



Newsletter

of BS-ERA.NET Project

Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region



HIGHLIGHTS

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General Information

Presenting BS-ERA.NET Project

The BS-ERA.NET Project (Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region) is Coordination and Support Action funded by European Commission within 7th Framework Programme and will be implemented within a time scale of 36 months, from January 2009 until December 2011.

The objective of the ERA-NET scheme is to step up the cooperation and coordination of research activities carried out at national or regional level in the Member States and Associated States through:

⇒ the networking of research activities conducted at national or regional level, and the mutual opening of national and regional research programmes.

The scheme will contribute to making a reality of the European Research Area by improving the coherence and coordination across Europe of such research programmes. The scheme will also enable national systems to take on tasks collectively that they would not have been able to tackle independently.

Both networking and mutual opening require a progressive approach. The ERA-NET scheme therefore has a long-term perspective that must also allow for the different way that research is organised in different Member States and Associated States.

The main objectives of the BS-ERA.NET project are:

⇒ reduce the fragmentation of the European Research Area by improving the coherence and coordination of national and regional research programmes;

⇒ to develop and strengthen the coordination of public research programmes conducted at national and regional level, which target a group of countries from the extended Black Sea region.

⇒ to sustain the communication in order to develop better reciprocal knowledge and promote trust-building among programme owners and/or managers through a mutual learning process, and a systemic exchange of information and good practice.

⇒ to enhance the complementarities and synergy between the Framework Programme and activities carried out in the framework of international institutions such as COST, EUREKA, NEP, UNESCO-BRESCE or EIROforum.

⇒ to promote a network and mutually open at national regional research programmes level which will lead to: concrete cooperation in the frame of the Black Sea Research Programme (BSRP) and to the development and implementation of joint programmes and activities in the region.

The main instrument for the joint activities, projects and programmes in the region will be represented by the BSRP.

Activities

BS-ERA.NET Kick Off Meeting

Black Sea ERA.NET Kick Off Meeting was held on 26-27 February in Bucharest, Romania.

The main aim of this Kick-Off Meeting was to launch the BS-ERA.NET project. This implies establishing the governance structure of the project, which was laid down in the Consortium Agreement.

Subsequently, the six Work Packages were presented by the respective WP leaders.



Black Sea ERA.NET Workshop for Work Packages 1&2 was held on 11-12 May in Istanbul, Turkey.

Members

Armenia

National Academy of Science of Republic of Armenia, NAS-RA

NAS-RA is a highest state scientific self-governing organization which unites NAS Members and scientific staff of affiliated scientific and research institutions. The Academy promotes and carries out fundamental and applied research in different scientific fields, as well as coordinates research carried out throughout Armenia. NAS RA is an official scientific consultant to the highest Governing Bodies of Armenia.

Armenia

State Committee of Science of Republic of Armenia, SCS-RA

State Committee of Science of Republic of Armenia (SCS-RA) is a public body empowered to develop and implement state policy in the field of science and technologies. SCS-RA is also responsible for development, implementation and management of national R&D programmes.

Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences ANAS

The Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) is the main scientific organization in the Azerbaijan Republic.

Bulgaria

Ministry of Education and Science of Bulgaria, MESB

The MESB is responsible for the overall national research policy and strategy development. Main activities are research programme and project management; implementation and monitoring; expert advice and coordination of regional; European and international research initiatives.

France

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research, MESR

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research devises, elaborates and implements the national research and innovation policy.

France

National Center for Scientific Research, CNRS

The Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (National Center for Scientific Research) is a government-funded research organization, under the administrative authority of France's Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

Georgia

Georgia National Science Foundation, GNSF

The Georgia National Science Foundation (GNSF) is a Public Legal Entity established by the Presidential Decree # 653 in July 17, 2005 to promote the progress of science by funding state scientific grants.

Germany

International Bureau of the BMBF (PT-DLR)

The International Bureau has been commissioned by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to strengthen the international ties of German universities, research institutes and enterprises with the ultimate goal of building competencies and fostering competitive advantages for industry and the research community in Germany in the areas of research and innovation. In doing so, the International Bureau is making an important contribution to cultivating an international dimension within the research programmes of the BMBF.

Greece

General Secretariat for Research and Technology, GSRT

The General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT) of the Ministry of Development is a governmental body responsible for supporting, supervising and financing the research activities of research institutes and of its productive industry, focussing on areas that are important for the national economy and for the improvement of the quality of life. It promotes the transfer and dissemination of advanced technologies as well as of research and technology information throughout Greece and internationally and encourages activities aimed at raising awareness of the general public about research and technology issues. GSRT

represents Greece in relevant bodies of the European Union and promotes the cooperation with other countries and international organisations on research and technology issues.

Italy

Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and the Environment, ENEA

ENEA, the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and the Environment is a public undertaking operating in the fields of energy, the environment and new technologies to support competitiveness and sustainable development.

Malta

Malta Council for Scientific and Technology, MCST

The Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST) is a public body established by central government in 1988 to response for National Strategy and Policy in the field of Research and Innovation.

Moldova

Academy of Science of Moldova, ASM

The Academy of Sciences of Moldova, in its role of the highest scientific forum of the country, represents the only public institution of national interest in the sphere of science and innovation, is a plenipotentiary coordinator of scientific and innovation activity, scientific consultant of the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova, has an autonomous statute and acts on the basis of self-administration principles.

Romania

National Centre for Programme Management, CNMP

The National Centre for Programme Management (CNMP), Romania, is a legal Romanian public body established by the Government to coordinate research programmes under the National Plan(s) for Research, Development & Innovation.

Romania

National Authority for Scientific Research, ANCS

The National Authority for Scientific Research is the Government's specialized body with the mission to formulate, apply, coordinate, monitor and evaluate R&D and innovation policies, in accordance with the Government Strategy and Programme. ANCS fulfills the responsibilities and undertakes the attributes of the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth in the field of research, technological development and innovation.

Turkey

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, TÜBİTAK

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey is the leading agency for management, funding and conduct of research in Turkey.

TÜBİTAK is responsible for promoting, developing, organizing, conducting and coordinating research and development in line with national targets and priorities.

Ukraine

The National Information Centre for Ukraine - EU S&T Cooperation, NIP

The National Information Centre for Ukraine - EU S&T Cooperation at the Kyiv State Centre of S&T and Economic Information (NIP Ukraine/FP7 INCO NCP) is a state agency reporting to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. NIP Ukraineserves as instrument of intercommunication and liaison between the Governmental Bodies of Ukraine and the DGR EU, between Ukrainian scientific Community and the ERA. NIP circulates information and documentation on the EU RTD programmes, organizes and conducts promotional, training and information activities, assists in partner search, advise on rules and procedures of the EU S&T programmes, in particular FP7.

International Centre for Black Sea Studies, ICBSS

The International Centre for Black Sea Studies was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organisation. It has since fulfilled a dual function. On the one hand, it is an independent research and training institution focusing on the wider Black Sea region. On the other hand, it is a related body of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and serves as its acknowledged think-tank.

Events

Bulgaria

On 16 - 17 April 2009, the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution took place in Sofia.

Details at: <http://www.blacksea-commission.org/>

On 24-25 April 2009, the Energy Summit "Natural Gas for Europe: Security and Partnership" held in Sofia.

Details at: <http://www.energysummit2009.bg/en/>

Germany

On 14 - 15 May 2009, the Southeast Europe Association in close cooperation with the German Association for East European Studies organize an International Conference on the topic "The Black Sea Region: New Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Cooperation" in Berlin / Germany.

(Information from the site:

http://www.suedosteuropa-gesellschaft.com/pdf_2009/aktuell_ankuendigungen/black_sea.pdf)

Greece

On 3 April 2009, Round Table Discussion on "Debating the EU's New Eastern Policy: The Black Sea Synergy and the Eastern Partnership" organised jointly by the ICBS and the Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW) took place in Athens.

Details at: <http://www.icbss.org>

Moldova

On 8 May 2009, EU will give Moldova financial support with the help of Joint operational program for the Black Sea Region countries for 2007-2013. Moldova Republic with another 9 countries (Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova Republic, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia) will use EU financing of the cultural, regional cooperation projects and environmental programs.

Details at: <http://bsanna-news.ukrinform.ua/>

Romania

On 4 March 2009 was inaugurated in Bucharest "The International Foundation of the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea". The Foundation's goal is to strengthen the cooperation in fields such as the consolidation of democracy, justice, human rights, the fight against terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking, the fight against poverty, science, culture, the environment protection. It is set up at the initiative of the

scientists and the representatives of the civil society of the above mentioned countries.

(Information from the site:

<http://www.financiarul.ro>)

On 5 - 6 May 2009, the Launching Conference of the Joint Operational Programme "Black Sea 2007-2013" took place in Bucharest.

Details at: <http://www.blacksea-cbc.net>

Turkey

On 6-8 April 2009, the Kick - off Meeting of the Upgrade BS - Scene Project was held in Istanbul, Turkey. The project is the continuation of the Black Sea Scene Project which was accepted under the 6th Framework Programme, and aims to establish a Black Sea Scientific Network of leading environmental and socio - economic research institutes, universities, NGOs from the countries in the region with the idea of establishing an integrated virtual data and information database with standardized quality checks.

On 5-6 May 2009, Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Science and Technology Working Group Meeting was held in Istanbul, Turkey, in the headquarters of the Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS) of BSEC.

Ukraine

On 26 - 29 May 2009, the Rector's Meeting of Black Sea Region "Technical University in Industrially Development Region: Interaction with Leading Industrial Enterprises—Mission, Scientific Cooperation, Staff preparation and Training", Zaporizhzhya

Details at: <http://zntu.edu.ua/base/bsun/index.html>

On 27 May 2009, the International Conference "Black Sea Region: Challenges to Cooperation" took place in Odesa. The following points were discussed during the conference: the situation in the Black Sea Region in the sphere of security, the impact of the block confrontation on regional collaboration; the analysis of the Black Sea synergy of the EU; regulation of the 'frozen' conflicts; energetic and transport cooperation.

Details at: <http://en.prichernomorie.com.ua/>

On 24 April 2009, Sevastopol to use seawater warm with Japanese knowhow. Within the framework of Ukraine - Japan cooperation, it is planned to put into life a number of similar projects aimed at improvement of environmental situation and essential reduction of natural gas consumption.

(Information from the site: <http://bsanna-news.ukrinform.ua/>)

Upcoming Events

Germany

On 16-17 July 2009, The First Steering Board Meeting of BS-ERA.NET Project, Bonn, Germany.

Greece

On 30 June – 5 July 2009, the 2nd International Black Sea Symposium "The Black Sea Region: the State of Play and the Way Forward" will take place in Kalymnos, Dodecanese.

Details at: <http://www.icbss.org/>

Italy

On 22-23 June 2009, Training on communication and awareness raising for ENPI CBC programmes and First meeting of the south and south-eastern ENPI CBC National Information Points network will take place in Florence.

Details at: <http://www.blacksea-cbc.net/>

Ukraine

Scientific workshop "Identification of concrete sub-topics of S&T EU-Ukraine cooperation: medium term outlook" with representatives of the Joint Working Groups for promoting participation of the Ukrainian Scientists in the FP7, representatives of the European Commission and other stakeholders, 23rd September 2009, Kiev, Ukraine.

Details at: <http://www.bilat-ukr.eu/en/128.php>

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