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Press release

“Protecting streams for a clean Black Sea by reducing sediment and litter pollution with joint innovative monitoring and control tools and nature-based practices”

The Buzău-lalomița Water Basin Administration is a partner in the project **“Protecting streams for a clean Black Sea by reducing sediment and litter pollution with joint innovative monitoring and control tools and nature-based practices (BSB963)”** with the acronym **“Protect-Streams-4-Sea”** started on July 20th 2020. The total duration of the project will be 24 months. The project is funded under the EU INTERREG IV **“Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme 2014-2020”** framework. The total budget of the project is 907,135.00 € where the EU contribution is 834,543.41 €. The lead partner is the International Hellenic University legal successor to the Technologiko Ekpedeftiko Idryma Anatolikis Makedonias kai Thrakis. Four more institutions from the Black Sea Region are involved: Buzau-lalomita Water Administration from Romania, Young Foresters Union NGO from Armenia, Eco-TIRAS International Association of River Keepers from Republic of Moldova, and Artvin Coruh University from Turkey.

The overall objective of **“Protect-Streams-4-Sea”** is the environmental protection and reduction of pollutants and litter in Black Sea.

A.B.A Buzău-lalomița investigates and monitors within the project, the PLASTIC pollution in the pilot area, represented by the course of the Buzău river upstream of the Siriu Accumulation to the Pătârlagele locality.

Because an important activity of the project is to raise awareness and educate the community on reducing plastic pollution, a more of events were organised in March, the month dedicated to WATER, with the participation of students and members of the local community under the motto **“Be the change you expect in the world”**. On the occasion of World Water Day on 22 March, the event **AQUA VIVA (“Let WATER be ALIVE!”)** organised by the **“Grigore Antipa”** Natural History Museum in partnership with the Bucharest City Hall - Environment Department and Urban Ecology Service and the National Administration **“Romanian Waters”**, presented the results of the studies carried out within the **“ProtectStreams4Sea”** project.

The impact of plastic pollution and the importance of selective collection were also discussed in the framework of the **“Green Week”** in the school curriculum. During the ecology lessons, the project team presented the results of studies on the presence of microplastics in sediment and water, so that students understood the importance of reducing plastic consumption and recycling.

Additional information can be obtained at the Buzău-lalomița Water Basin Administration, contact person Dr.chimist Maria Marinescu- Project Manager, 0751918429 and Dr. biol. Oana Ristea, 0757130519.

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