Project Update: July 2018

1- Questionnaire Survey

After visiting local authorities to have official permissions, we have started to do questionnaire survey between June 2018 and July 2018. In this context, two separate visits were made during 2 months and a face- to-face survey was conducted with randomly selected 194 people.



Within the scope of the survey, various questions were directed to participants under 4 modules. These modules are as follows:

- 1. Demographic information.
- 2. Behavioural trends.
- 3. Nature protection perceptions.
- 4. Recognition of non-governmental organizations (Following cards has showed to the participants).



Some demographic information of the respondents were found as follows.

		Respondent	Percentage
Gender	Female	83	42.78
	Male	111	57.22
Age Group	16-24	56	28.87
	25-34	58	29.90
	35-44	27	13.92
	45-54	29	14.95
	>55	24	12.37
Educational	Uneducated	6	3.09
background	Elementary	67	34.54
	Secondary	50	25.77
	University	65	33.51
	Post Graduate	6	3.09
Monthly income	Low	108	55.67
	Medium	42	21.65
	High	32	16.49
	NR*	12	6.19

^{*}NR: Not responded

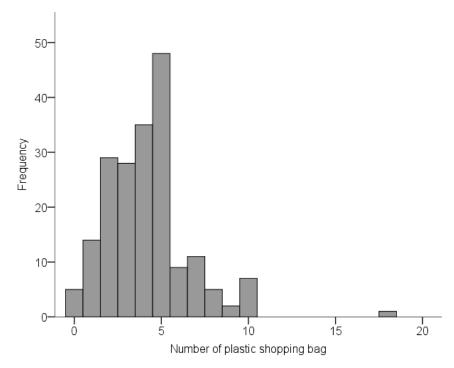
When behavioural trends were examined, it was found that the vast majority of participants (96.4%) continued to use plastics in market and grocery (88.7%) shopping, although they knew that plastics were harmful to the environment.

I think plastic waste is harmful to the environment

		I think plastic waste is harmful to the environment					
		Ag	ree	Not a	igree	N	R*
I use plastic bags in market and grocery shopping	Agree	168	86.6	0	0.0	4	2.1
	Not	15	7.7	2	1.0	1	0.5
	Agree						
	NR	4	2.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
When I buy anything, I take care that the packaging is plastic or not	Agree	57	29.4	1	0.5	2	1.0
	Not Agree	113	58.2	1	0.5	3	1.5
	NR	17	8.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
I sort my garbage in my house	Agree	52	26.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Not Agree	125	64.4	2	1.0	5	2.6
	NR	10	5.2	0	0.0	0	0.0

^{*}NR: Not responded

The usage of plastic bags of participants were found to 4.19 plastic bags per shopping day.



In terms of membership/volunteerism to nature conservation associations, participants were found not to be very enthusiastic.

	Frequency	
Do you have membership or voluntary participation in any nature	Yes	6
conservation association / foundation?	No	188

However, although participants did not tend to be members of nature conservation associations, they noted that they participated in many clean-up campaigns and nature conservation training.

	Yes	No
Have you participated in any nature / environmental education /	75	119
meeting or seminar-like event before? (Including course)		
Have you participated in any environmental / beach / marine	109	85

Only five of the respondents gave the Rufford answer in order to measure the awareness of the foundations and associations. The most well-known organisation, naturally, has become a local association (Samandağ Çevre Koruma ve Turizm Derneği).

2- Sampling Study

Two separate visits were conducted in June and July 2018 as part of the sampling effort. The sample was taken with the help of the 1 x 1 m quadrat from the entrance, nest and exit points of the turtle traces that have just formed. In both sampling periods, only green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) traces was observed. It has been observed that

the study area is under pressure of severe plastic pollution.



