Programme funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Black Sea CROSS BORDER COOPERATION
Common borders. Common solutions.

Joint Operational Programme "Black Sea Basin 2007-2013"

- Our Projects -

WASTEnet

A Black Sea network promoting integrated natural WASTEwater treatment systems

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 Waste and Wastewater Management systems.

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About the project:
Duration: 24 months
Total Project Budget: 631,441.26 Euro
Total Grant ENPI: 433,428.14 Euro
Total Grant IPA: 134,869.00 Euro
Start / End Dates: 01.07.2013 – 30.06.2015

Framework of Cooperation:
Wastewater treatment is becoming a more and more relevant problem due to the population rise and the stricter legislation regarding the environment. In large cities, technological progress allowed the realization of advanced wastewater treatment (WWT) systems, which respond reliably to the very strict legislation imposed by the EU (e.g., the Council Directive91/271/EEC and the Water Framework Directive 2000/60). However, small, isolated or peri-urban communities cannot afford the construction, operation and maintenance costs of conventional WWT plants.

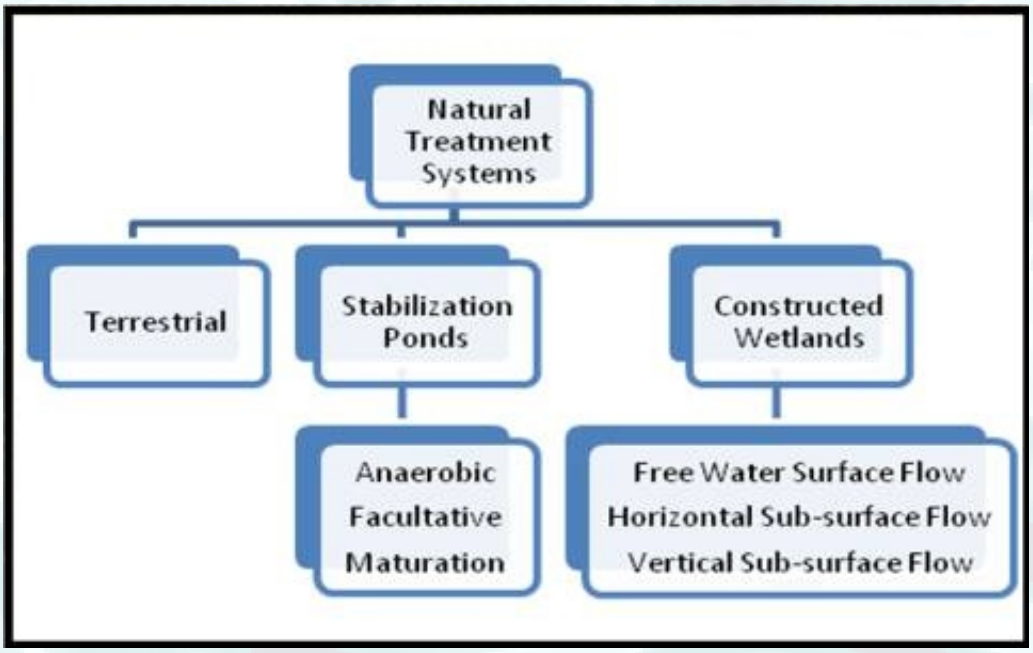
The proposed solution throughout this project has refers to the development of very simple and cost effective **Natural Treatment Systems**, especially in small communities, (e.g., rural and mountainous communities, airports, hospitals, schools and universities) that provide an effective and reliable, but also simple and inexpensive solution.
The way of applying this solution means:

- The development of **Constructed Wetlands**, which are man-made systems designed to simulate the function of natural wetlands in pollutant removal. To achieve wastewater treatment, a series of physical, chemical and biological processes take place in CWs, based on water, soil, atmosphere and micro-organism interactions. Wetland plants play a vital role in the removal and retention of organic matter, nutrients, heavy metals and various toxic substances.

Overall Objective:
The project is aiming to motivate the widest possible audience of local and regional authorities of the participating Black Sea countries (Romania, Georgia, Moldova, Armenia, Ukraine, Turkey and Greece) to develop and apply Natural Treatment Systems (NTS) and, in particular, the Constructed Wetlands (CWs), for the wastewater treatment of their remote rural communities.

Specific Objectives:

1. To promote and adapt the NTS and CWs technologies among the local authority administrators of Black Sea countries.
2. To disseminate the NTS and CWs technologies among engineers, planners, educators and managers of Black Sea countries.
3. To develop the NTS and CWs design and operation guidelines, adapted to suit local conditions and requirements for each WASTEnet Local Regional Authority (LRA).



Main Activities:

- Assessment of the current status of NTS in the wastewater treatment of rural communities in the participating regions.
- Assessment of the operational problems of existing NTS facilities along the Black Sea coastline.
- Two site-specific studies for potential small-scale natural treatment systems in the participating regions.
- Production of educational and promotional material for NTS and CWs technologies.
- Organization of 2 multi-stakeholders workshop and 2 technical seminars on natural wastewater treatment systems.
- Organization of 1 international conference on NTS, as a closing event.

Expected results:

- The current level of Natural Treatment Systems development in the participating Black Sea Regions will have been assessed.
- A set of feasibility and pilot demonstration studies for the wastewater treatment of rural communities using Natural Treatment Systems will have been produced.
- The knowledge and expertise on the design and operation principles of these systems will have been diffused through a scientific conference, workshops and technical seminars.

Partnership:

Beneficiary:

Water and Sewerage Municipal Enterprise of Kavala, Greece

Partners:

Democritus University of Thrace, Greece

- American University of Armenia Foundation, Armenia

Ilia State University, Georgia

Eco-TIRAS International Environmental Association of River Keepers, Republic of Moldova

Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development, Romania

Odessa Regional State Administration, Ukraine

Kocaeli Water and Sewerage Administration, Turkey

Yalova University, Turkey

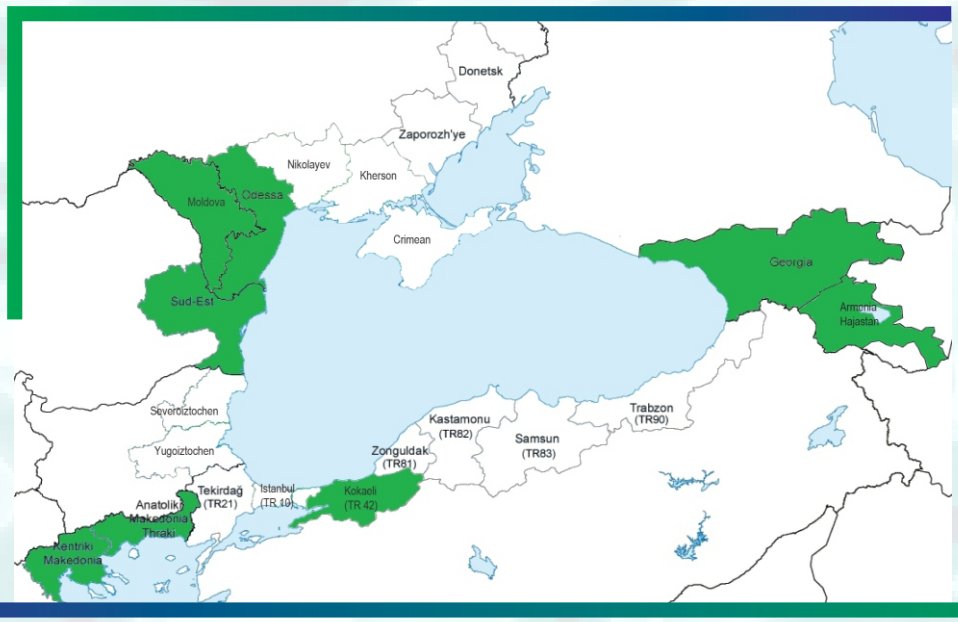
Associates:

Agency for protection of the environment and natural resources of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara, Georgia

Tantsud Community, Armenia

European Regional centre for ecohydrology, Poland

Regions of Implementation:



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