

## Project Update: September 2019

The project started in the last week of March 2019. First, the application has been completed for required permission for fieldwork. Summer schedules of public marine transportation have been gathered in the towns for opportunistic sampling. Attempts for establishing volunteer network was very successful for visiting local fisheries port. As well as helping previous volunteers, we got support a lot of new volunteers from many towns of Turkish coasts, especially students of Marine School, Girne American University. This huge support allow us to visit more fisheries port then we planned that is eight. Therefore, team members decided to modify our field work plan by visiting more fisheries port. We also modified utilisation of our budget for transportation. We believe more visiting will provide very important information. Thus, we plan to reduce our sea effort by hiring expensive marine vehicles. We already reached more than 20 fisheries ports from Turkish coasts. Addition to our first plan, we also had chance to visit fishery port in the Marmara Sea by helping of one of our volunteer. We expect to have more area in the rest of project period.

After having an extensive volunteer team, we organised a meeting with them for introduction our project and its aim. Then, each volunteers visited their home towns to establishing a communication with local fishers or to warm up their communications. Some of volunteers already established mobile communication groups to connect us with stakeholders. Even though we proposed to not apply questionnaire directly to fishermen, we had to prepare template for our questions due to difficulties in extension of local fisheries port that are planned to visit. Some of volunteers started to visit second time their local fisher ports and provide us some preliminary results for the interaction.





Online link for questionnaire: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSHa-e5HOAdMw3oN9cBpEOXfBv6r0IUZm7y3aQ6tHhj0MnhQ/viewform>