

Maps of averaged land-based pressures along the BG Black Sea coast (re-drawn from the Initial Assessment of Bulgaria prepared in implementation of the MSFD, data of BSBD on LBS and of IO-BAS on nutrients measured in the Bulgarian Black Sea waters in 2006-2012).

### The project activities

- Activity 1:**  
Harmonization of Hot Spots policies
- Activity 2:**  
Identification, evaluation and prioritisation of hot spots
- Activity 3:**  
Hot Spots Data Base in support of decision-making and investment planning
- Activity 4:**  
Increasing sector expertise
- Activity 5:**  
Dissemination of Knowledge and Best Practices, Public Awareness and Visibility
- Activity 6:**  
Management and coordination of the Action

### Partners

**Lead Partner:** National Institute for Research and Development in Electrical Engineering ICPE-CA, Romania  
 TUBITAK-Marmara Research Center, Turkey  
 Foundation Caucasus Environment – FCE, Georgia  
 Odessa State Environmental University (OSENU), Ukraine  
 Burgas Municipality, Bulgaria  
 NGO for Sustainable Regional Development and Environment Protection – SuRDEP, Bulgaria

**Website:** <http://www.bs-hotspots.eu/>



### The project duration

29.03.2013 – 28.03.2015

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**Common borders. Common solutions.**



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## Integrated Hotspots Management and Saving the Living Black Sea Ecosystem HOT BLACK SEA

ROMANIA

TURKEY

GEORGIA

UKRAINE

BULGARIA



## The project overall objective

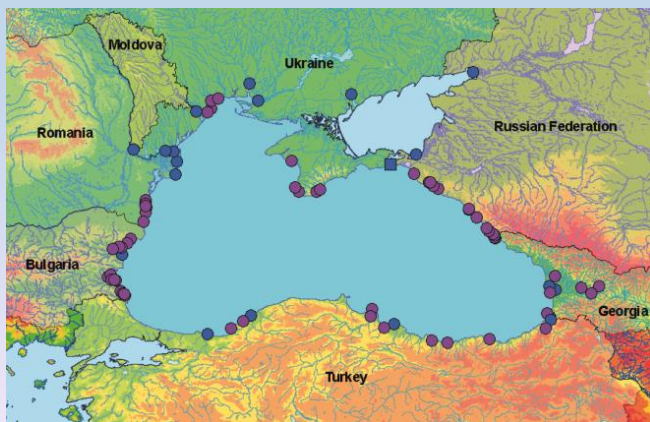
To foster cross-border partnership for the development of harmonised policy and utilization of scientific studies relevant to monitoring and addressing environmental threats in the Black Sea Basin in the field of land-based sources of pollution.

### The specific objectives

- Harmonise river monitoring programmes;
- Harmonise Hot Spots identification and prioritisation;
- Update the Lists of Hot Spots based on common Methodology;
- Provide data/information management tool to support decision-making in the field of Hot Spots management;
- Share competencies to increase capacity in hot spots management embracing the adaptive approach and market-based instruments for pollution control;
- Increase public awareness and stakeholders participation in decision-making related to hot spots.

### Ecological problems of the Black Sea

The four priority trans-boundary problems of the Black Sea are: eutrophication/nutrient enrichment, changes in marine living resources, chemical pollution (including oil) and biodiversity/habitat changes, including alien species introduction.



Black Sea HotSpots map

According to the revised LBSA Protocol, „Hot spot“ means a limited and definable local land area, stretch of surface water or specific aquifer that is subject to excessive pollution and necessitates priority attention in order to prevent or reduce the actual or potential adverse impacts on human health, ecosystems or natural resources. As per today, in the Black Sea region there are about 50 HotSpots identified, which include major rivers stemming to the Black Sea (as being highly polluted) and some industrial and municipal sources of waste waters or harmful atmospheric emissions.

[http://www.blacksea-commission.org/od\\_LBSAProtocol.asp](http://www.blacksea-commission.org/od_LBSAProtocol.asp)



Sevastopol Bay in Ukraine is still under significant anthropogenic pressure

Along the **Romanian Black Sea** shore, there are industries developed. Among them oil production, naval construction, construction materials industry etc. are considered to be the most significant sources of wastes. Other important pollution source is the Danube River which flows into the sea.

**Turkish Black Sea** coastal areas are exposed to contamination by a variety of pollution sources. Most of the provinces, located along the Black Sea, discharge into its coastal areas waste waters and solid wastes without proper control.

In **Georgia**, the real beauty of the Kolkheti National park, Paliastomi lagoon, suffers progressive eutrophication and consequent harmful algal blooms. This is due to the large nutrient loads stemming to the lagoon from the surrounding agricultural areas and households sewage.



Solid Waste Disposal Area Near The Melen Stream (Turkey)

In **Ukraine**, the Black Sea coastal zone is under various anthropogenic pressures and the related negative impacts are specially serious around ports, river estuaries and large cities where industrial and municipal sources discharge polluting the sea.

Along the **Bulgarian Black Sea** coast, the ecological status of waters varies mostly in the categories from bad to moderate quality due to historical legacy of insufficiently well managed human pressures. During the last years (2006-2013), the southern parts of the coast have been found in good ecological status.



Hyper-eutrophicated Black Sea lagoon Paliostomi in Georgia

### Why is this project needed?

The Black Sea coastal states are conscious of the serious danger posed to the marine environment and coastal areas, living resources and human health by pollution from land-based sources and activities. Existing measures and efforts at the local, national and regional levels to prevent or manage pollution need to be further strengthened. This project will provide the tools to make it happen and keep the Black Sea alive.