



Streamlining biodiversity in sectoral development: a sustainable touristic model in the Mediterranean that ensures resilient coastal and marine ecosystems

Speakers Booklet

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Practical Workshop IUCN Congress channel 6



LIST OF SPEAKERS



ANOUSKA KINAHAN

Independent Consultant, AK Conservation Consulting

Social media: LinkedIn: anouska-kinahan

BIO:

Anouska is an independent consultant providing practical and tailored consulting and advice for effective conservation solutions to government and non-government institutions across the globe. She holds a PhD and has 16 years practical experience in biodiversity conservation with a special focus on marine and terrestrial protected areas across four continents. She believes in merging scientific principles with practical measures, and has a strong focus in the application of research and ecological monitoring information for improved decision making and effective management. Prior to consulting, Anouska was a technical advisor for an international NGO, supporting biodiversity-related governments across Africa, and South America/Caribbean. She has developed a number of protected area-related strategies and sustainable financing plans and has extensive experience facilitating and coordinating stakeholder engagement across a variety of stakeholder groups in different countries.

“Tourism in the Mediterranean provides many benefits to people and should be promoted, but we need to make sure this isn’t at the expense of biodiversity and our environment. Tourism must grow in a sustainable manner that will benefit both people and biodiversity alike.”



DANIA ABDUL MALAK

Director, The European Topic Centre on Spatial Analysis and Synthesis (ETC-UMA)

Social media: Twitter: @ETC-UMA and @abdul_dania, [Linkedin](#)

BIO:

Dania has over 15 years' experience in environmental assessment and management. Her research focuses on setting transferable guidelines to apply ecosystem-based management to nature conservation and biodiversity protection at regional scales, including the Mediterranean and Europe. Her work supports the evidence behind the implementation of different global and regional Directives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Ramsar Convention on wetlands, the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030, and the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Coastal and Marine Environment, among others.

Dania supports the European Environment Agency (EEA) and various EU expert groups including the Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services (EC MAES) Working Group by developing integrated ecosystem assessment frameworks and spatial data indicators to evaluate the functional capacity of ecosystems to provide ecosystem services. Furthermore, she coordinates several regional initiatives and participates in numerous international research projects related to her field of expertise.

“The use of ecosystem-based management (EBM), both within and outside protected areas, can help ensure ecological integrity, structure, and function, hence the services provided by healthy ecosystems. It should be at the heart of any decision linked to sectoral activities including the touristic sector and is key to the long-term development of sustainable local economies in the Mediterranean. Aware of the need to widening cross-sectoral dialogue and to implement collective action as new ways of working together across disciplinary siloes, the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community project (MBPC) that i coordinate, is widening the scope of effective collaborations with the Sustainable Tourism Community through testing new models of collaboration. The aim of this collaboration is to protect biodiversity in vulnerable coastal and marine areas, to raise awareness about the urgency of conserving Mediterranean ecosystems, and to learn how to mitigate adverse impacts of touristic activities on coastal and marine resources.”



STÉPHANIE OUDIN

Cheffe de projet - Adaptation des littoraux au changement climatique et coopération maritime euroméditerranéenne

Organisation: RÉGION SUD

Social media: <https://posbemed2.interreg-med.eu/>

BIO:

Stéphanie has a master degree in spatial Planning and ecosystems management and another one in social practices for sustainable development. She has a 20 years experience as a public officer, working on natural protected areas management, leading partnerships and coordinating networks with national and regional natural parks as well as coastal and marine protected areas. She also contributed for over 10 years to implement environmental education and public awareness policies, based on participatory approaches and commitment theory. She integrated the sea and coasts Department of the Region SUD in 2018 where she deals with erosion, submersion and climate change adaptation issues. She is also leading for the Region SUD a european InterregMed project- in partnership with IUCN Med and 7 others partners, called POSBEMED2, which aims at preserving Posidonia Banquette on Mediterranean beaches.

“Dans un monde où tout change, mieux vaut penser le changement que changer le pansement”

Francis Blanche.



GIANCARLO GUSMAROLI

Wetland restoration and governance expert, Italian Centre for River Restoration - MedSea Foundation

Social media: FACEBOOK [CIRF](#) , [MEDSEA](#) , [Giancarlo Giusmaroli](#)

BIO

Environmental engineer, advisor at international level on wetland governance and restoration, scientific coordination or advisor of several international projects on integrated wetland management. Former technical director of the Italian Centre for River Restoration and board member of the European Centre for River Restoration. Currently a member of the technical support unit of the Italian Observatory of Wetland Contracts at the Italian Ministry for Ecological Transition.

“Building trust and commitment amongst wetlands’ stakeholders at a local scale, providing case histories and toolkits for establishing effective voluntary-based governance processes.”



CARLO CERRANO

Professor, Marche Polytechnic University

Social media: Twitter: @CerCarlo67

BIO:

Carlo Cerrano is professor in Zoology at the Department of Life and Environmental Science at the Marche Polytechnic University (Italy). He studies the biodiversity of marine zoobenthos with reference to Porifera and Cnidaria. His research has been conducted not only in the Mediterranean area but also in tropical and polar areas. It includes the exploration of the mesophotic zone, to evaluate the natural history and the ecological role of "ecosystem engineers" and the effects of climate change on their phenology. Part of his research is conducted in collaboration with volunteers in the frame of several Citizen Science projects. The results of his research are aimed at providing elements to support the development of conservation and environmental restoration strategies.

"Through effective participation strategies MPA Engage is spreading the perception of climate change effects in marine ecosystems among society and is suggesting innovative approaches for sustainable diving tourism"



ANIOL ESTEBAN

Director, Marilles Foundation

Social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Linkedin](#)

BIO:

Aniol is a marine biologist and environmental economist who has devoted most of his career to reconciling the economy and the environment. He has expertise in such diverse fields as education, economics, running campaigns and project design. Since 2017 he leads the Marilles Foundation, a philanthropic initiative working to turn the Balearic Islands (Majorca, Menorca, Ibiza, Formentera) into a world reference of marine conservation. Before joining Marilles, he worked for 15 years in the UK at the New Economics Foundation and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). Previously he worked for the WWF Mediterranean Programme, Catalan Government leading EU biodiversity projects; and was a researcher at the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the Oceanography Institute of Lisbon. The sea is his passion, and if he had his way, he would rarely be sighted above water.

“Throughout our involvement in the MPA Networks we have revealed that investing in Marine Protected Areas offers good returns. The results of our Natural Capital Accounting study in Cala Ratjada-Llevant MPA in Eastern Majorca developed together with EcoAcsa and CBBA show that 10 Euro of benefits are generated for every euro invested. The tourism sector is the main beneficiary of the marine protected area. A strong and solid network of MPAs is essential to strengthen tourism and fisheries. MPAs need to be at the core of economic recovery strategies across the Med.”



ARNAU TEIXIDOR-COSTA

Ecosystem Programme Officer, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation

Social media: LinkedIn: [MEET Network](#), Instagram: [Meet Network](#), Twitter: [MedEcotourism](#)

BIO:

Arnau is acting manager of the Ecosystem Resilience and Spatial Planning Programme at IUCN Med, coordinating a portfolio of projects including DestiMED Plus and Tech4Nature, as well as the MEET Network Association, with focus on tourism and visitation of protected areas. Before this role, Arnau was Climate Emergency Project Manager at Bristol City Council, Destinations Programme Officer at the Travel Foundation, and Executive Director of FMB (Fundação Maio Biodiversidade), a nature conservation NGO in Cabo Verde, Western Africa. With a background in spatial planning, Arnau has worked for over 10 years on sustainable development initiatives related to tourism, nature conservation, transport and climate change in several countries, including Turkey, United Kingdom or Switzerland. Arnau is from Girona, Spain, and holds a MSc in International Planning by University College London.

“DestiMED Plus and the MEET Network are creating an ecotourism model of what sustainable tourism can mean in practice: ensuring that protected areas and their communities are at the steering wheel of the destination, engaging private sector stakeholder to measure and manage their ecological footprint and wider impacts, and innovating on how to value sustainability in the marketplace.”



THOMAS VLACHOGIANNI

Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)

Social media: Facebook & Twitter: @MIOECSDE, @Mio_Ecsde

BIO

Thomais is an environmental chemist and ecotoxicologist (MSc, PhD) specialized in oxidative stress mediated toxicity induced by environmental pollutants. Her 15-years work experience in environmental research and management stretches over vast areas including marine litter and marine plastic pollution. Since 2008, she has been working at MIO-ECSDE as a Programme/Policy Officer, and has been involved in several transboundary projects addressing the whole management cycle of marine litter; she has led within the framework of the Interreg Med ACT4LITTER, the SWIM-H2020 SM & H2020 CB/MEP, the FP7 MARLISCO and the IPA-Adriatic DeFishGear projects several marine litter activities. She is an active member of the EU MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter and the UNEP/MAP Correspondence Group on Monitoring, Pollution and Litter. Currently she is leading the studying and capitalization activities of the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs project and she is the marine litter expert of the EU-funded WES project. She is author of some 100 publications covering a wide spectrum of thematic areas in relation to the Euro-Mediterranean environment protection, with some 7439 citations and i10-index equal to 33.

“I am thrilled I got to witness the impressive results of Plastic Busters MPAs. The project via a holistic and consolidated approach has demonstrated how we can slash plastic pollution and break away from a throwaway society. The project’s comprehensive marine litter monitoring and mitigation actions have been truly instrumental and have pushed forward the implementation of the Single-Use Plastics Directive and the Green Deal headline actions on zero pollution”.



ENRICO LONGATO

Researcher, Member of the Knowledge Management Unit, Area Science park

Social media: [Linkedin](#)

BIO:

Master of Science in Economics and Business Administration, with specialization in Management of Innovation Processes at the University of Southern Denmark. I worked in the private sector, mainly as a consultant for high-tech start-ups and university spin-offs, gaining interest in business models and sustainability. In Area Science Park since 2018, I deal with data management and analysis on the economic performance of companies, business and regional innovation strategies.

“INCIRCLE [...] will apply the principles of circular economy to the tourism sector, with a focus on the peculiar needs of islands and low density areas”.

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CURZIO CERVELLI

JS Interreg MED Coordinator , Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region

BIO

Master of Science in Economics and Business Administration, with specialization in Management of Innovation Processes at the University of Southern Denmark. I worked in the private sector, mainly as a consultant for high-tech start-ups and university spin-offs, gaining interest in business models and sustainability. In Area Science Park since 2018, I deal with data management and analysis on the economic performance of companies, business and regional innovation strategies.

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FRANCESCA MARCATO

Project Officer, Interreg MED Programme

BIO:

9 years of experience in European projects from both project and programme perspective with a strong focus on European Territorial Cooperation and key issues related to the Mediterranean basin. She is project officer, referent for the Biodiversity Protection thematic community of the Interreg Med Programme.

“The links created between the Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism communities are completely in line with the aims of the future Interreg Euro-Med Programme: capitalize on the results already obtained and further develop cooperation and synergies between actors in the Mediterranean.”





PASCALE FAUVEAU-LAGAYE

Project Officer, Interreg MED Programme

BIO:

12 years of experience in European Territorial Co-operation (ETC) with a strong focus on Transnational Programme and key issues related to the Mediterranean basin. Referent for the Sustainable Tourism thematic community and in charge of projects assessment, monitoring and follow-up. Participating in the preparation of the future Cooperation Programme EURO-MED for the period 2021-2027. Master 2 degree in Euro-Mediterranean management and sustainable development.

“The links created between the Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism communities are completely in line with the aims of the future Interreg Euro-Med Programme: capitalize on the results already obtained and further develop cooperation and synergies between actors in the Mediterranean.”

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