



## Press Release

### Future of the Black Sea artificial reefs discussed on a second round table in Constanta

20-22 May 2013, Romania

On 20-22 May 2013 at the Black Sea Neptun resort Second Round Table has occurred and it took place in Romania in the frame of the Project “Research and REStoration of the Essential Filter of the Sea - REEFS” under the “Black Sea Basin 2007-2013” (Black Sea Basin Programme) which is an EU funded Programme financed by the ENPI and IPA instruments.

The aim of this round table is to review the management and monitoring together with the administrative procedures related to reefs conservation and restoration in the Black Sea in the partnering countries.

Scientists, researchers, environmentalists, legal experts and public bodies' representatives have reviewed the management and monitoring practices together with the administrative procedures applicable to deploy, impact assessment and maintenance of the Black Sea artificial reefs among the partnering countries Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine.

The participants have exchanged information and discussed on a proposal for Black Sea REEFS Program and Action Plan as monitoring and management tools of the artificial reefs' deployment, needed advocacy measures as well as building networks and synergies between the stakeholders in the Black Sea Basin.

REEFS project partners are: Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Georgian ILIA State University from Tbilisi, Odessa branch of the Institute for Biology of the Southern Seas of Ukraine, Turkish Black Sea Technical University in Trabzon and the host partner Mare Nostrum NGO from Constanta, Romania.

Research and Restoration of the Essential Filters of the Sea (REEFS) is an international pilot project focused on scientific research of artificial reefs environmental impact in the Black Sea. The total project budget is 627 650 euro, of which the total Grand amount is 564 885 euro provided by the European Union through the Joint International Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007-2013”. The REEFS project has already been implemented for a year and at the moment several international events has taken place in Balgarevo Village - Bulgaria, in Odessa - Ukraine and in Constanta - Romania. An initial summarised legal report has been prepared. It analyses the legal and institutional framework of the artificial reefs practice in the Black Sea partnering countries.

REEFS Project is two-years project funded by Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007-2013”. REEFS is an EU financed project involving 5 countries in the Black Sea Basin managed by the Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation. For more information, visit:  
[www.reefsproject.net](http://www.reefsproject.net)  
[www.blacksea-cbc.net](http://www.blacksea-cbc.net)

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