

## Project Update: August 2018

### 1- Field Sampling

Between 14th and 17th August 2018, the third and final field sampling study of the project was carried out. The sampling of the plastics around turtle nest and on their tracks has been successfully completed. During the sampling study, it was observed that there were only traces of green sea turtle (*C. mydas*) and no traces of *C. caretta* were found. Other researchers on the field also confirmed this.

It was observed that there were intensive offspring activities. It has been found that at many points the offspring are heading off the coast instead of on the sea. It has also been determined that high level of predation were on offspring. It was observed that gulls and other wild animals created the existing predation pressure, in particular the ghost crab (*Ocypode cursor*).

It has been determined that there is a serious plastic pollution on the tracks of the offspring (Figure 1)



**Figure 1.** Offspring tracks and severe plastic pollution on their way

During field sampling, many deaths (offspring) were observed. We thought that main reasons were heavy pollution and predation (Figure 2 and Figure 3).



**Figure 2.** Death offspring near a plastic film.



Figure 3. Death offspring near a ghost crab nest.

The evaluation of the results obtained from sampling studies is ongoing.

## 2- Awareness Raising Activities

Three poster designed with the aid of observations and information obtained from questionnaire survey and field samplings (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Posters used for awareness using activities.

These posters were then hung in the city center and the coast, and people were informed about the issue (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Poster hanging activities.



Chilling out after sampling study.