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April 7-11, 2019 Kotor, Montenegro

Organized by the University of Montenegro, the Institute of Marine Biology

# The Conference

The 2019 International Conference: Adriatic Biodiversity Protection will provide updated scientific, decision-making and policy-relevant information across a broad array of different Adriatic issues, marine biology and related scientific disciplines. Emphasis will be on how state-of- the-art research on Adriatic biodiversity protection, conservation of coastal and marine areas and sustainable use of marine resources can contribute to policy- and decision-making. Particular focus will be put on the development opportunities which marine biotechnology can offer in the Adriatic. Organized to include plenary and breakout sessions covering both disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives, Conference results will be used in shaping future marine science priorities and policy in Montenegro and other Adriatic countries.

### Background

The Institute of Marine Biology of the University of Montenegro is granted by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to implement a project "Marine Biodiversity Conservation Center "Boka Aquarium" (MonteAqua)" in cooperation with the Center for Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation of Inland Waters, Institute of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac. The International conference "Adriatic Biodiversity Protection – AdriBioPro2019" is final project event, dedicated to gather all relevant national and regional stakeholders and to secure closer regional cooperation in the Adriatic Sea region.

According the UNEP, the Mediterranean Sea is subject to tremendous pressure from multiple human uses and climate change. Recent research results indicate the cumulative impacts of human activities in the Mediterranean, rankingit as a hotspot of marine biodiversity, and one of the most heavily impacted marine region worldwide. One of the most intensely used and severely degraded regions of the Mediterranean is the Adriatic Sea. It implies a necessity of developing appropriate and effective policy-responses including adaptation actions, enhancement of resilience and implementation of mitigation activities. The Conference will address alterations of Mediterranean ecosystems, with particular focus on the Adriatic Sea and its biodiversity and analyse widespread conflict among marine users. By presenting the latest science, the Conference will facilitate, synthesize and summarize the science-policy dialogue.

## **Topics Addressed**

- 1. Marine biodiversity conservation
- 2. Conservation of coastal and marine areas
- 3. Preventing marine pollution
- 4. Rare and endangered species in Adriatic Sea
- 5. Marine invasive and alien species
- 6. Roles of aquaria
- 7. International trade in endangered marine species
- 8. Sustainable use of marine resources
- 9. Marine biotechnology
- 10. Freshwater biodiversity conservation

### **Call for Abstracts**

Participants are invited to submit abstracts of observational, process-based research, and experimental and modelling studies of past, present and future change in the Adriatic, with focus on its biodiversity. Abstracts for proposed oral and poster presentation (250 words maximum; excluding author names and affiliations) should be forwarded to the Conference organizers at <u>adribiopro@ac.me</u>. Deadline for abstracts is **October 15, 2018**. Selection of oral and poster presentations will take place and speakers and presenters will be informed by **December 10, 2018**.

The printed Conference program will include abstracts of the accepted oral and poster presentations.

Selected papers will be printed in special issue of Studia Marina.

# Who Should Attend?

Experts and students working in developing or enhancing any information that supports a better understanding of the Adriatic biodiversity protection while empowering a diverse user community that includes:

- Decision- and policy-makers dealing with sustainable use of Adriatic marine resources
- Stakeholder groups including local communities
- Others affected by the Adriatic alterations



## **Pre-registration**

If you are interested in participating, please send an e-mail to the Conference Secretariat at adribiopro@ac.me for a preliminary (non-binding) registration. All pre-registered will receive invitation to 9mCollab communication platform. This will ensure that you receive further information about the Conference as it become available. Some financial support will be available to assist participation of young scientists in the Conference.

# **Registration free**

Registration fee is 120 EUR for all participants. The fee includes the following: Special issue of Studia Marina, advertising material, conference cocktail, refreshments during breaks, and conference excursion. For 9mCollab platform registered participants discounted registration fee is 90 EUR. For students and accompanying persons fee is 60 EUR.

### Draft programme

- Sunday, 7 April 2019: Arrivals, pre-conference afternoon excursion: Skadar lake cruise. Conference exhibition – AquaFest 2019 opening
- Monday, 8 April 2019: Conference opening, plenary and poster sessions
- Tuesday, 9 April 2019: Plenary and poster sessions, Conference conclusions and closing •
- Wednesday, 10 April 2019: Conference excursion: Boka Kotorska Bay cruise
- Thursday, 11 April 2019: Conference exhibition AquaFest 2019 closing

## **Organizing Committee**

- Aleksandra Huter
- Ana Castelli
- Ana Pešić
- Branka Pestorić

### The Scientific Committee

- Aleksandar Joksimović Chair
- Aleksandra Milošković
- Alexander V. Semenov
- Andrey Kostianoy
- **Bajram** Ozturk
- Bojan Lazar
- Branko Glamuzina
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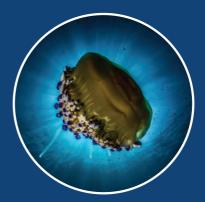
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- Hermann Ehrlich
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- Jose Rafael Garcia March
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*Photo*: Ivana Orlović Kranjc (marine life) and University of Montenegro

www.aquariumboka.ucg.ac.me



Centar za zaštitu biodiverziteta mora AKVARIJUM BOKA





