

# Future steps for the implementation of the Marine Strategy Directive in the Black Sea in coordination with other EU Directives

Gheorghe Constantin  
Director

Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

ECRAN Regional Training, Istanbul, 18-20 May 2015

# Black Sea Environment

- Comparatively with other seas, the biodiversity of the Black Sea is somehow different.
- Most of the Black Sea species are immigrants from Mediterranean, who reach the Pontic basin 10,000 years ago, after the reopening of Bosphorus strait.
- Black Sea is in fact a “pocket” with a particular flora and fauna, originated mostly from Mediterranean.
- Black Sea ecosystems are more fragile, more sensible to changes comparatively with mediterranean ones.

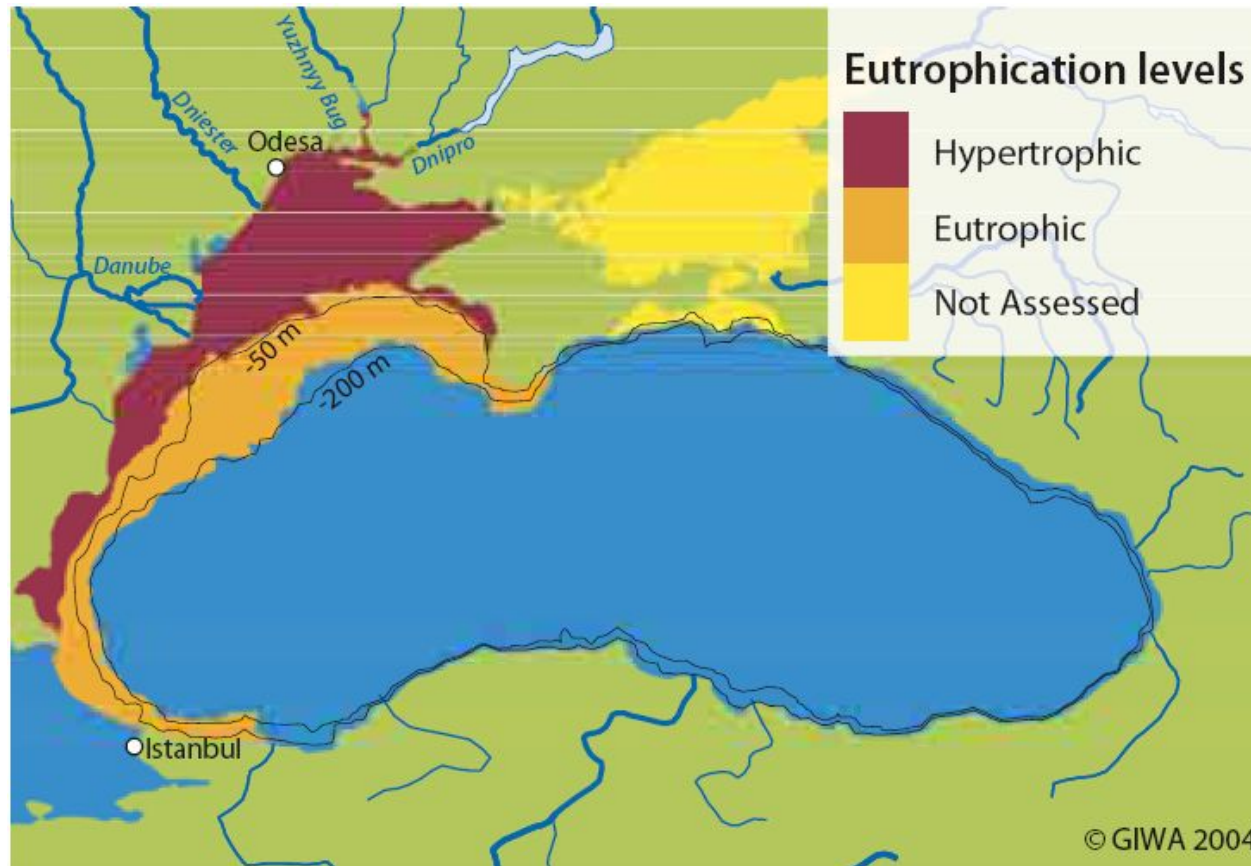
# Black Sea Biodiversity

- More than 5600 species included in 70 systematic units of superior order – plants and animals - were mentioned in the whole Black Sea.
- Black Sea shelf and river deltas are important spawning grounds for sturgeon and other fish species.
- Coastal wetlands are migration and breeding grounds for numerous rare and endangered European birds.

# Regional Environmental Problems

- Eutrophication/Nutrient Enrichment
- Chemical Pollution, including Oil
- Changes in Marine Living Resources, Overfishing
- Biodiversity Changes/Habitats Loss, including Alien Species Introduction
- Climate Change

# Eutrophication



Eutrophication levels in the Black Sea (hypertrophic – red, eutrophic – orange, mesotrophic – yellow and blue).

(Source: GIWA, “Eutrophication in the Black Sea region”, 2005)

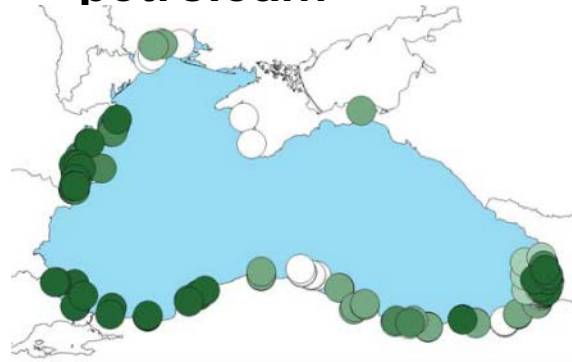
# Chemical pollution

Mean concentrations of selected parameters in water of the Black Sea, 2000-2005 (TDA 2007)

**Dissolved copper**







**Total petroleum**



**Total suspended**



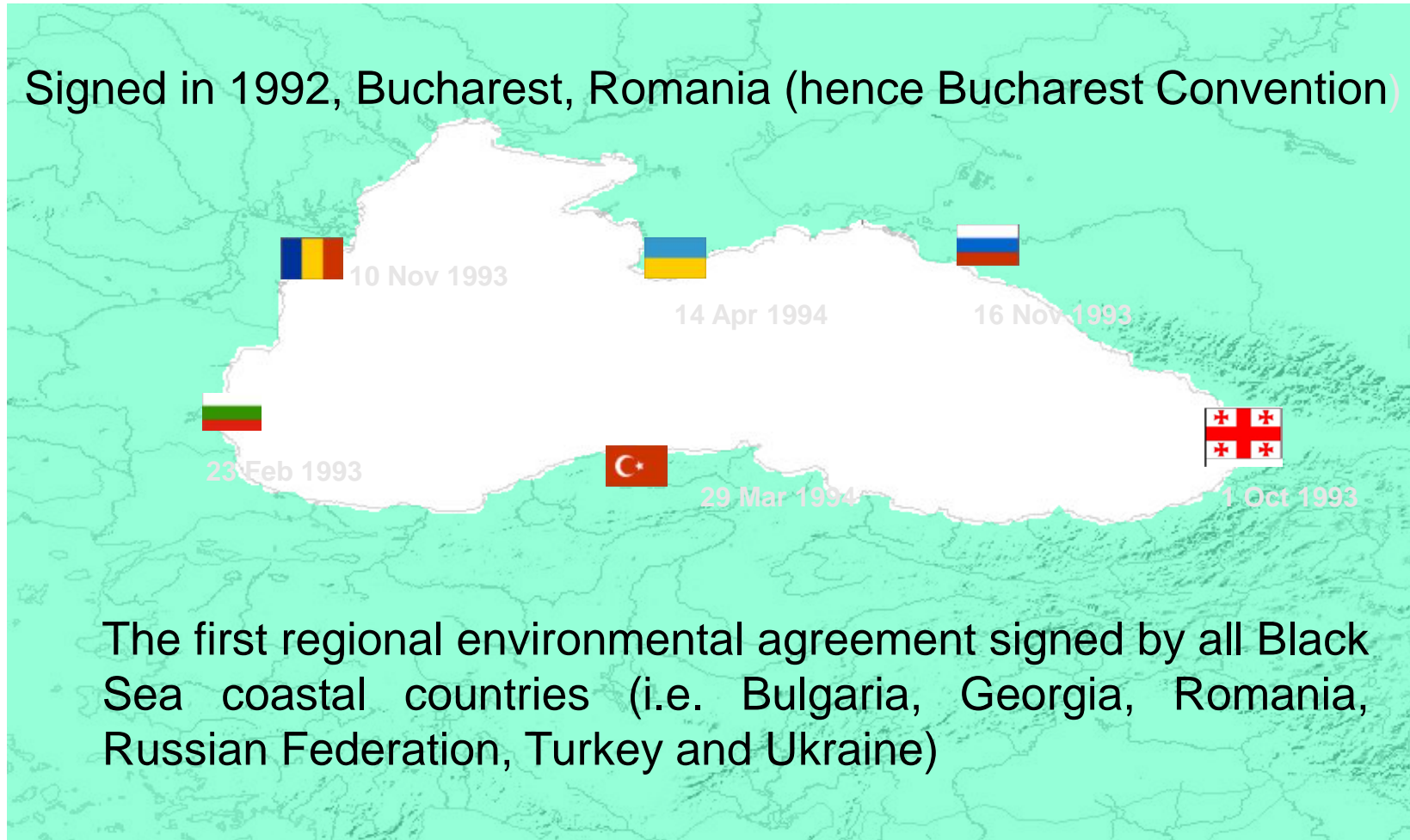
Color	Dissolved copper ( $\mu\text{g/l}$ )	Total petroleum hydrocarbons ( $\text{mg/l}$ )	Total suspended solids ( $\text{mg/l}$ )
	<1.000	<0.018	<1.550
	>1.001-2.667	>0.018-0.020	>1.550-4.194
	>2.667-3.000	>0.020-0.050	>4.194-8.031
	>3.000-13.346	>0.050-0.180	>8.031-14.853
	>13.346	>0.180	>14.853

# Need for regional approach

- Marine environment possess no physical borders!
- Most marine problems are transboundary and require collective action
- Environment, the easiest area of cooperation

# The Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution

Signed in 1992, Bucharest, Romania (hence Bucharest Convention)



The first regional environmental agreement signed by all Black Sea coastal countries (i.e. Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine)



# The Strategic Action Plan for the Rehabilitation and Protection of the Black Sea

- Signed on October 31, 1996 (commemorated as the **Black Sea Day**)
- Adopted by all Black Sea countries
- Updated in 2009
- Ecosystem approach



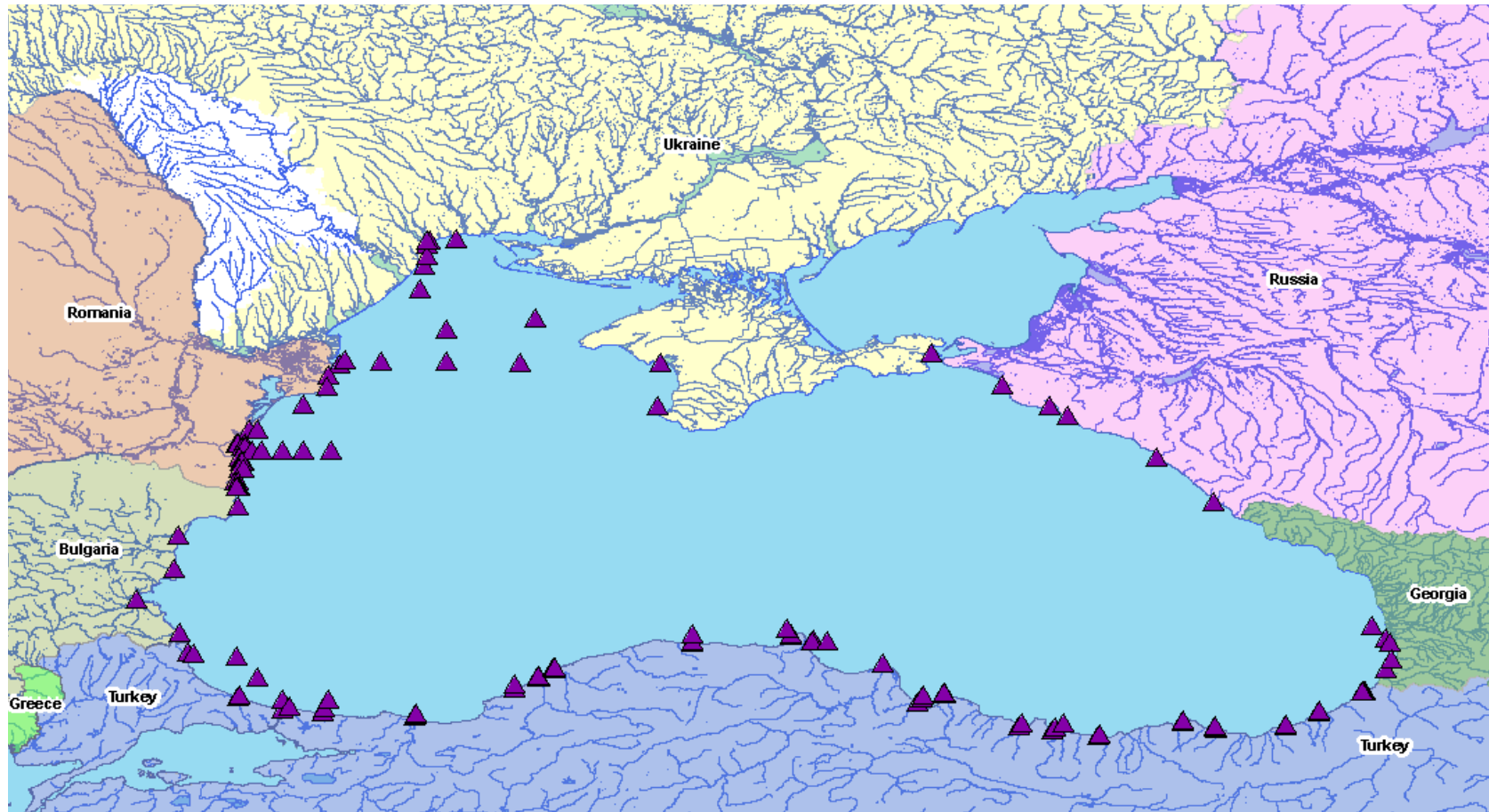
# Strategic Action Plan for the Black Sea Focus

- Land based pollution
- Pollution from dumping
- Waste management
- Oil contingency plan
- Biological and Landscape protection
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management

## BSSAP2009- OBJECTIVES:

1. Preserve commercial marine living resources.
2. Conservation of Black Sea Biodiversity and Habitats.
3. Reduce eutrophication.
4. Ensure Good Water Quality for Human Health, Recreational Use and Aquatic Biota.

# BSIMAP Pollution Monitoring Network



# Black Sea – EU Sea

- Implementation of the EU Marine Strategy
- Bulgaria and Romania Member States
- Coordination within BS Commission
- Exchange of experience at the European level
- Baltic Sea partner for Black Sea

# THE MARINE STRATEGY:



# Future steps for the MSFD implementation (1)

- Harmonize the GES and environmental targets with the existing Black Sea Commission objectives
- Harmonize the existing methods of monitoring and assessment
- Developing the work plan for filling gaps for the preparation of second reporting cycle including with information from the entire Black Sea
- Involving the third countries or the Black Sea Commission to achieve the GES by 2020 together with the implementation of BSSAP

## **Future steps for the MSFD implementation (2)**

- Updating the Black Sea Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme in order to correlate with the MSFD monitoring
- Improving the knowledge on the Black Sea Marine environment, particularly on the biodiversity (mammals, birds)
- Increase the capacity for the Marine Litter monitoring
- Establish a Marine Protected Areas Network around the Black Sea
- Tackling the arising challenges as climate changes and off shore gas and oil exploitation



# Further steps identified in the EU financed project (RO-BG)

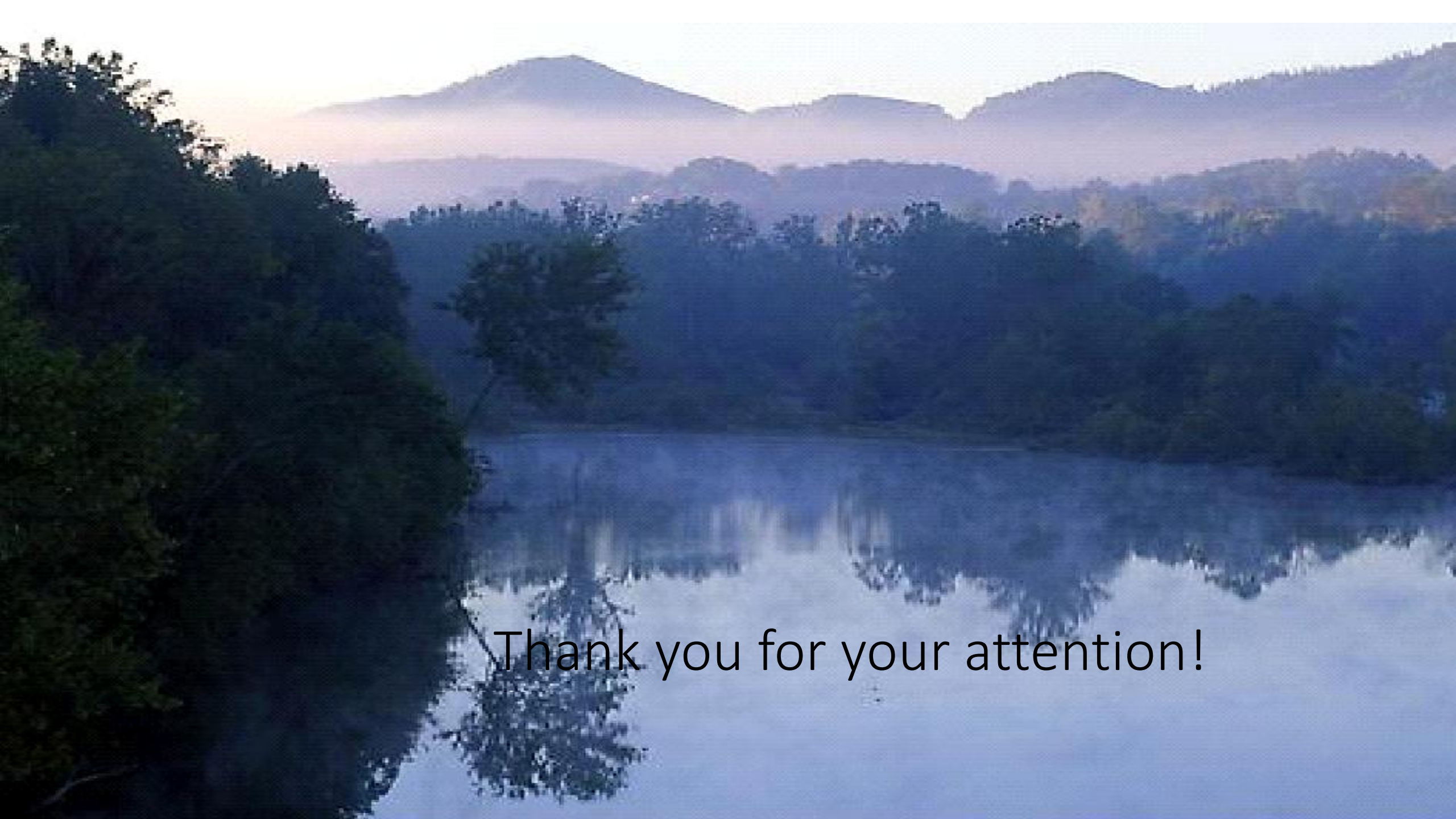
1. To formulate some targets according to the **SMART principle** (e.g. D2);
2. To improve **coordinated efforts** for descriptors with a potential for common indicators (e.g. D1-fish, D1-water, D1-seabed habitats, D8);
3. To **establish/revise GES and target definitions** as soon as more data becomes available through the monitoring programme (e.g. D10, D11).
4. To **define key concepts of MSFD** (e.g. indicators, parameters) **unambiguously and to use them consistently** throughout the MSFD documents produced by the EC (e.g. Dike reporting, Decision document, etc.)

# Coordination for GES and targets

	Bulgaria		Romania		Convergence analysis	
	GES defined	Targets defined	GES defined	Targets defined	GES	Targets
D1-Fish	yes	yes	no	no	no	no
D1-Mammals	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D1-Birds	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D1-Habitats	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D1-Water	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D2	no	yes	no	no	no	no
D3	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D4	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no
D5	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D6	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no
D7	yes	yes	no	no	no	no
D8	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D9	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
D10	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes
D11	no	no	no	no	no	no

# Projects for MSFD in the Black Sea

- Further implementation of the “Technical and administrative support for the joint implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria and Romania – Phase II”
- Development a proposal for the second phase of MISIS project
- Developing a project idea for a biodiversity project financed by UNDP and GEF
- Participation in other EU projects focusing in the implementation of the MSFD



Thank you for your attention!