

Project Update: April 2019

During the previous 3 months of the project, all activities predicted by the timescale were done. In January and February 2019, we visited schools where a presentation on the problem of blue crab was presented. Presentations were held in primary and secondary schools in Kotor, Tivat, Budva, Bar and Herceg Novi. We talked about the appearance of blue crab, the way of entrance, consumption, and also about solutions which are possible in order to reduce their abundance. Besides the blue crab we also mentioned some new species that appeared in the Montenegrin waters. Given that some of them are toxic, it was necessary to mention the pupils and tell them about their dangers.

In addition to visiting the schools, we established contact with the relevant institutions (Institute of Marine Biology, Ministry and PE for Coastal Zone Management) with which we also spoke about the impact of blue crab on the ecosystem. Next to the meeting with associates from the Institute, we attended on the workshops that were held in the premises of the Institute of Marine Biology. The workshop was organised as part of the Ariel project and one of the agenda items was the problem of invasive and introduced species, where the problem of blue crab was also presented. All this time, interviews with local fishermen were conducted. Interviews, as we can conclude, are a good source of information for us to monitor the abundance of blue crabs according to the experience of fishermen, with the help of them we can also monitoring species that decrease or increase their number.

