

Speakers at the 2nd International Conference on Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning 15-17 March 2017, Paris, France

Lodewijk Abspoel

Ministry of Infrastructures and the Environment, Netherlands MSP

Lodewijk is a senior policy advisor for the EU Integrated Maritime Policy, including Maritime Spatial Planning at the coordinating ministry for the North Sea. He advocates the need to work on a common language in MSP, and considers that the wide variety of human activities at sea, against the backdrop of the invaluable ecosystem and in a cross border (and thus multi language) setting, challenges all involved to make cross cutting efforts in understanding of information shared. He has been involved in the development of the MSP challenge game (www.mspchallenge.info), aimed at professionals, students and stakeholders. He considers that bringing together the oceans' and coastal community, the scientific world, concerned civil servants and politicians within the digital aquarium should help us in sustainably managing and developing our common heritage the ocean is. "Ecologically sound is also business sound: the marine world, to my believe, shows us the way to a sustainable future. All we need to do is listen, look and learn".

Julian Barbière

Head of Marine Policy and Regional Coordination section, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO

Julian Barbière is Head of Marine Policy and Regional Coordination section at the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. Educated as an environmental scientist, he has more than 17 years experience at the international level in the field of ocean sustainability, ocean governance and the implementation of ecosystem-based management approaches in various geographical locations. Working at the interface of science and policy, he has led a number of UN initiatives, such as the Assessment of Assessments (Pre-conception phase of the UN Regular Process -2006-2009 together with UNEP), the overall coordination of the inter-agency publication: Blueprint for Ocean Sustainability, in preparation to Rio+20 (2012, with FAO, IMO, and UNDP), the development of international guidelines on Marine Spatial Planning. He is currently developing the overall SDG 14 strategy for the IOC and sits on the UN Conference SDG 14 Advisory Group.

Mark Belchier

Chair, CCAMLR Scientific Committee

Mark Belchier is a marine ecologist with over 19 years post-doctoral research experience of marine fisheries ecology in both European and Antarctic environments. For over 14 years, he has been the science leader of an independent BAS project which provides scientific advice to the governments of South Georgia and the UK in support of the sustainable management of the region's fisheries. His research is focused on the fish and invertebrates of the shelf and slope regions of the sub-Antarctic and, how gaining insights into their ecology can assist with implementation of ecosystem based fisheries management in the region.

Mark has been a member of the UK delegation to CCAMLR (Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources) since 2001 and convened its working group on fish stock assessment (WG-FSA) from 2012 – 2015. In October 2015, Mark was elected as Chairman of CCAMLR's Scientific Committee.

Dominique Benzaken

Senior Ocean Governance Advisor, Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC),
Office of the Vice President, Government of Seychelles

Dominique Benzaken is an international public policy specialist currently appointed by the Commonwealth as senior advisor to the Government of Seychelles on ocean governance and the implementation of Seychelles blue economy nationally and internationally.

She draws on 20 years' experience with Government, NGOs and IGOs in public policy and international affairs with expertise in oceans and coasts, climate change, sustainable development and islands. Her main competencies lie in policy analysis and advice, networking and partnership building, negotiation and advocacy, innovative solutions and mentoring.

Recent international assignments include two year posting with the Nature Conservancy (TNC) based in Washington DC, as international marine policy advisor; three years as coordinator of the European Union Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories programme on biodiversity and Climate Change with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) based in Switzerland, and a three year posting with the Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP) as a Coastal and Marine Advisor based in Samoa.

Vincent Bouvier

Secretary-General of the Sea, France

Vincent Bouvier holds a Diploma in Advanced Studies in Public Law from the Paris Institute of Political Studies.

He started his professional career as a policy officer at the National agency for the Development of Research (ANVAR), and subsequently became an associate professor in public law at the University of Strasbourg III, where he worked for 7 years.

In 1988 he commenced his prefectural career.

Vincent was cabinet director of several prefects in the Tarn department, and to the French High Commissioner of the Republic in New-Caledonia from 1991 to 1993.

In the 1990's, he became the secretary-general of prefecture in mainland France, and subsequently focused on assignments overseas, obtaining his first appointment as prefect in 2007 in Mayotte. In 2008 he was appointed prefect of Aveyron, and in 2009 Director and Delegate General for overseas France at the Ministry.

From 2013 – 2014 he acts as prefect of the Haut-Rhin, appointed as High Commissioner of the Republic of New Caledonia between 2014 - 2016. Since 2016, he acts as the Secretary-General of the Sea.

He was named Knight of the Legion of Honor in 2006, then Officer of the same rank in 2013. He is also an Officer of the National Order of Merit.

Gonçalo Carneiro

Senior Consultant, NIRAS Sweden

Gonçalo Carneiro is a Senior Consultant at NIRAS Indevelop in Sweden. He has been involved in a number of projects related to the planning of maritime areas, including the development and delivery of the first professional course in maritime spatial planning for the Baltic Sea; and conducted research on the exploitation of marine resources and its implications for poverty reduction and human development, both in Europe and in Africa. For the European Commission he has contributed to studies for the elaboration of the EU maritime policy. Gonçalo also has

extensive experience in the field of monitoring and evaluation as researcher and consultant. He elaborated the first framework for the evaluation of MSP. He has subsequently reviewed global planning evaluation practices at the Swedish Institute for the Marine Environment.

Dr. Nguyen Chu Hoi

Department of Environmental Management, Hanoi University of Sciences

Mr. Nguyen Chu Hoi holds a BSc in coastal and marine geoecology (Hanoi National University) and PhD degree on natural science from the University of Warsaw, Poland. His areas of expertise include coastal and marine management and governance policy, including integrated coastal management (ICM), marine protected area (MPA) and marine spatial planning (MSP). He was Director of the Haiphong Centre for Marine Research and Director of the Haiphong Institute of Oceanology under Vietnamese Academy of Sciences and Technology. He has also been the Director of the Vietnam Institute of Fisheries Economics and Planning (VIFEP) under former Vietnam Ministry of Fisheries; and has worked at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, as the former Deputy Administrator of Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI). Since March 2012 he has been working at the Vietnam National University (VNU). Having been involved with ASEAN in the past, he is currently a member of Steering Committee of Global Ocean Forum (GOF) since 2004, and has supported a number of in-country projects in association with a range of international organizations (Sida, WB, Danida, UNDP, CIDA, ADB, NOAA, UNEP COBSEA, PEMSEA, IUCN, WWF, GIZ, FAO, EU, GEF SGP, UNEP GPA, etc.).

Alain de Comarmond

Principal Secretary, Environment Department, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Republic of Seychelles

Principal Secretary for Environment, Mr De Comarmond is the Co-Chair of the Seychelles' national MSP steering committee which is the process management arm of MSP. His area of expertise lies in general environmental science and management issues. Through his various responsibilities within the Ministry, he presently heads the Environment Department, responsible for biodiversity conservation and management matters. He has also worked on a number of programmes related to coastal management and adaptation, development control and Environmental Impact Assessment, disaster management, pollution control and climate change among others.

Leo de Vrees

Senior advisor, Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

Leo de Vrees (1956) presently works as a senior advisor to the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and Rijkswaterstaat, the agency of this Ministry. He has a long history in marine matters. He is co-chairing a Support Group of North Sea countries on MSP and environmental impacts related to offshore wind energy development. He is core-member of the team who developed a revised policy for the North Sea (Policy document on the North Sea 2016 – 2021) in which marine spatial planning is a large component. He was involved in the development of the UNESCO/IOC guidelines on MSP and its evaluation.

Maria Deligianni

Senior Policy Advisor - Maritime Safety, Environment and Offshore, European Community Shipowners' Associations

Maria Deligianni has been working as a Policy Advisor on Maritime Safety, Environment and Offshore issues at European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) since 2013. ECSA, formed in 1965, is the trade association representing the national shipowners' associations of the

EU and Norway. Maria Deligianni holds an Executive master on Maritime Science and an MSc on European studies.

Steve Diggon

Regional Marine Planning Coordinator, Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative

Steve is the Regional Marine Planning/Implementation Coordinator for Coastal First Nations-Great Bear Initiative. Steve has worked with First Nation, Federal and Provincial Governments for over ten years on marine planning and ocean issues in British Columbia. He has provided leadership, coordination and management to the development the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area Initiative (PNCIMA), and the Marine Planning Partnership of the Pacific North Coast (MaPP) as a member of the management teams for both initiatives. Steve's experience is in technical planning and policy development, and developing institutional agreements. His work with Great Bear Initiative spans the gamut of marine management issues (e.g. marine spatial planning, marine transportation and emergency response, and marine protected areas). Steve is currently working on the transition of planning to implementation for the MaPP and PNCIMA initiatives; and the design phase of the a Network of Marine Protected Areas for the Northern Shelf Bioregion. Steve lives in the Gulf Islands of British Columbia and enjoys sailing and other outdoor pursuits.

Charles N. Ehler

IOC Senior International MSP Consultant

Charles Norman Ehler works as a marine spatial planning consultant to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, national governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. His career in integrated coastal and ocean management spans over 45 years. Before moving to Paris in 2005, he was a senior executive in the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and US Environmental Protection Agency for 32 years. He previously taught regional planning and natural resources management at the University of Michigan, the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He was the Marine Vice-Chair of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas from 2000-2005. In 2007 he received an award from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for his work on coastal adaptation and its contribution to the award of the Nobel Prize to the IPCC. He is the author of over 120 publications on coastal and marine planning, including the 2009 UNESCO guide to marine spatial planning that has become an international MSP standard and a 2014 UNESCO guide to evaluating marine spatial plans.

Steve Fletcher

Head of Marine Programme, UNEP-WCMC

Dr Steve Fletcher is Head of the Marine Programme at the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge, Associate Professor in Marine Policy at Plymouth University, and member of the UN International Resource Panel. He has personal expertise in area-based planning and management, marine ecosystem services assessment, and marine policy. In partnership with colleagues across the world, he is focused on developing and sharing globally applicable practices for the effective conservation and sustainable use of the oceans.

Qinhua Fang

Professor, Coastal and Ocean Management Institute, Environmental Science Research Center, Xiamen University

Prof. Qinhua Fang, from Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI), Xiamen University of China, holds his Ph. D degree on environmental management science. With his more than 10-year experience on marine spatial planning, environmental systems analysis and environmental policy studies, he has published research articles and policy comments on Science, Nature, Marine Policy, Marine Pollution Bulletin, Ocean and Coastal Management, Environmental Impact Assessment Review, etc. His recent research focus on cumulative effects assessment and regional integrated risk assessment of coastal land-claim, watershed hydropower development, and coastal ecological engineering, and ecosystem services evaluation and its applications of marine protected areas and other coastal ecosystems.

Dr Paul Gilliland

Head of Marine Planning, Marine Management Organisation

Dr Paul Gilliland has been closely involved in the establishment of marine planning in the UK, most recently as the Head of Marine Planning with the Marine Management Organisation, the statutory marine planning body for England on behalf of government. He led the drafting of the first marine plans in England (for the East Inshore and Offshore areas) which are now being implemented. He oversaw preparation of the next plans for the South coast (recently subject to public consultation) and is closely involved in marine planning for the rest of England. He has over 25 years' applied experience of marine and coastal issues in a variety of roles with different public authorities, including as a marine ecologist, regulation adviser, policy specialist and manager. His interests have included biodiversity action planning, Marine Protected Areas, environmental assessment and management of human activities, and associated research and policy interpretation. He helped develop and advocate ideas to inform the legislation now in place to enable marine planning in the UK. He has contributed to European initiatives, e.g. the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, and international projects, such as a UNESCO expert group on evaluation of marine spatial plans. He is a Fellow of the Marine Biological Association.

Jessica Hjerpe Olausson

Senior Maritime expert, Region Västra Götaland, Sweden

Jessica Hjerpe Olausson has a Master of Science in Marine Science from the University of Otago, New Zealand. She has been working with different aspects of management in the marine environment such as fisheries management in Western Africa, co-management of fisheries in Sweden, participated in HELCOM and ICES working groups as well as working with R&D in shipping. Right now she is heading the Maritime Cluster of West Sweden as an employee at the Region Västra Götaland, with focus on regional development in the maritime sector.

Ingela Isaksson

Coordinator and Project Manager Baltic SCOPE

Ingela Isaksson has been working with ICZM and MSP since 2006. She coordinates collaboration at different scales: local, regional, national and international. Ingela holds a position at regional and national governmental agencies. Presently in charge of coordination of EU-funded collaboration Baltic SCOPE in Baltic Sea Region. Ingela has regional responsibility to coordinate one of three MSPs under development in Sweden, the Skagerrak and Kattegatt MSP. Ingela holds a PhD in marine zoology. Main research areas include shallow coastal marine ecosystems, plant-animal interactions, eutrophication related issues and biodiversity.

Adrian Judd

Principal Marine Advisor, Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, UK

Adrian Judd is a Principal Marine Advisor within Cefas' Evidence and Interpretation Group. Adrian has over 20-years experience of providing expert scientific advice to regulators and policy-makers, nationally and internationally, on the assessment and management of the marine environmental impacts arising from human activities. Adrian is leading work under the blue growth theme of the Cefas Science and Evidence Strategy. Adrian is part of the UK delegation to the OSPAR Environmental Impacts of Human Activities Committee and is leading the work programme to deliver a cumulative effects assessment for the North East Atlantic as part of the OSPAR Quality Status Report. Adrian is also working for the Welsh Government as a member of the drafting team for the Welsh National Marine Plan - developing, interpreting and communicating ecological, economic, social and cultural: policies; evidence and implementation guidance. Adrian is co-chair of the Productive Seas Evidence Group, which is part of the UK Marine Monitoring and Assessment Strategy.

Anja Kreiner

Senior Fisheries Biologist, Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia

Anja Kreiner, a born and bred Namibian, is a senior fisheries biologist National Marine Information and Research Centre (NatMIRC) at the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in Swakopmund, Namibia. After completing her studies in Pretoria, South Africa, and Rostock, Germany, she returned to Namibia in 1998 to start her career in the small pelagic section at NatMIRC. Her main research focus was on the linkages between the environment and early life stages of pelagic fish. Since 2013 she is heading the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Section. Anja has been actively involved in the development of the African Coastal and Marine Atlas through the ODINAFRICA project. She is currently chairing the newly established Namibia National Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) working group and represents the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources on the regional MSP working group under the Benguela Current Commission.

Anne E. Langaas Gossé

Senior Adviser, Section for petroleum and ocean management, Norwegian Environment Agency

Anne Langaas Gossé is a senior adviser at the Norwegian Environment Agency. She is a specialist on ecosystem based management, and has worked with Integrated Management Plans for the Norwegian ocean areas since 2003. She works with area-related perspectives for valuable and vulnerable areas and the development of tools for area based management. She has also led a biodiversity project on the Lofoten Islands (1996) and worked at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology NTNU.

She has a Cand. Scient. degree from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) with additional studies in environmental law and physical planning.

Jennifer McCann

Director of US Coastal Programs, URI Coastal Resources Center

Jennifer McCann is the Director of U.S. Coastal Programs at the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center at the Graduate School of Oceanography and Director of Extension Programs for the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program. McCann leads research and is designing trainings to build the capacity of coastal management practitioners internationally. Winner of the 2017 Peter Benchley Ocean Award, McCann also serves as URI's lead for developing and facilitating the comprehensive update of the Rhode Island Ocean Special Area Management Plan (Ocean SAMP), the first formally adopted Ocean Spatial Plan in the U.S. McCann has also played a leadership role in the development and implementation of plans for the siting of land-based renewable energy and a comprehensive management and marketing approach for Rhode Island's shellfish resources. McCann led the national effort to develop monitoring protocols and modeling tools for improved management of offshore renewable energy.

Norma Patricia Muñoz-Sevilla

National Polytechnic Institute of Mexico-CIEMAD

Doctor in Biological Oceanography from the "Université d'Aix-Marseille II" (France), she is a researcher of the Interdisciplinary Center for Research and Studies on Environment and Development of the National Polytechnic Institute and belongs to the Mexican National System of Researchers. She has published around 60 scientific articles, 18 chapters and 15 books on coastal zone, environmental deterioration and climate change. She is currently a member of the Climate Change Council for the Presidency of the Mexican Republic, member of the National Network for Interdisciplinary Research on Climate Change, Scientific Advisor of the Directing Board for Environmental Funds of the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change, member of the Consortium of Marine Research Institutions for the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, among several other councils. She has participated in several regional projects related to marine and coastal territory management, as the Gulf of California Marine Management, the Regional Marine Ecology in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, the Pacific North and Pacific Regional Marine Management. She has also co-authored the National Seas and Coastal Policy of Mexico. She has approximately 41 awards for her professional performance, including the "American Biographical Institute" as "Great Woman of the 21st Century", 2004/2005 edition, in the area of sustainable development and the "Order of the Academic Palms", awarded by the Government of the French Republic, 2011.

Thierry Ohayon

Contract Manager, SERAMM

Engineer, legal expert and graduated from the HEC Paris (Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales), Thierry Ohayon started his professional career in the sanitation sector, working on big scale water-based sanitation systems at SERAMM, one of SUEZ's subsidiaries located in Marseille.

In the 2000's, Thierry Ohayon worked for the "Multidisciplinary Institute for Water and Environment" (IPEE), where he introduced a programme on "Quality of bathing water". In 2014, he took over the management of his team to work on "digital and environmental projects" of the new public service delegation contract for Marseille sanitation.

Thierry Ohayon has also worked in collaboration with the Métropole Aix-Marseille, with whom he published the scientific paper "Le Ph@re: a global control center for territories issues »

Stephen Olsen

Director Emeritus, URI Coastal Resources Center

Stephen Olsen has more than 40 years of experience in comprehensive management of coastal zones. He was the Director of the Coastal Resources Center at the University of Rhode Island from 1975 to 2012. He has lead programs on coastal and marine management in Asia, Africa and Latin America sponsored by the US Agency for International Development, the agencies of the United Nations and several development banks initiatives. Stephen is well known for his work on developing common methodologies for learning from ecosystem governance initiatives. Most recently he has served as oceans advisor to the Global Environmental Facility.

Joseph Onwona Ansong

Research Assistant, Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy Ireland (MaREI), University College Cork

Joseph Onwona Ansong is a Research Assistant at the Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy Ireland (MaREI), University College Cork in Ireland. He is currently working on the SIM-Celt Project: Supporting Implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning in the Celtic Seas to support practical cross-border cooperation in the implementation of the Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Directive by Member States of the EU within the Celtic Seas (OSPAR Region III).

He was part of the first edition of the Erasmus Mundus Master Course on Maritime Spatial Planning which involved studying in the University of Venice (IUAV), University of Seville and the University of Azores. He was one of the key employees for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Programme on Local Governance and Decentralization which supported integrated development planning and local governance in targeted districts of Ghana.

Before joining MaREI-UCC in 2016, he had previously interned with the Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, Paris and was also involved with the EC-DG MARE funded Adriatic Ionian Maritime Spatial Planning Project (ADRIPLAN) during his time at the University of Venice which sought to promote a coherent transnational approach to MSP in the Adriatic Ionian Region.

Ida Reuterswärd

Policy Officer, Natural Environment Division, Swedish Ministry of Environment and Energy

Ida Reuterswärd is a policy officer working at the Natural Environment Division of the Swedish Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Ida is currently involved in the preparation of the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 that will be convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017. The Conference will be co-hosted by the Governments of Fiji and Sweden.

Ida has extensive experience in policy making in relation to MSP in Sweden, the Baltic Sea Region and the EU, as well as the development of national and EU policy on blue economy.

Julian Reyna-Moreno

Secretary General of the Permanent Commission of the Southeast Pacific

Captain retired from the Colombian Navy, physical oceanographer, hydrographer at the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), specialized in coastal risk management, and coastal and port engineering. Captain Reyna has directed several projects of scientific research related to El Niño development over the Northern part of South America, tsunami propagation waves, and has a wide experience in oil pollution at sea. He is the co-author of different papers and books about general oceanography, coastal management, and economic valuation of the seas. Over the last few years he has centered his activities in integrated ocean policy, having been, the national delegate from Colombia for oceans to international organizations such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), Executive Secretary of the Colombian Ocean Commission, and first designer and coordinator of the National Ocean Policy. At international level, he has been Former Vice-Chair of IOC, and nowadays, he is the coordinator on maritime policies from Chile to Panama, all over the Pacific coast of South America as Secretary General from de Permanent Commission for South Pacific.

Vladimir Ryabinin

Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Oceanographer, climatologist, marine engineer. Vladimir Ryabinin became Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and Assistant Director General in March 2015. Worked at the Hydrometcentre of Russia (Moscow, Russia), Euro-Mediterranean Centre of Insular Coastal Dynamics and International Ocean Institute (both in Malta), and World Meteorological Organization (Geneva, Switzerland). Scope of research includes turbulence, ocean thermocline, medium-range numerical weather prediction, parameterizations of physical processes in circulation models, numerical schemes in fluid dynamics, studies of sea ice, and wind-wave modelling. Since 1980s has been involved in international coordination of marine meteorological services, ocean observations, and climate research.

Dr. Badal Rezah

Director General, Continental Shelf, Maritime Zone Administration of Mauritius

Dr. M. Rezah Badal is presently the Director General of the Prime Minister's Office Department for Continental Shelf, Maritime Administration & Exploration (Mauritius). This Department is the focal institute that oversees the activities in the Joint Management Area of the Mascarene Plateau Region between Mauritius and Seychelles. Dr. M. Rezah Badal has a long career in the public sector of Mauritius, and has experience in Physical Oceanography on Oceanic Processes and Tsunami modelling. In 2008, he embarked as the Project Leader for the Mauritius Submission to the UN for its extended Continental Shelf and developed recommendations for an extended continental shelf in the region of the Mascarene Plateau. He is also an elected officer of the Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System (IOGOOS). During his career, he has strived to build up a regional network of ocean experts that would unite the three continents of the Indian Ocean.

Jan Schmidtbauer Crona

Senior Analyst, Marine Spatial Planning and Maritime Affairs, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management

Jan Schmidtbauer Crona is a Senior Analyst at the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management. He is responsible for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in Swedish national marine spatial planning, including the integration of strategic environmental assessment as part of the MSP-process. Jan has led the Ecosystem Approach Taskforce in the Baltic SCOPE project 2015-2017 which produced a checklist toolbox on how to apply the Ecosystem Approach in MSP. Jan is involved in regional MSP cooperation within the HELCOM/VASAB-workgroup on MSP framework.

Angela Schultz-Zehden

Founder/Manager, Sustainable-Projects, s.Pro GmbH

Angela Schultz-Zehden - (MBA, MSc European Studies, BSc Economics) is founder/manager of sustainable-projects, s.Pro GmbH – a company specialized in managing international projects in the field of Integrated Maritime Policy. Among others she is currently Lead Manager of the EU MSP Assistance Mechanism, a service financed by the EU Commission for EU Member States to share relevant knowledge and experiences on MSP to support the implementation of the MSP Directive (www.msp-platform.eu).

Mrs. Schultz-Zehden has 20 years of experience in the field of integrated maritime policy. As senior manager of projects like PlanCoast, BaltSeaPlan and NorthSEE; managing director of the SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth EEIG; key author of related guidelines, studies and

recommendations (e.g. PlanCoast MSP Handbook, BaltSeaPlan Findings) and senior advisor for numerous ministries as well as transnational organizations with focus on developing strategic project pipelines and roadmaps - she has been at the forefront of developing the new policy fields and related key initiatives in maritime spatial planning, blue growth as well as innovative uses of marine resources.

For her work, Mrs. Schultz-Zehden has recently received the award "Woman of the Year in the Blue Economy 2016".

Dr. Joanna Smith

Marine Spatial Planning Science Manager, TNC Canada (The Nature Conservancy)

Dr. Joanna Smith is the MSP Science Manager with TNC Canada on The Nature Conservancy's Global Oceans Team, and is adjunct faculty at Simon Fraser University. She provides leadership for evaluating enabling conditions, designing marine planning processes, developing technical outputs, and creating marine plans. Joanna is currently working on the Seychelles MSP Initiative with the Government of Seychelles and the team was recently awarded Boat International's Ocean Awards 2017 - Innovation Award. Since 2008, Joanna has supported or assisted more than 10 marine planning processes in Canada, United States, Indonesia, Mexico, Caribbean, and New Zealand. Joanna is a founding partner of the Open Channels' Ocean Planning Community and her work includes collaborations with SeaSketch and EBM Tools to grow the global MSP community and advance digital planning tools. Joanna was involved in the creation of the first MSP graduate program in Canada at Memorial University Newfoundland and has contributed to Natural Capital's MP Concierge. Previously, Joanna was a private consultant to government, academia, and non-profit organisations for more than 15 years with her own company (Birdsmith Ecological Research) including to the Marine Planning Partnership for the North Pacific Coast (MaPP).

Damon Stanwell-Smith

Head of marine environment, NIRAS UK

Damon works for NIRAS, a Danish multidisciplinary consultancy company with over 2,100 employees located in offices in Europe, Asia and Africa; where he is the head of Marine Environment, at NIRAS UK. NIRAS provides support to marine infrastructure consenting, spatial planning, energy, environmental resources and development consulting. Since 1989 NIRAS has supported offshore sector development, including as in-house consultants to DONG Energy, working on numerous offshore wind farm projects (www.niras.com).

Prior to joining NIRAS in 2014, Damon's 25 year career includes heading the marine programme at the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre; leading subtidal monitoring for the Welsh Government; directing research for an International NGO in East Africa and SE Asia; expedition-leading the icebreaker MV Polar Star; and 5 years as a diver/biologist with the British Antarctic Survey.

Damon holds a PhD from the British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge in Marine ecology and a Marine biology BSc from Swansea University, Wales.

Marian Stuiver

Senior Researcher, Wageningen University

Marian is a senior researcher with broad experience in the social sciences. Her areas of expertise include Marine Spatial Planning, multi-stakeholder processes, Blue Growth. She has a track record in EU projects and in international organizations (United Nations) as well as local governmental projects. Marie has a proven ability to manage complex, multiple-stakeholders projects from definition through to completion.

Her experience spans through:

- Program and project management of international and multi-disciplinary teams.
- Methodologies to connect representatives of industry, non- governmental organizations and policymakers from different backgrounds and cultures for a common goal.
- Research themes: policy analysis, action research, gender, governance, sustainable entrepreneurship, stakeholder processes, transition management.
- Strategic visioning, developing and reflecting on science for impact.

Xin TENG

Associate Professor, Sea Area and Islands Office, National Marine Functional Zoning EXPERT COMMITTEE Office, National Ocean Technology Center, State Oceanic Administration, China

Xin TENG is an Associate professor at the Sea Area and Islands Office, National Marine Functional Zoning Expert Committee Office, National Ocean Technology Center, State Oceanic Administration of China. He holds a Ph. D degree on marine economy and management. He devoted himself to marine spatial planning, marine functional zoning, marine functional zoning economy benefits and sea area delicacy management policy studies for SOA. More recently, his focus is on China marine functional zoning middle time evaluation and China ecosystem-based marine functional zoning studies.

Hannah Thomas

Senior Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC

Hannah Thomas is a Senior Programme Officer in the Marine Programme at the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge. Her work involves the strategic, scientific and technical development and delivery of regional and global marine policy-related projects, specialising particularly on spatial planning tools and approaches. Hannah is currently leading UNEP-WCMC's work on understanding the global and context-specific challenges and enabling factors related to MSP, as well as developing and testing area-based planning approaches in regional Areas Beyond National. Hannah has extensive experience working with stakeholders in a participatory marine planning context, and has also spent several years managing biodiversity research programmes in Madagascar and Central Africa.

Steven Vandenborre

Policy Advisor, Marien Milieu, Belgium

Steven Vandenborre has been working as a lawyer at the Belgian federal Directorate-General for the Environment, Marine Environment and Spatial Planning Unit, since 2005. He is in charge of the legal support with respect to the preparation, the adoption and the enforcement of Belgian marine environment policy. In addition to this on-going activity, in 2009, he started, at an administration level, to consult with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to transform the Belgian marine spatial zoning into a marine spatial plan. This led, in 2012, to the adoption of a Royal Decree establishing the Belgian marine spatial planning process. This process considers the following principles: ecosystem-based approach, data-driven, stakeholder involvement, cross-border cooperation, cyclical planning and multifunctional spatial use. The first integrated marine spatial plan has been adopted in 2014. Steven Vandenborre is in charge of the organization and implementation of MSP in Belgium and is the secretary of the Consultative Committee and a Belgian representative to the EU expert group. He is also involved in international and European policy and projects on MSP, as an advisor and as a speaker.

Riku Varjopuro

Head of Unit, Finnish Environment Institute, Interactive Governance Unit

Varjopuro is leading the Interactive Governance Unit that focuses on social science research on stakeholder engagement in decision-making and in research as well as in developing methods for effective science-policy interfaces.

Most of his research projects have addressed marine environmental issues such as coastal management, environmental regulation of marine aquaculture, interactions between environment and fisheries and, most recently, EU marine protection policies and maritime spatial planning. His work has focused especially on the practices of decision making and participation, and social-material linkages between ecosystems and human activities. He has experience in coordinating national and international research projects and teams. Most of the projects have been multi-disciplinary and highly participative. Currently he is coordinating a Finnish – Estonian project to support cross-border maritime spatial planning.

Laurent Vigier

General Manager of Actimar (SUEZ Group)

Mr Laurent Vigier holds an Engineer degree in Geophysics from the “Institut de Physique du Globe” in Strasbourg and is specialist in the study of the marine environment. From 1981 to 1990, he worked as an engineer at BEICIP, a subsidiary of the French Institute of Petroleum (IFP), he worked mainly on behalf of oil companies and performed numerous site surveys for the installation of offshore structures. From 1990 to 2008, within several companies of the FUGRO Group in France, he had the responsibility of developing marine business activities as Marketing Manager and subsequently Business and Development Manager. The FUGRO Group is a world leader in geotechnical and geophysical surveys and metocean consultancy. He joined ACTIMAR (a subsidiary of the SUEZ Group) in 2008, and as Operations Director, had the overall responsibility of projects related to Operational Oceanography. He was appointed as General Manager in 2014.

Dixon Waruinge

Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Ecosystems Division, United Nations Environment

Dixon Waruinge has over 20 years work experience in programme formulation and coordination. He has worked with many governments in Africa, non-governmental organisations and research institutions in the diverse fields of wildlife conservation and management, biodiversity assessment and monitoring, biodiversity information management, community biodiversity conservation, and environmental impact assessment. Dixon has managed several projects in the Western Indian Ocean region and with a comprehensive understanding of international environmental law and governance, has developed cooperative agreements with global NGOs such as WWF, IUCN; Regional Economic Commissions such as the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC); and research institutions, such as Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA). He also developed collaborative programmes with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the World Heritage Convention on sites of universal value. His professional experience also includes working at FAO as a Project Coordinator responsible for projects on integrated coastal zone management including management of Marine Protected Areas in Eastern Africa. Dixon has been instrumental in increasing the visibility and impact of the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region, making regular decisions in the development and oversight of activities to support development of tools and methodologies for sustainable management; use of coastal and marine resources; and providing technical direction of several substantive projects and activities.

Laura Whitford

Director, Development Policy and Partnerships, The Nature Conservancy's Asia Pacific Program

Laura Whitford is the Director of Development Policy and Partnerships for The Nature Conservancy's Asia Pacific Program. She has worked on international environment and climate change issues for over ten years, and has been with TNC for eight, focused primarily on policy and government relations with Australian and European agencies regarding regional conservation initiatives in Asia Pacific. She leads TNC's engagement with the six-country Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF). She has a particular focus on the intersection of natural resource management, community development and gender, and co-founded the CTI-CFF's Women Leaders' Forum. She has graduate degrees in Environment and Development, Communication Management, and Psychology, and is based in Melbourne, Australia.

Wei XU

Deputy Director of Sea Area and Islands Office, National Marine Functional Zoning Expert Committee Office, National Ocean Technology Center, State Oceanic Administration, China

Wei XU is the Deputy Director of Sea Area and Islands Office, National MFZ Expert Committee Office, National Ocean Technology Center, State Oceanic Administration of China. Educated as a marine geology scientist, he has more than 15 years' experience at the national level in the field of marine functional zoning, coastal development and protection, marine policy, etc. In particular, he is a member of the China National Marine Functional Zoning Expert Committee, he is responsible for technical consultation, management and supervision of China marine functional zoning. His recent research focus on Cambodia marine and Coastal spatial planning, China marine functional zoning evaluation and China's next generation for marine functional zoning, etc.

Jacek Zaucha

Professor, Maritime Institute in Gdansk and Department of Economics, University of Gdansk, Poland

Prof. Dr hab. Jacek Zaucha is the main author of the first two maritime pilot spatial plans in Poland (2008, 2010), he led the work on preparation of the stock-taking report and is now responsible for drafting the first official maritime spatial plan in Poland. In 2013, he also elaborated the report on blue growth in Poland that was commissioned by DG MARE of the European Commission. He has published more than 110 scientific publications and contributed to several MSP related scientific projects: ARCH (7FP), Muses (HORIZON 2030), BaltSpace (BONUS). He also supports EU MSP Platform.

Jacek has been a member of the Committee on the Spatial Development in the Baltic Sea Region of the ministerial cooperation Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea (VASAB) (1994 - 2008) and Chair of VASAB (2015 - 2016), member of the Senior Officials Group (SOG) of the Baltic Agenda 21 (1997 - 2007), as well as a member of the VASAB-HELCOM Working Group on Maritime Spatial Planning (since 2010).