



PRESS RELEASE

BSEC TACKLES PLASTICS POLLUTION IN THE BLACK SEA

BSEC PERMIS is preparing to launch in the year 2021 two very important projects on combating marine litter and plastics pollution in “our” Black Sea.

The **first project**, entitled “*Blueing the Black Sea*”, is funded by the *Global Environment Facility* (GEF) and promoted by the **World Bank**. The project’s objective is to strengthen economic, technical and communication tools to promote regional collaboration and private sector engagement in preventing pollution in the Black Sea. The project will begin implementation in the second semester of 2021 and last for three years. BSEC PERMIS is already working on the initial preparatory phase. “*Blueing the Black Sea*” is focused initially in the four GEF-eligible countries, Georgia, Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine, but the ambition is to progressively expand to all littoral Black Sea countries, through additional financing.

The **second** is a multifaceted project developed by PERMIS, which will be supported with funds from the **EU Commission**. It will set up local pilot schemes on fighting micro plastics and marine litter through, for example, the collection of used fishing nets to be recycled into socially useful items, like benches and tables for parks.

At PERMIS we strongly believe that cleaning up the Black Sea is one policy area where, by acting as a coordinator of key actions among our Member States, we can have a significant impact on the iconic geographical heart of our region.

