

## **Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV)**

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### **Press Release**

**15.02.2016**

### **LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO PROTECT AND INVESTIGATE THE FRAGILE ECOSYSTEM OF THE BLACK SEA. JOIN US AND ENJOY IT.**

Black Sea ecosystem is very important in terms of biodiversity and fishery. More than half of the total catch is taken from Turkey. After 1960's fishing activities, pollution due to surrounding countries, invading species and climate change effected the ecosystem. Because of all these changes, it is crucial to continue scientific researches. Only this way, next generation can see the beauty of the Black Sea. However, because of limited equipments, experts and financial support, scientific research is not possible in everywhere and everytime. Datas are very important for scientists because of the informations they provide about the marine and coastal life of the Black Sea.

Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV) has a new project named "Black Sea Watch". This project is a part of Civil Society Dialog Program which is co-financed by European Union and the Republic of Turkey. Black Sea Watch project will help everyone to share their observation as a scientific data by using their smart phone, tablet or computer. As an increasing trend, mobile applications are very useful for different purposes. Today the amount of time that people spend on phones, tablets and computers is significant. In this project a free application for smart phones will develop and a web-base database will created to record, monitor and evaluate the data on marine biodiversity in the Black Sea.

The project also aims to ensure public participation in data collection and to increase public awareness. As a part of personal responsibility of a local people, contributing the protection of the Black Sea by sharing your daily view will make you feel relieve.



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### **Press Release of Press Conference**

**19.08.2016, Taksim Point Hotel – İstanbul**

**YOU CAN SEE THE BIODIVERSITY OF BLACK SEA IN YOUR PHONE NOW. LET'S JOIN US AND ENJOY IT WHILE SHARE YOUR OBSERVATION.**

#### **Why the Black Sea?**

Black Sea ecosystem is very important in terms of biodiversity and fishery. More than half of the total catch is taken from Turkey. “After 1960’s fishing activities, pollution due to surrounding countries, invading species and climate change effected the ecosystem. Besides, even after all these changes there are signals of recovery. It is crucial to continue scientific reaserhes to make next genaretions possible to see the beauty of the Black Sea ecosystem“. TUDAV president Prof. Dr. Bayram ÖZTÜRK.

#### **Black Sea Watch Project**

Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV) has a new project named “Black Sea Watch”. This project is a part of Civil Society Dialog Program, which is co-financed by European Union and the Republic of Turkey. İlayda Destan ÖZTÜRK, “Black Sea Watch project will help everyone to share their observation as a scientific data by using their smart phone, tablet or computer..”. As an increasing trend, mobile applications are very useful for different purposes. Today the amount of time that people spend on phones, tablets and computers is significat.

#### **How tu join us?**

You can visit our web-site and download the application to your smart phone and tablet. After you register, you can share your observation with photo, location and your commnets. Then, please wait for the approval of your submission. There is also a well-documented species catalog that you can download.

For more information: [www.blackseawatch.org](http://www.blackseawatch.org)

**TUDAV:** TUDAV was established in 1997 to conduct researches on marine science, to protect marine life, and to introduce marine culture and love for seas especially to future generations in Turkey. The foundation has been carrying out researches and conservation projects and provided education on marine protection through summer schools and seminars.

**Black Sea Watch:** This project is a joint initiative of Green Balkans NGO, Bulgaria and TUDAV, Turkey aiming/s to raise public awareness on biodiversity of the Black Sea.The developed tools intend to raise knowledge about the flora and fauna inhabiting the Black Sea and to promote involvement of public into “citizen science” in the region. Collection of data and its submission by users will contribute to studies on on occurrence and distribution of different species in the Black Sea.

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### Press Release

20.08.2016

## **TURKISH MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION ORGANIZED A PRESS CONFERENCE IN 19 AUGUST 2016 AT TAKSİM POINT HOTEL, ISTANBUL FOR THE NEW BLACK SEA WATCH PROJECT.**

This project is a joint initiative of Green Balkans NGO, Bulgaria and TUDAV, Turkey aiming/s to raise public awareness on biodiversity of the Black Sea. The developed tools intend to raise knowledge about the flora and fauna inhabiting the Black Sea and to promote involvement of public into "citizen science" in the region. Collection of data and its submission by users will contribute to studies on occurrence and distribution of different species in the Black Sea.

21 press members attended the press conference. Opening speech made by the TUDAV president Prof. Dr. Bayram ÖZTÜRK. He explained the unique ecosystem of the Black Sea by introducing the threats which effect its biodiversity, then highlighted the threats and importance of monitoring studies. After that, project coordinator İlayda Destan ÖZTÜRK underlined the priceless importance of these submissions that provides location, photo and comment for scientists as a new data. As an example to this, our first submissions provided an interesting finding, experts saw a huge increase on the number of dead Harbour porpoise in 2016 summer compared to the previous years and ongoing studies on diseases as a potential cause shared with press members. Web designer İbrahim Kocaalioğlu and he submit one of his findings to the Black Sea Watch as quick demonstration for press members. A detailed information about the increased death of this smallest dolphing species in the Black Sea was made by Ass. Prof. Dr. Arda TONAY.



For more information: [www.blackseawatch.org](http://www.blackseawatch.org)