



CO-CONVENER and CHAIR BIOGRAPHIES

Alessandro Bratti

**ISPRA (Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research) Director General
EEA (Environment European agency) Vice president**

Speaker at opening session



Since December 2017 Alessandro Bratti, PhD in agricultural sciences, is the Director General of the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and Vice president of the environment European agency since 2018.

Prior to this position Alessandro has been, for almost ten years a Member of the Italian Parliament. During this timeframe he has, in particular, been a Member of the Land and Environment Committee and the Chair of the Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry on illicit activities related to the waste cycle.

From 2006 to 2008 he covered the position of Director General of the Environmental Protection Agency of Region Emilia-Romagna.

Environmental Protection Agency of Region Emilia-Romagna.

In the past, he has served for several years within the Government of the city of Ferrara, with responsibilities which included environmental protection. In that period, the city of Ferrara was awarded by the European Commission the 'Sustainable Cities' prize.

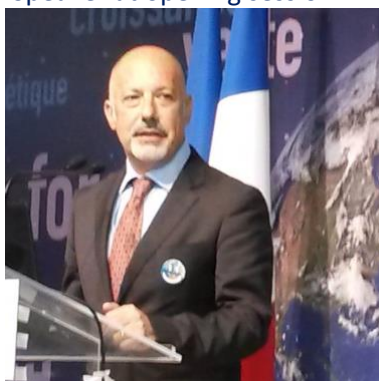
Alessandro has been, and still is, member of several national committees and management board: in particular, he has been President of the Coordinating Committee of the Italian Local Agenda 21 and is a member of the Coordinating Committee of ItaliaMeteo, the newly established national agency for meteorology and climatology.

After his PhD, he carried out research in both Italy and the USA and, since 2011, he is a Researcher at the University of Ferrara, where he lectures on Sustainable Development and Environmental Accountability, about which he is author of a number of books.

Gaetano Leone

**Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP)
- Barcelona Convention Secretariat**

Speaker at opening session



Gaetano Leone graduated in Political Sciences in Italy and specialized in International Relations. He has long and diverse experience of political and inter-organizational affairs, inter-governmental processes, leadership and management, and partnerships, especially in the field of sustainable development. After three years in the private sector, in 1988 he joined the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Uganda and has since covered UN assignments of increasing responsibility in several African and European countries and in the USA. Gaetano has moved across 9 duty stations, has worked for 4 UN agencies (UNDP, Unicef, UN-Habitat and UN Environment) and has been hosted at the World Bank and WMO. He was Deputy Secretary of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) during the process leading to the approval of the Fifth Assessment

Report: Climate Change 2014. Gaetano is currently the Coordinator of the United Nations Mediterranean Action Plan-Barcelona Convention Secretariat, based in Athens, Greece. In addition, from October 2018 until January 2019, he was also appointed as Acting Director, Europe Office of UN Environment.



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Sergey Belov

Co-Chair, International Oceanographic Data Exchange (IODE), IOC of UNESCO

Deputy director, All-Russian Research Institute of Hydrometeorological Information - World Data Center (RIHMI-WDC)

WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Dr. Belov has 18 years of service in hydrometeorology, started as a scientific officer in 2001, since 2013 - head of laboratory, since December 2019 - deputy director of the institute. In February 2019 elected as a co-chair of the UNESCO IOC International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) programme.

He was involved in international cooperation over 15 years and this cooperation includes number following projects, initiatives and group of experts (e.g. SEASEARCH project; EU SEADATANET Project (www.seadatanet.org); EU SEADATANET 2 Project (www.seadatanet.org); WIGOS Pilot Project for JCOMM; WMO Information System (WIS); IODE Ocean Data Portal (www.oceandataportal.org); EU SeaDataCloud project; EMODNet; INTAROS; JCOMM Data Management Programme Area, IODE projects and group of experts)

He's having an expertise and broad experience in data management and development of heterogeneous information systems in ocean domain.

Dr. Belov graduated from the Obninsk State University in 2003 (master degree in information systems), Obtained PhD degree in system analysis in 2007.

Dr. Belov statement: Within IODE I'm standing to consolidate activities, reinforce human resources and establish integration and interoperability arrangements between IOC, WMO and other stakeholders to facilitate data management activities, widespread use and share of best practices, open access to data and information.

OceanExpert link - <https://www.oceanexpert.net/expert/Belov>

Fabio Fava

Alma Mater Studiorum-Università di Bologna

WG V: A sustainable (harvested and) productive Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Fabio Fava is Full Professor of "Industrial & Environmental Biotechnology" at the School of Engineering of the University of Bologna (Italy) since 2005. He published about 170 papers on peer-reviewed international journals in the fields of Biowaste Biorefinery, Blue Biotechnology and Bioeconomy, where he coordinated the FP7 projects NAMASTE and BIOCLEAN and participated in the FP7 projects ECOBIOCAP, ROUTES, MINOTAURUS, WATER4CROPS, ULIXES, KILL SPILL and BIORICE. He is currently the Italian Representative at the European Commission (Brussels) in the: a) Horizon2020 Programming Committee "Food security, sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine and Maritime and inland water research, and Bioeconomy" (SC2), b) "States Representatives Group" of the "Public Private Partnership BioBased Industry" (BBI JU), and c) EuroMed GSOs BLUEMED WG. He is also the Italian Representative in the WEST MED initiative and in the EUSAIR one, and he is also the Italian representative in the Working Party on "Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Converging Technologies" at OECD (Paris).



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Francois Galgani

Project manager at IFREMER

Member of the EU Horizon Europe Mission Board “ Healthy oceans , Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters”

Chair of the EU/DG Env/ MSFD technical group marine litter

Co chair of the IOC/Gesamp group plastic and microplastics in the oceans

WG I: A clean Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Francois Galgani is Project manager at IFREMER and Member of the EU Horizon Europe Mission Board “ Healthy oceans , Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters”, with . He has over 30 years of research and monitoring (CNRS, College de France, IFREMER/Tahiti, Tokyo univ. Of Fisheries, Stanford Univ., IFREMER) on Ecotoxicology, Chemistry and Marine Litter, mainly in the Mediterranean Sea, with more than 70 scientific cruises and more than 150 peer reviewed articles. He is Chair of the European Commission/DG ENV/MSCG technical group on marine litter (2011-actual), Co chair of the IOC/Gesamp group Plastic pollution (2017-actual) , and member of various scientific and management groups on Marine pollution and marine litter (UNEP MAP Cormon, UNEA 5 Marine litter Advisory committee, OSPAR ICG ML, expert for G7 or G20 initiatives on marine litter since 2015, and former chair of the CIESM

Committee Biogeochemistry and ecotoxicology 2013-2019) , He has been in charge of research laboratories, scientific coordinator of various EU/MEDPOL projects and coordinator of various Industry/National Agency projects on the Chemical/Toxicological impact of industrial activities and marine litter. Dr F Galgani is also editor in chief for the journal “Marine Pollution Bulletin”.

Esther Garcés

Researcher at the Institut de Ciències del Mar, CSIC

WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Esther Garcés is a Scientific Researcher in Institut de Ciències del Mar, National Research Council of Spain. She has over 20 years of research on phytoplankton ecology and coastal monitoring in the Mediterranean Sea with more than 100 peer reviewed articles. As a marine biologist, she is interested in the enrichment of coastal waters and its consequences, the eutrophication, and the development of harmful algal blooms. Her studies include the mechanisms considered relevant in the associated biological processes and the relationships between continental inputs, spatial structure, and land use. The general approach is basic science, but the results also address the growing demands formulated in management criteria and legislation enacted by the European Union on environmental quality and human health and welfare. The resulting knowledge is the basis for coastal marine research and coastal management, particularly with respect to the implementation

of European environmental directives such as the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Spain. She was the Spanish coordinator in the Mediterranean group of the EU Water Framework Directive Intercalibration process for the phytoplankton indicator. Moreover, she has been part of the coordination teams of several EU projects such as STRATEGY, LIFEHAB, and SEED, participated and participating in MARIABOX on developing automatic sensors for analysing pollutants and algae toxins in the coastal area and in project DEVOTES to understand marine biodiversity and assessing Good Environmental Status of the European marine waters by implementing the MSFD. Dr. Garcés is member of several scientific organizations, including the Council of ISSHA, the International Society for the Study of Harmful Algae, for which she collaborates in the organization of their annual conference.



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Alessandra Giorgetti

Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale – OGS

National Representative, International Oceanographic Data Exchange (IODE), IOC of UNESCO

Chair of the JCOMM/IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP)

WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Alessandra Giorgetti is senior expert in marine data management, Deputy Director of OGS Oceanography Section since 2015, leading the National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC /IOC) since 2004. Graduated in Mathematics at University of Trieste (Italy) in 1994. Since 1995 working at OGS in the field of physical oceanography, mainly concerned with oceanographic data management, scientific data validation and processing. Coordinator of the European Marine Observation and Data Network for marine water quality (EMODnet Chemistry projects: 2009 – 2012, 2013 – 2016, 2017 – 2019, 2019 – ongoing), providing easy access to marine chemical data, including also marine litter. Invited member of the Italian Oceanographic Commission, chair of JCOMM/IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP), member of the European Commission/DG ENV/MSCG technical group on marine litter and of the EuroGOOS DATA Management Exchange and Quality working group. Participated to several national and international projects (EU MODB, EU MAST

MATER, EU MEDAR, EU SeaSearch, EU EDIOS, ADRICOSM, ADRICOSM-EXT, EU SeaDataNet & SeaDataNet 2, ADRICOSM-STAR, the National meteo-marine data archive project ARCHIMEDE, EU EMODnet Seabed Mapping, the Italian Flagship RITMARE, JERICO, ODIP & ODIP 2, SeaDataCloud, EMODnet Data Ingestion & EMOD-PACE, EuroSea, ENVRI-FAIR). She dedicates efforts to strengthen the synergy between different communities at international level.

Laura Giuliano

Scientific Director, CIESM - The Mediterranean Science Commission

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Director of Science at the International Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM), with more than twenty year's experience in research and policy. Officially qualified full professor (Italian Ministry of Research, 2013), she previously acted as director of IAMC, CNR-IT. Laura Giuliano lead various international (mainly EU) scientific projects, and contributed various scientific (GESAMP) and strategic panels (OCDE, IUCN) and side-events (EU Parliament), especially targeting legal and socio-economic issues related to the use of marine research. She was invited professor at the at OTGA/DOALOS Training Course: Conduct of Marine Scientific Research (MSR) under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (May 2019). Laura's scientific experience targets marine microbial natural patterns in natural marine systems, and their potential industrial applications. She published more than 70 peer-reviewed scientific articles (including

on Science, Nature, PNAS) and has been Guest Editor of various international peer-reviewed scientific journals (FEMS Microbiology and Ecology, Deep-Sea Research Part I, Marine Biotechnology; Marine Genomics).



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Sigi Gruber

European Commission. Head of Unit “Healthy Oceans & Seas”

Panel on cross-cutting issues: capacity development and transfer of marine technology | January 23, 2020



Sigi Gruber is Head of the Healthy Oceans and Seas Unit, formerly named Marine Resources Unit, in the Directorate General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission, since 2014. The Unit defines, implements and monitors Research and Innovation objectives and priorities to support the EU’s Integrated Maritime Policy and its related Seabasin Strategies, thereby contributing to the sustainable and responsible management of marine resources, both in Europe and globally. In 2011, Gruber headed the Unit responsible for EU S&T cooperation with North America, Latin America and the Caribbean; in 2007, Gruber headed the Unit responsible for Relations with Third Countries. Prior to that, she was Head of Sector for Researchers’ Careers

with responsibilities related to the European Charter for Researchers, the Modernizing Agenda of European Universities and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology. Gruber started to work for the European Commission in 1991, as an expert for the LINGUA Program. Afterwards, she worked in the Directorate General for Education and Training where she was responsible for the actions dealing with foreign language learning for vocational training and for policy development of the European Union’s vocational training program, the Leonardo da Vinci Program. Prior to joining the European Commission, Gruber worked in the public and private sector in Italy and Germany.

Barak Herut

Director General, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR)

WG III: A predicted Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Barak Herut received his PhD in 1992 (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel) and was promoted to Full Research Professor in 2003. He was appointed as the Director General of Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Institute since 2005 (www.ocean.org.il). In 1998-9 he has been a visiting professor at the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon State University (USA) and since 2008 affiliated as Full Professor at the University of Haifa. Herut has published more than 155 refereed journal articles and book chapters, > 210 scientific reports and supervised 29 graduate students. His main interests concern studies on chemistry of atmospheric aerosols, marine pollution, water geochemistry and chemical oceanography. Emphasis on transfer mechanisms of major and trace constituents from the atmosphere and land to the marine and other aquatic reservoirs, and their role in biogeochemical processes across the reservoirs. He is coordinating Israel's National Monitoring Program in the Mediterranean Sea and participated in several MEDPOL projects. He is

the Israel state representative and head of Israel delegation in the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO. He has worked on several geo-chemical studies in the SE Mediterranean, the Dead Sea and the Red Sea. He has a broad experience in observational oceanography by participation of >60 national and international research cruises, some of them as chief scientist, focusing on water and sediment geochemistry and applying several sampling devices.



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Karim Hilmi

Dr, Physical Oceanographer, Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH), Morocco

National Focal Point at IOC/UNESCO in Morocco

Vice Chairperson of Group V at IOC/UNESCO

WG V: A sustainable (harvested and) productive Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Dr Karim Hilmi, physical oceanographer and Research Director with 25+years' experience in oceanography field and the management of coastal ecosystems, works currently at Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH) - Casablanca (Morocco). Its field's competence is related to physical oceanography, 2D and 3D hydrodynamic modeling, the functioning of marine and coastal ecosystems, climate change and its impact on marine ecosystems, relationship and interaction between climate/oceanography - marine environment - fisheries and aquaculture, oceanographic study for aquaculture potential sites contributing to the national aquaculture management plans. Active member of IPCC / Working Group II (WGII: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability) since 1998: Author contributing to the AR3 Evaluation Report in 2001 (Chapter 10 - Africa); Author contributing to the AR4 Evaluation Report in 2007 (Chapter 9 - Africa); Author contributing to the AR5 Evaluation Report in 2014 - Part B Regional Aspects (Chapter 22 - Africa); Principal Author (LA) in Chapter 30 (Ocean) of the AR5 - Part B Regional Aspects Assessment Report (2014); Selected reviewer for the next AR6 report (Chapter 3 - Ocean and coastal ecosystems and their services and Cross Chapter - Mediterranean region); Author (and co-author) of various national and international publications and reviewer of some national scientific journals (and international); Member of the COP22 Scientific Committee hosted by Morocco in 2016; Participating with the Moroccan delegation at COPs of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); Member of the National Coordination Committee in Hydrography, Oceanography and Marine Cartography (CNCHOC); Member of the National Scientific Network of Marine Sciences (REMER).

Suzan Kholeif

Prof. of Marine Geology, National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF)

Former President of National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries

National Council for Women member

Executive Planning Group of UN Decade of Ocean Science

WG I: A clean Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Prof. Kholeif is Oceanographer, with 30+ years' experience in the management of coastal ecosystems, climate change, monitoring of marine water pollution, Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), EIA and, advancing the application of ecosystem approach to sustainable management of water resources. As well as Capacity Building and training. She is experienced in overseeing large-scale expert processes to build strong scientific evidence on the status of and pressures to the marine environment and carry out holistic and thematic environmental assessments, in supporting national implementation processes, and in organizing robust follow up on the agreed measures. She has gained skills in developing and managing both managerial and technical tasks through her role as head of Marine Geology and Geophysics Lab, Director of Mediterranean and Northern Lake NIOF Branch; President of National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Egypt and member of the scientific Committee at National Council for Women. She has managed and coordinated several national and international projects and consultancies related to ICZM, monitoring, assessment and evaluation of marine waters in Mediterranean countries, particularly North Africa countries and of fisheries and aquaculture management (eg., SESAME, MYTIOR, PEGASO,



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AQUAMED, MEDINA, FORCE, ..). She built up a solid reputation as an expert in developing guidelines for sustainable use and management of water and aquatic resources and ICZM, both at international and national agencies (eg, consultant and advisory at IASON, MIRA, ERAMEDNET, ECAP, & SME Company, Wageningen, Netherland and Geolmaging Ltd, Cyprus, and UNEP).

Dr. Kholeif has been a very passionate public advocate for environmental stewardship, focusing on individual and community responsibility for the protection of natural resources. She also worked on the identification of special needs of coastal community and national authorities to apply a successful Coastal management system, considering that their economic development could be sustained by properly managing their coastal and marine assets.

Stefano Lorito

Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV)

ICG/NEAMTWS Vice-Chair

WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Stefano Lorito is a Researcher in Geophysics at the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV), Italy. Stefano obtained a degree in physics from University of Naples "Federico II" in 2001 and a PhD in Geophysics from University of Bologna "Alma Mater Studiorum" in 2005. Then, following the Sumatra-Andaman earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami in December 2004, Stefano has been working in the field of tsunami science: first dealing with inversion of tsunami and other geophysical data for imaging the tsunami source mainly for mega-thrust events; then with probabilistic tsunami hazard analysis and tsunami early warning. Stefano has been involved with different roles in several key tsunami European and National research projects (e.g. TRANSFER, ASTARTE, STREST, RITMARE, TSUMAPS-NEAM, CHEESE). Stefano is member of the Steering Committee of CAT (Centro di Allerta Tsunami / Tsunami Warning Center) of INGV since 2013 and also responsible for national tsunami hazard mapping in the framework of subsequent agreements with Italian Civil Protection. He served as ICG/NEAMTWS Vice-Chair from 2017-19, and previously as co-Chair of WG2 on Seismic and Geophysical Measurements. He was involved in two GAR (Global Assessment Report in Disaster Risk Reduction) for UNDRR. He is one of the main authors of the NEAMTHM18 PTHA. He's been a proponent of the Global Tsunami Model (GTM) scientific network since its early days, and of the AGITHAR "Accelerating Global science In Tsunami HAZard and Risk analysis" COST Action, in which he serves as co-chair of the WG2 on Standards.

Cherif Sammari

Institut national des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (INSTM, Tunisia)

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Chérif Sammari was raised as an oceanographer in Tunis, Paris, Aix-Marseille Universities. He worked as a researcher in various oceanographic institutes in Southern France. In 2002, he became Head of the "Milieu Marin" Laboratory at the Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (INSTM) and in 2005 a higher education professor. In 2007, Chérif Sammari was appointed Vice-Chair of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO). He is a Member of the Scientific Committee of the GOOS-AFRICA project and of several national and international Commissions and Advisory bodies. Sammari has managed several research projects and he's the author of several scientific articles.



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Francesca Santoro

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

Communicating the Decade | January 23, 2020



Francesca works for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO where she is in charge of ocean literacy activities. She is responsible for the co-ordination of contributions of the Ocean Literacy for All partnership. Before joining UNESCO she was a lecturer at the University Ca' Foscari of Venice, and she collaborated with several research centers including the Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change, and the Joint Research Centre. Francesca holds a PhD in analysis and governance for sustainable development from the School for Advanced Studies in Venice (SSAV) with specialization in marine environmental sciences, marine governance, science education and communication. Francesca joined UNESCO in 2011.

Rosalia Santoleri

President of the Italian Oceanographic Commission, National Body of UNESCO/IOC

Director of Institute of Marine Sciences (ISMAR) Venice

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Rosalia Santoleri is physical oceanographer, Director of Institute of Marine Sciences (ISMAR) Venice. She has with more than 30 years of experience on physical oceanography, marine circulation, satellite oceanography climate variability, physical-biological interaction, satellite oceanography, air-sea interaction, satellite and model data qualification and validation. he is also strongly involved in European operational oceanography effort, contributing to the development of Mediterranean Observing System. In the framework of Copernicus she contribute to the design of CMEMS system of systems developing and implementation of the Ocean Colour Thematic Assembling Centre (OCTAC) and SST Mediterranean and Black Sea Production Unit. She is the coordinator of CMEMS OCTAC and coordinator of the

Project Quality Assessment of ECV Products of the Copernicus Climate Change Since 2012 she is expert member of the GOOS Steering Committee.

R. Santoleri is Member of the EuroGOOS Executive Directors Board. Since 2015 she is the president of the Italian Oceanographic Commission, National body of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO and represent Italy IOC to Executive Council.



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PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Ernesto Azzurro

IRBIM-CNR of Ancona, Italy and CIESM

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Ernesto Azzurro - PhD in Marine Biology and Ecology at the Polytechnic University of Marche, Ancona Italy, is Senior Researcher at the IRBIM - CNR, Ancona, Italy and contracted professor in fishery biology at the Polytechnic University of Marche. His research interests are: invasion biology and ecology; fish ecology and biology, biodiversity changes in coastal marine environments. President of the CIESM Committee C6 Coastal Systems and Marine Policy of the CIESM - International Commission for the Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea; Member of the CIESM exotic fish taskforce. He is currently involved in some EU and Mediterranean projects (recently MPA-ENGAGE; MPA-Adapt) dealing with Climate Change impacts, monitoring, adaptation and participatory approaches. His scientific production presents an

interdisciplinary spectrum of studies spanning from theoretical to applied aspects of marine biology and ecology with a special focus on changes in marine fish resources and biodiversity.

Andrea Barbanti

National Research Council, Institute of Marine Sciences

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Dr. Andrea Barbanti has a PhD in Earth Sciences and a background in environmental geochemistry and coastal oceanography. He is Research Manager at National Research Council - Institute of Marine Sciences (CNR-ISMAR), where he develops science-to-policy activities and research initiatives promoting Blue Growth at national and EU level, focusing on the Mediterranean basin. He is member of the Project Management Team of BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action and coordinator of the BLUEMED Policy Platform. He is coordinating or is involved since 2012 in several National and European projects dealing with Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) (e.g. RITMARE, ADRIPLAN, MUSES, SUPREME, SIMWESTMED, CO-EVOLVE, PORTODIMARE, PHAROS4MPAs, ITEM, MSPMED), developing and testing approaches and tools for MSP in the Adriatic-Ionian Region and the Mediterranean and supporting in all aspects the MSP implementation process. Since 2019 he is National Focal Point for the UNESCO/IOC-DG MARE MSPglobal Initiative.



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Andrey Babeyko

GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences in Potsdam, Germany

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Dr. Andrey Babeyko is a senior researcher at the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences in Potsdam, Germany. He has a PhD in Physics and Mathematics from the Russian Academy of Sciences, Schmidt Institute of Physics of the Earth. Starting his work as a numerical modeller in petrology, rock physics and computational geodynamics, he then switched his main field of research interests to the tsunami science after the 2004 Boxing Day Indian Ocean tsunami. Andrey was actively involved into the GITEWS (German-Indonesian Tsunami Early Warning System) Project by providing modeling support to the early warning system design, implementation, integral testing and training activities. The project assessed application of novel techniques including use of local cGNSS networks to facilitate tsunami early warning in the near-field. This approach was later extended to the Mediterranean region in the course of FP6 ASTARTE. Present research interests of Dr. Babeyko include tsunami early warning; (probabilistic) tsunami hazard assessment; reduce of forecasting uncertainty through better multi-sensor seismic rupture characterization; multi-risk physics-based

cascading scenarios for various end-users.

Vanessa Cardin

Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale - OGS

Co-Chair of the Mediterranean Oceanographic Network of Ocean Observing System

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Vanessa Cardin is a physical oceanographer, Head of the Experimental Oceanography Group in the Department of Oceanography at OGS. She has over 25 years of experience as a marine scientist with particular interest in the analysis of physical and biochemical data, the characterization of the water column, as well as air-sea interaction in the Mediterranean Sea. He is Co-President of the Mediterranean Oceanographic Network for Ocean Observing System (MONGOOS) and representative at EuroGOOS and GOOS and delegate on the board of the Joint Research Unit of EMSO (Italy), ICOS and CIESM (Hydrochanges Program). Since 2006 she is the P.I. of the SAILOR-E2M3A Observatory in the Southern Adriatic Sea. She has participated in more than 30 oceanographic campaigns, most of them as chief scientist in the Mediterranean Sea and Antarctica. She has a wide experience participating as an I.P. in several National and EU funded projects in FP6, FP7 and H2020 programs as FixO3 and RITMARE and PON-INSEA.

Responsible for many environmental monitoring on behalf of third parties especially with regard to gas and oil platforms. Her scientific production presents an interdisciplinary spectrum of studies ranging from physical to biochemical aspects, with particular attention to processes in the Southern Adriatic and changes in the circulation of the Eastern Mediterranean.



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Amel Hamza-Chaffai

Prof and Director of the research group “Marine Ecotoxicology” at Sfax University-TUNISIA

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Amel Hamza-Chaffai has a PhD (1993), and an Accreditation to supervise Research (1999) in Marine Ecotoxicology. She is Full Professor at Sfax University . She is an invited Professor at Akita University (Japan), University Tecknology (Malaysia) and different French Universities (Le Havre, Le Mans, and Caen). She published in 2007 an online course “Zoology of Invertebrates”.

During 30 years, her main research focus was about marine pollution biomonitoring, biomarkers, endocrine disruptors, and pollution and cancer diseases. She has managed 3 national and 9 international research projects built up with her international network. She is also the designer of a regional museum of marine Science.

She published more than 75 peer-reviewed scientific articles.

Pr Hamza-Chaffai was involved in different european programs FP7 IRSES PEOPLE (as partner), EARANET-MED, PRIMA, MSCA-IF(evaluator)

and ERASMUS+ (external advisory board

She is also a senior expert at Innovation House Consulting ® in charge of marine science and environment projects.

She attended different mediterranean workshops organised by UNEP-IOC/UNOSCO. She was also trained in the field of Research management (Academy of Science Malaysia) and E-learning (University of Georgia). In 2016, she was selected by Massachusetts Institute of Technology to follow an intensive training about entrepreneurship in life science. She has implemented different training sessions about “turning ideas into business”, Combining hard skills and soft skills.

In 2007, she received the presidential award of education and science.

Denis Chang Seng

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO

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Dr Denis Chang Seng currently works at the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, Paris, France. He is a Programme Specialist working jointly in the Tsunami Unit and the Ocean Observation and Services Section. He supports the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and the WMO-IOC Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (Now the WMO-IOC Joint Collaborative Board) programmes. In the Tsunami Unit, he is the Technical Secretary for the IOCs Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and connected seas (ICG/NEAMTWS). He participates actively in the International Network for Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems (IN-MHEWS). Earlier, Dr Chang Seng was also UNESCO’s Natural Science Programme Specialist for the Pacific Island States.

Previously, he worked for a period of five years on Early Warning Systems, Resilience and Institutional Vulnerability Assessments at the United Nations University-Institute for Environment and Human Security in Bonn, Germany.



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Giovanni Coppini

Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change Foundation (CMCC)

Director of the Ocean Prediction and Application Division

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Dr. Giovanni Coppini, holds a Phd (2010) in Environmental Science: protection and management of natural resources from Bologna University. He is the Director of the Ocean Predictions and Applications Division of CMCC. From 2003 he is working in the field of operational oceanography applications development. He was co-chair, till 2018, of MONGOOS (Mediterranean Oceanography Network for the Global Ocean Observing System-GOOS) and he is the Emergency Response Office manager the MONGOOS-REMPEC agreement. He was a member of the JCOMM Task Team on Maritime Safety since 2012 and since 2018 chair of the JCOMM Expert Team Marine Environmental Emergency Response (ETMEER). Since May 2015 he is Leader of the European Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS) for the Mediterranean Monitoring and forecasting centre (Med-MFC) that provides ocean forecasting for the Mediterranean Sea and Deputy Leader (until April 2018) of the Black Sea CMEMS–MFC. He has more than 30 papers in peer reviewed journals. At CMCC he has coordinated and contributed to the

development of several ocean forecasting systems and applications relevant to maritime safety and marine environment based on CMEMS data including Sea-Conditions, VISIR, WITOIL and OCEAN-SAR.

Taco de Bruin

Co-chair International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) committee.

Scientific Data Manager - NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research

WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Taco de Bruin is one of the two current co-chairs of the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange committee (IODE) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

He has been active in both oceanographic and polar data management for some 25 years, in many roles such as Scientific Data Manager of his employer: the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ), as chair of the Netherlands - National Oceanographic Data Committee (NL-NODC), as Co-Chair – of International Polar Year (IPY) Data Subcommittee, to name just a few.

He is also active in many European oceanographic data projects such as SeaDataNet, SeaDataCloud and various EMODnet thematic projects.



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Aldo Drago
Head, Physical Oceanography Research Group
Dept. of Geosciences
University of Malta
Maltese Delegate for BlueMed GSO WG
Representative of the European University of the Sea (SEA EU)
Co-Lead of the JPI-Oceans Action Science4GES

Panel on cross-cutting issues: capacity development and transfer of marine technology | January 23, 2020



Currently leading the Physical Oceanography Research Group (PO-Res. Grp., ex Physical Oceanography Unit, PO-Unit) within the Department of Geosciences.

The PO-Res.Grp undertakes oceanographic research, in a holistic perspective, including operational marine observations and forecasts, specialised data management analysis and participation in international cooperative research ventures. The PO-Res.Grp promotes activities in operational oceanography with the installation and maintenance of permanent sea monitoring systems, and the provision of meteo-marine forecasts and related downstream

services. Under his direction, the PO-Res.Grp has strengthened its activities, know-how and capability through the participation in several EU funded regional and pan-European scientific projects, INTERREG and MED Programme projects.

Prof. Drago obtained his Ph.D. in physical oceanography from the University of Southampton in 1999. He is the founder of PO-Unit. His initial engagement was with the Malta Council for Science and Technology in 1991, where he conducted a number of programmes and initiatives both locally and internationally as Coordinator of the Marine Sciences Network. He served as the Maltese delegate to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO) and to the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean (CIESM), the National Representative for the Committee on the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE/IOC), and Malta's lead delegate on the European Earth Monitoring Programme (GMES) User Forum. He served as Director of Research within the IOI-Malta Operational Centre since May 2000 and became Director of the Centre in 2006. He planned and initiated the IOI Malta course on Regional Ocean Governance in 2005.

Prof. Drago has been instrumental in consolidating the regional framework to promote and execute operational oceanography in the Mediterranean. From 1998 to 2013, he served as the Executive Secretary of MedGOOS, the Global Ocean Observing System for the Mediterranean, with office in Malta.

He is currently the national pivot in the BlueMed initiative for Blue Growth, representing Malta on the BlueMed Group of Senior Officials, and the vice-chair of the University Maritime Platform.

Prof. Drago coordinates the M.Sc. in Applied Oceanography.



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Souha El Asmi

Programme Officer, Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Souha El Asmi has almost twenty years' experience in marine biodiversity conservation and protected areas development at Mediterranean level.

She is Programme Officer at the UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan's Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC, Tunis) since 2001.

She was in charge of the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation and Action Plan concerning species introductions and invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea. Souha is currently managing the Marine Protected Areas programme within SPA/RAC.

She led the implementation of several Mediterranean regional and sub-regional projects and programmes on both marine biodiversity conservation and marine and coastal protected areas creation and

management.

Souha has extensive experience in international policy, technical assistance and capacity building in the field of marine conservation at the Mediterranean level. She also coordinated the organisation of several international meetings and conferences and edited and contributed to several publications on marine conservation in the Mediterranean region.

She is a member of the IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and of the bureau of the Network of marine protected areas managers in the Mediterranean (Honorary Vice-Chair).

She holds an Engineering Degree in Environment and Marine Resources and a Master Degree in Aquatic Ecosystems and Productions from the Tunisian National Institute of Agronomics.

Souha is a Tunisian national and speaks Arabic (her mother tongue), French and English.

In her spare time, she likes reading, painting, and swimming.

Dina Eparkhina

European Global Ocean Observing System, EuroGOOS

Communicating the Decade | January 23, 2020



Dina Eparkhina is Senior Policy and Communications Officer at EuroGOOS – the European component of the Global Ocean Observing System coordinated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. Dina has multidisciplinary background including philology, cultural management and pedagogy, and since 2007 has been involved in the European ocean science-policy interface. Dina leads EuroGOOS and broader European ocean observing system communication efforts through various projects and initiatives. Among others, this includes the new European project EuroSea bringing together 55 organizations across Europe, the Med and Atlantic to integrate efforts for sustained and user-oriented ocean observing services, and contribute to the Global Ocean Observing System, GOOS.

Dina has initiated the EuroGOOS ocean literacy activities, wrote an ocean literacy child book, and is a member of several international science communication panels. She is developing a EuroGOOS ocean literacy network showcasing the societal engagement activities of the EuroGOOS' 44 member organizations and linking with other European and international efforts.



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Tatjana Hema

Deputy Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) - Barcelona Convention Secretariat

WG I: A clean Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Tatjana Hema is the Deputy Coordinator of the UN Environment/ Mediterranean Action Plan-Barcelona Convention Secretariat, based in Athens, Greece, since October 2016. She has strong experience of inter-governmental processes, especially in the area of marine and coastal environment and related sustainable development issues, backed by solid scientific knowledge on chemical engineering and marine pollution issues, including marine litter.

A national of Albania, Tatjana Hema graduated in Chemical Engineering and specialized in Environmental Management and Technologies. She joined the UN in 2003, after twelve years of service as a professor in Tirana University and five years as a Senior Manager in the National Environment Agency of Albania and Deputy Minister of Environment. Since then, she has covered UN assignments of different roles in MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat addressing policy, governance and institutional aspects of the MAP system, as well as marine pollution assessment and control. She has been a member of the Steering Committee and/or Advisory Board in several research and scientific

projects funded mainly by the EU and GEF, focusing on ocean science, management and governance and on marine environmental knowledge and assessment. She holds a PhD from the University of Tirana obtained in 1994 and a Masters' degree in Environmental Management and Technologies from the Federal Polytechnic University of Lausanne, obtained in 1995.

In 2016 she was awarded the UN Environment BAOBAB Staff Award in the category "Environmental Service Award", which aims at exemplifying those who demonstrate an outstanding effort and dedication in their field of expertise to enhance environmental sustainability and conservation at local, national, regional or international levels.



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Jelena Knezevic
UNEP/MAP

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Ms. Jelena Knezevic acts as the Monitoring and Assessment Officer of the United Nations Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP), as of May 2018. After 15 years service as the professional and policy decision making staff in the Government of Montenegro, she joined UNEP/MAP in July 2017. A national of Montenegro, Jelena Knezevic graduated in Inorganic Technology and specialized in Environmental Protection in the course of her postgraduate study and engagement as the temporary lecturer in academic community. She holds Masters' degree on Environmental Protection, with Master thesis:

“Application of the CALPUFF mathematical model in analyzing deposition of the air pollutants emitted from the Thermal Power Plant in Pljevlja”, obtained from the University of Montenegro, in cooperation with Techne Consulting, Rome. Her formal education, skills and almost 2 decades long rich professional experience are related to development and implementation of the strategic processes in the field of environment and sustainable development, along with a focus on the science – policy interface, monitoring, modeling and reporting on the state of the environment, including implementation of the multilateral environmental treaties, with a special focus on the Barcelona Convention and 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development. Currently, she contributes to delivering the mandate of the Mediterranean Pollution Programme as the professional staff of the UNEP/MAP, focusing on the collection and reporting of quality assured data on the state of the marine environment (Pollution IMAP Cluster); development and application of the assessment criteria and delivering of the integrated assessment of the marine environment within implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme; continual improvement of the monitoring protocols and best available monitoring practices as to ensure data of good quality are generated; providing support to national authorities in building their national capacities to implement IMAP.

Elen Lemaitre-Curri
Director, Plan Bleu, Mediterranean Action Plan Regional Activity Center

Panel on cross-cutting issues: capacity development and transfer of marine technology | January 23, 2020



"Ingénieur en chef des ponts, des eaux et des forêts", with a background in agricultural & rural development economics and environmental policies, Elen Lemaitre-Curri joined the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1997 to work on land tenure policies in Sub-Saharan Africa. She then worked for FAO Investment Center in Rome from 2000 to 2006 as an economist in the FAO - World Bank joint programme, in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In 2007, she joined the General Commission for Sustainable Development (CGDD) in the French Ministry in charge of the environment, first as deputy head of unit for environmental economics and financial instruments, where she was in charge such themes as land policies, urbanism and environment, then as head of unit for global public goods, on climate, biodiversity, forests and oceans economics from 2009 to 2014.

Thereafter she followed doctoral training in public policies in Canada, before joining Plan Bleu as a Director in September 2017. Plan Bleu is a Mediterranean Observatory and Foresight Center. Plan Bleu has a regional mandate, in the context of the Barcelona Convention, to inform decision makers on environmental and sustainable development, using scientific evidence; and raise stakeholders awareness.

In close relation with other Mediterranean Action Plan Components and a crucial network of scientific and technical partners, Plan Bleu produces assessment reports such as the upcoming 2019 State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean report, and collective foresight exercises for the region. Plan Bleu participate in the Steering Committee of the MedECC network of scientists on climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean, and leads a BlueMed startup action.



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Jann Martinsohn
Head of Unit (f.f.) – Water and Marine Resources
European Commission
Directorate-General Joint Research Centre
Directorate D – Sustainable Resources
Unit D.02 – Water and Marine Resources

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Jann Martinsohn is Head (f.f.) of the Water and Marine Resources Unit at the European Commission Joint Research Centre.

His responsibilities focus on scientific advice to European Union (EU) freshwater and marine policies and governance. He contributes in particular to the Common Fisheries Policy, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the EU Blue Growth Strategy.

His specific interest is to contribute to the introduction of genetic and genomic approaches to marine conservation as well as fisheries and aquaculture management.

After two years of civil service, working as a rescue driver and paramedic and providing individual care for severely disabled people, Jann studied molecular biology specializing in immuno- and evolutionary genetics.

He also graduated in marine science while he lived in New Zealand, where he studied at the “southernmost university of the world” and worked on a deep sea trawler targeting orange roughy, black dory and hoki around the Southern island.

Jann holds a diploma in marine science (University of Otago, New Zealand) and a Ph.D. in immunogenetics (University of Cologne, Germany). He was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow in Miroslav Radman’s department of Evolutionary and Medical Genetics at the research faculty of Necker-Enfants Malades (Paris, France), where he worked on in-vivo directed evolution.

Jann has co-organised international conferences, has been steering committee member of acclaimed projects, contributed to FAO fisheries groups as well as scientific support to the European Commission and the European Parliament, and is elected chair of the Working Group on Applied Genetics for Fisheries and Aquaculture (WGAGFA) under the remit of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

Melita Mokos
European Marine Science Educators Association

WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Melita Mokos is a vice president of the European Marine Science Educators Association and a coordinator of EMSEA Mediterranean regional group, EMSEA – Med. She graduated in Marine Biology and Ecology, after which she obtained her PhD in Applied Marine Science from the University of Split. She is working at the Department of Ecology, Agronomy and Aquaculture at the University of Zadar, Croatia where she teaches several subjects such as Environmental protection of aquatic ecosystems and Ocean literacy. Since 2016 she has focused on the development of Mediterranean Sea Literacy together with members of EMSEA-Med as well as advancing ocean literacy across the Mediterranean basin. She is very engaged in science outreach and ocean literacy activities working mainly with preschool and school children. Her research interests are marine environmental knowledge at different educational levels and in the blue sector, marine litter and blue carbon in seagrass.



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Nadia Pinardi

Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna

WG III: A predicted Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Nadia PINARDI holds a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Harvard University, and she is full professor of Oceanography at Bologna University, Italy. Her interests range from ocean numerical modelling and predictions to data assimilation, numerical modelling of the marine physical-biological interactions and pollutants at sea. She has written more than hundred and sixty papers in peer reviewed journals on a wide range of subjects. The last topic of her research is the understanding of uncertainties in ensemble forecasting, oil spill numerical modelling coupled to operational oceanographic forecasts and the analysis of climate indices in the Mediterranean Sea, such the Mediterranean Sea Overturning Circulation index.

Her major achievement is the conceptual design and practical implementation of ocean forecasting systems across the world ocean: she started with the contribution to the very first real time ocean forecast in the California Current system to the complete development of monitoring, modelling and data assimilation components for the Mediterranean, Marmara and Black Sea. Furthermore, she used the products of the forecasting system to understand new ocean dynamics in the Mediterranean Sea (Pinardi et al., 2014, Pinardi et al., 2019) and to develop several new societal benefit applications.

She has been the director of the National Group of Operational Oceanography of the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology from 2004 to 2012. She has been Member of the European Space Agency Space Advisory Group, of the European Environment Agency Scientific Advisory Committee and of the European Research Council for Earth Sciences. She was co-president of the Joint Committee for oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) of Unesco-IOC and WMO from 2012 to 2018 and she is now co-chair of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (Infrastructure Commission) of WMO.

Giuseppe Provenzano

Expert, Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean

Panel on cross-cutting issues: capacity development and transfer of marine technology | January 23, 2020



Giuseppe Provenzano is an Expert at the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, where he focuses on topics connected to Research and Innovation. His activities at the Secretariat have focused on regional initiatives such as PRIMA (on the agriculture-water-energy nexus in the Mediterranean), BLUEMED (Research and Innovation on Blue Economy) and research on the root causes of Migration. Additionally, he has supported the creation of synergies with the Mediterranean Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development, and on the developing the regional agenda on innovation and employability. He has previously published on Blue Economy, the EU external policies towards Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, and on sustainability issues on the Iranian energy

policies. He holds a second-level MA in International Public Affairs at LUISS School of Government and a Master in Relations and Institutions of Asia and Africa at L'Orientale University.



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Marie-Helene Rio

ESA-ESRIN

WG III: A predicted Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Marie-Hélène Rio holds a space engineering degree and a PhD in physical oceanography from University of Toulouse, France. She has been working since 2018 in the Science, Applications & Climate Department from the European Space Agency (ESA-ESRIN), where she develops and manages ocean science and application projects, participates to the organization of user consultation meetings and training courses and acts as the ESA representative in the International Ocean Colour Coordinating Group (IOCCG). Before joining ESA, she spent most of her scientific career at CLS, a subsidiary company from the French Space Agency (CNES), where she gained a 20 year long experience in altimeter data analysis and validation,

and in space and in-situ data synergy for calculating added-value ocean products. In particular, she carried out seminal work on the estimation of the ocean Mean Dynamic Topography and on the combination on spaceborne and in-situ measurements for calculating surface and subsurface currents. In 2015 she got a senior Marie-Curie Research grant to develop innovative algorithms for calculating the ocean surface currents from the synergy of altimetry and Sea Surface Temperature or Ocean Color images. She has written more than thirty papers in peer reviewed journals and participated as keynote speaker or chair person to numerous international symposiums.

Michael Scoullos

MIO-ECSDE, GWP-Med & UNESCO Chair of the UoA

WG I: A clean Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Environmental/Water Chemist (MSc, DSc, University of Athens), and Oceanographer (PhD University of Liverpool). Professor Emeritus of Environmental Chemistry at the University of Athens (UoA). Founder, and for many years, Director of the Laboratory of Environmental Chemistry. Director of the UNESCO Chair and Network on “Management and Education for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean” (UoA). Chairman of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) and Coordinator of MEdIES. Chairman of the Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med). Team Leader of the large EU Programme “Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI South Neighborhood region” (2019-2023). Chairman of the Greek National Commission of MAB/UNESCO. Co-Chairman of the Partner Network in Advancing ESD Policies/GAP UNESCO. Member of the Management Board of the Water

Museums Global Network (WAMU-NET). Representative of the European Parliament in the Management Board and the Bureau of the European Environment Agency (EEA) (1992-2018). Chairman of the International Panel of Experts of the World Bank for the Red Sea – Dead Sea Conveyor. Honorary Chairman of the Hellenic Society for the Environment and Culture. Past President of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB). Member of the European Academy of Sciences. Author of many books and more than 500 scientific articles. He has organized and chaired a very large number of International Conferences. Awarded the Gold Medal of the City of Paris; the Simon Bolivar medal of UNESCO; Environmental Award of the Academy of Athens; Knight of St. John; Knight of the “National Order of Cedars”/ Lebanon, Honorary Citizen of the City of Elefsis, Greece, etc.



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Zacharias Siokouros

Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (CMMI)

Panel on cross-cutting issues: capacity development and transfer of marine technology | January 23, 2020



Mr. Siokouros was born in Cyprus and graduated from the **National Technical University of Athens as a Naval Architect and Marine Engineer**. For the past eight years, he has worked as Managing Director, Marine & Offshore Business Manager, Principal Surveyor, Maritime Safety & Security Lead Auditor, Maritime Labor Inspector and Trainer at the branch offices in Cyprus of two major classification societies, those of Lloyd’s Register (LR) and DNV-GL. He was earlier the Safety Manager/DPA and then Technical Director for a major Cruise Operator for 16 years, while before that he worked as Technical Superintendent and onboard engineering officer at a Tanker operator and also served for a year as a Deputy Secretary General of the **Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association (CYMEPA)**. Furthermore, Mr.

Siokouros served as **President of the Cyprus Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Association (CyNAMEA)** for over 15 years. In 2010, he was among the founding members of the **Maritime Institute of Eastern Mediterranean (MarInEM)**, a non for profit organization aiming to promote Research, Innovation, Training and Education within and for the maritime industry as well as cooperation and dialogue in the Eastern Mediterranean region. Mr. Siokouros was also the initiator of the innovative EU-funded “**Lynceus**”, “**Mentor**” and “**Sea of Experience**” projects. The “Lynceus” project had received in 2014 the prestigious **Global Innovation Award of Lloyd’s List**, while the “Mentor” led to the establishment of the “**Blue Career Center of Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea**”. Moreover, he is a member of the **Board of Governors of the Cyprus Maritime Academy of the University of Nicosia** and also served as member of the **Expert Group on Skills and Career Development** in the Blue Economy of the European Commission’s Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and the **Advisory Council of the Oceanography Centre of the University of Cyprus**. He is also a **Founding Member and member of the Executive Committee of the Cyprus Foundation of the Sea (CY-FOS)**, an institution established in July 2018 by the Shipping industry and supported by the Government of Cyprus, as the Marine and Maritime Cluster organization for Cyprus. In November 2018 he was presented by the Shipping Deputy Minister the **YoungShip Cyprus Honorary Award**. This award is given annually to an executive person for his/her contribution and devotion to the shipping industry, his/her years of service, leadership skills and character, thus, setting an example for younger professionals. As from December 23rd 2019, Mr. Siokouros is steering – from the position of CEO - the **Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (CMMI)**, an international, scientific and business Centre of Excellence for Marine and Maritime Research, Innovation and Technological Development - established with funding from the EU and the Cyprus government - that aims to be driven by the needs of the Industry and Society in addressing the major Challenges that the specific sectors face.



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Maria Snoussi

Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Maria Snoussi holds a Ph.D in Coastal Geosciences from Bordeaux I University (France) and she is full professor at Mohammed V University in Rabat. Since 2017, she acts as President of the Scientific Council of the French Research Institute for Development (IRD). She is currently a member of the Steering Committee of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC); Member of the Group of Senior Experts Officials (GSO) of the European Union on the Blue Economy Initiative in the Mediterranean (BlueMed); Chair of the MedWet Expert Group on Mediterranean Wetlands and Climate Change. She was also a member of the Scientific Steering Committee of the IOC/UNESCO Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). Prof Snoussi works mainly on Integrated Coastal Zone Management and the

integration of climate change in the coastal policies. She has extensive experience on coastal issues and contributed to several guidelines and reports on ICZM and Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean. She served as Technical Advisor to international agencies such as the World Bank and UNEP/MAP.

Abdellah Srour

GFCM Executive Secretary

WG V: A sustainable (harvested and) productive Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Mr Abdellah Srour, a Moroccan citizen, is a chief engineer in fisheries science, specialized in biology, environment and fisheries management and policy. In his career, he has held different positions at the National Institute of Fisheries Research (INRH) under the Ministry of Fisheries of Morocco, namely as a director of the regional research centres of Nador (1998-2003) and Tanger (2003-2005), both Mediterranean-based.

Since 1989, M. Srour has been actively participating in the work carried out by international organizations in the field of fisheries, i.e. the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and their respective subsidiary bodies. He has successively held the positions of second and first vice-chairperson of ICCAT, between 1999 and 2005, and acted as a national focal point for the FAO CopeMed I project, from 1996 to 2005. Mr Srour has also been assigned by FAO and ICCAT to carry out technical assistance missions in several countries of the Mediterranean basin. In October 2005, Mr Srour was called to serve at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United (FAO) as Deputy-Executive Secretary of the GFCM. In May 2011, he was elected Executive Secretary of the Commission,

responsible for the overall implementation of the Commission's policies and activities. He has significantly contributed to the in-depth reform process of the GFCM which has enabled the Organization to shift from a Council to a Commission endowed with a financial autonomy and a proper structure to ensure the functioning of this fisheries management regional body. During his professional career, Mr Srour produced a wide range of publications and working papers on fisheries management including on tuna and tuna like species, as well as on policy, administration and finance within the framework of his duties as GFCM Executive Secretary.



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Georg Umgiesser

Director of Research, Institute of Marine Sciences, National Research Council, Venice, Italy

WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020

Georg Umgiesser is working as a director of research at the National Research Council in Venice. He is a physical oceanographer and is heading a group of scientists that mainly study lagoons and the coastal zone with numerical modeling. Special interests are the development of numerical models, sea-lagoon interaction, storm surge forecasting, and teaching of discretization techniques and oceanography. Important topics he is working on is a framework for storm surge forecasting for the Venice Lagoon and the quantification of relevant time scales of lagoons (residence times) through numerical modeling. He is the Italian coordinator and the head of the modeling node of the DANUBIUS-RI European research infrastructure (ESFRI). He is a member of the ETWCH-4 expert team of JCOMM on Waves and Coastal Hazards and is also the responsible of his institute in the MonGoos network, the Mediterranean operational network for GOOS in the Mediterranean. He is teaching University courses (Masters and PhD) in Klaipeda (Lithuania), Granada (Spain), Malta and at the NOCS (Southampton, UK). He is reviewer for many oceanographic journals, and is part of the editorial board of 5 scientific journals. He edited 4 special issues in high ranked scientific journals. He participated in many national (e.g., Ritmare) and EU projects (e.g., Profile, ProVess, F-ECTS, Theseus, Danubius-PP, ENVRI-FAIR). He has published more than 100 peer reviewed articles, with an h-index of 34.

Adriana Zingone

Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples, Italy

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Adriana Zingone works in the field of microalgal ecology and taxonomy. Her main interests include the spatial and temporal dynamics of marine phytoplankton, microalgal species seasonality and long-term changes, the ecology of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), and their impacts on human health and marine life. Studies in these fields are conducted with classic (field sampling, microscopy and physiology) and advanced molecular approaches (DNA-metabarcoding and transcriptomics). Research primarily builds on long-term plankton observations conducted since 1984 in the Gulf of Naples (<http://szn.macisteweb.com/>). Studies at a wider spatial scale are conducted through EU projects (EU-BioMArks, EU-MicroB3, EU-Assemble Plus), world ocean cruises (Tara Oceans) and synchronous world-wide sampling (Ocean Sampling Day, OSD).

AZ has been and is member of several working groups on long term observations, such as the IOC Coastal-GOOS panel (1999-2002), the SCOR WG 137 on Phytoplankton Time Series (2009-2015), the IOC-UNESCO International Group for Marine Ecological Time Series (IGMETS), the IOC-UNESCO working group on Global Trends of Phytoplankton in the Ocean (IOC Trends-PO). She has recently taken part in the European Marine Board Working Group EMB BIO OBS, which has produced the Science Brief 'Strengthening Europe's Capability in Biological Ocean Observations'.

AZ has long been involved in international panels and working groups focusing on harmful algae, such as the IOC Intergovernmental Panel on HABs - which she has chaired from 1995 to 2002. With G.M. Hallegraeff (Australia), she is co-leading the UNESCO-IOC Global HABs Status Report (GHSR) initiative, supported by the Government of Flanders, which aims at assessing the present status and trends of HABs around the world seas.



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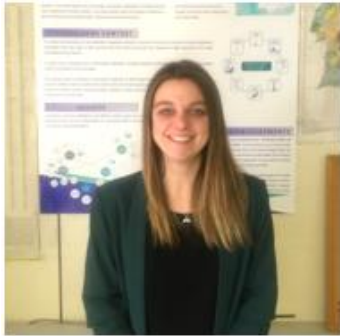


RAPPORTEUR BIOGRAPHIES

Mónica Campillos Llanos

Researcher, Spanish Institute of Oceanography, Spain

WG V: A sustainable (harvested and) productive Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Mónica Campillos Llanos is a researcher at the Spanish Institute of Oceanography in the application of the Blue Economy concept in the Mediterranean Sea through the BLUEMED-CSA project. She has been involved in marine science since last two years of the university, where she started the research in two different projects in the marine biological department. After that, obtained a fellowship and then contracted by the Biodiversity Foundation of Spain, part of the Ministry for ecological transition, where she worked in the LIFE+ Project INDEMARES, “Inventory and designation of marine Natura 2000 areas in the Spanish sea” for 5 years being responsible of the GIS data applied to decision makers of Marine Natura 2000 Network, the declaration of the new marine sites and the

development of the initial management plans of these sites. After that, she continued working in marine conservation with different departments of marine biodiversity for the Ministry such as the protection of marine reserves and Natura 2000 for marine sites in Spain. Since 2018, she is working as a researcher at the Spanish Institute of Oceanography for MSP and Blue Growth in the application of marine European and Spanish normative towards a better governance of the sea and better management of marine resources. She was involved in the European projects Marine Spatial Planning SIMNORAT and SIMWESTMED for the development of the National MSP process under the compliance of the Spanish Marine Strategies. In addition, she works for the INTEMARES project, “Integrated, innovative and participatory management of the Natura 2000 network in the Spanish marine environment” to achieve a consolidated network of marine areas in the Natura 2000 network managed in an effective and integrated way, through GIS data analyst.

Donata Canu

Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale - OGS, Trieste, Italy

WG III: A predicted Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



She is a researcher at OGS, since 2002. She holds a PhD in Environmental Sciences from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

Her research focuses on modelling the state and processes of marine and coastal aquatic environments, also relating to anthropogenic uses, pressures and natural changes. Her research addresses biogeochemical (i.e. pollutants, eutrophication models), biological (individual growth models, connectivity), and hydrodynamic processes. The scale of modelling ranges between the

individuals to the basin scale. She's the author of 40 ISI international publications.

She is faculty member at the PhD course in ‘Environment and Life Science’ at the University of Trieste, and at the Advanced Master in Sustainable Blue Growth, jointly organised by the University of Trieste and OGS.

She has been involved in several national and EU projects related to marine modelling of contaminant dispersion, oil spill (HARMONIA, Interreg Adrion, MISE, RITMARE), impact of climate change and sea acidification (Acid.It, MedSea, CANTICO-Circle-MED), management of marine resources (MANTIS, SPICOSA, Mitili-FVG), state of the Venice Lagoon (Venezia-2021, MELA). She is involved in the EU COST Action Ocean Governance, in Working Group 5: Ocean, Climate Change, and Acidification.



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Mauro Celussi

Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale - OGS, Trieste, Italy

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Mauro Celussi is a researcher at the Oceanography Section of OGS. He graduated in Natural Sciences and got a Ph.D. in Polar Sciences. Working in OGS since 2006, he developed his researches in the field of marine microbial ecology spanning from coastal to deep-sea ecosystems, from the Mediterranean Sea to the poles. The focus of his studies relies on the functioning of microbial communities with focus on organic carbon production, degradation and utilization by Bacteria and Archaea. He is an author of more than 40 peer-reviewed articles. He took part to and coordinated several FP7 (RISCS; MedSeA, ECO2), national and Cross Border Cooperation projects.

Domenico D'Alelio

Department of Integrative Marine Ecology, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Napoli, Italy

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Research scientist at Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (permanent position since 1 October 2018), with about 15 years of research activity, including PhD at SZN (2005-2008) and Post-doc specializations at Edmund Mach Foundation (Trento, Italy, 2009-2012) and SZN (2012-2018). He has a wide experience in plankton ecology and evolution, including both inland and sea waters, and authored 31 peer-reviewed publications (including two invited book chapters), with primary roles in 22 of them; he also authored several non-peer-reviewed publications, including technical and dissemination notes, outreach articles in English and Italian languages, plus one outreach book (in Italian). He is being involved in both

National and International projects and he is currently co-PI of the DISCO project (2018-2021, Moore Foundation) and task-leader deputy in the project EuroSea (H2020, 2019-2022). His main scientific interest is studying plankton ecology by explicitly considering the evolutionary histories of species and the interactions between them, by intersecting issues pertaining to organismal biology, demography, community assembly, by employing system science approaches. He is part of the coordination team of the NEREA "augmented observatory" in the Gulf of Naples (since 2019), where he is developing the conceptual and operational pipelines of multiannual research focussing on the coastal ecosystem, under an end-to-end perspective, from molecules to ecological communities. He is currently vice-president of the Italian Association of Oceanography and Limnology (AIOL), and a member of the Association for the Studies of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) since 2007.



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Fedra Francocci

Institute for the study of Anthropic Impact and Sustainability in the marine environment (IAS) of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR)

WG I: A clean Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Fedra Francocci is a Biotechnologist with a double PhD in Botanical Science and Plant Biotechnology. Her scientific interest focused on bioeconomy since her experience as post-doc in the frame of the ERC Project FUEL-PATH at la “Sapienza” University of Rome, while she was investigating biomass molecular traits associated to bioconversion. In the last few years she focused her activity to the study of bioeconomy development on contaminated areas, both on terrestrial and marine environment, by promoting innovative value chains through co-creation and collaborative approach at the local scale. Fedra is supporting the “BLUEMD Pilot: Plastic-free healthy Mediterranean Sea” in the contest of the BlueMed CSA and also supporting the plastic hub implementation at the national level. At CNR she is responsible for the Interreg MED Project MISTRAL aimed to unlock the potential of innovation in the MED area.

Emanuele Organelli

Research Scientist, Italian National Research Council, Institute of Marine Sciences (CNR-ISMAR), Rome, Italy

WG V: A sustainable (harvested and) productive Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Emanuele Organelli, Ph.D., is a biologist with experience in in-situ marine optics and satellite ocean colour for observing ocean ecosystems and studying the marine carbon cycle. Dr. Organelli has permanently joined CNR in 2019 after more than 7 years spent working in high-qualified research institutes between France and UK. He is an EU’s H2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow and coordinated the project REOPTIMIZE (REmineralisation, OPTics and Marine particle siZE). He also collaborated and collaborates within several scientific and observational programs funded by EU, space agencies and national bodies (REMOCEAN, NAOS, BIOCAREX, MOMAR, BOUSSOLE, SOCLIM, AMT, MEDGOOS, C3S-511). Emanuele’s specific competences span from the application of marine optics to study phytoplankton diversity, to understand the dynamics of marine particles and dissolved organic matter both at the global and regional

(e.g., Mediterranean Sea) scales. Emanuele’s latest activities deal with the scientific exploitation of optical observations from autonomous robotic platforms such as the ARGO profiling floats, and with the integration of such observations within numerical models for the EU’s Copernicus services. In 2016, Emanuele participated at the definition of the scientific rationale, design and implementation plan for the international Biogeochemical-Argo float array. Emanuele has a strong publication record, and he has been awarded by the international marine optical community for the relevance of his studies. He is also involved in outreach activities and programs.



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Giordano Giorgi

ISPRA - Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research

WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



PhD in Mathematics and degree in Physics at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”. He has contributed since 2005 to the design and implementation of Italian SIC – Centralized Information System for Marine Strategy and SINTAI – Italian Information System for Water Protection where WISE and WISE Marine national nodes have been embedded. He has contributed to the design of data base structure and algorithms for the collection, analysis and elaboration of Italian data flows related to EU Reporting for Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Water Framework Directive, Nitrate Directive and Urban Waste Water Directive. He is MS Italy representative in the technical group of WG DIKE and TG DATA and InfoMAP Programme Officer for the Regional Activity Centre for Information and Communication - INFO/RAC of UNEP/MAP of Barcelona Convention. He co-authored EU Technical

Guidance on MSFD Monitoring, Descriptor 7 - hydrographical changes and Priority Substances Inventory requested by EQS Directive and is Italy focal point for EcAp Cluster on coast and hydrography. He has been member of the stakeholder board of SOLUTIONS project (<http://www.solutions-project.eu/>) on new and improved tools, models, and methods for the large number of legacy, present and future emerging chemicals posing a risk to European water bodies with respect to ecosystems and human health. He is involved in many projects like EMODNet Chemistry, HARMONIA - Harmonization and Networking for contaminant assessment in the Ionian and Adriatic Seas and MEDREGION - Support Mediterranean Member States towards the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive new GES Decision and programmes of measures and contribute to regional/subregional cooperation.

Angela Pomaro

National Research Council of Italy, Institute of Marine Sciences

WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Dr. Angela Pomaro graduated In civil engineering at the University of Padua. She is currently a Researcher in the field of physical oceanography at the National Research Council of Italy - Institute of Marine Sciences (CNR-ISMAR), where she develops research activities with particular interest on wave climate studies focusing on the understanding of the interdependencies of local meteo-oceanographic conditions with large-scale circulation patterns as well as on the definition of metrics for climate change indicators considerations. She is responsible for the management of the CNR research infrastructure “Acqua Alta Oceanographic Tower”, located in the North Adriatic Sea, including the thorough renovation program recently performed. She has coordinated several dissemination activities in the field of art and science cooperation programs run at the

Institute of Marine Sciences and is responsible for the joint collaboration with the Ocean Space in Venice. In this field, she has also been appointed as representative of the National Research Council of Italy at the EUROGoos Ocean Literacy Expert Group.



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Gianmaria Sannino

Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile (ENEA)

WG III: A predicted Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Dr Gianmaria Sannino is Head of the Climate Modelling Laboratory and Impacts of ENEA since 2015. He has more than 25 years of experience in climate and ocean modelling.

He received the M.Sc. degree in Physical Oceanography from the University Parthenope of Naples, and a PhD in Marine Science from the University Federico II of Naples.

His research activities are mainly focused on modelling the general circulation of the Mediterranean Sea, strait dynamics - including hydraulics and internal waves - and climate change at the regional scale. A complementary line of research is on the exploitation of ocean energy potential. He was visiting scientist at EAPS-MIT (Cambridge - USA) in 2004,

2006, and 2009, at the Department of applied physics, the University of Malaga in 2006, and at the Institute of Marine Sciences, Middle East Technical University in 2012. He was involved in many European and National projects on climate change, oceanography, and ocean energy (EU PRACE, FP7: CIRCE, CLIM-RUN, SINGULAR, PERSEUS. H2020: OceanSET. InterregMed BlueDeal). He is currently WP leader of H2020 SOCLIMPACT and InterregMed PELAGOS projects.

He is the Italian representative at the Working Group "Ocean Energy " for the EU Strategic Energy Technological Plan. He is member of the scientific committee for the Joint Program "Ocean Energy" of the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA), the European Climate Research Alliance (ECRA), Mediterranean CORDEX initiative (MedCORDEX), and the Italian Blue Growth Technological Cluster (BIG). He has published more than 70 papers in SCI journals and books and contributed to several technical reports and presentations at international conferences.

Margarita Segou

British Geological Survey

WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



After her doctoral dissertation at the University of Athens (NKUA), Margarita Segou held postdoctoral position and fellowship at the US Geological Survey, Earthquake Science Center (Menlo Park, California) and at GeoAzur-Centre Nationale de Recherche Scientifique (Nice, France) before she joins the British Geological Survey in 2015. She has been a visiting researcher at the Institute of Statistical Mathematics in Tokyo (2015), the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (2018) in Kyoto and has delivered lectures and invited seminars in University of Stanford, UC Berkeley, University of Edinburgh, ISTERRE-University of

Savoie, Earthquake Research Institute in Japan, GeorgiaTech University (Atlanta) among others. Since 2019, she is Editor of the Geophysical Journal International. Her major interests are related with the physical processes of earthquake nucleation across different scales involving short and long-term stress-mediated fault interaction. She addresses problems from short-term subduction zones hazards, slow and fast earthquakes, time-dependent seismic hazard, operational aftershock forecasts, earthquake probabilities and fault potential in natural and induced seismicity cases by integrating complex physical and laboratory laws on existing empirical/statistical models. She is the Principal Investigator for research jointly funded by the UK National Environmental Research Council and the US National Science Foundation for earthquake detection and aftershock forecast models during the 2016-2017 Central Apennines earthquake crisis. She is interested in the development of on- and offshore solid earthquake observatories that could monitor and inform us about land-based and ocean hazards contributing to decision-making protocols and societal awareness.



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Simona Simoncelli

Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia

WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Simona Simoncelli is a researcher at Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Sezione di Bologna since 2011. She holds a Ph.D. (2010) in Environmental Science (“Protection and Management of Natural Resources”) and her activities mainly focus on statistical data analysis, in situ data quality assessment, mapping techniques, numerical modelling, model validation and ocean monitoring indicators. She has experience on coastal modelling, regional reanalysis and climatologies. Her expertise regards both the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas circulation. She participated to several EU-Projects such as SeaDataNet, SeaDataNet II, ECOOP, MyOcean, MyOcean2, MyOcean-Follow-on. She was task leader in MyOcean2 and MyOcean-Follow-On projects coordinating the production of regional reanalyses of European sea basins. Implemented and

produced the Mediterranean reanalysis distributed through CMEMS and was responsible for the MED-MFC (phase I) of multi-year products’ cross cutting activities, contributing to the Ocean State Report (issue 1 and 2). WP leader of SeaDataNet II and SeaDataCloud projects, coordinating quality assessment activities of data collections, the production/release of aggregated datasets and climatologies for all EU marginal seas. She has been scientific manager of the EMODnet MedSea Checkpoint project devoted to the assessment of the adequacy of the observing and monitoring system at basin scale and she participates to EMODnet Data Ingestion Project.



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PROJECT COORDINATOR

Kathrine Angell-Hansen

JPI Oceans

Working Group II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Kathrine Angell-Hansen, MSc is the Strategic Director to JPI Oceans. She has 10 years industrial experience amongst others in the marine and maritime field, followed by a position as Director on strategy and internationalisation in the Research Council of Norway industry division which including responsibility for the maritime, food and biotech programs. She held the position as Deputy Director General with responsibility for research in the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. Kathrine was seconded as national expert to the European Commission DG MARE before holding the position as Director to JPI Oceans. She has held the position as strategic director to JPI Oceans during the past 2 years.

Alberto Michelini

Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia

WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea | January 22, 2020



Alberto Michelini received his PhD in geophysics from UC Berkeley, 1991. He is a Research Director at INGV since 2003. Director of the National Earthquakes Center of INGV from 2013 to 2016. Author of more than 80 scientific publications in international journals. President of the ORFEUS ExeCom from 2008 to 2017, member of the EPOS Seismology Consortium Assembly. Expertise in many topics of seismology including real-time analysis and off-line analysis of large data volumes. Coordinator of the 2016-2018 ARISTOTLE EC project (ECHO/SER/2015/722144) and group leader of the 2018-2021 ARISTOTLE-ENHSP project (ECHO/SER/2018/683059).



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Leonardo Tunesi

ISPRA - Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research

WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea | January 21, 2020



Research Director, is the Head of the Unit "*Marine biodiversity, habitats and species Protection*" at ISPRA - Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research – Rome

Actually is P.I. of 4 research projects focusing on:

- institution of new Italian national MPAs and support the management / revision of existing national MPAs,
- data collection and information management for the art.17 reporting of the Habitat Directive and proposal of new N2000 sites beyond the 12 nautical miles from the Italian coasts.

and is one of the coordinators of the scientific and technical ISPRA's activities for the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in Italy,

focusing on Descriptor 1 (biodiversity). His major professional interests, developed in over 38 years of post-graduate, focus on marine science and conservation. He has concentrated efforts on the development of marine protected areas as a conservation tool, on the application of scientific research in support of management and conservation of marine habitats and species, within the framework of sustainable development of human activities. He was the Principal Investigator of numerous scientific research programs for ISPRA / ICRAM / ICRAP, successfully completed and he is currently in charge of several scientific research projects. In particular, his main fields of experience are:

1. study of marine protected habitats and species;
2. design and implementation of MPAs, through the application of GIS based systems of multi-criteria analysis and the development of decision support systems ;
3. study the effect and the real enforcement of the protection measures and of their effectiveness in MPAs through the application of underwater visual census;
4. study of small-scale fisheries and human activities in MPAs.
5. specific expertise in the management and coordination of activities and research facilities, acquired over the years.

He has drawn up more than 160 scientific publications (peer-review), 150 general publications (no peer-review), 6 books, 3 CDs, and several final reports of scientific project directly coordinated in the framework of the ISPRA's scientific activities. He served as a marine scientific advisor to various national and international bodies, and participated in multilateral meetings and negotiations in representation of Italy. Main positions held:

1. Italian National Focal Point for the implementation of the Protocol SPA / RAC-SPA-BIO to the Barcelona Convention.
2. Member of the Commission, of the Technical Committee and of the working group "Gestion Intégrée des Zones Côtières" of the international agreement RAMOGE (signed among France, Monaco and Italy);
3. ISPRA official contact, as Italian IUCN member (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources), Gland, Switzerland;
4. Representative of ISPRA in the Italian Oceanographic Commission (COI);
5. Past President of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Pelagos Agreement, creating the Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals.

