Timeline

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



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 860055.

















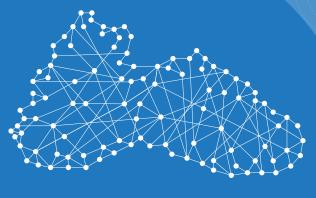












CONNECT **O** BLACK SEA

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

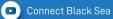
For a healthy, resilient and better-valued Black Sea

















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 socioe-conomic systems combined, can be considered as a natural laboratory of global significance, for fundamental science, sustainability policy and Blue Growth.

4869 km 160 million 10 large rivers flowing of coastline Population of Black Sea to the sea. with a total coasts and catchment river input exceeding 350 km3 year-1 421 638 km² Total Area 5 ratio of the Black Sea catchment area 90% to the sea's area 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

- Rlack Sea Knowledge Bridge Addressing fundamental Black Sea research
 - Challenges

 Black Sea Blue Economy

 Developing products, solutions
 and clusters underpinning
 Black Sea Blue Growth
- Building of critical support systems and research infrastructures for the benefit of Black Sea communities

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

