

WHY DOES YOUR OBSERVATION MATTER?

When many people document marine and coastal species, individual observations become part of a much bigger picture. A clear photo with a location can help build knowledge about where species occur and how marine biodiversity changes across Europe.



**European Marine
Citizen Science Week**

14–20 September 2026

HOW THE CHAIN WORKS

1



You discover

Find something interesting in the water, among seaweed, on rocks or along the shore.

2



You photograph

Take a clear photo and record where you found it.

3



You share in MINKA

Upload the observation with the photo and location.

4



Experts can review it

Researchers and knowledgeable community members can help identify and validate observations.

5



Many observations become data

Observations from many people and places build a broader picture across Europe.

6



Knowledge supports the ocean

Better data helps us understand species, changes over time and marine biodiversity.

YOUR OBSERVATION CAN HELP:



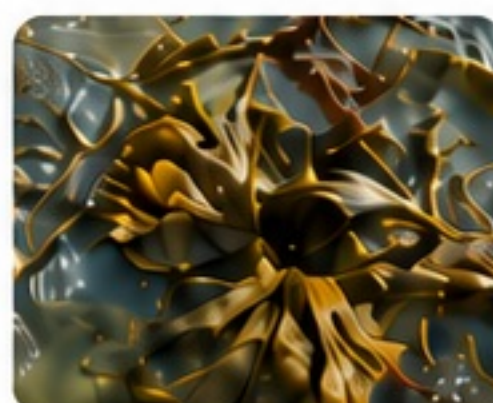
Show where species are found



Track changes over time



Increase knowledge of marine biodiversity across Europe



Even a small observation can be an important piece of the puzzle.

Research-grade observations may be shared with global biodiversity databases.

Every observation matters.

Initiated by the EU-funded



MINKA app:
minka-sdg.org



[bioecoscean.org/
european-marine-citizen-science-week](https://bioecoscean.org/european-marine-citizen-science-week)



Research-grade observations will be shared with global biodiversity databases.



Participants join at their own risk.