

Second International TouMaLi Conference

Effective Waste Management for Sustainable Tourism and Marine Ecosystem Protection

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Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

- Founded in 1992, BSEC constitutes the most inclusive and comprehensive organization in the wider Black Sea region.
- **13 Member States:** Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Rep. of Moldova, Rep. of North Macedonia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Türkiye, Ukraine
- BSEC Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS) located in Istanbul.
- Rotating, six-month BSEC Chairmanship–in–office.
- **More than 25 areas of cooperation:** such as environmental protection, agriculture, culture, tourism, science and technology, education, energy, SMEs, blue economy, etc.

BSEC's objective is to contribute to the promotion of regional cooperation and economic development for peace, stability and prosperity.



International Centre For Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)

Enhance Knowledge | Empower People | Enable Synergies

- Founded in 1998; a non –profit, regional research & training centre; based in Athens.
- Related body of the BSEC Organisation, and its think-tank.
- Governed by an international BoD from 12 Member States, and other personalities of international standing
- **Enhance Knowledge | Empower People | Enable Synergies** through **research projects, thematic events & publications** at regional and interregional level, in fields of common interest.



ICBSS' objective is to foster policy-oriented research & advocacy, and promote multilateral cooperation among regional and int'l stakeholders.

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Tourism

- 143 million international tourist arrivals; **EUR 62 billion** in international tourism receipts (13% of Europe's tourism receipts) (2018)
- Overall, the region represents **10% of the world's** arrivals (UNWTO, “*Tourism in the BSEC region*”, November 2019)
- 115 properties in **UNESCO World Heritage List**
- **24 Cultural Routes** of the Council of Europe

Pollution

- unique semi-enclosed basin into with 10 large rivers flow
- permanent anaerobic marine zone extending from ~100 m till the bottom (~2200m)
- Black Sea **twice as polluted** by marine litter as Mediterranean Sea
- Exposure to a variety of **human-driven multistressors**:
 - Unsustainable use of natural resources
 - Unregulated economic activity

Regional Projects in the Black Sea



BRIDGE-BS: develops a number of diverse activities and tools to understand and predict the impacts of climate-driven and human-driven multistressors on the Black Sea ecosystems.



Black Sea React!: aims to contribute to the regional dialogue on mitigating and effectively tackling marine pollution and marine litter, while at the same time seeking innovative solutions to salient problems.

CulTourE4Youth: assesses the support framework for youth entrepreneurship in culture and tourism, as a driver to tackle brain drain and youth unemployment in the Black Sea region.



BS CRUISE: explores the environmental and socioeconomic potential for novel small-scale boating models in the Black Sea region, as an alternative to traditional non-sustainable large-scale practices.

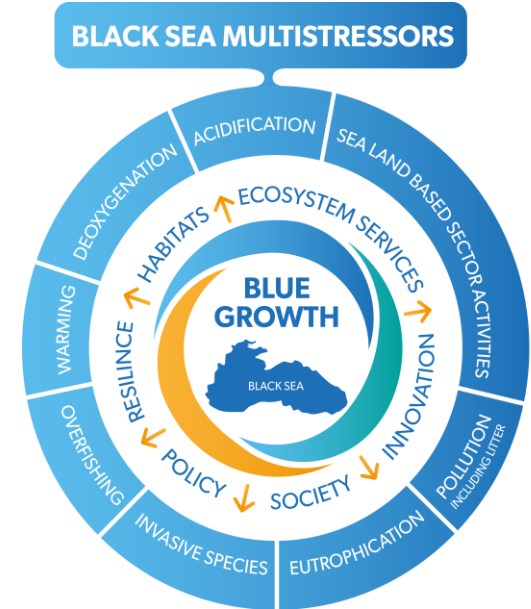


Advancing knowledge, delivering research, empowering citizens for sustainable & climate-neutral Black Sea



31 partners coordinated by METU-IMS | 54 months | 14 countries from the Black Sea & EU

Objective: BRIDGE-BS will develop the predictive tools and capabilities necessary to understand and predict the impacts of climate-driven and anthropogenic multi-stressors on the services stemming from Black Sea ecosystems.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101000240.

The Black Sea React! Project

The BSEC PERMIS was approved by the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) of the European Commission to receive a direct grant under the *EU Regional Action Program*, with the aim to strengthen the project implementation capacity of the BSEC Organization and its role as facilitator of dialog and cooperation in the region.

Areas of work: transport (Sustainable Small-Scale Cruising/Yachting in the Black Sea), environmental protection (**Pilot Activities on Fighting Micro Plastics and Marine Litter in the Black Sea or Black Sea React!**) and youth entrepreneurship (Supporting Youth Entrepreneurship in Cultural Tourism for coastal communities in the Black Sea Region).

Grant Contract ENI/2020/421-957 was signed on 28.12.2020 and lasted till 31 December 2022.

Project Aim, Target Groups, Partners

Aim: contributes to the regional dialogue on mitigating and effectively tackling marine pollution and marine litter in the Black Sea, while at the same time seeking innovative solutions to salient problems

Target groups - municipalities from the Black Sea littoral countries, fishing communities, primary school students and young people

Core Partners - BSEC Permanent International Secretariat (BSEC PERMIS); International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS); Municipality of Sariyer and GAMA Recycle A.S.

Associated Partner - USA Consulate in Istanbul



Method of Implementation

Method of implementation – three main groups of activities:

A) pilot innovative and practical solutions in order to address marine litter

- small-scale collection of old fishing nets and related marine litter in the municipality of Sariyer
- Engaging with a renowned recycling company **GAMA Recycle**



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Method of Implementation

B) raising awareness about the issue of marine litter and specifically the recycling of plastic litter among the younger generations

- creation of an educational school kit
- organization of a Regional Essay Competition targeting high-school students - <http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/Forms/News/newsDetails?targetID=2129>



Method of Implementation

C) highlighting the results of the Project and building a coalition of municipalities along the Black Sea coastline

- creation of a short video for awareness raising purposes (<http://www.bsec-bsvkc.org/Forms/Default>)
- organisation of a regional conference to highlight the results of the action and to encourage further pollution-preventing action in the Black Sea (November 2022)

Black Sea React! Project

BLACK SEA React!

Pilot innovative solutions for fighting marine litter in the Black Sea



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Thank you for Reacting!