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# GOVERNANCE

**CONNECTING SCIENCE, POLICY & COMMUNITIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE BLACK SEA**

**WHEN SCIENCE, POLICY, AND COMMUNITIES WORK TOGETHER, THE BLACK SEA THRIVES**

## WHY IT MATTERS:

When marine research informs policy and communities shape decisions, we create resilient systems that protect both ecosystems and livelihoods

### Align science with evolving policy

- Policy harmonisation taskforces: align Black Sea marine policy with EU Green Deal, GFCM, and global biodiversity frameworks
- Policy brief pipelines: translate marine research into actionable policy recommendations for decision-makers

### Participation from shore to summit

- Coastal policy co-labs: bring together scientists, NGOs, coastal businesses to co-create marine management plans
- Citizen science hubs: equip divers and small-scale fishers with tools to feed real-time data

### Accountability through transparency

- Governance training: equip researchers and policymakers with skills in participatory governance and accountability
- Annual Governance scorecards: track how evidence-based marine governance structures are

## CORE CHALLENGE:

Strengthen inclusive, science-based marine governance that is adaptable, transparent, and collaborative, aligning with national and international marine protection goals

### Build capacity, reward impact

- Marine policy impact awards: recognise researchers shaping policy and governance
- Training + mentorship tracks: support early-career scientists in developing governance competencies

### Adaptive governance powered by data

- Local knowledge integration: map historic fish spawning grounds with fishers and apply to zoning decisions
- Cross-sector marine Governance boards: involve NGOs, local authorities, scientists, industry

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