



Investing in Youth and Ocean Literacy

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Mundus maris

Sciences and Arts for Sustainability asbl

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The big ocean challenge

Whether it's the IPCC or the IPBES report on global biodiversity, the >70% of the planet's surface formed by the ocean is under-represented. Yet,

- every second breath we take is from the ocean
- the ocean stabilises our climate
- it gives us food, jobs and leisure
- it's even a source of energy
- it is the major pathway for international trade, intercontinental communications and more



Major threats to the ocean

Overfishing is pervasive in most parts of the ocean and has disrupted most ecosystems, --> global catches are going down since the mid-1990s.

Pollution is particularly strongly felt in near-shore waters and semi-enclosed seas

- Plastic (everywhere in the ocean)
- Eutrophication --> extensive dead areas
- From pesticides, pharma products, mineral pollution



Climate change is being felt already in various ways

- Less oxygen --> smaller fish sizes, ++overfishing effects
- Warming --> poleward migration of fish; sea level rise
- CO2 absorption increases pH --> acidification

Beyond diagnosis, seeking solutions

We believe in

Providing easier access to research results to citizens

Combining facts with story telling to reach hearts

Encouraging search for solutions to give hope and mobilise

Mundus maris therefore made a commitment at the 2017 UN Ocean Conference:

#OceanAction21244 to support ocean literacy and awareness raising with emphasis on World Oceans Day (8 June each year) and youth.



World Ocean Day celebrations

UN motto for World Ocean Day (8 June) is the centre piece each year of a youth contest to engage with

The format evolves and is shifting to longer-term activities and cooperation with youth groups and schools for more sustained effects.

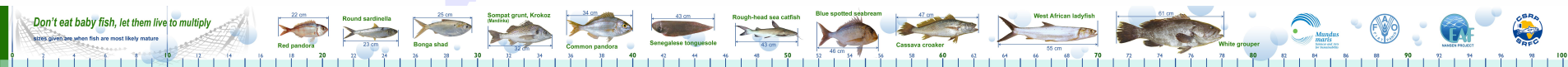
We organise **events** around 8 June in several countries and also collaborate with several partners to enhance ocean literacy – Europe, Africa, Latin America



Promoting ocean literacy ...

Awareness and knowledge raising takes many forms

- teaching kit about the ecosystem approach to fisheries
- fish rulers (West Africa, Greece, North Sea ...)
- flyers and info materials on different topics, such as safe seafood, climate friendly mobility
- role plays with pupils and students
- exhibitions, workshops, lecturing
- beach clean-ups, tips for divers
- sport event for awareness
- support for climate mobilisation



Contributing to sustainability research...

Our academically oriented members contribute regularly to scientific conferences and workshops and the formal literature

This year we contributed e.g. to

- Teaching transdisciplinarity workshop, Cape Town
- Open Science Conference, Brest
- X MARE Conference "People and the Sea", Amsterdam
- WIOMSA Symposium, Mauritius
- FishBase and SeaLifeBase Symposium, Perth

helps as well to keep up-to-date ourselves and remain relevant our more applied work.





Thanks!

**Always interested
in partnering**

More info on

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