

## Project Update: March 2023

The field studies specified in the project were started in October 2022. In this context, scuba diving was carried out at the points determined between Sinop and Trabzon and the presence of reefs in these areas was investigated. Dive points and reef spots are shown on the map. While no reefs were found at the diving points in the area between Ordu and Sinop, *Sabellaria* colonies were detected in the Trabzon province Beşikdüzü district. Large reef areas have been identified at some points on the coast of Ordu province. Colonies have also been identified in some of the breakwaters on the shores of Ordu. Parameters such as elevation, tube diameter, and number of tubes of the reef were measured at the points where large reef areas were identified. Accordingly, while the reef height is higher at AN and DLY stations, it is lower at CS and BLM stations. The results of the study have been prepared as a scientific article and are in the process of completing the final preparations to be sent to the journal.

Some of the training activities envisaged within the scope of the project have been carried out. In this context, an activity was organized for kindergarten students to recognise and learn about sea creatures. In this activity, a presentation was made about sea creatures in the Black Sea, including *Sabellaria*, and information about these species was given. The children showed great interest in the activity. It is planned to continue the educational activities by providing training with students in different age groups.



Red markers show stations where the *Sabellaria* reef has been detected, while yellow markers show stations where it has not been detected.





Measurement study of Sabellaria reef structure. (Length of metal rod is 50 cm).