

AdriBioPro2019 7-10 April

International Conference: Adriatic Biodiversity Protection | Montenegro

Kotor

Book of Abstracts







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Institute of Marine Biology, University of Montenegro Kotor, Montenegro 2019

THE CONFERENCE

The 2019 International Conference: Adriatic Biodiversity Protection – AdriBioPro2019 provided updated scientific, decision-making and policy-relevant information across a broad array of different Adriatic issues, marine biology and related scientific disciplines. Emphasis will be on how state-of- the-art research on Adriatic biodiversity protection, conservation of coastal and marine areas and sustainable use of marine resources can contribute to policy- and decision-making. Particular focus was put on the development opportunities which marine biotechnology can offer in the Adriatic. Organized to include plenary and breakout sessions covering both disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives, Conference results will be used in shaping future marine science priorities and policy in Montenegro and other Adriatic countries.

Background

The Institute of Marine Biology of the University of Montenegro is granted by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to implement a project "Marine Biodiversity Conservation Center "Boka Aquarium" (MonteAqua)" in cooperation with the Center for Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation of Inland Waters, Institute of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac. The International conference "Adriatic Biodiversity Protection" is final project event, dedicated to gather all relevant national and regional stakeholders and to secure closer regional cooperation in the Adriatic Sea region.

According the UNEP, the Mediterranean Sea is subject to tremendous pressure from multiple human uses and climate change. Recent research results indicate the cumulative impacts of human activities in the Mediterranean, ranking it as a hotspot of marine biodiversity, and one of the most heavily impacted marine regions worldwide. One of the most intensely used and severely degraded regions of the Mediterranean is the Adriatic Sea. It implies a necessity of developing appropriate and effective policy-responses including adaptation actions, enhancement of resilience and implementation of mitigation activities. The Conference will address alterations of Mediterranean ecosystems, with particular focus on the Adriatic Sea and its biodiversity and analyse widespread conflict among marine users. By presenting the latest science, the Conference will facilitate, synthesize and summarize the science-policy dialogue.

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Presentation title

Towards application of benthic diatoms in ecological status assessment: results of screening of water bodies in Montenegro

Abstract

Diatoms are dominant group in a phytobenthos community of freshwater ecosystems. Their autecological features are well known, and various diatom indices are designed to estimate changes in aquatic ecosystems. In order to develop system for ecological status assessment in Montenegro according to the principles of the EU Water Framework Directive, quantitative and qualitative composition of benthic diatoms was studied. Phytobenthos sampling was carried out during July of 2018 at the Rivers Cehotina, Lim, Tara, Zeta, Morača, Rijeka Crnojevića, Bojana, Komarnica, as well as at the Skadar Lake. Sampling, preparation of permanent slides, identification and enumeration of diatoms were done according to the standard methods. Altogether, 107 taxa belonging to 39 genera were recorded. The most diverse genera were found to be Navicula (12), Cymbella (11), Gomphonema (10) and Fragilaria (9). Achnanthidium minutissimum, Amphora pediculus, Cocconeis placentula var. euglypta, Encyonema minutum, E. ventricosum, Navicula cryptotenella and N. tripunctata were the most frequent, while taxa belonging to Achnanthidium sp., Cocconeis sp. and Encyonema sp. were the most abundant in the samples. Our research revealed dominance of β -mesosaprobic taxa, as well as taxa typical for mesotrophic to eutrophic conditions. It was also confirmed that IPS index is effective metric of stress in running waters. Presented data are in accordance with previous investigations of epilithic diatoms in freshwaters of Montenegro and comparable types of rivers in Serbia, and could be successfully used for further development of ecological status assessment in Montenegro.

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