

„Blue Growth“ – sustainable application of marine resources for economic development (challenges for Georgia)

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European model of economic development is the new global trend, which is known under the name of Blue Economics. Marine component of the mentioned model is on the agenda of European Union activity and is called Blue Growth that implies sustainable application of marine resources for economic development and mitigation of ecological and climate change results by means of innovative management methods. In 2014 the European commission has adopted the agenda of so-called sustainable blue development or growth, which will consider and assess the potential of marine economics. In the same year the European commission conducted strategic assessment of blue development potential of the Black Sea.

Among the priorities of Blue Growth are: sea power engineering, aquaculture, marine and coastal tourism, waste management and development of mineral resources, biotechnology and transport infrastructure. It can be said that listed priorities coincide the vectors of economic development of Georgia.

The cornerstone of Blue economics is the study based on marine knowledge that will provide sustainable management of marine activity based on ecological and economic problematics. In its turn, ecosystematic approach underlies the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), which was created for provision of Good Environmental Status of the sea.

New initiatives of marine sector development, information on modern environmental status of Black Sea and ongoing scientific researches are aimed to assist the implementation of obligation foreseen by Association agreement by Georgia.