



# MARSPLAN-BS NEWSLETTER

MARSPLAN-BS Consortium

February 2017

## ***Cross Border Maritime Spatial Planning in the Black Sea – Romania and Bulgaria (MARSPLAN-BS)***

**Project ID:** EASME/EMFF/2014/1.2.1.5/2/SI2.707672 MSP LOT 1 /BLACK SEA/MARSPLAN-BS

### **Sponsor:**

The project is financed by the European Commission through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) through a Grant Agreement between the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) and the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration of Romania. (EU contribution: 1.639.212,59 EUR)

### **Main objectives:**

MARSPLAN-BS aims to support the implementation of the Directive for Maritime Spatial Planning (Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014) in the Black Sea and to facilitate the cross-border maritime spatial planning between Romania and Bulgaria. It focuses on the cross-border maritime spatial planning of Romania and Bulgaria, the only EU Member States in the Black Sea basin, but it will create the premises for expanding the cooperation framework with the other Black Sea countries.

### **Beneficiaries:**

The project consortium includes the main public authorities in Romania and Bulgaria with attributions related to the implementation of the MSP directive, as they coordinate the spatial planning (for terrestrial and marine areas), transport (including navigation), and environmental protection and integrated coastal zone management. Research and higher education institutions from both member states holding significant experience in marine research, coastal management and spatial planning are also involved in the project, ensuring the scientific basis for all proposed activities.

- Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration, MRDPA (Romania)
- Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, MRDPW (Bulgaria)
- Department on Water and Forests, MWF (Romania)
- National Institute for Marine Research and Development – “Grigore Antipa Constanta”, NIMRD (Romania)
- Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development in Environment Protection, DDNIRD (Romania)
- National Institute for Research and Development in Construction, Urban Planning and Sustainable Spatial Development – Urban-Incerc (Romania)
- Ovidius University of Constanta, OUC Romania)
- Institute of Oceanology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, IO-BAS (Bulgaria)
- Executive Agency Maritime Administration, EAMA (Bulgaria)
- Bulgarian Ports Infrastructures Company, BPIC (Bulgaria)

**Project duration:** 14/08/2015 -13/08/2017



## ***EASME Visit and Steering Committee Meeting***



A MARSPLAN-BS monitoring visit was held on November 3-4, 2016 in Bucharest, hosted by the lead partner, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration. At the meeting, the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), which has been set-up by the European Commission to manage on its behalf several EU programmes, including MARSPLAN-BS, was represented by David Sanmiguel Esteban, Project Adviser, and Silvia Lucia Crupnic, Financial Officer. Each team leader presented a midterm report and important issues regarding the fulfilment of project objectives were discussed.

A general conclusion of the meeting was that the research endeavours have led to thorough scientific reports, which need to be capitalized upon. All the valuable effort invested in the research activities needs to be transferred in the second part of the project into practical and concrete MSP recommendations to the establishment of maritime spatial plans in the region.

The focus will gradually be shifted towards practical information accessible to the national and regional MSP planners and decision-makers responsible for bringing the MSP process forward.



## ***Stakeholder Meeting in Eforie, Romania***

The National Institute for Marine Research and Development „Grigore Antipa” MARSPLAN-BS team, together with the Ovidius University of Constanta team, organized on November 16, 2016, a debate about Case study Eforie area (erosion), in the Working Group no. 6 of the project. On the same occasion, a Stakeholder Meeting event was held.



The event, hosted by the Eforie City Hall in Eforie Sud, Constanta county, Romania, brought together 29 participants.

The event was organized in two parallel thematic groups: „Socio-economic development and spatial planning” and „Marine Environment, Nature Protection and Biodiversity”. The purpose of this working meeting was to gather scientific community concerned by Spatial Planning Maritime (MSP),

authorities and stakeholders of nature conservation and economic environment in the coastal zone of UAT Eforie North and South, representatives of local communities and the civil society to work together to identify common threats and solutions for long-term territorial development and coastal protection, mainly stressing coastal erosion, land-sea interaction and SWOT Analyses.



## ***Stakeholder Meeting in Varna, Bulgaria***

On November 29, 2016, the *Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria* organized an official event in the framework of Cross-border Maritime Spatial Planning in the Black Sea - Romania, Bulgaria project. It was held in Varna, at the Black Sea Hotel. Invited at the event were representatives of the key stakeholders: EC Representation in Bulgaria, the Governors of Varna, Burgas and Dobrich, Mayors of major Municipalities - members of the Association of Bulgarian Black Sea Municipalities, representatives of ministries, state institutions and agencies with direct impact to the transposition of the European Directive on maritime spatial planning, representatives of universities, NGOs and of all project partners.



Ms. Maria Georgieva - team coordinator of MARSPLAN-BS, delivered the opening remarks on behalf of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria. Ms Vesselina Angelova from the European Commission Representation in Bulgaria, made welcome remarks. Mr Bogdan Ghinea, Adviser, General Directorate of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Policies and Strategies Department, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration of Romania made a brief presentation of the project objectives, activities, expected results and presented all partners to the audience. Dr. Laura Alexandrov (NIMRD), Ms Vesselina Georgieva, external consultant and representatives of IO-BAS presented the Initial assessment of the Romanian and Bulgarian maritime space in relation to MSP.

Ms Dobromira Bankova, external consultant and Ms Pavlinka Kovacheva, Director of "Ports and Port Services" EA Maritime Administration Bulgaria had a presentation regarding Institutional and legislative framework for maritime spatial planning. Dr. Margarita Stancheva (IO-BAS) had a presentation about "Burgas Case Study" (land-sea interactions). Dr. Nedko Dimitrov, Naval Academy-Bulgaria had a presentation regarding Bulgaria Functional zoning of the Bulgarian maritime space. The DG Territorial Cooperation Management, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Republic of Bulgaria was represented by Mr Marius Mladenov, Head of Department with a presentation regarding Funding opportunities under the Black Sea Cross-border Cooperation Programme.



## ***Thematic Workshop on MSP Legislation and Institutional Framework***

On November 29, 2016, Ovidius University of Constanta organized the forth thematic workshop in the frame of the project Cross border maritime spatial planning in the Black Sea - Romania and Bulgaria (MARSPLAN -BS). The workshop was held at Interhotel Chernomorets (Black Sea), in Varna, Bulgaria. Professor Diane Vancea gave the welcome speech and Ms. Maria Georgieva, representing Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria, made opening remarks regarding the European, Bulgarian and Romanian legislation in the field of maritime spatial planning. During the event, Dr. Laura Alexandrov, representing National Institute for Marine Research and Development „Grigore Antipa”, presented the paper entitled *Introduction into the EU -MSP Platform and the related EU legislation and administration.*



## ***Thematic Workshop on MSP Ship Routing Systems***

The 5<sup>th</sup> thematic workshop was held on February 28 at Ovidius University of Constanta. It enjoyed the participation of renowned specialists in the field from Romania and Bulgaria and was chaired by Professor Diane Vancea. The papers presented addressed the main topics of interest regarding Ship Routing Systems and constituted themselves into a broad debate on cooperation between the two countries on purpose to identify solutions for this domain, that are in agreement with the European directive (2014/89/UE). The opening remarks of the Bulgarian partners were delivered by Stanimir Milchev Nokolov.

From the Executive Agency Maritime Agency of Bulgaria, Peter Volodiev Kirov, presented the paper *Ship routing in the Black Sea-The Bulgarian perspective*. From Bulgarian Ports Infrastructures Company, Snejna Alexieva talked about *Ship routing and Ports*. The two presentations that followed were: Development „Grigore Antipa” and *Ship routing in the Black Sea-Ship Routing System and Ports*, whose author was Alina Spinu from National Institute for Marine Research and A *Romanian perspective*, presented by Costel Stanca representing both Constanta Maritime University and Ovidius University of Constanta.



## ***Thematic Workshop on MSP Aquaculture and Fisheries***



The discussions that took place during the 6<sup>th</sup> thematic workshop, held on February 28 and chaired by Professor Anca Cristina Stanciu, emphasized the main threats for aquaculture and fishery at the Black Sea. The speakers evoked the risk of increasing human (pollution and overfishing) and climate change pressures on fish stocks; necessity for a better management in marine fisheries at Black Sea level; the reasons and evaluation

for what marine fisheries and aquaculture are part of maritime spatial planning.

Mr. Penyo Dyakov from the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria had a presentation regarding *Aquaculture and Fisheries in Bulgaria*. National Institute for Marine Research and Development „Grigore Antipa” from Romania was represented by: Laura Alexandrov (*Study Case: Aquaculture and Fisheries*), Tania Zaharia & Victor Nita (*Marine Aquaculture in Romania*), Gheorghe Radu (*Marine Fisheries Romania & Bulgaria*) and Cristian Danilov (*Shellfish*) and Mirel Ctivat (*Romanian Mussel Farm "Mariculture"*).

At last but not the least, Irina Cernisencu & George Tiganov, representing subunit Danube Delta of National Institute for Research and Development, presented the paper entitled *Fisheries in the Danube Delta coastal waters and lagoons*.





## ***Thematic Workshop on MSP Cross Border Integration***

The main project objective is to support the implementation of the European Directive for maritime spatial planning. It focuses on the consolidating the cross-border cooperation and exchange of information between Romania and Bulgaria on issues related to maritime area and elaborate the maritime spatial plan for the cross-border area. The issues mentioned above represent the general coordinate of the Cross Border Integration workshop which was chaired by Professor Mihai Girtu, seconded for the opening remarks by Dr. Margarita Stancheva, representing Institute of Oceanology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

The workshop consisted of presentations and discussions on topics of interest by reputable specialists in the field: Dr. Magda Nenciu from the National Institute for Marine Research and Development „Grigore Antipa”, Dr. Hristo Stanchev and Dr. Margarita Stancheva, from Institute of Oceanology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.



## ***Upcoming events!***

### **International Conference on Maritime Spatial Planning in the Black Sea**

The conference will be organized, on May 03-04 2017, by the MARSPLAN-BS consortium at the Ovidius University of Constanța. The main purpose of the conference is to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and stakeholders to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of maritime spatial planning, worldwide but with emphasis on the Black Sea area. More information is available at <http://marsplan-bs.univ-ovidius.ro/sc/>.

Scientific sessions will address the following issues: European status and trends in MSP (speakers will present the framework for improving ocean health, protecting the marine environment and encouraging the sustainable development of the blue economy and discuss the role of MSP in dealing with such challenges); MSP legislation and institutional capacity development (speakers will discuss the national implementation of the EU directive as well as the institutional capacity needs at regional and national level to promote adaptive management within MSP); Cross-border cooperation in MSP (speakers will share their practical experience of marine spatial planning, highlighting good practices and fit to purpose solutions regarding implementation of MSP plans and policies as well as effective monitoring and evaluation); MSP towards sustainable Blue Growth (speakers will discuss how in practice MSP processes can lead to creating jobs and economic growth, while protecting and preserving the environment); MSP in the Black Sea (speakers will report on the Black Sea case studies, land-sea interactions, protected areas, maritime transport etc.); Good practices for science-based MSP (speakers will share their lessons learnt on knowledge generation in the context of the preparation, implementation and evaluation of MSP; the closing session will review the main messages of the Conference and the good practices to be applied by Romania and Bulgaria).

The MARSPLAN-BS Newsletter is produced by the communications team of the MARSPLAN-BS project. The project is financed by the European Commission through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) through a Grant Agreement between the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) and the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration of Romania. You can find further information about project on its website (<http://www.mdrap.ro/planificare-spatiala-pentru-marea-neagra>). This document does not necessarily represent the European Commission or EASME official position.