

DETERMINATION OF HOT SPOTS ALONG BLACK SEA COASTS OF TURKEY & HOT BLACK SEA PROJECT

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Hot Spot means a limited and definable local land area, stretch of surface water or specific aquifer that is subject to excessive pollution and necessitates priority attention in order to prevent or reduce the actual or potential adverse impacts on human health, ecosystems or natural resources and amenities of economic importance (Bucharest Convention Land Based Sources Protocol, http://www.blackseacommission.org/_od_LBSAProtocol.asp). Determination of realistic coastal hot spots is important to determine the efficient measurement and to develop of the efficient investment plan to achieve rehabilitation of these areas.

In this frame, Urban Wastewater Management along Coastal Areas of Turkey: Revision of Hot Spots & Sensitive Areas Project (SINHA Project, 2008-2011)" had been performed by the consortium, involving TUBITAK MRC (Responsible for Project Management), METU MSI and DEU MSTI under the coordination of Ministry of Environment and Urbanization and supported by TUBITAK. In the context of the SINHA Project, hot spots designated by Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) in 1999 along the Black Sea coastal areas of Turkey was updated in 2010 by using the "Draft Methodology for The Identification and Characterization of Environmental Hot Spots in The Black Sea Region (BSC, 2010)".

However in Black Sea Basin, there was still a huge requirement to revise the hot spots of the Black Sea countries by using a common quantitative methodology. Due to this requirement, The Hot Black Sea Project "Integrated hotspots management and saving the living Black Sea ecosystem" (<http://bs-hotspots.eu/>), Grant Agreement No 2.2.1.72761.225 MIS-ETC 2303 was financed by EC as an activity under the Joint Operational Programme "Black Sea Basin 2007- 2013". The Hot Black Sea (HBS) Project is an integral part of the overall ongoing process of harmonization of policies in the Black Sea region in the field of environment protection, taking into consideration relevant European acquis.

The project results and deliverables merit attention at national and regional level, as they were prepared with the main aim to advance BS protection through streamlining and harmonising the efforts of the BS coastal states. In this line, as a partner of the HBS Project, TUBITAK MRC has validated the hot spots of Black Sea coasts of Turkey in 2015 by using BSC Project Methodology.

Briefly, my presentation to be made in Tbilisi in 22 March 2016 will be involved hot spots determination studies of TUBITAK MRC along Black Sea coasts of Turkey and the introduction of HBS Project and its deliverables.