



Implementation of MSFD provisions in the Black Sea region

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(Bucharest Convention)



EU-BSC relations:



- *EU members in the BS basin (Romania and Bulgaria)*
- *Mutual observer status since 2001*
- *Projects (direct and FP7 Projects, HORIZON 2020)*
- *Indirect cooperation (ICPDR etc.)*
- *Wish of EU to become a party to Bucharest Convention*



European Commission



- The EC Grant Agreement *“Support to the BSC for the Implementation of the MSFD”* was finalized;
- Finalized the deliverables of the joint project within HELCOM-BSC Cooperation *“Baltic2Black: Environmental monitoring of the Black Sea for nutrients”*;
- Currently implementing some more European projects, i.e. **PEGASO Project** *“People for Ecosystem based Governance in Assessing Sustainable development of Oceans and coasts”*;
- became members of **Advisory Boards in the FP7 Projects**, such as MISIS, PERSEUS, COCONET, CREAM, DEVOTES, STAGES, MARLISCO etc. ;
- Participate in the upcoming calls of proposals under **HORIZON 2020**.

THE EU MARINE STRATEGY PROJECT:



- *The main objective of the Project was to cooperate in harmonizing and complementing approaches, policies and measures.*
- *The deliverables of the Project were partially sustained (comparative table between MSFD and BS SAP requirements, draft text of BSIMAP, MISIS, EMBLAS Projects etc.).*
- *Deliverables of MISIS Project - Position paper, Diagnostic Report, Manuals on QA/QC, ML, MN, intercallibration exercises results, gaps data reporting, Joint Cruise Data etc. - will be sent over, disseminated and used by BSC PS for accomplishing the following BSC priority tasks:*

MSFD-related documents



- *new text of the Black Sea Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Program - **BSIMAP for years 2014-2019** (drafted within EU MSFD Project, main approaches are harmonized, but still based on monitoring parameters in BSIMAP and BS SAP 2009)*
- *First Report on the Implementation of the (amended) BS SAP (2009) - **SAPIR***
- *“State of the Black Sea Environment” Report - **SoE***

Strategic Action Plan for the Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation of the Black Sea (2009) :



- provides a **brief overview of the current status** of the Sea (Black Sea Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (BS TDA 2007) and progress of the original BS SAP 1996;
- **reorganizes the priorities and actions** therein considering the progress in the region and the current state of the environment;
- describes the **policy actions** required to meet the major environmental challenges now facing the Sea, and includes a **series of management targets**;
- recognizes the **same environment threats as those identified by the MSFD** (loss/degradation of biodiversity/habitats, contamination by dangerous substances/nutrients and impacts of climate change), however, sets **no environment targets, but only operational** according to four Ecosystem Quality Objectives;
- **Gaps:** definition of GES, marine litter, marine noise, climate change, EIA, green economy, blue growth, socio-economic implications etc.

MSFD-related documents



- *The BS SAP (2009) addresses the main areas of concern, and their causes, through the aims of **4 Ecosystem Quality Objectives**:*
- *EcoQO 1: Preserve commercial marine living resources;*
- *EcoQO 2: Conservation of Black Sea Biodiversity and Habitats;*
- *EcoQO 3: Reduce eutrophication;*
- *EcoQO 4: Ensure Good Water Quality for Human Health, Recreational Use and Aquatic Biota.*

Black Sea Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Program (BSIMAP) for years 2014-2019



- The Program *is being revised for already a couple of years*, initially it was supposed to be adopted for **2012-2020**;
- Draft version *considered by AGs and relevant partners* during the last few years;
- It was developed with assistance of EC-funded Project on the implementation of **MSFD in the Black Sea region**, which was already finalized;
- It *shall be considered by BSC and adopted this year* during the 30th BSC Regular Meeting;
- Before adoption we need to double-check compliance with **MSFD requirements and descriptors**, recent developments, as well as add some **missing information** (such as Marine Litter and Marine Noise guidelines etc.), once adopted it may be still amended and improved;
- **October joint meetings in Istanbul** - back-to-back meetings of PMA and CBD AGs and EMBLAS Harmonization workshop on Water Quality/GES Classification Methodology possibly also jointly with experts from ICPDR, in framework of our **BSC-ICPDR Joint Technical Working Group**.



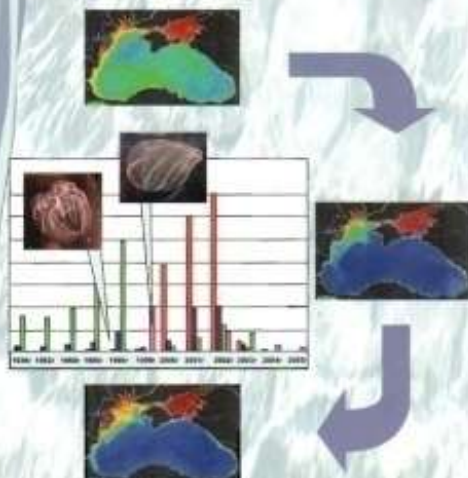
Commission on the Protection
of the Black Sea Against Pollution



Commission on the Protection of
the Black Sea Against Pollution

State of the Environment of the Black Sea

(2001-2006/7)



Istanbul, Turkey
2008



Implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for the Rehabilitation and Protection of the Black Sea

(2002-2007)

A report by the
Commission on the Protection of
the Black Sea Against Pollution



Istanbul, Turkey
2009

SAPIR and SoE Reports



- Ongoing *negotiations* with relevant organizations;
- BSC PS is still *seeking for assistance* (both financial and expert) to proceed with both reports;
- Reports should be compiled by BSC PS and relevant experts, main results and *recommendations to amend the BS SAP 2009*, incl. draft texts for Ministerial Meeting 2015 (?);
- As Bucharest Convention was elaborated more than 20 years ago, latest version of BS SAP is dated 2009, some *new challenges* as climate change, marine litter, marine noise, green economy, MSFD requirements etc. *were not reflected* – we prepare the necessary *steps for amendments*.

Preparation of the First Implementation Report for the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan (BS SAP 2009) - SAPIR



- *In the lack of finances to draft the SAPIR and not having received the nominations, the **BSC PS undertook the initiative to draft the SAPIR** for 2009-2014 based on the information provided by the members of the BSC, BSC NFPs, BSC AGs and ACs per country for the period 2009-2014.*

Preparation of the First Implementation Report for the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan (BS SAP 2009) - SAPIR



- ***Questionnaire to BS countries on the status of implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for the Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation of the Black Sea (BS SAP 2009) – to be filled in by relevant authorities of each Contracting Party to the Bucharest Convention by 1st of August, 2014;***
- ***Check-list of indicators of success in line with Annex 4. “Monitoring the SAP: Process, Stress Reduction and Environmental Status Indicators” of the BS SAP (2009) – for easy reference and checks against compliance to reporting parameters and other supporting materials.***

Preparation of the First Implementation Report for the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan (BS SAP 2009) - SAPIR



- *The **Questionnaire** on the status of implementation of the BS SAP 2009 contains a **table** with the following elements:*
- *Reference to BS SAP (Annex 3) – in total 65 targets;*
- *Overall **target**;*
- ***General information** on status of implementation (2009-2014), if applicable on the national level;*
- ***Indicators of success**, if applicable.*

Preparation of the First Implementation Report for the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan (BS SAP 2009) - SAPIR



Check-list of indicators of success (Annex 4 to the BS SAP) contains:

- ***Process Indicators*** in line with EcoQOs (4);
- ***Stress Reduction Indicators*** in line with EcoQOs (4);
- ***Environmental Status Indicators*** (9).

Preparation of the State of the Environment Report for the Black Sea (2007-2012) -

SoE Report



- *Despite the list of experts, draft templates and time-tables for SoE (EC or UN approach?) this work is being postponed due to the lack of financial resources.*

MSFD - related difficulties:



- *Only 2 countries are EU members, not legally binding;*
- *Existing differences in legal documents:*
 - *- different set of indicators BS SAP, BSIMAP, MSFD, countries reporting templates, national systems;*
 - *- no legal definition of GES in the Black Sea basin;*
 - *-*
- *Some terms were never introduced in BSC documents:*
 - *- cross-cutting nature (marine litter, noise etc.)*
 - *- new terms (climate change etc.)*
 - *- lack of manuals, methodologies, guidelines etc. for proper assessment (i.e. EIA provisions)*
- *BSIMAP and reports (SoE and BS SAP) were not elaborated and endorsed:*
 - *- time passes, BG and RO report on MSFD*
 - *- consensus needed (Article 17 Bucharest Convention)*
 - *- lack of funds to draft the reports*

MSFD – related difficulties

cont.:



- *MSFD Project is not sustained; MISIS Project should be sustained;*
- *Lack of interaction and cooperation with RSCs;*
- *Despite direct usage of deliverables, the participation in Projects like MISIS, PERSEUS, STAGES etc. helps to be in the loop of the process and prepare the new dedicated Project on implementation of MSFD in the Black Sea region.*



Thanks for your kind attention!

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