

Common borders. Common solutions.

**2nd Steering Committee Meeting
Held in Trabzon-Turkey on 10.03.2014**

The 2nd project Steering Committee Meeting took place in Trabzon (Turkey) on the 10th of March 2014 and has been hosted by the Karadeniz Technical University.

The meeting was opened by Prof. Dr. Kadir Seyhan, scientific coordinator of the Turkish partner, who made official welcome remarks on behalf of the host University.

Dr. Dmitri Dvornikov from IEEN, project coordinator, highlighted the smooth project evolution so far and reviewed the main administrative and financial issues per group of activities.

Dr. Georgios Palantzas from AUTH made an overall presentation concerning the project results and outputs achieved so far and those that should be performed during the next reporting period (March-June 2014).

Next, a series of presentations have been made by Lect. Antigoni Zafeirakou from AUTH, Dr. Orhan Ibram from DDNIRD, Prof. Kadir Seyhan from KTU, Dr. Anatolie Tarita and Dr. Raisa Lozan from IEG, focusing in detail on the activities already completed and the ones to be executed next, by each partner.

During the meeting, an extended discussion took place on managerial issues, risks involved, financial procedures, outputs schedule and result indicators.

As a result, the meeting strengthened further the basis for a successful project continuation.



**Winter measurements at the eastern
Black Sea streams in Turkey**

In situ measurements of physical and chemical parameters (e.g. pH, dissolved oxygen, ammonia, phosphorus, TSS, COD, heavy metals) and laboratory analysis have been performed by KTU during the winter season, in order to assess the seasonal changes in the water quality and pollution sources at Çağlayan, Firtina and İkizdere streams of the eastern Black Sea. The preliminary results obtained so far show compliance with the relevant limit values set by the national, European and international regulatory framework.

**Methods of surface modification of
natural sorbents (diatomite)**

An analysis of literary sources on methods of surface modification of natural sorbents, in particular, diatomite has been made by IEEN. To remove fluorine from water solutions aluminum compounds are considered to be the best reactants. Therefore the structural-chemical method of modifying diatomite with aluminum silicate has been chosen, which consists of heating of diatomite sample in NaOH solution and its subsequent treatment with a solution of aluminum salt and ammonia. In the following table, the chemical composition of diatomite before and after the modification is presented.

Sample	Composition, %						
	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	CaO	MgO	Na ₂ O+K ₂ O	Losses at calcination
Starting D1	59.7	1.31	1.28	12.8	0.69	0.34	18.5
DMA	35.5	18.9	1.33	9.0	9.02	1.30	10.3



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BSB Net-Eco website in operation

The start-up of the project website is already a fact, as it launched its operation in November 2013 at the following web address: www.ddni.ro/bsbneteco. The website is hosted by the central server of the Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development and its design and operation is managed by experts from the DDNIRD. The website furnishes information about project deliverables, news, meetings, events, results, useful links etc., and is regularly updated.



Sampling of pollution parameters in Prut and Dniester rivers

IEG and DDNIRD organized common field trips for sampling of physicochemical parameters from Prut and Dniester rivers (2 trips in November-December 2013 for Prut, 2 trips in January-February 2014 for Dniester). The quality of the water in Prut river was found within the limits of the Class II (clean) in the Lipcani-Șirăuți section (north part) and Class III (moderately polluted) in Leova section (south part).

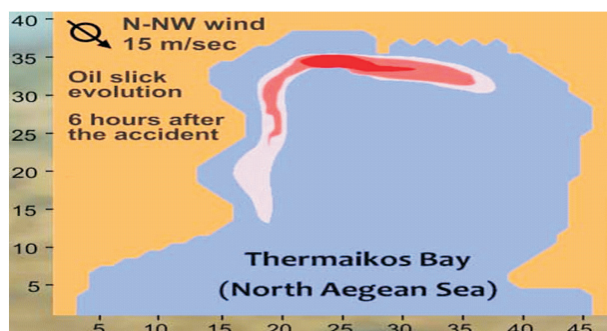
Assessment of water quality in lower Danube area

Phytoplankton & phytobenthos in situ measurements by spectral quantification of algae classes using a submersible spectrofluorometer have been performed by DDNIRD in lower Danube area and Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve. For the same area, an assessment of zooplankton and zoobenthos diversity has been performed, while a preliminary assessment of organic pollutants' impact on aquatic and semiaquatic organisms is under evolution.



Improved operational code of a 3D oil slick transport model

AUTH's 3D oil spill simulation model has been updated by improving the operational code in terms of its hydrodynamic part. Now, the circulation and the wind wave subparts will be directly coupled with the relevant real data obtained by the Poseidon System, which consists of a network of 11 oceanographic buoys spread over the Aegean sea. Concerning the application of the model in Azov sea, further adaptations will be performed.



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Calendar

Upcoming events and actions

> *Workshop (04/2014)*

To be organized by IEG in Chisinau on exchanging monitoring results and practices for lower Prut and Dniester rivers.

> *Expert seminar (06/2014)*

To be organized by IEG in Chisinau on exchanging monitoring results and practices for lower Prut and Dniester rivers.

> *Expert seminar (06/2014)*

To be organized by KTU in Trabson on exchanging monitoring results and practices for Caglayan, Firtina and Ikizdere rivers.

> *Study visit (06/2014)*

To be organized by IEEN in Chisinau on laser spectroscopic methods for environmental monitoring.

> *BSB Net-Eco Conference (15-17.09.2014)*

Conference's theme is "Environmental aspects and available scientific tools for Black Sea Basin protection". The event will be organized and hosted by DDDIRD in Tulcea, Romania. Abstracts should be submitted until 15.05.2014 to veronika@indd.tim.ro and contain 200-250 words, as well as five keywords related to the topic of the article.

For final dates please consult the online BSB Net-Eco calendar, available at project website.



Availability:

The e-newsletter is public available on the web at: <http://www.ddni.ro/bsbneteco>

Information:

For any further information on BSB Net-Eco project please visit the project website (www.ddni.ro/bsbneteco) or send a message to: dvornikov@inbox.ru or luciabotsoroga@yahoo.com

Authors:

Editor: Georgios Palantzas (AUTH)
Contributors: All partners
Proofreading: A. Zafeirakou and C. Koutitas (AUTH)

For any comment on this e-newsletter please send a message to palatzas@civil.auth.gr

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