



EuYmast Forum

Towards a **E**uropean **Y**oung **M**arine **S**cientists & **T**echnologists Forum

Contact: euymast@gmail.com

EuYmast Coordination Committee:

Andrea Piehl Harms, Gabriela Aguirre Martinez, M.Carmen Casado Martinez,
Richard Lewis, Arnaud Thiry

European Maritime Day, Gijon, 21st May 2010

Content

- Initiated by WACOMA
- Who are we?
- Two Aims of the forum
- Questions and Round Table Discussion

EuYmast was Iniciated by

- WACOMA (Water and COastal Management Alumni association)
- Young scientists gather in different associations in different marine and maritime disciplines (INORE, Marie Curie Fellowship, etc)
- Together with a single active voice

Who are we?

Marine and maritime scientists and technologists
early stages of their professional careers

Two Aims of the forum:

1. Young scientists should know about the
wider research agenda

1. Voice our concerns

**;; CONCLUSIONS
PAPER !!**



Questions and Round Table Discussion

1. What are the key challenges for young professionals in the future?
2. What sort of disciplines and interdisciplinary education, infrastructure and technological breakthrough do we need to meet these challenges?
3. How can young scientists engage professions?
4. What is needed to bring younger generations into important global ocean issues?
5. How to promote high qualified professionals in the target sectors?
6. How to make maritime professions more attractive, stable and financially rewarding?
7. How to integrate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity in the professions at sea?
8. Benefits of making a young professionals' forum
9. What forum should it take?
10. What are our concerns?

1. What are the key challenges for young professionals in the future?

- Integration of knowledge in a multi or interdisciplinary way
- Capacity building is concentrated at regional or national level.
- Coordination and share of knowledge in capacity building is key to solve these problems.

1. What are the key challenges for young professionals in the future?

Regarding employment:

- Marine/maritime sectors are highly competitive, and in continual and rapid change. (no jobs, more competition)
- Employment is under short-term contracts/fellowships (projects)
- Critical thinking, being able to propose and develop new ideas

1. What are the key challenges for young professionals in the future?

Young professionals have

- High mobility: difficult balance between professional and personal life
- short time to adapt to new market needs
- Qualification easier to obtain than experience (internship).
- Importance of building a professional network (lobbying and mentorship)
- Loss of professional independence in favour of a stable position

Employability of multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary people in highly specialised job profiles is still limited

2. What sort of disciplines and interdisciplinary education, infrastructure and technological breakthrough do we need to meet these challenges?

Promotion of scientist and technologist interaction.

Promotion example:

- Small simulation projects, e.g master thesis projects like Port engineer and marine scientist, in which different disciplines may work together and promote common/group training skills.
- on the job' training

2. What sort of disciplines and interdisciplinary education, infrastructure and technological breakthrough do we need to meet these challenges?

- Suitable information technologies, data sharing, etc.
- Multidisciplinary programs exist, but they do not have same recognition as a 'traditional' profile.
- Training in career essentials (real market opportunities, communication skills, how to boost your CV, etc.)

3. How can young scientists engage professions?

- Promoting training in private companies
- Facilitate forums and representation in stake-holder meetings

Promotion of:

- Awards (competitions- vision example)
- Conference invitations young scientists.
- Accreditation to students when they have participated in regulatory monitoring

4. What is needed to bring younger generations into important global ocean issues?

- Young generations are highly motivated and highly trained (the biggest difficulty is entering the labour market and staying there)
- “Shock marketing”, involving media, e.g. films, documentaries...etc. The new “Inconvenient truth” of the oceans.
- Reward and motivation in terms of money and recognition.
- promoting “good behaviour in the marine environment” would engage new generations and creating new jobs (e.g. climate change)

5. How to promote high qualified professionals in the target sectors?

- Training is available, but low employability after training.
- Involve private sector in the training process.
- Promotion of “innovation culture” in the private sector. Promote long-term benefits of innovation in the instead of short-term economic benefits.
- Entrepreneurship training in the academic curricula.
- Give incentives to companies/laboratories/universities to adopt internship programs, or sponsored programs with 2-3y employment afterwards.

6. How to make maritime professions more attractive, stable and financially rewarding?

- Environmental jobs are attractive but not rewarding.
 - Environmental science does not provide high financial return in the short term. Companies should understand 'short term costs for long term gains.'
- Maritime professions are already attractive, but industrial outsourcing (e.g. naval industry) to Asia means lack of jobs
 - Creation of new industries, i.e. offshore wind farms, while ensuring the protection of the ocean environment via sustainable development.
 - Make use of existing infrastructure (e.g. empty shipyards) for storage and manufacture.

7. How to integrate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity in the professions at sea?

- Promote it in an early stage.
 - Public participation in decision making as young scientists
 - Multidisciplinary master thesis, in working groups.
- Training, communication, cooperation, knowledge sharing: coordinating organisms
- Policy enforcement:
 - systematic life cycle analysis of every naval and offshore project: economical, environmental and technical aspects taken into account and multidisciplinary approach would be compulsory.



8. Benefits of making a young professionals' forum

- Meeting of multiple sectors: offshore wind energy, climate, fisheries, environment, naval design...
- Lighthouse for information, funding, employment possibilities, etc.
- Improve of career essentials (negotiation, diplomacy, cost management)
- Public voice of needs and concerns.
- Coordination of efforts.

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9. What forum should it take?

- Mailing list.
- Internet dissemination platform.
- Periodical meeting.
- Needs coordination and dedication: funds?

10. What are our concerns?

- Not enough engagement decrease the credibility of the Forum
- Long-term maintenance
- How can we use the forum?