



# ERASMUS +: BlueS\_Med project

2020-1-FR01-KA201-080531

*Supporting the development of socially inclusive  
Blue Challenges in schools in the Mediterranean Sea basin*

## Multiplier Event MALTA

### Summary report

**Date:** 24/02/2023

**Country:** Malta

**Venue:** The Malta National Aquarium, Qawra



# DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

## Overview

Showcasing the latest ocean literacy digital tools available for use within Blue Schools as well as to involve students in an interactive and full-immersive experience through which they get acquainted with marine life. This event was organised by the Oceanography Malta Research Group within the Department of Geosciences, University of Malta, on the 24th of February, at, and with the collaboration of, the Malta National Aquarium.

## Objectives

- The showcasing of ocean literacy digital tools developed within a number of sister European-funded projects to a sizeable cohort of Year 7 students hailing from schools participating within Blue Schools Med Blue Challenges;
- The evaluation of the efficacy of the same tools in promulgating awareness of marine conservation issues.

## Activities

Digital tool demonstrations for students and educators (Pepper the robot, a virtual reality experience, 3D modelling, holograms and alien species models), screening of videos, quizzes.



## Participants

- **Pupils:** 178; **Teachers:** 16
- **Minister:** 1; **University of Malta team:** 8
- **Other:** Environment and Resources Authority (5), Heritage Malta (2), International Ocean Institute (2), Sharklab-Malta (2), ambassadors (2).



## RESULTS OF THE EVENT

### Feedback

#### Pupils:

- Pupils' opinion on the event: Positive: 112; Neutral: 46; Negative: 5
- Did the pupils feel they learned anything: Positive: 108; Neutral: 46 Negative: 10

**Organisers (UM team):** Definitely positive.

**Organisers (Aquarium team):**

*"It was a pleasure to have this event at the aquarium and seeing such a nice group of children coming and learning more about habitats around the sea. It is a big achievement and we are very proud to be part of this activity and we always try and work as closely as possible with projects like these, especially when it comes to Prof. Alan Deidun".*

### Challenges

A number of challenges had to be overcome in order to make this event possible, namely:

- The commissioning of the entire national Aquarium premises for the exclusive conduction of the event in caption;
- The limited availability of the participating schools;
- Logistical challenges – transportation of the entire digital toolkit to the Aquarium and crowd management;
- The engagement of high-profile personalities (Ministers, Ambassadors) in patronising the event

### Key messages

Participating schools have to seek ways through which the digital tools being demonstrated can be mainstreamed within their premises for educational purposes in future.

Educational visits like the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023 one should be entrenched on an annual basis within school curricula.



# ANNEXES

Agenda

Attendance sheets