

# Integrated Regional monitoring Implementation Strategy in the South European Seas

IRIS-SES is coordinated by the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR), Greece, with 9 institution partners from 7 EU member states and 1 candidate country. IRIS-SES envisaged to develop a new concept and decision-making tools for JOINT environmental monitoring towards GES and by implementing MSFD in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> reporting period major outcomes:

- \* a report on spatial and temporal extent of natural variability with focus on the variability of the water column and the seabed habitats indicators (Descriptors D1, D5, D6) in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea;
- \* a gap analysis on the existing institutional data on marine ecosystem monitoring (existing gaps along the spatial and temporal scales);
- \* a Geodatabase from background features/main geographic layers from freely available databases;
- \* a GIS tool for eutrophication, contaminants and fisheries with calculation and visualization of relevant parameters and indices, unified for the SES and addressed to scientists, decision makers, not necessary experts on these issues;
- \* a decision making tool (DeCyDe-4-IRIS), to support the decision makers and the stakeholders to design effective local and regional monitoring plans and implementable abatement measures.

## 1<sup>st</sup> reporting period major outcomes:

- \* the production of monitoring inventories (metadatabase) of 8 countries so far, Croatia, Cyprus, Spain, Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece and Italy;
- \* an analysis of pressures consisting of an inventory and critical assessment of international and regional legislation developed for the beneficiaries of IRIS-SES project;

## 3<sup>rd</sup> reporting period major outcome:

- \* Finalising the development of a proposal for a joint monitoring system using requirements from existing projects, policies and initiatives such as MEDPOL, MEDIAS, CFP, WFD, etc.



IRIS-SES

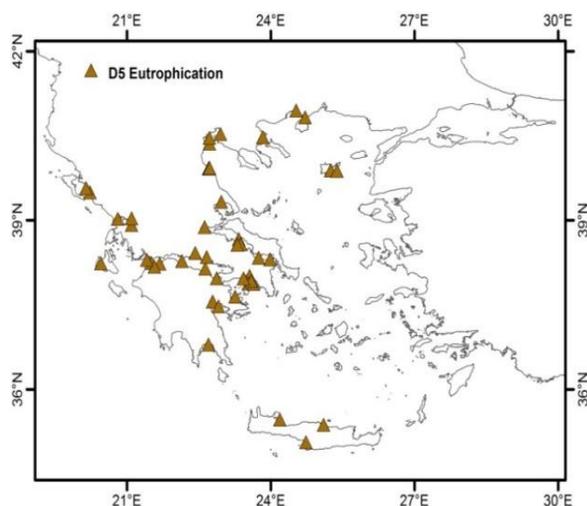
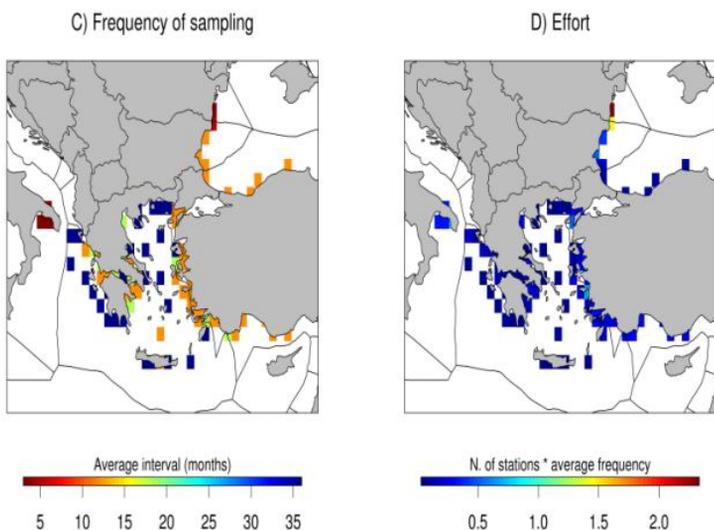
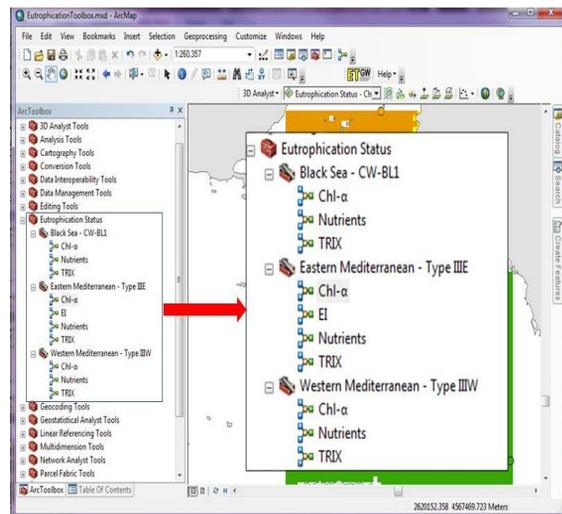
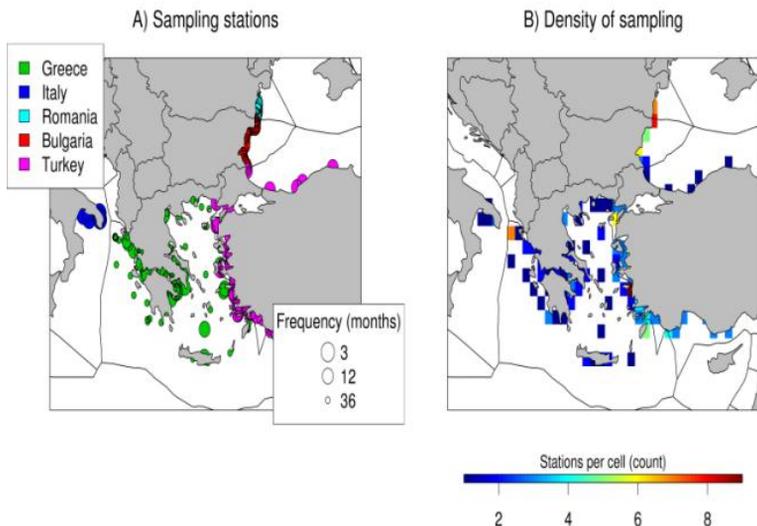




Seabed habitats: Phytobenthos map (IRIS-SES Inventory). A total of 3312 stations (3297 of which complete for coordinates and sampling frequency) reported from Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Romania, Spain and Turkey:

GIS tools mainly for D5 and D8/D9:

Easily applicable to the whole Mediterranean and Black Sea having the thresholds and making a quick mapping of the mentioned indicators:



Candidate for future MSFD related joint monitoring program in the Mediterranean Sea:

