

Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

NEXT Black Sea Basin



BSB00193 Regular project

EfxINNOs

**Establishing and Operating an Innovative Marine Technology
Transfer Network for Enhancing the Transition to a Sustainable
Blue Economy in the Black Sea Basin**





Overview

The partners are collaborating to develop a cost-effective, technologically advanced network of marine monitoring platforms. The network will connect the Black Sea Basin and the North Aegean Sea, collecting data on marine biodiversity and assessing the impact of human activities on benthic ecosystems. The project will use mobile and static platforms, autonomous underwater vehicles, remotely-operated vehicles, and buoys to collect data and analyze it, utilizing machine learning and AI algorithms to create benthic mosaics and assess seagrass habitat health.





Road Ahead

- Deployment of Autonomous Underwater Vehicle , Remotely Operated Vehicle and surface buoy for survey missions
- Harmonize data, images and generating videos of seabed and underwater habitats structures for standardized practices
- Training sessions for marine monitoring operations
- Mapping critical areas for biodiversity conservation efforts including marine spatial planning and ecosystem-based management
- Evaluation of marine litter presence and pollution risk at all study sites
- Policy recommendations for Black Sea marine environment
- Workshops on Black Sea ecosystem protection
- International Report on benthic ecosystem health
- Regional level Hackathon in each participating country with students, young researchers and professionals



Partnership

**Lead partner: Democritus University of Thrace-
School of Engineering-Special Account for
Research Funds**

**Partner 2: Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local
Authorities**

**Partner 3: National Institute for Marine
Research and Development Grigore Antipa**

Partner 4: Ilia State University

Partner 5: Istanbul University

Partner 6: Technical University of Varna

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Countries



Figures



Total budget: 1.643.648,40 €
Interreg funds: 1.479.283,56 €



Start date: 29/08/2024
End date: 27/02/2027



**6 organisations cooperating
across borders/5 research
institutions**



2 jointly developed solutions
2 public events jointly organised
1 pilot action

