

Timeline



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CONNECT  BLACK SEA

The Blue Growth Initiative for Research and Innovation in the Black Sea

For a healthy, resilient and better-valued Black Sea

- 2017 — LAUNCH OF THE INITIATIVE**
Launch of the Blue Growth Initiative for Research and Innovation in the Black Sea
- 2017 — BLACK SEA SRIA DEVELOPMENT**
Workshops are held on gaps, needs, opportunities of the Black Sea
- 2018 — LAUNCH OF THE BURGAS VISION PAPER**
Launch of the Burgas Vision Paper on European Maritime Day 2018, Bulgaria
- 2019 — LAUNCH OF BLACK SEA SRIA**
Launch of Black Sea SRIA at Sust-Black Event, Romania
- 2019 — LAUNCH OF BLACK SEA CONNECT CSA**
Black Sea CONNECT Coordination and Support Action begins to support the Initiative
- 2020 — NATIONAL BLACK SEA SRIA WORKSHOPS**
Workshops are held in all Black Sea countries to identify and set the national priorities within SRIA and provide concrete input to the Imp. Plan
- 2020 — BS YOUNG AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME**
Young Ambassadors program that aims to unite Black Sea youth for the future of the Black Sea is launched
- 2022 — IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT**
Activities, consultations, and events take place to provide input to the Implementation Plan
- 2023 — FINAL BLACK SEA SRIA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**
SRIA Implementation Plan co-developed with experts and key stakeholders is launched



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Coordination



Support



Link

Why Black Sea?

The Black Sea, a **unique sea basin, rich in biodiversity and heritage**, but also where an exceptional combination of **natural and human induced stressors** co-occur.

The Black Sea is a vital resource with vast potential to boost the societal value of **the blue economy** for its surrounding countries. **Blue Growth** has a great potential for the Black Sea countries and for Europe as a whole as it can be considered an instrument to **promote stability and empower** the coastal communities in the region (EC, 2014).

The Black Sea, with its marine basin and coastal socio-economic systems combined, can be considered as **a natural laboratory of global significance**, for fundamental science, sustainability policy and Blue Growth.

160 million

Population of Black Sea coasts and catchment

4869 km
of coastline

10 large rivers flowing to the sea, with a total river input exceeding

350 km³ year⁻¹

421 638 km²

Total Area

5 ratio of the Black Sea catchment area to the sea's area

90%

of oxygen free, H₂S-rich volume

Deep Black Sea as the paleoclimate archive of past

18 major sea ports

5 million years

30 to 8 reduction in the number of fish species with economical significance

Rich in **energy sources** such as wave, currents, offshore wind, H₂S, gas hydrates

What?

Black Sea CONNECT CSA will be to scientifically, technically and logistically support the Black Sea Blue Growth Initiative towards the implementation of the Black Sea SRIA, with a view on boosting the Blue Economy in the region. Black Sea CONNECT will develop and promote a shared vision for a productive, healthy, resilient, sustainable and better valued Black Sea.

4 PILLARS of the Black SEA SRIA

1 Black Sea Knowledge Bridge

Addressing fundamental Black Sea research challenges

2 Black Sea Blue Economy

Developing products, solutions and clusters underpinning Black Sea Blue Growth

3 Key Infrastructures & Policy Enablers

Building of critical support systems and research infrastructures for the benefit of Black Sea communities

4 Empowered Citizens & Blue Workforce

Education and capacity building

How?

- Supporting the Initiative to consolidate and update SRIA
- Developing SRIA Implementation Plan
- Establishment of an operational network for the Black Sea region
- Supporting the design and implementation of new transnational joint activities
- Making the Black Sea visible through empowered Black Sea societies
- Developing Black Sea Young Ambassador Program

