Capacity building workshop for EU early career marine researchers to operate effectively at the science-policy-society interface

Lošinj, Croatia
17 – 20 June 2018

Ecological goods and services provided by the oceans are critical to human well-being. However, the sustainable management of these resources is a significant challenge. Due to the complexity of social-ecological systems and the uncertain and often unpredictable threats such as those associated with climate change and population growth, successfully protecting marine resources will require the integration of science into policy to support evidence-informed decision-making. The practicalities of how to successfully influence policy and practice remains elusive to many environmental scientists, however. This is particularly true for early career researchers (ECRs), who are generally not trained in how to successfully engage with decision-makers or to understand the complexities of policy processes. To this end, the Network of Early Career Scientists of the Integrated Marine Biosphere Research (IMBeR) project, together with the EU project EKLIPSE and the MarCons COST Action, will convene a workshop to equip EU-based early career marine researchers with the practical knowledge, skills and tools to operate more effectively at the science-policy-society interface. The workshop will provide participants with a strong theoretical and applied understanding of the science-policy-society interface as it relates to the management of coastal and marine resources in Europe and elsewhere. Participants will also have the opportunity to interact and learn from local policy-makers and managers, to gain firsthand insights into the world of policy and decision-making, and ways to influence decision-making processes.

Lecturers

- Chris Cvitanovic – CMS, University of Tasmania, Australia.
- Prue Addison – ICCS, University of Oxford, UK
- Peter Mackelworth - U of Primorska, Slovenia & BWI, Croatia.
- Marie Löf – Stockholm University, Sweden.
- Albert Norström – PECS, Stockholm Resilience Centre, Sweden.
- Zoi Konstantinou - University of Porto, Portugal

Participants

The workshop is open to EU-based early career researchers (less than seven years post-PhD) from any scientific discipline, providing that their research is related to the management of coastal and marine resources. Priority will be given to applicants who do not have access to science-policy-society training at their institutions. Because of the 'hands-on' nature of the course, the number of participants will be limited to 25.

Registration fees and funding

250€ - includes all course materials
Travel support information will be provided to successful applicants

How to apply

Complete the Application Form and submit it before **19 March 2018**.
Any questions contact IMBeR@imr.no More info at: Website

Workshop topics

The role of science in marine and natural resources governance

- Introduction to the marine estate
- Governing marine resources
    - the range of actors
    - models and key features of governance
    - issues of scale (local to global)
    - case studies to highlight challenges and complexities

How to produce usable marine science

- Features of 'usable' marine science
- Practical approaches to producing usable marine science
- Dealing with uncertainty in data/models/projections

Improving knowledge exchange between scientists and decision-makers

- Introduction to knowledge exchange
- Barriers to knowledge exchange
- Models/frameworks for improving knowledge exchange
- Strategies to improve knowledge exchange with decision-makers
- Practical skills/attributes for improved knowledge exchange

Careers pathways to have impact at the science-policy-society interface

- Traditional academic
    - ECR
    - Established researchers
- NGO/Conservation group
- Knowledge broker
- University-based boundary organisation
- MPA Manager
- Tourism Manager
- Policy maker

Practical activities

- Writing policy briefs
- Developing infographics
- Turning a scientific paper into a blog that people want to read
- Developing a Research Impact Plan
- Communicating research with social media and other web-based tools
- Building and maintaining strong stakeholder networks
- Simulated science-policy discussions with invited policy-maker
- Citizen Science – its role, when to use it, available data types