



**NATIONAL ROMANIAN SECRETARIAT
BLACK SEA UNIVERSITIES NETWORK**

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Press Release

Between August 5th and 7th, a delegation of experts from the Black Sea Association of Maritime Institutions (BSAMI), has made an official visit to Constanta. The delegation was led by Dr. Hisashi Yamamoto, the Secretary General of BSAMI, and included Mr. Yutaka Kobayashi, expert in multimedia teaching and training technologies and Mr. Shingo Hamasawa, expert in e-learning platforms.

The agenda of the visit has included a visit to the Maritime University of Constanta – during which discussions were held with the academics and the management of the university – and several work meetings with the team of experts from the Romanian National Secretariat of the Black Sea Universities Network. The discussions with the RNS BSUN Team concentrated on the presentation of the projects carried out by BSUN, on the identification of common fields of interest and on the establishment of a set of projects to be proposed to the member universities of the two organizations.

Thus, using the experience of BSUN, the project *Knowledge Highways in the Black Sea Region* was initiated, with focus on maritime education and training and study programs in the field of energy management. More exactly, the project will use the experience obtained through the implementation of the BSUN Joint Master Degree Study Program on the Management of Renewable Energy Sources – ARGOS”, financed through the Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007-2013” of the European Union, contract 1.3.1.66334.127, MIS-ETC 277, no. 44553/08.06.2011) and of the ECOREFITEC Project “Eco Innovative Refitting Technologies and Processes for Shipbuilding Industry Promoted by European Repair Shipyards”, contract no. 266268- ECOREFITEC, in order to develop a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) distance learning platform in the field of ecoinnovation.

The project will be presented on September 1 at the meeting of the BSEC Workgroup on Education and proposed to become a priority program for the countries of the region.

The teams of experts from the two organizations have defined the work program and development plan of the project, have identified the sources of funding and have assigned the responsibilities.

At the end of the work meeting, Prof. Eden Mamut, PhD, Secretary General of BSUN and Dr. Hisashi Yamamoto, Secretary General of BSAMI have agreed upon the initiation of a Memorandum of cooperation between the two organizations, which will be forwarded for approval to the Executive Offices of the two regional cooperation structures.

For more information: Georgiana Bercaru, Expert

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