



UNDP GEF Black Sea Ecosystem Recovery Project

Revision of the LBSA Protocol to the Bucharest Convention

Phase I BSERP (2002-2004):

The TDA and the Strategic Action Plan developed by countries as part of their work under previous GEF Black Sea Projects demonstrated the overriding significance of eutrophication as the transboundary issue having greatest long-term impact on the Black Sea.

The BSERP PIU requested UNEP to implement two activities:

1. Preparation of recommendations for a revised draft LBS Protocol, and
2. Propose a Work Programme to Enhance the Implementation of the Black Sea LBS Protocol Taking into Consideration the GPA Objectives.

An Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) was signed between UNEP/GPA and UNOPS, in August 2003 to undertake those activities under component 2 of the BSERP on "Regional actions for improving LBA and legislation to control eutrophication and tackling emergent problems".



Phase II BSERP (2004-2008):

To continue and finalise the process the UNEP/GPA & UNOPS signed an Interagency Agreement in Dec. 2005 to support the BSERP-PIU in the:

- ✚ Finalisation of the annexes to the revised LBSA Protocol.
- ✚ Organisation of national capacity-building workshops.
- ✚ Facilitation of national consultation processes.

The BSC-PS and UNEP worked on the final drafting of the Revised Protocol annexes seeking input and comments from countries and the BSC:

BSC-PS produced table with consolidated countries' comments (Dec. 05)

13th meeting of the BSC (Feb. 06): To seek support from BSERP & UNEP to continue taking into consideration comments.

UNEP delivered to BSERP third version of Draft Revised LBSA Protocol, cc. BSC, PSBSC (Aug. 06)

UNEP submitted to BSERP Explanatory Note on the Draft Revised LBSA Protocol – proposed amendments to the LBS Protocol in force, since initial discussions (Nov. 06).

Comments and proposals made at the National Workshops, on the Draft Revised LBSA Protocol, were integrated in the workshop reports (last Annex).

National Workshops in support of Capacity-building of National and Local Authorities Responsible for the implementation of the LBSA Protocol:

- ✚ Russia: Olginka, Krasnodar, 29-30 Aug. 06
- ✚ Turkey: Istanbul, 23-24 Jan. 07
- ✚ Romania: Constanta, 8-9 Feb. 07
- ✚ Ukraine: Odessa, 1-2 March 07
- ✚ Bulgaria, 22-23 March 07
- ✚ Georgia: Tbilisi, 12-13 June 07

The national workshops provided an excellent opportunity for UNEP to contribute to a better understanding of the Draft Revised LBSA Protocol and draw attention on the outstanding issues to the different national and local authorities in each country in view of its adoption and implementation.

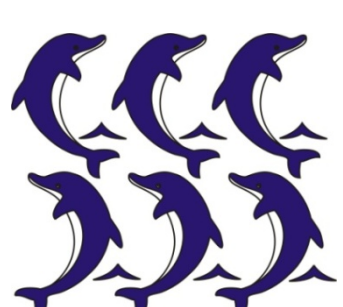
Awareness-raising leaflets have been produced on the need and reasons to revise the LBS Protocol and raise awareness among different stakeholders as regards its implementation.



✚ UNEP has delivered the services in full coordination with BSERP PIU, the BSC and the PS-BSC. The Final Draft Revised BS LBSA Protocol (version April 2007) being handed in by UNEP is the result of over 2,5 years of regional and national consultations. It reflects what UNEP deems in line with contemporary principles of international law and in accordance with the circumstance of the Black Sea and the Black Sea countries in order to address adequately the protection of the marine environment from land-based sources and activities;

✚ UNEP understands that it is now for the BSC, the PS-BSC and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Black Sea countries to take the process forward for the diplomatic negotiations that would hopefully lead to the adoption of this Revised Protocol at the Ministerial meeting in 2008;

✚ UNEP stands ready to further assist or facilitate the process as requested, and the implementation of the Protocol once it enters into force.



15 Years of UNDP/GEF in the Black Sea Region,
Final Seminar,
14-15 February 2008, Istanbul