

Citizen science, ocean literacy & outreach initiatives

Through citizen science and outreach initiatives, PERSEUS creates awareness among the general public on the importance and huge contribution the seas make to our lives. PERSEUS engages with citizens by encouraging them to take part in scientific work such as sighting jellyfish and monitoring marine litter. PERSEUS has created a prototype ocean literacy initiative for school children that helps them to think and act as well-informed citizens, concerned with the marine ecosystems and how they are affected by activities in the Mediterranean and Black Sea societies.

Citizen Science: Jellyfish spotting & Marine LitterWatch

The **Jellyfish Spotting Campaign** has been developed to involve citizens reporting the sightings of jellyfish across the Mediterranean and the Black Seas. This contributes to the scientific work of monitoring the populations of jellyfish and the changes in their migration patterns. PERSEUS recognizes marine litter as a significant environmental threat and participated in the pilot testing of the smartphone application **Marine LitterWatch**, developed by the European Environment Agency. As a result, PERSEUS created an extensive survey network of organisations dedicated to monitoring marine litter on more than 40 beaches in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.



Ocean Literacy: PERSEUS@School

The PERSEUS@School Network is an initiative for schools, teachers and students who participate in environmental education programmes which address the marine environment. The ocean literacy initiative offers the opportunity to school students to study environmental issues and problems in their region. It also helps them share opinions about the different ways young people can help protect the historic waters of the Mediterranean and Black Seas.



Outreach: PERSEUS & Sailing

PERSEUS & Sailing "eco-campaign" targets the general public sailing in the Mediterranean during summer. It encourages them to adopt an eco-friendly approach during their sailing experience by providing them specific tips and information to ensuring a minimal marine environment "footprint". The information is disseminated to chartered sailboats across the Mediterranean through Myweekcharter. A Sustainable Sailing Photo Contest complements the sailing campaign and has resulted in significant additional interest of the public.



For more information on these initiatives, please contact:
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Or visit the PERSEUS website: www.perseus-net.eu (see General Public)