



CONNECT TO BLACK SEA

BLACK SEA BLUE GROWTH INITIATIVE

Supported by Black Sea CONNECT COORDINATION & SUPPORT ACTION

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METU Institute of Marine Sciences

BLACK SEA STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA (2019)

Blue Growth Initiative for Research and Innovation in the Black Sea

*Represents the work carried out by Black
Sea coastal countries experts, in
cooperation with marine experts from
leading European institutes and
organisations, with the support of the
European Commission*



Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda

WHAT IS THE SRIA?

- A reference framework
- Programmatic tool



KEY OUTPUTS OF SRIA

- National level priorities identified
- Development of national Blue Growth agendas
- Science-based and well-informed decision-making
- Supporting the development of the Common Maritime Agenda



ADDRESSES ALL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

- Established sectors such as shipping, shipbuilding, fisheries, traditional sun-sea tourism
- Emerging new sectors such as blue bioeconomy/biotechnology, ocean energy, offshore wind energy, coastal and environmental protection



SRIA WILL GUIDE STAKEHOLDERS

- Academia
- Funding agencies
- Industry
- Policymakers
- Society



Main Milestones

**June 2017 -
Start date**



June 2018

**Burgas Declaration
Vision Paper for SRIA**

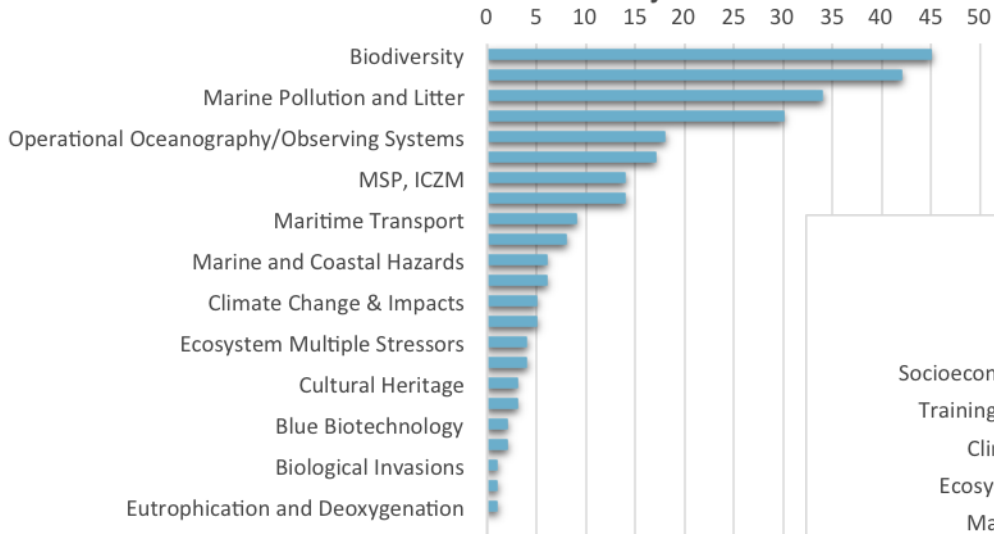


**May 2019 - Romania –
Bucharest Declaration
Launch of SRIA**



Steps Taken to Develop SRIA

**Number of Projects According to Main R&I Areas
Black Sea Countries Total Projects**

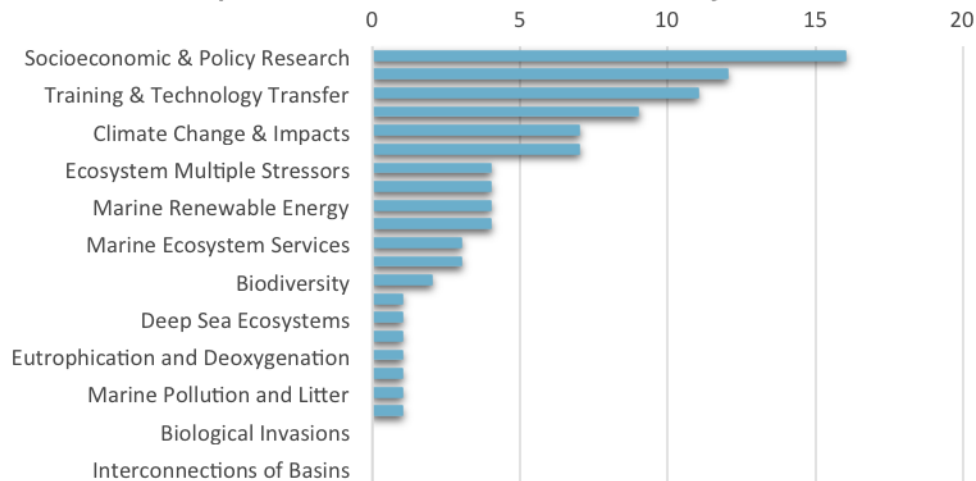


DEVELOP THE SRIA

RES
at
A
on

ACTIONS
To achieve
and
implement
the goals

**Number of Projects According to Main R&I Areas
European Union FP7 and Horizon2020 Projects**

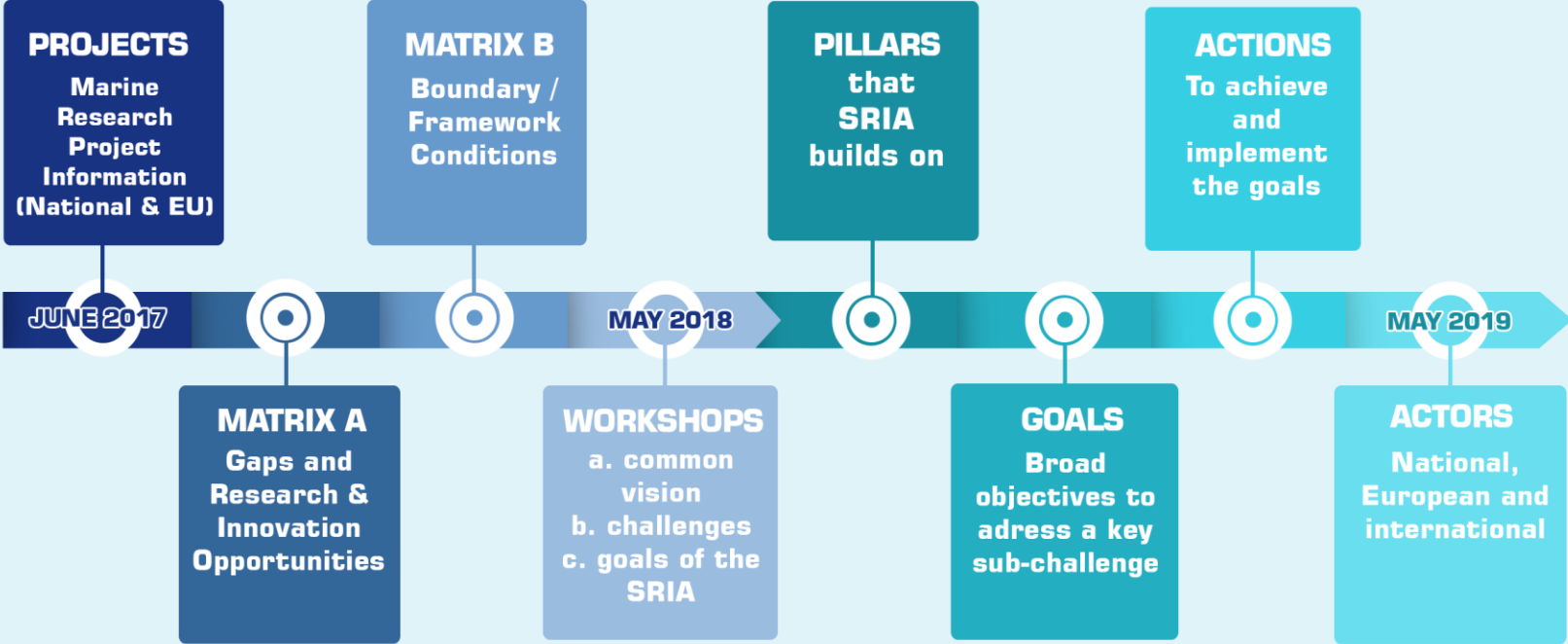


**Innovation
Opportunities**

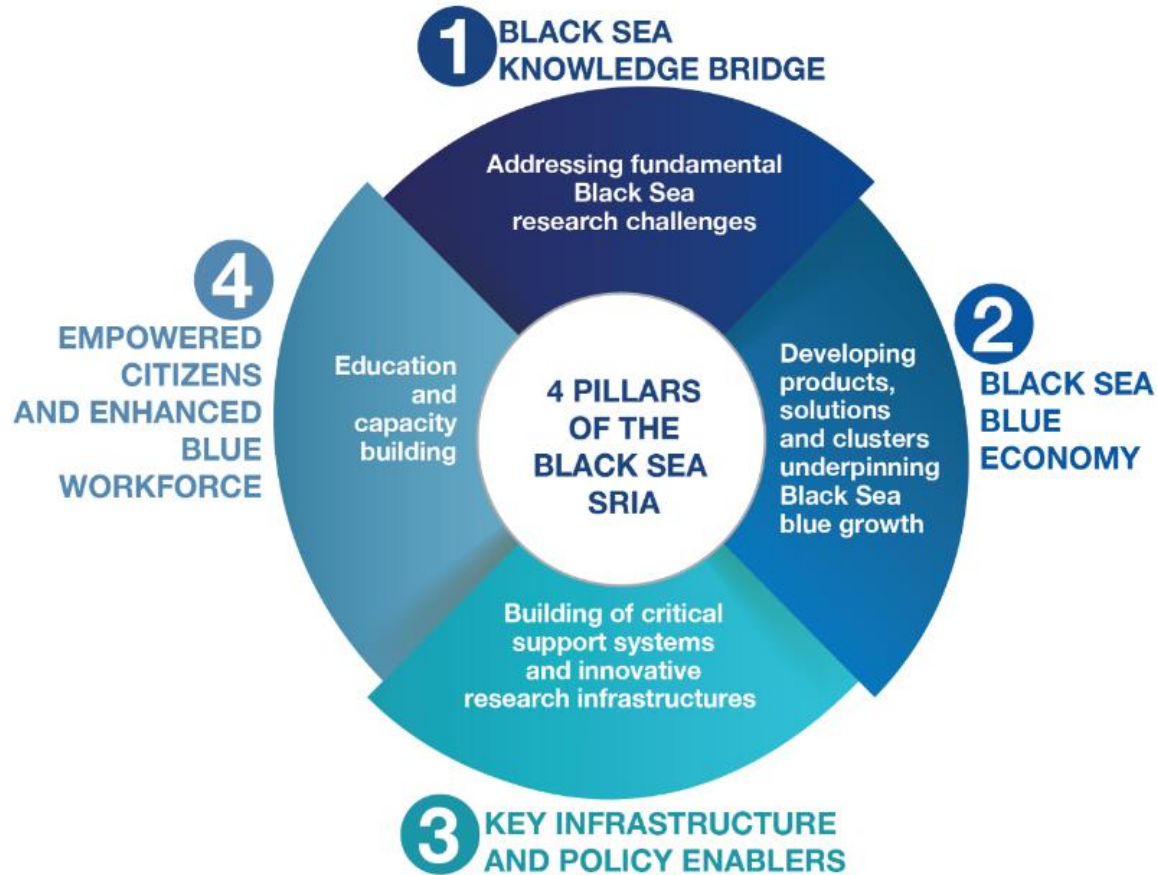
**b. challenge
c. goals of
SRIA**

Steps Taken to Develop SRIA

STEPS TAKEN TO DEVELOP THE SRIA



FOUR MAIN PILLARS FOR SRIA (11 GOALS & 41 ACTIONS)



Pillar 1 – Summary and Highlights

Addressing fundamental Black Sea research challenges



Goal 1



5 Actions

Goal 2

6 Actions

- *Address issues such as eutrophication, deoxygenation, invasive species, marine litter and enhancing food systems research*
- *Quantify sources of external inputs to Black Sea and increase knowledge on ecosystem resilience through an improved understanding of specific Black Sea features*
- *Integrate land-sea connection with deep basin and develop holistic management strategies*

Pillar 2 – Summary and Highlights

Developing products, solutions and clusters underpinning Black Sea Blue Growth



Goal 1

Goal 2



4 Actions

7 Actions

- *Promote methodologies for science-based policymaking*
- *Develop innovation on existing and emerging blue economy sectors such as renewable energy, sustainable fisheries, high-tech aquaculture, novel products from unique organisms, tourism and innovative litter management*

Pillar 3 - Summary and Highlights

Building of critical support systems and research infrastructures for communities



Goal 1

Goal 2

Goal 3

Goal 4



3 Actions

2 Actions

2 Actions

2 Actions

- *Promote smart, integrated observing and monitoring systems in service of citizens for a sustainable ecosystem and adaptive management*
- *Common monitoring standards and research infrastructures in support of policy*
- *Support innovators and entrepreneurs oriented towards circular blue bioeconomy of the Black Sea*

Pillar 4 - Summary and Highlights

Education and capacity building



Goal 1

Goal 2

Goal 3



5 Actions

2 Actions

3 Actions

- *Develop and integrate learning and training programs active in the blue economy sectors*
- *Ocean-engaged citizens for a clean, plastic-free, healthy Black Sea*
- *Conduct outreach and science communication towards contributing to enhanced science-policy dialogue*

Transversal issues

- ✓ All pillars build on existing expertise and networks
Need to capitalise Best Practice both in the Black Sea area and elsewhere
- ✓ Successful Implementation of the SRIA requires Collaboration & Trust
Efficient co-funding and co-programming mechanisms and bodies at national, transnational and international level, alignment of funding, open results to society
- ✓ SRIA must permanently maintain relevance
Need to put in place a regular mechanism to update the Black Sea SRIA – in permanent dialogue with relevant stakeholders! Revision and update are vital

What is the Future of the Black Sea Initiative

- Black Sea Initiative → Group of Senior Officials (GSO)- members appointed by the Governments. Political group.
- GSO to decide the actions to be done and help implementing SRIA
- GSO to increase the opportunities of know-how for stakeholders to tackle Black Sea challenges and promote blue growth in the region
- Strengthen regional dialogue, strategic partnership & increase the Black Sea Synergy
- Boost educational activities including training courses, hackathons, online platforms, fairs, coordinate transnational actions... etc.
- GSO actions/meetings to be facilitated through the CSA - Black Sea CONNECT



2019 Oct – 2022 Sept

Black Sea Connect

Coordination And Support Action
(EU H2020-funded, Grant No: 860055)

Coordinator: Dr. Baris Salihoglu

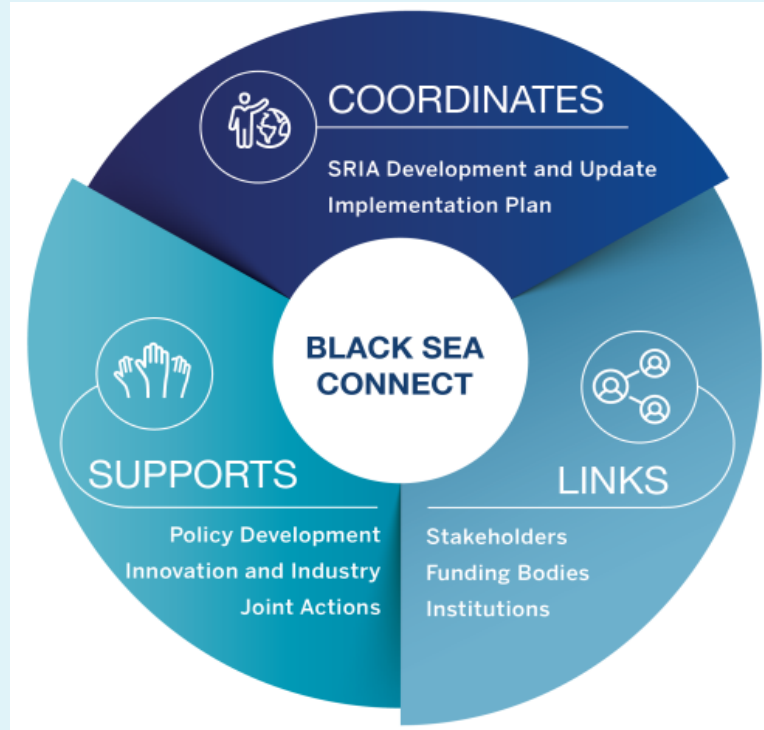
Director, Associate Professor

METU Institute of Marine Sciences (METU-IMS)

Turkey



The three core facilitating roles of Black Sea CONNECT





PARTICIPANTS





SRIA DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION

PLAN TO CONVERT SRIA OUTPUTS
IN TO TANGIBLE, REALISTIC &
TIME-BOUND ACTIONS

- Map
- Framework Conditions
- Coordination of SRIA Update
- Development of Implementation Plan

SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES TOWARDS SRIA IMPLEMENTATION

BASED ON THE 4 PILARS
(EU & NATIONAL)

Increasing Stakeholder Participation

Pillar 1: Black Sea
Knowledge Bridge

Pillar 2: Black Sea
Blue Economy

Pillar 3: Key
Enablers: Joint
Infrastructures
and Policy
Enablers

Pillar 4:
Empowered
Citizens and
Enhanced Blue
Workforce

- Operational Network
- Transnational Joint Activities
- Link to Other Policy Initiatives & Projects
- Innovation for Blue Economy

VISIBILITY AND DISSEMINATION





What does BS CONNECT mean for the region?

- Will help CSOs to operate within an established and connected network
- Will help Integration: BS CONNECT is inclusive platform integrating policy, industry and research
- Will increase comprehensive know-how for stakeholders to tackle Black Sea challenges and to promote blue growth
- Will raise awareness on Black Sea both in the local communities and globally
- Will, eventually, contribute to the stability and prosperity of the region





Aim of the Black Sea
Connect CSA

To be at the end of its duration....

*The “one-stop-shop” for research and
innovation for blue growth in the Black Sea*

Presentation created by:
Mustafa Yücel, Barış Salihoğlu & Ezgi Şahin
METU Institute of Marine Sciences, Turkey

The trip has just started...

Launching on air soon...

www.connect2blacksea.org

Thank you!