



Minutes of the Final Steering Committee

of the project

**Integrated hotspots management and saving the living Black Sea ecosystem – HOT BLACK SEA
2.2.1.72761.225 MIS-ETC 2303**

Constanta, Romania, October 20 - 22, 2015

Organizer:

National Institute for Research and Development in Electrical Engineering ICPE-CA - Romania

Participants:

Georgeta Alecu, INCDIE ICPE-CA, Romania, project coordinator

Andreea Voina, INCDIE ICPE-CA, Romania

Gheorghe Samoilescu, INCDIE ICPE-CA, Romania

Violeta Velikova, SuRDEP, Bulgaria

Vesselina Mihneva, SuRDEP, Bulgaria

Velichka Velikova, Burgas Municipality, Bulgaria

Marineta Nikolova, Burgas Municipality, Bulgaria

Manana Devidze, FCE, Georgia

Gulsen Avaz, TUBITAK, Turkey

Kemal Gunes, TUBITAK, Turkey

Müdür Akşit Özkural, TURMEPA, Turkey

Luminita Lazar, LBSA Focal point BSC, Romania

Laura Boicenco, CBD Focal point BSC, Romania

Minutes of the meeting:

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

The meeting was opened at 19.00 PM on Tuesday by the project coordinator, Dr. Georgeta Alecu, who welcomed the participants. The meeting concluded on Thursday at 11.00 AM.

The first evening was dedicated to discussions related to all activities and deliverables achieved during the project. Discussion on the meeting agenda and events planned for the next days took place, details were agreed between partners. The adoption of the agenda (the meeting agenda is enclosed in the minute) and nomination of Rapporteur were made also.

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

The morning session (10.00 AM -14.00 PM) consisted of the presentations and discussions related to main deliverables of the project as LBS management report, LBS monitoring report, Rivers Monitoring Report, Guideline on Public participation and on the raising activities of awareness of children, also.

This session started with a presentation made by Mr. Müdür Akşit Özkural related to the main goals, activities, projects, objectives of the Turkish Marine Environment Protection Association, TURMEPA from Turkey. TURMEPA's mission is to contribute to the preservation of seas and coasts as a national priority and to create a country that has reached sustainable development goals for future generations.

The session continued with discussions related to the main deliverables of the project. These were presented in detail and discussed in order to complete them in the same time with the final narrative report which should be submitted within 3 months after project ends.

LBS Management Report contains analysis of the achievements and gaps in management of point sources of pollution located in the project beneficiary countries, gives recommendations on improvements of policies and practices for each beneficiary country in separate and also for the Black Sea region, in general. The report includes comprehensive inventories of laws and 'soft-laws' governing LBS management at various levels – from global to national. Institutional frameworks are presented for the regional (Black Sea) and national levels (beneficiary countries). Special attention was paid at LBS management cycles and programmes of measures as well as at relevant national and international projects in each beneficiary country.

LBS Monitoring Report presents information on the regular observations conducted on industrial and municipal point sources of pollution in the BS beneficiary countries as well as on Black Sea Rivers. The analysis of gaps starts from legal/policy documents and institutional frameworks and covers all types and domains of monitoring, including data management and reports produced.

Rivers Monitoring Report builds upon the findings of the LBS monitoring report, further revealing gaps and discussing the comparability of data on riverine nutrients and pollutants in the Black Sea region. The Report provides comparison between the rivers monitoring strategies and programmes of the project beneficiary countries, outlining discrepancies and reasons for the poor knowledge on riverine loads stemming to the Black Sea.

Guideline on Public participation and control (public participation in decision-making) as related to hot spots management was presented by Mrs. Manana Devidze from FCE and examined by the partners, also dissemination of this Guideline was discussed by the partners.

At the end of the session discussions related to the activities of raising awareness of children for Black Sea protection, which were achieved especially in Turkey by TUBITAK in collaboration with TURMEPA, took place. The HBS Project educational materials were presented – Children Brochure and movies for 5-8th and 9-12th classes made by these 2 organizations. These movies are available on the webpage of the project.

After lunch, the afternoon session started at 15.00 PM with a presentation related to the **Black Sea Hot Spots Data Base** which represents other main deliverable in the frame of the project. The development of the Hot Spots Data Base in support of decision-making and investments was based on stakeholders consultations and communication with organizations, which provided needed data/information and specified their needs. The HS DB is on the webpage of the HBS Project: <http://www.bs-hotspots.eu/> and is accessible via password. Mrs. Violeta Velikova presented the online HS DB and how it works.

The session continued with discussions on the Hot Spot methodology and Guideline on BEPs and BATs.

The Hot Spots Methodology was intended to ensure common approach to identification, assessment and ranking of Hot Spots, located within the Black Sea catchment area and having impact on the state of the Black Sea.

Guideline on BEPs and BATs prepared under the HBS Project (bs-hotspots.eu) communicates best practices in prevention of industrial pollution of the environment for several important sectors of industry, which are most developed in the Black Sea region.

Dr. Luminita Lazar - Romanian Focal Point in the LBS Advisory Group of the Black Sea Commission (BSC, Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, www.blacksea-commission.org) and participant in the IRIS-SES project – and Dr. Laura Boicenco - Romanian Focal Point in the Advisory Group on Conservation of Biological Diversity (BSC, Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, www.blacksea-commission.org) and manager of the MISIS project - were invited and attended this meeting. Both projects (IRIS-SES and MISIS) deal with revision of monitoring systems. In their capacities of Focal Points of the BSC (major stakeholder of the project), Mrs Lazar and Mrs Boicenco consulted the HS Project Consortium on main deliverables of the project and they were very interested in the HBS Project Hot Spots Methodology and Data Base.

The session ended with discussions related to the final reporting from narrative and financial points of view.

The meeting finished at 18.00 PM and was followed by a social program and official dinner for the project partners.

Thursday, October 22, 2015

The morning session from 09.00 AM till 11.00 AM was dedicated to discussions about the project visibility, dissemination activities, promotion of the project at national and European Level and on the Exit Strategy, also.

Regarding the project visibility and dissemination activities, these were and will be ensured through press releases, leaflets, banners, newsletters, web sites and public events, etc. On every dissemination material, publication or at the dissemination events was and will be mentioned that the project is funded by the European Union.

The partners discussed about the 2nd project newsletter which should be produced and published electronically and in hard copy at the end of project. The content of the 2nd project newsletter was agreed among partners under the responsibility of the Coordinator and FCE.

A number of points were raised, among them notifications, labor timesheets, first level control and need for support documentation, decision making processes and financial issues related to final reporting.

The project coordinator stressed that the final progress narrative report should be submitted within 3 months after project ends. The organization of the work on this report was agreed following the established practice in the project (through the share-point of the intranet of the project website).

Special attention was paid to the specific requirements of financial control and final report of the project.

The GA leaders should timely remind partners about their obligations and tasks. The project coordinator stressed the need the output indicators to be respected and achieved.

The meeting finished at 11.00 AM and was followed by departure of the project partners.

AGENDA

Final Steering Committee Meeting

of the project

Integrated hotspots management and saving the living Black Sea ecosystem – HOT BLACK SEA

MIS-ETC 2303

October, 20 – 22, 2015

Day 1 - October, 20

Arrival and accommodation

Afternoon: 19:00 – 21:00

Registration

Welcome speech

Adoption of the Agenda, nomination of Rapporteur

Dinner

Day 2 – October, 21

Morning Session: 10:00 – 14:00 - Oleg Danovski hall

GAs of the project and achieved results - discussions

LBS Management Report - discussions

LBS Monitoring Report - discussions

Coffee break

Rivers Monitoring Report – discussions

The raising activities of awareness of children – discussions

Guideline on Public participation - discussions

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session: 15:00 – 18:00 - Oleg Danovski hall

The Black Sea Hot Spots Data Base - discussions

Hot Spot Methodology - discussions

Guideline on BEPs and BATs - discussions

Final reporting: narrative and financial – discussions



18:30 – 22:00 Social program and Dinner

Day 3 – October, 22

09:00 – 11:00 - Oleg Danovski hall

Promotion of the project at the national and European levels and Exit Strategy – discussions

The visual identity of the project, dissemination and website of the project – discussions

Conclusions and closer the meeting

Departure of HOT BLACK SEA Partners