

# Technical and administrative support for the joint implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria and Romania

*Under Framework contract for services related to coordination between the different marine regions in implementing the ecosystem approach.*



# Project objectives

- **Overall goal:** to support BG and RO in implementing the Black Sea component of the MSFD CIS WP 2014-2018 , addressing the deficiencies and shortcomings identified within the first phase of the coherence and adequacy assessments (Art. 12 of the MSFD)
- **Specific objective:** to provide technical and administrative support for:
  1. Building the information basis for a more coherent and comparable joint implementation of the MSFD in BG and RO
  2. Capacity building activities in the region with the view to strengthening the administrative and technical capabilities in Bulgaria and Romania for joint MSFD implementation
  3. Promoting coordination activities within the Black Sea marine region and with other marine regions

# Project Tasks

## **Task 1 - Building the information basis**

## **Task 2 – Capacity building events**

**Subtask 2.1 - Drafting the list of capacity building events BG & RO**

**Subtask 2.2 - Identifying a pool of experts relevant for the CBE**

**Subtask 2.3 - Organisation of the CBE**

**Subtask 2.4 - Reporting on the issues discussed and conclusions of the CBE**

## **Task 3 – Promote coordination within the BS Marine Region and with other marine regions building events**

**Subtask 3.1 - Including information from and other RSC activities as part of Task 1 and Task 2**

**Subtask 3.2 - Involvement of the BSC (and other RSC) experts in the CBEs and involvement of the BSC in developing the webpage**

**Subtask 3.3 - Developing the background document**

# Project Tasks

## Task 1 - Building the information basis

### Subtask 1.1 - Developing monitoring factsheets

- a) Carry out an in-depth analysis of the BG and RO national MSFD reports
- b) Preparation of **monitoring fact sheets** for each descriptor for BG and RO (**programme and subprogramme level MFS**)

### Subtask 1.2 - Maintaining the information exchange platform

- a) Maintenance of the existing EEA platform and its regular update.
- b) Linking the information exchange platform to the public webpage developed in the project.

<http://projects.eionet.europa.eu/black-sea-marine-region-documents/>

# Project Tasks

## **Subtask 1.3 - Identifying technical and scientific support needs for 2015-2020 and beyond**

- a) To identify the future technical and scientific support needs per MSFD element for BG & RO;
- b) To set-up a realistic work plan to fulfill the identified needs;
- c) To complement with required financial means to address the needs

## **Subtask 1.4 - Preparing a public web page**

- a) Development of public web page for general information exchange on the implementation of the MSFD in BG and RO:
  - as a tool for the public participation process in the MSFD, including public consultation of monitoring programmes (art. 11) and the Programme of Measures (art. 13).
  - Linking to relevant webpages of projects: the website should allow easy exchange of information with the Black Sea Commission and the EEA.

# Task 1.1 Developing monitoring factsheets

1. In-depth analysis of the BG and RO national MSFD reports
2. Preparation of common **monitoring fact sheets (MFS)** template at **programme / subprogramme** level
3. Complete the MFSs for each programme

13 monitoring programmes

- **Biodiversity (Fish, Mammals, Birds, Seabed habitats, Water column habitats)**
- **NIS**
- **Commercial fish and shellfish**
- **Eutrophication**
- **Hydrographic condition**
- **Contaminants**
- **Contaminants in seafood**
- **Marine Litter**
- **Underwater Noise**

# Developing MFS – Comparative analysis per descriptor

Mainly based on the BG & RO national MSFD reports

## □ Revised GES & targets

- MFS should build on the revised GES & targets,

## □ Common indicators

- Important to use the same terminology (where possible)
- agreed common indicators/parameters: agreement on indicator and parameter (*on definition level*)
- harmonized common indicators: agreement on indicator, parameter and methodological approach (sampling/monitoring & assessment strategy) (*on definition level + methodological approach*)
- some proposed common indicators have already reached a common agreement by BG & RO, others need to be further discussed with the relevant experts in BG and RO
- besides common indicators, each MS is free to define in addition other indicators on a national basis

# Developing MFS – Preparation common MFS

## □ Draft Template MFS (at programme level) based on:

- DIKE documents
- local expert input (authorities, research institutions, NGOs)

## □ Definition of institutes involved in monitoring

## □ MFS - Pilot studies (in both countries)

- Completion of initial MFS template by local experts (Eutrophication and Marine Litter) based on:
  - Inputs of pool of experts and national focal contact points
  - Information from other parallel common works carried out within the Project (e.g. Task 1.1, Task 1.3)
  - Information from other relevant projects (**MISIS**, **PERSEUS**, etc)

## □ Final MFS template (revision MFS based on outcomes of pilot studies)

## □ Template agreed by RO and BG authorities



# Developing MFS – programme MFS structure

## □ MFS template (at programme level) – 6 sections

- ✓ **1 – General** (subject area, definition, competent authorities, monitoring institutions, and additional information)
- ✓ **2 – Monitoring requirements and purposes** (necessity; relevant criteria and indicators; relevant characteristics and features; GES; Env. Targets; spatial allocation)
- ✓ **3 – Monitoring concept** (general description of subprogrammes; description of monitoring network; threats, activities and measures; data management)
- ✓ **4 – Assessment**
- ✓ **5 – Literature**
- ✓ **6 – Activities required to implement the concept** (changes to the current monitoring programme; gaps – GES information; plans for information on GES; gaps – Env. Targets; plans for information on Env. Targets; plans- plans for information on measures)

# Developing MFS – completion programme MFS

## □ MFS completion (13 programmes)

- ✓ Done by the Project team (NFPs and local experts)
- ✓ Inputs from organisations involved
  - RO – NIMRD, GeoEcoMar, Mare Nostrum
  - BG – IO-BAS, Bulgarian Ornithological Society, IBER-BAS, etc
- ✓ Information from other relevant projects (MISIS, PERSEUS, COCONET)
- ✓ Information from MSFD documents (Task Group....), literature
- ✓ Information from other works carried out within the Projects (Task 1.1, Task 1.3)
- ✓ Information from BSC documents
- ✓ Information exchange between RO and BG

## □ Draft final MFS (at programme level) – done by the 15<sup>th</sup> of June

# Developing MFS – SWOT analysis

## ☐ Strengths

- Strong collaboration between RO and BG (information exchange)
- Good collaboration between national authorities and local experts
- Generally, good collaboration between project local experts and the main organisation involved (NIMRD) and other projects (e.g. MISIS), respectively

## ☐ Critical issues

- Poor support in MFS completion from some organisations involved in the monitoring programmes
- Some difficulties in collaboration for completing some MFS (Noise, Birds, Marine Litter), generally those very poorly approached so far.
- Some difficulties in approaching the MFS in a common way (RO-BG)
- Some difficulties in preparing the list of subprogrammes

# Developing MFS – programme MFS next steps

## MFS (programme level) translation process

- Focus on some priority fields (relevant for broader public)
- to be done by the local experts between **15 June – 15 July**

## Public consultation process (outside the scope of the Project)

- between **15 July – 15 August**
- RO - on the MISIS webpage (a link from the Ministry webpage is needed)  
[http://www.misisproject.eu/?task=public\\_consultation](http://www.misisproject.eu/?task=public_consultation)

## Review of the programme level MFS by **15 September**

## Administrative agreement MFS by **30 September**

## EC Reporting by **15/10/2014**

# Developing MFS - subprogramme MFS next steps

## Set the list of sub-programmes for each programme

– (based on WG DIKE 2014 and national expert inputs)

## Draft template subprogramme MFS

## Pilot cases

- Completion of pilot subprogramme MFSs for some selected descriptors (D1, D5, D8, D10) (to be discussed at CBE July (Constanta))
- Revision pilot subprogramme MFSs – to be done

## Final approval subprogramme level MFS template by appropriate authorities (based on revisions pilot subprogramme MFS) – to be done

## Completion of the sub-programme MFS (15/06 – 15/09/2014)

## No public consultation

## EC reporting by 15/10/2014

# Developing MFS – subprogramme MFS structure

## ✓ 1 – *General*

- subject area, subprogramme ID,
- spatial scope, temporal scope,
- description of spatial scope
- Purpose
- links to programmes

## ✓ 2 – *Methodology*

- elements monitored,
- parameters monitored,
- monitoring method, method alteration,
- QA /QC,
- spatial resolution,
- temporal resolution

## ✓ 3 - *Monitoring data*

- Aggregation of data,
- Description data aggregation,
- access to data,
- description data access

## 1.3. Technical & Scientific support needs

### □ Gaps analysis & identification technical & scientific needs BG & RO for 2015-2020 and beyond (by authorities & institutes)

- Overview technical and scientific support needs for BSC (desk review)
- Defining future technical and research needs for BG & RO (per descriptor or MSFD element)
- Selection of priority needs and priority support options for BG & RO (CBE)
- Drafting realistic work plan for the identified priority needs
  - Linked to the regional needs identified for Black Sea region
  - Defining lead & contributing actors, timeline, cost information (if possible)
- Annexes (initial list):
  - Revised GES & Targets
  - Common indicators
  - Template MFS (programme & subprogramme level)
  - Involved institutes monitoring (per programme/subprogramme level)

# Project Tasks

## Task 2 – Capacity building events

- Objective - to organise capacity building events to support BG and RO in addressing their technical and scientific needs as identified under Task 1.

**Subtask 2.1 - Drafting the list of capacity building events BG & RO**

**Subtask 2.2 - Identifying a pool of experts relevant for the CBE**

**Subtask 2.3 - Organisation of the CBE**

**Subtask 2.4 - Reporting on the issues discussed and conclusions of the CBE**



# Task 2 – Capacity building events

***Kick-off meeting - Brussels (BE) 17.12.2013***

**CBEs JAN 21-22/01/2014, Constanta (RO)**

- CBE1: Discussion on the template monitoring fact sheet (Task 1.1)
- CBE2: Status & main issues on monitoring BG & RO (Task 1.1)
- CBE3: Review and prioritization technical and research needs for BG & RO (Task 1.3)
- CBE4: Needs for data information sharing (public web page) (T 1.4)
- CBE6: Completion pilot monitoring fact sheets (Task 1.1)  
(unilateral work session) Constanta (RO) & Varna (BG)

**CBE5: Technical meeting public webpage (Task 1.4) - IT specialists  
Bucharest (RO) 17/02/2014**

# Task 2 – Capacity building events

## **CBEs FEB 19-20/02/2014, Varna (BG)**

- CBE7: Final Template monitoring sheet (consultation & agreement) based on pilot cases descriptors
- CBE8: Coordination & further impletion monitoring fact sheets (Task 1.1) (bilateral work session)

## ***SGM 2 - CBE March 27-28/03/2014, Brussels (BE)***

- Steering Group meeting
- CBE9: Discussion results review GES and targets (Art. 9 & 10)
- CBE10: Potential funding opportunities to address identified needs BSC (Task 1.2)

## **CBEs April (ICES), 14-17/04/2014, Constanta (RO) & Varna (BG)**

- CBE11a: Integrated monitoring BG & RO (Task 1.1)
- CBE11b: Financing of monitoring infrastructure

## **Task 2 – Capacity building events**

### **CBE July, 01-02/07/2014, Constanta (RO)**

- CBE12: Work session on completion subprogramme MFS
- CBE13: Draft work plan technical & research needs BG & RO

### **CBE Oct, 3/10/2014, Istanbul (TR)**

- CBE14: Presentation discussion document to Black Sea Commission

### ***SGM - CBE Oct, 07-09/10/2014, Varna (BG)***

- Steering Group meeting
- CBE15: (Monitoring) Data comparability & management (Task 1.1)
- CBE16: Finalisation work plan technical & research needs BG & RO

### ***Final Steering group meeting Brussels (BE) 15/01/2015***

# Task 2 – Capacity building events

## ☐ **AGENDA CBE JULY – Constanta, GeoEcoMar - Tuesday 01/07:**

- ✓ Pilot case D1/4/6 Biod\_Seabed habitats
  - Finalisation Programme level MFS (incl. missing info, gaps & actions and translation priorities)
  - Completion subprogramme level MFS
- ✓ Discussion further process of completion subprogramme level MFS for the other descriptors
- ✓ Support finalisation programme MFS (incl. actions needed)
  - D1, 4 Biodiversity – birds
  - D1, 4 Biodiversity – mammals (and reptiles)
  - D1, 4, 6 Biodiversity – fish (and cephalopods[1])
  - D3 Biodiversity - commercial fish and shellfish
  - D1, 4 Biodiversity – water column habitatsD1/4

# Task 2 – Capacity building events

## ☐ **AGENDA CBE JULY – Constanta, GeoEcoMar - Wednesday 02/07**

- ✓ Pilot case D5
  - Finalisation Programme level MFS (incl. missing info, gaps & actions)
  - Completion subprogramme level MFS
- ✓ Support finalisation programme MFS (incl. actions needed)
  - D8 - Contaminants
  - D10 – Marine Litter
  - D11 - Energy, including underwater noise
- ✓ Action plan – Other needs
  - Review process GES & targets (Background doc prepared by COWI: overview of status GES/targets/parameter monitored)
  - Revision consultation process
  - Others
- ✓ Conclusions & Further planning