal submissions and acceptance are expected to accelerate over the course of the calendar year, in the four months between the adoption of the work plan and the end of fiscal 2019, the PROBLUE Secretariat received 14 proposals, with requests totaling over US\$6 million. In that same period, six were accepted, for a total of over US\$2 million. The remaining eight proposals were in the process of being revised

and improved, with coordination between the Secretariat and individual teams.

By the end of fiscal 2019, all proposals accepted were for global analytical and advisory services products, which was in alignment with the priorities of the February 2019 AWP, which focused on agenda-setting analytical work to build foundations for future operations in the Blue Economy. Other proposals, including knowledge products and project preparation grants, have been received, and discussions and outreach with teams across the World Bank are well under way to identify and support future activities to be funded in fiscal 2020. The PROBLUE Secretariat entered fiscal 2020 with discussions with over 30 teams across the World Bank regarding activities across all four pillars.



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PROFISH ALLOCATIONS

As noted, PROBLUE works alongside PROFISH as the World Bank's vehicle for financing sustainable fisheries. Because PROFISH is an associated trust fund, monies already transferred to the World Bank under PROFISH will remain available under PROFISH in segregated accounts, but program management and administration duties are now performed by the PROBLUE Secretariat.

As part of the PROFISH program, in October 2018, a call for proposals was issued under the PROFISH preinvestment facility window

for activities costing as much as US\$30,000, with a view to supporting: i) the identification or preparation of an investment; ii) the preparation of a piece of analytical work; or iii) the delivery of a technical assistance task. Selected activities demonstrated significant leverage effect and had the potential for future PROBLUE-financed follow-up activities.

As of fiscal 2019, of 18 proposals received, totaling US\$540,000, seven were approved, with a value of US\$210,000. This figure does not include BEDF pilot projects, which had been approved earlier.

3.COMMUNICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



The PROBLUE Secretariat created the collateral for external promotion of the brand, including an external web page, a fact sheet, messages, and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs).

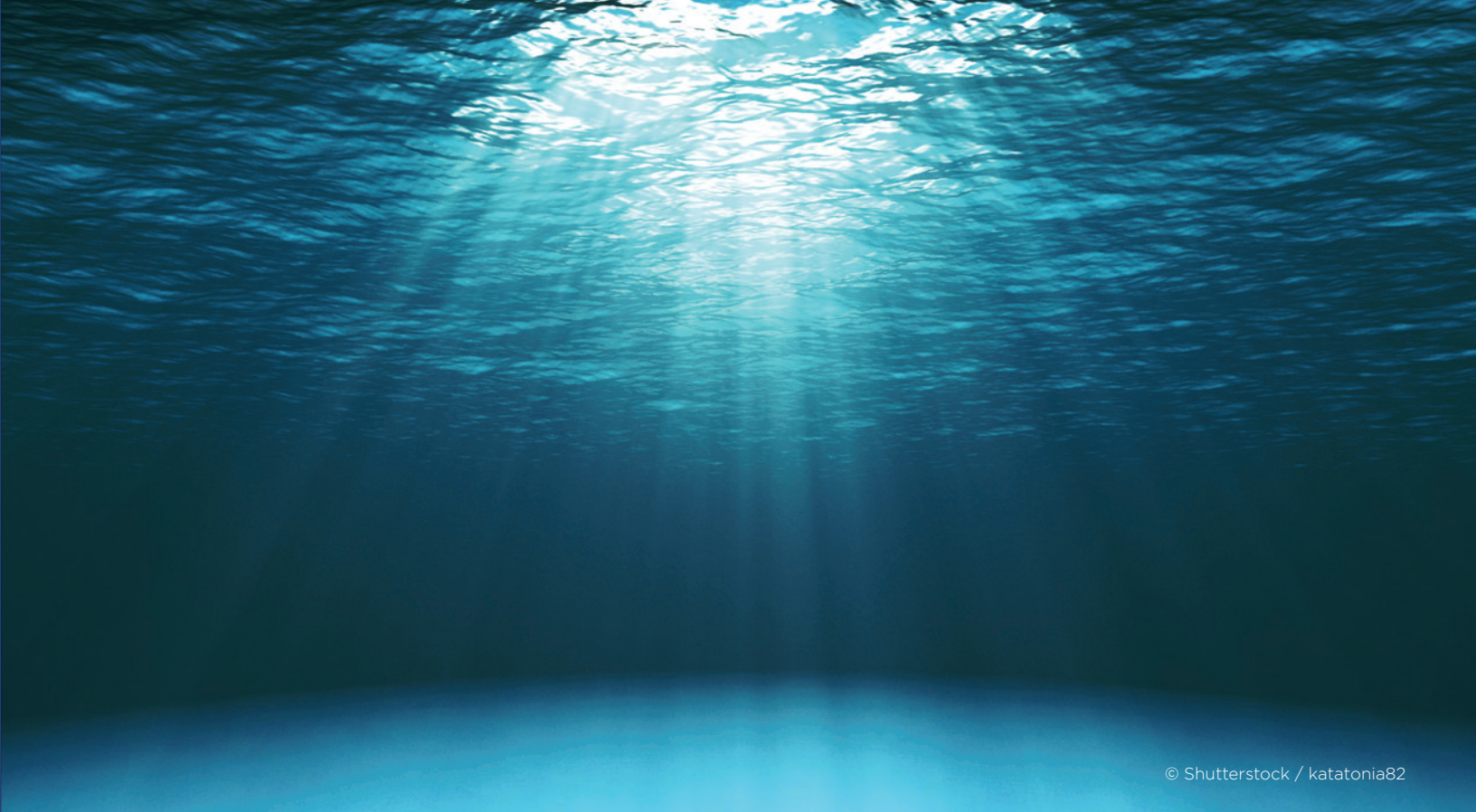
On April 11, 2019, the World Bank, in partnership with Global Citizen, hosted an event on plastic pollution at the World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) Spring Meetings. “From Source to Sea: Innovative Ways to Tackle Marine Pollution” hosted speakers, including broadcaster Sir David Attenborough, World Bank CEO Kristalina Georgieva, Minister Catherine McKenna of Canada, Minister Dag-Inge Ulstein of Norway, Minister Surasak Karnjanarat of Thailand, UN Special Envoy for the Ocean Peter Thomson, PepsiCo’s Vice President Roberta Barbieri, World Bank Vice President

Laura Tuck, entrepreneurs, and members of the private sector. Introductory remarks, lightning talks, and a panel of speakers engaged in a lively discussion on marine pollution, climate change, and PROBLUE.

The event was one of the best attended at the Spring Meetings, with the main hall and overflow room at capacity. Nearly 500 participants tuned in to watch the event in real time on World Bank Live, and it was replayed on YouTube over 71,000 times in the first two weeks. The top countries that viewed the replay were Vietnam, Ukraine, Indonesia, Argentina, and the Philippines. The event hashtag, #BeatPlasticPollution, reached more than 2 million users on Twitter, generating over 9,000 social media engagements worldwide.

A communications officer was hired in July 2019, and the upcoming year will see a significant increase in communications activities, such as the introduction of a PROBLUE logo, a revamped external web page, and a communications strategy.





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PUBLICATIONS

Over the coming year, the World Bank plans to publish a Blue Economy Action Plan, in which PROBLUE will be featured. This approach aims to change the way the World Bank does business, in part by promoting an integrated approach to management of oceanic activities and addressing land-based activities that affect marine ecosystems. This will only further PROBLUE's mission and agenda.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

The Secretariat created a standard proposal template for PROBLUE applications. An internal website was launched for all World Bank colleagues to learn more about the fund and download all necessary information, including the application. PROBLUE will support the creation of standardized toolkits, best practices, guidance notes, training, and knowledge exchanges.



4. RESULTS AND MONITORING

PROBLUE is systematically examining its portfolio to monitor and report on the results of supported activities, which are tracked by pillar and product line. Because all six activities accepted in fiscal 2019 have just begun, actual results are forthcoming. As per the AWP, the following targets are expected from the six approved activities.

All six activities are advisory services and analytics (ASA) products intended to add to the body of global knowledge, suggest policy

options, and in some cases, develop new tools for use by teams and governments.

TABLE 4.1. Accepted Proposals as of June 30, 2019

Pillar	Component	Activity Name	Product Line	Region
1	1	Fisheries Status Assessment Toolkit	ASA	Global
1	1	Reducing harmful fisheries subsidies	ASA	Global
2	1	Pathways out of plastics	ASA	Global
4	1	Blue natural capital for Changing Wealth of Nations 2020	ASA	Global
4	1	BEDF analytic work in support of BEDF analytical tools, technical assistance to pilot projects, and support to Integrated Seascapes Guidance Panel	ASA	Global
4	2	Developing recommendations for a blue finance facility	ASA	Global

Fisheries Status Assessment Toolkit

Objective: To develop a toolkit to assess the status of fisheries sectors to provide governments with high-quality data and information for project design and preparation.

Expected Outcome: The activity will enable countries to better diagnose the status of their fisheries, management capacity, and identify strengths and weaknesses, which will lead to improved design of projects in fisheries.

Reducing Harmful Fisheries Subsidies

Objective: To help identify ways in which harmful fisheries subsidies can be

reoriented toward supporting necessary fisheries governance reform in cooperation with partners, including the World Trade Organization (WTO), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the University of British Columbia.

Expected Outcome: The activity will inform policy makers about the opportunities for transitioning away from harmful fisheries subsidies, inform WTO negotiations, and add to the policy dialogue on fisheries subsidies.

Please note that although this proposal was approved, funds have yet to be allocated as of

June 30, 2019. As such, financial reporting will not reflect this proposal because the figures reported in this document include only actual allocations to individual activities.

Pathways Out of Plastic Pollution

Objective: To help client countries better understand and design effective, efficient, and implementable packages of policy instruments to manage plastic pollution and prevent plastic waste from damaging marine and terrestrial ecosystems. The model intends to build on a Roadmap to Reach Zero Leakage developed by PEW Charitable Trust and SystemIQ, and will integrate upstream aspects, such as the behavior of economic agents.

Expected Outcome: The activity will help lead the global transition out of plastic pollution by providing the tools to assess and advise on key policy questions around planning, fiscal instruments, and regulations that would inform governments to prioritize and sequence interventions and policies for plastics waste reduction and prevention.

Blue Natural Capital for Changing Wealth of Nations 2020

Objective: Provide countries with information to improve the management of blue natural capital as part of the Blue Economy approach by i) estimating accurately the value of blue natural capital (mangroves, coral reefs, and fisheries) as part of national wealth accounts for 150 countries reported in Changing Wealth of Nations 2020, and ii) estimating the gains in national wealth from policy and management reform for blue natural capital.

Expected Outcome: Improved management of blue natural capital in-country and identification of policy options.

BEDF Analytic Work in Support of BEDF Analytical Tools, Technical Assistance to Pilot Projects, and Support to Integrated Seascapes Guidance Panel

Objective: Provide technical assistance to enable high-quality technical and analytical work that will underpin the BEDF toolkit, which strengthens the capacity of countries to analyze, design, and implement the blue economy. This work will include tool development, technical support to BEDF pilot projects, and the creation of a panel of advisors on integrated seascapes.

Expected Outcome: A Blue Economy Development Framework will be developed that provides the road map for optimal development of a country's oceanic activities. The BEDF will first be piloted and field-tested, leading to recommendations for the final toolkit.

Developing Recommendations for a Blue Finance Facility

Objective: to produce a white paper that analyzes the potential for the World Bank to establish a debt swap facility in partnership with The Nature Conservancy that will assist client governments in securing natural capital for a blue economy.

Expected Outcome: Greater understanding of the World Bank's ability to apply financial instruments, such as credit enhancements, in the ocean space and in coordination with third parties and client governments to accelerate the transition to a blue economy.

5. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND ADMINISTRATION

PROBLUE PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

In fiscal 2019, PROBLUE received signed contributions of over US\$50 million from five donor countries (development partners are in the process of signing for over US\$100 million). Actual funds received from donors totaled approximately US\$28.8 million. Because of the focus on operationalizing the trust fund and preparing the February 2019 AWP, PROBLUE approved grants of US\$2 million, of which

US\$600,000 were disbursed, as of fiscal 2019. Grant amounts and disbursements are expected to accelerate significantly in fiscal 2020.

Table 5.1 provides a financial summary of PROBLUE. As of June 30, 2019, PROBLUE's total fund balance, taking into account actual funds received from donors, disbursements, commitments, and investment income, is just over US\$28 million.

TABLE 5.1. PROBLUE Financial Summary (in US\$, as of June 30, 2019)

A. Total donor signed contribution amount	51,140,736
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	32,429,871
Iceland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,400,000
Norway, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	12,836,970
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)	2,917,493
Germany, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft Für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)	568,550
France, Agence Francaise de Developpement	987,850
B. Actual funds received from donors	28,829,222
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	11,933,868
Iceland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	800,000
Norway, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	12,836,970
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)	2,917,493
Germany, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit)	340,890
France, Agence Francaise de Developpement	-
C. Other adjustments	447,271
Investment income (+)	447,271
D. Total funds available (B + C)	29,276,493
E. Disbursements	638,963
F. Commitments	147,435
G. Fund balance at trustee, subfund, and disbursing account level (D - E - F)	28,490,094

PROBLUE FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF APPROVED GRANT AMOUNTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Table 5.2 provides a summary of approved grant amounts, transfers, disbursements, and available fund balance at the grant level. Approved grant amounts reflect the full value of the line item and corresponding

individual activity that has been approved by the Secretariat, whereas transferred amounts reflect the amount of funding currently available for disbursement. Additional transfers will occur as milestones are reached and need is demonstrated. The available balance is a function of transferred funds less disbursements and commitments.

TABLE 5.2. PROBLUE Financial Summary of Approved Grant Amounts and Disbursements (in US\$, as of June 30, 2019)

PROBLUE LINE ITEMS	A. Approved Grant Amount	B. Transferred Amount	C. Disbursement	D. Fund Balance (B – C)	E. Commitments	F. Available Balance (D – E)
Total program management and administration (PMA), general coordination	1,100,000	400,000	228,187	171,813	42,570	129,243
Total general communications	250,000	200,000	30,630	169,370	-	169,370
Total PMA for pillars	2,000,000	600,000	138,168	461,832	-	461,832
Pillar 1: Improved Fisheries Governance	500,000	150,000	47,670	102,330	-	102,330
Pillar 2: Marine Litter and Pollution Management	500,000	150,000	42,617	107,383	-	107,383
Pillar 3: Blueing Oceanic Activities	500,000	150,000	47,881	102,119	-	102,119
Pillar 4: Integrated Seascapes	500,000	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000
Total by Components	2,860,000	2,660,000	241,978	2,418,022	104,865	2,313,157
Pillar 1: Improved Fisheries Governance	600,000	600,000	38,837	561,163	7,023	554,140
1.1. Generating and sharing knowledge	400,000	400,000	38,837	361,163	7,023	354,140
1.2. Country-level support	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.3. Investments in fisheries management	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.4. Technical support and oversight for project design and implementation	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	-	200,000

(Table 5.2 continued)

Pillar 2: Marine Litter and Pollution Management	850,000	850,000	41,759	808,241	842	807,399
2.1. Creating foundations for marine litter and pollution operations	650,000	650,000	18,898	631,102	-	631,102
2.2. Country-level support to operations for the prevention and reduction of marine litter	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.3. Country-level support to operations for the prevention and reduction of marine pollution	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.4. Investments in marine litter and pollution prevention and management	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.5. Technical support and oversight for project design and implementation	200,000	200,000	22,861	177,139	842	176,297
Pillar 3: Blueing Oceanic Sectors	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	-	200,000
3.1. Generating and sharing knowledge	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.2. Country-level support	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.3. Investments in blueing traditional sectors and new economic activities	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.4. Technical support and oversight for project design and implementation	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	-	200,000
Pillar 4: Integrated Seascapes	1,210,000	1,010,000	161,382	848,618	97,000	751,618
4.1. Blue Economy Development Framework	950,000	750,000	85,704	664,296	97,000	567,296
4.2. Regional and global collaboration	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	-	60,000
4.3. Country-level project identification and preparation/implementation support	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.4. Investments in resilient coastal and marine management	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.5. Technical support and oversight for project design and implementation	200,000	200,000	75,678	124,322	-	124,322
TOTAL	6,210,000	3,860,000	638,963	3,221,037	147,435	3,073,602



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PROBLUE provides support to World Bank activities in accordance with AWP's endorsed by the PROBLUE Partnership Council. As noted, the first AWP was endorsed by the PROBLUE Partnership Council in mid-February 2019. In the four months until the conclusion of fiscal 2019, PROBLUE approved grants of US\$2 million across five activities (note that additional activities have been approved, but grant transfer had yet to occur as of the end of fiscal 2019). These activities had disbursed just under US\$150,000 by June 30, 2019.

The last line items under each pillar reports technical support activities undertaken by the Secretariat to support specific activities by task teams across the World Bank. Other line items under each pillar are their respective components; activities supported by PROBLUE are subsumed under these headings.

PROBLUE's Program Management and Administration (PMA) disbursement reflect the

program's operational costs. Note that PMA grant amounts are over the whole lifetime of the MDTF.

Future annual reports will provide additional information on development partners contributions, trends in approved grant amounts and disbursements, and co-financing across the PROBLUE portfolio. At this early stage in the life of the MDTF, this information is not available.

PROFISH PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The PROFISH program has three active and disbursing trustee-level funds. Table 5.3 provides a financial summary of PROFISH. The PROFISH program has received signed contribution of US\$12.8 million from six donors since February 2008. As of fiscal 2019, actual funds received from donors amount to approximately US\$11.4 million, of which over US\$6.3 million has been disbursed. The total fund balance at the trustee level is over US\$4 million.

TABLE 5.3. PROFISH Financial Summary (in US\$, as of June 30, 2019)

PROFISH TRUST FUNDS	A. Total Donor Signed Contribution Amount	B. Actual Funds Received from Donors	C. Administrative Fee	D. Investment Income	E. Total Funds Available (B - C + D)	F. Disbursements	G. Commitments	H. Fund Balance at Trustee, Subfund, and Disbursing Account Level (E - F - G)
1. Multi Donor Trust Fund for the Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH)								
United Kingdom, Department for International Development (DFID)	2,902,090	2,902,090						
Iceland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,621,162	1,621,162						
France, Agence Francaise de Developpement	562,085	562,085						
New Zealand, Ministry of Primary Industry (MPI)	34,185	34,185						
United States, Department of State	5,000,000	5,000,000						
2. Multi-Donor Trust Fund for the Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH)—Parallel Trust Fund of TF070942	400,000	400,000	-	11,281	411,281	184,517		226,765
Iceland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	400,000	400,000						
3. Global Program for Fisheries Multi-Donor Trust Fund (PROFISH3)	2,291,440	925,480	-	17,104	942,584	196,875		745,709
European Union, Commission of the European Communities	2,291,440	925,480						
TOTAL PROFISH TRUST FUNDS	12,810,962	11,445,002	505,976	487,823	11,426,849	6,390,633	704,981	4,331,234

PROFISH FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF APPROVED GRANT AMOUNTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

As of June 30, 2019, PROFISH initiated and supported 22 global, regional, and national activities across Africa, East Asia and Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the

South Asia region. A total of US\$11 million was approved, of which over US\$6.3 million was disbursed. The available balance is just under US\$3.9 million. Table 5.4 provides PROFISH Financial Summary of Approved Grant Amounts and Disbursements.

TABLE 5.4. PROFISH Financial Summary of Approved Grant Amounts and Disbursements
(in US\$, as of June 30, 2019)

PROFISH TRUST FUNDS	A. Approved Grant Amount	B. Transferred Amount	C. Disbursement	D. Fund Balance (B - C)	E. Commitments	F. Available Balance (D - E)
1. Multi-Donor Trust Fund for the Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH)	9,945,317	9,945,317	6,009,241	3,936,076	604,292	3,331,784
a) Program management and administration	428,511	428,511	428,511	-	-	-
b) Grants	9,516,805	9,516,805	5,580,729	3,936,076	604,292	3,331,784
2. Multi-Donor Trust Fund for the Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH)—Parallel Trust Fund of TF070942	367,628	277,628	184,517	93,111	30,600	62,511
a) Program management and administration	60,000	60,000	53,295	6,705	-	6,705
b) Grants	307,628	217,628	131,222	86,405	30,600	55,805
3. Global Program for Fisheries Multi-Donor Trust Fund (PROFISH3)	770,000	770,000	196,875	573,125	70,089	503,035
a) Program management and administration	200,000	200,000	41,893	158,107	-	158,107
b) Grants	570,000	570,000	154,983	415,017	70,089	344,928
TOTAL	11,082,944	10,992,944	6,390,633	4,602,311	704,981	3,897,330

ANNEXES



ANNEX 1

LIST OF PROBLUE PROJECTS BY CURRENT STATUS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Project Name	Pillar	Current Status	Project Type	Approval Date	Closing Date	Sum of Grant Amount (US\$)	Transferred Amount	Disbursements (US\$)	Fund Balance (US\$)	Commitments (US\$)	Available Balance (US\$)
Blue Natural Capital for Changing Wealth of Nations 2020	4.1	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	4/30/2019	6/30/2020	450,000	250,000	70,659	179,341	97,000	82,341
Fisheries Status Assessment Toolkit (FSAT)	1.1	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	5/21/2019	6/30/2021	400,000	400,000	38,837	361,163	7,023	354,140
Developing Recommendations for a Blue Finance Facility	4.2	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	5/28/2019	12/31/2019	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	-	60,000
Pathways Out of Plastic Pollution	2.1	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	5/20/2019	6/30/2021	650,000	650,000	18,898	631,102	-	631,102
BEDF Analytic Work in Support of BEDF Analytical Tools, Technical Assistance to Pilot Projects, and Support to Integrated Seascapes Guidance Panel	4.1	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	6/18/2019	6/30/2021	500,000	500,000	15,045	484,955	-	484,955
TOTAL						2,060,000	1,860,000	143,439	1,716,561	104,023	1,612,538

ANNEX 2

LIST OF PROFISH PROJECTS BY CURRENT STATUS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

PROFISH Trust Funds	Project Name	Current Status	Project Type	Closing Date	Sum of Grant Amount (US\$)	Transferred Amount (US\$)	Sum of Adjusted Disbursements (US\$)	Sum of Fund Balance (US\$)	Sum of Commitments (US\$)	Sum of Available Balance (US\$)
MULTI-DONOR TRUST FUND FOR THE GLOBAL PROGRAM ON FISHERIES (PROFISH)	Fisheries Insurance (COAST)	Active	Technical Assistance	1/31/2020	4,599,612	4,599,612	691,696	3,907,916	602,028	3,305,888
	PROFISH Analytics	Active	Project Preparation	8/31/2022	4,211,662	4,211,662	4,183,502	28,160	2,264	25,896
	India Marine Fisheries Consultations and Policy Dialogue	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	1/30/2009	53,368	53,368	53,368	-	-	-
	PROFISH—Sustainable Aquaculture	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	6/30/2013	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PROFISH—Fish 2030	Legally closed	Analytic and Advisory Activities	6/30/2014	24,976	24,976	24,976	-	-	-
	PROFISH—Fish Health Initiative	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	6/30/2014	55,000	55,000	55,000	-	-	-
	PROFISH & ALLFISH (Global Environment Facility)	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	12/31/2014	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PROFISH—Currents of Change	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	6/30/2015	39,264	39,264	39,264	-	-	-
	Fisheries Performance Indicators	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	12/31/2015	119,863	119,863	119,863	-	-	-
	PROFISH Country Support	Legally closed	Analytic and Advisory Activities; Technical Assistance; Project Preparation	8/31/2022	279,905	279,905	279,905	-	-	-
	PROFISH—Innovative Finance (Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction)	Legally closed	Technical Assistance	8/31/2022	133,155	133,155	133,155	-	-	-
TOTAL					9,516,805	9,516,805	5,580,729	3,936,076	604,292	3,331,784

PROFISH Trust Funds	Project Name	Current Status	Project Type	Closing Date	Sum of Grant Amount (US\$)	Transferred Amount (US\$)	Sum of Adjusted Disbursements (US\$)	Sum of Fund Balance (US\$)	Sum of Commitments (US\$)	Sum of Available Balance (US\$)
MULTI-DONOR TRUST FUND FOR THE GLOBAL PROGRAM ON FISHERIES (PROFISH)—PARALLEL TRUST FUND	Analytical basis for promoting aquaculture in SVG	Active	Development Policy Financing	4/30/2019	30,000	30,000	29,749,44	251	-	251
	Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH)	Active	Investment Project Financing	9/30/2019	30,000	-	-	-	-	-
	Costa Rica Sustainable Fisheries Development—Technical Assistance	Active	Technical Assistance	12/31/2019	60,000	60,000	30,288	29,712	29,600	112
	Benchmarking Study of Contractual Arrangements for Aquaculture Producers and Aggregators	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	12/31/2019	30,000	-	-	-	-	-
	Brief Assessment of Water Intensity of Freshwater Aquaculture and Implications of (Climate-Change–Induced Incremental) Water Stress on the Proposed Intensification of Aquaculture in India	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	12/31/2019	30,000	-	-	-	-	-
	Supporting Resilient Coastal Economies in Vietnam	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	6/30/2020	30,000	30,000	7,209	22,791	1,000	21,791
	Supporting Resilient Coastal Economies in Vietnam	Active	Technical Assistance	12/31/2020	30,000	30,000	16,637	13,363	-	13,363
	An Explosive Situation, a Coordinated Response—Curbing Blast-Fishing in Tanzania	Active	Technical Assistance	8/31/2022	30,000	30,000	9,711	20,289	-	20,289
	Blue Bond Infographic	Legally closed	Advisory Services & Analytics	10/31/2018	8,000	8,000	8,000	-	-	-
	Myanmar CEA Fisheries Component	Legally closed	Advisory Services & Analytics	5/31/2019	29,628	29,628	29,628	-	-	-
TOTAL					307,628	217,628	131,222	86,405	30,600	55,805

PROFISH Trust Funds	Project Name	Current Status	Project Type	Closing Date	Sum of Grant Amount (US\$)	Transferred Amount (US\$)	Sum of Adjusted Disbursements (US\$)	Sum of Fund Balance (US\$)	Sum of Commitments (US\$)	Sum of Available Balance (US\$)
GLOBAL PROGRAM FOR FISHERIES MULTI-DONOR TRUST FUND (PROFISH3)	Informing the Development of Vietnam's Blue Economy	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	12/31/2019	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	1,011	48,989
	Unlocking India's Blue Economy Potential	Active	Advisory Services & Analytics	3/31/2020	385,000	385,000	20,000	365,000	69,078	295,922
	PROFISH European Union Blue Economy Diagnostic	Active	Knowledge Management Product	6/30/2020	135,000	135,000	134,983	17	-	17
TOTAL					570,000	570,000	154,983	415,017	70,089	344,928





PROBLUE

PROBLUE is a new Umbrella 2.0 program, housed at the World Bank, that supports the development of integrated, sustainable and healthy marine and coastal resources.

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