
Black Sea Basin ENI CBC 2014-2020

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Table of Contents

Black Sea Basin ENI CBC 2014-2020.....	1
◦ Overall strategic framework	1
EU strategy for ENI CBC	1
EU strategic framework for the Black Sea Basin	2
Other relevant EU policies and initiatives.....	3
◦ Black Sea Basin strategic analyses and consultations.....	5
Socio-economic and SWOT analysis	5
Past experience analysis.....	5
Stakeholders consultations.....	7
Consistency with other EU programmes	8
Summary of strategy identification	11
◦ ENI CBC Black Sea Basin strategy definition	13
Wider objective.....	13
Horizontal issues and modalities	13
Thematic objectives and priorities.....	13
Expected results, outputs and activities, objectively verifiable indicators.....	18

Black Sea Basin ENI CBC 2014-2020

◦ Overall strategic framework

EU strategy for ENI CBCⁱ

Cross-border cooperation (CBC) on the external borders of the EU is a key priority both in the European Neighbourhood Policy and in the EU's strategic partnership with Russia. CBC under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) will build on CBC under its predecessor, the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI).

ENI CBC receives funding from the European Regional Development Fund as well as the European Neighbourhood Instrument. Both sources of funding may be used on either side of the EU external border, for actions of common benefit. The ENI Regulationⁱⁱ sets out the basis for CBC, further defined in ENI CBC implementing rulesⁱⁱⁱ and ENI CBC programming document.

Overall objective and strategic objectives

ENI CBC aims to “*promote co-operation across the borders between EU Member States and the countries on the European Neighbourhood and Russian Federation*” and it should contribute to the overall ENI objective of progress towards “*an area of shared prosperity and good neighbourliness*” between EU Member States and their neighbours. Due to its geographical location, Turkey also participates in the Black Sea Basin ENI CBC as a candidate country.

CBC under the ENI has **3 overarching strategic objectives**:

- A. Promote economic and social development in regions on both sides of common borders;
- B. Address common challenges in environment, public health, safety and security;
- C. Promotion of better conditions and modalities for ensuring the mobility of persons, goods and capital.

Each ENI CBC programme must contribute to *at least one* of the strategic objectives.

Thematic objectives

Taking the strategic objectives above into consideration, and based on the specific circumstances and requirements of the programme cooperation area, each programme shall focus on *a maximum of 4* thematic objectives chosen within a list defined in ENI CBC programming document, that is:

1. Business and SME development (Strategic objective: A)
2. Support to education, research, technological development and innovation (Strategic objective: A)
3. Promotion of local culture and preservation of historical heritage (Strategic objective: A)
4. Promotion of social inclusion and fight against poverty (Strategic objectives: A, B, C)

ⁱ Based on draft ENI CBC Programming Document (5 March 2014) which lays out the EU ENI CBC strategy

ⁱⁱ Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument

ⁱⁱⁱ Based on the draft CBC implementing rules (20 March 2014)

5. Support to local & regional good governance (Strategic objectives: A, B, C)
6. Environmental protection, climate change adaptation (Strategic objective: B)
7. Improvement of accessibility to the regions, development of transport and communication networks and systems (Strategic objective: C)
8. Common challenges in the field of safety and security (Strategic objective: B)
9. Promotion of energy cooperation (Strategic objective: B)
10. Promotion of border management, and border security (Strategic objective: C)

A list of indicative activities is provided under each Thematic Objective in the ENI CBC programming document.

Within this framework, it is the task of the local programme partners, working together across the borders, “to analyse the needs in the programme area, to identify the specific thematic objectives and priorities” which are most relevant to their own local circumstances.

The promotion of local cross-border “people-to-people actions is not considered as a thematic objective but as an important modality to be deployed in support of any of these objectives”. This could include support for enhanced cooperation among local and regional authorities, NGOs and other civil society groups, universities and schools, chambers of commerce etc.

Key programming orientations

- ✓ Coherence and complementarity between the ENI CBC programmes and other relevant EU instruments are to be ensured through the programming process. CBC programmes must deliver *real cross-border added value and not cover elements which are already funded or could more suitably be funded from other ENI or EU programmes.*
- ✓ Under sea-basin programmes, it will be *possible to support activities involving a single partner on either side* (EU-internal and –external) of the sea-basins, as well as activities involving more than one partner on either side of the sea-basin.
- ✓ The partners implementing projects under the sea-basin programmes will *primarily represent the regional and sub-national administrative levels, as well as civil society organisations* based within the eligible programme area. Eligibility is based on the ENI regulation, but priority should be given to local and regional authorities, civil society, chambers of commerce, and the academic and educational community; as well as other eligible actors based within the geographical eligibility of the programme and important for the realisation of the objectives of the individual programme. Involvement of national authorities will be necessary in all programme development stages and, when this is necessary, in project implementation.
- ✓ Participation of major social, economic or cultural centres in a programme may be considered where it can be demonstrated in the Joint Operational Programme that the involvement of such centres in the programme (i) would bring substantial added value for the core eligible border area, (ii) would strongly contribute to the achievement of the CBC impact in the core eligible border area, and (iii) is essential to achieving the programme objectives in a sustainable way. Consideration should be given to involving such centres *only to address certain programme priorities or measures and to limit their eligibility to certain categories of project partners* (e.g. eligibility of public entities and research centres and not of civil society organisations established in the selected centre).
- ✓ Efforts should be made to *ensure the benefits of regional and local development supported by CBC can be sustained* after CBC funding is complete. This issue should be reflected in the criteria for calls for proposals.

EU strategic framework for the Black Sea Basin

The EU communication on the Black Sea Synergy (2007) and the Parliament resolution on an EU Strategy for the Black Sea Region (2011) lay down strategic orientations for cooperation in the Black Sea Basin.

Black Sea Synergy

The EC communication on the Black Sea Synergy, adopted by the European Council in June 2007, was followed by a conference between EU and Black Sea Foreign Affairs Ministers in Kiev in 2008 that led to a joint statement^{iv} initiating the Synergy. The initiative is designed as a flexible framework to ensure greater coherence and policy guidance, while also inviting a more integrated approach and closer regional ties in order to:

- ✓ Stimulate democratic and economic reforms
- ✓ Support stability and promote development
- ✓ Facilitate practical projects in areas of common concern
- ✓ Open up opportunities and challenges through coordinated action in a regional framework
- ✓ Encourage the peaceful resolution of conflicts in the region

A strategy for the Black Sea

The EU Parliament adopted a resolution on 20 January 2011^v for an EU Strategy for the Black Sea Region to be launched. Parliament stressed that the main objective for the EU and the EU Member States in this strategy is to establish an area of peace, democracy, prosperity and stability founded on respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and providing for EU energy security. It considered that good governance, the rule of law, promotion of respect for human rights, migration management, energy, transport, the environment and economic and social development should constitute priority actions.

The resolution encourages priority financing for small-scale development projects and stresses the need for a project-based approach with a view to including local authorities, business communities, NGOs or other civil society organisations.

It encourages the development of synergies between the various EU policies that come into play in the Strategy, particularly the Structural Funds, the Research and Development Framework Programme and the Trans-European Transport Networks in order to ensure the sustainability of the actions financed so that opportunities created by one economic development initiative can be taken up by another, complementary initiative.

Other relevant EU policies and initiatives

Other key EU strategies and policies to take into account in ENI CBC Black Sea Basin strategy development include the following.

Eastern Partnership

Representing the Eastern dimension of the **European Neighbourhood Policy**, this initiative was launched at the Prague summit in 2009 and was reaffirmed in 2011 and 2013. It aims to deepen and strengthen relations between the European Union and its six Eastern neighbours, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The main objective is to support political and socio-economic reforms in partner countries to:

- ✓ Foster political association and further economic integration
- ✓ Support mobility of citizens and visa liberalisation as a long term goal
- ✓ Enhance sector cooperation
- ✓ Support civil society

It includes four multi-lateral platforms focusing on:

1. Democracy, Good governance and Stability
2. Economic Integration and Convergence with EU Policies
3. Energy Security

^{iv} Full text of the statement available on http://eeas.europa.eu/blacksea/doc/joint_statement_blacksea_en.pdf

^v Full text of the resolution available on <http://www.europarl.europa.eu>

4. Contacts between people^{vi}

Danube Strategy

A macro-regional strategy to boost the development of the Danube Region was proposed by the European Commission in 2010 and endorsed by the European Council on 13 April 2011. The Strategy seeks to create synergies and coordination between existing policies and initiatives taking place across the Danube Region, including 14 countries among which Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova and Ukraine are from the Black Sea Basin.

The Danube Region Strategy addresses a wide range of issues, divided among 11 priority areas within four pillars, connecting the region, protecting the environment, building prosperity and strengthening the region^{vii}.

Blue Growth Strategy

The Blue Growth communication adopted in September 2012 is the maritime strand of the **Europe 2020** strategy (see below) and an update of the **Integrated Maritime Policy**.

This strategy consists of three components:

1. Targeted effort towards specific activities (focus areas) identified as being the most promising sectors for growth development: coastal tourism, blue energy, aquaculture, blue biotechnology and marine minerals mining.
2. Cross-cutting tools which are specific, policy integrated measures across sectors including Maritime Spatial Planning, Integrated Coastal Management, Marine Knowledge 2020 initiative and maritime surveillance.
3. Sea-basin strategies^{viii}

Other aspects that are crucial for a sustainable growth in the blue economy are the development of the appropriate skills, marine and maritime research and access to finance.

The EC extended the dialogue on sustainable development of the blue economy of the Black Sea to all Black Sea countries during a conference held in Bucharest, Romania on 30 January 2014.

Europe 2020

Europe 2020 is the EU's ten-year growth and jobs strategy launched in 2010. It aims to create within the EU the conditions for economic growth:

- ✓ Smart, through more effective investments in education, research and innovation;
- ✓ Sustainable, thanks to a decisive move towards a low-carbon economy;
- ✓ Inclusive, with a strong emphasis on job creation and poverty reduction.

The **Cohesion Policy** is the EU's main investment tool for delivering the Europe 2020 goals within EU Member States.

^{vi} More information on the Eastern Partnership is available at http://eeas.europa.eu/eastern/index_en.htm

^{vii} More information on the Danube Strategy and Action Plan is available on <http://www.danube-region.eu>

^{viii} DG Maritime affairs and fisheries is currently carrying out two studies on the blue growth potential of the Black Sea and on the use of the so-called maritime clusters, networks of firms, training establishments, research centres, local and regional authorities. (from Commissioner Maria Damanaki's speech 30 Jan 2014, Black Sea Stakeholders' conference Sustainable Development of the blue economy in the Black Sea Bucharest, 30 January 2014)

◦ Black Sea Basin strategic analyses and consultations

The methodology for strategy development of the Black Sea Basin ENI CBC programme included socio-economic and SWOT analysis, past experience analysis and stakeholder consultations. A review of other EU financial instruments was also carried out to ensure the strategy would not include elements that could more suitably be funded under other EU programmes.

Socio-economic and SWOT analysis

(See documents already forwarded and presented at JPC, updated on the basis of the consultations)

Past experience analysis

A review of lessons learned from Black Sea Basin 2007-13 programme monitoring reports (2012, 2013) and EC mid-term evaluation provided the following information for the strategy development:

- ✓ The strong relevance of the programme and its current priorities for all participating countries; programme priorities are in line with the needs of the programme area with the greatest alignment being with Objective 1 (Promote economic and social development in regions on both sides of common borders);
- ✓ Recognition of the programme as an instrument for facilitating cross-border cooperation;
- ✓ Over-ambitious, unrealistic indicators at programme level;
- ✓ Some performance difficulties for projects under the first priority (some projects focused on promoting economic cooperation and establishing complicated systems, such as multi-country information databases on companies and products, without having sufficient experience in the area). Some internal, administrative impediments in the second priority for the ENPI East countries (complexity of official mutual recognition of study programmes/diplomas/materials). Some projects implied improvement of national policies, amendments in legislation (beyond the scope of the project);
- ✓ Often problematic financial sustainability/lack of exit strategies at project level;
- ✓ Result oriented monitoring system must be developed in order to assess the success of implementation at project level;
- ✓ 24-month intervention is too short for some actions;
- ✓ Visibility requirements are fulfilled but attention must be paid to the dissemination of project results;
- ✓ No correlation between projects under the same priority (the projects tend to be implemented on a 'individual basis', without having the bigger programme picture);
- ✓ Excellent cooperation among partner countries leading to stable partnerships (among universities and research centers, local administrations, NGOs...).

A mapping of projects awarded under the Black Sea Basin 2007-13 two calls for proposals according to key themes allowed the identification of the main areas of interest for project beneficiaries and partners within the programme priorities and action already taken in particular fields. It also provided information on the fields of competence among regional stakeholders, as only successful applications were analysed.

(See documents already presented at JPC, a summary to be annexed to the programme)

A survey on current priorities and future needs, carried out via a questionnaire forwarded in June 2013 to the National Info Points, Joint Monitoring Committee members, current beneficiaries and partners and potential applicants which provided information on the relevance of the current programme strategy and of further fields of interest for cross-border cooperation.

(See documents already presented at JPC, a summary to be annexed to the programme)

The outcomes of past experience analysis were combined with the results of the SWOT analysis and compared with the list of ENI CBC thematic objectives and indicative priorities - see table below. Indicative priorities justified by at least two analyses, including strongly by one are highlighted in light green. When strongly justified by at least two analyses, priorities are highlighted in dark green.

Thematic Objectives	Indicative priorities
1. Business and SME development	Fostering cooperation between public and private sector
	Strengthening economic clusters
	Enhancement of competitiveness
	Promotion of and support to entrepreneurship
	Support to the development and modernisation of businesses in specific sectors (eg tourism, agriculture)
2. Support to education, research, technological development and innovation	Fostering cooperation between businesses and training institutions for innovation and R&D, joint educational planning
	Promotion of skills development and lifelong learning
	Supporting local cooperation in education
	Promotion of and support to research and innovation
3. Promotion of local culture and preservation of historical heritage	Promoting local culture and history
	Supporting traditional skills for local economic development
4. Promotion of social inclusion and fight against poverty	Support to the development of social services
	Enhancing the access to social services
	Promoting gender equality and equal opportunities
	Support to the integration of immigrants and vulnerable groups
	Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility
	Stimulate employment for youth
5. Support to local and regional good governance	Increasing capacity of local and regional authorities and communities
	Coordination of planning activities
	Support to regional integration
	Promoting legal and administrative cooperation
6. Environmental protection and climate change adaptation	Joint actions for environmental protection
	Preservation and sustainable use of natural resources
	Support to energy efficiency and to the use of renewable energy
	Promotion of a low carbon economy
	Support to sustainable waste and waste water management systems
7. Improvement of accessibility to the regions, development of transport and communication networks and systems	Improving the mobility of persons and goods
	Developing transport services and infrastructures
	Developing ICT infrastructure
8. Common challenges in the field of safety and security	Support to the development of health
	Enhancing the access to health
	Prevention and fight against organised crime
	Police cooperation (exchange of intelligence information, etc.)
	Support to the joint activities for the prevention of natural and man-made disasters as well as joint action during emergency situations
9. Promotion of energy cooperation	Energy cooperation
	Energy transmission
	Energy distribution

10. Promotion of border management, and border security	Support to border efficiency and security
	Improvement of the border-crossing infrastructure and equipment at the border crossing points
	Improvement of border management operations, customs and visa procedures

Table 1. Combined outcomes of SWOT and past experience analyses (stakeholder survey and mapping of project)

Presented to the JPC on 15 November 2013 in Kavala, Greece, **the combined analyses shows that Thematic Objectives 4, 6 and 7 were broadly supported overall, while some indicative priorities under Thematic Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 8 were also strongly supported** (see the summary in the table above, the full analyses will be annexed to the programme). On the other hand, Thematic Objectives 5 and especially 9 and 10 were very hard to justify on the basis of the SWOT and past experience analyses.

The SWOT and past experience analyses led to the **elimination of Thematic Objectives 9 and 10 from further consultations and the targeting of relevant indicative priorities under the remaining objectives as presenting the most interesting potential** for cooperation within the Black Sea Basin.

Stakeholders consultations

The SWOT analysis and the eight remaining Thematic Objectives, focused on a limited number of priorities, were further consulted with a wide range of stakeholders:

- **During the Black Sea Basin programme annual conference** held in Istanbul, Turkey on 5th December 2013. The conference participants included representatives of national, regional and local authorities, NGO, researchers and academics, as well as other stakeholders active in the Black Sea Basin area. All countries participating in the Black Sea Basin 2007-13 were represented, as along with Azerbaijan as a potential participant in the ENI CBC Black Sea Basin programme. A specific session was devoted to the review of the SWOT analysis and the thematic objectives^{ix}.
- **Through stakeholder consultations (events and/or written consultations) in Black Sea Basin countries.** Both national and regional levels were consulted in most participating countries^x to allow consistency with national/regional strategies as well as to include the views of the actors on the ground.
- **Via online open public consultation on** the website of the current programme and some national websites. The Assembly of European Regions, the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions and the International Center for Migration Policy Development contributed notably to the consultation process.

The consultation process allowed for the checking and validation of the SWOT analysis by regional stakeholders. Contributions (additional elements, specifications) were integrated in an updated version of the socio-economic analysis and the SWOT as relevant.

Thematic objectives and priorities considered most relevant during the consultation process, or which attracted most interest from the stakeholders consulted, are highlighted below^{xi}.

Consultation	TO1	TO2	TO3	TO4	TO5	TO6	TO7	TO8
Armenia								
Azerbaijan								
Bulgaria								
Georgia								
Greece*								

^{ix} See outcome of Black Sea Basin consultation in annex

^x Azerbaijan is currently being consulted, Russia did not contribute to the consultations.

^{xi} See full outcomes of the consultation process provided in annex

Consultation	TO1	TO2	TO3	TO4	TO5	TO6	TO7	TO8
Moldova*								
Romania								
Russian Federation								
Turkey								
Ukraine								
Assembly of European Regions (AER)								
Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)								
International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)								
* Compilation of consultation results: Greece (31.12.2013, 20.02.2014); Moldova (autumn 2013, 27.01.2014)								

Table 2. Outcome of stakeholder consultation on thematic objectives and priorities. Support or interest from stakeholders is highlighted in green, strong support or interest is highlighted in dark green.

Detailed outcomes of the consultations were presented to the JPC on 28 April 2014 in Sile, Turkey (a summary to be annexed to the programme).

Thematic Objective 6 was unanimously supported as the most relevant by participating countries, while there was also a wide consensus on Thematic Objective 1 during the consultations. There was some interest and support for Thematic Objectives 2, 3, 4 and 7.

There was limited support for Thematic Objective 5 during the national consultations (already poorly supported by the SWOT and past experience analyses). The importance of increasing the capacity of local and regional authorities and communities for the success of the programme was nonetheless emphasised, in particular by international organisations. Good governance and local/regional capacity building is very much a transversal issue, important for the success of CBC projects, and could be included in the programme **at horizontal level** rather than as a separate Thematic Objective. Comments from the consultations also suggest that to be effective, local and regional capacity building should not be an aim in itself but oriented towards the achievement of thematic results and specific targets (learning by doing).

There was very little support during the consultations for Thematic Objective 8 therefore this objective was not included or analysed further^{xii}.

Consistency with other EU programmes

The ENI CBC programming document states that CBC programmes must deliver real cross-border added value and “not cover elements which are already funded or could more suitably be funded from other ENI or EU programmes”. A gap analysis is therefore provided below to identify what is (or is not) covered by other EU programmes and compared with the orientations of the remaining six Thematic Objectives.

The following table presents an overview of main EU cooperation programmes and support to regional development in the Black Sea Basin countries^{xiii}.

Other Cross-	Romania-Moldova (ENI CBC)
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^{xii} Note, however, that health issues were sometimes included by stakeholders under Thematic Objective 4

^{xiii} Note, a more detailed analysis on complementarities and synergies with EU, as well as non-EU initiatives and instruments, will be carried out for the selected Thematic Objectives and priorities after approval by the JPC.

Border Cooperation or Transnational/ Interregional programmes	Moldova-Ukraine (Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation)
	Romania-Ukraine (ENI CBC)
	Romania-Bulgaria (European Territorial Cooperation)
	Bulgaria-Turkey (IPA CBC)
	Greece-Bulgaria (European Territorial Cooperation)
	Armenia-Georgia (Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation)
	Azerbaijan-Georgia (Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation)
	Danube transnational programme (2014-20) includes notably Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova and some regions in Ukraine. It will contribute to the Danube Strategy thematic goals.
	Interreg Europe interregional programme (2014-20) includes notably Bulgaria, Greece and Romania.
Balkan-Mediterranean transnational programme (2014-20) includes notably Bulgaria and Greece.	
Other programmes including EU/non EU partnerships	Erasmus+ (2014-20) programme: to boost skills and employability, as well as modernising education, training, and youth work (supports mobility of students and teaching staff, joint degrees, capacity building projects, strategic partnerships).
	Horizon 2020 – EU framework programme for research and innovation. It includes targets for cross-thematic marine and maritime research. Its first work programme (2014-15) includes a specific call for proposals for the Black Sea Region.
	Twinning, TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange): cooperation tools between a public administration in a partner country and the equivalent institution in an EU Member State to promote reforms
Thematic Cooperation programmes	INOGATE : international energy co-operation programme between the EU, the littoral states of the Black and Caspian Seas and their neighbouring countries. The co-operation framework covers the areas of oil and gas, electricity, renewable energy and energy efficiency.
	TRACECA (Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia) : an international transport cooperation programme between the EU and Partner countries in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia. The cooperation framework covers the areas of maritime transport, aviation, road and rail, transport security and transport infrastructure. Strategy for the development of the international transport Europe-Caucasus-Asia corridor up to 2015 and aims to create a sustainable infrastructure chain ensuring multi-modal transport with step-by-step integration of the corridor into the Trans-European Transport Networks. It encourages regional cooperation and attracts the support of IFIs and private investors.
	Environment and the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP) : focuses on sustainable energy.
	Nuclear Safety and Cooperation Instrument (NSCI) : finances actions to improve nuclear safety (including safe transport, remediation and emergency preparedness).
	LIFE (2014-20): promotes implementation and integration of environment and climate objectives in other policies and EU Member States practice; emphasis on better governance; priorities: resource efficiency, biodiversity loss and climate adaptation and mitigation. Limited possibilities for partner countries participation.
	ENPI (until 2013), ENI (from 2014) Partner countries
Bilateral country programmes for each partner country (the main EU cooperation tool), includes a Comprehensive Institution Building (CIB) component	
East Regional Programmes, including^{xiv} :	
- Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management (IBM) : supports the implementation of the concept of integrated border management, with the dual objective to secure the borders and to facilitate the legal passing of persons and goods.	
- Eastern Partnership SMEs development support : supports partner country institutions to put in place and implement policy and legislative reforms in support of SMEs ; supports Business Support organisations and promotes trade opportunities between European and partner country companies (East-Invest) ; strengthens auditing and reporting capacity of SMEs to improve their access to financing.	
- Eastern Partnership SME Finance Facility : combines EBRD, EIB and KfW loans with EU grant resources, to support SME lending	
- Small Business Support Programmes in the Eastern Partnership : Business Advisory Services and Enterprise Growth Programmes provide individual and customised technical assistance to help micro, small	

^{xiv} Only relevant regional programmes > €10 millions were included

	<p>and medium-sized enterprises adapt to the demands of a liberal market economy, and develop the capacities of local SMEs as well as local business advisory services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eastern Partnership Youth Window: support in responding to the needs of youth in societies through cooperation among young people and youth worker - ClimaEast: supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation to foster improved climate change policies, strategies and market mechanisms - Greening economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood : supports the move towards a green economy by decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation and resource depletion and by promoting sustainable consumption and production strategies - Eastern Partnership Culture programme: strengthens regional cultural links and dialogue within the Eastern Partnership region, and between the EU and ENP Eastern countries' cultural networks and actors <p>The Eastern Partnership Integration and Cooperation (EaPIC) programme: additional funding based on reforms achieved to support democratic transformation and institution building, sustainable and inclusive growth and economic development</p> <p>Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF): finances key infrastructure projects in partner countries as well as supports their private sectors (mix of grants and loans)</p> <p>Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility: financial support to projects, capacity building, involvement in sector policy dialogues for civil society actors</p> <p>SIGMA (Support for Improvement in Governance and Management): joint initiative of the EU and OECD provides technical support at national level</p>
Cohesion Policy under European Structural and Investment Funds <i>EU Member States</i>	<p>European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): investments in 2014-20 will be concentrated on 4 key priorities: innovation and research, ICT, support for SMEs and shift towards a low-carbon economy</p>
	<p>Cohesion Fund: focused on priority Trans-European transport links and key environmental infrastructure projects</p>
	<p>European Social Fund (ESF): employment, education and social inclusion</p>
	<p>European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: finances rural development programmes</p>
<p>European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF): priorities for 2014-20 are to help fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing, to support coastal communities in diversifying their economies, to finance projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts and to make it easier to access financing</p>	
Instrument for pre-accession (IPA) <i>Turkey</i>	<p>For the 2014-2020 period, financing under IPA is provided through the following policy areas: 1) Reforms in preparation for Union membership and related institution and capacity-building, 2) Socio-economic and regional development, 3) Employment, social policies, education, promotion of gender equality and human resources development, 4) Agriculture and rural development; 5) Regional and territorial cooperation</p>

Table 3. Overview of other EU financial instruments for cooperation and regional development in Black Sea Basin countries

The consistency analysis with other EU programmes was presented to the JPC on 28 April 2014 in Sile, Turkey

Thematic Objective 1. EU cooperation programmes focus mostly on SME development and technical assistance, leaving a broad scope for the development of non-overlapping cooperation opportunities within the Black Sea Basin priorities, as identified in the analyses and during the consultations (notably tourism, etc.).

Thematic Objective 2. Several partnership programmes (*Horizon 2020, Erasmus+*) provide suitable funding for cooperation in the field of research and innovation within the Black Sea Basin, including exchange of students and researchers and establishment of partnerships between education and research centres. The inclusion of Thematic Objective 2 therefore does not appear fully justified.

Nonetheless, some specific research activities could be included in CBC projects as relevant, without being the main aim of the projects. Likewise, universities, education institutions and research/technological centers may remain among the target groups for the valuable input they may provide under other thematic objectives.

Thematic Objective 3. The *Eastern Partnership culture programme* targets support to partner countries. In the future it will focus on technical assistance and will not provide further opportunities for direct partnerships between cultural actors so there are now few opportunities for cooperation in the cultural sector. Some cultural aspects may

nonetheless be reflected also under economic (e.g. tourism) and environmental (e.g. archeological sites) issues so that cultural actors and some specific cultural activities could also be included under those priorities as relevant.

Thematic Objective 4. EU support to social issues is mostly funded under country-specific programmes so there are few opportunities for cooperation and exchange of experience between countries within the Black Sea Basin area under current EU programmes.

Thematic Objective 6. EU cooperation programmes in the environmental sector target energy efficiency measures, sustainable use of natural resources, promotion of a low carbon economy and adaptation to climate change. This leaves considerable scope for further joint actions for environmental protection, as identified in the analyses and during the consultations (notably monitoring, etc).

Thematic Objective 7. The TRACECA programme provides a highly suitable, comprehensive and long-lasting cooperation framework to enhance transport networks and infrastructure within the Black Sea Basin. Transport infrastructure development is otherwise supported notably under country-specific programmes, via cohesion funds and the NIF. Therefore, despite the large remaining need to upgrade transport facilities within the region, the inclusion of transport in the Black Sea Basin strategy does not appear justified. Some specific transport-related issues could still be considered for their economic or environmental dimensions and included in CBC projects when relevant but not constitute the main aim of the project.

In regard to the development of information and communication technologies (ICT), these are most notably supported under *Horizon 2020*. Considering that ICT is also a transversal tool that underpins innovation and competitiveness across a broad range of sectors, the inclusion of ICT components may still be considered in CBC projects under any priority whenever relevant to enhance CBC project effectiveness.

Summary of strategy identification

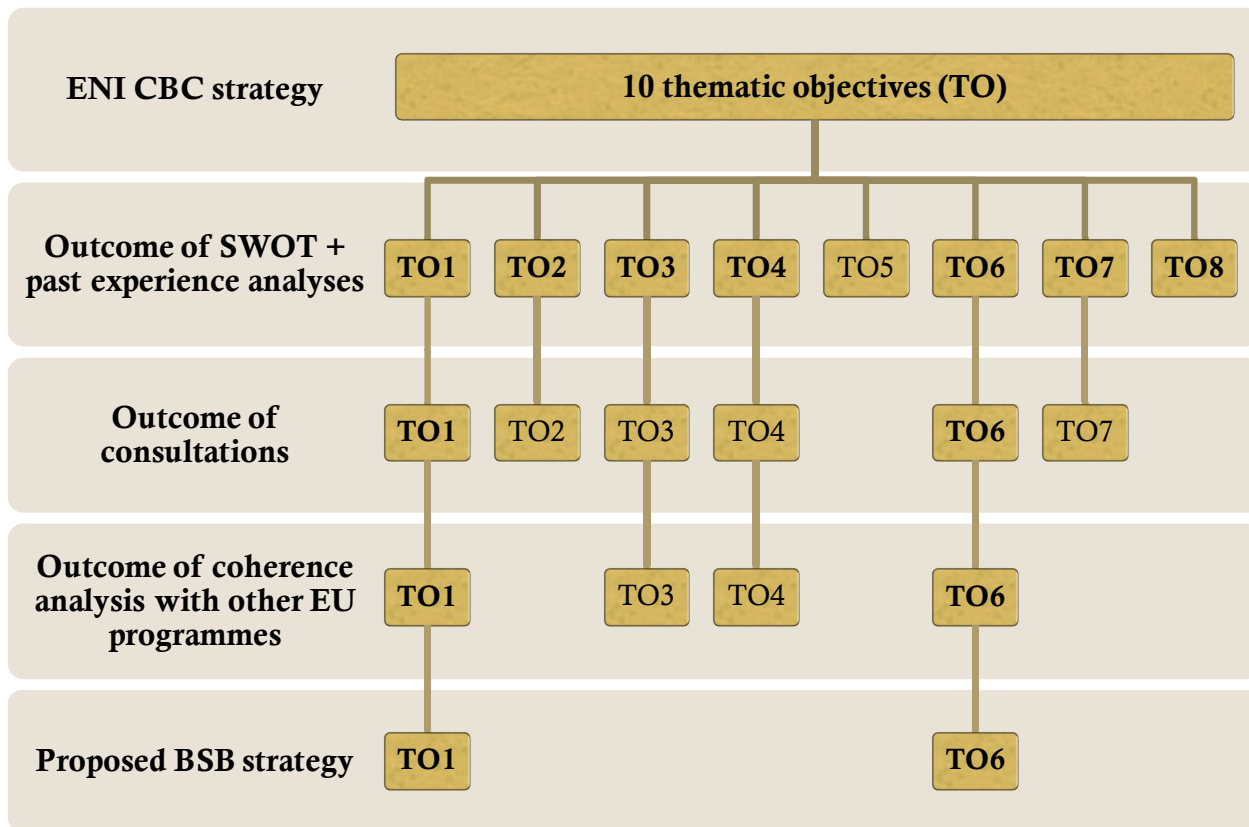


Table 4. Summary of strategy development. At each step, TOs strongly supported are shown in bold, TOs with less support are shown in normal font, TOs with low support are not shown.

Considering the need for the Black Sea Basin strategy to concentrate on a limited number of themes in which concrete results can be obtained, and the stronger relevance of some priorities under TO1 and TO6 indicated throughout the analytical and consultation process, these two objectives have been selected for the strategy definition^{xv}.

^{xv} Please note that the current strategy has been developed based on the latest estimation of the programme budget, which is still not decided. Depending on the finally approved budget, a third thematic objective (TO3) may be considered, as agreed at the Joint Programming Committee on 28 April 2014 in Sile, Turkey.

◦ ENI CBC Black Sea Basin strategy definition

Wider objective

The ENI CBC Black Sea Basin programme will contribute to the ENI CBC overall aim to “*promote co-operation across the borders between EU Member States and the countries on the European Neighbourhood and Russian Federation*”.

More specifically, the programme will contribute to two of the ENI CBC overarching strategic objectives:

- Promote economic and social development in regions on both sides of common borders
- Address common challenges in environment, public health, safety and security

The wider Black Sea Basin ENI CBC programme objective can be defined as:

Improve the welfare of the people in the Black Sea Basin regions through sustainable growth and joint environmental protection

Horizontal issues and modalities

A number of important elements for successful, sustained and inclusive cross-border cooperation will be supported as horizontal issues or modalities to be deployed across any of the priorities selected, rather than as separate thematic priorities. They include:

- So-called ‘people-to-people’ actions i.e. enhanced cooperation among local and regional authorities, NGOs and other civil society groups, universities and schools, chambers of commerce etc.
- Promotion of local and regional good governance, capacity-building components for local/regional authorities and agencies and NGOs.
- Promotion of regional integration/coordination through regional platforms and long-lasting partnerships at organisation levels (among institutes, universities, scientific community, public institutions, local/regional administrations and agencies, NGOs, etc.).
- The use and development of relevant information and communication technologies to enhance project effectiveness, regional integration/coordination and synergies on results.
- Promotion of gender equality, and opportunities for youth.

Thematic objectives and priorities

The completed analytical and consultation process for the Black Sea Basin strongly supports the selection of specific priorities under two thematic objectives among those proposed in the ENI CBC strategy document:

- Thematic Objective 1. Business and SME development
- Thematic Objective 6. Environmental protection, climate change adaptation

- The Black Sea Basin programme will contribute to the achievement of ENI CBC Thematic Objective 1. ‘Business and SME development’ via the programme objective:

Objective 1. Promote business and entrepreneurship within the Black Sea Basin



The programme objective will be addressed through two priorities, 1.1 and 1.2 defined for the Black Sea Basin and described below.

Priority 1.1 – Jointly promote business and entrepreneurship in the tourism and cultural sectors

Justification for the definition of Priority 1.1:

- ✓ Tourism sector development is strongly supported by the socio-economic and the SWOT analyses. It has a very positive impact on employment and income, it is one of the fastest-growing sectors and still has strong growth prospects. The Black Sea Basin also has a rich cultural heritage and valuable cultural assets.
- ✓ Both the questionnaire and the results of the calls analyses show there is a clear interest in tourism projects. Previous calls also show an interest in cultural projects, often linked to tourism development.
- ✓ Tourism relevance to CBC was clearly confirmed during the consultation process while several countries underlined the importance of the cultural sector.

Indicative activities/orientations under Priority 1.1:

- Promote the development and joint marketing of cross-border tourism products and transnational thematic itineraries (e.g. cultural, religious, ancient trade routes, agricultural); promote diversification and integration of coastal and inland tourism.
- Promote historical heritage and support its preservation through sustainable tourism development (e.g. small-scale investments, marketing).
- Encourage synergies, networking and connectivity among tourism and culture stakeholders and tour operators within the Black Sea Basin (e.g. specific network for maritime tourism, etc.); promote electronic marketing tools and cross-border logistics information on e.g. cultural events.
- Share experience and/or develop jointly targeted tourism packages for specific markets (e.g. the elderly); share experience to promote higher quality, and more innovative, tourism products (e.g. underwater archaeological parks, eco-tourism, cultural tourism).
- Jointly promote cultural products (handicrafts, artworks, etc) and events (festivals, fairs).
- Jointly enhance the openness of the Black Sea Region to international and non-European tourism (e.g. joint marketing, communication and promotion campaigns, development of Black Sea Basin brands).
- Encourage networking, share good experience in strengthening cultural and creative industries (music, multimedia, etc.).

- Exchange best practices on the development of environmentally friendly tourism strategies (e.g. improve resource efficiency, waste and pollution prevention/management in tourist areas, guidelines on minimising impacts on biodiversity and enhancing benefits of tourism in protected areas).
- Improve tourism services and promote the upgrade of skills e.g. through exchange programmes between educational institutions (e.g. for young professionals), or through the joint creation of open online courses based on best experience.

Target groups for Priority 1.1:

Tourism and regional development agencies, tourism industry associations, cultural and archeological associations/institutions, local/regional authorities, universities and educational institutions, nature parks and protected areas management bodies, local business associations, farmer associations and NGOs.

Priority 1.2 – Increase cross-border trade opportunities and modernisation in the agricultural and connected sectors^{xvi}

Justification for the definition of priority 1.2:

- ✓ Support to the development and modernisation of businesses in specific sectors was strongly supported during the consultation process.
- ✓ Modernisation of the agricultural sector and food industry is strongly supported by the socio-economic and SWOT analyses. Agriculture is still a substantial or major component of the Black Sea Basin national economies, in particular in terms of employment or in terms of exports. Agricultural products are among the main goods traded between countries within the Black Sea Basin area suggesting potential complementarities. Organic farming presents potential opportunities as well as the development of sustainable aquaculture.
- ✓ It is beyond the scope of this programme in itself to modernise specific sectors, but the Black Sea Basin programme can provide good cross-border added value to the support provided by country-specific programmes and national authorities (through the exchange of experience, promotion of trade links, networking, etc.).

Indicative activities/orientations under Priority 1.2:

- Promotion of international trade links, sectoral and cross-sectoral networks and partnerships (e.g. business forums) within the Black Sea Basin and support to internationalisation of exchanges (e.g. capacity building).
- Strengthen internet connectivity, cross-border business information exchange systems, market and logistics information with greater use of information and communication technologies (ICT).
- Exchange good practice in modern and innovative marketing and trade strategies, electronic marketing tools and develop joint marketing strategies (e.g. regional branding).
- Support innovation, research and cooperation in the agricultural industry, jointly developing and implementing best practices in producing quality agricultural products.
- Introduction of innovative technologies for sectoral development (organic/bio products, sustainable aquaculture), including exchange of experience and small-scale investments in pilot projects.
- Support entrepreneurial culture through teaching and training for young people working in agricultural and connected sectors; share good practices in this field.
- Exchange of best practice experience on the practical introduction of standards (e.g. food safety).
- Joint actions to support productive use of migrant remittances in the modernisation of the agriculture/aquaculture/food industry.

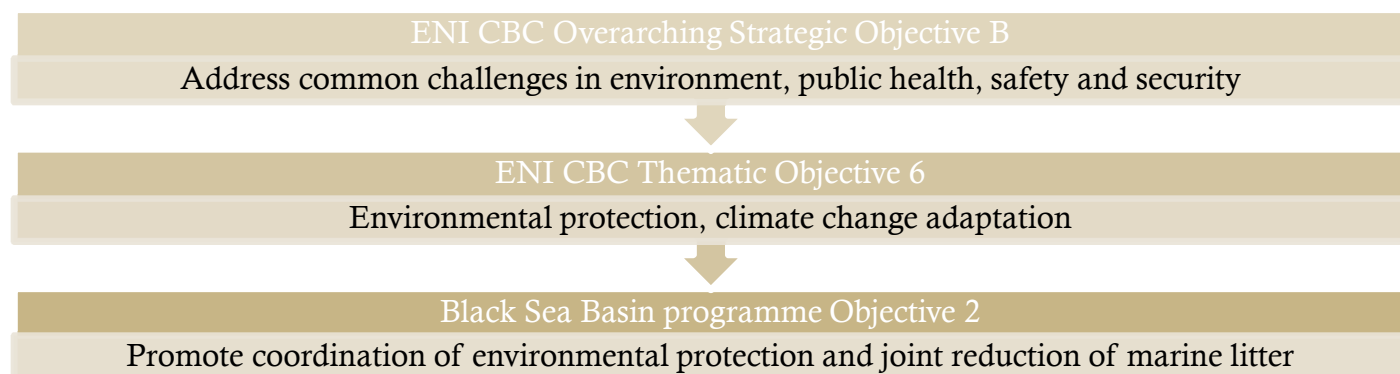
^{xvi} Including aquaculture, food industry and agro-industry

Target groups for Priority 1.2:

Chambers of commerce, business support and regional development agencies, farmer associations and agro-industry associations, SME associations, business associations, aquaculture and fisheries associations, migrant associations, regional/local authorities and agencies and research institutes.

- The Black Sea Basin programme will contribute to the achievement of ENI CBC Thematic Objective 6. 'Environmental protection, climate change adaptation' via the programme objective:

Objective 2. Promote coordination of environmental protection and joint reduction of marine litter^{xvii} in the Black Sea Basin



This programme objective will be addressed through two priorities, 2.1 and 2.2 defined for the Black Sea Basin and described below.

Priority 2.1 – Improve joint environmental monitoring

Justification for the definition of Priority 2.1:

- ✓ Cooperation for solving common environmental issues is strongly supported by the socio-economic and the SWOT analyses. A sound and common knowledge base, regularly updated, is necessary for consistent and coordinated actions by stakeholders around the Black Sea and to assess trends and quickly and effectively react to threats.
- ✓ Measure 2.1 (strengthen joint knowledge and information base to address common environmental challenges) was by far the most popular area of cooperation in the 2007-2014 programme, both in terms of number of projects and partners (1/4 of all projects awarded and >1/4 of all project partners) and in terms of funds allocated (1/3 of funds). The new ENI CBC programme should build upon and extend, but not repeat, the joint work already carried out. Actions supported should be consistent with, but not duplicate, existing information systems and monitoring activities carried out most notably by the Black Sea Commission^{xviii}.
- ✓ Both the questionnaire results and the consultations confirm there is a clear interest in environmental issues, in particular in monitoring and risk assessment.

^{xvii} Marine litter is any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment. Marine litter consists of items that have been made or used by people and deliberately discarded into the sea or rivers or on beaches; brought indirectly to the sea with rivers, sewage, storm water or winds; accidentally lost, including material lost at sea in bad weather (fishing gear, cargo); or deliberately left by people on beaches and shores. Also known as marine debris.

^{xviii} The coherence part will review main national and international strategies/fundings/programmes for each priority, in order to identify in more detail opportunities for complementarity/synergies within the selected priority.

Indicative activities/orientations under Priority 2.1:

- Reinforce joint and compatible cross-border monitoring, evaluation and information systems, tools and capacity to prevent and control transboundary pollution (including through small-scale investments).
- Improve long-term cross-border collaboration, information and research capacity (including innovative technologies) for addressing ecosystem transformation, biodiversity monitoring and migration of species.
- Jointly strengthen collaboration between science, industry, relevant stakeholders and decision-makers to address integrated coastal management issues and to harmonise monitoring, marine environment assessment and data provision.
- Improve the availability and cross-border interoperability of updated online public access data and data products (e.g. maps) for the Black Sea so industry, public authorities, NGOs and researchers may make more effective use of them.
- Promote cross-border cooperation among maritime authorities responsible for activities such as safe navigation or fisheries control so to share information on risks and threats (integrated maritime surveillance).
- Improve cooperation between stakeholders involved in disaster prevention and management.
- Enhance contact among countries and exchange good practice on early warning systems that allow the population exposed to hazards to take appropriate actions to avoid/reduce risk and to prepare effective responses; raise awareness of the population regarding notably the risk of earthquakes, floods and forest fires.

Target groups for Priority 2.1:

Scientific (oceanographic, hydrographic, meteorologic, seismic) agencies and institutes/research centers/universities, coastal, maritime and port authorities, local/regional authorities and agencies, fisheries associations, environmental NGOs, nature parks and protected areas (including marine) management bodies and schools and educational institutions. Under priority 2.1, a relevant state administration/agency or a relevant scientific agency/institute/research center/university based in any capital city (or another major centre outside the eligible area) of the Black Sea Basin countries may be also involved in project implementation^{xix}, as long as it is necessary for project implementation^{xx} and for the benefit of the programme eligible regions.

Priority 2.2 - Promote common awareness-raising and joint actions to reduce river and marine litter

Justification for the definition of Priority 2.2:

- ✓ Cooperation in solving common environmental issues is strongly supported by the socio-economic and the SWOT analyses. Litter originating from shipping, land or rivers within the Black Sea drainage basin results in a 'visible' pollution problem along the rivers and coasts, in the sea itself and on the seabed. It is a joint transboundary problem, as the sea basin dynamic current system results in the transportation of any matter from a given location in the Black sea to almost any coastal area. It has an impact on people's welfare and economic activities such as tourism development; it often harms or kills marine life, and might threaten the biodiversity of the Black Sea. Direct mobilisation of local/regional stakeholders and enhancement of responsible citizenship could have a strong effect on reducing this kind of pollution^{xxi}.
- ✓ Both raising environmental awareness and tackling solid waste issues were raised in responses to the questionnaire and in consultations.

Indicative activities/orientations under Priority 2.2:

- Jointly raise public awareness and education regarding river and marine litter problems, the value of

^{xix} In compliance with art. 8.3 of the ENI regulation on eligibility of major social, economic or cultural centres

^{xx} Involvement of national level institutes/administrations is foreseen in particular not to duplicate monitoring standards and to ensure synergies with the regional level actions

^{xxi} See report from the Black Sea Commission on *Marine Litter in the Black Sea Region*, 2009

biodiversity and environmental protection (mass-media campaigns, production of education tools and 'responsible-citizenship' guidelines for different sectors for target audiences such as children and students, tourists, municipal authorities, shipping companies and shipping crews).

- Share and promote good environmental management practices and technologies (including through small-scale investments) related to the treatment and disposal of waste, the reduction of illegal dumping and landfill sites on riverbanks and seashores and the prevention of their adverse effects.
- Jointly promote the practice of the '3 Rs' (reduce, reuse, recycle) for waste.
- Strengthen community action, promote and organise cross-border Black Sea Basin coastal and river clean-up campaigns (involving schools, students and volunteers) and share good experiences in this field.
- Encourage the involvement of, and partnerships between, NGOs and civil society, the private sector (e.g. in the tourism, shipping and fisheries sectors) and local/regional authorities and waste services to combat river and marine litter.
- Share experience to improve port reception facilities and services for garbage collection from vessels (e.g. prepare guidelines/manuals for development of the port waste management plan in line with International Maritime Organisation/EU requirements and promote its implementation in Black Sea ports).

Target groups for Priority 2.2:

Local/regional authorities and waste management and control services, environmental NGOs and civil society organisations, schools and educational institutions, tourism industry associations, fisheries associations and port authorities.

Expected results, outputs and activities, objectively verifiable indicators

Projects are expected to establish long-lasting links within the Black Sea Basin while resulting in a clearly improved situation for the issue they address.

Each project shall provide for and include a mix of:

- **Enhanced contacts within the Black Sea Basin** including networking, forums and the establishment of partnerships
- **Enhanced knowledge and skills** including the exchange of experience and good practice, innovation, capacity-building and joint research
- **Concrete and visible outputs** including small-scale investments, pilot projects, ICT shared tools, online open-access resources

When designing and implementing their action, project partners shall also pay particular attention to ensure:

- ✓ The sustainability of their action
- ✓ Communication on and dissemination of results
- ✓ Synergies and complementarities with other actions in the same field

Projects are expected to achieve a set of results that will allow the programme to reach its objectives. Expected results at programme level are presented in the tables below. Projects shall mention in their application how they will contribute to some of these results and provide relevant outputs both at the level of programme priorities and of horizontal issues. Achievement of these results, as well as of outputs, will be measured by objectively verifiable indicators, as presented in the tables below.

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
Objective	1 - Promote business and entrepreneurship within the Black Sea Basin		
Priorities	1.1 Jointly promote business and entrepreneurship in the tourism and cultural sectors		
	1.2 Increase cross-border trade opportunities and modernisation in the agricultural and connected sectors		
Expected Results	1.1.1 Enhanced business opportunities for tourism or cultural sectors	R1 - Number of tour operators, tourism business or cultural actors offering/using the marketing products/strategies developed by the projects <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R1 - Project reports
	1.1.2 Increased sustainable tourism involving cultural sites, cultural events and other cultural products	R2 - Number of additional tour operators or tourism business actors offering/using the improved cultural sites, cultural events or products <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R2 - Project reports
	1.1.3 Increased level of skills among staff working in the tourism sector (including young professionals)	R3 - Number of staff working in the tourism sector (including young professionals) passing the relevant training test <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R3 - Project reports: projects including training/educational activities will be asked to test (practical or theoretical test) and report on the acquired knowledge/skills of their trainees
	1.2.1 Enhanced cross-border trade opportunities for agricultural and agro-industrial products	R4-Number of additional cross-border trade links (meaning either regular sales to new markets, or new trade contracts) <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R4 - Project reports: projects will be requested to prepare a short survey directed towards the companies participating in project activities (business fairs, trainings, using new internet tools, marketing platforms etc.) to collect this information towards the end of project implementation.

^{xxii} The indicators have been developed specifically for ENI CBC Black Sea Basin strategy and also include as far as possible the ‘Common Output Indicators’ (COI) currently being developed by the EC for ENI CBC programmes. When relevant, the COI have been used but adapted to allow both reporting on the COI and providing a priority specific indicator.

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
			(3 questions survey: Have companies established new trade links/markets? Are they cross-border? Is it thanks to project activities?)
	1.2.2 Increased capacity in modernisation, innovative practices for agricultural production, aquaculture and connected sectors (agro-industry, food industry)	R5 - Number of enterprises using innovative technologies and practices for agricultural production, aquaculture and connected sectors as a result of project activities <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R5 - Project reports
	1.2.3 Increased skills in the agricultural and agro-industrial sectors	R6 - Number of staff working in the agricultural or connected sectors passing the relevant training test <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R6 - Project reports: projects including training/educational activities will be asked to test (practical or theoretical test) and report on the acquired knowledge/skills of their trainees
Activities	1.1.1 – Indicative activities a. Promote the development and joint marketing of cross-border tourism products and transnational thematic itineraries (e.g. cultural, religious, ancient trade routes, agro); promote diversification and integration of coastal and inland tourism.	O1 - Number of joint branding, shared marketing concepts, strategies and new tourism packages developed to promote tourism <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a, c, d, f)</i>	O1 - Project reports
	b. Encourage synergies, networking and connectivity among tourism and culture stakeholders and tour operators within the Black Sea Basin (e.g. specific network for maritime tourism, etc.); promote electronic marketing tools and cross-border logistics information on e.g. cultural events.	O2 - Number of tour operators and tourism business actors who participated in cross-border business events <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a, b)</i>	O2 - Project reports
	c. Share experience and/or develop jointly targeted tourism packages for specific markets (e.g. the elderly); share experience to promote higher quality, and more innovative, tourism products (e.g. underwater	O3 - Number of cultural actors, including from cultural industries, actively involved in cross-border exchanges <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities b, e)</i>	O3 – Project reports

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
	<p>archaeological parks, eco-tourism, cultural tourism).</p> <p>d. Jointly enhance the openness of the Black Sea Region to international and non-European tourism (e.g. joint marketing, communication and promotion campaigns, development of a Black Sea Basin brand).</p> <p>e. Encourage networking and share good experience in strengthening cultural and creative industries (music, multimedia, etc.).</p> <p>f. Exchange best practices on the development of environmentally friendly tourism strategies (e.g. improve resource efficiency, waste and pollution prevention/management in tourist areas, guidelines on minimising impacts on biodiversity and enhancing benefits of tourism in protected areas).</p>	<p>O4 - Number of business development organisations receiving support (Common Output Indicator) to promote business opportunities in the tourism or cultural sectors</p> <p><i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a to e)</i></p>	O4 - JMA database of contracts and beneficiaries
		<p>O5 - Number of enterprises substantially and actively involved in projects as final beneficiaries (COI) to promote business opportunities in the tourism or cultural sectors</p> <p><i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a to e)</i></p>	O5 - Project reports
		<p>O6 - Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions (COI) to promote business opportunities in the tourism or cultural sectors</p> <p><i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(possibly relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.1.1)</i></p>	O6 – Project Reports
		<p>O7 - Number of institutions using programme support for cooperation in education, R&D and innovation (COI) to promote business opportunities in the tourism or cultural sectors</p> <p><i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(possibly relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.1.1)</i></p>	O7 - JMA database of contracts and beneficiaries
	<p>1.1.2 – Indicative activities</p> <p>a. Promote historical heritage and support its preservation through sustainable tourism development (e.g. small-scale investments, marketing)</p> <p>b. Jointly promote cultural products (handicrafts, artworks, etc) and</p>	<p>O1 - Number of tour operators and tourism business actors introduced to the tourism potential of cultural sites, products or events promoted by the projects</p> <p><i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a, b)</i></p>	O1 - Project reports

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
	events (festivals, fairs)	O2 - Number of cultural and historical sites (COI) improved for tourism <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a)</i>	O2 - Project reports
		O3 - Number of institutions using programme support for promoting local culture and preserving historical heritage (COI) for tourism development <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a, b)</i>	O3 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries
	1.1.3 – Indicative activities a. Improve tourism services and promote the upgrade of skills e.g. through exchange programmes between educational institutions (e.g. for young professionals), or through the joint creation of open online courses based on best experience.	O1 - Number of tourism sector staff who participated in training/educational activities <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a)</i>	O1 - Project reports (note: in case of online courses users will be requested to register)
		O2 - Number of institutions using programme support for cooperation in education, R&D and innovation (COI) to increase the skills of staff working in the tourism sector <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a)</i>	O2 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries
	1.2.1 – Indicative activities a. Promotion of international trade links, sectoral and cross-sectoral networks and partnerships (e.g. business forums) within the Black Sea Basin and support to internationalisation of exchanges (e.g. capacity building). b. Strengthen internet connectivity, cross-border business information exchange systems, market and logistics information with greater use of information and communication technologies (ICT). c. Exchange good practice in modern	O1 - Number of joint branding, shared marketing concepts and strategies developed to promote trade links and opportunities <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a, c)</i>	O1 - Project reports
		O2 - Number of participants from the agricultural and connected sectors in cross-border business events organised by the projects <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a, c)</i>	O2 - Project reports

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
	and innovative marketing and trade strategies, electronic marketing tools and develop joint marketing strategies (e.g. regional branding).	O3 - Number of users of ICT based business information tools created by the project <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity b)</i>	O3 Project reports and direct check on project created website: projects including setting up of web-site or online services/databases will be requested to insert a real-time counter of visits to the pages created by the project (that should remain operational after project completion)
O4 - Number of business development organisations receiving support (COI) to promote trade opportunities for agricultural or agro-industrial products <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.2.1)</i>		O4 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries	
O5 - Number of enterprises substantially and actively involved in projects as final beneficiaries (COI) to promote cross-border trade opportunities for agricultural or agro-industrial products <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.2.1)</i>		O5 - Project reports	
O6 - Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions (COI) to promote cross-border trade opportunities for agricultural or agro-industrial products <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.2.1)</i>		O6 - Project reports	
O7 - Number of institutions using programme support for cooperation in education, R&D and innovation (COI) to promote trade opportunities for agricultural or agro-industrial products <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities b, c)</i>		O7 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries	

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
	<p>1.2.2 – Indicative activities</p> <p>a. Support innovation, research and cooperation in the agricultural industry, jointly developing and implementing best practices in producing quality agricultural products.</p> <p>b. Introduction of innovative technologies for sectoral development (organic/bio products, sustainable aquaculture), including exchange of experience and small-scale investments in pilot projects.</p> <p>c. Exchange of best practice experience on the practical introduction of standards (e.g. food safety).</p> <p>d. Joint actions to support productive use of migrant remittances in the modernisation of the agriculture/aquaculture/food industry.</p>	<p>O1 - Number of business development organisations receiving support (COI) to promote modernisation and innovative practices in the agricultural or connected sectors field <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.2.2)</i></p> <p>O2 - Number of enterprises substantially and actively involved in projects as final beneficiaries (COI) to promote modernisation and innovative practices in the agricultural or connected sectors field <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 1.2.2)</i></p> <p>O3 - Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions (COI) to promote modernisation and innovative practices in the agricultural or connected sectors field <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a to c)</i></p> <p>O4 - Number of institutions using programme support for cooperation in education, R&D and innovation (COI) to promote modernisation and innovative practices in the agricultural or connected sectors field <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activities a, b)</i></p>	<p>O1 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries</p> <p>O2 - Project reports</p> <p>O3 - Project reports</p> <p>O4 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries</p>
	<p>1.2.3 – Indicative activities</p> <p>a. Support entrepreneurial culture through teaching and training for young people working in agricultural and connected sectors; share good practices in this field.</p>	<p>O1 - Number of staff working in the agricultural and connected sectors participating in training/educational activities <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a)</i></p>	<p>O1 - Project reports</p>

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITHIN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators ^{xxii}	Sources and means of verification
		O2 – Number of institutions using programme support for cooperation in education, R&D and innovation (COI) to increase skills in the agricultural and connected sectors <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from activity a)</i>	O2 - MA database of contracts and beneficiaries
	Horizontal issues	O1 - Number of NGOs involved in cross-border cooperation receiving support <i>Target value tbd</i>	O1 - MA database of contracts and project beneficiaries
		O2 - Number of participating organisations cooperating for improved governance (COI) <i>Target value tbd</i>	O2 - MA database of contracts and project beneficiaries
		O3 - Number of additional officially agreed frameworks for cross-border-cooperation <i>Target value tbd</i>	O3 - Project reports; Frameworks
		O4 - Number of ICT based tools developed to support cross-border cooperation and regional integration/coordination <i>Target value tbd</i>	O4 - Project reports
		O5 - Number of participants in project activities promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders <i>Target value tbd</i>	O5 - Project reports

OBJECTIVE 2 – PROMOTE COORDINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND JOINT REDUCTION OF MARINE LITTER IN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources and means of verification
Objective	2 Promote coordination of environmental protection and joint reduction of marine litter in the Black Sea Basin		
Priorities	2.1 Improve joint environmental		

OBJECTIVE 2 – PROMOTE COORDINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND JOINT REDUCTION OF MARINE LITTER IN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources and means of verification
	monitoring		
	2.2 Promote common awareness-raising and joint actions to reduce river and marine litter		
Expected Results	2.1.1 Increased cross-border interinstitutional use of interoperable monitoring data on the environment, including on environmental risks	R1 - Number of institutions/organisations using/contributing to improved data sharing and information exchange systems on the environment per country <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R1 - Project reports
	2.1.2 Enhanced public availability of environmental monitoring data and information on environmental risks within the BSB	R2 - Number of users (per country) of online public information created by projects on BSB environment and environmental risks <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R2 - Project reports and direct check on project created website: projects including setting up of web-site or public access online services/databases will be requested to insert a real-time counter of visits to the pages created by the project (that should remain operational after project completion)
	2.2.1 Enhanced responsible environmental citizenship and awareness	R3 - Number of citizens/students/pupils actively participating in environmental actions and awareness raising activities further to project activities (follow-up actions) <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R3 - Project reports: projects will be requested to prepare a short survey directed towards participants to project activities (schools, etc.) to collect this information towards the end of project implementation
	2.2.2 Improved garbage collection/containment/treatment facilities and/or management along river banks and sea shores (including ports)	R4 - Number of sites along river banks or sea shores (including ports) with improved garbage collection/containment/treatment facilities and/or management tools <i>Baseline value 0</i> <i>Target value tbd</i>	R4 - Project reports
Indicative Activities	2.1.1 - Indicative activities a. Reinforce joint and compatible cross-border monitoring, evaluation and information systems, tools and capacity to prevent and control transboundary pollution (including through small-scale investments). b. Improve long-term cross-border	O1 - Number of organisations/institutions using programme support to improve cross-border environmental monitoring, evaluation and information systems and tools and compatibility of data per country <i>Target value tbd</i>	O1 - MA database of contracts and project beneficiaries

OBJECTIVE 2 – PROMOTE COORDINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND JOINT REDUCTION OF MARINE LITTER IN THE BLACK SEA BASIN

	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources and means of verification
	<p>collaboration, information and research capacity (including innovative technologies) for addressing ecosystem transformation, biodiversity monitoring and migration of species.</p> <p>c. Jointly strengthen collaboration between science, industry, relevant stakeholders and decision-makers to address integrated coastal management issues and to harmonise monitoring, marine environment assessment and data provision.</p> <p>d. Promote cross-border cooperation among maritime authorities responsible for activities such as safe navigation or fisheries control so to share information on risks and threats (integrated maritime surveillance).</p> <p>e. Improve cooperation between stakeholders involved in disaster prevention and management.</p>	<p><i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 2.1.1)</i></p> <p>O2 - Surface area covered by joint monitoring actions or by cooperation to improve shared environmental monitoring capacity (including monitoring of risks) <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 2.1.1)</i></p> <p>O3 - Number of institutions using programme support for cooperation in education, R&D and innovation (COI) to prevent and control transboundary pollution and risks, or to monitor ecosystem transformations and biodiversity <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(possibly relevant to measure outputs from activities a, b, c)</i></p> <p>O4 - Surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status (COI) <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(possibly relevant to measure outputs from activity b)</i></p>	<p>O2 - Project reports</p> <p>O3 - MA database of contracts and project beneficiaries</p> <p>O4 - Project reports</p>
	<p>2.1.2 – Indicative activities</p> <p>a. Improve the availability and cross-border interoperability of updated online public access data and data products (e.g. maps) for the Black Sea so industry, public authorities, NGOs and researchers may make more effective use of them.</p> <p>b. Enhance contact among countries and exchange good practice on early warning systems that allow the population exposed to hazards to take appropriate actions to avoid/reduce risk and to prepare effective responses; raise awareness of the population regarding notably the risk of earthquakes, floods and forest fires</p>	<p>O1 - Number of ICT based tools and online data/data products created by the projects improving public availability of information on the environment and environmental risks within BSB <i>Target value tbd</i> <i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 2.1.2)</i></p>	<p>O1 - Project reports</p>
	<p>2.2.1 – Indicative activities</p> <p>a. Jointly raise public awareness and education regarding river and marine</p>	<p>O1 - Number of citizens/students/pupils actively participating in environmental actions</p>	<p>O1 - Project reports</p>

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	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources and means of verification
	<p>litter problems, the value of biodiversity and environmental protection (mass-media campaigns, production of education tools and 'responsible-citizenship' guidelines for different sectors for target audiences such as children and students, tourists, municipal authorities, shipping companies and shipping crews).</p> <p>b. Jointly promote the practice of the '3 Rs' (reduce, reuse, recycle) for waste.</p> <p>c. Strengthen community action, promote and organise cross-border Black Sea Basin coastal and river clean-up campaigns (involving schools, students and volunteers) and share good experiences in this field.</p>	<p>and awareness raising activities within project activities <i>Target value tbd</i></p> <p><i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 2.2.1)</i></p>	
	<p>2.2.2 – Indicative activities</p> <p>a. Share and promote good environmental management practices and technologies (including through small-scale investments) related to the treatment and disposal of waste, the reduction of illegal dumping and landfill sites on riverbanks and seashores and the prevention of their adverse effects.</p> <p>b. Share experience to improve port reception facilities and services for garbage collection from vessels (e.g. prepare guidelines/manuals for development of the port waste management plan in line with International Maritime Organisation/EU requirements and promote its implementation in Black Sea ports).</p> <p>c. Encourage the involvement of, and partnerships between, NGOs and civil society, the private sector (e.g. in the tourism, shipping and fisheries sectors) and local/regional authorities and waste services to combat river and marine litter.</p>	<p>O1 - Number of organisations/institutions using programme support to share good environmental practices and improve garbage collection/containment/treatment facilities and/or management along river banks and sea shores (including ports)</p> <p><i>Target value tbd</i></p> <p><i>(relevant to measure outputs from all activities under 2.2.2)</i></p>	<p>O1 - JMA database of contracts and project beneficiaries</p>

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	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources and means of verification
	Horizontal issues	O1 - Number of NGOs involved in cross-border cooperation receiving support <i>Target value tbd</i>	O1 - MA database of contracts and project beneficiaries
		O2 - Number of participating organisations cooperating for improved governance (COI) <i>Target value tbd</i>	O2 - MA database of contracts and project beneficiaries
		O3 - Number of additional officially agreed frameworks for cross-border-cooperation <i>Target value tbd</i>	O3 - Project reports; Frameworks
		O4 - Number of ICT based tools developed to support cross-border cooperation and regional integration/coordination <i>Target value tbd</i>	O4 - Project reports
		O5 - Number of participants in project activities promoting gender equality, equal opportunities and social inclusion across borders <i>Target value tbd</i>	O5 - Project reports