Special Issue

Marine Sustainability: Present Challenges, Future Risks and Opportunities

Message from the Guest Editors

Marine systems are 'socio-ecological systems', in which natural and economic processes are tightly interconnected. In the present era of global environmental changes and massive population growth along the coasts, sustainable development goals recommend that human societies manage marine environments in a way in which the latter maintain their stability and resilience. When exploited in a sustainable way, oceans and seas are able to absorb unavoidable anthropogenic impacts, keep functioning, and provide humans with goods and services. Marine research is increasingly being asked to embrace sustainability studies, by accumulating scientific knowledge suitable to inform policy makers and roadmap management practices. The main challenge in this respect is envisioning ecological research to intercept economic interests, such as the virtuous utilization of the seascape for productive purposes, the sustainable harvesting of marine resources, etc. For further reading, please visit the Special Issue Website.

Guest Editors

Dr. Domenico D'Alelio

Department of Integrative Marine Ecology, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Napoli, Italy

Dr. Emanuela Dattolo

Department of Integrative Marine Ecology, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Villa Comunale, 80121 Naples, Italy

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Marc A. Rosen

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Oshawa, ON L1G OC5, Canada

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