Factsheet for new measures under Article 13 of Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EO

This measure fact sheet is the result of coordination between the UBA project Implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria – Development of Programmes of Measures under Article 13', carried out by Fresh Thoughts/Intersus, and the EC project (DG Environment) 'Technical and administrative support for the joint implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria and Romania – Phase 2", carried out by ARCADIS-Belgium.

Measure characteristics	**Management area:** - ***Black Sea*** ***Any other codes***	**Code: *BLKBG*** **No. of measure: 18**
Measure title	Providing gradual implementation of the requirements of the MSFD 2008/56 / EC by providing the necessary information including funding mechanisms and management decisions	
Short, precise description of the measure	The measure will enable the gathering of necessary information e.g. for seabed habitats. The measure concerns the planned provision of necessary activities for effective MSFD implementation. It is not directly addressed to GES achievement but it is a tool for strategic planning and timely funding to gradual implementation of MSFD requirements and hence GES achievement. The implementation of MSFD in Bulgaria started with significant gaps in the available information and in the understanding of GES according to the descriptors defined by Directive; a lack of human resources and expert capacity for effective MSFD implementation; and a lack of planned funding for implementation the necessary activities during the different phases of Marine Strategy development. Therefore, after reporting the initial assessment of the status of the marine environment, GES definitions and targets (acc. to articles 8, 9 and 10 of MSFD), Bulgaria was faced with the challenge of how to ensure the implementation of European Commission recommendations, based on initial assessment under art.12 of MSFD. Based on lessons learned during the first phase of the MSFD implementation, there is need to establish an effective management mechanism to ensure achievement of the MSFD objectives. An important step in this process was the establishment of the Advisory and Coordinating Council (ACC) for the protection of the Black sea marine environment by Order № RD-395/03.06.2015 of the Minister of Environment and Water. Measure implementation includes following activities :	

	1. Develop an overall plan for the remaining first and second MSFD cycle. This plan will cover activities necessary for the implementation of the MSFD for the period 2017 – 2021 and will include necessary research; development of GES understanding; organizing how to implement the monitoring system including exchange of information; and coordination and monitoring the implementation of the measures, etc. 2. To prepare the work for each year, update/detail the upcoming plan and present it to the ACC for approval before the next year's national budget preparation. 3. Annual expert meetings of the competent authorities, according to art. 3 of the Marine environment and waters protection ordinance adopted by Council of Ministers Decree № 273/2010 to discuss specific activities for next year. The expected results of the measure implementation include: • More effective engagement of the stakeholders, not only during the mandatory public consultations process, according to MSFD, • Better coordination among relevant authorities, • Timely and secured funding for planned activities implementation, and • Timely planning and implementation of the activities. This measure is relevant to WFD KTM 14 "Research, improvement of knowledge base reducing uncertainty". The measure is related with all KTMs as it is aimed at establishment of conditions for their effective implementation.
EU measure category	*Categorisation of the measure in accordance with the "PoM Recommendations":* **2a**
Key Types of Measures	*KTMs as defined in the „PoM Recommendations". Measures can be categorised in one or multiple KTMs.* **KTM 39 Other measures**
Environmental targets	*Categorisation of the measures in accordance with the nationally defined operational environmental objectives.* The measure is indirectly aimed at ensuring the achievement of all environmental targets.
Descriptors	*Categorisation of the measures to the descriptors in lined with Annex 1 MSFD. The descriptors are identified by their short form:* **All descriptors (D 1 ÷ D 11).**

Main pressures	*Using the analysis carried out in 2012 as a basis, categorisation of the measures in accordance with the pressures defined in Annex 3 MSFD, Table 2:* The measure is strategic and it is not directly linked to the any pressures.
Main drivers	*The sectors/activities targeted by the measure* The measure is strategic and it is not directly linked to the drivers.
Characteristics	*Using the analysis carried out in 2012 as a basis, categorisation of the measures in accordance with the characteristics defined in the "PoM Recommendations":* The measure is relevant to all the characteristics of the marine environment indirectly by ensuring effective implementation of the MSFD.
Link to other directive/legislation/ policy	*Aligning objectives with other legal commitments* Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) Habitat Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC); CFP (Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) № 1954/2003 and (EC) № 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) № 2371/2002 and (EC) № 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC) and its related legislations
Necessity for transnational regulation	*Information as regarding the necessity for regulations at EU, regional and international level to achieve MSFD environmental objectives.* **No**
Instrument for implementation/Mode of implementation	*Stating the implementation process in line with the „PoM Recommendations"; multiple options possible:* • Policy driven
Implementation zones	*i.e. the spatial impact of the measure: MS land / FW, WFD TW, WFD CW, Territorial waters, EEZ* **MS/land, WFD CW, Territorial waters, EEZ of Republic of Bulgaria**
Contribution of the measure to achieving the target	*– using technical information* **Benefits:** This will not directly contribute to achieving environmental targets but will lay a solid foundation for enabling the achievement of MSFD objectives. This measure will provide timely planning and implementation of MSFD activities - conducting necessary studies, implementation of the planned monitoring, processing of information gathered, improve understanding of GES, further development / updating of GES definitions, targets and indicators, performance the

	program of measures and assess their effectiveness, effective cooperation between the competent authorities, and streamlining the implementation with related Directives (WFD, Habitats Directive, the Birds Directive). The contribution of the measure to reach the targets is high, even if not directly, as it will ensure the consistent and effective implementation of the requirements of the MSFD by planning the necessary activities, timely funding and better coordination between the institutions.
Transboundary impact	*Information on the impact of the measures on transboundary neighbours* The implementation of the measure is not expected to have negative effects on the marine environment of neighbour countries.
Costs	*Administration costs* Costs for organizing periodic meetings (travel, subsistence, other logistic costs).
Effectiveness	*Effectiveness of the measure in reaching targets (either qualitative description, or according to indicators: indicators for environmental targets and for GES, proposal for statistical indicators in support of Art. 18 interim reports* Although not directly aimed at achieving GES, the overall efficiency of the measure to achieve the MSFD objectives is high, as it will ensure the consistent and effective implementation of the requirements of the MSFD by planning the necessary activities, timely funding and better coordination between the institutions.
Indicator(s) to measure effectiveness	1. Adopted overall plan with activities necessary for the implementation of the MSFD. (2017 - 2021); 2. Number of annual plans. 3. Number of expert meetings. 1. Одобрен план с дейности по прилагането на РДМС 2. Брой годишни планове. 3. Брой експертни срещи.
Socio-economic assessment	The measure has a **low to no effectiveness** in reaching MSFD objectives/environmental targets as it has no direct impacts on achieving GES under each Descriptor. The costs associated with the measure are medium due to the potential need to purchase new equipment and hire additional staff to carry out the monitoring. However, this monitoring is required by the MSFD and these costs cannot be taken into account as they are not optional. Hence, the **cost-effectiveness of the measure**, i.e. comparing costs with potential benefits in terms of reaching MSFD objectives, can be described as **high**. Unfortunately, no quantitative assessment of the cost-effectiveness

	could be conducted, as especially the information on the benefits (in a quantified form) is not available. Additional socio-economic effects of the measure are: - the implementation of the measure is expected to contribute for increasing the knowledge of status of the marine environment; - the mapping of ecosystem services will enable measures to be better developed due to enhanced knowledge; - controlling activities in the marine environment will be improved due to a better understanding of the pressures and impacts facing the marine environment.
Coordination	*Selection of the governance level that will coordinate the implementation of the measures, i.e. local, sub-national, national, bilateral, sub-regional, regional, EU-level, international* National
Technical feasibility	Applied; limited experience / uncertainties
Body responsible for the measure implementation	Ministry of Environment and Waters (MoEW) – national coordination, Black Sea Basin Directorate (BSBD) – directly involved in implementation
Financing opportunities	National budget, Operational Programme "Environment" 2014-2020, structural funds operated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, respectfully National Agency of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NAFA) as European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and other.
Temporal coverage	**Starting date: 2016** **End date: 2021**
Difficulties in implementation	*Provide information on the potential challenges that could likely faced in implementation.* Potential challenges / difficulties related to the implementation of the measure: Provide enough human resources to the competent authority responsible for the implementation of the main activities under MSFD-Black sea Basin Directorate and related timely and effective implementation of the planned activities under the measure.