



**MARLICE 2022**  
16 - 20 MAYO  
SEVILLA

**SPEAKERS BOOKLET**

# **FOCUS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN: PIONEER SCIENCE AND ACTIONS ON THE FIELD**

International forum on marine litter and circular economy



## LIST OF MODERATORS



**DANIA ABDUL MALAK**

*ETC-UMA*

Latest contributions by the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community (MBPC)

### BIO

Dania Abdul Malak is a senior environmental researcher and Director of the European Topic Centre at the University of Malaga (ETC-UMA). She 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, European and Mediterranean Directives such as the EU MSFD, the EU MSP, the EU Habitat Directive, the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment in the Mediterranean, as well as the Ramsar and the Carpathian Conventions.

Dania supports the European Environment Agency (EEA) by developing integrated ecosystem assessment frameworks 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. More recently, Dania is supporting the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) in implementing sustainable Development Strategies in Western Asian countries.



**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



## MAGALI OUTTERS

*MedWaves*

Latest contributions by Beyond Plastic Med  
capitalisation process in islands

### BIO

Magali is an Engineer in “Materials: Economics and Environment” from the University of Technology of Troyes (France). She also holds a Master of Industrial Ecology and a Post-graduate degree in International development.

She has a significant expertise in sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and circular economy in the Mediterranean region with 15 years advocating for this approach and by being actively involved in numerous capacity building projects, technical studies, developing specific tools and pilot initiatives with governments,

She is currently coordinating the Policy Area for MedWavers, previously known as SCP/RAC (Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production). SCP/RAC is a Regional Centre of the UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The centre works with interested countries, international entities, business organisations and individuals for the integration of eco-innovation, the creation of sustainable businesses, the prevention of land-based pollution, marine litter and the reduction of use of toxic chemicals towards a clean and healthy Mediterranean.





**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



**CAROLINA PÉREZ**  
*MedCities*

### BIO

A lawyer by education, Carolina has over 20 years' experience managing projects in the field of coastal management, planning and policy-development. Previously a project coordinator at the Coastal & Marine Union in the Netherlands, in 2003 she moved to Barcelona where they opened their regional office. While in Barcelona, she began cooperating with MedCities and eventually joined the MedCities team in 2017 as project officer focusing on their eastern Mediterranean activities.

Her main areas of interest are related to coastal and marine management and protection, sustainable socio-economic development, participatory processes, climate change adaptation, waste reduction and management and marine litter.





**PEDRO FERNANDÉZ**

*MedWaves*

BIO

Mr. Fernández has 15 years' experience in coordinating and contributing to projects in the field of governance, planning, policy development and pollution prevention in the Mediterranean region. He is specialized in field and policy support projects with the aim to establish integrated management schemes in Mediterranean coastal areas, particularly in Spain, Morocco, France and Montenegro.

He is acting as project manager of several plastics, marine litter and circular economy initiatives and policy development within the Barcelona Convention at SCP/RAC (now MedWaves). He currently intervenes as plastic pollution prevention expert in WES and Marine Litter Med projects, providing capacity building and technical support in the Southern Mediterranean. This relates particularly to the prevention of single-use plastic products and promotion of extended producer responsibility, and hence involving the private sector through consultation and negotiation. In addition, he leads the mainstreaming component of the capitalisation process of BeMed programme on islands, acting as liaison with key regional stakeholders. In the Western Balkans region (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro), he has managed a project on the prevention of marine litter from the food and beverage sector.

## LIST OF SPEAKERS



### **SONSOLES SAN ROMAN**

*ETC-UMA*

MedBioLitter - Research efforts on marine litter impacts

#### BIO

Sonsoles joined ETC-UMA as Communication officer in 2016 to support regional networking and collaboration with major international and regional institutions, government agencies, civil society organizations, the scientific community, the private sector and the general public on environmental and biodiversity topics. Her professional experience includes the coordination, production and management of project, publications and communication actions in

international organizations like the European Foundation Centre in Brussels and IUCN Mediterranean in Malaga. She represents the lead coordinator of the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community initiative co-funded by the Interreg Med programme and is an active promoter of cooperation and joint communication initiatives in various EU and Mediterranean conservation and environmental fora related to research, management and policies.



**CRISTINA FOSSI**

*University of Siena*

The legacy of Plastic Busters MPAs

BIO

Maria Cristina Fossi is Full Professor of Ecology and Ecotoxicology at the University of Siena (UNISI) and since 2000 is Scientific Director of the Biomarker Laboratory (CIBM). She gave a key contribution to the development of the biomarker approach in terrestrial and marine ecotoxicology. Since 1991 she developed innovative diagnostic tools for ecotoxicological assessment of threatened species (marine mammals, birds, reptiles) bringing to the establishment of methods (non-destructive biomarker approach) currently acknowledged as golden standard at the international level. In 2012 she provided the first evidence worldwide on the effects of microplastics on baleen whales.

She is author or co-author of over 800 scientific papers (articles and review articles (289), chapters (28) and books (6), abstracts in national and international conferences (over 380). In the field of marine litter, she has been the scientific coordinator (PI) of the "Plastic Busters"(PB) project elected as Flagship Project of Med-SDSN since 2013. The project, developed to monitor and mitigate the impact of plastics in the Med, was labeled in 2016 from Union for the Mediterranean and financed in 2018 by Interreg MED EU Programme – Plastic Busters MPAs. PB was elected in 2019 as a flagship project for the “BLUEMED Pilot for a Plastic free healthy Mediterranean” from the EU. She is the WP3 coordinator of the COMMON, ENI-CBC project. In 2019-21 she has been the PI of the FEAMP Project AdriCleanFish supported by MIPAAF. She is involved in an intense scientific communication and dissemination activity on the topic of the effects of microplastics on biodiversity (including endangered species).





**MORGANA VIGHI**

*IRBio, University of Barcelona*

Monitoring impact on marine vertebrates

BIO

MSc in Marine Biology, Morgana Vighi holds a Speciality Master in Management and conservation of the marine and coastal environment and a PhD in Biodiversity. Her research interests focus on the biology and ecology of marine mammals and, in general, the conservation of marine environment. Over the past decade she has been involved in several international projects related with the conservation of marine fauna. She has been collaborating since 2008 with the Tethys Research Institute, being a Principal Field Investigator within the Cetaceans Sanctuary Research project in the Ligurian Sea, and since 2012 with the Large Marine Vertebrate research group of the University of

Barcelona. Her involvement in the Interreg-EU MEDSEALITTER project, aimed to the development of standardized protocols to monitor marine litter and its impacts on marine biodiversity, increased her awareness of the most current issues related with marine policy, management and conservation, and allowed her to get familiar with the latest technologies for marine monitoring. She is currently providing freelance environmental consultancy for the EU Joint Research Centre and other European agencies, and she is a board member of both the European Cetacean Society and the Spanish Cetacean Society.





**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



## **OLFA CHAIEB**

*INSTM*

Standardized tools for monitoring the impacts of litter on marine fauna as bio-indicators: Indicit II

### BIO

Olfa CHAIEB is a biologist at the National Institute of Sea Sciences and Technologies in Tunisia, involved in conservation of vulnerable marine species (specifically sea turtles and cetaceans). She's the national coordinator of the EU-INDICIT II project (Implementation Of Indicators Of Marine Litter On Sea Turtles And Biota In Regional Sea Conventions And Marine Strategy Framework Directive Areas) and an expert in the EU COMMON project (COastal Management and MONitoring Network for tackling marine litter in Mediterranean sea). She runs the Sea Turtle Rehabilitation and Rescue Centre of Tunisia, and she is a focal point of the National Stranding Network for Cetaceans and Turtles. Her research

interests focus on the dynamic population of sea turtles and the main threats turtles and cetaceans are facing, through stranding surveys, genetic and ecology.



## CHRISTOS IOAKIMIDIS

*UNEP/MAP*

Science-policy interface in the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (Barcelona Convention)

### BIO

Dr. Christos Ioakimidis is a Marine Scientist with a multidisciplinary scientific background in the fields of Oceanology, Oceanography, Environmental Sciences, Marine Pollution and Marine Litter. He has more than 14 years of working experience in various sectors, including International Organizations, Research/Academia, as well as the public and private sectors. Since 2016, he has been working for UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan in support of the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean as well as the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme for

the Mediterranean Sea and Coast (IMAP) devised under the Barcelona Convention. He has also been actively involved in UNEP's Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML), supported the development of the Mediterranean Marine Litter Node, and the G7 portfolio of the UNEP/MAP Secretariat. He has represented UNEP/MAP at various international fora, marine litter expert meetings and working groups. Christos has contributed to collaborations in both the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions and has generated new knowledge in the field of marine litter management.



**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



## DAVID LÉON

Fundación Hombre y Territorio/ Intemares-  
ArtesPerdidos

### BIO

David León is Projects Coordinator at " HyT Association, Hombre y Territorio" since 2003. Doctor in Biology, diver and deeply conservationist, belongs to the Ecology Department of Seville University for more than 18 years. He has participated in many projects related to limnology, oceanography and its habitats or species, and has published several scientific articles and technical reports related to conservation. With a high experience in citizen science actions, is a part of the LIFE Blue Natura project partners, manager of sosredes project, editor in chief of Chronica naturae journal and coordinator of different actions related to marine litter in Spain.





**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



## TUPA RANGEL

*Save the Med Foundation, Balearic Islands*

Focus on HORECA sector: Plastic-free Balearic certification scheme

### BIO

Born in Caracas, Venezuela. Lives since 1995 between Catalonia and the Balearic Islands. She has a degree in graphic arts, although she developed her career in social activism and cultural programming and management. Between 2007 and 2011 held functions in cultural diplomacy, both in Catalonia and in Indonesia as a representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In 2018 he joined the Ondine Association (later Save The Med) to promote Balears Sense Plàstic, a program to support companies to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics (SUP).

Since 2020, leads from STM Plastic Free Balearics, an environmental quality seal developed in alliance with the Ibiza Preservation Foundation that has already managed to eliminate, in its pilot stage, more than 16,000 kg of plastics in the Balearic Islands.



## **ANASTASIA CHARITOU**

*iSea, Greece*

Focus on sea-based sources: Recovery and recycling of derelict mussel nets in MPA Thermaikos Gulf

### BIO

Anastasia is an educator specialized in Environmental Education with a 4 years' experience in mainstream and special education.

At iSea she has been coordinating projects related to Aquatic Litter since 2018. The projects included the implementation of coastal and underwater cleanups, the active involvement of target groups in tackling the issue of marine litter pollution and the design and implementation of awareness raising campaigns on marine pollution from plastics and microplastics in the Greek seas.

She is now coordinating the “Human and Aquatic Ecosystem” department of iSea, designing and implementing educational activities and projects aimed at the active involvement of the public in environmental protection with the aim to redefine our relation with the environment. She coordinated the publication of the environmental education guide for the disabled and is responsible for projects related to the promotion of active participation and the education of citizens for the sustainable management of the environment and the implementation of proper measures aiming at sustainable development.

Her main research interests are related to issues of environmental education and ethics, as well as environmental knowledge and perceptions of citizens on different environmental topics.



**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



## GLORIA GARCIA HOYO

*Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park-Geopark, Spain*

Focus on waste management: A reward system to increase recovery of beverage containers and enhance extended producers 'responsibility in Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park, Spain

### BIO

Geologist (University of Granada, 2006) and working for the Andalusian Regional Government since 2007 on several environmental issues, has been working on Cabo de Gata-Níjar MPA since 2016. For the last 5 years, she has been in charge of the implementation of the marine litter strategy of the MPA and as responsible for pilot actions implementation carried out on several Interreg Med projects focused on Marine Litter issues as ACT4LITTER and Plastic Busters MPAs.





**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



## **MERCEDES MUÑOZ CAÑAS**

*IUCN Nature Conservation & Food Systems*

*Manager, Spain*

Focus on scaling up initiatives: Blueprint and Community of Practice.

### BIO

Double degree in Biology and Environmental Science, she has more than 15 years of experience in marine conservation projects with emblematic species such as the Mediterranean monk seal. Since 2018 she has been working at the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, where she manages the agriculture and plastic pollution portfolios, in addition she also coordinates a monk seal conservation project in the Eastern Mediterranean. Among her activities in relation to the plastics portfolio, is the coordination of the "Plastic-free Islands"

project, which focuses on demonstrating and providing effective solutions to reduce plastic pollution on islands. She also coordinates the "Plastimed" project, which aims to improve the knowledge of the origin and destination of plastics in the Mediterranean Sea and represents IUCN in the BeMed association. microplastics in the Greek seas.





**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room



**JOSEP CANALS**

*MedCities/INCIRCLE*

BIO

Ecologist with a Post Degree in Landscape Management and a Master in Urban and Territorial Studies. He has been an advisor to the Parliament of Catalonia, the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (BMA) and several municipalities in Europe and America. Advisor to the Mayor of Bogota 2012-2016. Mayor of Corbera de Llobregat (Catalonia) 2009-2011. Metropolitan councilor in Barcelona Metropolitan Area 2007-2009. Independent advisor of Inter-american Development Bank and Fraunhofer Institut. Member of the UNESCO chair on Sustainability. Passionate by Nature and Music.





**Focus on the Mediterranean: Pioneer science and actions on the field**  
19 May 2022 - Aquarium of Seville – Mediterranean Room

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE:



[biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu](https://biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu)



[biodiversity.uma.es](https://biodiversity.uma.es)

## FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



[@BiodiversityProtectionCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/BiodiversityProtectionCommunity)



[@MEDCommunity3\\_2](https://twitter.com/MEDCommunity3_2)



[@medbiodiversityprotection](https://www.instagram.com/medbiodiversityprotection)



[@Biodiversity Protection Community](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Biodiversity-Protection-Community)



[@PANACeA Biodiversity Protection](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

## CONTACT US:

[panacea-med@uma.es](mailto:panacea-med@uma.es)



## SIGN THE EBM DECLARATION