

BLACK SEA STORIES

Presented by the Black Sea Assistance Mechanism

Coordination of Marine and Maritime Research and Innovation in the Black Sea - Black Sea CONNECT

HORIZON 2020 - EU.3.2.
- SOCIETAL
CHALLENGES -

FOOD SECURITY,
SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE AND
FORESTRY, MARINE,
MARITIME AND
INLAND WATER
RESEARCH, AND THE
BIOECONOMY

KEY INFO


Total budget:
€ 1,997,062.50

Funders:
European Union

Duration:
October 2019 –
September 2022

 <http://connect2blacksea.org>

 <https://twitter.com/ConnectBlackSea>

 <www.facebook.com/connect2blacksea>

 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCplbmRdEeliqHz0hG8Za3g?view_as=subscriber

Active cooperation and coordination between Common Maritime Agenda (CMA) and its scientific pillar - the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) is a key to the implementation of the CMA. This is the way to develop innovative research infrastructures and to enhance education and capacity building in blue growth in the region. But how to ensure that SRIA is bursting with innovative ideas that lead to tangible coordinated actions?

As the first project in its own field for the Black Sea, EU-funded H2020 Black Sea CONNECT Coordination and Support Action (CSA) was launched in December 2019, specifically to coordinate the consolidation of the SRIA and its Implementation Plan. Managed by the Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS) of Middle East Technical University of Turkey (METU) and involving twelve organisations from eight countries, Black Sea CONNECT continues for the third year to promote a shared vision for a healthy and sustainable Black Sea.

Despite the challenges brought by the pandemic, Black Sea CONNECT is providing strong support to the SRIA Implementation through national and international consultations, development of concrete activities, joint actions and tailored outreach efforts, including the Black Sea Young Ambassadors Program (BSYAP). The actions of BSYAP play an important role in making the Black Sea more visible, with Young Ambassadors being the voice of the Black Sea to reveal the unknowns of the Black Sea and re-establish the missing links between scientists and society. To that aim, Young Ambassadors are conducting local and bottom-up activities in their local communities in Spring – Summer 2022.

On 1 February 2022, the Black Sea CONNECT Innovation Workshop took place, which allowed the meeting of nascent maritime and innovation clusters in the Black Sea with European counterparts, driving their collaborative development of blue innovations for the region and providing direct input to Implementation Plan.

In its final year, Black Sea CONNECT will be finalising the Implementation Plan through national and international targeted events and launching the final SRIA and Implementation Plan as a legacy of the Black Sea CONNECT CSA.

COUNTRIES & PARTNERS INVOLVED



Middle East Technical University, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Kurumu ([Türkiye](#))



Institutul Național de Cercetare – Dezvoltare pentru Geologie și Geocologie Marină – GeoEcoMar, Institutul Național de Cercetare - Dezvoltare Marină Grigore Antipa, Secretariatul Național Român al Rețelei Universităților de la Marea Neagră ([Romania](#))



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