

An Introduction to

PROJECT

BASELINE

ANNABA'S ARTIFICIAL REEF II



WHO ARE WE?

Project Baseline is a global initiative that motivates a network of highly skilled and organized SCUBA divers to create a lasting visual legacy of underwater conditions in oceans, lakes, rivers, springs, and caves all over the world, one picture and video at a time. Teams share their underwater images and experiences with the world by posting to our spatial database, leveraging social media outlets, and working within their local communities.

Global Underwater Explorers (GUE) is a 501 c3 global dive training organization that developed the Project Baseline initiative out of a desire to protect these important and magical places hidden from the rest of the world for future generations. Project Baseline is GUE's primary conservation initiative.

Project Baseline is made possible only through the ongoing commitment of hundreds of volunteers around the world. Without their dedication, support, and involvement, we would not be able to work towards the fulfillment of our mission.

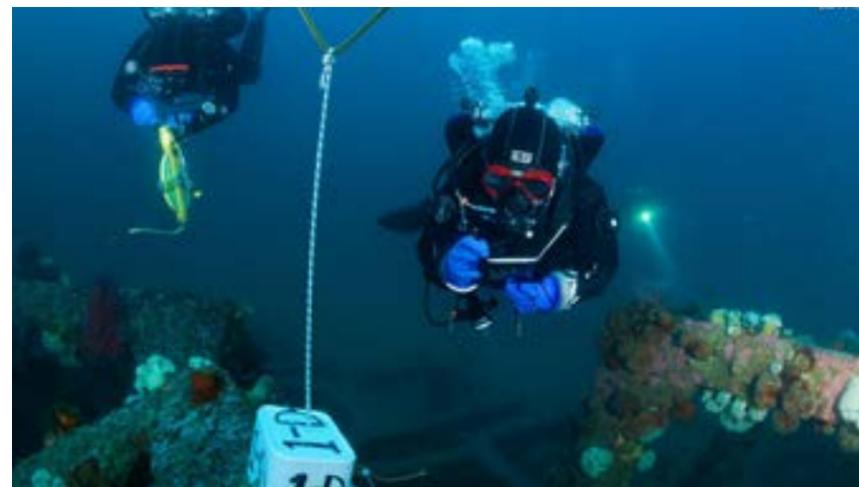


Photo Credit: Project Baseline Akumal (left). Su Enu Kim (right)



December 2010



January 2014



December 2014

HOW IT WORKS

Our passionate volunteers:

- Select an underwater location that is meaningful to them.
- Begin by collecting four basic sets of data on a regular basis: depth, temperature, visibility, and a photograph.
- Send that information to us for upload to our public database.
- Additionally, many teams engage in debris removal from waterways, educational outreach, offer diving support to exploration and research efforts, often in understudied underwater environments

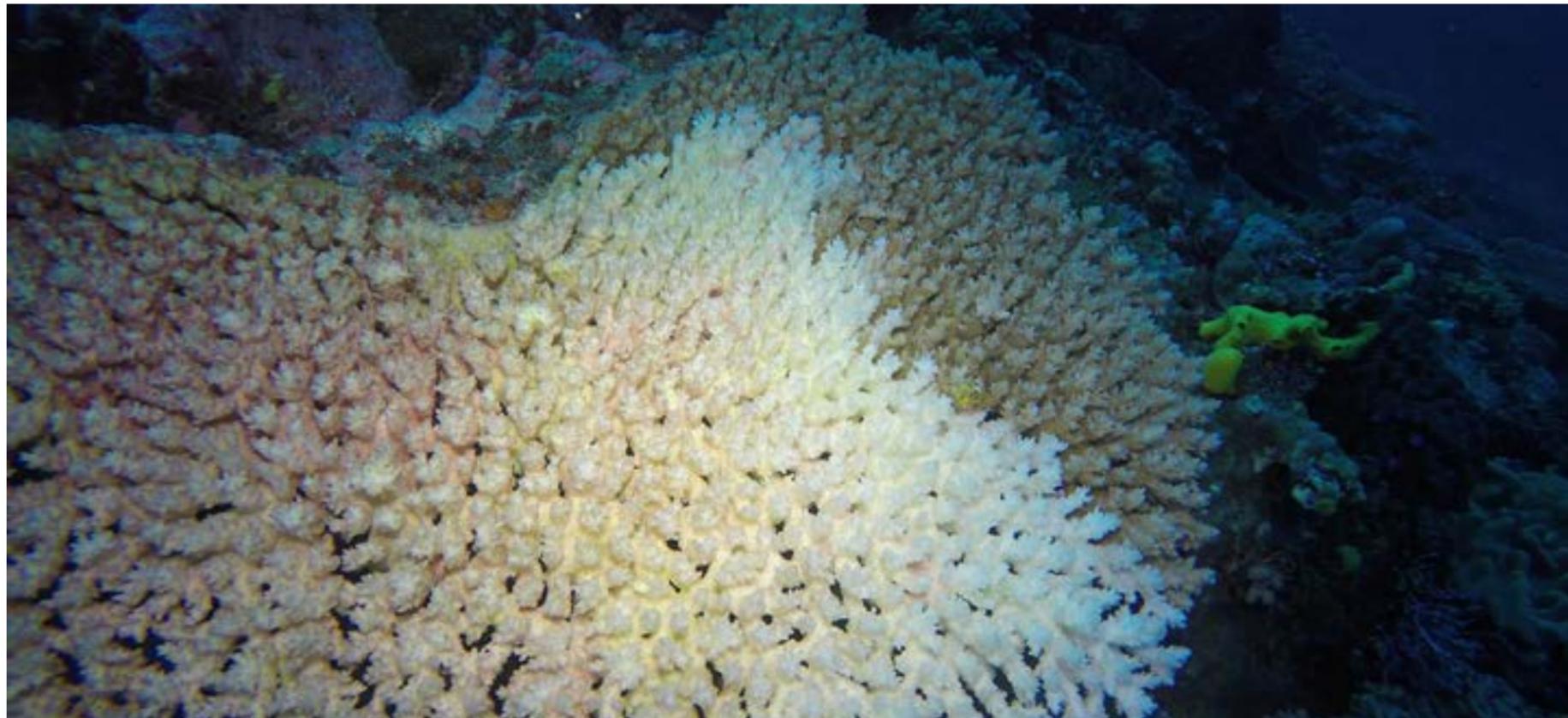
How is the data used?

Teams are able to provide a clear view of evolving conditions to their local community, politicians, and researchers. As these relationships with the community are built, projects are able to grow their efforts and expand the types and complexity of data collected.

|| WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Project Baseline is a call to action for the most important environmental cause of our time: to protect and sustain the world's rapidly diminishing fresh and marine ecosystems, and the treasures contained within them. **Project Baseline's goal is to foreground the critical condition of our most valuable natural and cultural underwater resources by developing and sustaining a record that charts underwater conditions over time.** Participating in Project Baseline is a way for divers of all levels to validate their training, create and grow local communities, and preserve the underwater world.

Photo Credit: Brian Walker



You can help

Documenting the oceans, lakes, rivers, springs, and caves takes a whole team. The reason Project Baseline is successful is due to the support of our volunteers and members like you.

- [Become a member](#)

Benefits:

Your membership includes QUEST magazine, a discount on purchases, access to GUE materials, special invitations and more. [Explore member benefits.](#)



|| MEMBERSHIP



Photo credit: Rob Wilson Frontline Photography (above). Martin McClellan (bottom)

More ways to give:

- [Small donations](#)

Why Donate?

We express and share what is going on beneath the surface in a way no other organization is doing by bringing what is happening below to the attention of the public and supports political action.

GETTING STARTED AS A VOLUNTEER

Who can submit data?

Any individual or team can submit data to our database. It just has to meet certain guidelines which can be found on the following page. You do not have to be a part of a Project to submit data into our database. All data must be submitted to the database manager, who can be found on our website on our [staff's page](#).

Team Projects

This is an effort aimed at documenting a specific area or region. It should be one that holds perceived or proven environmental relevance, and/or is organically visited by divers for fun, training, or educational purposes. This could be, and often is, the place in your “backyard” that you regularly dive. To begin your project you must submit an application to join: <http://www.projectbaseline.org/starting-your-own-project>.

Ad Hoc Contributions

Ad hoc submissions are of Sites that can be visited again, but may not be returned to by one person on a regular basis. For example if you were to go diving during vacation at a popular spot and took photos during your dive of major features. We welcome one-time and repeat images, numeric and video data submissions from anyone! Data contributors are not required to be associated with a Project Baseline volunteer team or an established project. So next time you go on a dive trip and snap an image you can send the image to us with the GPS coordinates and we can add it to the database.

WHAT ARE THE DESIRED OUTCOMES?

1. Co-created Citizen Science

- Over time a co-created citizen science model develops as teams work with other government or research entities to explore a situation that requires investigation
- Professional entities will dictate what type of data is relevant to collect and what data collection methodologies need to be employed to make your observations defensible.
- Your team can demonstrate reliable utility to these entities by adapting the basic project structure, station set-up, and data collection guidelines.

While we encourage all teams to continuously collect visual data (pictures) at the Station level, we expect teams will deepen and expand their data collection targets and efforts in response to public outreach and research priorities.

2. Increased Public Awareness

- Make information memorable, repeatable, and easy to spread
- Bring data to life and make it relevant to people’s daily lives
- Shape new beliefs and change the future impact on that environment.
- Inspire people to take action

3. Permanent & Positive Community Presence

- Achievable through building relationships with local entities, increasing public awareness and participation, and long-term commitment to your project.

DATA SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Numeric data

We accept numeric data without accompanying images.

If there are a small number of numeric observations to relay, email the database manager and include the following information:

- Name of person responsible for collecting the readings (first and last)
- Specify units (meters or feet are acceptable)
- Specify the method used to collect data
- For example – To obtain a depth or water temperature reading, did the diver use a gauge worn on diver? Or a gauge installed at the Station? For the visibility reading, did the diver reference a sechhi disk? Use cave line or a measuring tape? Or, did the diver take a best guess at estimating visibility? Were any other instruments (or meters) used to gather any data?
- Specify Date of Observation (use long form format) Example – February, 25, 2017
- Specify Time of Observation (use 24 hour clock)
- If there are a large number of numeric observations to relay, please organize into a spreadsheet and email to the database manager, or share a spreadsheet hosted online using a service such as Google Drive or Dropbox.

Currently, our public interface displays the following numeric data as a graph:

- Water Temperature
- Visibility Estimate
- Water Depth

Images

When submitting one or more images per Station

- Ensure each image is no more than 5MB
- Each image is saved as a .jpg
- Each image is accompanied by the following information:
 - Name of photographer (First and Last)
 - Date image was taken (use long form format) Example – February, 25, 2015
 - Time image was taken (if available) Use 24 hour clock
 - Project Name
 - Station Name
- If size of image(s) is reasonable, email to the database manager
- If size of image(s) is very large, coordinate file transfer through a services such as Google Drive, Flickr, Dropbox, Wettransfer, etc.

Video

We accept video of marine and freshwater environments collected at surface and underwater locations

- Upload your video to YouTube
- Send the Communications Director a notification that the video has been uploaded, and include the following information:
 - Name of videographer (First and Last)
 - Date video was taken (use long form format) Example – February, 25, 2015
 - Approximate geographic coordinates of video location (latitude and longitude)
 - We will add to the Project Baseline YouTube channel and assign to a specific Playlist, if appropriate

WHERE TO SEE YOUR DATA

Viewable at: projectbaseline.org/database

Query Result Fields

Select Country
[Dropdown]

Select Project
Eckernforde [Dropdown]

Select Site
Eckernforde Mole [Dropdown]

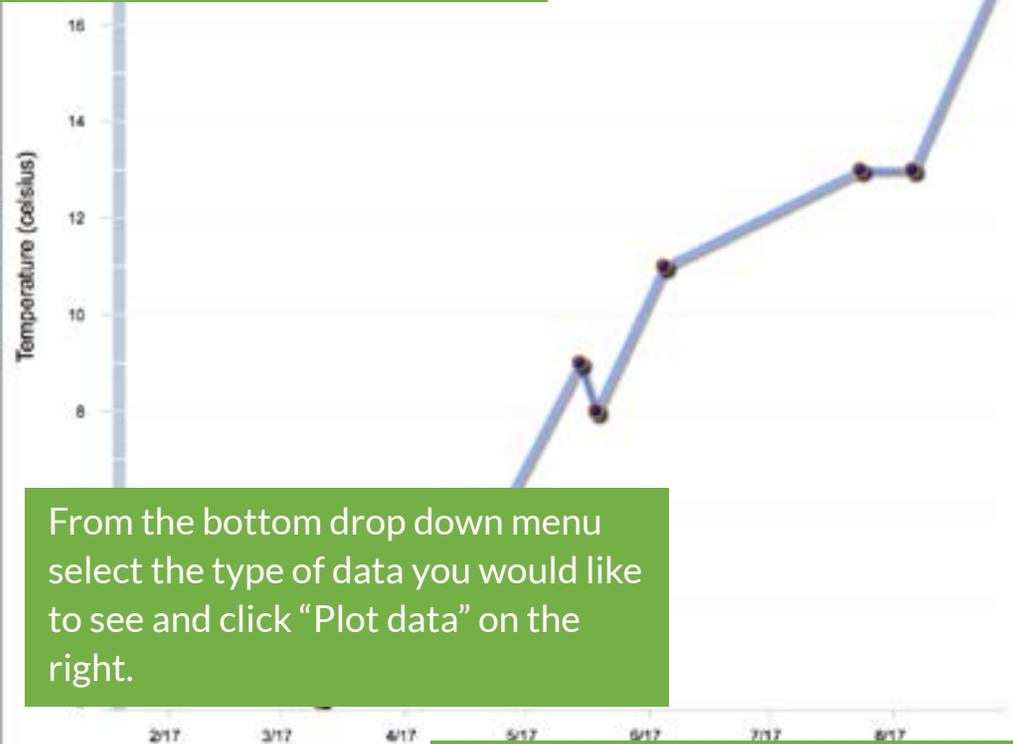
Select Station
Das Fahrrad [Dropdown]

Back to Projects
Station Map

Site Manager: Manuel
Date of most recent dive: 2017-08-26 21:05:00
Number of Stations in selected Site: 1
Number of Dives logged at selected Site: 24
Station Description:
The bike is more or less a collection of all sorts of stuff like a small table with glasses on it, a chair and just the bike. The location between the sheet pile wall and the dock of the sportboatharbor makes the spot interesting, because there is al light stream and the lowest point of the spot.

Temperature [Dropdown] Plot Data

Select your project from the drop down menus.



From the bottom drop down menu select the type of data you would like to see and click "Plot data" on the right.

View your images in the scroll box at the bottom of the page.

