Improving Environmental Monitoring in the Black Sea

EMBLAS I

2013 - 2014

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Objectives

The overall objective

• to set up initiatives that will help improve the protection of the Black Sea environment

The specific objectives:

• to improve availability and quality of data on the chemical and biological status of the Black Sea, in line with expected Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and Black Sea SAP needs;

• to improve partner countries' ability to perform marine environmental monitoring along MSFD principles, considering Black Sea Diagnostic Report
Project activity 1

Review of the national monitoring systems and tools for assessing data obtained from monitoring activities

The overall aim of this PA is to analyse national and regional monitoring systems (legal and institutional framework of the different types, their design and implementation) and data management/assessment tools availability (including models and data bases existing at the national, regional and other levels), so that gaps are identified, and requirements and recommendations for improvements are clearly specified.

Deliverable : Diagnostic Report II
Content: VIII Chapters, IX Annexes

Each Chapter: supplemented with conclusions and recommendations on improvements
Content of the report

State of the art in the beneficiary countries (as per 2013-early 2014)

- Introduction – the aim of the exercise and the vision
- Chapter I and II:
  - Legal/policy framework (global, regional and national levels)
  - Institutional framework
  - Monitoring itself, including non-mandatory and operational monitoring, QA/QC, reporting of raw data
  - Data management (databases, data products, DQC), assessments
- Progress in WQ/GES classifications (Chapter III)
- IVE (Chapter IV)
- Training needs (Chapter V)
- Data availability (Chapter VI)
- Needs in harmonization (Chapter VII)
- Overall summary (Chapter VIII)
Project activity 2

Support to implementation of countries obligations under the Bucharest and other related Conventions and Agreements

The aim of this PA is to help improving the indicator-based reporting of the BSC and facilitate the harmonization process at the regional level toward common understanding of water quality and good environmental status (GES).

- **Deliverable**: Regional Water Quality/GES Classification Methodology
Project activity 3

Development of cost-effective and harmonised biological and chemical monitoring programmes

The overall aim of this PA is to support the revision of the national (in GE, RU and UA) and regional monitoring programmes.

**Deliverable**: Revised national and regional monitoring programs drafted
Snap-shots of major gaps
(from Diagnostic Report II)

- There is no monitoring, which would be integrated and there is no common understanding what would be ‘integrated monitoring’.
- There are no policy documents specifying the BS monitoring and what information needs it should meet;
- The ‘mandatory’ monitoring does not go beyond a very narrow coastal strip, and it does not allow to analyse pressures/impacts;
- There are no BS-specific water quality standards, GES is not understood;
- There are no environmental targets;
Project activity 6

Prepare methodology for Joint Black Sea Surveys

The overall aim of this PA is to promote the idea on the need of BS Joint Surveys and propose methodology for them.

Deliverable: Methodology for Joint Surveys (design of the JS, incl. screening for new pollutants and evaluation of inter-comparisons, financial aspects and viability of a survey assessed and a cost-effective approach for carrying out several rounds of joint surveys proposed)
Thank you!