



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)

Department A - COSME, H2020 SME and EMFF
Unit A3 - EMFF



Agreement EASME/EMFF/2015/1.2.1.5/01/SI2.806725

„Cross border Maritime Spatial Planning for the Black Sea Romania and Bulgaria” MARSPLAN –BS II

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

Interim Report

Period covered: from 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2021

Interim Report No: 1

Date of submission: 15 July 2020

Version: 1

Beneficiary (or coordinator organisation in case of multiple beneficiaries):

Project Partner PP4,
National Institute for Marine Research & Development, Constanta,
Romania

Project coordinator name and title:

NIMRD GENERAL DIRECTOR

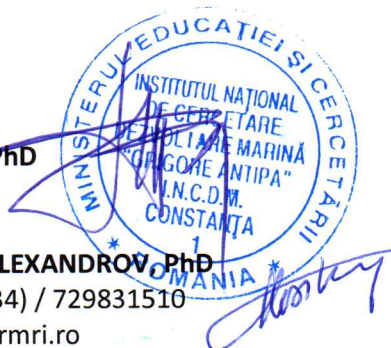
Simion NICOLAEV, PhD

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DECLARATION BY THE PROJECT COORDINATOR¹

I, Mihaela Laurenta Alexandrov, NIMRD GA "Grigore Antipa" P4 coordinator of the project "*Cross border maritime spatial planning in the Black Sea – Romania and Bulgaria*", hereby confirm that:

– This interim report represents an accurate description of the work carried out in this project for this reporting period, **01/07/2019 to 30/06/2020**;

– The project:

(v) has fully achieved its objectives and technical goals for the period;

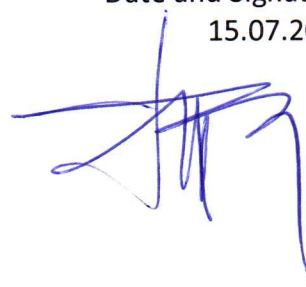
(-) has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for the period with relatively minor deviations;

(-) has failed to achieve critical objectives and/or is not at all on schedule.

– To the best of my knowledge, the financial statements submitted as part of this report are in line with the actual work carried out and are consistent with the report on the resources used for the project and - if applicable - with the certificate on financial statement.

– **[Complete in the case of pre-financing payments]** To date, the project has used **EUR 42706,56**, representing **131.32%** of the amount of EU pre-financing received so far under the Grant Agreement.

Date and Signature
15.07.2020



¹ By "project coordinator" shall be understood the person responsible for the work to be performed under this grant. If different from the person who signed the Grant Agreement representing "the beneficiary" (or "the coordinator" in case of multiple beneficiaries), a formal letter must accompany this report, in which the latter authorises the project coordinator to report on behalf of the beneficiary or beneficiaries.

1. PROJECT OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD

Please provide an overview of the project objectives for the reporting period in question, as included in Annex I of the Grant Agreement. If applicable, please refer to any recommendations or guidance received from the EASME or the European Commission in previous reports or meetings, and indicate how these have been taken into account. **Maximum 1 page.**

PP4-NIMRD G.Antipa Constanta has been involved in the project activities and work packages along the first year of the project MARSPLAN BS II. The implementation of the project „**Cross border Maritime Spatial Planning for Black Sea Romania and Bulgaria**” (MARSPLAN –BS II)” started in 01.07.2019. Till present the contribution of the NIMRD G.Antipa Constanta answered to the project’s specific objectives planned to be developed and done in the first year period:

- **Contribution for supporting the implementation of MSP Directive in the Black-Sea Basin:** *a) Assuring marine spatial data collection and inventories for spatial analyses (Annex 1,2); b) Supporting the Specification Tender for auction to elaborate the national Maritime Spatial Plan; c) Identification spatial data and data providers to support the addresses preparing to be sent by the MPWDA to the different ministries and companies, aiming MSP Database consolidation and maps elaboration (Annex 3).*
- **Contribution for supporting the continuity in the cross-border MSP process for the Black Sea Basin:** *a) Collaborating with all Romanian partners focused in the objectives enhancement, mainly with the MSP Authority of Romania(Annex 4); b) Collaborating with the Bulgarian partners, mainly with the objectives and deliverables responsible and the contributors for the studies 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, aiming knowledge integration (Annex 1,2); c) supporting the link between authorities, experts, professional groups of the coastal and marine areas (Annex 5).*
- **Contribution for supporting capacity building and Competent Authorities in the MSP implementation:** *a) Listing the main stakeholders’ network of experts, Annex 5, b) Communicating with the MSP Authority in Romania to share experience and consolidate MSP Centre and GIS database of MPWDA (Annex 6).*
- **Contribution to the elaboration of the maritime spatial plans in Romania, based on the results of the first MARSPLAN-BS Project:** *preparing studies and deliverables of the MARSPLAN BS I and II, as support to the MSP plans elaboration and MSP process implementation (MSP legislation, methodology, practices, thematic and integrated maps, etc.) (First Progress Report).*
- **Contribution for the MSP Multi-Use (MU) and Land-Sea Interactions (LSI) concepts, implementation for a common strategy elaboration in the cross-border area of Bulgaria and Romania – inventory of specifical documentary, practices, interviews, consultancy (Annex 7).**
- **Contributions to the stakeholder participation in the design of national and cross-border MSP process:** *a) due to the long-term institutional experience in working with different maritime professional groups, b) due to organization and participation to the stakeholders meetings; c) supporting a new approach on on-line meetings between specialists, social and professional groups (Annex 8).*
- **Information Sharing for the best available data and communicate knowledge on MSP for the Black Sea Basin, contribution to the project results sharing and presentation with different occasions, events (Annex 9) in a traditional network of expertise at regional and European level, including EU-MSP Platform.**

Concluding, during July 2019 to June 2020, NIMRD GA contributions to the main objectives of the MARSPLAN BS II project implementation, has materialized, in:

- Participation to the Project’s meetings, Kick of meeting, Steering Committees, Project Opening Conference, Advisory Boards and Working Meetings with Romanian teams (Annex 8);
- Main deliverables/studies elaboration, NIMRD having the responsibility of Studies 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 (Annexes 1,2), under the coordination of PP3-NRCD: a) Collecting partners contributions; b) Continuing the integration of information, maps and design, c) Integrating Romanian and Bulgarian parts of knowledge for studies, d) Processing information for spatial analyses;

- Contributing for other objectives, activities, products, results, LSI Interaction, MU, (Annex 7), data sharing; Preparing documents and questionnaires for on-line stakeholders' meetings, field expeditions being postponed because of 2020 unexpected circumstances (Annex 7);
- Participation and/or organization of different national events; Participation to international MSP events (Annex 9);
- Publication of scientific articles, posters (Annex 10).

2. WORK PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

Please provide a concise overview of the progress of the work in line with the structure of Annex I of the Grant Agreement. Deliverables and dissemination activities can be mentioned, but should be described in detail in section 3. Similarly, details related to the management of the project shall be further reported in section 4. **Maximum 5 pages.**

- **A summary of progress explicitly compared to the objectives specified in section 1 above** providing, if applicable, details for each work package;
- Highlight clearly significant results and outputs;
- If applicable, explain the reasons for deviations from Annex I, and explain the potential impact on other objectives/tasks as well as on available resources and planning;
- If applicable, propose remedial actions.

➤ Work package 1. Development of Maritime Spatial Plans

Activity 1.1 Support the work of national competent authorities in charge of developing and implementing maritime spatial plans

Sub-activity 1.1.1. Synthesis report on maritime uses (deadline 01.02.2020) started to be prepared by NIMRD from second project month, with both Bulgarian and Romanian partners contributions. For the Romanian part of the study, NIMRD took into account the Romanian MSP legislation, Romanian MSP authority recommendations and the stage of MSP Directive 89/2014/EU implementation. The report synthesized information and available knowledge for the maritime space of Bulgaria and Romania, based on detailed studies and case studies resulted from the First MARSPLAN-BS Project, stressing the main data which can support the MSP objectives of the project and planning processes in the both countries. (Annex 1). NIMRD contributed to almost all chapters and integrated the Romanian with the Bulgarian parts of studies, reported in the First Progress Report (first 6 month of the project) and installed it on the project site (*Sharelink*). The variant for publication was ready after all partners checking the last consolidated study.

- **Sub-activity 1.1.2. Defining and analysing existing conditions in the maritime space**, (Annex 2) started to be prepared in November 2019, up-dating spatial maritime information.
 - The study is based on examples resulted from the European policies, rules, experience (UNESCO recommendations, Baltic and Mediterranean Seas practices), EU-MSP Platform divers cases, national statistics, the own partners projects and data (the most important NIMRD studies concerning marine environment status, maritime policy - like MSFD implementation -, annual reports and monitoring data. The study 1.1.2 in Romania was coordinated by NIMRD (involved in almost all chapters, excluding those dedicated to governmental issues, tourism domain, part of marine geology chapters, UCH, military areas) in collaboration with GeoEcoMar; MPWDA and UOC had their specific contributions.
 - NIMRD defined important spatial information on different maritime domains and data sources providers to be prepared and sent the addresses of the MPWDA for the main ministries and companies activating on the marine space, aiming maritime data updating.
 - The Study 1.1.2. (Romanian part) is finalized in its first variant and it is considered "in progress" stage; it can be updated till the end of the project because of reasons explained above. The Bulgaria part is added at the end, to be integrated before the deadline. Both countries respected the summary and size established in common, for the study chapters. Added to the Study 1.1.2, NIMRD waits the

necessary geographical coordinates or layers for the planned/nominated (ten) maps, to be delivered by the GIS responsible of the MARSPLAN BS II Project.

Sub-activity 1.1.3. Defining and analysing future conditions was discussed during the interdisciplinary workshop organized by the Bulgarian Naval Academy, in Varna, in 12 December 2019. The content of this study is focused on future conditions, prognosis, scenarios, and the necessity for future meetings during its progress stages, till the end of 2020. The first results will be available the next month taking into account the analyses resulted from the present studies (1.1.1, 1.1.2, MU, cases studies, ecosystem and transboundary approach) and future or 'in developing' studies (LSI, MSP Plans elaboration); the interdisciplinary workshops will be helping when or if they will be organised in Constanta or Bucharest till the end of the year.

➤ **Activity 1.2. Elaboration of the Maritime Spatial Plans**, had the following aims:

- **Sub-activity 1.2.1. Follow-up of the common framework in relation with national Maritime Spatial Plans (MSPs)**, overcoming the existing gaps. Main support for the Study 1.1.2, have been received after policy notes contents and scope adopted by Bulgarian and Romanian partners (PP1, PP2, PP3) and deliverables received (as valuable supportive document and maps). Work is in progress, because of necessity to be finalized.
- **Sub-activity 1.2.2. GIS database update and GIS model design** - identifying information sources for metadata and data sets, common standards and formats in line with INSPIRE Directive (Annex 6). NIMRD is a contributor to the existing databases of EMODNet, EU MSP European Atlas of the seas, Biodiversity Information System for Europe etc., different national information systems of different authorities and also the main provider for the MARSPLAN BS I Project:
 - spatial data including data format and data studies, sent to MPWDA
 - maps elaborated for the marine space, on some domains and for transboundary area.
- **Sub-activity 1.2.3 Maritime Spatial Plans strategies development** – deadline 01/01/2021; there are defined two aspects: contribution to the national spatial plan development and transboundary plan between Romania and Bulgaria. The work is in progress for both main goals, taking into account the information resulted from the study 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 and the experience of NIMRD as custodian of the Marine Protected Areas, Vama Veche – 2 Mai, at the Bulgarian border.

➤ **Work package 2. Connecting cross-border to national MSP:**

- **Activity 2.1. Common strategy for MSP in cross-border area - Bulgaria and Romania** – deadline 30/06/2021 just started.
- **Activity 2.2. Encouraging stakeholder cooperation in the cross-border region**, leaded to:
 - Establishing a large list of stakeholders, from the whole coastal and transboundary areas. The situation concerning pandemic's restrictions made difficult stakeholders meetings organizations (Annex 5);
 - Stakeholder mapping for Romanian for the border areas has been done.
- **Activity 2.3. Integration of Land-Sea Interactions (LSI) in MSP for the cross-border region**, Documentation and experience have been gained concerning LSI practices, methodology and integration. NIMRD is nominated Technical Secretariat for the National Committee of Coastal Zone (CNCZ) in Romania leaded by the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests (MEWF) and national ICZM reporter for the Black Sea Commission. NIMRD elaborated studies related ICZM and MSP, which are support for the LSI.
- **Activity 2.4. Addressing the Multi-Use (MU) concept with MSP in the cross-border region**. Documentation and analyses of MU concept and MUSES Project' study cases have been taking into account, by:
 - Sharing all documents and information with Romanian partners for thoroughgoing study;
 - Establishing the questionnaire and interviews for stakeholders;
 - Collecting significant data in the MPA, tourism and Underwater Cultural Heritage domains to be processed by NIMRD and GeoEcoMar for analyses and DABI model use (first draft), (Annex 7);
 - The Romanian MU study will be integrated under the CCMS coordination adding more consultation results, when conditions will permit.

➤ **Work package 3. Management and Coordination**, consisted in:

- **Activity 3.1. Internal cooperation agreement**, NIMRD agreed and signed ICA and sent opinions for the Risk Management Plan, during the project's on going, according to the Action Plan.
- **Activity 3.2. Steering Committee of the project**, NIMRD participated to the project meetings, organized by the Project Leader,
 - in 09.10.2019, Sofia, Bulgaria:
 - The **Kick-off meeting** of the project,
 - The **First Steering Committee**,
 - The **MARSPLAN,s Opening Conference**; NIMRD presented the *marine environment status in Romanian* (Annex 8)
 - The **Second Steering Committee**, organized by MPWDA was established in Constanta, Romania for the 26.03.2020, together with the thematic workshop dedicated to MSP and Tourism (27.03.2020, UOC), both being postponed because of pandemic restrictions. **Second Steering Committee** was organized by MPWDA, at least, in 07.06.2020, on-line, as a video conference system.
- **Activity 3.3. Advisory Board**. NIMRD participated to the Advisory Board meetings in the presence of project partners, MSP Experts from European, Baltic, Mediterranean and Black Sea areas:
 - The **1st Advisory Board**, in 10.10.2010, Sofia, Bulgaria, added to the Opening Conference,
 - The **Second Advisory Board-Completed work** was organized in 09.07.2020. NIMRD prepared the presentation of the Study 1.1.2 *Defining and Analysing Existing Condition in the maritime space in Romania*, (the first draft), presented on-line by both NIMRD and GeoEcoMar project leaders. A second presentation *ppt* was devoted to the Multi-Uses concept application in Romania; it was presented in similar way (Annex 8).
- **Activity 3.4. Financial management**. NIMRD established:
 - The **team work** and its expenses for salaries and travels is included in this report (Chapter 7-Budget). Members List and Notification for the team enlarging are included in the Financial Report (Annex 11). The NIMRD Notifications asked number of experts increasing without any changes in the budget items.
 - The management, technical and financial responsible were established.
 - Financial Report includes expenses on chapters and time sheets (included in the Interim Report to Chapter 7. Budget). It is elaborated by the financial responsible who is NIMRD economic director (Annex 11).
 - Under the coordination of the Project Leader, the financial forms concerning the stages of the pre-payment spending were periodically reported.
- **Activity 3.5. Reporting on project progress and results**
 - The First Progress Report was prepared and sent in term, presenting the NIMRD activity in the first six months of the project - 01.07.2020-31.12.2020. It was accompanied by a short Technical and Financial Report for the period January-March 2020, at the request of Project Leader.
 - NIMRD prepared this present institutional Interim Report, too.
 - NIMRD included studies, reports and other materials in the free web space opened by the MRDPW, aiming the improvement of the coordination and communication.
- **Activity 3.6. Four (4) Thematic workshops** – were planned to be done according to the Action Plan:
 - NIMRD participated to the *MSP and Shipping routes* workshop, organized by the Bulgarian Naval Academy, in Varna, 12.12.2019, (Annex 8); financial documents attached, are included in the financial report (Annex 11).
 - Romanian Partners planned to organize two thematic workshops (PP7-UOC responsibility), the first one in the field of MSP and Tourism; 27.03.2020 was the first data initiative, but it was postponed because to pandemic restrictions and evolution in the both countries. The second thematic workshop, planned to be organized in Romania by PP7-UOC will be prepared in the field of *coastal protection measures against erosion*, with significant involvement of NIMRD and GeoEcoMar institutes.

➤ WP 4 Communication and Dissemination

NIMRD maintained a permanent communication between project partners in Romania in the frame of working groups meetings, mainly in Constanta, but also in Bucharest under MSP Authority coordination. NIMRD answered to project leader, MRDPW, requests/messages (Annex 4).

• Activity 4.1 Project Conferences

During the studied period, NIMRD participated, to the MARSPLAN Opening Conference, presenting the *Environmental Status in the Black Sea Report* (Annex 8). Documents for participation are attached in the financial report.

- **Activity 4.2 Publication.** NIMRD published articles in its own research journal, in the field of spatial planning and maritime domains on the both Studies 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 interest: <http://www.marine-research-journal.org/index.php/cmrm>, Marine Research Journal, 2019, on-line versions (Annex 10).

• Activity 4.3 Website update.

- The *MARSPLAN Website* (elaborated by MPWDA, during the Project MARSPLAN BS I) has been updated and it will maintain the activity during the entire project on-going, and during the whole MSP Directive implementation, including NIMRD information and results.
- NIMRD has the own institutional site, <http://www.rmri.ro>, which includes a domain dedicated to MSP Projects, <http://msp-platform.rmri.ro/marsplan.html>, including also MARSPLAN Project. It is a way of MARSPLAN Project spreading information.
- NIMRD has also the own institutional *Facebook address*, where there spread all announcements related MARSPLAN events and results.

• Activity 4.4 Promoting MSP in Black Sea basin. Involving MSP in the non-EU countries is a permanent priority of the NIMRD team:

- NIMRD traditional collaboration and scientific networking at the national and regional level, including EU-MSP Platform;
- Promoting the MARSPLAN objectives and planned results with different occasions, meetings and project's thematic workshops: 3 presentations/Activity 3.3; 1/Activity 4.1 (Annex 8)
- Participation to some events with the project results presentations: 4 events (symposiums, conference). There are 2 regional registrations, postponed because of pandemia, Chapter 3. Deliverables (Annex 9)
- Participation to some national and international events in the field of maritime policies, MSP, Blue Growth, Marine Fisheries policies, sharing experience with experts in the nominated fields, **Table 1.**

Events	Data	Participants
1 <i>Maritime Agenda - Black Sea workshop</i> Bucharest, Romania,	13-14.11.19,	Simion Nicolaev, Laura Alexandrov Bogdan Ghinea , Adrian Stanica , Dan Vasiliu
2 MARSPLAN Workshop on <i>MSP and Shipping routes</i> Varna, Bulgaria	12.12.19,	Laura Alexandrov, Alina Spinu, Dragos Niculescu
3 <i>Black Sea Day Celebration</i> , Constanta, Romania	31.10.2019	All team members
4 <i>General Assembly of Danube-Danube Delta-Black Sea Cluster</i> , Constanta, Romania	12 .02.2020	All team members
Fisheries And Aquaculture Events , Constanta, Bucharest	9.07.2019; 31.10.2019 27.02.2020	Simion Nicolaev, Vitor Nita, George Tiganov, Laura Alexandrov

3. DELIVERABLES AND DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Use this section to summarise all deliverables produced during the reporting period (e.g. reports -other than the interim and final reports contractually required to be submitted to the EASME-, websites, software etc.), as well as all dissemination activities executed (publications, workshops, conferences, etc.). For each of them, please

signal if they were a contractual obligation², and provide the title, description and date of production, organisation or publication. If relevant, please provide proof on how the provisions of Article II.7 of the Grant Agreement (Visibility of Union Funding) were implemented. **Maximum 2 pages.**

Deliverables and Dissemination activities are attached to this Report in the list of Annexes (pg.13). The most important are:

WP1.	1. The <i>Synthesis report on maritime uses</i> is finalized and submitted, receiving contribution from all partners	Sub-activity 1.1.1 Annex 1
	2. The <i>Defining and analysing existing conditions in the maritime space</i> is finalized for both countries (first draft) with contribution of all partners and integrated (the BG part – PP3; RO part-PP4) – till the Interim Report submission	Sub-activity 1.1.2 Annex 2
WP 2	3. <i>MU Analyses in Vama Veche -2 May MPA, the border zone.</i> NIMRD contribution to the MU concept application in Romania	Activity 2.4 Annex 7
WP3	Second Advisory Board, 09.07.2020	Activity 3.3 Annex 8
	4. NIMRD and GeoEcoMar Presentation: Study 1.1.2	
	5. NIMRD and GeoEcoMar Presentation:MU	
	Finacial Report - 01.07.2020-30.06.2020	Activity 3.4 Annex 11
	NIMRD Progress and Interim Report	Activity 3.5
WP 4	Project conferences – Opening Conference, 10.10.2019	Activity 4.1 Annex 8
	6. NIMRD <i>Environmental Status in the Black Sea Report</i>	
	7. http://www.marine-research-journal.org/index.php/cmrm	Activity 4.2 Annex 10
	8. Promoting MSP in Black Sea basin – Chapter: 4 participations with presentatons; 2 posponed events, with presentation registered	*Activity 4.4 Annex 9

*	Events	MSP Communication / Presentations, Authors	Data
1	Symposium <i>Deltas and Wetlands</i> , MONITOX Project, Tulcea, Romania	<i>Spatial interaction between marine fisheries and aquaculture with other maritime activities and uses</i> , Laura Alexandrov,	16-17.09.19
2	MARSPLAN Conference, Sofia, Bulgaria	<i>Environmental Status in the Black Sea Report</i> , Simion Nicolaev	10.10.19
3	MEDCOAST Congress, Marmaris, Turkey	<i>Documentary support for the elaboration of a National Maritime Spatial Plan in the Blak Sea area. Study Case transboundary approach Romania and Bulgaria</i> , Laura Alexandrov ⁽¹⁾ , Margarita Stancheva ⁽²⁾	21-27.11.19
4	1 st International Conference on Blue Growth in the Black Sea Region, „ <i>Ecosystem Services on River-Sea Macro-ecosystems</i> ”, Constanta, Romania	<i>Progresses registered in Romania and Bulgaria in the field of Maritime Spatial Planning</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Bogdan Ghinea, Dragos Vintila, Margarita Stancheva	9-10.03.2020
5	MARSPLAN Advisory Board, on-line	<i>Defining and analysing existing conditions in the maritime space</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Dan Vasiliu	09.07.2020
6	MARSPLAN Advisory Board, on-line	<i>Multi Uses application in Romania</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Dan Vasiliu	
7	Baltic Sea Day Forum Roadmap Section for	<i>Maritime Spatial Planning development in the Black Sea</i> , Laura Alexandrov	18-21.03. 2020

² Contractual obligation: this refers either to an activity/deliverable required in the Call for Proposals or provided for in Annex I.

Maritime Spatial Planning, St. Petersburg, Russia			
7	MSPforum in Athens (Greece)	Maritime Spatial Planning progress registered in the Black Sea area , Laura Alexandrov, Margarita Stancheva	27-30.04. 2020

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Please use this section to summarise project management activities during the period. **Maximum 2 pages.**

- Describe briefly the main tools put in place to ensure sound project management (internal controls, monitoring tools, performance indicators, etc.). If applicable, describe performance of the tasks in terms of selected indicators;
- If applicable, please describe any encountered or foreseen problems among the different beneficiaries or affiliated entities (distribution of tasks, coordination, communication, etc.);
- Report any other problems related to project management which have occurred and explain how they were solved or what solutions were envisaged;
- Indicate changes which have occurred to the legal status of any of the beneficiaries or their affiliated entities, if any.

- According to the approved budget and notifications NIMRD GA continue to work with the same team of experts involved in administrative and technical project activities, according with their responsibilities, in order to ensure the project objectives on going planned for the first year of the project. For the present periods there are attached the personnel time-sheets to the financial report (Annex 11).
- Aiming to update information, to accomplish activities and to respect the planned terms there are organized, periodically internal work meetings in NIMRD, also meetings with partners GeoEcoMar and UOC in Constanta and with MPWDA, in Bucharest (Annex 4).

Location of Partners	Data
Working Groups meetings	
NIMRD, Constanta	10.09.19; 25.09.19; 12.11.19; 04.12.19; 14.02.2020; 04.05.2020; 15.05.20; 28.05.2020; 18.06.2020; 6-7-8.07.2020
GeoEcoMar, Constanta	18.09.19; 17.02.2020
MPWDA, Bucharest	14.11.19; 22.02.2020

- Romanian partners agreed the decision as MPWDA to be national representative in MSP communication with Bulgarian project leader and partners, as national MSP authority.

5. SUBCONTRACTING

Describe whether any of the tasks has been subcontracted, provide justification, percentage of the volume subcontracted as compared to the total budget and explain how the subcontractor was selected. **Maximum 2 pages.**

During the first year of the MARSLAN project, NIMRD did not subcontract anything, in accordance with its planning and allocated budget.

Is not reason for NIMRD for sub-contracting, also for the future.

6. FORECAST FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

Please use this section to give an outlook on planned activities and outputs for the following reporting period. If applicable, provide the details for each work package. Please signal any potential deviation from the initial planning and provide a justification and a description of remedial or mitigating measures planned. **Maximum 1 page.**

According to the Gantt Chart and overpassing of the first year difficulties NIMRD will be involved in the next future activities developing. They are:

WP1

Sub-activity 1.1.2 Realization of the last variant of the Study 1.1.2 *Defining and analysing existing conditions in the maritime space*, followed by

- the revision of the Study, by all project partners and
- expected data updating with the last spatial data.

Sub-activity 1.1.3 Study 1.1.3. *Defining and analysing future conditions* to be developed and finalized

Sub-activity 1.2.2 Contributions to the permanent GIS database Upgrading, supporting the national and transboundary plans elaboration

Sub-activity 1.2.3 Contributions to the Report on the Maritime Spatial Plans strategies

WP 2

Activity 2.1 Contributions to the Common strategy for MSP in cross-border area

Activity 2.3 Contributions to the Integration of Land-Sea Interactions (LSI) in MSP, under PP5 coordination

Activity 2.4 More contributions to the Addressing the Multi-Use (MU) concept with MSP practices in the cross-border region

WP 3

Activity 3.4 Carrying out the financial control, according to the best practice from national and EU standards under project leader, MRDPW, recommendation and requests

Activity 3.5 Reporting on project progress and results

Activity 3.6 Participation to the thematic workshops in Romania

WP 4

Activity 4.2 Submitting materials for publication, according to the dissemination plan

Activity 4.4 Participation to organised meetings or contacts with the regional countries

Activity 4.5 Contributions to the best practice examples systematization

7. BUDGET

- Please fill in the separate template for the Financial Report;
- In the section below, please provide your assessment of the budget implementation for the reporting period in question, as compared to the information included in Annex III of the Grant Agreement. **Maximum 2 pages.**

- Please explain any deviations from the planning, as well as their potential impact on the implementation of the project;

- Signal any relevant problem concerning eligible costs, distribution of budget, financial constraints or others.

- The Financial Report for the nominated period refers to 01.07.2020 – 01.07.2020
- The expenses used during the first year reporting period are valued at 42,706.56 Euro.
We have not registered any overruns of the planned cost specified in the budget lines.
It could be concluded that in the 12 months of the project (261 working days), expenses are the followed:

Table no. 1. Expenditures incurred

Specifications	Provisions (euro)	Expenditures incurred during 01.07.2019 - 31.12.2019 (euro)	Expenditures incurred during 01.01.2020- 30.06.2020 (euro)	Expenditures incurred during 01.07.2020 - 30.06.2020 (euro)
1. Staff costs	79523	19906.47	17456.03	37362.5
2. Subcontracting				0
3. Travel & Subsistence	14956	2473.56	76.61	2550.17
4. Equipment and infrastructure				0
5. Other specific costs	500			0
6. Indirect costs of the action	6648	1566.60	1227.29	2793.89
Total	101627	23946.63	18759.44	42706.07

- Expenses are done for Staff costs, Travel and Subsistence and Indirect Costs.
- There are not expenses for Subcontracting, Equipment and infrastructure, Other specific costs.
- Some travels were delayed because of pandemia conditions.

Table no. 2. Staff Costs

Name	Category expert, (e.g. senior expert, engineer, etc.)	Number of man-hours	Hourly rate	Staff costs amount
Alexandrov Laura	Project manager	884,00	23,59	20.855,45
Spanu Alina	Scientist	50,00	25,70	1.284,75
Niculescu Dragos	Scientist	458,00	12,75	5.839,96
Mihailov Maria	Scientist	50,00	17,18	858,75
Vlasceanu Elena	Scientist	150,00	8,11	1.216,15
Nicolaev Simion	Scientist	50,00	24,76	1.237,98
Moraru Madalina Gabriela	Scientist	442,00	5,71	2.524,08
Morosan Ionela	Financial Responsible	130,00	22,41	2.913,70
Marin Oana	Scientist	50,00	12,63	631,68
	Subtotal	2.264,00		37.362,50

Table no. 3. Travel and subsistence

N°	Name	Destination (city, country)	Date (dd/mm/yy)	Duration (days)	Purpose	Amount
1	Alexandrov Laurenta	Tulcea, Romania	16-17.09.2019	2	Participation at MONITOX International Symposium "Delta and Wetlands"	15,19
2	SC ALMA TRADE & TOURS	Sofia, Bulgaria	8 - 11.10.2019	3,5	Costs of transport by plane	413,34
3	SC ALMA TRADE & TOURS	Sofia, Bulgaria	8 - 11.10.2019	3,5	Costs of transport by plane	158,96

4	Alexandrov Laurenta	Bucuresti, Romania	19.10.2019; 26.10.2019	1	Costs for round trip Constanta - Bucuresti - Constanta for participation at The Fourteenth interenational MEDCOAST Congress in Marmaris,	26,02
5	Alexandrov Laurenta	MARMARIS, TURCIA	21 - 27.10. 2019	6,5	Participation at The Fourteenth International MEDCOAST Congress Coastal and Marine Sciences, Engineering, Management and Conservation	691,05
6	Alexandrov Laurenta	Bucuresti , Romania	13-14.11.2019	2	Participation at 2nd workshop towards the implementation of the common maritime agenda	55,38
7	Niculescu Dragos	Sofia, Bulgaria	8 - 11.10.2019	3,5	Participation at kickoff meeting and steering committee MARSPLAN II	219,16
8	Abaza Valeria	Sofia, Bulgaria	8 - 11.10.2019	3,5	Participation at kickoff meeting and steering committee MARSPLAN II	219,16
9	Alexandrov Laurenta	Sofia, Bulgaria	8 - 11.10.2019	3,5	Participation at kickoff meeting and steering committee MARSPLAN II	263,59
10	Nicolae Simion	Sofia, Bulgaria	8 - 11.10.2019	3,5	Participation at kickoff meeting and steering committee MARSPLAN II	233,97
11	Alexandrov Laurenta	Varna, Bulgaria	12-13.12.2019	1,5	Participation at work reunion with members of MARSPLAN II	82,93
12	Niculescu Dragos	Varna, Bulgaria	12.12.2019	1	Participation at work reunion with members of MARSPLAN II	31,59
13	Spinu Alina	Varna, Bulgaria	12.12.2019	1	Participation at work reunion with members of MARSPLAN II	31,59
14		Bucharest, Romania	15 - 17.01. 2020	2	Participation at work reunion with Romania members of MARSPLAN II	108,24

Assessment of expenditure

All costs declared in the financial report are true and made for the project implementation.

The implementation of the budget of NIMRD GA – PP4 for the reporting period is in accordance with the information included in Annex III of the Grant Agreement. The whole work has been (and will be) focused on the next period for the chapters of necessary salaries using, in accordance with, the NIMRD salaries grid. Details about salaries payment are more developed in the Financial Report, added to the Financial Interim Report. (Annex 11)

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please include any comment that you find relevant to convey to the EASME or to the European Commission. You may refer to issues such as policy implementation, contract management or budget execution. **Maximum 1 page.**

According to the current Romania legislation in the field of research and contractual obligations, the data and results obtained in the frame of different projects can be used only with the approval of the beneficiaries of the projects, who supported the financing of the research.

- The Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests in May, 2020 approved the use of data from NIMRD annual reports concerning Marine Environment Status (Annex 12).
- The Ministry of Education and Research approved the use of NIMRD from data from national NUCLEUS Program (Annex 13)

9. ATTACHMENTS

Please list all the attachments accompanying this report, if any. Please number the annexes and use the same reference number in the below list of attachments.

Annex 1	Report 1.1.1. <i>Synthesis report on maritime uses</i>
Annex 2	Study 1.1.2. <i>Defining and analysing existing conditions in the maritime space</i>
Annex 3	Table of Spatial Data on fields and providers
Annex 4	Meetings Documents: - Working Groups - Stakeholders Meetings
Annex 5	List of Stakeholders
Annex 6	List of GIS data
Annex 7	MU implementation in Romania
Annex 8	Participation to project meetings. Presentations - <i>Environmental Status in the Black Sea Report</i> , Simion Nicolaev, ppt - <i>Defining and analyzing existing conditions in the maritime space</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Dan Vasiliu, ppt - <i>Multi Uses application in Romania</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Dan Vasiliu, ppt
Annex 9	Participations to national and international events. Presentation - <i>Spatial interaction between marine fisheries and aquaculture with other maritime activities and uses</i> , Laura Alexandrov, ppt - <i>Documentary support for the elaboration of a National Maritime Spatial Plan in the Black Sea area. Study Case transboundary approach Romania and Bulgaria</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Margarita Stancheva, ppt - <i>Progresses registered in Romania and Bulgaria in the field of Maritime Spatial Planning</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Bogdan Ghinea, Dragos Vintila, Margarita Stancheva, ppt - <i>Maritime Spatial Planning development in the Black Sea</i> , Laura Alexandrov, abstract - <i>Maritime Spatial Planning progress registered in the Black Sea area</i> , Laura Alexandrov, Margarita Stancheva, abstract
Annex 10	Publications
Annex 11	Financial Report
Annex 12	Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests approval for the data use
Annex 13	Ministry of Education and Research request for the data use

NIMRD GA Project Coordinator,

Mihaela Laurenta ALEXANDROV, PhD