



**The Fishing for Litter Champion Award evaluations launched by MarLitCy have started. The project 'MarLitCy' innovates, transforming marine litter into a powerful peacebuilding tool, developing synergies, building capacity and fostering partnerships on the island. MarLitCy brings together children and youth, fishermen, divers and coastal businesses from across the divide who want to fight marine litter, an environmental and social problem of common concern.**

As of the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2022, the Fishing for Litter Champion Awards have been launched. The partnership will speak to fishermen that are members of MarLitCy Fishing for Litter network and evaluate their adherence to the Fishing for Litter initiative. Those who have best adopted the practices of the F4L initiative will be awarded at the final event on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.

The project, is funded by the European Union under the Cypriot Civil Society in Action VI grant scheme and implemented by four civil society organisations with significant experience in bi-communal activities and the blue sector: Famagusta Walled City Association (MASDER), AKTI Project and Research Centre, North Cyprus Diving Centers Association and Enalia Physis Environmental Research Centre.

MarLitCy builds on the success of a previous EU-funded project titled "Marine Litter: Together for Clean Coasts!", which was implemented 2 years ago by the same partnership and engaged over 30,000 people, mainly students and youth. MarLitCy will replicate and augment this success by bringing the island's communities together to work. This will be achieved through the implementation of various novel activities such as the European best practice 'Fishing for Litter', which will be launched in four fishing harbours on the island, the expansion of the existing Responsible Coastal Business Network, interactive presentations at schools and universities, 'meet the sea' days with free diving lessons for youth, beach and seabed cleanups, and participatory decision-making workshops. The activities have been designed to reach out to specific target groups, including children and youth, educators, fishermen, divers, decision-makers and the general public.

**For more information about the project, visit [www.marlitcy.eu](http://www.marlitcy.eu) or contact:**

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