

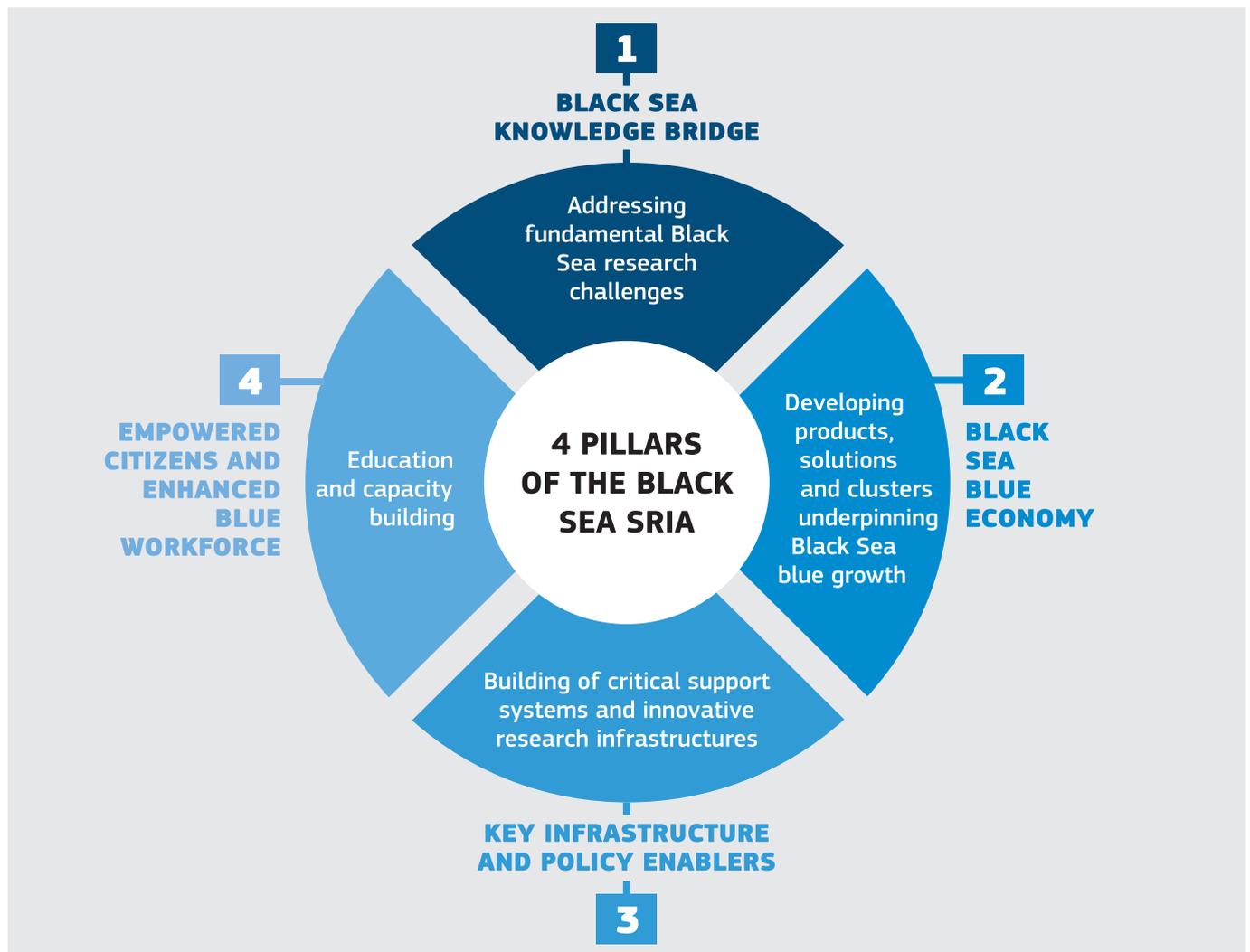


A shared vision for sustainable Blue Growth in the Black Sea by 2030

Why is a strategic research and innovation agenda for the Black Sea important?

The Commission together with the Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey, Ukraine, as well as the Republic of Moldova have launched a strategic research and innovation agenda (SRIA) with the aim of advancing a shared vision for a productive, healthy, resilient and sustainable Black Sea by 2030. The SRIA will support this unique ecosystem, its biodiversity and cultural heritage while developing **new local, national and trans-boundary policy measures**. It will be one of the pillars of the upcoming Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea, which is expected to be launched at the end of May.

What are the main goals to be achieved?



How will this work in practice?

The structure of the SRIA was set to pave the way for an effective and realistic implementation including a clear definition of goals, challenges, targets and main actors. It will be implemented via the Member States of the countries involved in close cooperation with key stakeholders.

1 BLACK SEA KNOWLEDGE BRIDGE

- ≡ Multidisciplinary Research
- ≡ Target multi-stressors
- ≡ Integrate land-sea connection to deep basin

2 BLACK SEA BLUE ECONOMY

- ≡ Incentives for innovation in developed blue sectors: living resources, transport and tourism
- ≡ Nurture emerging Blue Black Sea sectors: energy, aquaculture, biotech

3 KEY INFRASTRUCTURE AND POLICY ENABLERS

- ≡ Smart, integrated observing systems
- ≡ Alignment of working methodologies/ national policies
- ≡ Promote start ups toward circular economy
- ≡ Harnessing industry 4.0 technologies

4 EMPOWERED CITIZENS AND ENHANCED BLUE WORKFORCE

- ≡ Ocean-engaged citizens
- ≡ Learning and training for new marine and maritime jobs
- ≡ Enhanced science-policy dialogue

Examples of research and innovation projects in the Black Sea area.

The **SEAS-ERA** project improved co-operation between national competitive marine research funding programmes in particular dedicated to the Black Sea. It increased joint activities among the main marine research funding organisations by providing for knowledge sharing of expertise and resources to address issues that are beyond the capabilities of individual states in the region and enhancing synergy at pan-European level.

More at: <http://www.seas-era.eu/>

The **PERSEUS** project studied the dual impact of human activity and natural pressures on the Mediterranean and Black Seas. It combined natural and socio-economic sciences to predict the long-term effects of these pressures on marine ecosystems. This approach was critical, as the research activities and the large number of participants raise the profile and impact of such an international project, enabling new links beyond country borders and regions.

More at: <http://www.perseus-net.eu/>

The **CoCoNet** project developed a set of guidelines on Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas, along with evaluating the feasibility of offshore wind farms. The inclusion of the two aspects in this project helped to evaluate the opportunities given by wind energy and the limitations to such enterprises due to the necessity of environmental protection.

More at:
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/101654/factsheet/en>