# The ACCOBAMS Call for proposals

Small investments for significant impacts – example of the Black Sea

Dimitar Popov Green Balkans NGO, Bulgaria















### Context

- Pilot Cetaceans Photo-ID activities along
   Southern Bulgarian Black Sea coast 2012/3
- Starting pilot photo-ID activities along Bulgarian coast
- Training national experts
- Creating first catalog for the study area
- Building capacities of Bulgarian Black Sea municipalities on Cetaceans strandings – 2013/4
- Building capacities of coastal municipalities how to react in cases of cetacean strandings
- Improving national CSN
- Publishing manual on cetacean strandings' data collection











### **Context**

#### Added value:

Raising Green Balkans' and national capacity on cetacean studies after a long term gap

Gained experience helped for follow-up EEA project in 2015/6 Establishment of relations at regional and international level

Funding

Not available by other sources at that time Personnel, trainings, field work costs

Pilot activities both for GB and BG!











## **Challenges / Perspectives**

- Weather conditions
- National institutional support and adequacy
- Funding of follow-up activities
- Strong pressures on Black Sea tourism, fisheries, oil and gas exploration
- Lack of enforcement and management of (M)PAs









## Recommendations

- Good support by ACCOBAMS Secretariat
- Results more important than paper!
- Continuing the Funding scheme
- Sharing experience with national authorities and recommendation of standard survey/monitoring methods













## THANK YOU! MERCI!

DIMITAR POPOV
PROJECT MANAGER
GREEN BALKANS NGO
EMAIL: dpopov@greenbalkans.org









