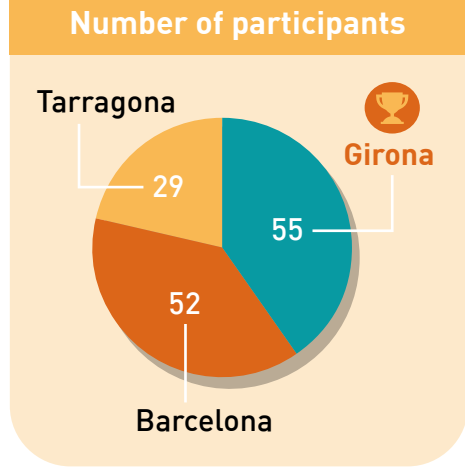
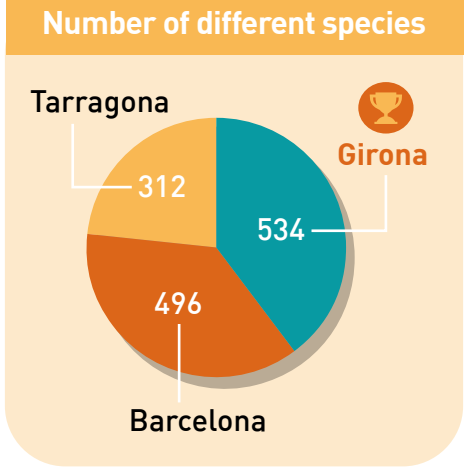
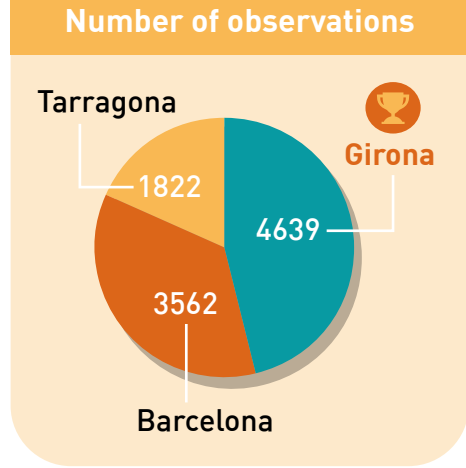


NOTEWORTHY RESULTS BioMARató 2021!



Which province was most active?



Which species were found in each taxonomic group?

Green algae: 30 species 317 observations

Red algae: 61 species 387 observations

Brown algae: 24 species 396 observations

Marine plants: 3 species 96 observations

Ciliates: 1 species 1 observation

Sponges: 65 species 618 observations

Cnidarians: 77 species 809 observations

Ctenophores: 3 species 12 observations

Molluscs: 303 species 1579 observations

Nemertean: 2 species 2 observations

Annelids: 49 species 261 observations

Planarians: 13 species 49 observations

Crustaceans: 92 species 471 observations

Phoronids: 1 species 6 observations

Bryozoans: 31 species 174 observations

Echinoderm: 31 species 537 observations

Tunicates: 45 species 224 observations

Fish: 148 species 3451 observations

Birds: 38 species 80 observations

Marine mammals: 1 species 1 observation

Others: 36 species 54 observations

Did you know...? Fun facts about marine species

All the pictures are photos submitted to the Natusfera citizen science platform by volunteers during the BioMARató.

Aplysia fasciata



Observation: Laura Sánchez

Aplysia fasciata, commonly known as a sea hare, is a gastropod mollusc that can grow to 40 cm long. This species has an **annual life cycle**, so after laying their eggs they begin to die. This can be seen in the picture, as the sea hare is losing pigment and will slowly begin decomposing.

Note! If you find many dead *Aplysia fasciata* on the beach, don't worry. **It doesn't indicate contamination**, just that their life cycle has come to its end.

Oblada melanura and *Rhizostoma pulmo*



Observation: Andrea Comaposada

This photo shows a *Rhizostoma pulmo*, also known as the barrel jellyfish, and *Oblada melanura*, known as saddled seabream.

When the current is right, we sometimes see many jellyfish on the beach. It's important to be careful, but also respect them and not move them from the beach. Why? They play an **important role in the ecosystem**. Among other things, they are food for other species, like the saddled seabream, which wait for the jellyfish to break down a bit before beginning their feast.

Dardanus calidus and *Calliactis parasitica*



Observation: Mónica Franco

The picture shows a hermit crab (*Dardanus calidus*) with an anemone (*Calliactis parasitica*) attached to the sea slug shell. But don't worry! The anemone isn't invading its personal space.

Theirs is a relationship of mutualism, with both species benefiting from living together. On the one hand, the crab helps the anemone get around, as it can't move far otherwise. In exchange, the crab gets protection, as the anemone stings and wards off possible predators. They have such a mutually beneficial relationship that when the crab switches to a new sea slug shell, it takes the anemones and puts them on top of its new 'home'.

Parablennius incognitus



Observation: Josep De Gea

A picture is worth a thousand words! In this case, the photo shows the mystery blenny *Parablennius incognitus* **devouring a bristle worm**, which hardly fits in its mouth. This highlights that even a picture of a common species can contribute valuable information, on its diet, for example.

Elysia timida and *Acetabularia acetabulum*



Observation: Xatrac

Acetabularia acetabulum, which look like parasols when in a group, are single-cell green algae. **Each 'parasol' we see is one cell**. In the picture, in addition to various algae, we can also see a predator in front. It's an *Elysia timida* mollusc, which has a fondness for this species. The mollusc sucks out the chloroplasts (the organelles that conduct photosynthesis) from the *Acetabularia acetabulum* and puts them on its back. *Elysia timida*'s goal is to take advantage of the sugars these organelles produce as a result of photosynthesis.

Gobius incognitus



Observation: Ramón Servitje

In many books, you'll still find this goby under the scientific name *Gobius bucchichi*. But careful! The study by Kovačić, M.; Šanda, R. (2016) 1, showed that **this species is a combination of two different types of Gobius sp.** that are very similar. The most abundant species in the Mediterranean is the one in this photo, *Gobius incognitus*. Whereas *G. bucchichi* is found in the Adriatic Sea.

The five most active volunteers of the BioMARató. Learn more about them!



Guillermo Álvarez

267 observations of 152 species

"For me, the BioMARató was really rewarding personally, as I got to contribute data that will help document the current state of underwater flora and fauna along the Mediterranean coast. I think citizen science projects like this one are a great tool to complement traditional scientific research. I'm sure they help make decisions regarding environmental management and prevention."



Josep de Gea

229 observations of 175 species

"I've loved discovering the wealth of species in the marine ecosystem, and sharing my photos with the other participants. Plus, I think nature-lovers and scientists working together is key. Initiatives like this one can be a bridge."



Berta Companys

266 observations of 94 species

"At the beginning of summer, I went diving and took pictures of the marine organisms I didn't know. By the end of the BioMARató, I'd learned many new species!"



Ramón Servitje

196 observations of 96 species

"I've gained three things from the BioMARató: experience in identifying marine species, thanks to Xavier Salvador; meeting people with the same interests; and the satisfaction of contributing data that can be useful to the scientific community and people in general."



Oriol de Deu

127 observations of 110 species

"What I liked best about the BioMARató was getting to meet people who are interested in the sea and spending time looking for species in the water with them. For me, citizen science isn't just fun, it also forges bonds between science and society."



Olívia Álvarez

123 observations of 60 species

"Barcelona has loads of sea life, more than I thought. I was surprised to find a seahorse at Sant Sebastià beach. The biodiversity here is amazing and we don't even know it! That is key to preserving the species because when you know how rich the seas are, you protect them."

Thanks

Participants in the BioMARató registered on Natusfera:

aaronlopezbarragan; adriacomasgallardo; ainhoahermi; albamiranda; albertg; amxatrac; anacente; andrea; andres_valverde_valera; anellides; angela_jr; aniolmorenovidal; annavo; aplaya; ariadnalucha; ariadnaparramateu; ariadnapn; arnaubb; bernaatperalta; bertacompany; bertogil; canboetjardi; carlac; carlescassillo; carolina_zegarra; caterina-matas; claraloprod; cliacarbonell; cordermariasantjosep; danielagviemontagut; dimaulanov; diving_lloret; elenanabau; hectorsmarinesjoves21; ffava; gabipeixoto; guillem_mayor; guillermoalvarez_foedcas; gustavoogiemontagut; hectormciemontagut; hectorortega; hectorswitch; ipoble; jaume-piera; jaumeprimontagut; jesquius; jlliasabridauria; joantmiemontagut; jordirtiemontagut; joselu_00; josepdegea; jpm; juanaxx; judithmolerolorezo; juliatorres; karenasaoachagodoy; laiaferreres; laiamanyer; laiaoleygarcia; laurabiomar; lauraripoll; littlebuster; loreto_rodriguez; losinteligentes; maragall; marinagm; marta9ar; martajimenezcastro; martinaalonso; marzialanfranchi; mashabcarbo; mathilde1; matildesmiemontagut; mediambient_ajelprat; mercevila; meruba; mestralet; nessyunicorn13; noepic; oceanogami; okeanoslife; olgagairin; olgaylara; olivia88; oriol_d; pau_esteban; paucardona; paulargiemontagut; pepe_molero; pere17; pilarcompany; piripip; planctondiving; platano_amarrillo; ramonservitje; romu_freediving_photography; roober78; sandralayrn; santi_escartin; sasspetnazbryan; sbenets; seaprat; sisomos; sofiamaslov; sopo; teamgreen; tereguilera; uridomingo; victoria_christine; vivesgadea; vladyslavmerlyan; vonxxel; xaiblanco; xasalva; xavi-de-yzaguirre; yagorg; yanira.

1.Kovačić, M.; Šanda, R. (2016). A new species of Gobius (Perciformes: Gobiidae) from the Mediterranean Sea and the redescription of Gobius bucchichi. Journal of Fish Biology, 88(3): 1104-1124., available online at <https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.12883>

Organisers



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