

Project Update: April 2013

Malapascua Island, Cebu is the latest addition to Green Fins locations - home to a booming diving industry and the mesmerising thresher sharks. Working with the support of Save Philippine Seas the team of Green Fins coordinators worked closely with dive centres to share lessons learnt on environmental protection. The sharks attract intense diver traffic which inevitably has impacted the local reefs. 12 out of 14 dive centres joined Green Fins and received environmental training and consultations enabling them to better protect their reefs.

Green Fins dive centres in Moalboal received their second year of training and assessments showing that they had gone some way to implementing the standards of Green Fins such as reducing trampling and anchoring by creating natural pathways to boats and using environmentally friendly cleaning products. An Ambassador Programme empowered six local dive guides as champions for reef protection using the Green Fins approach locally. The local government have jumped on board continuing the "Say No To Plastic" campaign started in 2011 through RSGF support as part of their own environmental initiatives.