

Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

Sustainable Infrastructure Sustainable Tourism Education for Sustainable Development

5-7 of October 2022
Nicosia-Cyprus

SIDE EVENT

Ocean Literacy in the Mediterranean

Friday 7 October, 08:15 - 09:45, ELIA – Filoxenia
English-French, Live event

The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, or Ocean Decade (2021 – 2030) acknowledges Ocean Literacy as one of its key components. An ocean-literate person can be defined as someone who understands the essential concepts about the ocean; can communicate about it in a meaningful way; and is able to make informed and responsible decisions regarding the ocean and its resources. Obviously, such a person is not necessarily a student, but it can be a citizen of any age.

The Mediterranean region has a long tradition in education and awareness raising projects on the sea and marine topics. Many of these can be adapted and appropriately utilized to further promote ocean literacy in the region. Particularly, the region's coastal and marine Biosphere Reserves and Protected Areas can serve as "living laboratories" to effectively test, apply and promote ocean literacy through education but also demonstration and pilot activities.

*This side event will discuss the ocean literacy practices, opportunities and challenges in the Mediterranean. It will serve as **opening session to the "2022 Hybrid University on Biosphere Reserves as sites to develop ocean literacy"**, which take place in Cyprus immediately after the EfE Conference (8-10 October) for a limited number of selected participants.*

Co-organisers

UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (Venice Office)

UNEP/MAP

Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports | Pedagogic Institute of Cyprus | Unit for Education for the Environment and Sustainable Development (EESD)

HELMEPA

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Preliminary Agenda

Format: Short statements by the Panelists followed by two rounds of responses to Questions and an open discussion.

Panel Facilitator: Prof. Michael Scoullos

Panelists:

Jonathan Baker UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (Venice Office)

Tatyana Hema, UNEP/MAP

CMMI representative (tbc)

ISOTECH representative (tbc)

Representative of Centers of Environmental Education (CEE), Cyprus Pedagogic Institute

10 min	Introduction to the scope of the side event and the Facilitator. Short intro statements by the Panelists
10 min	Video: Introduction to Ocean Literacy (Franceska Santoro)
20 min	Q1: How is Ocean Literacy linked to the wider sustainability challenges and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? How can these links be amplified in our current and future work?
	<i>5 min response by the Panelists</i>
20 min	Q2: How can marine and coastal Biosphere Reserves, Natura 2000, SPAs and other designated areas become involved in applying ocean literacy? What proposals, practices and lessons can be shared?
	<i>5 min response by the Panelists</i>
20 min	Open discussion
10 min	Wrap up and closing