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INSTITUTE OF OCEANOLOGY - BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



CONSTANTA DOLPHINARIUM – FOCAL POINT TO DISSEMINATE THE EDUCATION, CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF DOLPHINS FUND IN ROMANIAN MARINE WATERS

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- Environmental protection, a global issue of humanity, is today an essential condition in the development of modern society in the development of the future.
- One of the fundamental aspects of environmental education is interdisciplinary generated by the fact that environment, for us, is a complex structure that merges both natural and social elements with an important role in people's lives.



- Raising the level of understanding of the complexity of environmental issues, is one of the most important tasks of all factors trainers, educational and cultural.
- As a direct consequence arises the responsibility that, natural science museums, by specificity of their activity, must assume in the educational mission of public awareness.



- Environmental education is the process by which may develop skills and abilities for understanding, approach and taking decisions, needed to act responsibly to environmental issues raised.
- That is why, in addition to the continuation of the development of heritage conservation and recovery of its actual museum is trying to adapt to a climate of competition with other institutions that have an educational role, various NGOs and research institutions have developed their own educational programs for the public.
- Through the activities performed in the museum, this proves to be a dynamic institution, modern, one of the most important link in the chain of institutions that are in charge the environmental education.



- In order to support a permanent, systematic and effective environmental education and nature protection, the specialists from the Museums of Natural Sciences are responsible to organize a systematic study and research activity in the areas concerned, and in this way to be able to meet the public demands , ensuring the necessary database information, guidance and last but not least a field of manifestation.
- The Constanța Dolphinarium, part of the Natural Science Museum Complex Constanta, is a focal point to the Romanian seaside, for disseminating education and environmental conservation, especially dolphins fund, of the national marine waters.



- Presence in the our museum complex of the collections consisting in living fauna is an advantage for us in the work of public educating and especially young people who have demonstrated that they are more interested and receptive to environmental issues.
- Starting from the attraction exerted by the main exhibition consisting in native and exotic living fauna, on the public, in the departments Aquarium and Dolphinarium, the specialists of this institution could develop educational programs whose subject is represented by education for the knowledge and protection of the Black Sea.





It started from the classic educational activities:
- essays submitted by students



to class

- seminars on environmental issue

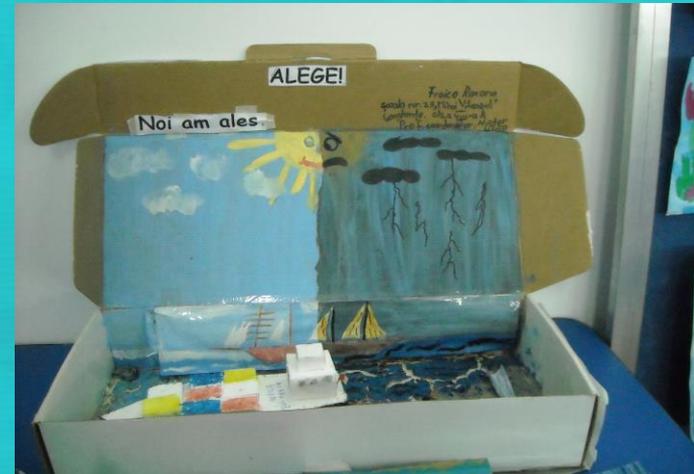


to class



To our headquarter

- expositions of works created by students at various anniversaries



With the integration into the European Union, and increased educational requirements, the specialists of our institution seek new ways of acquiring knowledge about the environment and its protection.

- One of the ways identified with success, are interactive activities.



➤ Applications in the field:



sampling



➤collecting information

a - concerning the cliffs state



Constanta, Casino area



Mangalia

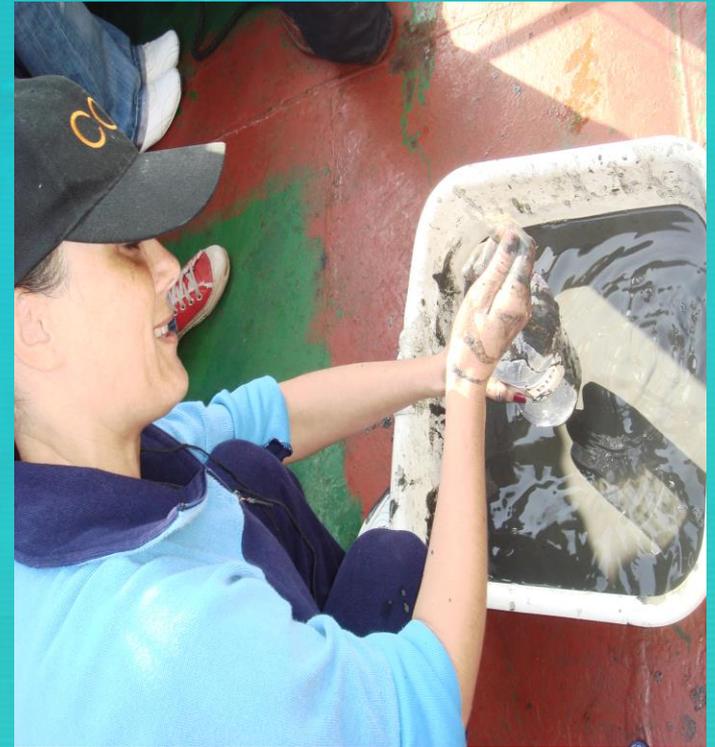
b - how operated a wastewater treatment plant



➤ Practical activities:



- realization of a complex oceanographic stations (part of the samples during the execution oceanographic station were processed by high school students in laboratories in the coming days).



➤ ecological marches



- The issue of conservation education and environmental protection, in particular the dolphins fund from national marine waters was a new challenge for us.
- To achieve this goal our institution specialists, in collaboration with NGOs “Mare Nostrum” and INCDM "Grigore Antipa" Constanta specialists, Scientific Research Centre for the Navy, Naval Academy "Mircea cel Batrin," and Divers Center Constanta, taking into account our previous experience in this area, conducted the following activities:



➤ courses for teachers



➤dolphins stranded identification, throughout the year, :

✓during field trips conducted by CMSN specialists



Corbu stranded dolphin (28.05.2011)



Mamaia beach stranded dolphin,
Hotel Flora area(8.07.13)

✓ through the network of NGOs “Mare Nostrum” volunteer observers



Vama Veche stranded dolphin – june 2013



➤dolphins photo identification courses;



working group under the direction of Mr.Joane Gonzalvo



- identification of acoustic stress factors or dolphins (in captivity and in the high seas);



- participation in pilot projects - for example the placement of hydroacoustic devices for removing dolphin by fishing nets (ADD-uri/PINGERE) on nets (project coordinated by Mare Nostrum), etc..



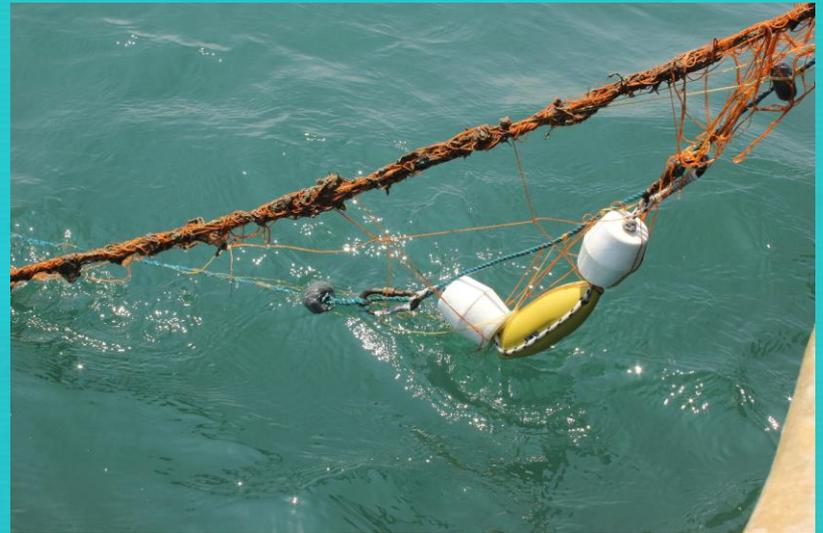


ADD presentation



foto Marian Paiu

mounting on nets



Dissemination of the results of these activities

- directly through their presentation to the public how participate at every demonstration



- fishermen training campaigns conducted in local fishing communities



foto Marian Paiu

- lectures at the conference room in the complex or in the schools of the county through distribution of leaflets, flyers, etc.



The goal is:

- Awareness of the nature and increasing the responsibility for problems of dolphins found from Romanian marine waters by informing the public;
- Thorough knowledge of the key issues related to the status of dolphin populations in the Romanian marine waters, the impact of various anthropogenic actions;
- Formation of skills and abilities of observation, experimentation and research;
- Forming an environmental ethic (attitudes, principles, beliefs).



What has been achieved so far?

1. equipped the fishing gear with hydro acoustic devices, regarded as dangerous for the dolphins populations in attempts to reduce the incidental catches.



2 - reveals a greater involvement of common people

- More people (who are not part of the volunteers network) are involved in saving troubled dolphins announcing on telephone each such case.
- During the round table organized the participants involve raising various issues such as:
 - ✓ problem of monofilament nets that would be more useful and friendly dolphins.
 - ✓ Current legal regulations by which fishermen are discouraged to report dolphins caught in nets.



3. were created the basis for a fund of information and scientific data needed to: determining the distribution and frequency of incidental capture of dolphins stranded on the Romanian seacoast;



Conclusions

- The activities and projects submitted to your attention shows that the current museum is a dynamic institution, a living organism that can perform a set of scientific, cultural and educational functions with a complex nature, thus representing an important link between social life, education and science, with an important role in permanent public education, whatever their age and social class.



Thanks for your time and attention!

