
The editor of the material:
National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa” (NIMRD), Constanta, Romania
Address: 300 Mamala Blvd., 900581, Constanta, Romania
Phone: +40 241 543288, +40 241 540870
E-mail: office@alpha.rmri.ro
Website: www.rmri.ro

Contact:
ANEMONE Project coordinator:
Dr. Laura Boicenco,
e-mail: lboicenco@alpha.rmri.ro
Web: http://anemoneproject.eu/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Anemone.project.bsb319/

ANEMONE
Assessing the vulnerability of the Black Sea marine ecosystem to human pressures

Joint Operational Programme Black Sea Basin 2014-2020
National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa” (NIMRD), Constanta, Romania
February 2020
Joint Operational Programme Black Sea Basin 2014-2020 is co-financed by the European Union through the European Neighbourhood Instrument and by the participating countries: Armenia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine.
This publication has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union.
The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of NIMRD and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

www.anemoneproject.eu
ANEMONE MAIN OUTCOMES SO FAR MONITORING: CURRENT SITUATION, NEEDS, REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPROVEMENT AND REVISION

- Gap analysis on monitoring data and knowledge: review of available monitoring data and information in Black Sea countries; analysis and identification of common indicators, knowledge gaps and research need at regional level. Results of previous projects were also considered.

- Workshops on methodologies for monitoring methods and quality assurance, and new tools and indicators for integrative assessment of the ecological status: ANEMONE Workshop, 19-20 June 2019, Istanbul, Turkey: Tools and indicators for the integrated assessment of Black Sea environmental status: evaluated the suitability of NEAT (Nested Environmental status Assessment Tool) and CHASE (Chemical Status Assessment Tool) tools to be used in environmental assessment of the Black Sea marine environment.

FIELD WORK: CONDUCTING PILOT MONITORING STUDIES IN SELECTED STUDY AREAS

- Romanian national research cruise, May 2019: NIMRD sampled water, sediments and biota from the Danube’s influence area.

- Field activities for marine litter monitoring in the Danube outflow area and marine waters, in the frame of the ANEMONE Project (Romania, Danube Delta, August 2019).

- River litter sampling activities in Turkey: bottom trawling operations were carried out in September 2019 in the two marine areas in front of Sakarya and Yeşilirmak Rivers.

- ANEMONE Winter Cruise in Turkish Waters, January 2020: water and sediment samples were collected from Sakarya River and Yeşilirmak River mouths and the hot spots such as Samsun Port and WWTP.

- Western Black Sea Cetacean Survey, Black Sea, October 2019: covering 600 km in 8 days, the research expedition surveyed cetaceans in the western Black Sea coast of Turkey between Bulgarian border Iğneada to Karadeniz Ereğli.

- The ANEMONE Black Sea Joint Scientific Cruise was completed during 1-8 October 2019. A team of 17 marine scientists from 4 countries (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine) on board the research vessel “Mare Nigrum” carried out sampling of water, sediments and marine organisms to assess the health of the Black Sea.

The research cruise comprised 3 sampling areas/polys and 21 stations, selected so as to cover shelf and open sea pelagic habitats and similar benthic habitats of each partner country. An impressive number of water and sediment physical, chemical (including pollutants) and biological samples (~1500), related to 120 parameters were measured during the cruise, of relevance for indicator-based assessment of the Western Black Sea environmental status.

ENHANCE STAKEHOLDERS’ PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Public engagement workshops & citizen science
- 4 countries. One common sea... Black Sea. 4 workshops. One common problem... Marine Litter: 4 partners from Romania, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Turkey, organized 4 workshops on the topic of marine litter: 27 March 2019, Constanta; 9 April 2019, Odessa; 17 April 2019, Varna; 24 April 2019, Istanbul.

- Workshop on “Stakeholder involvement in dolphin monitoring activities”, 17 October 2019, Constanta, Romania: the objective of the workshop was the development of the national network for the monitoring of cetaceans from the Romanian Black Sea coast.

- Citizen science in beach litter surveys in partner countries; gathering and validating data from the public: volunteers participated in beach litter monitoring and collection actions.

ANEMONE MORE RESULTS TO COME!

- Black Sea Monitoring and Assessment Guideline (BSMAG): document aimed to facilitate and improve the harmonization process at regional level towards a common understanding of Good Environmental Status.

- Guidelines on the adaptive criteria for monitoring of the maritime activities impact: a comprehensive GIS based tool for informed decision-making in the Black Sea region, covering specific areas (substrate, habitat, Natura 2000 etc.).

- ANEMONE ATLAS - an Interactive Atlas for Black Sea Environmental Assessment
  http://anemoneproject.eu/wpcontent/web_gis.php

- Report on the State of Black Sea Environment: eutrophication, pollution, pelagic and benthic communities, marine litter, dolphin sighting surveys

- Hazardous substances assessment in Black Sea biota: new information on chemical contamination of aquatic organisms and potential risks, thus filling knowledge gaps and new information for Black Sea region.