

August 2023

# Ecomarine Press Release

## Completion of Training Courses & Installation of 4 Marine Monitoring Labs in India & Malaysia

**ECOMARINE** (Building a Comprehensive Mechanism for Preserving Marine Ecosystems & Life from the negative consequences of Climate Change and the disposal of Plastic Debris) is a **3-year-long project (Jan. 21 – Jan. 24)**, funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, under the Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education action. Its main goal is **the protection of marine life from pressures imposed by climate change, plastic marine debris, overexploitation of the fish stocks, as well as the human-induced destruction of marine habitats, with the installation of four new, state-of-the-art Marine Monitoring Labs in India and Malaysia.**

### COMPLETION OF INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSES

The transnational Train-The-Trainers programme has been completed, with selected trainers from the 4 Asian HEIs having travelled to Europe and attended a 3-day theoretical training course in the University of Cyprus, a 10-day practical training field course in Archipelagos Institute in Greece, and a 3-day theoretical training course in the University of Oviedo, Spain.

These Training Courses aimed to provide participants with both theoretical knowledge and substantial practical skills in the research, data collecting, and related training activities for marine ecosystem monitoring, which will be required during the operation of the Marine Monitoring Labs.

### INSTALLATION OF 4 MARINE MONITORING LABS IN INDIA & MALAYSIA

After having successfully purchased the necessary equipment to be used for the set-up of the Marine Monitoring Labs (MMLs), 4 of them (one in each HEI) have been created and will start operating and will serve as the foundation for both the long-term development of capacity and the monitoring of ecosystems. Some of the key areas that the MMLs will focus on include:

- **Monitoring Climate Change, Ocean Acidification and Temperature Rise, Blue Carbon and Related Ecosystem Responses,**
- **Monitoring of productive protected ecosystems (coral reefs, seagrass meadows, mangroves),**
- **Monitoring of the Microplastic Debris in Marine Ecosystems.**

A report explaining the specifics and features, as well as the operation procedures of each MML will be generated once the installation of the MMLs is complete.

*For more information, please visit the [Ecomarine website](#), like the [Ecomarine Facebook page](#) and follow the [Ecomarine Twitter account](#).*

