The ILMM-BSE project funded by the European Cross-Border Cooperation Joint Operational Program ‘Black Sea Basin 2007-2013’, planned organizing 6 training courses in each of the partner countries: Bulgaria, Georgia, Turkey and Ukraine.

In Georgia major effort was applied to develop capacity building content/package for the forthcoming Black Sea Day workshop of 30-31 October 2014 in Batumi, Georgia. The Black Sea Day events in Georgia, included the Training Workshop on October 30, dealing with capacity building in hydrological modelling, data dissemination and discovery tools for the Black Sea Catchment, followed by special policy session devoted to International Black Sea Day of October 31, both with participation and presentations of local, national and international stakeholders involved in various European projects and other projects in river basin and catchment management. The following training topics were discussed: concepts on spatial data infrastructures; geospatial data storage, publishing (GeoServer); documenting and searching (GeoNetwork); processing, viewing, downloading (WFS, WCS); analyzing, sharing and discovering (GEOSS, Discovery and Access Broker); SDI portal for Black Sea Catchment Observation System (BSC OS); hands-on hydrological modelling (ArcSWAT); model calibration and validation with grid-platform (gSWAT). Latter was delivered by JRC from Georgia in cooperation with partners from FP7 IASON.

The two-day training course in Ukraine was held in April 2015. Presentation of the Project “ILMM-BSE Integrated Land-use Management Modelling in Black Sea Estuaries” - goals, objectives, content, expected results of the Project was made by Karpenko I. A., the Chairman of the UKRAINIAN MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION. Geoinformation system as a necessary component of the system of management modelling in Black Sea Estuaries made Babiy V.V., the representative of city government of Odessa. GIS Technology as a Tool to Protect Environment of Estuaries at Ukrainian Part of Black Sea“, GIS components were presented and discussed with Volkov A. I., candidate of geological Sciences, associate Professor, Odessa state environmental University. The use of GIS technologies in the training of specialists-hydrologists was presented by Shakhirzanova G. R., doctor of geographical Sciences. GIS Technology as a Tool to Protect Environment of Estuaries at Ukrainian Part of Black Sea and analytical capabilities of
GIS were presented by Volkov A. I., candidate of geological Sciences, associate Professor, Odessa state environmental University. The plan for water and environmental management estuaries for the purpose of preservation and rational use of their resources and the use of GIS technology for assessment of environmental pollution on the example of Odessa were presented by Yatsenko A.V., vice President of the Ukrainian Association for the protection of the marine environment. The relevance of using GIS was presented by Shakhirzanova G. R., doctor of geographical Sciences. The use of geoinformation technologies in operational hydrometeorology was presented by Shakhirzanova G. R., doctor of geographical Sciences. There was a detailed presentation on GIS Technology as a Tool to Protect Environment of Estuaries at Ukrainian Part of Black Sea, database components made by Volkov A. I., candidate of geological Sciences, associate Professor, Odessa state environmental University. Very useful and interesting was the presentation “Environmental problems of the Black sea” made by Nirko A.A., UKRAINIAN MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

The joint research coordinators in each of the pilot countries have done intensive research and collected diverse information. It was agreed that the pilot areas will be discussed with two main types of river mouths - delta and estuary. The results from the research activities in Ergene River basin area are used as comparison between river mouths in Aegean Sea and Black Sea, as long as Ergene River is tributary to Aegean Sea.

Project web site: http://www.e-blacksea.com

The project Integrated Land-use Management Modelling of Black Sea Estuaries (ILMM-BSE) is financed by the Second call of the Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007 - 2013” http://www.blacksea-cbc.net. It started on 25 May 2013 and involves partners from four countries: Bulgaria, Ukraine, Georgia and Turkey. The duration of the project is 24 months. The overall objective of the project is to develop, enhance and evaluate impact assessment and management tools for the sustainable land use of the watershed areas of coastal deltas.

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