

## Project Update: January 2017

The first phase of the project has started. Our research caravan from the first project has been re-activated as a main base of the project. We met stakeholders to explain the project in Foça and Karaburun. We obtained important information on feeding habits and distribution of dolphins in Izmir Bay as well as sharing conservation importance of marine mammals. Face to face interviews with coastal fisherman was fruitful to understand human and dolphin interaction in the region. They informed us that trawl fisheries and dolphins have strong interaction during the fisheries season. After meeting with fisherman who use industrial fisheries methods such as trawl net and gill net, we decided to observe interaction between trawl fisheries and dolphins in the region. Our fieldwork started earlier than our plan with courtesy of fishermen in Foça and Karaburun. Our field efforts are with trawl vessel to observe dolphins to understand their behaviour as one of aims of the project.

