

1OCEAN Magic of the Ocean 1OCEAN

Background

This sub-vertical focuses on teaching about marine biodiversity and the ocean more broadly, making marine conservation accessible, relatable, and curriculum-linked for schools (students & teachers) and communities, particularly in contexts where the ocean is rarely mentioned in the school curriculum.

Activities conducted during the reporting period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

- 🐟 Mapping curriculum to UN Ocean Decade Ocean Literacy principles
- 🐟 Literature review and surveys of target audience
- 🐟 Developing content linked to the 7 Ocean Literacy Principles of the UN Ocean Decade and different subjects taught in the school curriculum
- 🐟 Website design and development including feedback loops to test for bugs and verification of all the content by experts
- 🐟 Networking and coordinating with website developers, designers, animators, subject experts, and researchers
- 🐟 Launch of the e-learning

platform and introducing the platform at 11 schools

Key achievements and outcomes

- 🐟 Network of schools, teachers, educators, subject experts, and volunteers for ocean biodiversity conservation.
- 🐟 Launch of 'Magic of the Ocean'
- 🐟 80+ educators registered on the website with 12 schools using the material in their classrooms.
- 🐟 Materials used as part of the Classrooms 4 Coexistence program.

Challenges faced

Expert validation considering the tight schedules of subject experts was challenging but was handled by determination and coordination.

Participant numbers and locations

We have had 295 participants including teachers, students and other users. The locations of the project are Rameswaram and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala.

Key partnerships and collaborations

Twenty-one schools participated from various locations in and around Rameshwaram, Ramanathapuram, Coimbatore, and Thiruvananthapuram.

Experts

Dr. Biju kumar, Dr. Sanjay Molur, Dr. Amit Kumar, Dr. S.R Ganesh, Dr. Dipani Sutaria, Dr. Divya Panicker, Priyanka Iyer, and Usha Ravindra



1OCEAN team with the mascot Dr. Monta Ray. © Prema

Measurable outcomes

- 🐟 Developed an interactive website on Magic of the Ocean.
- 🐟 The initiative has trained over 45 teachers.
- 🐟 Engaged more than 100 students.
- 🐟 Registered 70 users on the platform.
- 🐟 Produced 27 open-access ocean literacy resources.

Acknowledgments

Thankful to all the experts, teachers, students, collaborators, developers, designers, and well-wishers for all their inputs and support during the content development, designing and launch of the e-learning platform.

Future plans/next steps

- 🐟 Training workshops with educators on popularizing the e-learning platform.
- 🐟 Upgrade the e-learning platform based on feedback and to add new chapters to make it more inclusive.

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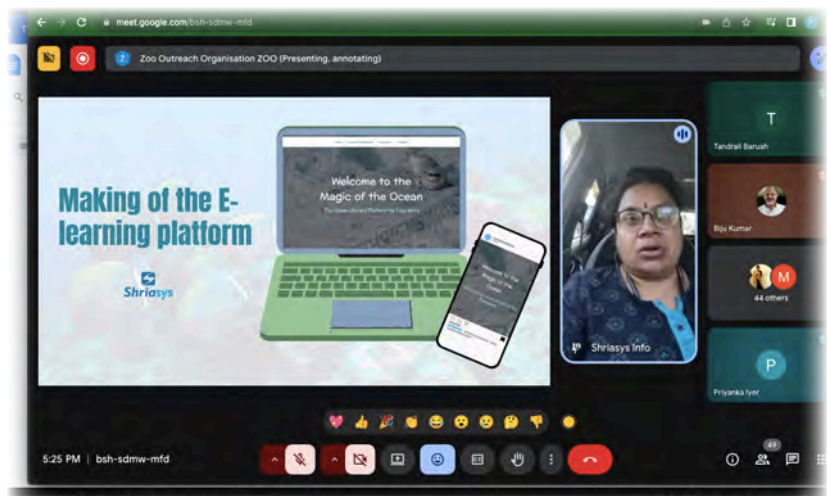
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Kerala University Launch- Co-creation for the platform Magic of the Ocean with University of Kerala. © Sidharthan



Launch in GPS School- Co-creation and implementation of the e-learning platform- Magic of the Ocean in GPS School in Coimbatore. © P. Kritika



Online launch- The platform was also launched with the teachers, designers, developers, and the 10CEAN community. © Tandrali Baruah

10CEAN Miscellaneous

This year focused on analyzing the existing data sets that included species identification, advanced literature review, preliminary analyses of opportunistic survey data involving catch, gear usage, demography, knowledge, and perceptions. These analyses continue to build the foundation for all other initiatives of 10CEAN including all the outreach and awareness that are based on solid science and on-ground information from Indian waters.

As next steps, this work advocates the need for dedicated campaigns at the local and national levels to raise awareness amongst the general public and the fisherfolk about the increasing decline in shark population in our waters, to encourage better informed consumers, to aid in reduction of destructive gear use and multi gear use per craft. Such campaigns can bring about changes in perceptions, foster a sense of community ownership, and give a foundation for science-based management strategies in the future. Addressing the lack of awareness of sharks at a local and national scale can be a vital step towards ensuring their long-term survival which will help keep the ecological balance of our ocean.



On the occasion of Manta Ray Day, 27 Sep 2025, the e-learning platform was launched in Vidya Vanam School, Coimbatore.
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