Hi everybody, I'm Francesca and I'm the Founder and Managing Director of Love the Oceans. This video is going to talk you through a day in the life of one of our volunteers or staff members. So please enjoy.

Just a quick disclaimer before we start. This was all filmed before COVID. We have permission from every parent for every child that appears in this film and we have permission from the entire community to produce this film with everyone in Love the Oceans is a marine conservation nonprofit organisation working in Mozambique.

Our mission is to establish a marine protected area in Jengamo, and we're doing this using a bottom up community led approach. A holistic approach means we do a lot of different areas of research and community outreach. Our volunteers and staff are crucial to us achieving our mission and are involved in every aspect of the organisation. In this video, I'm going to talk you through what during the life of a love the ocean's volunteer might look like in Mozambique. All of the data we're collecting is being used to inform legislation change and ensure better protection for the marine environment.

We have amazing megafauna here, we have whale sharks, manta rays and humpback whales. These species can form the financial incentive for a marine protected area as people travel all over the world to see these amazing ocean giants. Often entails collect data on population and frequency of sightings on all megafauna. We also collect acoustic data on humpbacks to study their song evolution and populations by acoustically. We collect data on fisheries to work out which methods of fishing are the most sustainable, and what species are being caught. Volunteers collect data like sex, size, photo IDs, method of catch location, and what we want to remove over 300 kilogrammes of trash annually from our beaches. This involves beach cleans, where our volunteers log what is collected to work out common types of trash and what we can do to reduce it. We also work to turn the trash into eco bricks, bottles filled with plastic that can be used as bricks in local construction projects. We work very closely with our communities in Jangamo. Part of our commitment is teaching basic marine resource management to 10 to 13 year olds at the schools that we also help maintain and renovate at the community's request. We're working with the next generation of fishermen and talking about sustainability and conservation. Our volunteers assist our Community Outreach Manager Pascal in teaching these lessons. We scuba dive on our reefs and collect data on biodiversity and species abundance of reef fish and the coral itself. We do this to work out the health of the reefs here and what can be done to protect them. Our volunteers dive twice a day and spend time logging everything that's recorded on dives.

Unknown Speaker: Today, we'll have a swimming lesson.

Francesca Trotman: We teach swimming to four to 18 year olds, children are offered the opportunity to progress through beginner intermediate and advanced classes. Once they reach a balance, they're given the opportunity to become what we call an ocean conservation champion. This is when the ocean sponsors further qualifications like swimming, instructing English diving and other ecotourism related activities. Because with the creation of the marine protected area, job creation will be in the ecotourism space, and it's important people have the skills to utilise this. Our ocean conservation champions also become conservation ambassadors in their communities, ensuring cultural long term change. Our volunteers and staff teach them in every Saturday to reduce drownings and fear of the ocean to enable people to interact with the marine environment safely and foster a passion for protecting it. All this work is crucial in successfully
establishing a marine protected area that can be managed locally and sustainably for future generations to come to benefit both the oceans and people. We're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join us in our mission. Please visit our website. Love the oceans.org for more information and to donate. Thank you.