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Systemic approach to mainstreaming blue economy in Turkey

Integrating policy dialogue and IPA III funding for environmental and socio-economic sustainability in costal areas

Angel GUTIERREZ HIDALGO DE QUINTANA, Head of COOP2 Green Development and Inclusive Growth

Ozge GOKCE AKTAS, Goktug KARA, Christian BALLARO'

EU Delegation to Türkiye

Integrating policy dialogue and IPA III funding

Addressing Climate Change creates a conducive framework for mainstreaming blue-economy principles. Under the EUD Climate Diplomacy and policy dialogue many positive developments have been achieved in the area of Climate Change even if most of the updated documents have not been finalised yet. E.g. the Long-term Climate Change Strategy, which will provide the details for 2053 net-zero strategy, as well as the update of the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan and the Turkish Climate Law are about to be finalised.

Emissions and pollution from maritime sector are an important issue. The Republic of Turkey is member of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) CleanSeaNet Service and party to 34 International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Conventions, including the Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships that sets limits on some air pollutants as well as in line with IMO GHG Strategy that aims at reducing of GHG emissions from ships by 50% by 2050 compared with 2008.

Policy highlights for blue-economy:

- Turkey made voluntary commitments to combat marine litter and plastics at the “Ocean Conference” in 2017 in New York.
- In 2019, Turkey confirmed the commitment to implement the Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea, and the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for the Black Sea (SRIA). The three main objectives of the CMA are: Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems, A competitive, innovative and sustainable Blue Economy, Fostering investment.
- In February 2021 Turkey signed the Ministerial declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean on sustainable blue economy, including commitments on sustainable, climate-neutral and zero-pollution maritime transport and ports.

Projects under IPA III – AAP21

Maritime Decarbonisation and green shipping programme



- The Turkish Maritime industry is a key enabler of inclusive and sustainable economic growth and acts as catalyst for global trade. The IPA programme (EUR 20 million) is expected to raise at least an additional EUR 50 million in investment from the EBRD and other co-financiers.
- The Programme aims at enhancing the modernisation of the Türkiye's maritime sector by financing a small number of pilot green investments, including in urban mobility contexts, promoting the use of innovative, environmentally-friendly technologies at ports and vessels, and supporting the associated institutional and regulatory frameworks to create sustainable environment for subsequent investments in the sector. This initial pilot phase is expected to create a demonstration effect that could lead to a wider scale maritime decarbonisation investment programme. The programme has two components:
 - Component 1: Investments at ports and vessels will be made possible by blending EU grants and commercial loans from the EBRD and other co-financiers, for an estimated total of circa EUR 67 million.
 - Component 2: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building will support and complement the investment programme as well as policy dialogue.

Projects under IPA III – AAP22



Increased Adaptation Capacity regarding waterbodies and coastal areas

- Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Lakes, Wetlands and Coastal Areas in Turkey:

Improved capacity of Turkey to involve in Natura 2000 network in marine areas

- Identification of Marine Habitats and Potentially Marine NATURA 2000: Sustained community engagement in A2D plans and actions in Antalya and Trabzon

Improved marine ecosystem restoration capacity

- Restoring Marine Ecosystem Connectivity in South Western Turkey with Network of Marine Protected Areas Boosting Climate Change Resilience

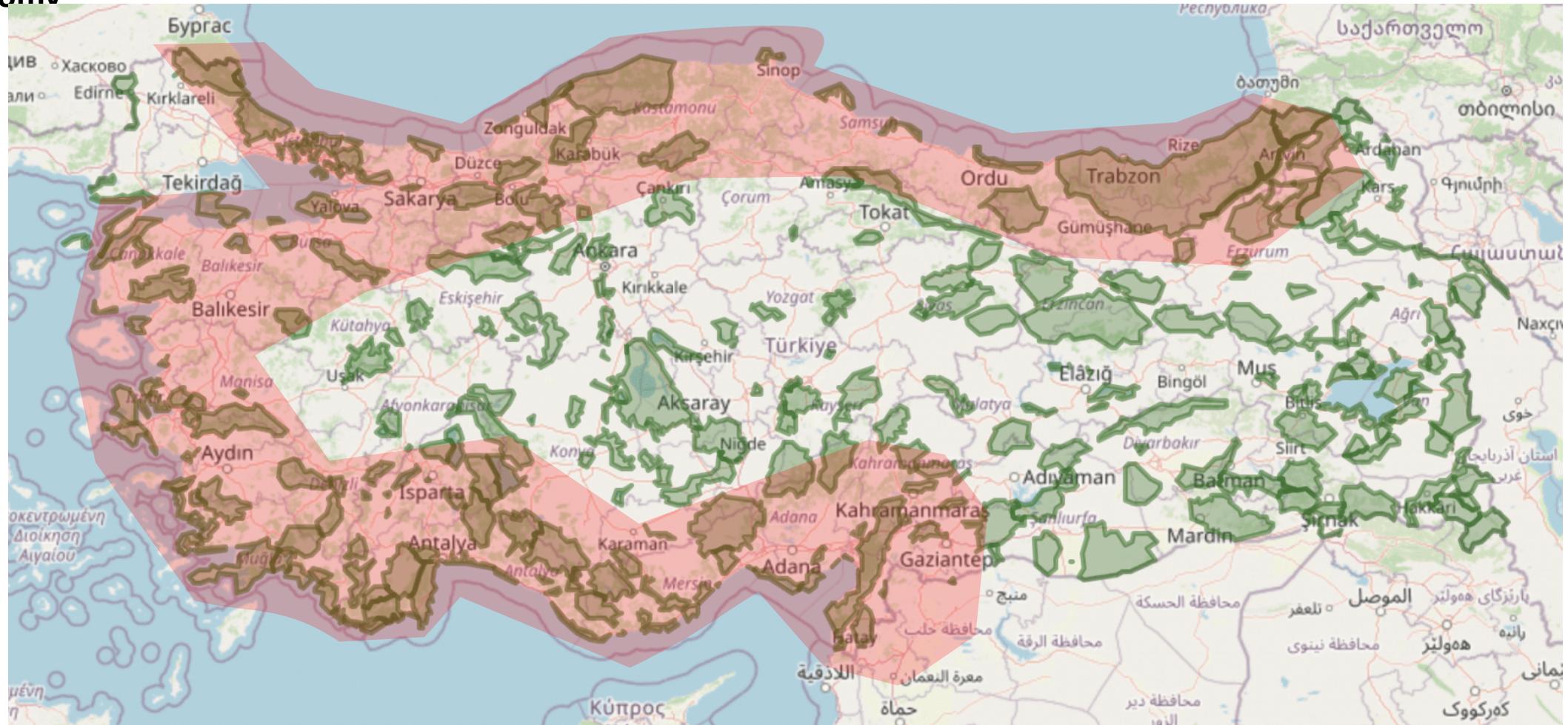
Protected marine environment from marine litter

- Increasing Capacity on Marine Litter Management in Turkey

Developed institutional capacity in data management and assessment of online marine monitoring and EU Marine Reporting skills.

- Improving Monitoring Practices in ambient air quality and marine environment (Cafe-MaRDA)

Türkiye Protected areas and potential for blue-economy



Integrating different dimensions for sustainable development of costal areas

- Fostering Blue Growth (Blue technologies, fisheries and aquaculture, maritime and marine governance)
- Connecting the region (Maritime transport, intermodal connections to the hinterland and energy networks)
- Ensuring environmental quality (marine environment & biodiversity)
- Promoting sustainable tourism (diversify offer, foster sustainable tourism practices)
- Forging partnerships (central and local governments, civil society, academia, private sector and people) towards better management of marine ecosystems

