

**Table 1. Summary framework for collecting and compiling information for the review of implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (to be applied on a voluntary basis)**

Operational Objectives of the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)	Partners identified in the programme of work and national and regional partners	Progress made in implementation	Barriers to implementation	Priorities for capacity-building to address the barriers
<p><i>1.1: To apply appropriate policy instruments and strategies, including building of capacity, for the effective implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Management (IMCAM)</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) ocean governance bodies</p>	<p>Existing federal statutory instruments (e.g. <i>Oceans Act</i>) and policy guidelines (Canada's Oceans Strategy) guiding national implementation of IMCAM approach are complemented by provincial policies and implementation strategies</p> <p>Established and are applying integrated oceans management in Five Large Oceans Management Areas</p> <p>Federal-Provincial-Territorial cooperation is facilitated by Oceans Task Group, established under the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers</p> <p>Establishment of National Oceans Centres of Expertise with five year work plans focused on: integrated management in the coastal zone; use of traditional and local knowledge in integrated oceans management; and, State of the Oceans Reporting</p>	<p>Jurisdictional complexity in coastal area management</p> <p>Human and financial resource challenges</p> <p>Lack of cause-effect information as a scientific rationale to intervene to take action</p> <p>The size of Canada's coastline relative to capacity to detect and intervene</p>	<p>Federal-Provincial-Territorial collaborative work plan to address issues of common concern</p>

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<p><i>1.1: To apply appropriate policy instruments and strategies, including building of capacity, for the effective implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Management (IMCAM)</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Environment Canada</p> <p>Community Action Groups</p>	<p>Environment Canada has established several Ecosystem Initiatives (EIs), which are place-based approaches to delivering on environmental results that focus on collaboration and promoting integrated, adaptive management. Two are focused on marine and coastal ecosystems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Atlantic Ecosystem Initiative: resulted in reduced discharges of sewage water, and the reopening of shellfish growing areas</li> <li>- Georgia Basin Action Plan: resulted in the production of a water balance model, an internet based land use decision tool to reduce the impacts to aquatic ecosystems</li> </ul> <p>A results-focused management framework has been developed to ensure systematic selection, planning, delivery and evaluation of new or renewed ecosystem initiatives</p>	<p>Monitoring and reporting on environmental results of specific initiatives can be challenging in light of complexity of issues and multiple stressors</p>	

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<p><i>1.2: To undertake direct action to protect the marine environment from negative impacts</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Federal-Provincial-Territorial and stakeholder involvement in advisory and governance bodies, status and trends assessments and integrated management and planning</p>	<p>In five Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs) established in Canada's three oceans, Integrated Oceans Management Governance and Advisory Bodies, comprehensive assessments of social, economic and ecological characteristics and their corresponding ecosystem-based conservation objectives identified, some integrated management plans completed or are underway</p> <p>Active implementation of s.35 of <i>Fisheries Act</i> to provide fish habitat</p>	<p>Understanding and acceptance of alternate regulatory approaches and instruments</p> <p>Transboundary jurisdictional complexities</p> <p>Human and financial resource challenges</p>	

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<p><i>1.3: To develop guidelines for ecosystem evaluation and assessment, paying attention to the need to identify and select indicators, including social and abiotic indicators that distinguish between natural and human induced effects</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Federal/Provincial/Territorial governments and stakeholder involvement in advisory and governance bodies, status and trends assessments and integrated management and planning</p>	<p>Ecosystem overview and assessment reports, the identification of biologically and ecologically significant areas, species and community properties were completed for each of the five Large Ocean Management Areas under the guidance of documented national criteria and procedures. These tools are increasingly being applied by government and non government authorities in non Large Ocean Management Areas</p> <p>Similar guidance is being developed and being implemented in 5 Large Ocean Management Areas with respect to characterization of social, ecological and cultural factors to be considered as part of IMCAM</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p> <p>Limited engagement of authorities with social, economic mandates due to capacity issues</p>	



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<p>2.2: <i>To make available to the Parties information on marine genetic resources in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, and as appropriate, on coastal and marine genetic resources under national jurisdiction from publicly available information sources.</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p>	<p>Canadian scientists, like other scientists, have pre-existing mechanisms in place to share information gathered on genetic resources, these should be kept in mind when establishing steps to achieve operational objective 2.2. Publicly available free sites include the United States National Institutes of Health sites GenBank and Pubmed. These sites provide public access to genetic sequencing data for most known and available genes, including fish and marine derived proteins and nucleotides</p> <p>Canada supports the work of the United Nations Ad Hoc Working Group on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction, which is looking at the policy, scientific and legal angles of the management of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including marine genetic resources</p>		

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<p><i>2.3: To gather and assimilate information on, build capacity to mitigate the effects of, &amp; to promote policy development, implementation strategies and actions to address: (i) the biological &amp; socio-economic consequences of physical degradation and destruction of key marine &amp; coastal habitats including mangrove ecosystems, tropical &amp; cold-water coral-reef ecosystems, seamount ecosystems and seagrass ecosystems including identification and promotion of management practices, methodologies and policies to reduce &amp; mitigate impacts upon marine and coastal biological diversity and to restore mangrove forests and rehabilitate damaged coral reef; and in particular (ii) the impacts of mangrove forest destruction, coral bleaching &amp; related mortality on coral-reef ecosystems and the human communities which depend upon coral-reef services, including through financial and technical assistance.</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p>	<p>Policy to Manage the Impact of Fishing on Sensitive Benthic Areas expected to be adopted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada in early 2009 to guide fisheries activities in sensitive benthic areas including but not limited to areas rich in corals and sponge reefs</p> <p>Establishment of a National Oceans Center of Expertise on Corals and Sponges</p> <p>Coral conservation initiatives include the existing Gully Marine Protected area, the newly established Bowie Seamount Marine Protected Area as well as fisheries-based coral/sponge conservation areas on Atlantic and Pacific coasts</p> <p>Establishment of a Centre of Expertise on Marine Habitats</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p>	

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<p>2.4: <i>To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of marine living resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) - Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (WGEAFM), and Ad Hoc Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs)</p>	<p>Support Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) forum</p> <p>Work on vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) is closely linked to Convention on Biological Diversity commitments regarding Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs)</p> <p>Development of criteria and methodologies to identify Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas of world's oceans</p> <p>As a Regional Fisheries Management Organization, NAFO has adopted closures for five seamounts. Four closures have been implemented, fifth will be closed as of January 1, 2009</p> <p>NAFO also adopted a Coral Protection Zone in Division 3O – closed to all fishing activity involving bottom contact gear as of January 1, 2008 until December 31, 2012</p>	<p>Complexities of managing international areas</p> <p>Undertaking research in difficult environment</p> <p>Human and financial resource challenges (limits to science capacity in various countries)</p>	<p>Complete analysis of regulatory and governance mechanisms relevant in areas beyond national jurisdiction</p> <p>CBD Expert Workshop, Sept 29-Oct 3, 2009</p> <p>Report on Atlantic EBSAs, and NAFO action, Spring 2009</p> <p>Bilateral Pacific Workshop with USA – Spring 2009</p> <p>Liaison with IUCN/Germany on data availability and management</p> <p>Also consider value/use of biogeographic classification systems</p>

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<p><i>2.4: To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of marine living resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction</i></p>		<p>During May 5-7, 2008, NAFO held intersessional meeting that reached consensus on suite of comprehensive and proactive measures to protect Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in the NAFO Regulatory Area</p> <p>NAFO has undertaken the identification and delineation of corals and sponges in the NAFO Regulatory Area. NAFO Scientific Council completed further work to identify corals in the fall of 2008. Management measures will be considered by a working group during the first quarter of 2009. Work on sponges and corals and sponges in canyons will take place by June 2009</p> <p>NAFO annual meeting in September 2009 is expected to take decisions on additional measures to protect Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems</p>		

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<p><i>2.4: To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of marine living resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>		<p>Development of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep Sea Fisheries in the High Seas – August 25-29, 2008, to be adopted/approved at Committee of Fisheries Issues (COFI) meeting in March 2009</p> <p>Progress on implementation of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 61/105 will be evaluated in 2009 (implementation of FAO Deep Sea Guidelines should contribute to positive evaluation)</p>	<p>FAO Global Ecosystem Fund (GEF) project starts in 2009 – time to review proposal and prepare for inputs, funding domestic work in 2010</p> <p>VME/EBSA identification will be important preparation</p> <p>Determine complete quantification of catch</p> <p>Develop life histories (basic biological attributes) of key bycatch species for assessment of sustainability</p>	<p>Assist developing countries in the areas of: financial and technical assistance, technology transfer, training and scientific cooperation</p>

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<p><i>2.4: To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of marine living resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Canadian lead is Transport Canada, with contributions from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Environment Canada (EC), and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT).</p> <p>Permanent Participants (various Indigenous groups) have also been involved in the process, as well as other Canadian experts.</p>	<p>Canada is co-leading an Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment with the United States and Finland. This comprehensive circumpolar assessment aims to increase understanding of current shipping activities and how these activities will develop in the future, as well as related environmental and socioeconomic implications. It covers a broad range issues and consists of findings and recommendations intended to influence policy makers and planning for the Arctic. Canada's involvement has been significant throughout the process</p>		<p>Recommendations arising from the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment include to identify areas of ecological significance and explore the need for protected areas, enhance mutual co-operation in oil spill response and support research in prevention, assess the effects of shipping on marine mammals and develop mitigation strategies, improve Arctic marine infrastructure, continue to develop a circumpolar environmental pollution response capacity, and develop effective communication mechanisms to engage Arctic coastal communities.</p>

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<p><i>3.1: To establish and strengthen national and regional systems of marine and coastal protected areas integrated into a global network and as a contribution to globally agreed goals</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Environment Canada</p> <p>Parks Canada</p> <p>F/P/T governments, non-government organizations, stakeholders</p>	<p>In addition to the current 10 federal marine protected areas, and 8 in progress, the Government of Canada is committed to the designation of an additional nine federal Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2012</p> <p>These MPAs are being advanced in keeping with the collaborative process outlined in the Federal MPA Strategy which includes identification of the federal component of national network of MPAs</p> <p>Discussions with FPT authorities on the development of a national framework to guide the development of Canada's National Network of MPAs are proceeding on schedule</p> <p>Publication of national and international lessons learned and best practices on MPA network design as a result of DFO-ENGO partnership</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p>	

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<p><i>3.2: To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of marine living resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)</p>	<p>NAFO has been involved in the identification and delineation of corals and sponges in the Regulatory Area. Further work on identification of corals has been completed by the NAFO's Scientific Council and management measures will be considered in Q1 of 2009. Work on sponges and corals and sponges in canyons will take place by June 2009</p> <p>See 2.4</p>		

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<p>3.3: <i>To achieve effective management of existing marine and coastal protected areas</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Parks Canada (PC)</p> <p>F/P/T governments and stakeholder advisory committees</p>	<p>Management Plans and stakeholder advisory committees established or under development for the majority of National Marine Conservation Areas and <i>Oceans Act</i> Marine Protected Areas. Corresponding effectiveness monitoring and reporting plans are at various stages of development</p> <p>Regional involvement of science expertise from governments, environmental non-government organizations, and academia to scope out a potential design of regional marine protected area networks</p> <p>NAFO manages its fisheries based on an ecosystem approach. NAFO continues to evaluate possible significant adverse impacts (SAI) of current and proposed fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems. In NAFO, Canada has championed the effective protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs)</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p> <p>Jurisdictional Complexity</p>	

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<p><i>3.4: To provide support for and facilitate monitoring of national and regional systems of marine and coastal protected areas</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Parks Canada, Environment Canada</p> <p>Parks Canada</p> <p>Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC)</p> <p>NAMPAN (regional partner)</p>	<p>Assessment of existing federal MPA monitoring activities ongoing as part of the tri-department federal MPA work plan to identify common indicators, monitoring and reporting efficiencies</p> <p>Funds provided by Government of Canada investment in Health of the Oceans are being used to develop generic monitoring protocols and identification of common ecosystem based indicators</p> <p>The NAFO Fisheries Commission seeks to further develop knowledge on VMEs in order to effectively protect VMEs</p> <p>Under the CEC, the North American Marine Protected Area Network (NAMPAN) has established a number of pilot sites amongst existing MPAs in the US, Mexico and Canada to develop indicators that can be used to monitor and evaluate a North American network of MPAs. Work is ongoing.</p>		

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<p><i>3.5: To facilitate research and monitoring activities that reflect identified global knowledge gaps and priority information needs of management of marine and coastal protected areas</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)-Scientific Council</p> <p>Canadian Healthy Ocean Network (CHONe)</p>	<p>Canada participates in the NAFO Scientific Council (SC) through its delegates of scientific experts as well as via its financial contributions to the Organization which also support SC activities</p> <p>CHONe is a strategic partnership between university and government. CHONe was established in 2008 and will address a need for scientific criteria for conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity resources</p> <p>Work with Pacific Marine Analysis Research Association (PacMARA) which is an organization that encourages the use of cross-disciplinary marine science in ecosystem-based decision-making</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p>	<p>National program under renewal to address gaps</p> <p>Science and technology</p> <p>Engagement in regional and national outreach program</p> <p>Risk analysis</p>

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<p><i>3.5: To facilitate research and monitoring activities that reflect identified global knowledge gaps and priority information needs of management of marine and coastal protected areas</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Centre of Expertise on Aquatic Habitat Research (CAHR)</p>	<p>CAHR, established in 2008, is a virtual centre with participation from Science and Habitat Management in all DFO Regions to address habitat issues in support of the Department's mandate to conserve and protect fish habitat</p> <p>The Centre of Expertise will provide strategic leadership to prioritize and address science requirements in freshwater and marine environments and facilitate informed policy development at regionally applicable scales</p>		

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<p><i>4.1: To promote use of techniques which minimize adverse impact of mariculture on marine and coastal diversity</i></p>	<p>Environment Canada</p>	<p>Canada undertakes ongoing monitoring and assessment of wild and aquiculture shellfish growing areas through its <i>Marine Water Quality Monitoring Program</i> – these include bacteriological assessments in the overlying water, and identifying and evaluating point and non-point pollution sources impacting on these areas</p>		

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<p><i>5.1: To achieve better understanding of the pathways and the causes of the introduction of alien species and the impact of such introductions on biological diversity</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Centre of Expertise for Aquatic Risk Assessment (CEARA)</p> <p>Canadian Aquatic Invasive Species Network (CAISN)</p>	<p>Establishment of Centre of Expertise for Aquatic Risk Assessment and 20 species have been or are being assessed for biological risk. These include: 5 species of Asian carps, northern snakehead, 5 tunicate species, bloody red shrimp, green crab, Chinese mitten crab, and 6 invasive fishes west of the Rockies</p> <p>CAISN will be the scientific lead that will result in the implementation of government policy ensuring regulation of preventative measures to minimize the spread of AIS in Canada's aquatic ecosystems. CAISN will provide the science-based results needed by aquaculture &amp; shipping industries for the development of technical innovations to reduce new invasions in Canada's marine and freshwater ecosystems</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p>	<p>National Aquatic Invasive Species Program under renewal to address program gaps</p> <p>Science and technology</p> <p>Engagement in regional and national outreach program</p> <p>Risk analysis</p>



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<p><i>5.1: To achieve better understanding of the pathways and the causes of the introduction of alien species and the impact of such introductions on biological diversity</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada DFO</p> <p>Transport Canada(TC)</p> <p>International Maritime Organization (IMO)</p>	<p>Canada is in the process of ratifying the IMO Ballast Water Convention. Canada is well-engaged in IMO working groups on these issues and applies modern measures to address invasive species</p> <p>Canada is chairing IMO's Review Group examining new treatment technologies and dealing with matters related to the 2004 Ballast Water Convention</p>	<p>Consecutive election periods have slowed the administrative processes.</p>	<p>Additional research is required to fully understand the potential and risk related to hull fouling and ballast induced invasive species</p>

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<p><i>5.1: To achieve better understanding of the pathways and the causes of the introduction of alien species and the impact of such introductions on biological diversity</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada DFO</p> <p>Transport Canada(TC)</p> <p>International Maritime Organization (IMO)</p>	<p>Canada is in the process of ratifying the IMO Ballast Water Convention. Canada is well-engaged in IMO working groups on these issues and applies modern measures to address invasive species.</p> <p>Canada is chairing IMO's Review Group examining new treatment technologies and dealing with matters related to the 2004 Ballast Water Convention.</p>	<p>Consecutive election periods have slowed the administrative processes</p>	<p>Additional research is required to fully understand the potential and risk related to hull fouling and ballast induced invasive species</p>

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<p><i>5.1: To achieve better understanding of the pathways and the causes of the introduction of alien species and the impact of such introductions on biological diversity</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Transport Canada (TC)</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>State Governments of the United States</p> <p>United States Coast Guard and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</p>	<p>Ongoing cooperation between Transport Canada and Fisheries and Oceans to address ballast water from ships. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regulations under the Canada Shipping Act (to be rolled under the Canada Shipping Act 2001)</li> <li>- Enforcement through boardings and sampling of all ships entering Great Lakes and to a smaller extent, ships on coastal ports</li> <li>- Research of treatment technology</li> <li>- Research and monitoring to detect further invasive species</li> <li>- Cooperation with US Coast Guard and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration on enforcement and research</li> <li>- Advancing cooperation with US State Governments in the Great Lakes region for consistent rules to manage ships ballast water in the Great Lakes region</li> </ul>		

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<p>5.2: <i>To put in place mechanisms to control all pathways, including shipping, trade and mariculture, for potential invasive alien species in the marine and coastal environment</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Sea Lamprey Control Program (SLCP)</p> <p>Transport Canada (TC)</p>	<p>Sea lamprey population levels have been decreased by about 90%. Control efforts have had significant economic benefits, contributing to an estimated \$4B commercial and sport fishery throughout the Great Lakes</p> <p>General recommendations regarding ballast water and specific recommendations for regional alternative ballast water exchange zones were developed or will be developed for 5 regions in Canada under the auspices of the <i>Canada Shipping Act</i></p>	<p>No official regulations in the <i>Fisheries Act</i> to address the threat of aquatic invasive species (AIS)</p> <p>No authority to screening aquatic organisms in trade for invasive purposes</p> <p>Numbers of different jurisdictions involved in the control of AIS - complex decision making</p>	<p>Revised <i>Fisheries Act</i> is under development and will be submitted in parliament for approval</p> <p>Management and mitigation measures</p> <p>Pursuing national and international cooperation</p> <p>Pursuing legislation, regulation and policy development</p>

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5.3: <i>To maintain an incident list on introductions of alien species</i>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) database</p> <p>The Wild Animal &amp; Plant Protection &amp; Regulation of International &amp; Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRIITA)</p>	<p>The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) database is an application for storing scientific observations on AIS and to provide a centralized location for all AIS data. The database will increase communication of AIS monitoring between scientists, strengthening our ability to address this threat to Canadian ecosystems. Canada benefits by sharing its data with others in gaining access to other sources of data (provinces, US, the general public), providing a more complete picture of AIS status across Canada</p>	<p>Specific regulations</p>	<p>Development of regulations is being considered as part of the renewal of the <i>Fisheries Act</i> to better monitor introductions of Aquatic Invasive Species</p> <p>Pursuing information management and sharing</p> <p>Pursuing National database operations</p>

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<p><i>6.1: To assemble a database of initiatives on programme elements through a cooperative approach with relevant organizations and bodies, with special emphasis on integrated marine and coastal management</i></p>	<p>Approx. 20 federal government departments and agencies whose policies and/or programs affect or occur in Canada's coastal and marine areas; other jurisdictions, including provincial/territorial, and U.S government</p>	<p>In 2008, a work plan was developed to develop a comprehensive database of federal coastal and marine activities. This initiative is known as the Federal Oceans Activity Map (FOAM)</p> <p>Cross-boundary governance structures, such as Gulf of Maine Council (Can-US), will be involved as the initiative unfolds</p> <p>In a related initiative, Fisheries and Ocean Canada will be publishing an updated version of “<i>The Role of the Federal Government in the Oceans Sector</i>”.</p>	<p>Human and financial resource challenges</p>	<p>Pursuing increased resourcing for Federal Oceans Activity Map</p> <p>Exploring informatics options to allow for sharing of information across federal departments /partners using a web-based platform</p> <p>A federal Communications Strategy for Oceans, currently in development through consultants, will also address tactics to overcome capacity and organizational barriers to more timely and accurate sharing of information</p>

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<p>6.2: <i>To undertake effective collaboration, cooperation and harmonization of initiatives with relevant conventions, organizations and agencies while recognizing their independent mandates</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>Approx. 20 federal departments and agencies whose policies and/or programs affect or occur in Canada's coastal and marine areas; other jurisdictions, including municipal, provincial/territorial, and international, as well as a broad range of oceans stakeholders including industry associations, corporations, non-governmental and Aboriginal organizations</p>	<p>National and regional Oceans governance bodies involving federal, provincial and territorial authorities have been established and are active in all three coastal areas to coordinate national policy development, ocean program planning and delivery, and reporting back to Canadians</p> <p>The primary area of progress is the advancement of integrated oceans management (IOM), in the wake of the <i>Oceans Act</i> (1997). Through the Ocean Action Plan (2005-2007) five, initial Large Oceans Management Areas (LOMAs) were defined and regional governance structures established. In several cases, LOMA Management Plans have been published. In addition to LOMA committees of regulators, stakeholder advisory groups have been struck, affording stakeholders the opportunity to advise and also to access planning information, leading to enhanced certainty in support of business/program planning</p>	<p>Long-term funding for Integrated Oceans Management remains a challenge, with current efforts being managed through budget reallocation</p> <p>Further, there remain challenges to operationalizing Integrated Oceans Management at the LOMA level, translating national policy discussions into action in the regions</p>	<p>A strong focus has been given to enhanced flow of information between the national and regional (LOMA) governance structures. This has been set as a priority for DFO.</p> <p>For example, a web-based, shared workspace for these oceans committees is currently being piloted. Interdepartmental Committees have recently focused significantly on promoting the communications and consultative capacity available to federal organizations through the now well established LOMA committees.</p>

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<p><i>6.2: To undertake effective collaboration, cooperation and harmonization of initiatives with relevant conventions, organizations and agencies while recognizing their independent mandates</i></p> <p><i>(CONT'D)</i></p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</p> <p>The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</p> <p>World Wildlife Fund (WWF)</p>	<p>DFO has renewed a Collaborative Agreement with the World Wildlife Fund (first signed in April 2006; renewed and enhanced in October 2008). This has focused collaboration on areas of common concern related to biodiversity, including Large Ocean Management Area and Marine Protected Area planning, as well as specific priorities (whale, coral, reduction of bycatch, etc.)</p> <p>DFO has also signed a Joint Work plan with the NOAA in the US, to harmonize efforts with respect to planning for boundary ocean and coastal areas, and with respect to MPA network planning. One joint workshop has been conducted; one remains; and the two organizations have committed to discuss renewal of joint efforts into the future.</p>		