

The Marine Microbiome Working Group

NEWSLETTER

September 2021

Thank you Everyone for your interest in the Marine Microbiome and subscribing to our website www.marinemicrobiome.org

First up we are organizing a session “The journey to developing the AORA Marine Microbiome Roadmap (and beyond)” on Friday, September 24th at 14:00 UTC at the 5th Community Workshop of the IOC-UNESCO Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) 20-24 September 2021. We hope to see you all there!

The session is being convened by the 3 Working Group Co-Chairs Margaret Rae, Shawn Robinson (Fisheries and Oceans Canada), Kelly Goodwin (NOAA) and also includes Pier Luigi Buttigieg (Helmholtz Metadata Collaboration // GEOMAR) a member of the Working Group.
Format: Moderated open meeting

About the session

New insights on the significance of microscopic ocean life have shown it affects almost every aspect of our lives (health, food, industry, ecosystems). For society’s future, we need to more deeply investigate the many microbiomes of the marine realm, integrate novel technologies, and incorporate microbiomes into new policies that foster truly sustainable development.

This informational session will recount how the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance's (AORA) Marine Microbiome working group delivered its high-level [roadmap](#) and [briefing](#) document to orient multinational and multilateral strategy on observing the Atlantic Microbiome. Marine microbiome researchers from Canada, the European Union, and the United States of America, alongside a diverse group of stakeholders, participated in this work and the outcome, which is the result of extensive consultation with those who directly participated in the workshops well as others that were invited to comment on the work as it progressed.

Here’s initial thoughts by the OBPS team about our proposed session and how it links to the OBPS Value Chain:

The value of activities that bridge science to policy will only increase and diversify as the UN Ocean Decade catalyses greater interaction at this crucial interface. The OBPS seeks to develop its capacity to provide dedicated support to all stakeholders who wish to communicate with policy makers, and welcomes consultation from those that have engaged here. We anticipate that dedicated task teams will emerge from sessions such as this one, leading to collections of science-policy communication methods across which we can begin convergence activities supported by targeted technologies.

To register for this session, click [here](#)

to register for the entire programme, click [here](#)

We're looking forward to the All-Atlantic Joint Action on Marine Biotechnology (AA-BiotecMar) Initiative's [workshop](#) on November 1-2 this year. The main goal of the meeting is to present and discuss options of large research projects in the field of coral reef and microbiome. We have been invited to speak at a short session on November 1st. As more information becomes available we will add to our website – please continue to visit the website.

We have been busy drafting a Terms of Reference for our Working Group and these will be finalised in short while and will be available on our website.

A Communications Sub-Working Group has been created with the following members volunteering: Henk Bolhuis, Sandra Phoma, Shawn Robinson and Margaret Rae.

No doubt you will have noticed that our website has undergone a little revamp and refresh www.marinemicrobiome.org after the summer break – have a look and see, tell us what you think!

