

NEWSLETTER

European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres

2023, N° 52 (December) ISSN 1560-5299

From the President

Dear EURASLIC members,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you as President of EURASLIC. Firstly, I would like to thank my predecessor Sofija Konjević who did an impeccable job as President over the last four years - guiding us through the most turbulent of times.

The year 2023 has been a good year for EURASLIC, one where we finally got to reconnect in person and celebrate together. We are grateful to Bart Goossens and the team at the Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO) for hosting our 20th biennial conference. Our title was EURASLIC XX, Sustainability and infodiversity: (aquatic) libraries strengthening biodiversity knowledge. The conference was held from 3 – 5th May in Brussels, Belgium and we were given the warmest of welcomes. We had three days of excellent presentations, discussions, meetings, workshop, field trip and time to catch up, while breaking bread (and chocolate) together. Further details about the conference can be read in the proceedings edited by Bart, Sofija and me.

During the Conference a new Executive Board was elected, which included a reshuffling of current members and we saw the departure of others. The main changes saw Sofija taking over from Marina Mayer as Executive Secretary, while also being our current Past President and website editor. While Marina leaves the board, she remains part of our EURASLIC family, and we are grateful to her for her dedication over the past few years. Olga Kopytova was elected Vice-President, and Malgorzata Grabowska-Popow remains our archivist. Many thanks to the Nominating Committee: Olga Kopytova, Barbara Schmidt and Natalja Kondratjeva, for their work.

While EURASLIC met in person this year, the 49th Annual Conference of IAMSLIC was successfully hosted virtually by the University of British Columbia Library and the Cyamus Regional Group from 23- 26th October. Due to the accessibility, we had many members of EURASLIC attend and present. You can read my account of the conference further on in this newsletter. My gratitude goes to all members of the EURASLIC Executive Board and EURASLIC members that participated in IAMSLIC committees and activities this year, for their continued commitment, and also to the editors and contributors to this Newsletter.

Our members were active in other activities with four attending the 2023 ASFA Advisory Board Meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand in September. At this very successful meeting, a new partnership agreement for the organisation was brokered.

Next year IAMSLIC will celebrate the 50th annual conference fittingly in Alexandria, Egypt. Where once the greatest writers and thinkers in the world came together to convene their knowledge, the trend will be emulated next autumn and we hope that the proximity to Europe will allow many of our EURASLIC members to attend in person. Watch out for further information on travel grants and confirmed dates.

We hope that you all continue as members of EURASLIC and indeed spread the word about our wonderful organisation, as only through engagement and strength in numbers can we thrive.

I want to wish you a very Happy Christmas on behalf of myself and the Executive Board. Stay safe and have a prosperous New Year for 2024.

Stephanie Ronan
EURASLIC President

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EURASLIC XX: Sustainability and infodiversity: (aquatic) libraries strengthening biodiversity knowledge

Sofija Konjević

Ruđer Bošković Institute, Centre for Scientific Information, Zagreb, Croatia

Four years have passed since the last in-person meeting of the EURASLIC members. Celebrating 35 years of EURASLIC along with the 20th EURASLIC Biennial Conference was a good enough reason to meet again.

[EURASLIC XX conference](#) was held in Brussels, Belgium, from May 3 – 5, 2023, under the title Sustainability and infodiversity: (aquatic) libraries strengthening biodiversity knowledge. The conference host was the Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO).



20th EURASLIC conference: Group photo

The first day of the conference started with a welcome speech and ice-breaker. After a short introduction the participants were ready for a picnic or for the conference. Short overview of EURASLIC history was followed by an invited lecturer on *The evolving role of marine information in the IODE program*. The conference covered [diverse topics](#).

One session of the conference was dedicated to Current Research Information Systems (CRIS). Flanders Research Information Space (FRIS) is a regional CRIS that aggregates metadata from publicly funded research in Flanders. Benefits of using FRIS are easier dissemination of research information, less administrative tasks for researchers, simplified reporting. Research institutes and FRIS are interconnected via different CRIS systems. Among others FRIS is interconnected with PURE, product of Elsevier. PURE is in use by INBO as a CRIS system that makes possible automation of processes and implementation of web services. Unlike FRIS, the Research Information System of the Republic of Croatia (CroRIS) is a centralized national information system that unifies all data on scientific activities of the Croatian scientific and research community. The system is being built as part of the strategic project Scientific and Technological Foresight. Although the project ended, the system is still in active development. CroRIS enables public availability of all the data, its visibility and transparency, promoting and supporting in that way open science. FRIS,

besides monitoring research activity is a tool to monitor the progress of Open Science in Flanders. Thus, the presentation of CRIS was a good introduction to open science, another important topic of the conference. Participants were updated on ASFA projects: Improved Regional Fisheries Governance in Western Africa and FAO-SEAFDEC. OpenASFA workshop provided an opportunity for the participants to learn how to create new records and the best ones won the prize. OpenASFA is a relatively new platform launched in 2021 that enables exchange of aquatic data and increases visibility of records, especially the visibility of grey literature. The workshop was followed by a presentation on AquaDocs - aquatic open access repository. Apart from an overview of the current development of AquaDocs, the similarities and differences with OpenASFA were discussed. INBO's Open Science Lab for Biodiversity team (OSCIBIO) team presented activities, challenges and lessons learned in their way towards making INBO an open science institute. How data stewards can help to set the scene for open science was presented through activities of The Flemish Open Science Board (FOSB). Open Science was also topic of the poster by Flanders Hydraulics (FH). The poster presents process of optimisation of the research data in order to make them visible and searchable through an expert platform. The metadata of Flanders Hydraulics records are also aggregated by Flanders Research Information Space (FRIS).

While the poster of Flanders Hydraulics focused on open science and data management, the other poster brought light on the history of fake news and the role of the libraries.

Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) gave an overview on the development of new updated version of VLIZ information system and new initiative [MarineInfo.org](https://marineinfo.org), linked open data catalogue that serves as a centralized hub for researchers, organizations, and individuals to submit, access, and explore a large amount of marine data.

The publishing was mentioned in the perspective of gray publishing and predatory publishers among us. Library of the Fish Resources Research Department of the Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and the Environment (BIOR) was represented by an institutional report.

After a successful day conference dinner was ideal for an informal gathering. During the conference Board and Business meetings were held, election results announced, [new Board appointed](#). Scientific part was fulfilled thanks to the field trip to the Research Center for Aquatic Fauna in Linkebeek where we learned about research on the monitoring of aquatic fauna and efforts made to protect endangered aquatic species by breeding programs and species restoration.

The conference incorporated a wellness aspect into the program and offered delegates the opportunity to take a wellness walk at lunch or some seated yoga, or mindfulness practice in a quiet space which was accomplished mostly by walking from hotel to INBO, or to the city centre and a little yoga on the train.

The conference host (INBO e.g. Bart and his team) apart from putting enormous efforts in a perfect organisation had ordered a nice weather for the conference. So, the participants could fully enjoy their stay at Brussels, [Tour&Taxis site](#), visit to The [Royal Depot](#) multifunctional and multi-tenant building, and not to forget INBO [Herman Teirlinck building](#), a modern new building. More information about the presentations at the conference can be found in the [proceedings](#).

What We Do Matters: Libraries, Climate Change, and Transformation

Stephanie Ronan
Marine Institute, Galway, Ireland

The 49th Annual Conference of the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres (IAMSLIC) was hosted virtually by the University of British Columbia Library and the Cyamus Regional Group, from the 23rd - 26th October 2023. This year's theme was based on the UN IPCC report on climate change, where the core message is

Every bit of warming matters, every year matters, every choice matter

Taking inspiration from that, the presentations, talks, workshops, posters and activities all centred around the theme of What We Do Matters: Libraries, Climate Change, and Transformation.



Figure 1 Virtual attendees at the 49th IAMSLIC Conference, What We Do Matters

The University of British Columbia (UBC) Library presented a fully virtual conference on the Pheedloop conference platform, which created a virtual space for participants to attend sessions, view pre-recorded content, and engage with each other in real-time. Additionally, Zoom was used for all other sessions, meetings, and break-out rooms. Sessions were recorded and made available on Pheedloop for three months' post-conference.

Hosts Helen Brown, Sally Taylor and Mathew Vis-Dunbar from UBC, along with conference convener Hannah Russell, and the organising committee did a stellar job in keeping everyone entertained and on point over the four days. This was not the easiest task when you're dealing with an online international audience spanning across all time zones, but they made it look easy!

Once the official welcome was complete, the conference kicked off with a local keynote talk from Claire Malek and Helen Brown, both UBC. They addressed teaching climate change and land use planning using historical and current resources, demonstrating how librarians and archivists can help prepare students for the challenging decisions and public planning

needed today. Staying local, the talk was followed by a film from Canada's 'The Nature of Things'. This episode 'Ice and Fire: Tracking Canada's Climate Crisis' shows that in the face of such radical transformation, measuring the true state of the planet is more than just good science, it is critical to our future on Earth.



There were plenty of wellbeing activities incorporated into the conference over the four days, reminiscent of our own EURASLIC conference earlier in the year, including Exercise with UBC Rec's MoveU Crew, Stretch Break with Loretta, Tea Meditation, and Lightwork Meditation.

Figure 2 Conference selfie time,
Stephanie Ronan virtually attending IAMSLIC 2023

I thoroughly enjoyed the session from Derek Tan, 'Transformational digital landscapes for Indigenous Knowledge'. I really admire his vision and skill in mapping and overlaying, via augmented reality, the Indigenous knowledge and architecture to the current space. This was one of two sessions to use the Beaty Biodiversity Museum, also referenced in the 'Where does carbon lurk?' workshop by Kate Elliott. Another great activity was 'Learn to Draw Kelp Forests' with Julius Csotonyi. I did not know what to expect from this session, but it surpassed anything I imagined, not only did we draw along with this wonderful national history artist, but we learned so much. It was an hour of activity where one almost accidentally learned about the link between seaweeds and carbon, the predators' and the heroes. It was fantastic. Speaking of all things fantastic, the annual Quiz was presided over by David Baca, who also gave an excellent workshop on using storytelling to communicate. We all learned a bit more about Dave and each other in this Moth Story Hour style workshop.



Figure 3 My Tea Meditation, following along with Erik Fausak from home



Representing EURASLIC, I presented on 'Seeing the science, visualising trends in historical data for fisheries sustainability' which was well received. Also flying the EURASLIC flag were Tamsin Vicary and Maria Kalentsits who updated us on 'ASFA in 2023: Transforming its services to share aquatic science research and data'.

As a member of the AquaDocs steering group, Ekaterina Kulakova, along with colleagues, gave an update on this year's activities, including the efforts to secure ongoing funding, developments to increase the visibility of AquaDocs, and strategies to support the multilingual communities who use AquaDocs.

Figure 4 Drawing along with Julius Csotonyi in the 'Learn to Draw Kelp Forests' activity

You can look forward to the conference proceedings being published next year, by long term editor Dorothy Barr, which will share in detail, abstracts and full papers of all the talks presented. Unfortunately, I cannot pay tribute to them all, as the quality, depth and breadth of all the sessions is too vast to cover here. I wish I could download and plug into my brain all of Amanda Whitmire's work on using Large Language Models in data text mining, I recommend reading her paper in the proceedings as soon as you can, and don't forget to ask Joyce Shaw and Megan Le for their curated book list! The posters are also excellent and should be viewed, especially 'IAMSLIC conferences in changing times' which justified why the conference was hosted virtually this year.

EURASLIC held a well-attended business meeting during the conference, where we caught up face to face, albeit virtually, for the first time since our conference in May. We also attended the IAMSLIC business meeting, presenting the EURASLIC annual report, and received the exciting news about the 50th year celebrations to be held in Alexandria, Egypt next year.

This closed out the conference, where we said goodbye to our IAMSLIC colleagues for another year and we hope to see you in person next year.

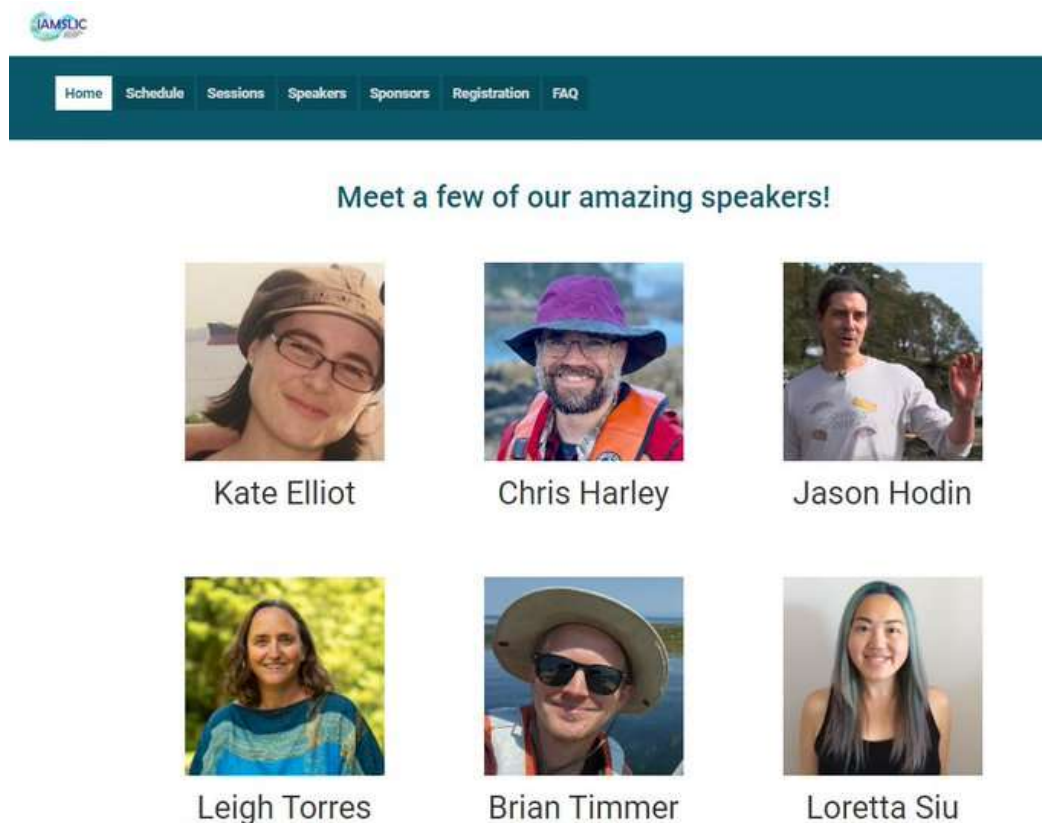


Figure 5 Speakers' profiles are available on the IAMSLIC website and on Pheedloop

2nd International Ocean Data Conference (IODC II)

Sofija Konjević
Ruđer Bošković Institute, Centre for Scientific Information, Zagreb, Croatia



After the very successful first International Ocean Data Conference (IODC I) it was decided to continue with the 2nd International Ocean Data Conference (IODC II). The conference was organised by UNESCO and IODE and held at the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France from March 20, 2023 - March 21, 2023 as a hybrid event.

Focus of the conference was the implementation of commitments and recommendations from IODC-I, giving participants a chance to present achievements in the area of oceanographic data and information management and exchange within the framework of the UN Ocean Decade.

The topics were organised in four sessions:

- 1.Implementing the FAIR and CARE principles for ocean science and sustainable development
- 2.Community engagement and capacity development in data literacy
- 3.Global ocean digital ecosystem
- 4.Interdisciplinarity, societal needs

+ Ocean decade special event

Keynote speaker in the first session Alexandra Kokkinaki presented ENVRI-FAIR project and its goal to improve level of FAIRness of participating Research Infrastructures (Euro-ARGO, ICOS (Marine), EMSO, and LifeWatch (Marine), SeaDataNet) in order to enable those repositories to become part of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC).

Implementation of FAIR principles ((Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) was shown through various projects, portals (Simons CMAP; OBIS - Ocean Biodiversity Information System as data system, World Ocean Database, COPiLoTE etc.).

ASFA presented an overview on software historical development from CDSISIS to OpenAsfa 3.0 and implementation of FAIR principles in its development. Timm Schoening recommended the use of image FAIR Digital Objects (iFDOs) for the image and video data as those marine data are not standardized which prevent their discoverability and interoperability.

In the session “Community engagement and capacity development” the audience heard about ocean literacy, Citizen Science, use of SeaWatcher App, involvement of community or small-scale fishermen in collecting ocean data. The PacMAN project gave insight into development of an early-detection monitoring system for marine invasive species. Venezuela showed efforts taken in collaboration with marine science communities in order to safeguard decades of data collection that were almost lost. That included sharing data through open-source repositories and digitization of information on marine biodiversity found in the country’s institutions. Engagement in education was shown through the overview of Ocean Data Bootcamp and the trainings conducted as a part of the OceanTeacher Global Academy.

The end of the day was reserved for Ocean Decade Special Event which was an interactive session moderated by Ocean Decade Data Coordination Group discussing strategy for a data ecosystem, achievements of Ocean Decade as one of the largest initiatives with a lot of programs in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Second day of the conference started with the session “Global ocean digital ecosystem”. In this session presenters introduced topics like digital twins of the ocean (DTO), organization of marine information big data. Global Ocean iMAGINE showed use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in imaging data and services for aquatic science. How to unify a distributed spatial data infrastructure was shown on of EMODnet centralization process that brings different services under one umbrella. Several other available digital systems were presented with emphases on their interoperability and potential for their integration into sustainable data and information digital ecosystem.

The fourth session was entitled “Interdisciplinarity, societal needs”. The focus of the session was interdisciplinary cooperation and contribution of social sciences to improvement of ocean data by analyzing user needs and integration of their knowledge to avoid injustices and discrimination.

At the conference OBIS - Ocean Biodiversity Information System was recommended as data system, and AquaDocs as document repository for the Ocean Decade.

The conclusions and whole program are available at the conference site (<https://oceandataconference.org/programme-2023/>)

The IODC III is already announced and will be held under the theme "[Delivering the science we need for the ocean we want](#)" in Barcelona, Spain from 10 - 12 April 2024 as an in person event. There is no registration fee to participate in the Conference; however, at the time of full registration, participants will be kindly asked to make a modest financial contribution to a travel fund to support travel for selected participants from Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries and Early Career Ocean Professionals.

27th Session of the IODE Committee

Sofija Konjević
Ruđer Bošković Institute, Centre for Scientific Information, Zagreb, Croatia



Right after the conference started the 27th Session of the IODE Committee that was held 22-24 March 2023, Paris, France as an in-person event.

During the session a report was given on the past intersessional period bringing into focus the status of IODE network, revision of the IOC Strategic Plan for Oceanographic Data and Information Management, revision of the IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy along with progress report on 15 IODE global projects. Among other projects AquaDocs and ASFA were presented. The IODE Committee recommended further collaboration of ASFA and AquaDocs and their joint promotion. Further cooperation of IODE and IAMSLIC was also recommended.

One of the important activities that was highlighted was the IODE contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

The Committee noted with regret the continuing small number of IODE Associated Information Units (AIUs) and requested a concerted recruitment effort be made to increase the number before IODE-XXVIII in close collaboration with ASFA and IAMSLIC, which included EURASLIC members as well.

During the session suspension of ODINs was announced. The recommendation for former ODINs is to get involved directly in other projects or through IOC representatives for the region. ODINECET Group already directed its activities into the joint project AquaDocs Repository.

Work plan and budget showed that funding provided to IODE's regular programs decreased therefore there was less allocation to the current IODE projects. Action paper and future of IODE was discussed together with a proposed work plan for the next intersessional period. Co-chairs for the next inter-sessional period were announced (Ms Lotta Fyrberg (Sweden), Ms Paula Sierra (Colombia)). The session was closed after decisions, recommendations and summary report were adopted.

The evening the conference ended and before the session started a reception was held. During the reception IODE achievement awards were granted to nine award recipients: Mr Francisco A. Arias-Isaza, Ms Paula Cristina Sierra Correa, Mr Jay S. Pearlman, Mr Johannes Karstensen, Ms Cláudia M. Neves Delgado, Ms Kristin de Lichtervelde, Mr Sergey Belov, Mr Taco De Bruin and Mr Peter Pissierssens.

The 27th Session of the IODE was attended by 112 participants from 38 IOC Member States and 16 organizations. EURASLIC was represented at both events by Sofija Konjević, president at the time. Apart from IODE staff and other representatives there were also representatives from IAMSLIC (Jennifer Walton) and ASFA (Tamsin Vicary).

Full final Report of the session is available at IODE OceanExpert page: <https://oceanexpert.org/document/32021>

During the session Colombia offered to host the next session of the IODE Committee in 2025.

ASFA Advisory Board Meeting (3-6 October 2023, Bangkok, Thailand)

Ekaterina Kulakova

Russian ASFA Centre

Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO), Moscow



The ASFA Advisory Board Meeting (ABM) was held in October 3-6, 2023 and was kindly hosted by the SEAFDEC Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand. This event has become the first in-person meeting of the ASFA Partners since 2019, and it was a great opportunity to greet all the colleagues from different parts of the world after the four-year “online mode”.

This year, there were representatives from a number of the international organizations: FAO (Italy), ICCAT (Spain), SEAFDEC (Philippines, Thailand), as well as about 20 National Partners from all the geographical regions: Argentina, China, Colombia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Türkiye, Uganda, Uruguay, Vietnam.



The ASFA Advisory Board Meeting was opened by Marc Taconet, Team Leader, Information and knowledge management (NFISI), Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO, Rome, Italy). After that the floor was given to Dr. Tomoko Nakazato (Head of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), Bangkok, Thailand). In his welcoming word, Marc Taconet encouraged the participants to consolidate their efforts in order to disseminate marine research information through the ASFA Database, which possibilities and future prospects have grown a lot since the Open-ASFA launch in 2021. So

far, the ASFA inputters have managed to submit a much greater amount of both regular journal articles and “grey literature” (monographs, conference materials, expeditions reports, reviews, rare books etc.), which did not seem possible about a couple of years ago. He also emphasized the issue of the ASFA sustainability as a unique information product and its competitiveness on the global arena of the aquatic sciences from 1971 onwards. Using the metaphor of “letting the ASFA boat sail safely across the white-water river of modern technologies”, Marc Taconet expressed his hope that the ASFA Database has all the chances to be alive and kicking for another 50 years ahead.



During the four days of the ABM the following discussions and sessions were held:

1. Tamsin Vicary (ASFA Secretariat, FAO) informed the community of the necessity to change the existing ASFA business model into the one that may bring in external budget funds and enable sustainable development of the database as a unique fishery information resource in the sphere of aquatic sciences.
2. Tamsin Vicary also provided a report on the state of the ASFA Trust Fund, its sources and forthcoming expenditures in 2024-2025.
3. A separate session was dedicated to the amendments to the current version of the Partnership Agreement, signing of which will mean considerable changes for the ASFA member states (including terminating of the ASFA Advisory Board and creating a new management body – the Steering Committee, which shall consist of 20-25 most active partners).
4. Maria Kalentsits presented three potential Trust Fund projects, which would be focused on analysis, identification and indexation of the “grey literature” (restricted to the subject of freshwater environment and its hydrobionts) stored in the library collections of Europe, Africa, and Latin America.
5. The Working Groups presentations demonstrated the results they achieved during the intersessional period. Their usefulness and necessity to recruit more members was emphasized.

The outcomes of the discussions were the following:

1. Identification of the ASFA goals, strategies and relevant activities for the year of 2024 within the regional networks (Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America);

2. Approval of the new Publishing Agreement between FAO and ProQuest (Clarivate) after the review of the amendments made;

3. The Working Groups action plan:

- Implementation and subsequent introduction to the ASFA community of the new promotion materials for the ASFA database based on the strategies proposed by Florin Lim (FAO Secretariat);

- Expansion of the Working Group for the AGROVOC Controlled Vocabulary with new members, in particular those in command of the languages which are underrepresented in the AGROVOC;

4. Renaming the Communication Working Group to the Working Group on Communication and Outreach (WGCO);

5. Considering a potential merge of the Open-ASFA and the AquaDocs e-Repository (initiated by IOC/IODE) as well as providing a smooth algorithm of harvesting from AquaDocs onto the Open-ASFA platform after a testing period.



A number of the important Action Items that have been accepted by the participants and will be implemented in the coming year are as follows:

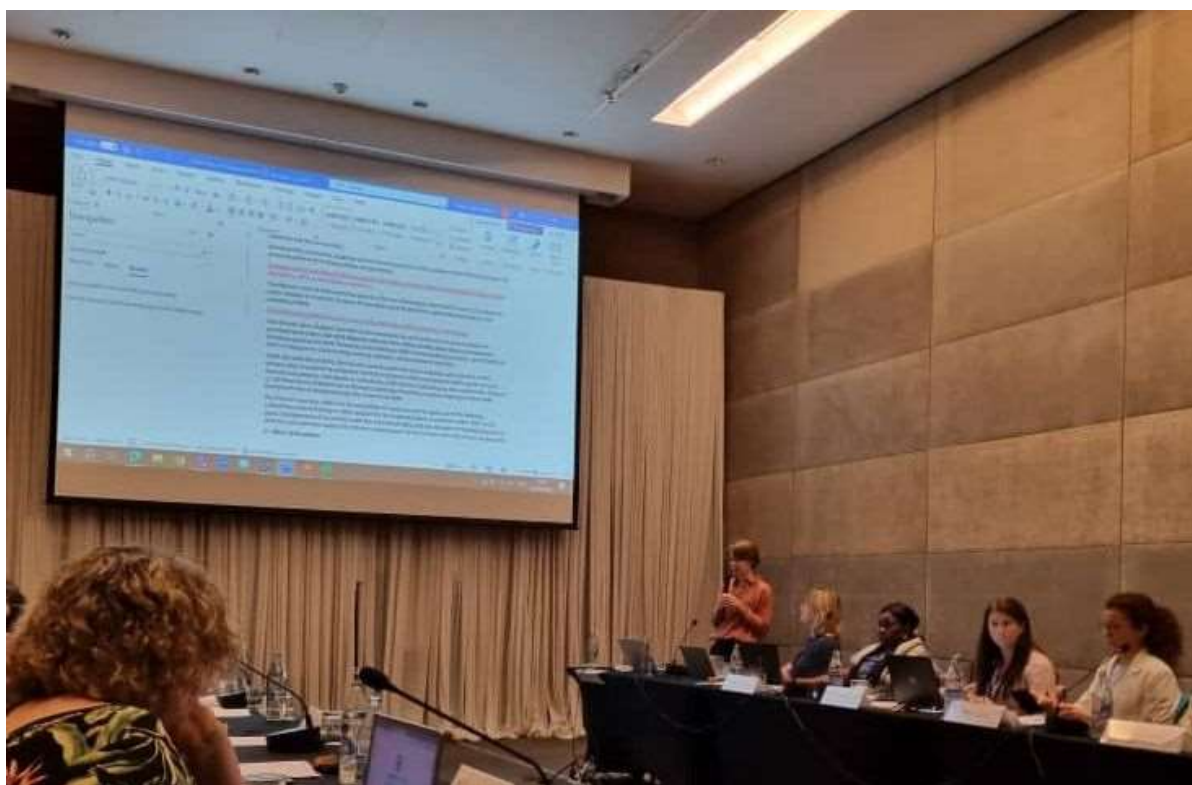
1. Consider indicators for the ASFA promotion, i.e., national and regional meetings and conferences that disseminate the understanding of the ASFA mission and strategy.

2. Organise the Training of Trainers with an intention to provide necessary skills to allow the National Partners to deliver proper training on the OpenASFA platform usage, promotion and participation in any ASFA related activities. All the demonstration materials (presentations and other resources) used in the training sessions will be shared with all new and existing partners.

3. Create an ASFA repository to cater for external and internal audiences (for promotional, communication and training resources). The collection should deliver enhanced transparency and inclusivity of communications materials for effective internal and external partner engagement.

4. When the new Terms of References are approved, follow up with institutions that the ASFA Partners have connections with and/or were previously active in ASFA.
5. Discuss and agree on the new Terms of References for the Working Group on Communication and Outreach (WGO).
6. Review the Working Group memberships to consider inviting relevant participants, thought leaders or experts as sounding board members to join selected or those Working Group(s) that have been identified as critical.

One of the most significant issues at the ASFA Advisory Board Meeting 2023 was provisional approval of the Terms of Reference and Bangkok Statement which will replace and supersede the Partnership Agreement. Those two documents came as a result of discussions, which led to understanding the need for further improvements in response to the changing goals and challenges that ASFA Secretariat faces. Final approval by the legal authority of FAO is required before the Terms of Reference can be accepted.



Croatian Library of the Year 2023: Celebrating Excellence at the Centre for Scientific Information of the Ruđer Bošković Institute

Marina Žugaj

Ruđer Bošković Institute, Centre for Scientific Information, Zagreb, Croatia

The Centre for Scientific Information of the Ruđer Bošković Institute received the Croatian "Library of the Year" recognition for 2023 at the formal assembly of the Croatian Library Association held at the National and University Library in Zagreb. This award is an important confirmation of the Centre's many years of hard work and its role in improving library science, services, and information systems. It shows that our efforts have made a positive impact not only in Croatia but also in the international scientific and academic community.



The assembly opened with welcoming speeches by the Director General of the National and University Library in Zagreb, Ivanka Stričević, PhD, the President of the Zagreb Library Association, Dorja Mučnjak, the President of the Croatian Library Association, Jasenka Pleško, and on behalf of the Minister of Culture and Media, State Secretary Ivica Poljičak, PhD.

In his expression of gratitude upon receiving the award, Bojan Macan, PhD, the Head of the Centre for Scientific Information, highlighted the library's innovative services and its role in promoting open science. He credited the success to the dedicated team, thanked past and present colleagues, especially Jadranka Stojanovski, PhD, and Alen Vodopijevac, for their pivotal contributions to the library's achievements.



Addressing the guests, Dr Ivanka Jerić, Assistant Director of the Ruđer Bošković Institute, offered sincere congratulations to all the employees of the Centre for Scientific Information for their excellent results. She also expressed gratitude for recognizing and rewarding the valuable work of the Centre's employees.

Established in 1950, the Library of the Ruđer Bošković Institute, now known as the Centre for Scientific Information, has played a pivotal role since its inception. Operating in two locations, Zagreb and Rovinj (as part of the Centre for Marine Research), the library has been instrumental in supporting the Institute's scientists across various activities, including ensuring the accessibility of scientific information, organising information, and developing various information systems. The collections housed within the library span across all scientific disciplines that are the subject of research for the Institute's researchers, including physics, mathematics, electronics, chemistry, biology, medicine, computer science, and environmental science.

The Centre's role in promoting open science at institutional and national levels is particularly noteworthy through the establishment of infrastructure such as the institutional repository FULIR, the research data repository FULIR Data, cloud data storage service MojOblak, participation in the development of the national infrastructure for digital repositories - Dabar, the Portal of Croatian scientific and professional journals - Hrčak, as well as through education and support for scientists in implementing open science. The Centre has long surpassed the boundaries of a traditional institutional library, developing numerous information services and providing user support to the broader academic and research community. Services such as the Croatian Scientific Bibliography (CROSBI), the Database of Project Activities in Science and Higher Education (POIROT), and a database of scientific instruments developed by the Centre (Šestar), have laid the foundations for the new Information System of Science in Croatia – CroRIS. The Centre also maintains a strong international presence, actively engaging in European projects and participating in

international associations. Notably, it is a member of the European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres (EURASLIC) and the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC). The Centre's involvement extends to various projects such as PATTERN, NI4OS-Europe, OpenAIRE Advance, OpenAIRE 2020, OpenAIREplus, and FOSTER.

This recognition acknowledges our contribution to fostering creativity, innovation, and improving the quality of work. We are proud of the perseverance, quality, and creativity we provide through specific services and programs to our users and the community in which we operate.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Committee for awarding us the 'Library of the Year' recognition, and we consider it a great honour. This recognition motivates us to continue our work with dedication and enthusiasm.



IBSS Scientific Information Department in 2022–2023

Olga Kopytova, Olga Akimova, Aleksei Baiandin

A. O. Kovalevsky Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas of
RAS, Crimea

Dear colleagues, on the eve of the most magical holiday, we are happy to share our news! What will the Team of IBSS Scientific Information Department remember over the past two years?

1. The need for moving all our websites. Now links to all IBSS information resources are collected at <https://marine-research.ru/>. Welcome!



Информационные ресурсы ФИЦ «Институт биологии южных морей имени А. О. Ковалевского РАН»



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2. Improvements on the *Marine Biological Journal* website (by the way, it has also moved and is available at <https://marine-biology.ru/>). There are many, but not all of them can be seen. On the scientific publication page, there are a “Funding” tab and a UDC line. The necessary information has been added to the entire array of communications and notes, since it is pretty often required when preparing reports.

The possibility of implementation of the sustainable development concept for the recreational coastline of Yalta city regarding biogenic elements, radionuclides, heavy metals, and organochlorine compounds (Crimea; Black Sea)

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Issue: Vol. 8, No. 3 (2023)

Section: Scientific communications

Pages: 12–32

Keywords: Black Sea, Crimea, water, biogenic elements, strontium-90, cesium-137, heavy metals, organochlorine compounds, bottom sediments dating

DOI: 10.21072/mbj.2023.08.3.02

ISSN: 1549-0791

UDC: [502.1:535.545]:292.471–75

Published: Sep 21, 2023

Views: 140 Downloads: 63

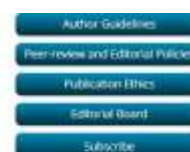
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Egorov V. N., Mirzoyeva N. Yu., Artemov Yu. G., Proskurnin V. Yu., Stetsuk A. P., Marchenko Yu. G., Evtushenko D. B., Moschenko I. N., Chuzhikova-Proskurnina O. D. The possibility of implementation of the sustainable development concept for the recreational coastline of Yalta city regarding biogenic elements, radionuclides, heavy metals, and organochlorine compounds (Crimea, Black Sea). *Marine Biological Journal*. 2023, vol. 8, no. 3, pp. 12–32. <https://doi.org/10.21072/mbj.2023.08.3.02>

Abstract Authors References **Funding** Statistics

Funding
This work was carried out within the framework of RSCF state research assignment “Molomological and biogeochemical fundamentals of marine ecosystems homeostasis” (No. 121031500515-8).



3. Improvement of indicators. For 2023, *Marine Biological Journal* is ranked in Scopus as Q3 journal in Aquatic Sciences. New authors are always welcome!

4. Filling and regularly updating the media archive (<https://media.marine-research.ru/>). Almost 1,900 interesting photographs have already been uploaded here, and more than 500 publications on IBSS history have been collected.

Просмотр документов (1852 всего)

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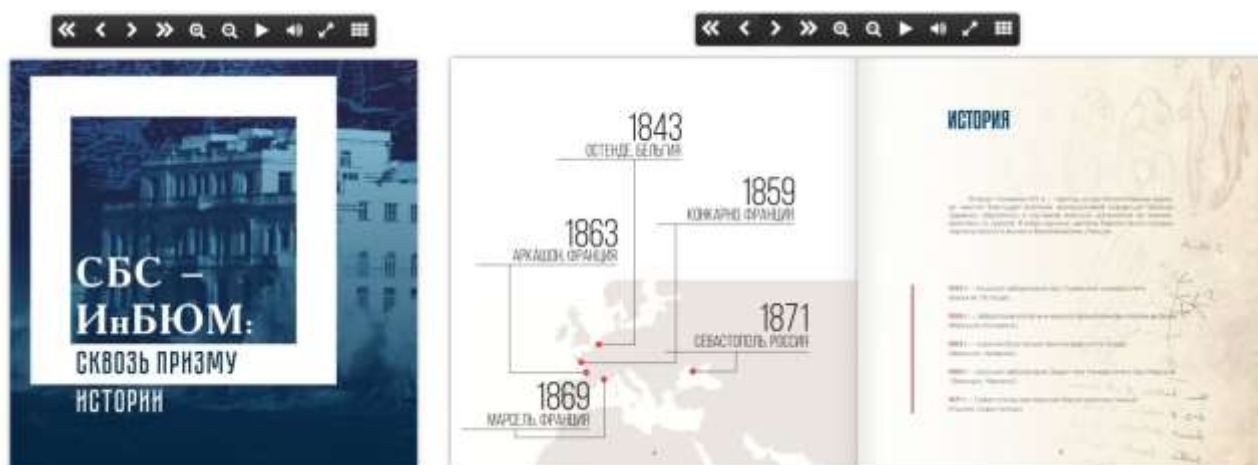
			
Вершина [ID: 1880]	12 рейс, 1982 г., Флоренция [ID: 1879]	14 рейс, 1983 г. [ID: 1878]	8 рейс, Красное море [ID: 1877]
			
1-й рейс НИС "Проф. Волянский". Прозымака безгосных проб [ID: 1876]	Март 1993 г. [ID: 1875]	Рейс НИС "Академик Королёв", 1984 г. [ID: 1874]	Рейс "Академик Ковалевский", Ля-Валетта, Июнь, 1974 г. [ID: 1873]

5. Updating our open access repository (<https://repository.marine-research.ru/>). To date, there are over 13,000 scientific publications, carefully described and categorized. The repository runs on the DSpace platform, v7.5.

- > Bibliographic indexes / Библиографические указатели **30**
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- > SBS – IBSS history publications / Публикации по истории СБС – ИнБЮМ **410**
- > Selected articles and overprints / Избранные статьи и оттиски **2836**
Selected digital articles and overprints from different sources
- > Serials / Журналы, продолжающиеся издания **4115**
Serials and continuing resources published by IBSS
- > Thematic collections / Тематические коллекции **55**

6. Completion of the library collection inventory. Our colleagues verified and manually stamped tens of thousands of books, journals, theses, reprints, *etc.* As far as IBSS staff remembers, it was the first inventory during which the scientific library did not have to be closed from visitors.

7. The release of the anniversary edition, which we have been creating for more than two years. Now our institute has a wonderful gift: the album “Sevastopol Biological Station – Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas: Through the Prism of History” (<https://book.marine-research.ru/>). There is so much teamwork and so much love! We hope that you will also enjoy browsing through it.



Dear community, thank you for your invaluable help and support! Happy holidays!

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Editorial staff of the Newsletter expresses its gratitude to all contributors to this issue. There is nothing more authentic and exciting than the information presented firsthand. We would like this to encourage everyone to not hesitate sharing the events you were involved and personal professional experience, because sharing is a source of knowledge and maintains the integrity of the community.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!