

Collaboration for the Black Sea (ECBSea Project)



Project Budget:
€2.2 million

Duration:
March 2007 – September 2009

Funded by:
European Union

Countries of Implementation:
Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation

Project is implemented by:
Consortium led by Euroconsult Mott MacDonald (Netherlands)

Key Project Partner and Beneficiary:
Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine

Project's Objectives and Tasks:

Overall objective:

To contribute to the sustainable development of the Black Sea Basin by:

- prevention and reduction of pollution to the Black Sea (from river discharges or direct discharges);
- sustainable management of natural resources and protection of biodiversity of the Black Sea basin.

The Project aims to improve:

- regional cooperation for protection of the Black Sea;
- national capacities to implement and enforce existing environmental legislation, secondary laws and regulations to implement the Bucharest Convention;
- national legislations, secondary laws and regulations to implement the Bucharest Convention at national level, taking into account convergence to EU water related legislation, in particular the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the forthcoming EU Marine Strategy;
- biological water quality monitoring of pollution;
- integrated coastal zone management;
- protection of marine biodiversity through the establishment of Marine Reserves;
- public participation and awareness raising.

Project's Activities:

Four main components of the project activities are:

- legal issues;
- integrated coastal zone management;
- water quality monitoring; and
- biodiversity.

The Pilot Project on Establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in Karkinitzky Bay (located between northwest Crimea and Kherson oblast) is currently implemented in Ukraine, concentrated on:

- gaining experience with the establishment of MPA in the Black Sea;
- preparation of the management plan for MPA in Ukraine.

The Pilot Project follows international best practice in identifying the existing and potential biodiversity resource base (species, habitats and ecosystems) within the Black Sea biogeographic zone, describing and mapping these resources (data base and GIS techniques), and application of appropriate criteria in order to draw up the proposed marine protected area system in Ukraine.

Project's Achievements to date:

- The Desk Study on Karkinitzky Bay is completed and the baseline report is developed by the Institute of Biology of Southern Seas.
- The GIS maps of Karkinitzky Bay are prepared by the Ukrainian Scientific Centre of Ecology of Sea. All available digital geographic information about Karkinitzky Bay was collated in the GIS based on official marine charts as well as information collected from previous projects providing the most comprehensive geographic data set ever assembled for Karkinitzky Bay.
- The Management Plan for Marine Protected Area in Karkinitzky Bay is developed to assist in training specialists and managers who do or will have a role in the management of MPAs in Ukraine as well as other countries bordering the Black Sea. The plan is based on current best practice approaches in which a site's conservation features are managed according to factors and attributes.
- The Draft Law of Ukraine on Coastal Zone is developed by the ECBSea international and national experts.
- Draft Guiding Principles for Establishing Marine Protected Areas in the Black Sea are prepared that describe the current situation of the Black Sea Marine Protected Areas (MPA), provide legal and methodological background for development of the Black Sea MPA network and present recommendations for its effective establishment.
- A series of workshops were organized for representatives of relevant State and regional authorities, research institutes, NGOs and other stakeholders.
- A regional training course on management of MPAs is delivered to stakeholders.

More information about the Project: <http://www.ecbsea.org>

ENPI - European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument

The European Union is the largest donor to Ukraine. EU assistance to Ukraine over 2007-2013 will principally be provided under the new European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) which is being established to promote the development of an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness between the EU and the partner countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy.

ENPI envelope for Ukraine will focus on the following three priority areas:

Support for Democratic Development and Good Governance

- Public administration reform and public finance management
- Rule of law and judicial reform
- Human rights, civil society development and local government
- Education, science and people-to-people contacts/exchanges

Support for Regulatory Reform and Administrative Capacity Building

- Promoting mutual trade, improving the investment climate and strengthening social reform
- Sector-specific regulatory aspects

Support for Infrastructure Development

- Energy
- Transport
- Environment
- Border management and migration including re-admission related issues

Indicative budget for Ukraine for the period 2007-2010 is €494 million:

Support for Democratic Development and Good Governance: €148.2 million (30%)

Support for Regulatory Reform and Administrative Capacity Building: €148.2 million (30%)

Support for Infrastructure Development: €197.6 million (40%)



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The EU is a major actor on the international environmental scene. Increasingly, it is shaping the international environmental agenda and is seen as a model in environmental law implementation. The joint EU-Ukraine Action Plan sets out objectives that include steps to set conditions for good environmental governance, prevention of the environment deterioration, and enhancing EU-Ukraine cooperation on environmental issues.

The environmental dialogue between the EU and Ukraine has been upgraded particularly through intensified technical contacts in the areas of waste and water management, as well as reactivation in 2006 of the Ukraine-EU Working Group on Climate Change (initially launched in 2002). The Working Group looks at ways in which the EU and Ukraine can enhance co-operation in areas such as the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, the development of the post-2012 framework, emissions trading, and research into climate change.

The EU and Ukraine are also working closely together on energy efficiency, one of the stated objectives of the EU-Ukraine Memorandum of Understanding on Energy. The memorandum also proposes increased cooperation in the promotion of renewable energies and measures to tackle climate change.

The EU has funded a number of assistance projects to Ukraine in the field of environmental protection including a number of projects related to river basin management financed by cross-border cooperation funding. About €4 million worth of funding was allocated to support the regional authorities as well as the State Committee for Water Management of Ukraine in complying with the EU Water Framework Directive. One of the projects presented herewith is the Improving Cross-Border Cooperation in Integrated Management of Water Resources in the Lower Danube Euroregion.

The EU also has funded and continues to fund projects related to the Black Sea. One recent project initiated by the European Commission on Environmental Collaboration for the Black Sea is being now implemented in three countries of the Black Sea region: Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The Project aims to strengthen regional cooperation, improve the main regional agreement, the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution (the Bucharest Convention) and national capacities to implement the Convention. Documents and laws developed under the Project take into account convergence with EU water and environmental legislation, in particular the EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Marine Strategy.