

“The Resource Efficiency and Environment - Black Sea Region Challenges (water nexus)”

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Impact of the PERSEUS (FP7) Research Project on the Black Sea region

Abstract:

The Black Sea basin is a highly sensitive region, surrounded by many countries, with significant industrial, fisheries and tourist activity and with significant human intervention. All the above mentioned, together with the special dynamic surface circulation of the Black Sea and the drainage character of the basin in respect to the many riverine areas that are ending on it, make Black Sea vulnerable in many and various threats. The PERSEUS (Policy-oriented marine Environmental Research in the Southern European Seas) FP7 Research Project (www.perseus-net.eu), recognizing the vulnerability of the Black Sea regions, has put a lot of effort not only on identifying the main pressures of the Black Sea region (e.g. eutrophication, pollution, non-indigenous species, the impacts of ports in the marine environment, marine litter etc.) but also delivering policy options addressing these pressures with the aim to provide help to policy makers to implement the Marine Strategy Directive (MSFD) in the Southern European Seas. A series of tools that have been developed within PERSEUS, the strategy on observing systems to provide the necessary near real time information from the whole basin and the modeling work done could help policy makers to take the necessary measures and achieve the Good Environmental Status (GES) in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. In the framework of the international workshop “*The Resource Efficiency and Environment - Black Sea Region Challenges (water nexus)*”, the impact of the PERSEUS (FP7) Research Project on the Black Sea region will be presented with special attention on marine litter as an outstanding example how to improve information on something that is missing and involving the society at large in the process.