



Commission on the
Protection of the Black Sea
Against Pollution



Ministry of Environment and
Climate Changes, Romania



National Institute for Marine
Research and Development,
Romania

The 4th Bi-annual Black Sea Scientific Conference

28 – 31 October 2013, Constanta, Romania

*Black Sea – Challenges Towards Good
Environmental Status*



Jointly organized by

The Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Black Sea Commission)

Ministry of Environment and Climate Changes of Romania

National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa"
(NIMRD), Constanta, Romania

Back-to-back events

- Celebration of the International Black Sea Day - 2013
- International Symposium "Protection and Sustainable Management of the Black Sea – 3rd Millennium Imperative"- 6th Edition

A B S T R A C T S B O O K



4th Black Sea Scientific Conference

Black Sea – Challenges Towards Good Environmental Status

SCOPE

To continue the concerted efforts initiated by the previous BSC scientific conferences to use science and information technology to understand and deal with the environment problems of the Black Sea, to strengthen science/policy interface and regional cooperation towards better governance of environment protection to preserve the Black Sea ecosystem as a valuable natural endowment of the region, while ensuring the sustainable use of its marine and coastal resources for the economic development, well-being, health and security of the population of the Black Sea coastal States.

The Conference will take place back-to-back with the Black Sea Day - 2013 and the NIMRD International Symposium "Protection and Sustainable Management of the Black Sea Ecosystem – 3rd Millennium Imperative" – 6th edition.

OBJECTIVES

Provide the opportunity to the scientific community to meet and to discuss their achievements in order to improve scientific basis for the implementation of the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan

Update the knowledge on the Black Sea ecosystems identifying the gaps in the scientific data/information; revise the environment priorities and way forward to achieve good environmental status of the Black Sea

Discuss and assess the climate forcing mechanisms of physical, biological and biogeochemical processes at various time-spatial scales

Review the decision-support tools available in the Black Sea region and give recommendations for further developments and their use in the implementation of the BS SAP

Continue the integration of science in decision-making in the field of marine environment protection.



Plenary Session IV - Ecological Education

Environmental Assessment Training of Researchers from the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

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KEYWORDS: MSFD, GES, environmental indices, training, fishery related indices,
AMBI, M-AMBI, TRIX, Ocean Color

Abstract

Leading research Institutes and SMEs from EU Member States, Associated States, Associated Candidate countries, non-EU Mediterranean and Black Sea countries joined forces in a coordinated manner within the PERSEUS Project, in order to address common environmental pressures and, ultimately, take action in the challenge of achieving the Good Environmental State. One of these coordinated actions was the summer school on "The contribution of environmental indices in meeting the objectives and principles of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive", organized in Constanta, Romania, during 3-7 June 2013, within the framework of Work Package 8 (WP8). The main objectives of the PERSEUS Summer School on the contribution of environmental indices in meeting the objectives and principles of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive were to expose participants to aspects of the theoretical and practical background on the assessment of the benthic

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ecological status using the index M-AMBI (multivariate AMBI - AZTI's Marine Biotic Index) and MSFD assessment issues; to provide participants with the most important concepts related to the fishery related indices; to get participants acquainted with the main applications of ocean color based index/eutrophication-related core set indicators CSI023 (chlorophyll-a); to present theoretical and practical aspects of characterization of the ecological state of marine and coastal waters using Trophic index (TRIX); to establish links between different researchers involved in the field of environmental indicators related with MSFD. As a result of the conduction of this summer school, 20 Mediterranean and Black Sea young researchers were trained in the basics of MSFD environmental indices, which they can apply in their respective institutes for the better management of marine resources, thus contributing to build experience in the formulation of scientifically based synthetic assessment of the state of the marine environment, aligned with the objectives of the PERSEUS project.

Ecological Education - Management Tool for Vama Veche - 2 Mai Marine Reserve

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KEYWORDS: marine reserve, custody, sustainable management, awareness, ecological education

Abstract

There are 8 marine protected areas along the Romanian Black Sea coast (SCIs - sites of Community importance), from Sfântu Gheorghe down to Vama Veche, each of them sheltering unique flora and fauna and specific habitats. Yet, the Vama Veche - 2 Mai marine protected area is the only underwater reserve on the Romanian coastline. The reserve is currently under the custody of the National



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Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa". The custodians of the protected area have as main task the implementation of the management plan, thus ensuring the integrity of the reserve against any type of threat. As Vama Veche and 2 Mai are well known tourist areas, the environment obviously undergoes strong pressures caused by wild tourism. Yet, tourism and traditional activities (fisheries) in the area are significant issues when dealing with the sustainable management of a protected area. Consequently, a balance between nature preservation and human activities must be sought. Under these circumstances, one of the aims of the custodian team is to develop use ecological education and awareness in exerting the management of the marine reserve and inducing positive changes in the behavior of tourists and stakeholders in the Vama Veche - 2 Mai area. The paper herein is an outline of such tools and activities and the outcomes of using this approach.