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SHARKLAB-



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NGO to join the growing Collective.

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Sharklab-Malta is an NGO which is dedicated to protecting sharks, rays and skates, known collectively as Elasmobranchs, through research and awareness raising. The NGO is only 7 years old but has already forged an important, well defined niche for itself.

They work with a number of important stakeholders like the Malta Tourism Association, Majjistral Park, Malta National Aquarium, GAIA Foundation and the Maltese Fisheries Department.

Annually, they oversee around 30 students from local schools who learn how to research with Sharklab-Malta and get the opportunity to dissect shark jaws.

They also collect landings data from the wholesale fish market by being at the fish market at 3am at least four times a week during which time they also collect eggs which they rescue from dead sharks and skates in order to grow them on to hatching at the Malta National Aquarium. After which they release them back into the Mediterranean.

“We have already made a difference by releasing over 100 sharks since commencing this project - with many more to be released.” said Pamela Mason, one of Sharklab-Malta’s members.

“We hope that by joining TerraFirma we will be able to learn more about the funding side of NGOs and develop our NGO into a more efficiently run one.”

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ABOUT POST AUTHOR

JD Farrugia

JD Farrugia is TerraFirma’s Coordinator. He has been responsible for setting up the Collective and for helping it achieve its goals. With an M.Sc in Environmental Management and Planning and a degree in Psychology, JD is interested in the art of campaigning and environmental psychology. He studied how the Maltese perceive and react to local environmental campaigns. He is the director of fish4tomorrow, the chairperson of Friends of the Earth Malta and volunteers with Slow Food Malta. He is also an environmental coordinator with Flimkien ghal-Ambjent Ahjar.

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