

**International Blue Carbon Initiative Scientific Working Group**  
**Annual Meeting**  
October 9 – 12, 2017  
University of Balearic Islands, Ibiza, Spain  
**SUMMARY AGENDA**

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Coordinating organizations:

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CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

Workshop partner organizations:

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Day 1 – Monday 9, 2017, University of Balearic Islands, Room: SA-CO2	
16:30 -	<b>Registration on main campus, Room: SA-CO2</b>
	<b>Meeting Opening</b>
17:00 - 19:00	<p><b>Session 1: Opening Remarks</b>  <b>Moderated by: Dr. Jorge Ramos, <i>Conservation International</i></b></p> <p><b>Welcome, introduction to Blue Carbon Initiative and International Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Emily Pidgeon, <i>Conservation International</i></li> <li>• Dr. Steve Crooks, <i>Silvestrum Climate Associates</i></li> <li>• Dr. Núria Marbà, <i>Institut Mediterrani d'Estudis Avançats (IMEDEA)</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Opening remarks by regional representatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Miquel Mir, <i>General Director of MPAs and Biodiversity Government of the Balearic Islands, Spain</i></li> <li>• Daisee Aguilera, <i>Consellera of Environment, Consell Insular de Formentera</i></li> <li>• Montse Garcia, <i>Regidora of Environment, Ajuntament de la Ciutat d'Eivissa, Spain</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Participant Introductions</b></p> <p><b>Presentations on Blue Carbon Ocean Teacher Course</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Kirsten Isensee, <i>Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO)</i></li> </ul>
20:00 -	<b>Welcome Reception and Dinner</b>
Day 2 – Tuesday 10, 2017, University of Balearic Islands, Room: SA-CO2	
9:00 – 9:30	Arrival to University of Balearic Islands, Room: SA-CO2
9:30 – 11:30	<p><b>Session 2. Status of blue carbon science for Mediterranean and European ecosystems</b>  <b>- Moderated by: Dr. Núria Marbà, <i>IMEDEA</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effect of anthropogenic pressure on seagrass Mediterranean carbon sinks. Dr. Núria Marbà <i>IMEDEA</i></li> <li>• <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> a major Blue Carbon Ecosystem, What is being done in Corsica? Dr. Gerard Pergent, <i>University of Corsica, France</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invasion of <i>Halophila stipulacea</i> in the Mediterranean Sea: an introduced carbon reservoir? Dr. Eugenia Apostolaki, <i>Hellenic Centre for Marine Research Anávyssos, Greece</i></li> <li>• Blue carbon stocks in <i>Zostera marina</i> meadows in the Baltic Sea – role of environmental settings. Dr. Marianne Holmer; Dr. Rohr E, Boström C, <i>University of Southern Denmark, Denmark</i></li> <li>• Blue carbon storage in <i>Zostera marina</i> - a global survey. Dr. Christoffer Boström, <i>Åbo Akademi University, Finland</i></li> <li>• Life Blue Natura Project: Blue carbon Science for action in the Atlantic and Mediterranean region. Dr. Mar Otero, <i>IUCN-Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation</i></li> <li>• Blue carbon in southern Portugal. Dr. Rui Santos, <i>Universidade do Algarve, Portugal</i></li> <li>• Carbon stocks and fluxes across the land-sea interface. Annette Burden, <i>Centre for Ecology &amp; Hydrology, UK</i></li> <li>• Resilience of saltmarsh carbon stores in the UK. Martin Skov, <i>Bangor University, UK</i></li> <li>• Carbon sequestration in the artificial salt marshes of the European Wadden Sea. Dr. Peter Mueller, <i>University of Hamburg, Germany</i></li> <li>• Carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions in coastal wetlands of the Ebro Delta. Dr. Carles Ibáñez, <i>Institut de Recerca I Tecnologia Agroalimentaries (IRTA), Spain</i></li> <li>• Adaptation and mitigation co-benefits for Mediterranean and European ecosystems. Dr. Iris E. Hendriks, <i>Institut Mediterrani d'Estudis Avancats (IMEDEA), Spain</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	<p><b>Session 3. Key questions in Blue Carbon Science</b>  <b>- Moderated by: Dr. Carlos Duarte, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and brainstorming session on summary results of the blue carbon survey.</li> </ul> <p><b>Round table discussion</b></p>
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch Provided
15:00 - 16:30	<p><b>Session 4. Seagrass ecosystems and carbon studies– A new look at seagrass ecosystems.</b>  <b>- Moderated by: Dr. Hilary Kennedy, Bangor University</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modelling distribution of the seagrass <i>Zostera marina</i>. Dr. Christoffer Boström, <i>Åbo Akademi University, Finland</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates on carbon in seagrass ecosystems. Dr Faiz Rahman, <i>University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley, USA</i></li> <li>• Modern carbon burial rates in seagrass ecosystems: implications for Blue Carbon science. Ariane Arias-Ortiz, <i>Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain</i></li> <li>• Drivers of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emission rates in tropical seagrasses – ongoing studies from the Western Indian Ocean. Mats Björk, <i>Stockholm University, Sweden</i></li> <li>• Seagrass Deposits as Time Capsules of the Human Past. Dorte Krause-Jensen, <i>Århus University, Denmark</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
16:30 – 16:45	Coffee Available
16:45 – 18:30	<p><b>Session 5. Seagrass ecosystems and carbon studies - The role that carbonates play in blue carbon inventories.</b>  <b>- Moderated by Dr. James Fourqurean, <i>Florida International University, USA</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session addressing priority science for Blue Carbon science in seagrasses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
	Dinner at local restaurants

<p><b>20:00 “Posidonia oceanica: El porqué de un patrimonio”</b>  <b>Sala Sa Nostra Sala, Carrer d'Aragó, 10</b></p>	
<p><b>Outreach Community Organized by Consell Insular d'Eivissa:</b>  <b>"Posidonia oceanica: El porqué de un patrimonio" (Posidonia Oceania, Why a World Heritage?)</b>  <b>- Presentation by Dr. Carlos Duarte, <i>King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)</i></b></p>	

<p><b>Day 3 – Wednesday 11, 2017, University of Balearic Islands, Room: SA-CO2</b></p>	
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome, Room: SA-CO2
9:30 - 11:00	<p><b>Session 6. Considering Other Coastal Ecosystems, Carbon Cycling vs. Carbon Storage</b>  <b>- Moderated by Dr. Emily Pidgeon, <i>Conservation International</i></b>                  Clarify the role of kelp, other seaweed forests and other marine ecosystems in the context of carbon storage and carbon cycling.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of macroalgae in C-sequestration. Dr. Dorte Krause-Jensen, <i>Aarhus University</i>, and Dr. Carlos Duarte, <i>KAUST</i></li> <li>• Kelp in Nordic Blue Carbon Systems. Dr. Sindre Langaas, <i>Norwegian Institute of Water Research (NIVA)</i></li> <li>• Blue Carbon: Recognizing the importance of long term C storage. Dr. Peter Ralph, <i>University of Technology, Sydney</i></li> <li>• An IPCC context for Ocean Carbon Storage. Dr. Hilary Kennedy, <i>Bangor University</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion Output: Opinion paper</b></p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	<p><b>Session 7. Blue Carbon Member and Partner Updates</b> <b>- Moderated by Dr. Jorge Ramos, <i>Conservation International</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Science and Data Network for Coastal Blue Carbon – Dr. Pat Megonigal, <i>Smithsonian Environmental Research Center</i></li> <li>• The Nature Conservancy’s Blue Carbon Projects. Dr. Mark Spalding and Ms. Emily Landis, <i>The Nature Conservancy</i></li> <li>• Developing the national synthesis of Mexico on Blue Carbon. Dr. Jorge A. Herrera-Silveira, <i>CINVESTAV-IPN, Merida, Mexico</i></li> <li>• Updates on Blue Carbon work in the Philippines. Dr. Nicholas Hill, <i>Zoological Society of London</i></li> <li>• IPCC Ocean and Cryosphere Review. Dr. James Kairo and Dr. Miguel Cifuentes, <i>Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute and CATIE</i></li> <li>• International Partnership for Blue Carbon. Mr. Karl Haby, <i>Department of the Environment and Energy, Government of Australia</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p><b>Session 8. Policy Challenges of Blue Carbon Projects in the Region</b> <b>- Moderated by Ms. Dorothée Herr, <i>IUCN</i> and Dr. Maria del Mar Otero, <i>IUCN-Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation</i></b></p> <p>Discussions on the blue carbon policy processes and on-going market studies on blue carbon offsets in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reinforcing protection legal framework for Posidonia in the Balearic Islands. Jorge Moreno, <i>Government of the Balearic Islands</i>.</li> <li>• The innovative draft Andalusian Law for Climate Change and the future market on carbon offsets. Susana Álvarez, <i>Dpto. Cambio Climático en Agencia Medio Ambiente y Agua de Andalucía</i>.</li> <li>• Market opportunities for coastal blue carbon offsets. Dorothée Herr, <i>IUCN</i></li> <li>• Tools and Incentives for engaging the private sector in the carbon market. Dr. Mar Otero, <i>IUCN-Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation</i></li> </ul>

	<b>Group Discussion</b>
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch – Provided
15:00 – 16:30	<p><b>Session 9. Uncertainties associated with blue carbon/coastal ecosystems</b> - Moderated by <b>Dr. Catherine Lovelock, <i>The University of Queensland</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss relative risk of blue carbon projects compared to terrestrial carbon projects.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
16:30-17:00	Coffee Available
17:00 – 17:30	<p><b>Session 10. Ecological Succession Blue Carbon in Coastal Ecosystems</b> - Moderated by <b>Dr. Jorge Ramos, <i>Conservation International</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesis of carbon stocks and fluxes of the three coastal ecosystems along ecological succession.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion in breakout groups</b></p>
17:30 – 18:30	<p><b>Session 11. Concluding Remarks</b> - Moderated by <b>Dr. Núria Marbà, <i>IMEDEA</i></b></p> <p><b>Summary of 2017 IBCSWG workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Emily Pidgeon, <i>Conservation International</i></li> <li>• Dr. Steve Crooks, <i>Silvestrum Climate Associates</i></li> <li>• Dr. Núria Marbà, <i>IMEDEA</i></li> </ul> <p><b>2018 partnership with State Oceanic Administration, P.R. China.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Guangcheng Chen, <i>Third Institute of Oceanography, SOA</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
18:30 –	<p><b>Session 12. Closing Event, Organized by Dr. Núria Marbà, <i>IMEDEA</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tour of historical Ibiza downtown Ibiza and closing reception hosted by the local government at the Sala Capitular del Ayuntamiento de Ibiza.</li> <li>• Dinner at local restaurants.</li> </ul>

#### Day 4 – Thursday 12, 2017- Formentera Island Field Trip

- Ferry for Scuba diving field trip will depart at 8:00 and for snorkeling field trip it will depart at 10:00 to Formentera Island. See online for more details.
- Ferry will depart from Formentera at 18:30 with an estimated arrival around 19:30 in Ibiza.

#### Day 5 - Friday 13, 2017 - Departures