



**Global  
Environment  
Facility**



# **BSERP Small Grants Programmes**



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



# Contents of Presentation

- Details on SGP Phase I
- Details on SGP Phase II
- Key outputs of BSERP SGPs
- Conclusions



# **Objectives of the Small Grant Program (SGP)**

**to strengthen public participation in environmental protection through:**

- **access to information,**
- **stakeholder training and awareness raising,**  
**and**
- **implementation of community actions**



# Key steps of SGP

1. Program Criteria developed
2. A Grants Committee(s) set up and then formulated a detailed proposal for a transparent mechanism of selection
3. Collection of proposals and evaluation
4. Approval by the PIU decision of the national committees
5. Contracting
6. Implementation
7. Monitoring and Evaluation
8. Projects Impact Assessment



# **Grants directed towards following challenges:**

- **Lack of transparency in policy making areas;**
- **Low level of public environmental consciousness;**
- **Weak public awareness on the state of BS environment;**
- **Low level of environmental education;**
- **Insufficient and ineffective public monitoring**



# SGP Phase I Summary

Subject Area	Countries (#Projects)	Total Project #	Percent	Amount (USD)
Restoration and conservation of wetlands	Russia (1) Ukraine (2)	3	10.5%	24,403
Promotion of organic agriculture	Bulgaria (1) Romania (1)	2	14.5%	34,069
Low-cost waste water treatment techniques	Bulgaria (1) Ukraine (1)	2	9.3%	21,890
Production of public awareness materials on the Black Sea environment	Bulgaria (1) Romania (3) Russia (2) Turkey (2) Ukraine (2)	10	65.7%	154,178
Total		17		234,540

# Restoration and Conservation of Wetlands

## Key outputs:

- Monitoring
- Legal documents
- Photo Collections
- Pilot management plans
- Draft plans of actions
- Reports on state of wetlands

## Media Coverage:

- Articles in local newspapers
- TV programs on wetlands protection (NIS-TV and “35 Channel”)
- Meetings at local schools

# Promotion of Organic Agriculture

## Key outputs:

- Electronic catalogues
- Brochures
- Reports
- Informational bulletins
- Leaflets
- Educational materials
- Workshops

## Media Coverage:

- ≈30 articles in newspapers
- Press-conference
- Internet articles
- TV and Radio (PRO TV, Antena 1, TVR1, Europa FM, Radio Contact)

# Low-Cost Waste Water Treatment Techniques

## Key outputs:

- ☐ Studies, assessments, conclusions and recommendations
- ☐ Publicity materials developed
- ☐ Workshops organised
- ☐ Serious progress has been made to provide support of local authorities (BG). Support gained from the Bulgarian Black Sea Local Administrations (UBBSLA);
- ☐ Inventory maps of selected coastal areas.
- ☐ Visual materials produced
- ☐ The database on sewage treatment was created
- ☐ Standard project for sewage treatment was developed

## Media Coverage:

- ☐ Articles in national newspapers, electronic newsletter
- ☐ Broadcasting on national TV channels

# Public Awareness on the Black Sea Environment

## Key outputs:

- ☐ "Black Sea Shared" (BS languages)
- ☐ Internet newsletter "Focus on the Black Sea"
- ☐ Media contest named after "Black Sea Shared"
- ☐ NGOs regional/national workshops
- ☐ Contest for students "Water is Life"
- ☐ Public events (Earth Day, BS Day, World Environment Day )
- ☐ Photo collections/competitions
- ☐ Educational and publicity materials
- ☐ Elimination of several illegal dumping sites
- ☐ Movies on environmental issues

## Media-coverage

- ☐ Electronic newsletter "Black Sea Shared"
- ☐ Electronic bulletin "Focus on the Black Sea"
- ☐ Live Radio programs
- ☐ Articles in the newspaper and Internet
- ☐ Press-conference for journalists (Ru)



# **Key Lessons Learned SGP I**

- **Clear selection criteria and procedure**
- **Support to NGOs during preparation of projects**
- **Project development & management skills**
- **Developing partnerships with authorities and businesses**
- **Increased public awareness on Black Sea issues**
- **Linking of local problems and GEF priorities (e.g. biodiversity, water quality) is of special significance**
- **Replication potential of the majority of projects is high**
- **NGOs are well-recognised factor to influence public opinion, this to be used in SGP II**



# **Small Grants Program II**

**36 national projects**

**supported with funding up to**

**US\$ 10,000,**

**the grants budget per country**

**is US\$ 50,000**

**Implementation period 2006 - 2007**



# SGP II Projects Summary

Country	Number	Budget, USD	%
Bulgaria	6	51,989	17%
Georgia	6	49,951	17%
Romania	5	48,757	16%
Russia	5	49,900	16%
Turkey	5	52,163	18%
Ukraine	8	49,828	16%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>302,588</b>	<b>100%</b>



# SGP II Projects Summary

Subject Area	No	Budget, USD	%
Reduction of pollution	7	56,080	18%
Trans-boundary and/or national problems	5	46,708	15%
Public awareness and information	11	100,352	34%
Public involvement	12	99,448	33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>302,588</b>	<b>100%</b>

# SGP II Projects Summary



**Key outcome 1:**

**Contribution to  
the Reduction of  
the BS Pollution**



# SGP II Projects Summary

## Key outcome 1: Contribution to the Reduction of the BS Pollution

### Key results:

- Demonstrative project on inventory and neutralisation of obsolete pesticides (Gr);
- Coastal clean up events and actions involved thousands of participants in all BS countries;
- Public registers and environmental reports on the state of bathing areas (Bu);
- Demonstrative manure management site and trainings for farmers with

# SGP II Projects Summary



**Key outcome 2:**

**Trans-boundary  
and / or national  
problems  
addressed**



# SGP II Projects Summary

## **Key outcome 2:** Trans-boundary and/or national problems addressed

### **Key results:**

- Public assessments and recommendations regarding establishing protected areas in BS Region - Kinburn NNP, Philophora Field (Uk), Lake Khanskoye (RF)
- Public recommendations to improve the management of coastal areas (Tiligul wetlands management plan, proposals for Tarkhankut ICZM plan)

# SGP II Projects Summary



**Key outcome 3:**

**Public  
awareness and  
access to  
information  
increased**





# **SGP II Projects Summary**

## **Key outcome 3: Public awareness and access to information increased**

### **Key results:**

- Informational campaigns for pollution reductions through special publications, visual materials, electronic letters, mass-media coverage, environmental events and workshops for NGOs and target groups (Gr, Ro, Bu, Tu, RF, UK)
- Educational materials for school students (Uk, Ro, Tu)
- Scholl students' essay and drawings contest (Uk, RF), environmental theatre performance for children (Tu)
- Access to data on the bathing waters quality (Bu)
- Movies on new protected areas in coastal zone "The Other Sea I - II" (Bu), BS Ecosystem (Ro), threat to BS (RF)
- Trainings and Manual for Eco-media journalists (Gr)
- Specialized web sites and electronic news letters (Gr, Ro, RF, Tu, Bu)

# SGP II Projects Summary



**Key outcome 4:**

**Public  
Involvement in  
Decision  
Making Process**



# SGP II Projects Summary

## Key outcome 4: Public Involvement in Decision Making Process Improved

### Key results:

- Participation in the decision making through Public Water Basin Commission (Uk)
- Public recommendations for River Basin Management (Tu)
- NGOs networking Forum and Public recommendations to the National BS Program (Uk)
- Reports on the actual BC problem and recommendations to solve them (RF)
- Needs Assessment and Action Plan for the Natura 2000 potential sites (Ro)



# **BSERP SGP II: Lessons Learned**

## **The SGP II has demonstrated that**

- BS Environmental and Sustainable Development issues raise deep concern of NGOs and broad public;
- NGOs are very keen to engage in the solution and prevention of environmental problems, however lack resources and appropriate capacity and experience;
- NGOs have a lot of sound ideas on how to address BS issues as well as readiness and enthusiasm to implement these ideas;
- Relatively modest external funding stimulates NGOs activity and promotes achieving results, which are important for entire sector, region or country;
- Implementation of demonstrative projects proved to be very relevant and productive approach in the conditions of restricted funding;
- Involvement in the SGP II program was, in fact, a learning and capacity building process for the Program participants.



# **BSERP SGP II: Overall Importance of the Program**

## **The Program**

- Responded to the country needs in the implementation of the Black Sea SAP;**
- Attracted attention of broad public to the BS issues;**
- Generated experience in the prevention and solution of environmental problems;**
- Promoted exchange of information, experience and best practices in environmental sector and SD;**
- Strengthened cooperation between GOs, NGOs and other sectors in the field of environment and SD in countries and in the region;**
- Produced specific and measurable results which are important in long term perspective;**
- Accelerated activities of NGOs and stimulated initiation of new projects and activities;**
- Increased capacity of NGOs in problems solution, organisational and project management.**

**Thank you!**

