

EMODnet Open Conference:

Consolidating the Foundations, Building the Future

20 October 2015, De Grote Post, Oostende (Belgium)

Speakers and Chairs

Phil Weaver



Phil Weaver, chair of the EMODnet Steering Committee, trained as a geologist and completed a PhD in micropalaeontology in 1978. He joined the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences in the UK in 1980 and transferred with them to the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) in Southampton in 1995. He was Director of the NERC Strategic Research Division at NOC from 2006 – 2010. In 2010 he set up Seascape Consultants Ltd, though he remains a Senior Visiting Fellow of NOC and still actively publishes his research in leading marine science journals. Phil is currently the Scientific Coordinator of the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI), and is the Coordinator of the FP7-funded MIDAS project focusing on environmental impacts of extracting mineral and energy resources from the deep-sea environment.

Bart Tommelein



Since 2014 Bart Tommelein has been Secretary of State for Privacy, the North Sea and Combatting Social Fraud. From 1985 to 1992 he was chairman of the VUJO (People's Union youth). He became a counsellor and later spokesman for the Flemish Minister-President Patrick Dewael. In 2003 he was elected to the federal Parliament and later also the Flemish Parliament. He has acted as Parliamentary group leader for VLD and was President of the Benelux Interparliamentary Consultative Council.

João Ferreira



João Ferreira, Member of the European Parliament is a Portuguese biologist and politician elected to the European Parliament since 2009 as part of the European United Left–Nordic Green Left, where he is vice-chair. He is a specialist in the ecology of invasive species and mycorrhiza. He worked on water management in the area around Setúbal and has been active in the governance of the University of Lisbon; since 2013 he is also Member of Lisbon City Council. At the European Parliament he is a member of the Commission on Fisheries and Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly.

Matthew King



Matthew King is the Head of Unit for Maritime Policy in the Atlantic, Arctic and Outermost Regions in the European Commission, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. The Unit is responsible for developing and implementing a strategy for the Atlantic region, and has developed an Action Plan to take this forward, in partnership with Member States and regional authorities. The unit is also responsible for development of policy on the Arctic and for the wider 'blue growth' agenda, which seeks to improve the rate of job creation and growth from sustainable use of the seas. This involves innovating in a number of traditional sectors, such as shipbuilding, and in emerging sectors, such as ocean energy.

Vladimir Ryabinin



Mr. Vladimir Ryabinin is the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. Mr. Ryabinin has authored and co-authored a monograph, several articles and publications, in the domains of oceanography, meteorology and climate. He was lecturer at the Moscow State University and has participated in several research and offshore engineering projects including the International Polar Year 2007-2008. More recently, he has been a lead author of the Global Environment Outlook Chapter on the Earth System challenges, and is an expert/member/chair in a number of international working groups, committees and research councils.

Jan-Bart Calewaert



Jan-Bart Calewaert is head of the EMODnet Secretariat. He trained as a bio-engineer and holds a Masters in Marine Environment Management. Through most of his career, Jan-Bart has been involved in a range of multidisciplinary research projects and science policy advisory bodies in support of marine research, sustainable management of marine and coastal environments and related policy frameworks. He has mostly worked at the interface between science and policy, combining his broad expertise in marine sciences with knowledge of the marine and maritime policy landscape in Belgium and Europe.

Dick Schaap



Dick Schaap is the coordinator of EMODnet Bathymetry. He has a MSc in Coastal Engineering and is Managing Director of Marine Information Service MARIS. He has considerable competence and experience in the definition, development, implementation and operation of ocean and marine data and information management infrastructures at a national, European and global scale through his active career first as coordinator and later as managing director of MARIS and its involvement in various projects.

Alan Stevenson



Alan Stevenson is the coordinator of EMODnet Geology. He is a marine geologist and Team Leader Marine Geoscience at the British Geological Survey. His research interests include sea-bed mapping, habitat mapping, quaternary geology and marine geochemistry. He is Chair of the Atlantic Seabed Mapping International Working Group and Deputy Chair of the Marine Geology Expert Group of the Geological Surveys of Europe (EuroGeoSurveys).

Jacques Populus



Jacques Populus is the coordinator of EMODnet Seabed Habitats and head of the Geomatics applications service (AG) team at Ifremer. He is a civil engineer who originally specialized in applications of high resolution remote sensing to coastal studies. After working for many years on projects related to aquaculture, more recently he has specialized in mapping of marine coastal habitats and their associated environmental parameters, both in terms of surveys, interpretation and modeling. Concurrently, he has acquired expertise in the field of topographic and bathymetric airborne Lidar. He runs Ifremer's marine habitat mapping project and chairs the ICES working group on habitat mapping (WGMHM).

Alessandra Giorgetti



Alessandra Giorgetti is the coordinator of EMODnet Chemistry. She is coordinator of the research unit National Oceanographic Data Center/IOC within the Oceanography section of the National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics, Italy. She graduated in Mathematics at University of Trieste (Italy) and since joining OGS in 1995 she has focused on physical oceanography, mainly oceanographic data management, scientific data validation and processing.

Simon Claus



Simon Claus is coordinator of EMODnet Biology. He has a MSc in Ecology and a MSc in Oceanography. As a scientific staff member of the marine data and information centre of the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) he is involved in the data management activities of several European Research projects. His main interest is coastal and marine data and information management; including processes and systems to archive, document, integrate and redistribute coastal and marine data and information focusing on biological, taxonomic and ecological data, spatial data and marine environmental metadata in general.

Antonio Novellino



Antonio Novellino, coordinator of EMODnet Physics, graduated as a Biomedical Engineer, with a PhD in Biotechnology and BioEngineering. He is involved in both National and European R&D projects and has been working on the development of innovative information systems and devices for health and environment status assessment for the past 15 years. From 2008 to 2010, as a senior researcher for the European Commission, JRC - Joint Research Centre, he worked on in vitro assay and automation to evaluate and predict the effect of chemicals. He is the ETT Research Manager and is coordinating the R&D department activities, the in vitro alternative and neurotoxicology unit and the marine science unit.

Alessandro Pititto



Alessandro Pititto is the coordinator of EMODnet Human Activities. He is a Project Manager at Cogea where he works in the fields of fisheries and maritime policy. Over the last few years Alessandro has worked on data management for several DG MARE funded projects with an aim to collate and harmonise data from different sources from across the EU. He is involved in many European and regional studies and initiatives on maritime activities including the design, development and management of the European Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture products (EUMOFA), the first EU-wide market intelligence observatory that provides data on price and volume of fish and fish products throughout the EU supply chain.

Nadia Pinardi



Nadia Pinardi is the coordinator of the EMODnet Mediterranean Sea-basin Checkpoint. She holds a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Harvard University, and is associate tenure professor of Oceanography at Bologna University, Italy. Her interests range from ocean numerical modelling and forecasting to data assimilation for the physical components of the marine environment, development of the marine biogeochemical models and oil spill numerical modelling coupled to operational oceanographic forecasts. She has written more than a hundred papers in peer reviewed journals and her latest research topics are the understanding of uncertainties in ocean forecasting, large scale, long term variability of the Mediterranean Sea, sea level trends and the energetics of semi-enclosed seas.

Cyndy Chandler



Cyndy Chandler is an Information Systems Specialist in Marine Chemistry & Geochemistry at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Her research interests include ocean informatics, database design, data management, online data systems, development of marine ontology, marine metadata standards and the use of information technology to facilitate the process by which information becomes knowledge. She is co-chair elect, UNESCO IOC International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE), 2015-2017.

Gert Verreet



Gert Verreet is a policy officer in the Flanders Department of Economy, Science and Innovation (EWI), working in the Research Division focusing on environmental. He is also a member of the Flemish Committee for UNESCO and oversees funding for projects under the UNESCO/Flanders Fund-in-Trust for the support of UNESCO's activities in the field of Science (implemented under UNESCO IOC, IHP and MAB programmes). Previously he was a Deputy Secretary of the OSPAR Commission, a position he occupied in 1995-2001 and 2011-2014.

Lyndsey Dodds



Lyndsey Dodds is the Head of UK & EU Marine Policy at the World Wide Fund for Nature. She has been with WWF since 2007, initially working on the delivery of new marine legislation in the UK — the Marine and Coastal Access Act, then managing the PISCES and Celtic Seas Partnership projects. In her current role she focuses on UK and EU marine policy in areas such as fisheries, protected areas, planning and stakeholder engagement. Before joining WWF she was carried out doctoral research on deep-sea corals off the coasts of the UK.

Jean-Francois Minster



Jean-Francois Minster has been Senior Vice President, Scientific Development of Total SA since October 1, 2006. Before that, Mr. Minster served as Chief Executive Officer of Ifremer and General Science Director of the French National Scientific Research Center. He was Directeur de l'Institut National des Sciences de l'Univers (INSU) of CNRS and Universities from 1996 to 2000 and was charged with developing science strategy and policy at CNRS in 2005. Mr. Minster is an Ecole Polytechnique Graduate with a doctorate in Geochemistry from the Institut de Physique du Globe in Paris.

Job van den Berg



Job van den Berg is a leading professional in Governance and Sustainability and Senior Strategy and Management Consultant for Royal Haskoning DHV in the Netherlands. He has extensive experience in guiding complex policy, planning and decision making processes relates to the practice of spatial master planning (both urban and rural), environmental and water management. He is an experienced moderator and facilitator of interdisciplinary teams and workshops. As a trainer and coach he co-developed training of process management skills and of the mastercircle methodology. Mastercircle enhances capabilities to cope with challenges in complex development and change.

Jonathan Williams



Jonathan Williams is the CEO of Marine South East (MSE). He is a Chartered Mechanical Engineer (FIMechE, FIMarEST) with a doctorate in mechanical engineering and has specialist skills in consortium-building and definition of novel business models. He has 8 years' experience in marine and offshore industrial engineering and project management in the offshore energy industry, 4 years' experience in innovation policy development at a London-based think-tank, 10 years' experience leading an innovation management company operating at the university/business interface and 8 years' experience creating and leading Marine South East.

Kathrine Angell-Hansen



Kathrine Angell-Hansen, MSc, is Director in RCN, Director of the JPI Oceans Secretariat and project coordinator of the CSA Oceans project. She has been responsible for the strategy development and innovation from major marine and maritime industries in Europe as well as covering these fields as a Deputy Director in RCN on research and innovation. She was a Deputy Director General on research in the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. She was seconded to DG MARE in the development of the EU maritime policy prior to her present position.

Jan Mees



Jan Mees is the Director of the Flanders Marine Institute in Oostende since its establishment in 1999. He trained as a marine biologist at Ghent University, where he is also a part-time professor. An experienced marine ecologist, he is the author of more than fifty scientific publications, most in international journals with peer review. Jan Mees is Chair of the European Marine Board, a vice-chair of POGO and a member of several European and global oceanography and marine biodiversity networks (e.g. POGO, MARS, MarBEF, EurOcean).

Ricardo Serrão Santos



Ricardo Serrão Santos, Member of the European Parliament is an internationally renowned deep-sea biologist and has authored more than 300 published works. From 2012-2014, he was President of EuroOcean and the EuroOcean Foundation, he is a former vice-Chair of the European Marine Board. He was Scientific coordinator, Azores University Centre and from 1997 — 2012 Director of the Department of Oceanography and Fisheries. From 2003-2011 he was Vice-Rector, Horta Campus, Autonomous University of the Azores.