



**BLUEING
THE
BLACK SEA**

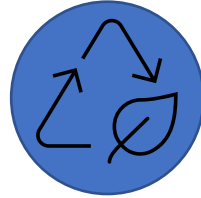
Blueing the Black Sea (BBSEA) support for Innovators and Entrepreneurs

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BBSEA Program Vision Statement in support of the CMA

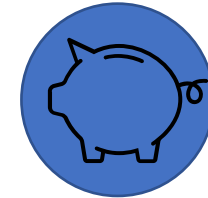
Long-term Development Objectives of the program are:



**To improve environmental health of
the Black Sea**

First activities implemented under the program include:

- Improve knowledge on sources of pollution, in particular nutrient
- Promoting regional collaboration
- **Engaging the public, private sector and civic society for pollution prevention in the Black Sea**
- **Fostering innovation to prevent and mitigate nutrient pollution in the Black Sea**



**Increase social and economic benefits for the
population**

Beneficiaries:

- All CMA countries: 6 riparian countries and Moldova
- Pilot activities initiated in Georgia, Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine

Outcome Of The National Consultations

CONSULTATIONS COMPLETED IN ALL CMA COUNTRIES
PRIORITIES FROM THE PROGRAM IDENTIFIED FROM
THE CONSULTATIONS WITH NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS ARE:



Priority Pollution:
Nutrient



Priority Activities:
**Legal and Policy Reform,
Investment plan and
Ecoinnovation challenge**

BBSEA Eco-Innovation Challenge

Objective: 1. Remove/Reduce nutrients to avoid eutrophication in the Black Sea
2. To support local business ecosystem by strengthening eco-business



Regional Window

- Eligible innovation: Early-stage concept, ideas, technology, business model contributing to objective
- Eligible entities: Private entities (including start-ups), NGO/CSO, academic institutions, youth group, women's group
- Award: 10,000 USD + a week-long study trip+ acceleration program for max 15 winners

National Window in Georgia, Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine

- Eligible innovation: Proven concept, ideas, technology business model contributing to objective
- Eligible entities: Private entities (including start-ups), NGO/CSO, academic institutions, youth group, women's group
- Host of Innovation: Each proposal will be submitted in partnership with pre-selected "host": Municipality, Water Utility, Farmer Association or Industrial Estate
- Grants: 500,000 USD per GEF country in 2 or 3 grants
Matching grant for in-country pilot project implementation
Acceleration program and mentoring provided to grantees

Implementation arrangement

Operated by Eco-innovation management team (Consultant/firm) of the BSEC (Istanbul, Turkey)

Role of key players in Eco-Innovation Challenge

Innovator/ Entrepreneur

Typically, private sector

- Has proven solution for eutrophication
- Fulfills the eligibility criteria
- Agrees with host of innovation to apply to the challenge
- Pilots the innovation
- Makes impact!

BSEC Secretariat

- Pre-selects host of innovation
- Supports preparing water pollution problem statement
- Organizes challenge
- Supports pilot innovation
- Offers acceleration program

Host of Innovation

Typically, municipalities, farmers association, etc

- Nominated by in-country BBSEA focal point
- Prepares water pollution problem statement
- Agrees with innovators to apply to the challenge
- Makes arrangement for pilot innovation

Why Eco-innovation challenge?

Current challenges are....

- Gaps in expertise and/or resources prevent adopting innovation
- Hosts of innovation face financial and procurement constraints, informational barriers due to innovations untested in local context

Eco-Innovation can....

- Support kickstarting the innovation testing for nutrient treatment
- Making innovation relevant and accessible
- Accelerate water utility/industrial entity/community's buy-in to innovation



Eco-innovation contact:

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BSEC:

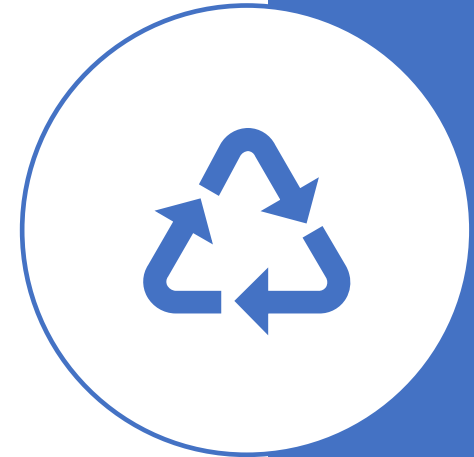
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Thank you!

Examples of innovation for Nitrogen and Phosphorus removal/reduction

- Utility goes energy positive: Biogas production and converting to renewable energy by accepting organic waste from livestock producers at wastewater treatment plant
- Phosphorus harvesting: Using nutrient recovery technologies, recovers phosphorus at wastewater treatment plant and convert into environmentally friendly fertilizer
- Using technology to optimize fertilizer application: sensors for efficient nitrogen use is applied to measure the real-time nitrogen status of crops which leads to decreased fertilizer use, and improved water quality



Source: US EPA

Roadmap for Eco-Innovation Challenge

