

Ecological condition of the Kolkheti Black Sea Coastal Zone

Giorgi Beridze

E-mail: giorgi.beridze351@ens.tsu.edu.ge;

Department of Geography, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
#3, I. Chavchavadze Avenue, Tbilisi 0179, Georgia

On the background of the two environmental, sea and terrestrial impacts and climate change on the black sea coastal zone of Georgia, anthropogenic stress on the natural environment significantly exceeds the potential for environmental sustainability, resulting in a severe violation of ecological balance in the millennium. The distinctive place in this area is attributed to the coastal zone of Kolkheti where the rapid growth of territories is taking place for port infrastructure, agriculture, industry and civic accommodation. On the one hand, there is a traditional change that has been reflected by regulating the rivers Enguri and Rioni, new infrastructural projects have been added, the construction of Anaklia and Kulevi ports, the extension of the Poti Port, the Supsa Oil Terminal, and if we add to it the sea water level changes due to climates and the coasts abrasion, the forms and scopes of anthropogenic factors impact on the marine environment will become clear.

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) is essential in the implementation of the EU Association Agreement requirements in Georgia; the EU member states are responsible to be guided by the Directives of ecosystem approach in developing marine strategy and planning economic activities and each phase of the Directive implementation is necessary to be implemented based on the regional cooperation.

The present thesis deals with the current natural conditions of the Kolkheti coastline, the causes of the ecological changes of the environment, the forms and scopes of anthropogenic stresses, regulation of rivers, port infrastructure and its impact on current ecological conditions of the coastline.