



<p><b>Overview of the Summer School “The Contribution of Environmental Indices in Meeting the Objectives and Principles of the MSFD”, Organized within the PERSEUS Project, Constanța, 3-7 June 2013</b>  <i>(Tania Zaharia, Andra Oros, Mariana Golumbeanu)</i></p>	<p><b>“Cercetări Marine” Issue no. 43</b></p> <p><b>Pages 375-376</b></p>	<p><b>2013</b></p>
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**OVERVIEW OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL  
“THE CONTRIBUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICES IN MEETING THE OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE MSFD”, ORGANIZED WITHIN THE PERSEUS PROJECT  
CONSTANȚA, 3-7 JUNE 2013**

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Under the auspices of the EU-FP7 Project PERSEUS (Policy oriented environmental research in the southern European Seas), the National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa” (NIMRD)

Constanța hosted an intensive summer course on environmental indicators “The contribution of environmental indices in meeting the objectives and principles of the MSFD”. The course was held at the National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa” (NIMRD) Constanța headquarters, from 3<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2013. The planning of the school was made jointly with Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare (CoNISMa) and the University of Malta (UoM) . Given the strong PERSEUS focus on the scientific activities, problems and opportunities underlying the MSFD implementation and the achievement of “Good Environmental Status”, the themes of the summer school were targeted to promote the definition of high level scientific activities directly connecting and contributing to the adoption of policy measures based on the so called ecosystem-based approach, and aiming to support the adoption and implementation of the MSFD and GES. The school aimed to address the need for both EU and non-EU states to adopt a common framework and regional approach with regards to environmental policy development, common monitoring practices and the use of common assessment tools.



**Photo 1 - Presentation of certificates at the end of the course**

The school appealed to a broad range of participants, young researchers and PhD students, from both PERSEUS partner and non-partner institutions, with a scientific background in biological, physical and/or chemical oceanography, willing to expand their field of interest and to disseminate the experience gained from the school to others.

The main objectives of the PERSEUS Summer School on the contribution of environmental indices in meeting the objectives and principles of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive were the following:

- (i) to expose participants to aspects of the theoretical and practical background on the assessment of the benthic ecological status using the index M-AMBI (multivariate AMBI - AZTI's Marine Biotic Index) and MSFD assessment issues;
- (ii) to provide participants with the most important concepts related to the fishery related indices;
- (iii) to get participants acquainted with the main applications of ocean color based index/eutrophication-related core set indicators CSI023 (chlorophyll-a);
- (iv) to present theoretical and practical aspects of characterization of the ecological state of marine and coastal waters using Trophic index (TRIX);
- (v) to establish links between different researchers involved in the field of environmental indicators related with MSFD.

As a result of the conduction of this summer school, a number of Mediterranean and Black Sea young researchers were trained in the basics of MSFD environmental indices, which they can utilise in their respective institutes for the better management of marine resources, thus contributing to build experience in the formulation of scientifically based synthetic assessment of the state of the marine environment, aligned with the objectives of the PERSEUS project.