

JOINT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME BLACK SEA BASIN 2007-2013

REPAIR- Regional Cooperation for Black Sea River Basins Environment Protection from Agricultural Polluters

NEWSLETTER No.1 - NOVEMBER 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Project REPAIR
- River basin areas under interest
- 1st Project meeting Varna, Bulgaria, October 2013
- Information exchange between partners



THE PROJECT REPAIR

The project REPAIR (Regional **Cooperation** for Black Sea River Basins Environment Protection from Agricultural Polluters) is funded by the Black Sea Joint Operational Programme (JOP), Project № 2.2.1.73799.317_MIS-ETC 1638. It's implemented in partnership between five organizations from Black Sea countries: Agro-Business Consulting (ABC), Georgia; Disaster Preparedness and Earthquake Training Centre (AHDER), Turkey; Regional Environmental Centre (REC) Moldova; Pro Rural Invest (PRI), Moldova; Black Sea - Danube Coastal Association for Research and Development (BDCA), Bulgaria; Eco Counselling Centre Galati (ECCG), Romania.

The main objectives of the project are: To promote cross border cooperation of monitoring and protection of Black Sea coastal zones and river basins; To increase joint knowledge and expertise for elaboration of river basins environmental action programs within the European research area; To strengthen data networks, promoting integration of instruments, methodologies and activities in the field of environmental protection of coastal areas in the Black Sea Regions. Activities include Increasing Joint Expertise in the Sector; Preparation of Research Methodologies; Creation and Development of Information Data Networks; Increasing Public Awareness with Active Involvement of Women; Preparation of 'River Basins Protection from Agricultural Polluters - Environmental Action Programs'. Final beneficiaries of the project results are people from coastal communities, local authorities, environmental authorities, tourist companies and complexes, fishing industry, and other. The duration of the project is 22 months, starting on 1st of August 2013.

RIVER BASIN AREA UNDER INTEREST

Project will investigate the pollution of agricultural pollutants in the catchment areas of four rivers flowing into the Black Sea. These are rivers Rioni, Georgia; river Prut, Moldova, river Kamchia, Bulgaria and river Sakarya, Turkey. Four expeditions with the participation of local experts from participant organizations will be organized in the four rivers of interest. Partners will collect and analyze hydrology, and ecology data, and finally will draw Environmental Action Programs to reduce agricultural pollution.

The **Rioni river** is a 327 km long river which pass western Georgia and flows into Black Sea. Its average annual discharge varies from at village Glola is 27.3 m³/s, at Kutaisi 134 m³/s, at Sakochikidze - 406 m³/s. The

Rioni annual contribution is 12.9m³ water and large amount of hard runoff in the Black Sea. Average annual amount of the hard runoff increases from the mouth to the enter spot, up to 6.9 mln t at Sakochakidze. The Rioni is characterized of medium salinity (150-300 mg/l) and belongs to hydro-carbonate class according to ionic composition. There are constructed several hydro-electric power plants on the river. The Rioni and its tributaries are used for irrigation, also for water supply purposes for former factories and plants.

Kamchia River with a length of 245 km and catchment of 5358 km² is one of the largest and highly loaded river systems in Bulgarian Black Sea basin watershed. It starts from the confluence of two rivers springing from Eastern Stara Planina (Golyama Kamchiya and Luda Kamchiya), and flows into Black Sea, some 25 km south of Varna. The average discharge varies from 1.136 m³/s at the village of Ticha to 26.287 m³/s at the mouth. The Kamchia reserve is under the protection of UNESCO. The main pollution sources are industrial, its water is affected by anthropogenic inputs, including high content of organic matter and nutrients.



The **river Prut** is a 953 km long river. In part of its course it forms Romania's border with Moldova and Ukraine. The source is in Carpathian Mountains, the mouth is in Danube river, close to the Danube delta – Black sea. The catchment area of the river basin is 27,500 km². The average discharge is 110 m³/s. Main tributaries are : Cheremosh, Jijia Racovăț, Lăpușna.

Sakarya River is 824 km long including its 58,160 km² drainage basin which covers 7.5 % of Turkey's acreage. Its average flow rate is about 190 m³/s. The basin, which is located between the middle and Northern-east Anatolia, is under moderate to near normal dry climate. The river is used for recreation, industry and agriculture. Important facilities discharging POPs, nutrients, heavy metals, some other chemicals The basin also receives 260 million m³ domestic discharges annually. The catchment area also includes hydro-electrical and thermo-electrical power reactors.

This publication has been produced with the financial assistance of the EU. The content of this publication are the sole responsibility of BDCA and can in no way reflect the views of the EU

JOINT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME BLACK SEA BASIN 2007-2013

REPAIR- Regional Cooperation for Black Sea River Basins Environment Protection from Agricultural Polluters

NEWSLETTER No.1 - NOVEMBER 2013

WORKSHOP MEETING VARNA, BULGARIA 28-29 OCTOBER 2013

The first workshop of the Project "Regional Cooperation for Black Sea River Basins Environment Protection from Agricultural Polluters" (REPAIR) was held on October 28 and 29, 2013 in Varna, Bulgaria, Hotel 'Golden Tulip', Hall 'Mone'. Meeting was organized and hosted by the BDCA, Bulgaria. The project group attending the meeting consisted of 12 experts from all 5 countries represented within the project (ABC Group - Georgia, AHDER - Turkey, ECCG - Romania, PRI - Moldova, REC - Moldova, BDCA - Bulgaria).



Invited speakers and external experts, relevant to the project topic were also invited to attend the presentations and the round table discussions. A key lecture on the Environmental Protection of Black Sea: Strategies, Policies, Conventions, Programs, was delivered by Mr. L. Ikonov, Observer, Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC), Black Sea JOP.

A statement on Bulgarian Black Sea Basin Directorate (BSBD) Activities for Environment Protection from Agricultural Polluters was delivered by Mrs. Kalinka Kamenova, Black Sea Basin Directorate, Bulgaria, member Advisory Group Land Based Sources, Black Sea Commission for environmental protection. 12 presentations on the ongoing and forthcoming activities were delivered by project experts attending the workshop.

A round table discussion was carried out to discuss the work plan and project progress, as well as to advise further efficient actions to implement planned project activities. In addition, a meeting of the Coordination Board took place to summarize result of the workshop and provide decision for further coordination of joint activities. Interviews for the local media was provided by the project coordinator for Kamchia River basin area after closing the workshop meeting. It was decided that the next project workshop meeting will take place in Istanbul, Turkey, in April 2014.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE BETWEEN PARTNERS

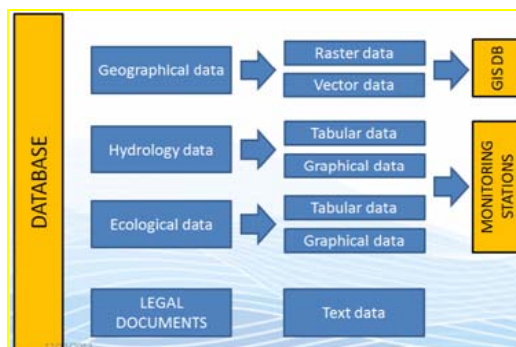
The way of data exchange, and the parameters that has to be included in the future database of the project were

discussed during the 1st Workshop Meeting in Varna, Bulgaria on 28th-29th October. These parameters were divided into 4 groups - Geographical data, Hydrology data, Ecology data and Legislative documents.

The technical data will cover all 4 researched basins - Kamchia, Prut, Rioni and Sakarya. Different groups of data will be provided by partners and will be processed in a common way before publishing to the web page. The monitoring that is subject to happen for a period of 12 months will start in March/April 2014, and will include measurement primarily of hydrology and ecology parameters of water environment in all river basin areas of the project.

Data will be collected and processed in a uniform way for all river basins. This way the data provided by different partners will be uniform and there will be no differences in the outputs.

Collection and analysis of hydrology and environmental data for river basin areas will be one of the most important outputs of this project.



An example structure of the data that will be included in the database is illustrated above.

REPAIR CONTACTS:

Nutsa Maisuradze (for the Project Coordinator), ABC Georgia
e-mail: abc@abcgroup.ge; www.abcgroup.ge

Valeri Penchev, BDCA Bulgaria
e-mail: office@bdcabg.org; www.bdcabg.org

Victor Cotruta, REC Moldova
e-mail: info@rec.md; www.rec.md

Viorel Gherciu, PRI Moldova
e-mail: vgherciu@gmail.com; www.rural.md

Mirela Leonte, CCEG Romania
e-mail: eco@cceg.ro; www.cceg.ro

Erdal Bayraktar, AHDER Turkey
e-mail: info@ahder.org; www.ahder.org

Issued by:

© Black Sea-Danube Association for Research and Development (BDCA)
Varna, Bulgaria, November 2013

This publication has been produced with the financial assistance of the EU. The content of this publication are the sole responsibility of BDCA and can in no way reflect the views of the EU