





Common borders. Common solutions.

BSB 27 - MONITOX



Black Sea Basin interdisciplinary cooperation network for sustainable joint monitoring of environmental toxicants migration, improved evaluation of ecological state and human health impact of harmful substances, and public exposure prevention

The project BSB27-MONITOX is financed by the European Union through European Neighborhood Instrument (ENI) in the frame of the Joint Operational Programme BLACK SEA BASIN 2014-2020, Priority 2 - Promote coordination of environmental protection and joint reduction of marine litter in the Black Sea Basin, Specific Objective 2.1 - Improve joint environmental monitoring.

The implementation period is **20.09.2018-19.03.2021** (30 months).

The total budget of the project is **952,583.55 EURO**, of which the contribution of European Union (92%) is **876,576.85 EURO**.

PROJECT OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Project is aiming at enhancing regional cross-border cooperation to improve joint monitoring of environmental toxic pollution and better share and exchange of new analysis methodology, data and information on ecological state and human health impact of harmful substances.

This implies to:

- build a strong Black Sea Basin (BSB) network of analytical laboratories and experts to elaborate a common ecotoxicological monitoring system supporting regional programmes for environmental protection and sustainable management;
- produce a scientific platform with harmonized information on toxics in soil, water, sediments and biota in shared riverine, deltaic and sea areas, and their potential impact on ecosystems and people.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Integration of the high-level multidisciplinary expertise and research capacities of the partner institutions for the holistic assessment of the cross-border impact of hazardous chemicals on the ecosystems in the Black Sea Basin through harmonized methods;
- Improving the technical knowledge and diversification of skills and competences of professionals and young researchers for joint environmental monitoring of toxic chemicals in Black Sea Basin through innovative practices and modern tools;
- Boosting public awareness in Black Sea Basin areas on the environmental issues related to spread of toxicants by education and sharing innovative scientific information and knowledge on health effects of inorganic, organic and radioactive pollutants.



ACTIVITIES

- Creating, developing and ensuring the functionality of the MONITOX network:
- Design and implementation of the monitoring system of toxic substances in the environmental components based on unified methods and legislation;
- Complex environmental analysis of target areas in the Black Sea basin and integration, by applying an innovative approach, of the historical and new data obtained in the project on their ecological status in order to prevent toxic pollution;
- Training of specialists, young researchers and students in the field of investigation of toxic substances in environment and assessment of their impact on the ecosystems health;
- Organizing cross-border scientific events (international conferences, regional seminars, symposiums) in the Black Sea Basin;
- Provide support for data sharing and the exchange of cross-border information on toxic chemicals.



RESULTS

- PR1) Enforced cross-border partnership in the Black Sea Basin by established interdisciplinary monitoring network of toxic substances based on EU environmental legislation:
- PR2) Improved regional monitoring system of toxicants in different environmental compartments within BSB by developing a common scientific approach and harmonized operating procedures;
- PR3) Improved assessment of the ecological state of the BSB regions on the basis of the new acquired and public available data on toxic substances;
- PR4) Enhanced knowledge and expertise linked with the monitoring of toxic compounds to be applied in the process of the training of professionals from the field and future specialists in the BSB;
- PR5) Improved public availability of environmental information in the BSB and stronger consciousness of different target groups about the health effects of environmental toxic pollutants.



SUMMARY

The problematics of the regional pollution in Black Sea Basin (BSB) is very complex, and the spectrum of toxic substances which exist in related environmental compartments and affect the living organisms, population and ecosystem services is very large and is continuously increasing.

Pollution inputs from point and diffuse sources have radically changed the transboundary aquatic ecosystems in the BSB (Romania, Moldova and Greece). The in-depth study of processes occurring in large, interconnected river basins and evaluation of people exposure to toxics can be accomplished only in partnership, through cooperation based on knowledge, exchange of good practices and interdisciplinary research, conducted only in transnational networks.

The project **BSB27-MONITOX** is aiming at enhancing regional cross-border cooperation to improve joint monitoring of environmental toxic pollution and better share and exchange of new analysis methodology, data and information on ecological state and human health impact of harmful substances.



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