

On an amazing journey with the European
Atlas of the Seas – 16 June 2021

Workshop Speakers and Panelists



Zoi Konstantinou is a Marine Scientist MSc-PhD, specialised in Integrated Coastal and Marine Management and in Science-Policy-Society interface.

Before she joined the European Commission, she worked in marine research, in science-policy interface and in higher education.

As an European Commission Policy Officer, she works on the development and management of EMODnet, on other issues related to ocean observations and data, on ocean literacy and other issues related to knowledge and research.



Wavemaker Dr Easkey Britton works at the nexus of science and art. She has a PhD in marine social science, and is a writer, artist and ocean leader with a deep love and passion for surfing and the sea.

Her work explores the relationship between people and nature, especially water environments. She contributes her expertise in blue space, health and social wellbeing on national and international research projects. She is currently a lead researcher on the INCLUSEA project, fostering and promoting greater inclusion and accessibility in surfing in Europe.

Her book '50 Things to Do By the Sea' has just been published and her next book, 'Saltwater in the Blood' comes out September 14th.



Nathalie Van Isacker holds a Master's degree in bio-engineering and certificates for courses in water management.

Her professional experience is in consulting, communication and outreach related to polar sciences and the Polar Regions and project monitoring in the fields of climate change, nature conservation and the environment.

As a Project Officer for the EMODnet Secretariat since September 2020, she supports communication and outreach activities related to the European Atlas of the Seas. In the EU4Ocean Coalition for Ocean Literacy, she contributes to the facilitation of the EU4Ocean Platform.



Tim Collart is trained as a marine geologist. He completed a PhD in Science at the University of Ghent.

He has multidisciplinary research experience in geophysics, physical and chemical oceanography, geospatial data processing and statistical analysis.

He works as a Marine Data Analyst and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Support Officer at the Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet). He is involved with assessing and streamlining the data flow from research project and national data repositories to the users of EMODnet and the European Atlas of the Seas.



Alessandro Pititto is a Project Manager at Cogea.

He has been the coordinator of EMODnet Human Activities since 2013.

He has been involved in a number of projects and studies dealing with the blue economy, including the European Market Observatory for Fishery and Aquaculture products (EUMOFA), a study to measure the size of the blue economy, a study on the economic impact of maritime spatial planning, and a market study on ocean energy.



Sheila García Martínez is a Content manager working for Bilbomatica in Spain.

She has a degree in Mathematics with high experience in diverse tabular and spatial calculations.

She is a specialist in projects using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and spatial database, geographic information and cartography production. She has relevant experience in visualization based on UX guidelines with relevant participation in projects for the European Environment Agency (EEA) and other EU customers.

She is familiar with SQL Server and has knowledge in exchange formats and knowledge and experience of INSPIRE catalogues.



Clara Becares is a Functional analyst working for Bilbomatica in Spain.

She is a Geodesy and Cartography Engineer with more than 14 years of professional experience in the analysis, development and implementation of Geographic Information Systems based on different technologies and on information systems dedicated to data collection, data quality analysis and validation and management of large data sets.

She has high experience in the preparation of the necessary technical documentation as well as in the development of Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) services framed within the INSPIRE regulations.



Josu Olaso Imaz is an IT developer working for Bilbomatica in Spain.

He is experienced in the development of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software tools with specific work experience of more than two years for European Projects, more specifically developing front-ends and back-ends of GIS web application visualising Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) web services.

He is a specialist in the web development of GIS web tools (leaflet, openlayers, HTML5, CSS, PHP, JavaScript, jQuery) and ESRI tools such as Web App Builder and ArcGis Api for JavaScript and he has wide experience in the development of desktop and mobile applications as well as knowledge of relational databases, such as Postgre/PostGIS and Oracle.



After graduating from a Master's Degree in Event management, Maëlle Montier started her Ocean Journey by an internship at Ifremer (France) in communication and event management.

This eye-opening experience led to a position at the World Ocean Network, a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with international and local organisations working on Ocean Literacy.

She is now sharing her time in Nausicaá (Aquarium and marine science centre in the north France) as a science communicator with schools and general public and as a Project Officer for the EU4Ocean Coalition and coordinator of the Youth4Ocean Forum.



Patrícia Conceição is a geologist working as a marine educator in the Portuguese Ministry of the Sea Blue School Programme since May 2018.

She worked in the University of Lisbon and in Codes - ARC Centre of excellence in Ore deposits of University of Tasmania, Australia. In 2008, she became part of the team which prepared and delivered the Portuguese Continental Shelf Submission, presently being evaluated by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. As a marine geologist in the Task Group for the Extension of the Continental Shelf (EMEPC), she worked mainly in deep sea mineral resources and in the Portuguese Continental Shelf Project outreach.

Working on Ocean Literacy since 2018, she is actively involved in the implementation of the Blue School programme in Portuguese schools.



Vanessa Batista graduated in Applied and Environment Geology at the University of Lisbon in 2004 and obtained a Postgraduate in Physical Geography, Resources and Environmental Risks at the University of Lisbon in 2007. She worked as a researcher in Antarctica, managed the Portuguese Education and Outreach Program for the International Polar Year (2007-2008) – LATITUDE60! and had a long experience in the private sector developing Environment Impact Assessments studies.

She coordinates the Scientific Culture, Outreach and Programming Unit and is Project Officer for Ocean Literacy at Ciência Viva, Agência Nacional para a Cultura Científica e Tecnológica. She co-managed the Ocean Literacy FP7 project Sea for Society and the H2020 projects Sea Change and AORA-CSA. Currently, she co-manages the H2020 project AANChOR and the EU4Ocean Coalition - Network of European Blue Schools - from DG-MARE.



Ilda Carinhas started being a teacher in 1986. She has been teaching English in Agrupamento de Escolas de Vialonga for the last 25 years. She teaches students from the 5th to the 9th year (basic and secondary school).

She is also a member of the Pedagogical School Council and Differentiated Curriculum Coordinator. She has participated in Comenius, Grundtvig and Erasmus+ projects. She is very interested in meeting teachers who also have to deal with multicultural issues as well as to share experiences on how to motivate students to learn from each other, using digital tools and so improving their knowledge, she also wants to help them be aware of our multicultural society, the urgent need to be active citizens and use the English language as a means of communication between different people and cultures.



Rosário Félix is a Natural Sciences and Mathematics teacher of the 2nd cycle, at the Basic and Secondary School of Vialonga.

She is involved in several Erasmus projects related to the environment and technologies, so as to motivate students to take action in preserving nature and using web tools to develop the different activities and gain digital competences.

She likes to work collaboratively, developing various school projects with students and other teachers.



Maria João Amaro teaches Chemistry and Physics at Josefa de Óbidos High School in Lisbon, Portugal.

With a degree in Biochemistry from Coimbra University, a degree in Food Production from Escola Superior de Hotelaria do Estoril and a Master in Food Control Production Systems from Escola Superior Agrária de Santarém, she understands the importance of Planet preservation.

Promoting changes in future generations is a logical consequence on the science field that she teaches.



Christian Esteva holds degrees in Geoscience as well as in Teaching in secondary school.

He's worked as a high school teacher for more than 4 years and is in direct contact with youth and educational institutions both at regional and national level as he's involved in other youth projects. Christian is managing several Erasmus+ projects for Sea Teach as the coordinating and contracting partner in youth and maritime projects. He has responsibilities for research, development of new projects, connecting to stakeholders and building up the social media presence of projects and Sea Teach.

As Christian is born in Mallorca, his connection with the sea started at a very early age. He is committed to keep the seas free of plastics. Therefore, he decided to start the Clean Boating Movement, which aims at reducing the amount of plastic litter from the seas by involving the boating community.



Neus Figueras has a bachelor honours degree in Marine Science and an international master's degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation.

She has collaborated with the LIFE CUBOMED project addressing the proliferation of box jellyfish in the Mediterranean, worked at the ICM-CSIC managing oceanographic data and doing outreach, embarked on the Research Vessel Hesperides to study marine currents, collaborated with the University of Salento to restore underwater meadows, conducted marine ecology studies in Scotland, led a project on coral restoration in Myanmar, etc.

As an author, she has won six local and regional literary contests, studied Creative Writing, and crafts moving novels with doses of humor, science, fantasy and action that may touch people's lives in positive waves.



Farah Obaidullah is an Independent Ocean Advocate, Consultant and the Founder of Women4Oceans. She holds both a Master of Science and Bachelor of Science from Imperial College in London.

With 17 years experience in ocean advocacy, Farah has travelled the world, observing the beauty of the ocean and witnessing some of the most egregious practices happening at sea. Among her achievements, Farah has executed campaigns to end destructive fishing, worked with affected communities, and been deeply involved in exposing fish crimes, including slavery and labour abuse at sea.

Farah considers herself a citizen of the world. She lives by the sea in the Netherlands. Farah strongly believes that by embracing our human diversity we can turn the tide for our ocean planet.