Turkish Marine
Research
Foundation
Annual Report

2022



PREFACE

Dear sea lovers, supporters of the Foundation, Founding and General Assembly members,

A year has passed, but the problems in the oceans and seas have not diminished. Turkish seas are under threat more than ever that is why we say "Protecting our seas is protecting the country". For this reason, we say "Sustainable fisheries and blue economy". For this reason, we say, "The protection of living resources is important for food security".

This year, all our friends, employees, and members of the management and advisory board have done important work. I would like to thank them all very much.

The books we published this year were marvellous. We held many meetings, and our campaigns continued despite the pandemic and ended successfully. The Marmara Sea Symposium was successful again. Our work on determination of names of undersea formations was published in the official gazette. Again, we have taken some sharks and coral species under protection. This has been a source of pride and happiness for us. We put the new videos we prepared on our YouTube channel.

We need to work hard, Pinna's are dying all over the Mediterranean, and puffer fish have reached the Black Sea. Jellyfish have invaded the Marmara Sea... The problem of mucilage is evolving in other places... TUDAV is a reference point, an information bridge, and a means of cooperation not only for Turkey but also for the countries bordering the Mediterranean and Black Seas. Most importantly, it is an environment for the production of knowledge, which is why our scientific journal is now attracting more attention.

We have started our "BRIDGE-BS" project, which we planned last year, and the Ocean Decade process is in full swing. We are preparing for our new EU-funded project "Shore". We have a lot more work... I wish you all a healthy and happy new year.

Chairman of the Board

Prof. Bayram ÖZTÜRK

OBJECTIVES OF THE TURKISH MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Databases

Since valuable studies on our seas are scattered, it is difficult for researchers to access the information they need. For this reason, a database on different disciplines of marine sciences is being created. Although this is a time-consuming and difficult task, it is still ongoing.



Research

The Turkish Marine Research Foundation supports various research projects, particularly on biodiversity, either with its own resources or by contacting individuals and institutions to provide resources. In this context, a long-term project on the Turkish Straits is being carried out. The data obtained from the research are published through our journal.



Publications

While the researches are presented to the scientific world in Turkish and foreign languages, guidebooks are also prepared for the public in order to introduce and popularize our seas. The number of books published by our Foundation since its establishment has exceeded 60 and it plays a pioneering role in the field of marine sciences.



Education

TUDAV gives great importance to the dissemination of all kinds of information about our seas to large masses. In certain periods, seminars and conservation measures are explained especially to fishermen and other layers of society. Colouring books for children and books on species conservation are distributed in many primary schools. We also have posters for foreign marine species.



Special Protected Areas

We continue our efforts to establish underwater marine parks and special protection areas where research and applications can be carried out and people can be introduced to marine life. The Gökçeada Marine Underwater Park created by our foundation is a good example in this regard. In addition, we share our opinions and suggestions on species that need to be protected with the relevant ministries.

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ACTIVITIES



MARMARA SEA 2022 SYMPOSIUM (08-09.01.2022)

On January 8-9, 2022, we successfully held the third Marmara Sea 2022 Symposium, which we organize once every ten years but postponed due to the Covid pandemic, at the İş Towers Hall. During the Symposium, which we organized with the support of Türkiye İş Bankası, current and vital issues related to the Marmara Sea were discussed with the contribution of 189 scientists and experts from 56 institutions with 71 papers. At the end of the symposium, placards were given to scientists and researchers who contributed to the Marmara Sea. Among the awardees were, Fisheries Engineer Hakan KABASAKAL, Prof. Süleyman TUĞRUL, Prof. Ahmet Cevdet YALÇINER, Prof. Naci GÖRÜR, Prof. Mehmet Namık ÇAĞATAY and Assoc. Prof. N. Eda TOPÇU.

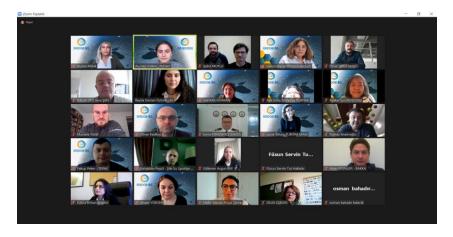




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FIRST WORKSHOP ORGANIZED UNDER THE BRIDGE-BS PROJECT (16-17.02.2022)

On February 16 - 17, 2022, the "Black Sea Blue Economy Living Laboratories 1st Workshop" was held online.





TUDAV TURNS 25 (18.02.2022)

Founded 25 years ago, the 25th-anniversary special logo of our foundation was designed to be used in activities for a whole year.





THE MEDITERRANEAN ANGELSHARKS SUBREGIONAL ACTION PLAN (SubRAP) (01.03.2022)

The sub-regional action plan for the Northeastern Mediterranean Region for Mediterranean Angel Sharks (Squatina), to which we contributed, has been published in Turkish and several other languages.







VIRTUAL PHOTO EXHIBITION (03.03.2022)

On March 3, World Wildlife Day, the virtual photo exhibition "WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE MASSIVE BYCATCH IN THE MEDITERRANEAN" organized by the Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtles (MEDASSET) and MEDBYCATCH Project, of which we are a partner, was opened.





ANTARCTICA SCIENTIFIC ARTICLE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED (29.03.2022)

As a result of the First Turkish Antarctic Research Expedition in 2016 and the scientific sampling conducted in 2017, supported by our Foundation, our scientific article on the extent of pollution around Galindez Island in the Antarctic Peninsula, the types and levels of pollutants reported for the first time in Antarctica has been published.





PLANNING AND COORDINATION BOARD OF NAVIGATION HYDROGRAPHY AND OCEANOGRAPHY SERVICES 2022 ORDINARY MEETING WAS HELD (30-31.05.2022)

At the 2022 Ordinary Meeting of the Navigation Hydrography and Oceanography Services Planning and Coordination Board, hosted by Karadeniz Technical University in Trabzon, we presented the activities we carried out in the past year. In the meantime, we were elected to the Ocean Decade Commission.





5th NATIONAL MARINE SCIENCES CONFERENCE (01-03.06.2022)

We took part in the 5th National Marine Science Conference held on June 1-3 with our presentations.







8 JUNE WORLD OCEANS DAY (08.06.2022)

With the support of ÇEVKO Foundation, the diving event was organized by the Respect to Depth Dive Society and Turkish Divers Sports Club Association. The event was organized with the participation of the Turkish Marine Research Foundation, Istanbul University, Institute of Marine Sciences and Management, and DAK-SAR, and underwater cleaning was carried out in Ortaköy/Beşiktaş area.





SEMINAR ON "BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN TÜRKİYE" (10.06.2022)

During the meeting, experts discussed the latest developments, achievements and areas for improvement in Türkiye and the work of AFD (French Development Agency) on biodiversity conservation in Türkiye. Prof. Bayram ÖZTÜRK, President of the Foundation, presented "On the occasion of World Oceans Day on June 8: Conservation of Marine Biodiversity in Türkiye", while our Board Member Sibel SEZER, PhD made a presentation titled "Sustainable Blue Economy and Its Importance for Türkiye".





SMART EQUIPMENT AND IDEA DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION ORGANIZED TO REDUCE BYCATCH (24.06.2022)

The Bycatch Smart Equipment Competition was completed. Innovative solutions were proposed to reduce bycatch in fisheries, to make fisheries more ecologically and economically sustainable, and to support the protection of the health of the seas. The awards were presented at the ceremony held in Izmir.



HEDEF DIŞI AVIN AZALTILMASI İÇİN akıllı ekipman ve fikir geliştirme yarışması



2022 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SMALL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE, OUR SHORT EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTARY ABOUT TRADITIONAL SWORD FISHING IN GÖKÇEADA HAS BEEN PUBLISHED (27.06.2022)

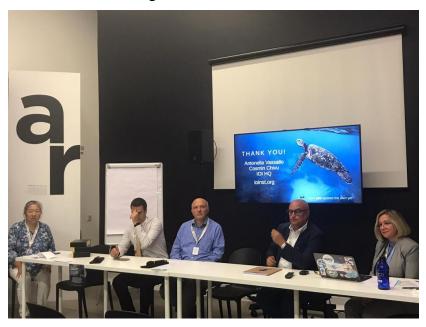
As part of the 2022 International Year of Small Fisheries and Aquaculture, our short educational documentary about the traditional swordfish fishery in Gökçeada has been released.





PARTICIPATION IN OCEANS CONFERENCE (29.06.2022)

At the Oceans Conference organized by the United Nations in Lisbon, Portugal, we drew attention to the relationship between alien species in the Mediterranean and climate change with the side event we organized.





INFORMATION SHARING WORKSHOP ON BYCATCH WAS ORGANISED (29.07.2022)

Initiated in 2017, this project on bycatch in the Mediterranean was organized by The MedBycatch Project, which aims to protect sensitive species such as sharks and sea turtles, is carried out in cooperation with WWF, Doğa Derneği, DEKAMER, and TUDAV.





BSYA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN PHOTO CONTEST HAS BEEN LAUNCHED (15.08.2022)

The Black Sea Young Ambassadors (BSYA) awareness campaign for the Black Sea Photo Contest "Visual Story of the Black Sea: Different Coasts Different Reflections and One Sea" was launched to celebrate International Youth Day.





BRIDGE-BS 1ST SUMMER SCHOOL WAS HELD (23-25.08.2022)

On 23-25 August 2022, a summer school was successfully held with the participation of 12 early career marine experts from the Black Sea countries. During summer school, leading researchers and blue economy experts from all over Europe shared the basics of marine science and sustainable blue economy in the Black Sea.





JOINT WORKSHOP WITH THE FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (AFD) (31.08.2022)

Our Foundation and the French Development Agency (AFD) organized a joint workshop on "Identifying Financing and Project Opportunities for Sustainable Blue Economy and Marine Biodiversity Conservation in Türkiye" in Ankara.





NEW PROTECTED SPECIES (13.09.2022)

With the recommendations of our Foundation, 7 more marine species (Great white shark *Carcharodon carcharias*, yellow gorgonian *Eunicella cavolini*, white gorgonian *Eunicella singularis*, violescent sea-whip *Paramuricea clavata*, Mediterranean gorgonian gorgon *Spinimuricea klavereni*, stone coral *Cladocora caespitosa*, abalone *Tonna galea*) were taken under protection with the communiqué of September 2022. Hunting, collection and sale of these species are prohibited.





CALL FOR BAN ON SHARK FISHING

Mass awareness was tried to be ensured for shark species whose hunting is prohibited.





HIGH TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT MEETING FOR THE BLACK SEA WAS HELD (27-28.09.2022)

The first High Technology Summit for the Black Sea (HTS4BS) was held in Varna (Bulgaria). The meeting was organised to create a supportive environment for companies, entrepreneurs, organisations and universities to share the latest technological developments and generate business ideas. Subsequently, the 1st Plenary Session of BRIDGE-BS was successfully organised with the participation of 100 experts, with enlightening WP presentations and fruitful discussions.





SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY ANALYSIS STUDY (01.10.2022)

Our Foundation is carrying out a Sustainable Blue Economy analysis for the French Development Agency (AFD). A questionnaire was also prepared for the main sectors representing the "Blue Economy" in our country.





LAST MEETING OF THE MEDBYCATCH PROJECT WAS HELD (04.10.2022)

The final meeting of the MedBycatch project, of which Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV) is a partner, was held in Malaga. The Med Bycatch Project, funded by MAVA, focuses on the incidental bycatch of vulnerable marine species in the Mediterranean Basin by fishing nets and lines and carries out actions that include measures aimed at reducing bycatch.





NAMES OF UNDERSEA FORMATIONS WERE DETERMINED (10.10.2022)

The names of important undersea formations that do not have Turkish names on nautical charts, an issue that our Foundation has been working on for about ten years, were published in the Official Newspaper No. 31977 published on 8 October 2022. Karaburun and Boğaziçi Sea Canyons, Karasu Sea Canyon in the Black Sea; Marmara Trough in the Sea of Marmara; Great Anatolian Bank, West Anatolian Bank, Anatolian Bank, Fisherman's Bank, Dolphin Bank in the Aegean Sea; Piri Reis Sea Mountains, Finike Sea Mountains, Sırrı Erinç Sea Plateau, Bilim Bank Mediterranean Sea Mountain in the Mediterranean Sea.

Balıkçı Bankı, Yunus Bankı

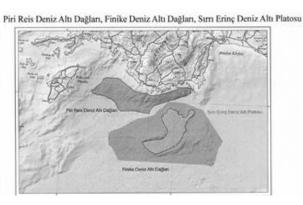
Bahçı Bankı, Yunus Bankı

Bilim Sığlığı

Birn Sığığı

Analasi Analasi

Akdeniz Deniz Altı Dağı





SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON THE EFFECTS OF MARINE INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES WAS HELD (21-23.11.2022)

Within the scope of the Marias Project, the "Effects of Marine Invasive Alien Species Scientific Conference was held in Antalya. Our foundation president Prof. Bayram ÖZTÜRK was invited to the conference as the session chairman, and one of our board members, Assist. Prof. Selin Gamze SÜMEN's speech on the effects of invasive species on human health attracted great attention. Assist. Prof. Selin Gamze SÜMEN's speech on the effects of invasive species on human health was met with interest. In addition, board member Elif ÖZGÜR, PhD discussed the ocean literacy course of our foundation at the conference.



WORKSHOP ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS WAS HELD (23 - 25.11.2022)

The Workshop on the Protection and Management of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems and Mapa Buoy Application Models Workshop was held in Dalaman, where our Foundation President Prof. Bayram ÖZTÜRK was the invited speaker and the panel on the Protection of Marine Biodiversity in Marine Protected Areas in Türkiye was chaired by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change.





MARINE INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES PROJECT MEETING WAS HELD (30.11.2022)

Our Board Member Assoc. Prof. Onur GÖNÜLAL attended the management plan meeting prepared for İğneada region within the scope of the "Marine Invasive Alien Species Project" carried out by the Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Nature Conservation and National Parks in cooperation with UNDP Türkiye with the financial support of the Global Environment Facility.





MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON NAMES OF UNDERWATER FORMATION HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANISATION (IHO) (28.11- 01.12.2022)

TUDAV President Prof. Bayram ÖZTÜRK and TUDAV Maritime Advisor E. Admiral Mustafa iPTEŞ attended the 35th SCUFN (Sub Committee on Undersea Feature Names) meeting held at the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) headquarters in Monaco as observers. In the meeting, information was exchanged and preliminary discussions were held for the international registration of the underwater geographical formations newly identified in the surrounding seas of Türkiye and approved by Presidential Decree No. 6188, which is planned to be applied for next year.



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TÜRKİYE-PAKISTAN MARITIME SECTOR EXPERIENCE SHARING AND BLUE ECONOMY WEBINAR (05.12.2022)

Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV), and National Institute of Maritime Affairs - NIMA of Pakistan, jointly hosted a online webinar on the theme of "Blue Economy and Sharing Experiences of Türkiye-Pakistan Maritime Sectors" to gain mutual understanding of Pakistan-Türkiye maritime experiences and to provide expert policy recommendations on blue economy and maritime cooperation.





MARITIME SECURITY WORKSHOP WAS ORGANISED IN THE BLACK SEA IN THE CONTEXT OF RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR (09.12.2022)

In the workshop, the economic effects of the war in the Black Sea, the environmental dimension of the war, the military analysis and dimension of the war, as well as the source and arrival directions of the mines, the situation of NATO and other countries in the war, the reflections of the war on the Montreux Convention, and the developments in fisheries due to the war were discussed in detail. In addition, the political repercussions of the war and the changes it will bring about in the international order, especially the changes in energy and food security, are also analysed with an academic understanding. Crimes committed during the war, abnormal dolphin deaths and the risk of oil spillage were also discussed by experts.







PRESENTATION OF MARINE LITERACY COURSE FOR THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF MARINE ECOSYSTEM IN TÜRKİYE (11.12.2022)

Our General Assembly member Elif ÖZGÜR, PhD made a presentation titled "Marine Literacy Course for the Protection and Sustainability of the Marine Ecosystem in Türkiye".





III.NATIONAL MARINE MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT SYMPOSIUM (06-09.12.2022)

At the III National Symposium on Integrated Marine Monitoring and Assessment in Antalya (6-9 December 2022), our Foundation's Photography Exhibition "Marine Alien Species on the Aegean and Mediterranean Coasts of Türkiye" took place.







OCEAN LITERACY COURSES COMPLETED

We organised the Ocean Literacy Course for the Protection and Sustainability of the Marine Ecosystem in Türkiye together with the International Ocean Institute (IOI) twice, on 4 April-5 May and 14 November-23 December, in a very productive and enjoyable way thanks to the high participation of our experts and trainees.











DOLPHIN MONITORING AND MUCILAGE SURVEYS

Our Foundation organized a total of 15 dolphin and mucilage monitoring surveys periodically throughout the year.







ACTIVE PROJECTS

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Black Sea Watch

The aims of the project are to raise public awareness about the importance of Black Sea biodiversity and to ensure public participation in data collection for biodiversity in the Black Sea.

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Ya Yakarsa

It is a study initiated by our Foundation in order to understand and learn about the abnormal jellyfish increases on the coasts of our country and their damaging effects, to bring the issue to a scientific level academically and to guide decision-makers.



Gökceada Underwater Marine Park

Gökçeada Underwater Marine Park was established in 1999 with the initiatives of TUDAV on the 1 mile wide coastline between Yıldızkoy and Kuzulimanı. Fishing, diving and other tourism activities are prohibited in the park throughout the year and the area is under protection. As a result of the researches carried out in the area declared as a marine park, it has been determined that fish species and numbers have increased, sea creatures such as insects and lobsters, which were not seen before, have started to be seen, and dolphins and Mediterranean monk seals have revisited the region.



Passive Acoustic Monitoring

With the passive acoustic monitoring method, which has been widely used in monitoring cetacean species in recent years, the movements of cetacean species in the Istanbul Strait have been monitored continuously for 24 hours since 2009 with the support of the Japanese National Fisheries Research Institute and in cooperation with Istanbul University Faculty of Aquatic Sciences.



BlackCeTrends

The project will collect acoustic data to understand where cetaceans, especially Black Sea muturs (*Phocoena phocoena relicta*), are found and the collected data will be downloaded periodically, approximately every 1 to 4 months, and the results will be processed by a specialised software. These acoustic data will complement the visual observations and serve the conservation of these animals for the Black Sea ecosystem.



BRIDGE-BS

The Black Sea ecosystem is increasingly suffering from the negative effects of various anthropogenic stressors such as eutrophication, hypoxia, overfishing and the introduction of alien species. The BRIDGE-BS project will assess the Black Sea's ecosystem services and their resilience to such anthropogenic stressors. It will map, monitor and model ecosystem services and their responses to stressors to support the development of a sustainable and climate-neutral blue economy in the region.

PUBLICATIONS

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Journal of The Black Sea / Mediterranean Environment, Vol. 28, No. 1, 2, 3







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Proceedings of the Marmara Sea 2022 Symposium

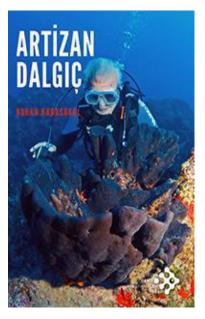


This is the book of proceedings of the Marmara Sea 2022 Symposium held on 8-9 January 2022. During the Symposium, which we organised with the main sponsorship of Türkiye İş Bank, current and vital issues related to the Marmara Sea were discussed with the contribution of 189 scientists and experts from 56 institutions with 71 papers. The book consisting of papers in Turkish consists of 475 pages.

Editors: Bayram ÖZTÜRK, Halim Aytekin ERGÜL, Ahmet Cevdet YALÇINER, Hüseyin ÖZTÜRK, Barış SALİHOĞLU

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Artisan Diver



Artisan Diver is a vocational adventure that tells the story of collector diving, whose roots date back to the dawn of civilisation, and blends academic language with sailor's conversation. In Artisan Diver, Hakan KABASAKAL describes this challenging and yet epic profession, the 'profession of the brave' as he calls it, with a blend of his own experiences, scientific evidence, ecological concerns and a love for the sea. Whenever we talk about our seas, which is now called 'Blue Homeland' for us, there is a voice from every head and this confusion often does not come to a conclusion. Perhaps the main reason for this situation is that the experts are not given the opportunity to speak or what they say is ignored. From this point of view, Artisan Diver can be considered as a source that does not content itself with explaining an important branch of profession in

our country, but proposes solutions to the problems from a point of view directly from the profession. We wish you enjoyable and safe diving among the pages of Artisan Diver.

BROCHURES



Istanbul Strait Marine Biodiversity Under Threat





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There's Another Istanbul Strait!





VIDEOS

- The Beginning of Blue Economy in Türkiye/Introduction to Aquaculture 1988 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3R86FIhrVw8
- Mediterranean Monk Seals of Gökçeada Island https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNF6 OUfLdc
- ANEMONE Project TUDAV Cetacean Surveys in the Black Sea in 2019 and 2021 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guKM309hHRw
- Seagrasses Must Be Protected https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOJi5pCowV4
- The Centre of Traditional Swordfish Fishing https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JejrNJ3eYlg
- * Cladocora caespitosa https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAYfoMvCOUQ&t=103s

PRESS RELEASES

- Jellyfish Warning for the Mediterranean (12.03.2022)
- Unusual Dolphin Deaths in the Black Sea Coasts (26.03.2022)
- Another Mediterranean Monk Seal Shot Dead (02.04.2022)
- War in the Black Sea and its Effects on the Marine Environment (13.04.2022)
- **** Oil Pollution in Antalya Coasts (05.06.2022)
- More Alien Species Expected to Enter the Mediterranean (29.06.2022)
- 1 July Maritime and Cabotage Day Important Call (01.07.2022)
- Names of Submarine Formations Determined (10.09.2022)
- Newly Protected Species (12.09.2022)
- Another Endangered and Protected Slingshot Shark Killed (19.09.2022)
- The Istanbul Strait is a migration route, that belongs to fish, dolphins, and birds more than us (05.11.2022)
- * Workshop on Maritime Security in the Black Sea in the context of the Russia-Ukraine War (01.12.2022)

ENGLISH PRESS RELEASES

A War in the Black Sea and its Effects on Marine Environment (13.04.2022)