



**PRESS RELEASE**

**BSEC PROJECT TO SUPPORT TRANSFORMATION TO A CLIMATE RESILIENT  
FUTURE RECEIVES EU FUNDING**

We are pleased to report that the BSEC PERMIS, as part of a consortium, co-submitted a project proposal under Horizon 2020 Call, entitled "Climate resilient regions through systemic solutions and innovations" (ARSINOE), which has been approved for funding by the European Commission.

ARSINOE aims to identify the solutions needed for a successful transformation towards a climate-resilient future and will develop systematic tools enabling regions and communities across Europe vulnerable to climate change – including a number in the Black Sea region – to achieve that goal. The funding from the Commission amounts to around 15 million Euros allowing the project to start in October 2021 and run for 48 months.

Under the ARSINOE initiative, the 'Black Sea case study' will focus on the connection between upstream land uses and the coastal and marine ecosystems of the Sea, including the Danube delta, as well as developing a series of innovative approaches. ARSINOE will follow an "integrated watershed management approach – from source to open sea – and provide climate resilient good practices, that will enhance the adaptive capacity of ecosystems and the local communities in the region".

BSEC PERMIS will be a key partner in the project, in particular, in keeping the consortium of 40 international organizations and institutions who are at the heart of it in touch with Black Sea stakeholders, organizing workshops and disseminating the project's results. Among BSEC Member States, partners who are involved in ARSINOE include: the *Athens University of Economics and Business* (Hellenic Republic), *Middle East Technical University, Institute of Marine Sciences* (Republic of Turkey), *National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Sciences* (Romania), *Institute for Research in Environment, Civil Engineering and Energy* (Republic of North Macedonia), *National Territorial Planning Agency* (Republic of Albania), *CleanTech* (Republic of Bulgaria), and the *Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN)*. The coordinator of the project is the *University of Thessaly* (Hellenic Republic).

The granting of funding for ARSINOE is further confirmation that the BSEC PERMIS' efforts to further enhance the Organization's active presence and involvement in projects of great significance for the Black Sea region are bearing fruit. At the same time, it proves once again that PERMIS is today considered as a trustworthy and reliable partner on the international scene.