

Project funded by EUROPEAN UNION





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`INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES OBSERVATORY NETWORK' - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

IASON PROJECT – BSB 1121

Invasive Alien Species from the Danube Delta representative for the phenomenon of invasiveness

Authors: Gabriel LUPU, Silviu COVALIOV, Matei SIMIONOV, Raluca CĂLIN

"Danube Delta" National Institute for Research and Development, 165 Babadag Street, 820112; gabriel.lupu@ddni.ro

INTRODUCTION

The Black Sea area is under pressure from the massive presence of non-native species from the Mediterranean Sea, Indian Ocean or other parts of the world, in terms of maritime transport, climate change or expanding human presence, economic development, etc. In present, the "Mediteranization" of the Black Sea is widely debated in the scientific community, starting with the topic of climate change. A significant number of entities develop economic activities in the coastal areas of the Black Sea Coast, especially in deltaic areas, known for their population density and growth potential stimulated by fishing, aquaculture, tourism and recreation, agriculture, etc. **Invasive Alien Species (IAS)** is the reference point on which the **IASON Project** focuses, given that if not properly and sufficiently monitored and evaluated, they can dramatically unbalance not only the ecosystem balance of the bioregion, but also a range of socio-economic activities already well established.

The "IASON" project aims to establish and carry out joint IAS monitoring actions in the deltaic ecosystems of the Black Sea Bioregion of five countries (Romania, Ukraine, Greece, Turkey and Georgia) and assess their response to current and projected climatic conditions.

Achieving this goal is based on raising awareness, promoting networking, transferring knowledge and experience on best practices and optimizing dialogue between authorities, academic and scientific research institutions and the private sector on monitoring IAS, to improve access to and use of data, uniform assessment, information and communication procedures on threats. These requirements can be met through the integrated approach of research institutes and universities, central and local public authorities, private companies, NGOs and civil society representatives.





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