

Newsletter



May, June, July & August 2016

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1. From the secretariat

- Christiaan Hummel

Welcome to the newest MARS newsletter. We hope you have had a nice summer holiday, and have returned to your job full of energy to start new projects, collaborations, etc.



In this newsletter you will find an invitation to join EKLIPSE, and we present two of our member stations, ECIMAT in Spain, and Avamposto Mare in Italy, a recently opened marine station.

At the secretariat we are working hard to complete and launch the new MARS and WAMS (World Atlas of Marine Stations) websites, which we hope to show to you very soon.

If you want your station to be in the WAMS atlas, you can already fill in the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RL3JKBT>

Also, in September we will be sending out the invoices for the membership fee of 2016. If you want to have an invoice to certain specifications, please let us know as soon as possible!

If you have any content for the upcoming MARS newsletters, suggestions, or comments, please send them to marinestations@gmail.com.

2. Invitation to join EKLIPSE activities at the science-policy interface on biodiversity in Europe

EKLIPSE is an EU-funded project that will facilitate the process of developing a self-sustainable EU support mechanism, building on the Network of Networks on biodiversity and ecosystem services that has been developing in Europe thanks to networks, projects, learned societies, civil society organisations and interest groups. We understand the idea of network quite broadly and thus reach out to projects, networks and institutions that might have a main focus on other sectors (e.g., health, agriculture, social innovation, planning and many more), but have links to the area of biodiversity and ecosystem services.



1) EKLIPSE calls for engagement

EKLIPSE recently established its first working group on an “impact evaluation framework on nature based solutions to promote climate resilience in urban areas”. The working group includes 15 experts (based on 117 nominations across Europe). You can follow the group’s progress at: http://www.eklipse-mechanism.eu/ongoing_processes

EKLIPSE invites nominations for its key governance body, the Knowledge Coordination Body (KCB) and an additional working group on knowledge synthesis methodologies.

We invite you to share these calls with your expert network and in your institutions:

- [Call for nomination to the EKLIPSE's Knowledge Coordination Body \(KCB\)](#). The KCB is a key element of the EKLIPSE project and mechanism, responsible for organising and accompanying the knowledge synthesis processes within EKLIPSE over the next two years. The KCB will also coordinate other tasks required to set up a self-sustaining mechanism for evidence-based and evidence-informed policy on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The closing date for this call is **23rd September 2016**.
- [Call for members of the Expert group on Knowledge Synthesis Methods](#). The task of the Expert Group on Knowledge Synthesis Methods will be to provide and share knowledge about different forms, methods and limitations of knowledge collation, appraisal and synthesis so that robust evidence and knowledge gaps can be identified, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of available knowledge. The successful candidates will take part in a workshop in autumn 2016, and produce a report by January 2017 on strengths and weaknesses of existing approaches and methodologies to jointly provide evidence, identification of potential gaps in existing approaches, and how to address these gaps. The chair of this expert group will be Dr Lynn Dicks (University of East Anglia). The closing date for this call is **10th September 2016**.

2) Further developing the Network of Networks

Further building this Network of Networks is another key function of EKLIPSE. Thus we are interested to get in touch with your network and institutions to learn more about your interests in engagement. We will soon send our questionnaire to institutions on this matter.

3) Save the date: 1st EKLIPSE conference(s), 6th to 8th December, 2016

To present the first outputs of EKLIPSE, identify further knowledge needs with respect to biodiversity in the context of nature-based solutions and to further develop our joint networking, EKLIPSE will organise jointly with partners including BiodivERSA and EPBRS a series of workshops and conferences from 6th to 8th of December in Brussels – you will receive further information on this in due time – but save the date if your network is interested in attending.

For questions feel free to get in touch with secretariat@eklipse-mechanism.eu

3. ECIMAT, 10 years of marine vocation

- Jesús Troncoso



ECIMAT is the University of Vigo's marine research station. It celebrates this year its 10th anniversary, and it was built with the objective of providing state of the art infrastructures to achieve research excellence in marine science, in response to the marine vocation of the University of Vigo, which leads marine research in Spain.

Mission and research:

ECIMAT provides state of the art marine research facilities and serves as an integrating element for the Sea Research cluster Océano-ECIMAT. The cluster, funded by the Galician government, includes 18 research teams and the main research priorities relate to ocean observation and global change, marine environmental quality and marine pollution, sustainable use of marine resources, integral management of the coastal zone, modelling of complex systems and omics-technologies applied to the marine environment.

Marine facilities:

Sea water pumping station supplies 50 m³/h of temperature controlled 20 micron filtered seawater to all laboratories. Microalgae collection, photobioreactor and facilities for the cultivation of zooplankton, molluscs, crustaceans and fish. Diving facility with storage room and diving equipment for up to 12 divers, breathing air compressor, marine sampling equipment and locker room. 5,90 m, 115 HP Semi-rigid boat (Zodiac-like), 7,5 m. 225 HP Rodman Cruise vessel, oceanographic sampling and sea bottom mapping equipment, 4x4 pick-up truck, field laboratory, environmental continuous monitoring station, HF Radar for the monitoring of surface currents, pier, mesocosm facilities, floating raft.

Laboratories:

Light and fluorescent microscopy, image analysis, material preparation and sample processing, fish culture, mollusc culture, crustacean culture, zooplankton and phytoplankton. Controlled environment rooms. PL2 biosecurity culture facility for marine specimens.

Platforms:

Histology, Chromatography, Light and Fluorescent Microscopy and image analysis, Functional Preservation unit for marine specimens specialized in the cryopreservation of marine organisms, cold storage (-80°C; -20°C; 4°C), freeze drying, aquaculture species collection (50+ microalgae species), ECIMAT's services are complemented by the following: Remote Sensing, electron microscopy (SEM, TEM), confocal microscopy, mass spectrometry, proteomics, genomics, DNA sequencing, molecular biology, flow cytometry all the complementary



equipment and services are located at the Center for Scientific and Technical Support to Research (CACTI) 15 minutes away from the station.

Main marine models:

Crustaceans (*Palinurus elephas*, *Artemia* sp., *Siriella armata*, *Acartia clausi*), molluscs (*Cerastoderma edule*, *Venerupis pullastra*, *Ruditapes* sp., *Haliotis tuberculata*, *Littorina saxatilis*, *Mytilus galloprovincialis*, *Sepiola atlantica*, *Octopus vulgaris*, *Ensis arcuatus*, *Ostrea edulis*), echinoderms (*Paracentrotus lividus*), fish (*Gobiusculus flavescens*, *Scophthalmus maximus*, *Solea senegalensis*), rotifers (*Brachionus plicatilis*) and more than 50 species of microalgae.

Special partnerships:

ECIMAT is one of the two facilities that integrate the Spanish National Node of the European Marine Biological Resource Centre (EMBRC; www.embrc.eu). EMBRC is one of the Biomedical Science Research Infrastructures included in the European Roadmap of Research Infrastructures by the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI; <https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures>). ECIMAT represents the University of Vigo in Euromarine, the European Marine Research Network and is part of the International Campus of Excellence "[Campus do Mar](#)" which manages socio-economic agents and marine researchers from the Galicia-Northern Portugal Euroregion.



Research topics:

1. Biodiversity and ecology
2. Ocean observation and global change
3. Marine environmental quality and marine pollution
4. Sustainable use of marine resources
5. Integral management of the coastal zone
6. Modelling of complex systems
7. Omics technologies applied to the marine environment

ECIMAT (<http://ecimat.uvigo.es/en/>) is member of **MARS Network** since 2010.

The Director is Jesús Troncoso and the contact person is Antonio Villanueva (ecimat@ecimat.org).

4. A new marine station on the Italian coast

- Francesca Strano



Avamposto Mare has been inaugurated the 19th June 2015, in Tricase Porto (Apulia, Italy). It was raised with help of CIHEAM Bari, within the BIG territorial cooperation project, in collaboration with the Municipality of Tricase, Magna Grecia local association, "University of Salento" (Lecce) and the regional park "Costa d'Otranto, S. Maria di Leuca e Bosco di Tricase".

The station is situated in front of a wonderful rocky shore on the Otranto Channel. This strategical position represents the main facility for the laboratory: here, there is the great opportunity to make daily samplings and in vivo observations for a seasonal and long term biodiversity monitoring.

The Avamposto MARE is also a structure well integrated within the local community so there is the possibility to collaborate with local associations, fishermen, citizens promoting biodiversity and sustainable fishery.

On our website you can find the list of species that we have reported until now, completed with high resolution pictures; the link is: www.biodiversitymaretricase.org.



