

Delving Deeper: Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research

Launch event of European Marine Board position paper 22, an output of Working Group “Deep Sea Research for Societal Challenges and Policy Needs”

Date: 1 September 2015

Time: 18:00-19:00

Location: Pequeno Auditório, Cultural and Congress Center of Aveiro

The European Marine Board (EMB) invites you to join the launch event of position paper 22 “Delving Deeper: Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research”¹. This will take place on 1 September 2015 in the Pequeno Auditório at 18:00 as an official side-event of the 14th DSBS. The position paper is an output of EMB Working Group (WG) “Deep Sea Research for Societal Challenges and Policy Needs”² and delivers eight high-level goals for deep-sea research in the context of expanding commercial activities, increasing human and natural pressures, and the need for effective and practicable governance frameworks to underpin the management of deep-sea activities and resources.

The WG was set up in January 2014 and consists of 14 experts spanning natural sciences, socio-economics and marine law who have examined the key societal and environmental drivers confronting the deep sea, and the role of deep-sea research to deliver future knowledge needs for science and society. The WG also engaged throughout with wider stakeholders spanning the deep-sea research community, industry (deep sea mining, oil and gas, renewable energy, marine biotechnology and deep sea fisheries), civil society (NGO sector) and policy. Stakeholder workshops and online consultations were used to assess perspectives and trends on deep-sea research investments across Europe (see also oral presentation by Donaldson et al.). A clear and consistent message from consultation with these non-science stakeholders was the need for fundamental deep-sea scientific knowledge as the evidence base for establishing baselines, informing Environmental Impact Assessments and monitoring long term impact of human activity on deep-sea ecosystems.

The launch event will include opening statements by MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos, a Portuguese government representative and a presentation of the position paper by EMB Working Group Chair Professor Alex Rogers. The Launch will be followed by an evening reception at the DSBS conference venue, the Cultural and Congress Center of Aveiro. Please [register online](#) to attend this event.

¹ Rogers, A.D, Boetius, A., Brierley, A., Croot, P., Cunha, M., Danovaro, R., Devey, C., Hoel, A.H., Ruhl, H., Sarradin, P-M., Trevisanut, S., van den Hove, S., Vieira, H., Visbeck, M., (2015)

Delving Deeper: Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research. Larkin, K.E., Donaldson, K. and McDonough, N. (Eds.) Position Paper 22 of the European Marine Board, Ostend, Belgium

² <http://www.marineboard.eu/deep-sea-research>

The [European Marine Board \(EMB\)](#) is Europe's primary marine science-policy foresight network, established in 1995 to facilitate enhanced cooperation between European marine science organizations towards the development of a common vision on the research priorities and strategies for marine science in Europe. Members are either major national marine or oceanographic institutes, research funding agencies, or national consortia of universities with a strong marine research focus. In 2015, the Marine Board represents 36 Member Organizations from 19 countries. Through its extensive pan-European scientific network, EMB identifies emerging scientific and societal challenges and opportunities and articulates the research and capacities needed to address them. In doing so, EMB acts at the interface between science and policy, advancing marine science and providing considered advice to decision makers and research programme managers. Acting in a leadership role, EMB works to foster European collaboration, promoting a European Research Area (ERA) for seas and ocean science.



(2015). Delving deeper: Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research. In K. E. Larkin, K. Donaldson, & N. McDonough (Eds.), Position paper 22 (p. 224). Ostend, Belgium: European Marine Board. Google Scholar. Deep-sea mining: Economic, technical, technological and environmental considerations for sustainable mining. *Marine Technology Society Journal*, 45, 28-41. CrossRef Google Scholar. Sharma, R. (2017). *Delving Deeper : Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research*. DSpace/Manakin Repository. *Delving Deeper : Critical challenges for 21st century deep-sea research*. Trevisanut, S.; Rogers, A.D; Brierley, A; Croot, P; Cunha, M.R; Danovaro, R.; Devey, C.; Hoel, A.H.; Ruhl, H.; Sarradin, P-M.; van den Hoeve, S.; Vieira, H.; Visbeck, M. (2015) Position Paper 22 of the European Marine Board. The call for a precautionary moratorium on deep-sea mining comes as the International Seabed Authority holds its annual meeting amid mounting concern that mining activity could disrupt carbon stores in seafloor sediments, reducing the ocean's ability to absorb carbon dioxide and mitigate the effects of the climate emergency. Alex D. Rogers led the European Marine Board study *Delving Deeper: Critical Challenges for 21st Century Deep-Sea Science*. The study reviews existing human activities and impacts in the deep sea and identifies the potential growth of several new industries such as deep-sea mining being promoted through the EU Blue Growth agenda. Deep-sea scientific researchers could play an important role in informing practical new governance solutions for access and benefit sharing of MGR that promote scientific research in ABNJ and support deep-sea stewardship. Advancing knowledge of. 1. deep-sea biodiversity in ABNJ, enhancing open-access to data and samples, standardisation and international marine science cooperation are significant potential opportunity areas.1. KEYWORDS: Law of the sea; international law; marine resources; ocean policy; marine genetic resources; areas beyond national jurisdiction; high seas; access and benefit ...