



INTPA-NEAR Environment & Climate Week

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“Black Sea Diary 2022”

Scientific Research and Art For Refugee Children

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**A seal looking for clean waters
and friends**

Using the healing power of art and science to help children in Ukraine

Educational problem:

Psychological traumas among children from the coastal regions of Ukraine and refugee children because of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

Environmental problem:

Black Sea pollution, including as a result on military activities

Response found by EU4EMBLAS and local partners:

Launch educational activities that unite art and science

“Black Sea Diary – 2022”

29 children

Kherson and Kherson Oblast, Mykolaiv, Dnipro and Donetsk Oblast, and Odesa

5 to 12 years old

6 weeks, 18 lessons of 3 hours each





Marine scientists made the pupils aware of the **Black Sea biodiversity**.

Children selected their preferred subject (“**marine heroes**”) for research and artistic representation.

Professional artists helped children to draw those marine creatures using **various techniques**.

Children also wrote **stories about their own “marine hero”**.



Because of wartime electricity failures, sometimes children had to work at candle light.



Crabs

Dolphins

Jellyfish

Different fish species

Marine turtles

Monk seals

38 portraits of marine inhabitants

Awareness raising in Odesa

The best drawings were reproduced on postal stamps



All artworks were presented during the International Black Sea Day in Odesa



About EU4EMBLAS

“European Union for Improving Environmental Monitoring in the Black Sea” Programme

EU contribution EUR 2,000,000 (2021-2024)

Implementing Partner: UNDP

The **overall objective of the project is to help improve protection of the Black Sea environment**. This objective is pursued through further **technical assistance focused on establishing modern systems and facilities for environmental monitoring** in Georgia and Ukraine, capacity building, assessment of environmental status and **public awareness** raising on the Black Sea environmental issues.

Registered as ‘**voluntary commitment**’ to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14**

Facts, figures & achievements:

The 2021, the Clean Beach campaign in Ukraine involved 88 teams and 2787 people, of which more than half were young volunteers. Together, they **collected 38 tons of waste**.

Belgium donated a research vessel to Ukraine and the EU enabled its transfer, during which a monitoring programme that covered three seas was carried out. The vessel arrived in Odesa in October 2021

Thank you



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