



# Participación ciudadana para cuidar el océano: de la sensibilización a la acción



**09.Jul 2026**

**Cod. H14-26**

**Mod.:**

Face-to-face

**Edition**

2026

**Activity type**

Summer course

**Date**

09.Jul 2026

**Location**

Miramar Palace

**Languages**

Spanish Basque

**Academic Validity**

10 hours

**Web**

<https://surfrider.es/>

**Organising Committee**



Fundación  
BBVA



## **Description**

This summer course offers an intensive day to promote citizen participation in ocean protection. Through a combination of lectures, debate, participatory activities and a practical session on Ondarreta beach, attendees will learn how to transform themselves from observers to active agents through citizen science.

The morning session will bring together university researchers specialising in plastics and social impact, and Surfrider Spain, to share knowledge, data and inspiring experiences on marine pollution and citizen participation. In the afternoon, students will apply the European citizen science protocol "Ocean Initiatives", in a practical outing to collect data on marine litter.

In case of rainy weather, an alternative activity will be held, 'The Plastic Mural,' based on reflection and understanding of coastal waste and how the entire value chain of plastic ends up in the ocean, and where and how we can influence that value chain. The day will end with a call to action inviting participants to organise their own Ocean Initiatives action in the months following the course, encouraging them to remain active in protecting the ocean.

## **Objectives**

Promote the transition from awareness to action through citizen science.

The course aims to provide technical and practical knowledge about the European Ocean Initiatives protocol so that anyone can understand how data collection is carried out, why it is useful, and how to replicate it in their own environment. Practical training will enable participants to acquire real autonomy to carry out citizen science actions and thus become citizens who are empowered to act in the care of the ocean.

Connect professionals, researchers and citizens in a space for exchange and collaboration.

The course is designed as an interdisciplinary meeting point where complementary perspectives can be shared: academic research, social action, coastal management and volunteer experience. This exchange aims to generate new synergies and facilitate future collaborations.

Raise awareness about the problem of marine litter and participatory solutions.

The morning session will provide scientific data, impact analyses and examples of citizen initiatives, allowing participants to understand the magnitude of the problem and the key role that society can play in solving it. The beach activity will reinforce this awareness by connecting theory with reality.

# Program

09-07-2026

- 09:15 - 09:25 Presentation by the Director of the activity  
Language: Basque  
**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado
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- 09:25 - 09:45 “Conociendo a Surfrider y cómo trabajamos”  
Language: Español  
**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado
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- 09:45 - 11:05 Round table: “Impacto social y cuidado del océano: cómo la investigación, la ciencia y la participación ciudadana pueden unirse y mejorar nuestro entorno.”  
**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado (Moderator) Language: Español  
**Xavier Curto Zafra** | Surfrider Foundation España - Coordinador de Surfrider en España Language: Español  
**Cristina Peña Rodríguez** | UPV/EHU - Profesora Titular del Dpto. de Ingeniería Química y del Medio Ambiente Language: Español  
**Antonio Casado da Rocha** | UPV/EHU - Profesor de la Facultad de Educación, Filosofía y Antropología Language: Basque
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- 11:05 - 11:45 Participative dynamics: “El papel de la ciudadanía: la importancia de la participación para cambiar las cosas”  
Language: Español  
**Xavier Curto Zafra** | Surfrider Foundation España - Coordinador Surfrider en España  
**Cristina Peña Rodríguez** | UPV/EHU - Profesora Titular del Dpto. de Ingeniería Química y del Medio Ambiente  
**Antonio Casado da Rocha** | UPV/EHU - Profesor de la Facultad de Educación, Filosofía y Antropología
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- 11:45 - 12:15 Break
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- 12:15 - 13:15 “Cómo organizar una acción de ciencia ciudadana: el programa Ocean Initiatives/Retrace!”  
Language: Español  
**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado  
**Xavier Curto Zafra** | Surfrider Foundation España - Coordinador de Surfrider en España
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- 13:15 - 13:30 Synthesis
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- 13:30 - 15:30 Break
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- 15:30 - 17:15 Participative dynamics: “Mural del Plástico de Surfrider (actividad secundaria - sólo si el tiempo es lluvioso)”  
Language: Español

**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado (Dinamizador)

**Xavier Curto Zafra** | Surfrider Foundation España - Coordinador de Surfrider en España (Dinamizador)

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15:30 - 17:15

Participative dynamics: “Práctica de recogida de datos de basuras marinas en la playa de Ondarreta\* (si el tiempo lo permite)”

Language: Español

**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado (Dinamizador)

**Xavier Curto Zafra** | Surfrider Foundation España - Coordinador de Surfrider en España (Dinamizador)

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17:15 - 17:45

Closing session

Language: Basque

**Maria Ballesteros Rivas** | Surfrider Foundation España - Responsable de educación y voluntariado

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## Directed by



### **Maria Ballesteros Rivas**

Surfrider Spain, Head of Education and Volunteering

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Marine biologist specialized in marine conservation. Experienced in environmental education, community mobilisation and volunteer management in ocean conservation organisations. Passionate about the sea, committed to environmental awareness and formal and informal education. More info: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mariaballesterosrivas/>

## Teachers



### **Maria Ballesteros Rivas**

Surfrider Spain, Head of Education and Volunteering

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Marine biologist specialized in marine conservation. Experienced in environmental education, community mobilisation and volunteer management in ocean conservation organisations. Passionate about the sea, committed to environmental awareness and formal and informal education. More info: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mariaballesterosrivas/>



### **Antonio Casado da Rocha**

UPV/EHU

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Antonio Casado da Rocha is a researcher and professor of philosophy at the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), where he currently leads the area of Responsible Research. He has served on the Clinical Ethics Committee of Donostia Hospital and received the Bioethics Research Award from the Víctor Grífols i Lucas Foundation. His career combines extensive interdisciplinary academic work with experience in university management and the promotion of the social impact of knowledge.



### **Xavier Curto Zafra**

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Xavier Curto Zafra es biólogo por la Universidad de Barcelona con Máster en Ecología Terrestre y gestión de la Biodiversidad por la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona. Trabaja en la delegación española de la ONG Surfrider Foundation Europe, dedicada a la protección de los océanos y el litoral a través de 3 áreas temáticas principales (basuras marinas, cambio climático y calidad de agua) y 4 ejes de acción (educación, voluntariado, investigación e incidencia política). Dentro de la ONG, Xavier desarrolla, entre otras cosas, el trabajo de incidencia política y el apoyo a las denuncias de activistas locales, a través del programa Coastal Defenders y la relación con el sector corporativo.



## **Cristina Peña Rodríguez**

UPV/EHU

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Dra. Cristina Peña Rodríguez, es Licenciada en Química, especialidad Petroquímica, y Doctora en Ingeniería de Materiales en la Universidad del País Vasco. Forma parte del grupo de investigación 'Materiales+Tecnologías' desde el año 2000, y actualmente es Profesora Agregada del Dpto. de Ingeniería Química y del Medio Ambiente de la Escuela Politécnica de Donostia-San Sebastián.

# Registration fees

| <b>FACE-TO-FACE</b>   | <b>UNTIL 09-07-2026</b> |
|---|-------------------------|
| General   | 48,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">Reduced fee regular</a>   | 41,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">Registration exemptions</a>   | 34,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">young fee</a>   | 25,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">Courses for everyone</a>  | 41,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">Donostia Kultura</a>  | 41,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">Elkar</a>   | 41,00 EUR               |
| <a href="#">Professionals and students of euskaltegis or approved self-learning centers</a> | 41,00 EUR               |

## **Place**

### **Miramar Palace**

Pº de Miraconcha nº 48. Donostia / San Sebastián

Gipuzkoa