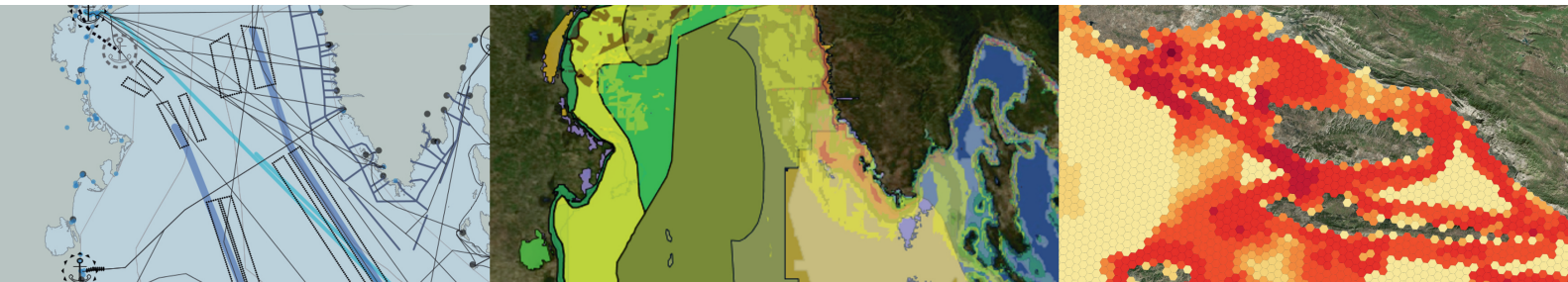


Planning the Sea: MARXAN as a tool for operational Maritime Spatial Planning



International Short Course
11-13 January 2016 - CNR-ISMAR, Venice, Italy



The initiative to organize an International Short Course on Marxan arises from the experiences gathered by CNR-ISMAR within the Flagship Project **RITMARE** (www.ritmare.it), and mainly through its subproject 3 - "Maritime Spatial Planning in the Coastal Zone" and the **ADRIPLAN** project (www.adriplan.eu). Both of these projects, led by CNR-ISMAR, have been characterized by acquiring data and information, tuning methodologies and tools, and developing analysis and proposals within the Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) context. MSP is indeed a central theme as highlighted by the recent European Directive 2014/89/EU "A framework for Maritime Spatial Planning" and by the Strategy supporting its implementation, recently activated by DG Mare. This Directive aims to establish a framework to promote the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources. According to the new Directive, Member States are required to develop national maritime spatial plans by 2021.

It is in this context that Marxan could become a very useful tool in order to provide different scenarios of Maritime Spatial Planning.

Marxan is the most widely used tool in conservation and resource use planning. It can recommend a network of areas for protection and other spatial management regimes in marine, terrestrial, freshwater, and a combination of systems. Developed by Ian Ball and Hugh Possingham from the University of Queensland, Australia, **Marxan** is a decision support tool that is free and open source (www.uq.edu.au/marxan). Marxan supports spatial prioritization by producing objective, transparent, and repeatable results. The software can facilitate smart decision-making that accounts for a broad range of considerations, stakeholders, and tradeoffs in a spatially and economically efficient manner. **Marxan** can also be an excellent tool to inform Marine Spatial Planning processes.

The course will be held in English during the days 11-12-13 January 2016, with the following preliminary program that will combine theoretical and applied aspects, with the presentation of **international case studies and a focus on the Adriatic-Ionian Region**.

Day 1: Introduction to the use of Marxan for systematic conservation planning

Talk 1: Setting the context for systematic conservation planning

Talk 2: What is Marxan

Talk 3: Goals, Objectives and Targets

Talk 4: "Costs" – the social, economic, and cultural sides of Marxan analyses

Talk 5: Stakeholder communication and working with results

Talk 6: Marxan case study application

Day 2: Running a Marxan analysis

- Talk 1: Introduction to Marxan input files and parameters
- Talk 2: Introduction to Marxan output files: in more detail
- Talk 3: How Marxan finds efficient solutions
- Talk 4: Introduction to Zonae Cogito
- Talk 5: Marxan parameters setting: calibrating with Zonae Cogito
- Talk 6: Marxan with Zones case study application

Day 3: Marxan exercise on the Adriatic-Ionian Region

The goal of this day is to explore different Marxan scenarios with focus on Marine Spatial Planning (not only conservation) using biological and human use data from the Adriatic-Ionian region. Hands-on exercises will be based on a database produced in advance, playing with different parameter settings and exploring their impacts on Marxan outputs. For the end of the day a hands-on Marxan with Zones activity will be proposed. The goal of the activity is thinking about and identifying the number of zones within the context of the Adriatic-Ionian region, which activities are allowed in each zones, which "cost" information is required, target setting, etc.. All exercises can be done in groups or individually.

The final programme will be available, together with preparatory materials, on the ISMAR website:
<http://www.ismar.cnr.it/>

Trainers

The course will be lectured by PacMARA and University of Queensland instructors, who carefully prepared the talks, and customized hands-on activities using data from the Adriatic Ionian Region and in collaboration with CNR-ISMAR.

Norma Serra (PacMara)

Jennifer McGowan (University of Queensland)

The course is limited to 30 people. It is meant to be attended by people directly or indirectly involved in the Maritime Spatial Planning (Administrations, Universities and Research Institutes, Practitioners, Sectoral Organizations and Associations, etc.).

Registration

Registration fee is 550 euros + VAT (reduction to 380 euros + VAT for students).

Please contact the organizing secretariat at chiara.venier@ve.ismar.cnr.it or phone +39 041 2407 929 for information about registration.

A registration link will be also available on the website <http://www.ismar.cnr.it/>

The final registration acceptance will be confirmed through email by the secretariat and is subject to place availability.

Registrations are open until the 20th December 2015. Late registrations will be subject to place availability.

Venue

The course will be held at CNR-ISMAR (Institute of Marine Sciences), Arsenale - Tesa 104, Castello 2737/F, 30122 Venezia, Italy. For more information on how to reach the venue please visit the website.

Organised by:



Co-Organized by:



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