

14 LIFE  
BELOW WATER



INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR



Organized by  
**Department of Aquatic Biology  
and Fisheries**  
UNIVERSITY OF KERALA  
Thiruvananthapuram-695 581  
Kerala State, India



Supported by  
**UNIVERSITY OF KERALA**

# CONSERVATION OF LIFE BELOW WATER:

Perspectives on Systematics,  
Sustainable Livelihoods  
and Citizen Science

MARCH  
18-20  
2021



Picture Courtesy: <https://ecointernet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/biosphere.jpg>

# RATIONALE

**T**he United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) add direction and create impetus for the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of aquatic ecosystem, specifically in ocean. The UN SDGs are declared as a universal call for ending poverty and improving the quality of human life while protecting the planet for future generations. These goals, which are set to achieve by the year 2030, offer a road path for achieving sustainable growth for world communities. Among these, SDG 14, “**Life Below Water**”, seeks to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. However, overfishing, habitat destruction, climate change, ocean acidification, pollution and invasive alien species are endangering the ocean and threatening its value and the security and livelihood of the three billion people who depend on it.

To recognize that more needs to be done to mitigate the global decline in ocean health, the UN declared **2021-2030** as **the decade of ‘Ocean Science and Sustainable Development’**. The Ocean

Decade will strengthen international cooperation in all levels by promoting dialogues, developing partnerships, developing capacity-building and leveraging investment, while supporting the entire 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. Other critical goals include improving ocean literacy and education to modify social norms and behaviours, and creating new models for ocean action. The Ocean Decade aims to include science-informed mitigation and adaptation policies around the world and share knowledge with coastal communities who are most vulnerable to the changes of the ocean.

The international webinar on “**CONSERVATION OF LIFE BELOW WATER: Perspectives on Systematics, Sustainable Livelihoods and Citizen Science**” is proposed with the following objectives:

- To document the current status of research on systematics of aquatic organisms, as a tool of conservation and management.
- To establish the role of biodiversity, particularly small-scale fisheries in

sustainable livelihoods in developing countries

- The role of science in managing biodiversity, resource utilization, access and benefit sharing, biodiversity informatics, conservation genetics and in networking high quality research.
- Use of citizen science in biodiversity documentation and conservation of aquatic life.

This programme will document the current status of research on systematics of aquatic organisms, as a tool of conservation and management, and compile the information on the role of biodiversity, particularly small-scale fisheries in sustainable livelihoods in developing countries.

An action plan will be brought out to showcase the role of science in managing biodiversity, resource utilization, access and benefit sharing, biodiversity informatics, conservation genetics and in networking high quality research, besides proposing policies for the use of citizen science in biodiversity documentation and conservation of aquatic life.

*“No Water, No Life, No Blue, No Green” — Sylvia Earle*



## THEMES

- Marine biodiversity and systematics
- Estuarine biodiversity and systematics
- Small-scale fisheries and sustainable livelihoods (multidisciplinary subject, including socio-economics)
- Fishing impacts and marine biodiversity
- Climate change and ocean acidification
- Blue biotechnology, conservation genetics and informatics
- Science-based conservation: Approaches and strategies
- Traditional knowledge and marine resources
- Ocean awareness and ocean education
- Citizen science and marine biodiversity

The Webinar will include plenary lectures by experts, paper presentations by researchers and citizen scientists, and popular ocean awareness lectures for the public and students.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Marine biologists, researchers, students, academicians, conversationists, fishers, and citizen scientists

### Call for Papers

Papers can be submitted for all the themes. The presenters can opt for oral or poster presentations. However, the review committee will decide on the mode of presentation after review.

The abstract (max 500 words) should be submitted for both forms of presentations. Registration of one of the authors is mandatory for acceptance of abstract.

### Abstract Guidelines

The following information may kindly be noted while preparing the abstract:

The title of the paper centered with bold capital letters (14 font Times New Roman).

Name of the author(s) centered in normal letters (12 font Times New Roman).

Address(es) of the author(s) with pin code, phone and e-mail.

The name of the corresponding and presenting authors should be specifically mentioned (12 font Times New Roman- normal).

The abstract must contain precise information including brief introduction, methodology, highlights of results and conclusion (12 font Times New Roman- normal, justified).

**Post the abstract to: [conferenceaqbf@gmail.com](mailto:conferenceaqbf@gmail.com)**

### Full Papers

The full papers after review will be published as an edited book with ISBN number and the selected peer reviewed paper will be published in the special issue of the UGC Care listed Journal of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries (Follow the format of the journal while preparing the full paper: <http://keralamarinelife.in/InstuctionforAuthors.html>)



## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- Last date for submission of Abstracts: **March 11, 2021**
- Communication for acceptance of papers: **March 13, 2021**
- Last date for registration: **March 15, 2021**
- Conference Dates: **March 18-20, 2021**
- Last date for submission of Full paper: **30 March 2021**

### Paper presentations

The invited plenary lectures will be for 30 minutes and other presenting authors will get 10 minutes for oral presentations (including discussion). A few papers will be selected for poster/flash presentation of three minutes.

## HOW TO REGISTER?

Registration is mandatory for participation and presentation of papers

Faculty/Scientist: **INR 500/-**

Students: **INR 100/-**

Research Scholar: **INR 200/-**

Fishers/NGOs: **Free**



The registration fee can be transferred to the account referred below and register in the google form (see the link and QR code below)

Name of Bank: **State Bank of India**

Branch: **Karyavattom**, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)

Name of the Account Holder: **Treasurer- Seminar**

Account Number: **4000 4344 393**

IFSC code: **SBIN 0070043**

Mobile Number (for online transfer): **9446674061**

### **FOR REGISTRATION**

follow this GOOGLE link or scan the QR Code

<https://forms.gle/fsFhMAVkSCAdzMR78>



All the registered participants will receive the e-certificate of attendance/participation and soft copies of publications.

**WEBINAR PLATFORM: ZOOM**

# ORGANISING COMMITTEE

## PATRONS

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(Hon'ble Vice Chancellor,  
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**Dr. Ajayakumar P.P.**  
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## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**Team Abysis**  
(<http://www.abisis.in/People.html>)

## ORGANIZING SECRETARY & CONTACT

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Targets for Action, Goal 14

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



14-1



14-2



14-3



14-4



14-5



14-6



14-7



## **Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, University of Kerala**

One of the oldest teaching-cum-research departments of the University of Kerala, India; the Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries was founded as Marine Biology Laboratory and Aquarium of the University of Travancore in the erstwhile princely state of Travancore (now southern part of Kerala) in 1938. The Fishery Development Scheme was successfully implemented in this laboratory during 1946. A full-fledged new Department of Marine Biology and Oceanography was started at Cochin during 1962 the laboratory was renamed as the Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries and it diversified its research activities to various aspects of freshwater, brackish water and marine habitats. The department is currently the Centre of Advanced Study (CAS) of University Grants Commission (UGC). The department is currently offering M.Sc. M.Phil. and PhD programmes in Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, M.Phil. in Marine Science and Technology and proposed a new M.Sc. programme in Applied Aquaculture. The department serves as a Centre of Excellence in teaching and research in the fields of aquatic biology and fisheries and has substantially contributed towards human resource development in this field, besides proposing policy interventions in fisheries and aquaculture sector.

<https://www.keralauniversity.ac.in/dept/dept-home>