

Common borders. Common solutions.



**Joint Operational Programme
“Black Sea Basin 2007-2013”**

2012 Brochure

The Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007 - 2013” is one of the operational programmes of the European Union under the European Neighbourhood & Partnership Instrument (ENPI). There are 8 participating countries in the Programme: Armenia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine. The Black Sea Basin Programme aims at a stronger and more sustainable economic and social development of the Black Sea Basin regions. Through this Programme, communities in the concerned areas are encouraged to further develop their local economy, confront environmental challenges and promote greater interaction among people.

The Programme is financed by the ENPI and the participation of Turkey is financed by the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA).

The EU financing for the Programme for the 2007-2013 period currently amounts to EUR 25.696.515,52 ENPI financing and to EUR 7.000.000 IPA financing (for Turkish partners). The total budget (including co-financing of the participating countries) amounts to EUR 35.860.884,52 (ENPI + IPA).

The Black Sea Basin JOP is characterised by a number of specificities regarding eligible area, the priorities and measures, and the potential applicants. The full details of the programme can be found in the Programme documents, available on our website.

This publication has been prepared with the aim to provide brief information on the status of the Programme and to promote the projects funded by the Programme under the First Call for Proposals. All 19 projects awarded under the First Call for Proposals have been contracted and one of them has already been finalized. 18 Projects are currently implemented by the partnerships to address jointly, the specific issues in the Black Sea region.

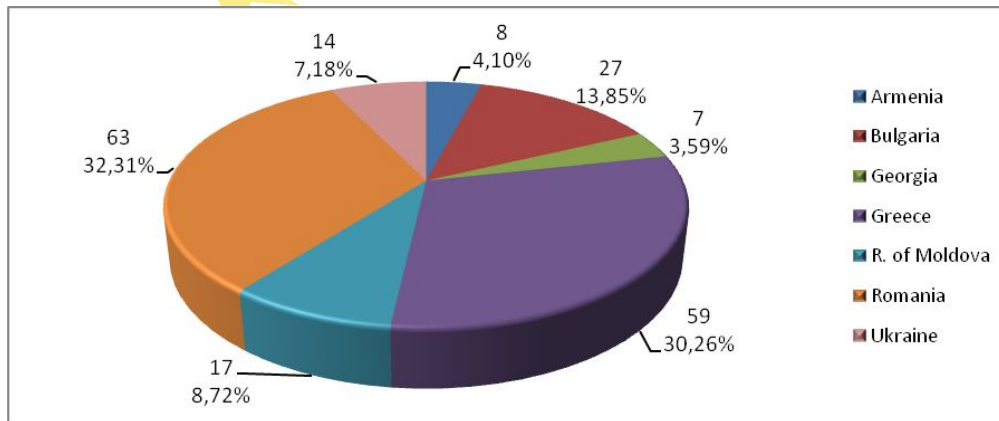
In the following pages you will find information about the status of the Second Call for Proposals followed by detailed information about the 18 projects currently under implementation as well as 1 project that has been finalized.

195 applications have been received under the Second Call for Proposals. Evaluation of project proposals started on the 14 of December 2011 with Opening & Administrative Check. The evaluation process finished on 19 of June 2012, when the Joint Monitoring Committee approved the Final Evaluation Report.

The final results of the selection process were communicated to the Applicants after the European Commission checked the projects selected to determine if there are any overlaps with other programmes and to avoid double funding.

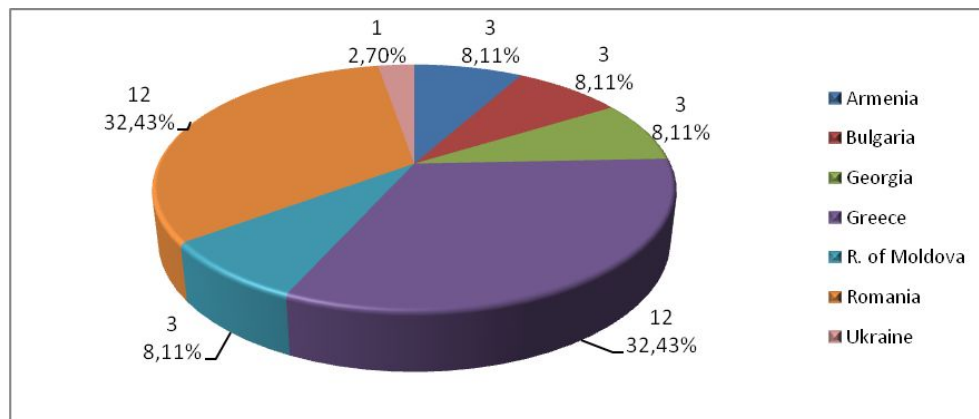
In total, 37 projects were approved, with a total value of EUR 16.655.279,02 (ENPI financing) and EUR 4.253.385,70 (IPA financing) in the areas of economic and social development, environment protection and cultural cooperation, areas that correspond to the three priorities of the Programme. The contracting process for the 37 projects approved under the Second Call for Proposals is ongoing.

Below are some **STATISTICS** regarding the applications received under the Second Call for Proposals:

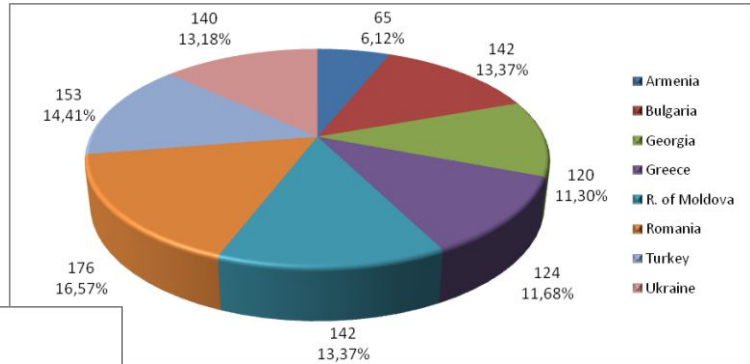
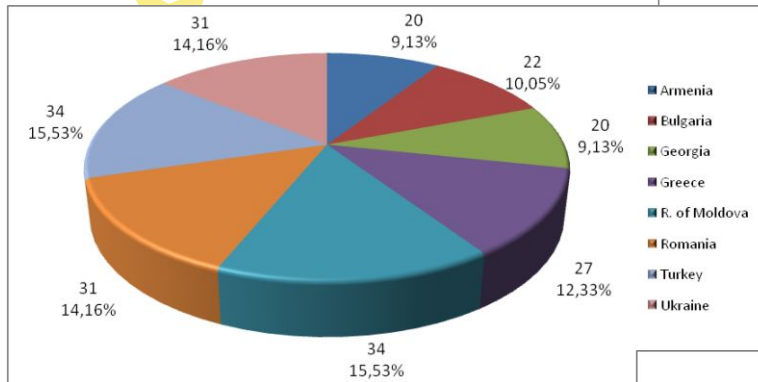


a) Total number of applicants involved in the submitted projects, per country

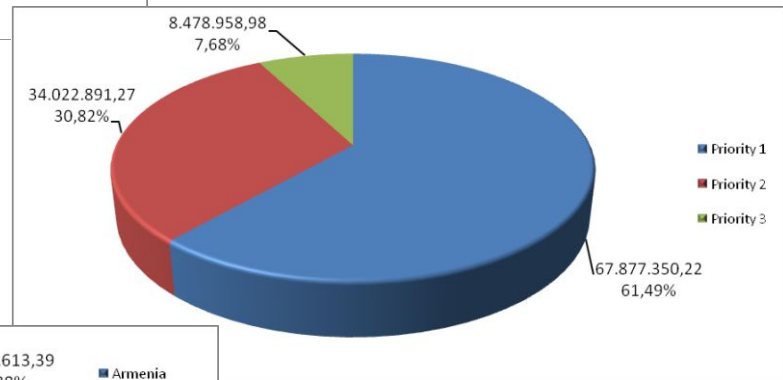
b) Total number of applicants involved in the approved projects, per country



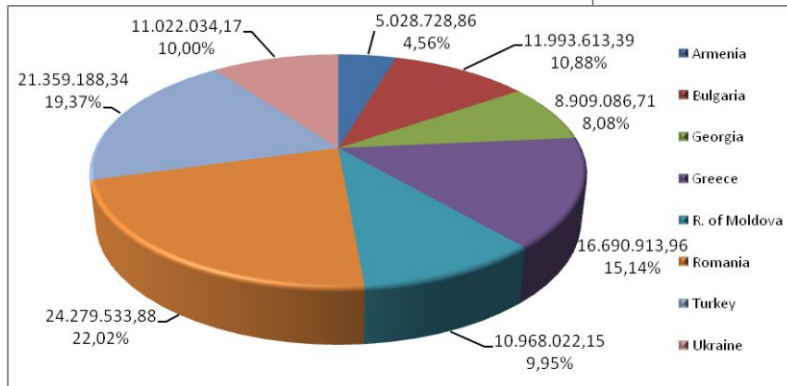
c) Total number of entities involved in the submitted projects, per country



d) Total number of entities involved in the approved projects, per country



e) Total funds (ENPI+IPA) requested for submitted projects



f) Total funds (ENPI+IPA) requested for submitted projects, per country

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Facilitate the trade of agro-food products in the Black Sea Basin (FTAP)



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.1: Strengthening accessibility and connectivity for new intra regional information communication, transport and trade links

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget: € 536.430,50
Total Grant: € 482.787,45

Start-End Dates: 01/11/2011- 31/10/2013

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About the Project:

The Action aims to carry out integration activities in the Black Sea Basin, focused on increasing regional trade and boosting economic development in rural areas. Also, the Action aims to improve the quality of information by creating a regional system of information about markets in Galati and Constanta (Romania), Odessa Oblast (Ukraine) and the Republic of Moldova. This will generate an increasing level of regional economic cooperation among countries, an increase in export transactions.

Beneficiary:

National Federation of Agricultural Producers AGROinform, the Republic of Moldova

Partners:

1. Foundation for the Promotion of Private Small and Medium Enterprises Galati - F.P.P.S.M.E, South-East, Romania
2. Regional Fund for Support to Entrepreneurship in Odessa Region, Odessa, Ukraine

Main Activities:

1. Introduction of functional marketing information on-line system Agrimarket - Black Sea, accessible to all stakeholders in the sector of agricultural businesses;
2. Weekly dissemination of relevant information on wholesale prices for fruits and vegetables from 10 markets of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine through the site www.agrimarket-blacksea.com, as well as printed information bulletins;
3. Promotion of commercial offers through online resources Agrimarket - Black Sea as well as printed information bulletins (600 proposals for the period of the project);
4. Creating a database of 300 entrepreneurs, traders and exporting companies from the three countries working in the field of plant breeding, cultivation, propagation and processing of horticultural products;
5. Organization and carrying out a number of activities in order to establish business relationships, new contracts, the exchange of knowledge and experience among farmers and entrepreneurs (business forums, round tables, trainings, conferences, etc.);
6. Holding of 4 comprehensive studies on the export potential of agro-industrial development in Moldova, Romania and Ukraine;
7. Organizing the participation of target groups of the project in three specialized exhibitions and fairs held in the participating countries.



Monitoring visit - Constanta market, Romania



Training in the methodology of price collection, Moldova, February 29, 2012



Workshop with project staff, Moldova, December 15, 2011



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.3: Creation of administrative capacity for the design and implementation of local and regional development policies

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 745.214
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 670.692

Start-End Dates: 13/07/2011- 12/07/2013

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About the Project:

The project is aiming to contribute to reducing the negative impact of production, trading and consumption on natural resources that are significantly threatened by current traditional ways of development approaches, as the main need of target groups and final beneficiaries, and it is focusing on optimizing the economic development and environmental protection in the Black Sea Basin.

Beneficiary:

Institute of Oceanology - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria

Partners:

1. National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa", Constanta, South-East, Romania
2. Agency for Innovation Technology and Transfer, Academy of Science of Moldova, Chisinau, Moldova
3. Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey
4. Istanbul's EU Pioneers Association, Istanbul, Turkey

Main Activities:

1. Effective natural resource management and environmental protection will be improved with innovative management tool
2. Environmental and carbon foot-print of production and waste disposal and consumption of 4 sectors are determined
3. Intra-regional trade networks will be strengthened
4. Intra-regional trade potential will be increased
5. Capacity and visibility on how to improve the natural resource management efficiency and reduce climate change effects of production are increased
6. Local economic development will be affected positively in partner regions
7. Experience and know-how on resource management will be gained effectively among partner organisations



Publishing and Distribution of first Project Poster at IO-BAS (ENPI Beneficiary)



Working process with Data expert at NIMRD (ENPI Partner 1)



Publishing project promotional materials at IO-BAS (ENPI Beneficiary)



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.3: Creation of administrative capacity for the design and implementation of local and regional development policies

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget: € 492.084,53
Total Grant: € 442.876,08

Start-End Dates: 17/09/2011- 16/09/2013

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About the Project:

The trans-regional network called “Black Sea Network for Regional Development” will involve regional stakeholders that support SMEs. This network will respond to the needs of regional organisations dealing with SMEs by : improving communication with business, by organising regular round table researches, dialogues, improving communication and collaboration with the public administration. Promoting public-private partnership, exchanging experience among development agencies from the five region, using external expertise (development agents, experts in support of SMEs, from EU countries, not participating in the Black Sea Basin Programme, familiarizing and adopting best EU practises, training of personnel.)

Beneficiary:

Regional Agency for Entrepreneurship and Innovations - Varna (RAPIV), Severoiztochen, Bulgaria

Partners:

1. Research Committee of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Urban and Regional Innovation Research Unit, Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece
2. Small and Medium Enterprises Association of Constanta, South-East, Romania
3. Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises Development within the Ministry of Economy and Trade of the Republic of Moldova, Chisinau, Moldova
4. Agency of Economic Development of Sevastopol, Sevastopol, Crimea, Ukraine
-Odiseus Liguria Innovation Technology S.c.r.l., Liguria, Italy (Associate partner)

Main Activities:

1. Detailed Joint analysis of the SMEs needs of support services in the region of the Black Sea Basin based on investigation of SMEs in the sectors ICT, Maritime Industry and Tourism in the regions – partners.
2. Identified partners' best practices on ways of communication with the regional SMEs and provision of services for them.
3. Elaborated measures and recommendations for cooperation among partner-regions in supporting SMEs, proposed to the regional policy-makers to be integrated in the regional and sectoral plans and policies.
4. Created Black Sea Network for Regional Development, that will increase the potential and international relations of the regional target groups in the Black Sea Basin region.
5. Elaborated plan for the future development and sustainability of the Network, which is expected to grow involving organizations from other economic sectors and all the countries of the Black Sea Basin.
6. Created synergies and established partnerships with other European networks.



Participants in the Kick off Meeting, held in Varna, Bulgaria



A meeting of the working group of SMEs Association of Constanta, Romania (PIMM Constanta)



Press Conference at the beginning of the project, held in Varna, Bulgaria



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.1: Strengthening accessibility and connectivity for new intra regional information communication, transport and trade links

Duration: 15 Months

Total Budget: € 154.561,50
Total Grant: € 139.061,50

Start-End Dates: 02/01/2012- 01/04/2013

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About the Project:

The project has main objective to support business circles and local organizations and institutions having regard with business and regional economic development in cross-border regions connected with Black Sea, in short terms to overcome the differences in the economic development in borders regions of different countries as to remove of existing distinctions between regions around Black Sea.

Beneficiary:

Yambol Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Yambol, Yugoiztochen, Bulgaria

Partnership:

1. Chamber of Kavala, Kavala, Eastern Macedonia-Thrace, Greece
2. Sakrebulo- Council of Chokhatauri Municipality, Chokhatauri, Guria region, Georgia

Main Activities:

1. Press-conferences for starting and finishing of the project.
2. Thematical publications in printed and electronic media.
3. Electronic bulletin.
4. Organizing and carrying out of questioning Informative pre-project study and expert analysis of business environment and needs of the target group in the countries project partners.
5. Preparation and printing of educational guide "Europeanization of own business" in printed and electronic form.
6. Carrying out of three informational-training seminars in three countries with themes of Europeanization of business.
7. Visit of two international trade exhibitions from business delegations- one in Bulgaria - agriculture and one in Greece - for products and services of small and medium sized enterprises and artisans.
8. Elaboration and maintaining of virtual WEB platform for distance expert informing, exchange of business information, consulting and distribution of useful practices in the field of business from three countries of the partners and the world practice.
11. Carrying out of entrance working coordination meeting in Bulgaria with participation of the general international team project and representatives of partner organizations.
12. Carrying out three coordinating meetings of the project team during the visit of the international trade exhibitions.



The Bulgarian project team is conducting a press-conference for the start of the project.



Opening the training Seminar in Yambol, Bulgaria by the Project Manager



Opening the training Seminar in Kavala, Greece by the Project Manager



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.3: Creation of administrative capacity for the design and implementation of local and regional development policies

Duration: 16 Months

Total Budget: € 262.528,78
Total Grant: € 236.275,90

Start-End Dates: 08/09/2011- 07/01/2013

Contact Person:

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About the Project:

There is an urgent need in the Black Sea basin to look upon urban development from a perspective that integrates physical, economic, social, cultural, environmental as well as institutional aspects in planning, i.e. to adopt the concept of Integrated Urban Development Planning. This will help to achieve a synergic package of effective solutions and efficient usage of the available resources.

By introducing the Integrated Urban Development approach, the project will contribute to reducing the existing imbalances of urban development among different urban areas that lead to lower efficiency in using financial resources.

Beneficiary:

Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development (UFSD), Yerevan, Armenia

Partners:

1. Local Development Group GDL, South East, Constanta, Romania
2. Kutaisi Information Center KLC, Imereti, Kutaisi, Georgia
3. Association of Mayors and Local Communities AMLC, Chisinau, Moldova,

Main Activities:

1. The project started with assessment of urban development challenges, policies and capacities in partner countries to get a clear and comparable image of the current situation in urban development
2. In the result of the assessment, three cities from each of the four partner countries are selected for closer involvement in further activities
3. An international seminar and study tour was organized in Romania, South-East region during which participants from partner countries got acquainted with the of integrated urban development approach.
4. An Integrated Urban Development Guide is developed
5. The acquired knowledge is widely disseminated among other communities and wide stakeholder community
6. With the support of the involved consultants, target cities develop integrated plans on identified urban development problems
7. A networking conference with participation of partners and stakeholder community will conclude the project.



Partner orientation meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia



Exchanging experience on urban planning



A tour in cement factory in Medgidia, Romania



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.1: Strengthening accessibility and connectivity for new intra regional information communication, transport and trade links

Duration: 18 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 379.975,00
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 341.977,50

Start-End Dates: 01/06/2011- 30/11/2012

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About the Project:

The project is aiming to contribute to increasing the visibility of Black Sea Basin and the venture investments, by bringing together investors willing to start up new intra-regional business cooperation, as well as building the institutional capacity of business support organizations by improving their know-how on Black Sea Basin.

Beneficiary:

Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Shipping and Agriculture Constanta, South East, Romania

Partners:

1. Dobrich Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dobrich, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria
2. Hellenic Foreign Trade Board, Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece
3. Chamber of Kavala, Kavala, Eastern Macedonia Thrace, Greece
4. Small and Medium Entrepreneurship Development National Center, Yerevan, Armenia
5. Trabzon Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Trabzon, Turkey
6. Zonguldak Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Zonguldak, Turkey



Main Activities:

1. Fostering and promoting economic and trade cooperation

- Creation of Supporting instruments: Tradenet Atlas (business documentary on 5 countries, in EN on CD-ROM and the 5 national languages, published on paper), project/network website, on-line database for cooperation company profiles, on-line matchmaking instrument

- Organisation of 7 workshops fostering understanding and stimulation of interest in Basin cooperation: Dobrich, Bulgaria 13-14 March 2012; Trabzon, Turkey 4-5 April 2012; Yerevan, Armenia 25-26 April 2012; Thessaloniki, Greece 15-16 May 2012; Constanta, Romania 30-31 May 2012; Kavala, Greece 30-31 May 2012; Zonguldak, Turkey August 2012

- Organisation of a Joint Brokerage event for encouraging and promoting economic and trade intra-regional partnerships, in Thessaloniki, Greece (18-19 September 2012)

2. Creating the Black Sea Tradenet network (B.S.T.), with 7 contact points in Armenia, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania and Turkey, as common framework for developing intra-regional economic and trade cooperation in the Black Sea region (organisation of a Seminar for exchange of experiences with similar networks at Baltic/North and Mediterranean Seas, Trabzon, Turkey, 2-3 April 2012, organisation of a Business School for BSOs in Constanta, Romania, 26-29 June 2012, creation of the Visual Identity Manual and Code of Conduct for the Network)



Business School held in Constanta, Romania



Press Conference of the Project held in Constanta, Romania



Press Conference of the Project held in Trabzon, Turkey



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measure 1.2: Creation of tourism networks in order to promote joint tourism development initiatives and traditional products

Duration: 20 Months

Total Budget: € 723.721,00

Total Grant: € 651.348,90

Start-End Dates: 10/11/2011-09/07/2013

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About the Project:

The project targets common problems identified in the area of cooperation, in the field of tourism development, and the three cross-border partners designed specific solutions for overcoming these issues: joint strategic framework for supporting, in an integrated manner ("integrated conversation and exploitation" of tourism resources), tourism development in Black Sea Basin, networking for creation and promotion of common tourism products based on area's potential trainings and exchanges of experience for improving the standards in tourism services and related activities (cross-border campaign for improving and harmonising tourism standards and services).

Beneficiary:

Eforie Municipality, Eforie, South-East, Romania

Partners:

1. City Hall of Negrea Village, Negrea, Hincesti, Moldova
2. European Institute for Cultural Tourism EUREKA, Balchik, Severoiztochen , Bulgaria

Main Activities:

1. Meetings of the consultants on tourism from the three regions, with the goal of elaborating a joint Strategy for tourism that will be distributed in the target countries and presented during the Tourism Fair and Conference in Romania.
2. Workgroups and exchanges of experience of the tourism sector with the goal of analysing needs and constrains of the tourism sector, proposing tourism packages and innovative modalities for attracting tourists, discussing on the quality of tourism products and services.
3. Meetings under cross-border campaign for increasing quality in tourism with informative materials on the following themes: Developing sustainable economy in Black Sea Basin through high quality of tourism products and services, Financing opportunities for starting up and developing tourism and complementary activities, Increasing the attractiveness of tourism by developing new alternative solutions for tourist entertainment.
4. Visits to representatives economic agents, visits to representatives economic agents.
5. Workshop- „Tourism Advertising- how to get better results in elaborating tourism catalogues, brochures, flyers, billboard ads, radio and TV ads, advertising websites”, Round table- Role of public authorities and institutions in supporting tourism sector - competences and actions.
6. 1 Tourism Advertising Festival in Romania with participants from the target regions



Press conference for launching the project in Constanta



Strategy meeting of the tourism consultants in Moldova



Experience exchange in Constanta, with Bulgarian and Moldovan partners



Priority 1 - Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

Measures 1.2: Creation of tourism networks in order to promote joint tourism development initiatives and traditional products

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 694.692,33
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 625.223,10

Start-End Dates: 03/01/2012 - 02/01/2014

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About the Project:

The Action aims at contribution to the confrontation of an important void in the development of cultural tourism in the wider region from Aegean to the Black and Caspian Sea. The venture is attempted through the projection of the relationship of the entire economic/tourism/cultural space of Black Sea, through monuments which constitute a network of culture and constituted indicators of interactions during an important historical period.

Beneficiary:

European Centre for Byzantine and Post - Byzantine Monuments, Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece

Partners:

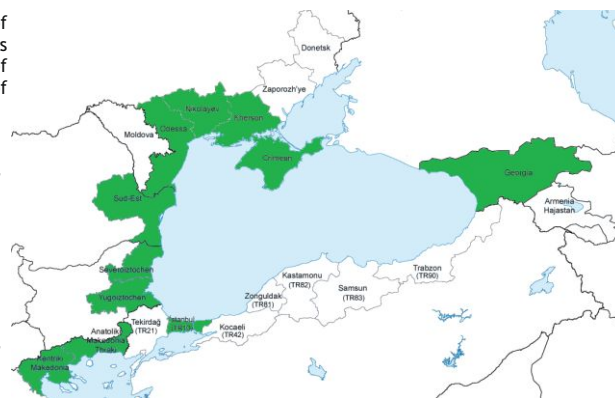
1. Culture Centre of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece
2. Istanbul University, Istanbul, Turkey
3. Varna Regional Museum, Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria
4. Museum of National History and Archaeology Constanta, Constanta, South East, Romania
5. Branch of the Hellenic Foundation for Culture, Odessa, Ukraine
6. Chubinashvili National Research Centre for Georgian Art History and Heritage Preservation, Tbilisi, Georgia
7. Cultural Awareness Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey

Associates:

Russian National Committee for Black Sea Economic Cooperation (RU)
 Committee for Preservation of Cultural Heritage (UKR)
 Institute of Archaeology "V. Parnan" of the Romanian Academy (RO)
 Administration of State Historical - Architectural Reserve "Icherisheher" under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan (AZ)

Main Activities:

1. Historical-Archaeological documentation of 32 medieval ports in the data base of EKBMM
2. Production of a documentary film on the history and archaeology of the ports.
3. Organization of a portable photo-exhibition with maps, gravures, old photos, and informative material of the city-ports, which will be hosted in Thessaloniki, Istanbul and Odessa and elsewhere.
4. Creation of a website
5. Implementation of educational programmes for students in the two museums (Varna and Constanta)
6. Exchange of experience and expertise through conferences and workshops
7. Publication of a book on the history and cultural heritage of the city-ports
8. Organization of an International Symposium in Thessaloniki, where findings and products of the project will be presented.



Official Opening. The Partners (28/3/2012)

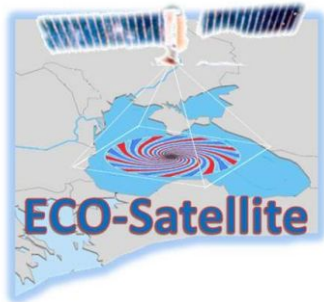


1st Steering Committee meeting



1st Steering Committee meeting

Development of a Common Intra-regional Monitoring System for the Environmental Protection and Preservation of the Black Sea (ECO-SATELLITE)



Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.1: Strengthening the joint knowledge and information base needed to address common challenges in the environmental protection of river and maritime systems

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget: € 650.000,00
Total Grant: € 585.000,00

Start-End Dates: 01/10/2011 - 30/09/2013

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About the Project:

The ECO-Satellite action focuses on the protection and preservation of the water system of the Black Sea, with its main emphasis given to river deltas and protected coastal regions at the seaside. It deals with environmental problems posing a threat that cannot be addressed individually, but only in a unified way.

Beneficiary:

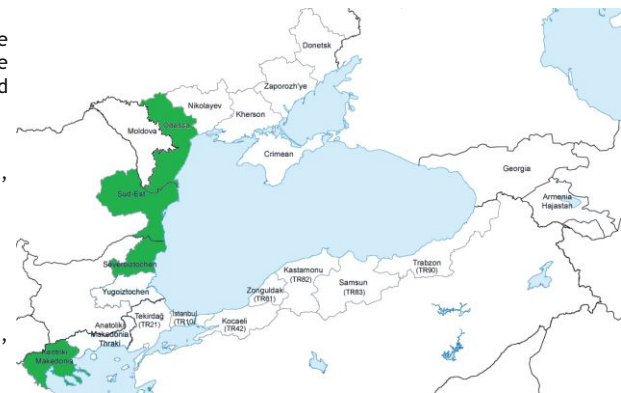
Decentralized Administration of Macedonia and Thrace, Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece

Partners:

1. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece
2. Balkan Environment Centre, Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece
3. Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development, Tulcea, South-East, Romania
4. Odessa Branch Institute of Biology of Southern Seas, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Odessa, Ukraine
5. District Administration Varna, Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria

Main Activities:

1. **Design and development of system architecture:** Review of scientific, technical and legal framework for environmental monitoring, Design of a monitoring protocol, Adaptation of innovative technologies for environmental monitoring in the Black Sea, Design of system architecture.
2. **Geodatabase development and data collection:** Identification of the most suitable type of data for utilization in environmental monitoring, Collection and processing of current and historical data, Design and creation of the geodatabase, Testing of system components and geodatabase in test sites.
3. **Integration and implementation of the monitoring system:** Development of the integrated multi-level monitoring system, Application of the system in the demonstration site.
4. **Visibility of the Action:** Development of Action Website – Help Desk, Organization of Mass Media actions and press releases (newspapers/ Internet/ media), Creation and dissemination of brochures, Organization of distance learning Web based courses, Organization of training seminar on the use of the system.
5. **Management and coordination of the Action:** Organization of meetings, Partner administration and financial management, Submission of the Final Report, Action administration and financial management.



Official opening, the partners



Kick-off meeting, Thessaloniki



First project meeting, Odessa



Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.1: Strengthening the joint knowledge and information base needed to address common challenges in the environmental protection of river and maritime systems

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 685.252,58
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 616.463,21

Start-End Dates: 02/03/2012- 01/03/2014

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About the Project:

The project through its objectives will contribute to increase capacity of emergency units to react to earthquake disasters.

Expected impacts of the Project are broad expert knowledge shared on the earthquake related issues for each participating country; Support of the public authorities for the elaborated reports and proposed plans; Increased cooperation between relevant actors in the participating countries in the field of earthquake monitoring; Increased use of modern, effective tools for monitoring and early warning in case of earthquakes, sharing expertise and communication; Training support available for the professionals in the sector of earthquake monitoring, early warning and intervention;

Beneficiary:

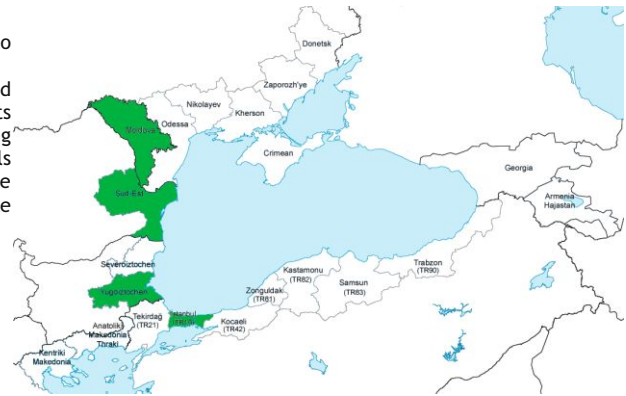
National Institute of Research and Development for Earth Physics, Eforie, South-East, Romania

Partners:

1. Geophysical Institute of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Burgas, Yugoiztochen, Bulgaria
2. Geology and Seismology Institute of Moldovian Academy of Sciences, Chisinau, Moldova
3. International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey

Main Activities:

1. **Assessment of the current situation** (Exchange study visits; Country assessments; Organizing a Regional Workshop with the stakeholders; Conducting official proceedings for authorities' consultation)
2. **Increase the sector cooperation by setting up the Black Sea Safety Network** (Set up the network; Launch of the "Seismic Safety Net(work) Web Portal"; Development and implementation of the Black Sea Joint Seismicity Monitoring and Early Warning System Basis (software); Black Sea "Safety Net(work)" Communication Tool Set-up (e-group)
3. **Capacity Building** (Elaboration of a Regional Capacity Building Start-up Curricula; Training provided to the professionals working in the Emergency Units)
4. **Visibility of the Action** (Project start and end conferences; Creating the visual identity elements of the project and network; Creating promotional materials for the project; Creating educational films to be freely distributed; Dissemination of press releases and regular project updates; Elaboration and dissemination of "Black Sea Earthquake Safety Net" book
5. **Management and coordination** (Inception Activities; Regular project team meetings; Project reporting, monitoring and evaluation)



All coordinators during the country exchange visit in Turkey



A picture from Inception meeting in Eforie



From the opening conference in Eforie

Raising Public Awareness on Solid Municipal Waste Management in the North-West of the Black Sea Region (Less Waste in the North West)



Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.3: Promotion of cooperation initiatives aimed at innovation in technologies and management of solid waste and wastewater management systems

Duration: 18 Months

Total Budget: € 444.529,46

Total Grant: € 390.563,58

Start-End Dates: 03/02/2012 - 02/08/2013

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About the Project:

The project deals with the public awareness on solid municipal waste management. It is planned to work closely with the representatives from the local public administrations, educational institutions, farmers in order to promote the separate collection of solid municipal waste. It is planned to build small demonstration platforms for composting the vegetal waste, publishing the information and educational materials on separate collection of solid municipal waste, etc. Two conferences will be organized with participants from 4 countries.

Beneficiary:

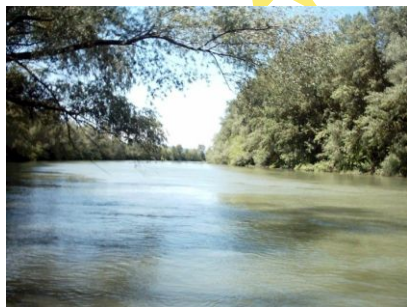
Regional Environmental Centre Moldova (REC Moldova), Chisinau, Moldova

Partners:

1. Eco Counselling Centre Galati, Galati, South East, Romania
2. "Europe and We" Association, Pomorie, Yugoiztochen, Bulgaria
3. Ecological Counseling Center Cahul, Cahul, Moldova
4. Public Association "Cutezatorul", Falesti, Moldova

Main Activities:

1. Strengthening capacities of the local public administration in the field of solid municipal waste management
2. Raising environmental education on SMW management
3. Visibility actions



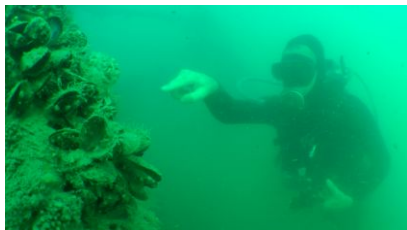
Prut River - Prut river valley is one of the biggest target region of the project



Clean up activities in the Galati county



Winner of the pictures contest in Burgas District, Bulgaria



Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.1: Strengthening the joint knowledge and information base needed to address common challenges in the environmental protection of river and maritime systems

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 627.650,12
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 564.885,10

Start-End Dates: 02/06/2012 - 01/06/2014

Contact Person:

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www.bbf.biodiversity.bg

About the Project:

The REEFS project is a pilot international initiative for focused and specific scientific research on environmental impact of the artificial reefs on particular Black Sea sites in front of Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine.

Artificial reefs are often defined as any material or matter deliberately placed in an area of the marine environment where that structure does not exist under natural circumstances for the purpose of protecting, regenerating, concentrating or increasing populations of living marine resources, or for enhanced recreational use of the area.

The REEFS project is designed to contribute to a number of international strategic papers by adding a practical and active approach for restoration of the essential filters of the Black Sea.

Beneficiary:

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation - Kaliakra Branch (BBF), Dobrich, Bulgaria

Partners:

1. Odessa Branch of the Institute for Biology of the Southern Seas (OBIBSS), Odessa, Ukraine
2. ONG Mare Nostrum, Constanta, South East, Romania
3. Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia
4. Karadeniz Technical University, Trabzon, Turkey

Main Activities:

1. **Artificial reefs advocacy** providing detailed research and analysis on the legislative and institutional framework in the partner countries in regard of artificial reefs application in Black Sea Basin.
2. **Feasibility study and methodology** involving marine scientists from the partner countries in mutual studies aimed to describe the marine ecosystem situation, to identify the opportunities for artificial reefs settlement, to define the possible successful outcomes and to assess the range of costs and benefits associated to the artificial reefs-like innovations in the Black Sea Basin.
3. **Training** - the common knowledge base will be suited to a special training for adults in order to improve the understanding of joint integrative policies and measures such as artificial reefs development as a practical way of helping the sea life to survive.
4. **Visibility** raising information and awareness level in regard with the marine biodiversity threats and opportunities, project objectives, activities and results through web site, publications and a Documentary.
5. **Project Management** ensuring the project implementation with the requisite care, efficiency, transparency and diligence, in line with best practice in the field concerned and in compliance with the Program's rules.



REEFS Opening Forum in Balgarevo Village, Bulgaria

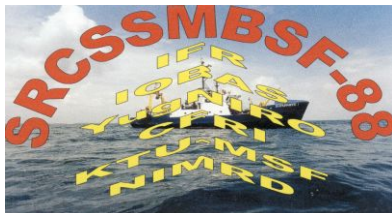


REEFS partners in the Balgarevo Visitors Center of BBF



Test dive near the Kaliakra Cape, Bulgarian Black Sea shore

Strengthening the regional capacity to support the sustainable management of the Black Sea Fisheries (SRCSSMBSF)



Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.1: Strengthening the joint knowledge and information base needed to address common challenges in the environmental protection of river and maritime systems

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 486.409,70
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA) € 437.768,73

Start-End Dates: 16/11/2011 - 15/11/2013

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Dr. Eng. Gheorghe RADU

Scientific Manager

Dr. Eng. Laura ALEXANDROV

Project Contact Person

About the Project:

The project's aim is the cooperation between the Black Sea riparian countries for knowing and rationally managing the marine ecosystem and its resources, carrying out diagnostics of fish stocks status, as well as sharing advice on management strategies. The major task is to develop methods for joint-regional stock assessment for the Black Sea, that will ultimately enable researchers to determine the condition of stocks and advice on management strategies.

Beneficiary:

National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" (NIMRD), Constanta, South-East, Romania

Partners:

1. Institute of Fishing Resources, Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria
2. Institute of Oceanology - Bulgarian Academy of Science, Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria
3. Southern Research Institute of Sea Fisheries and Oceanography, Kerch, Crimea, Ukraine
4. Central Fisheries Research Institute, Trabzon, Turkey
5. Black Sea Technical University, Marine Science Faculty, Trabzon, Turkey

Main Activities:

1. Meetings of specialists in assessment from the Black Sea coastal countries;
2. Working visits and trainings of specialists;
3. A best-practice guideline for stock assessment using scientific surveys realised in the national languages of partners and English (a guideline and standardized protocol which include the sampling gear (feature and handling), the design of the survey, the information collected, and the management of the data as far as the common standard analysis of the data)
4. Manual of protocols on international methodology for sampling, samples processing, analysing and discussions of data and results, fishery statistics, stocks assessment by analytical models;
5. Report on state of the Black Sea Fisheries;
6. Management Plan for Black Sea Fisheries;
7. Inventories of the national authorities, focal points, scientists and non-governmental organizations concerned with fisheries;
8. Awareness materials.



Partners during the Project Kick-Off Meeting



First Meeting of the GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for Mediterranean) "SAC/the ad-hoc Working Group on the Black Sea"; Constanta, Romania



Visit to the Constanta Maritime University; Equipment for ship command simulation



Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.1: Strengthening the joint knowledge and information base needed to address common challenges in the environmental protection of river and maritime systems

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 510.188,10
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 459.169,29

Start-End Dates: 28/04/2012 - 27/04/2014

Contact Person:

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About the Project:

Issues connected to global changes are of major concern for all countries; the Black Sea region is no exemption to this. Actions relating to understanding and management of global changes are directly benefiting areas with high societal impacts such as: climate change hazards and disaster reduction and prevention; biodiversity and population dynamic; hydrology regime and water management; ecosystems; agriculture, land degradation and desertification; energy security and supplies. MAREAS aim at providing a strategic framework for the practical implementation of several actions and initiatives concerning the mitigation of the impact of global changes in the region.

Beneficiary:

National Institute of Marine Geology and Geocology, Romania

Partnership:

1. Institute of Oceanology Varna, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IO-BAS), Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria
2. Water Ecology and Fisheries Research Institute (WEFRI), Batumi, Georgia
3. Odessa I.I. Mechnnikov National University (ONU), Odessa, Ukraine
4. Marine Hydrophysical Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (MHI-NASU), Sevastopol, Crimea, Ukraine
5. TUBITAK Marmara Research Center, Earth and Marine Sciences Research Institute, Kocaeli, Turkey

Main Activities:

GA1 (Establishment of the MAREAS Black Sea Joint Regional Centre) aim is to draft the adequate legal and logistic framework for the establishment of a mechanism and a joint structure that provides for effective and continuous correlation of past and on-going research activities along with focus and coordination of future research activities among Black Sea countries.

GA2 (Elaboration and implantation of a Regional Clearing House Mechanism within the Centre); within this GA it will be set-up a Regional Clearing House Mechanism within the Centre, including its operating methodology and logistics.

GA3 (Visibility of the Action and of its results) Recognizing the importance of publicity and dissemination it will be ensured the provision of immediate, accurate and correct information on all aspects and results of MAREAS, as well as on its funding Programme.

Ga4 Overall management and coordination. The overall goal of this activity is to provide the necessary administrative and organizational support to the other activities of the Action, along with ensuring coordination among Partners and communication



MAREAS partners in front of GeoEcoMar Branch in Constanta, on the occasion of Kick-Off meeting



Partners during the Kick-off meeting



Workshop with scientists, Constanta

Interpretative Trails on the Ground - Support to the Management of Natural Protected Areas in the Black Sea Region (Inter Trails)

Priority 2 - Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

Measure 2.2: Promoting research and innovation in the field of conservation and environmental protection of protected natural areas

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget: € 396.912

Total Grant: € 357.220

Start-End Dates: 07/10/2011 - 06/10/2013

Contact Person:

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About the Project:

The Action will provide support to the establishment of national and cross-border expert structures for interpretation of nature and cultural diversity in nature protected areas and for the training of experts in modern environmental management practices. A substantial part of the common efforts is the elaboration of the trails with production of guide books for the trails and the training of nature interpreters, as well as the production of visibility and awareness interpretative media. The project outcome will be presented during a final cross-border conference on interpretation in the Black Sea region.

Beneficiary:

Black Sea NGO Network, Varna, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria

Partnership:

1. Mare Nostrum NGO, Constanta, South-East, Romania
2. Black Sea (Odessa) Branch of the Ukrainian Environmental Academy of Science, Odessa, Ukraine
3. Environmental Academy of Science, Odessa, Ukraine
5. Community Foundation 'Sustainable Development of Cahul, Moldova
6. Black Sea Eco Academy, Batumi, Georgia

Main Activities:

1. Establishment and training of national teams and international sectoral teams for interpretative trails.
2. Elaboration of interpretative trails, including description of interpretative points and production of guides, as well as training of nature interpreters at summer camps.
3. Visibility and cross-border promotion of the action — setting up by all partners of project visual identity, production of visibility interpretative media, holding of first international conference 'Interpret the Black Sea'.
4. Management and coordination — establishment of teams and model for internal monitoring, management at national and regional level, holding of steering committee meetings.



Meeting of the Bulgarian National Team, Varna



Regional workshop "How to Interpret Black Sea Nature", Varna. Use of props in nature interpretation



Field trip to an interpretative trail in Shumen Plateau Nature Park during the first regional workshop



Priority 3: Supporting cultural and educational initiatives for the establishment of a common cultural environment in the Basin

Measure 3.1: Promoting cultural networking and educational exchange in the Black Sea Basin communities of the Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme.

Duration: 18 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 240.977

Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 216,798

Start-End Dates: 2011/08/23 -2013/02/22

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About the Project:

The project introduces the concept of cultural animation as an interdisciplinary approach towards studying and presenting the cultural heritage of five model regions in the Basin. On this basis a common education program is to be developed and introduced with the aim to raise the capacity of students in social sciences (especially tourism) to develop new "products" of culture and attractions based on their regions' indigenous heritage. This is done via targeted partnership of 7 representative organisations from 5 Black Sea regions who intend to preserve the BS CAP cooperation model upon completion of this Action.

Beneficiary:

International Management Institute, Dobrich, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria

Partners:

1. Ovidius High School, Constanta, South-East, Romania
 2. Youth for Achievements, Yerevan, Armenia
 3. Georgian Arts & Culture Center, Tbilisi, Georgia
 4. Edirne Provincial National Education Directory, Edirne, Tekirdag, Turkey
 5. Edirne Anatolian Tourism and Hospitality Vocational School, Edirne, Tekirdag, Turkey
- Associate Partner: The International University College, Dobrich, Bulgaria

Main Activities:

1. Establishment and training of national teams and international sectoral teams for interpretative trails.
2. Elaboration of interpretative trails, including description of interpretative points and production of guides, as well as training of nature interpreters at summer camps.
3. Visibility and cross-border promotion of the action — setting up by all partners of project visual identity, production of visibility interpretative media, holding of first international conference 'Interpret the Black Sea'.
4. Management and coordination — establishment of teams and model for internal monitoring, management at national and regional level, holding of steering committee meetings.



Fire Dancing Ritual, Bulgaria



Advisory Culture Council Session in Constanta, Romania



Advisory Culture Council Session in Dobrich, Bulgaria



Priority 3: Supporting cultural and educational initiatives for the establishment of a common cultural environment in the Basin

Measure 3.1: Promoting cultural networking and educational exchange in the Black Sea Basin communities

Duration: 14 Months

Total Budget: € 246.980
Total Grant: € 222.282

Start-End Dates: 2011/07/01 - 2012/08/31

Contact Person:

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Project Coordinator
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About the Project:

The Project seeks to establish a model of stable cooperation between young people. A Youth Volunteer Network for Cultural and Social Initiatives will be established. It will have 3 sections of volunteers / General Toshevo, Murfatlar, Bolgrad.

The Project will promote the cultural exchange and will motivate the young people to participate in the preservation and development of the cultural traditions in the border region. It will attain cultural and social convergence of young people on a sustainable and long-term basis.

Beneficiary:

General Toshevo Municipality, Severoiztochen, Bulgaria

Partners:

1. Murfatlar Local Council, South-East, Romania
2. Bolgrad Region, Odessa, Ukraine

Main Activities:

1. Supply of equipment for information centres.
2. Raising the capacity and training the trainers. Seminars and Round table of teachers, educators, and experts: "Computer Technologies in Education and Training", "Cultural-historical heritage-base for tourism development by cross-border popularization", "Sharing good practices among teachers, educators and experts"
3. Studies, research, web-site: Researching and collecting materials related to the cultural historical heritage, folklore, lifestyle, traditions of the three regions. Working-out 4-ligual web-site – "Initiative for Future in the Black Sea Basin"
4. Environmental shares - three alleys of friendship "European garden".
5. Create a Youth sections. Regional youth council.
6. Competitions: Children's Drawing Competition "Wisdom of our people" - an illustration of folk proverbs. Photo-competition „Our cultural and historical inheritance as a part of the common European inheritance”.
7. Cross - bordered children's folklore festival "Friendship without borders" /from 7 to 18 years/ - in Bolgrad.
8. Cross - bordered folk festival for adults / people from 18 to 35 years /"Songs and dances without Borders'-in Murfatlar.
9. Final Festival and Youth happening. - in General Toshevo.



Cross-bordered children's folklore festival "Friendship without borders", Bolgrad



Cross-bordered children's folklore festival "Friendship without borders", Bolgrad



Alley of friendship "European garden" Bolgrad



Priority 3: Supporting cultural and educational initiatives for the establishment of a common cultural environment in the Basin

Measure 3.1: Promoting cultural networking and educational exchange in the Black Sea Basin communities

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget (ENPI+IPA): € 277.601,08
Total Grant (ENPI+IPA): € 249.839,87

Start-End Dates: 2011/06/10 -2013/06/09

Contact Person:

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About the Project:

The project proposal has been conceived in order to address the problems related to the adjustment of study programmes to the needs of the sector, to bring a contribution to the exchange of best practices through the mobility of students and teachers, to improve the cross cultural skills and attitudes of students for addressing projects with regional relevance and to generate awareness on regional issues.

Beneficiary:

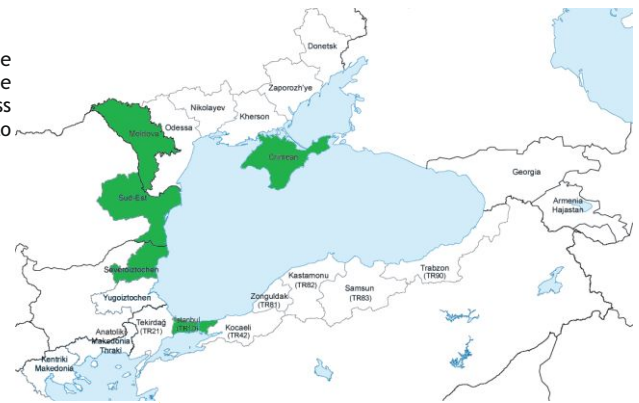
"Ovidius" University of Constanta, South-East, Romania

Partnership:

1. Taurida National University, Crimea, Ukraine
2. Technical University of Moldova, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
3. Technical University of Varna, Varna, Severozitochen, Bulgaria
4. Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey

Main Activities:

- 1- Elaboration of 5 country reports for Bulgaria, Moldavia, Romania, Ukraine and Turkey regarding the existing master degree programs on RES or related areas.
- 2- Selection of students for Master Degree Programs at Partner Universities.
- 3- Elaboration of the final curriculum of Master Degree Program, program structure, and assessment methods and techniques in terms of knowledge, skills and attitudes for each module correlated to the requirements.
- 4- Elaboration of selection criteria for students and for teaching staff and for e-learning platform.
- 5- Realization of the web portal www.bsun.org/argos.
- 6- Promotion activities consisting in announcements on the radio and newspapers, articles in newspapers and magazines, distribution of leaflets, presentation seminars, and press releases.
- 7- Organization of joint e-seminars designed to provide a platform for discussion and exchange of best practices between project partners, public authorities and business representatives, having also a strong training role by the involvement of students in six countries bordering the Black Sea. Each e-seminar was gathered at least 60 participants.
- 8- International Summer School on "Advanced Concepts and Perspectives on the Management of Renewable Energy Sources", Constanta, 15 - 25 August 2012 - addressed to the students and professors involved in the ARGOS project.
- 9- The activities of the project facilitate the mobility of students during the preparation of their graduation theses.
- 10- Management and coordination of the project.



The Consortium Partners at the Kick off Meeting, Constanta



The Consortium Partners at the Kick off Meeting



Participation of Moldovan students from „Energy and Environment” and “Electrical Engineering” Master Programs at the e-seminar on “Solar PV – practical application”, organised within ARGOS



Priority 3: Supporting cultural and educational initiatives for the establishment of a common cultural environment in the Basin

Measure 3.1: Promoting cultural networking and educational exchange in the Black Sea Basin communities

Duration: 24 Months

Total Budget: € 248.763,40
Total Grant: € 223.887,06

Start-End Dates: 2012/03/27 -2014/03/26

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About the Project:

The basic idea refers to the pursuit of the common trends in industrial evolution in the countries participating in the project and the effect that development had on the cultural history in both national and international level. By means of this common effort we will highlight the essential common components of nations living in the area, search the effects on the social and economic development and finally record the good practices in each country. All methodological steps will be supported by work meetings in which scientists from the participant countries will participate having as a main goal to exchange experience and know-how in methods of recording / depicting and highlighting of industrial evolution. The IEBSA project aims to formulate a sustainable network that would be able to expand and collaborate effectively after the project's completion. It will have an impact as a good example and a benchmark of successful use of European funds.

Beneficiary:

Thessaloniki Science Center & Technology Museum (TSCTM), Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece

Partnership:

1. Universitatea "Dunărea De Jos" Din Galați (UDJG), Galați, South-East, Romania
2. National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia (NASRA), Yerevan, Armenia

Main Activities:

- The project will last 24 months and will include the following methodological steps:
1. The creation of a common database on the effects in society (social, economic and cultural) from the industrial evolution through the years. Three studies (one for each country) will present the situation and also will provide the necessary data to create the exhibition.
 2. The promotion material to disseminate the results of the common effort, comprising 3.000 copies of multimedia material (CD ROM) and 3.000 copies of exhibition guide.
 3. An exhibition on the common elements of industrial evolution.



IEBSA first meeting in Yerevan, 7th and 8th of June 2012

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Common borders. Common solutions.

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