



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**PRESS RELEASE  
ON THE 4TH REST-COAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

The REST-COAST General Assembly Meeting was held in Catania, Sicily on 24-27 March 2025. As partner of the project consortium, BSEC PERMIS was represented in the Meeting by the Executive Manager in Charge of Project Management, Ambassador Georgi Panayotov.

The Meeting took stock of the fourth year of the project's implementation with focus on REST-COAST updates, challenges and future plans, particularly progress towards the large-scale restoration activities.

Participants explored strategies for effectively communicating restoration insights to political audiences, with a special emphasis on Nature-Based Solutions as a scalable approach to restoration.

The Steering Committee Meeting took also place on the same day, with discussion on the current status of restoration of the Pilot sites. Special attention was paid to the climate risk reduction through innovative restoration approaches. Financial/business plans for restoration upscaling were discussed as well.

The last day of the Meeting was dedicated to a field trip to the Sicilian pilot site of the project - to the Natural Reserves of "Pantani Cuba and Longarini" and "Oasi faunistica di Vendicari".

The final annual meeting will be held in Barcelona in February 2026.

More detailed information on the project can be found here: <https://rest-coast.eu/>.