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## IASON Project, BSB 1121 – Implementation Activities

During March – June (2021) period the project activities have been implemented according to the AF.

Some of the Activities have been started and completed. Deliverables within the activities A.T1.2: D.T1.2.1 - “Stakeholder Survey Report”, Activity A.T1.3: D.T1.3.1 - “Assessment Report of the IAS study list” and Activity A.T1.6: D.T1.6.1 “Common IAS monitoring protocols and risk assessment methodology guide” have been completed according to the assumed calendar.

Within WP T1 - “Implementation of joint monitoring and risk assessment procedures on IAS”, Activities A.T1.5 - “Climatic analysis and future climatic projections at regional scale” and AT1.7 - “Implementation of IAS monitoring” have been started.

Also, within WP C - "Communication" the implementation of the communication activity was continued, within the Activity A.C.3 - “Public event (s)” the Info-Days event was realized (Deliverable D.C.3.1). The information materials (Flyer, Brochure, Poster, Banner) were made in electronic format and were distributed to the stakeholders invited to participate in the event. The Agenda of the Event was also distributed to them and the communication of the information was done on PowerPoint support.

So far, 40% of the project implementation phase has been reached, according to the project implementation calendar and 12.55% of the budget allocated for IASON Project has been spent. In the next period, some of the deliverables from the started activities (A.T1.4 - “Meteorological stations purchase and establishment” and A.T1.5 – “Climatic analysis and future climatic projections at regional scale”) will be completed.

**Chorokhi Delta**

Ranger shows Canadian Goldenrod-Solidago Canadensis IAS in Kolkheti

**Common borders. Common solutions.**

Species' geographic distribution is the result of the interaction between their nicherequirements and environmental conditions. Among these, the influence of climatic factors on both species' growth and global distribution is well known. Moreover, ecological and biogeographical barriers, such as oceans and large mountain ranges, allowed ecosystems to evolve independently. Therefore, species occurring in these ecosystems are adapted not only to the local climate, but also to each other, interacting in a delicate balance. Climate change is expected to cause shifts in the current geographic distribution of species, because their optimal habitat will likely change as a result of the re-arrangement of climatic zones. In addition, ecosystem balance can be severely disrupted in cases where species, for several reasons, cross the currently established ecological and biogeographical barriers.

The expansion of plant and animal species outside their natural distribution is a worldwide and common phenomenon. This is done either naturally, in a slow gradual way, or more rapidly, assisted by humans. These alien species adapt well if they are introduced in sites with climate similar to that in their natural distribution. Historically, humankind has greatly benefited from the introduction of alien species (e.g. potatoes and maize in Europe). In modern times, the rates of introduction and establishment of alien species are continuously rising due to globalization.

Among these species, a large number has been "naturalized" in their new environments, and they can be found in several natural habitats. Although many alien species have difficulties growing and reproducing in areas away from their natural range, some others are surprisingly favored by the new environments and rapidly expand as, in most cases, they do not have natural enemies. These species have become invasive, having multiple negative ecological, economic and human health impacts.

**PARTNERS**

**Romania:** The Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development - Coordinator  
**Romania:** Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority  
**Ukraine:** Institute of Marine Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine  
**Greece:** International Hellenic University - Department of Forest and Natural Environment Sciences  
**Turkey:** Karadeniz Technical University - Faculty of Marine Sciences  
**Georgia:** International Business and Economic Development Center

The monitoring scheme of the IASON project includes five spatially distanced deltaic study areas, sharing common characteristics, but with different environmental management backgrounds.

- Danube Delta (Ukraine & Romania)
- Nestos Delta (Greece)
- Kizilirmak or Halys Delta (Turkey)
- Kolkheti & Chorokhi Delta (Georgia)

**Cover photo**  
 Nutria-Myocastor Copypus an Invasive Alien Species recorded in Kolkheti.

**IASON**

**Invasive Alien Species Observatory and Network Development for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts in Black Sea Deltaic Protected Areas**

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### Invasive Alien Species Observatory and Network Development for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts in Black Sea Deltaic Protected Areas

Program Name: Join Operational Programme Black Sea Basin 2014 - 2020

Total contract value: 987 700 Euro  
ENI value: 908 684 Euro

Priority Axis: 2. Promote coordination of environmental protection and joint reduction of marine litter in the Black Sea Basin

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