







# Environmental study of Varna Lake based on chemical analysis of lake bed samples

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#### Introduction

- The presentation outlines environmental analysis of Varna Lake, Bulgaria.
- The environmental analysis is based on a collection of samples from the bed of the lake.
- The analysis of the samples provides information about the accumulation of various toxic elements and their distribution
- Methodology and specific approaches used for the sample collection, the results of their chemical analysis will be presented.
- The presented study is part of the KnowWAT project, coordinated by TU-Varna.









#### Varna Lake



Varna Lake is an artificial body of water located in one of the biggest port cities in Bulgaria – Varna. The lake connects to the Black sea and has a major industrial and transportation significance to the city of Varna and Bulgaria in general. As the lake is surrounded by heavily urbanized and tourist-related areas its environmental and ecological properties have substantial importance.









## Zones of Interest





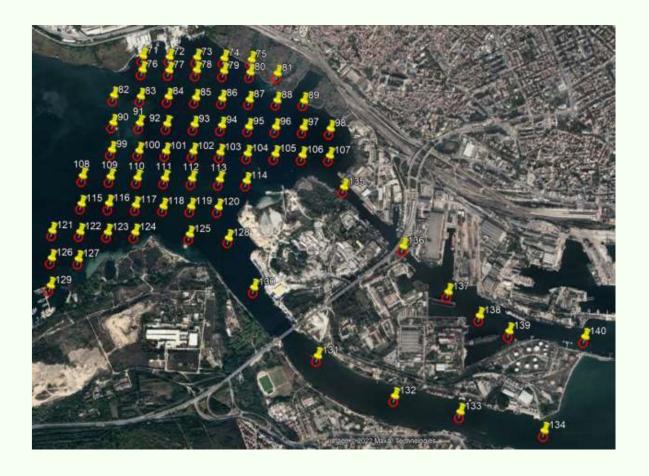


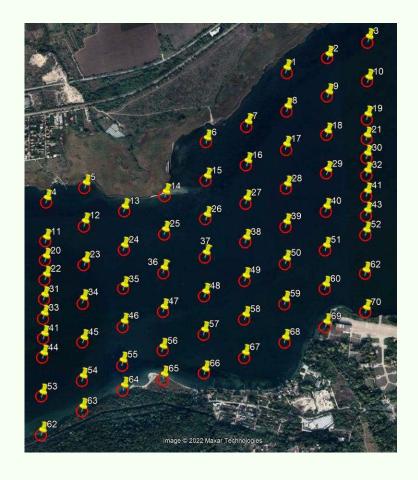






## Samples taken













#### Results Zone 1



#### **Measured components**

Iron/Fe, Lead/Pb, Arsenic/As, Copper/Cu, Mercury/Hg Oil products.

Predominant pollutants are copper, lead and oil products









### Results Zone 2



#### **Measured components**

Iron/Fe, Lead/Pb, Arsenic/As, Copper/Cu, Mercury/Hg Oil products.

Predominant pollutants are oil products, mercury and copper









#### Conclusions

- ✓ The study was complemented by survey of illegal waste water connection to the lake as possible source of pollutants.
- ✓ One of the main sources of pollution was identified as related to dredging of the bed of the lake.
- ✓ The measurement results prompt the requirement of additional analysis so sources can be indentified and their effect minimized.
- ✓ Based on areal phjotography several unregistered shipweckes were located. Those have to be further studied as a potential source of pollutant.