



The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Integrated management of basins and coastal waters: source-to-sea approach





The Water Convention and the marine environment

- Convention's core obligation of cooperation aimed at **protection** of the environment of **transboundary waters** as well as the **marine environment** influenced by them (article 2.6).
- **Bilateral and multilateral agreements** on transboundary waters under the Convention include provisions to protect the **recipient sea and coastal areas** (article 2.6).
 - The examples include the rivers Danube, Dniester, Drin, Elbe and Oder.



The Water Convention and the marine environment

- **Cooperation** between the **Water Convention** and **regional seas conventions**:
 - affected coastal States could at least participate in the activities of the Riparian Parties, and, if Parties agree, become a Party to specific transboundary water agreements (article 9.3).
- **Cooperation** of joint bodies according to the Convention with the **joint bodies, established by coastal States** for the **protection of the marine environment** to prevent, control and reduce the transboundary impact (article 9.4).



The Water Convention and the marine environment

- Emphasizing the need for strengthened national and international measures ... to **abate pollution of the marine environment**, in particular **coastal areas**, from land-based sources.
 - The Convention refers to existing **lists of industrial sectors or industries and hazardous substances in regional seas conventions** dealing with land-based marine pollution. These include plans of actions, for the Arctic, Black, Baltic, Caspian, Mediterranean and North Seas and for the North Atlantic.



Source-to-sea: current activities

- “Source-to-sea” approach is acknowledged in the new **programme of work** of the Convention for 2019-2021:
 - Programme area 3 on IWRM (water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus and water allocation);
- The **reporting** includes questions on the source-to-sea linkage;
- Within the **GEF projects** implemented together with partners
 - Dniester
 - Drin



Protocol on Water and Health covers the entire water cycle

COASTAL WATERS
used for recreation and aquaculture



FRESHWATER
Surface and ground waters

DRINKING-WATER SUPPLY CHAIN
abstraction, transport, treatment and supply



ENCLOSED WATERS
available for bathing

WASTEWATER
collection, transport, treatment, discharge, reuse

WHAT'S FLOATING IN THE BLACK SEA?

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During 1 hour rivers bring from 6 to 50 pieces
of floating litter to the Black Sea

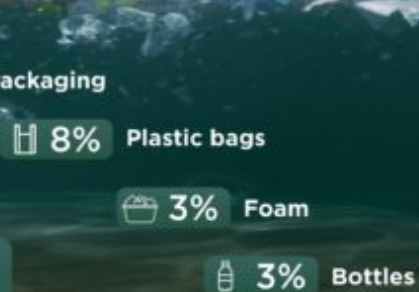
TOP 5 types of litter flowing from rivers



TOP 5 of litter found on the beach



TOP 5 types of litter found in the Sea



**AVOIDING SINGLE USE
PLASTIC SAVES YOUR SEA!**

<https://plastics-strategy.prezly.com/materials-in-all-languages>

(source: data of the EU/UNDP Project "Improving Environmental Monitoring in the Black Sea - Selected Measures (EMBLAS-Plus))



The Danube basin

- The Danube River Protection Convention contains a strong reference to reducing pollution to the Black Sea.
- ICPDR serves as a coordination mechanism for implementation of WFD in the Danube basin and MSFD in the Black Sea Region;
- MoU between the International Commission for the Protection of the Black Sea (ICPBS) and the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) with a goal to reduce pollution from nutrients and hazardous substances into the Black Sea (2001);
- Joint Technical WG between the two Commissions for better understanding of the Danube discharge (including sediments, pollution, etc.) on the ecosystem of the Black Sea (since 1997);
- Both the Black Sea Commission and the ICPDR are members of the DABLAS (Danube - Black Sea) Task Force;
- DRBMP contributes to protect the Black Sea ecosystem by reducing pollution from nutrients and hazardous substances and by fostering the migration of long-distance migratory fish species.
- Coastal flood risks are taken into account in the DFRMP.

Source-to-sea: what would it give?

- Addressing a critical challenge facing sustainable development – the interconnectedness of ecosystems and development goals;
- Implementation of SDG 6 and 14 and better coordination between them;
- Better marine protection through reducing unsustainable human activities on land, along rivers and the coast and at sea that are imposing a heavy burden on water-related ecosystems.



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For more information:

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