



NEWSLETTER MAY 2023

*The Science We Need For The Ocean We
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About

AAORIA-BBAMM is a forum comprised of marine researchers from countries around the Atlantic Ocean. BBAMM stands for **Blue Biotechnology, Aquaculture and Marine Microbiome** under the auspices of AAORIA, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.

The purpose of the forum is to promote research collaboration across the Atlantic Ocean, bringing scientists together to exchange knowledge and insights. By doing so, we aim to raise awareness and deepen understanding of the importance of scientific exploration efforts in the fascinating realm of the ocean. Our shared vision is to unlock the hidden treasures that lie beneath the waves, as we embark on a journey of groundbreaking discoveries and advancements in this remarkable marine frontier.

Activities



In June 2022 the forum along with AANCHOR-BIOTECMAR hosted a virtual side event during the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance 2022 Forum Scientific Event. The side event attracted a lot of interest with 252 unique registrants representing North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The attendees were from academia, research, and public institutes, as well as industry.

As a follow-up to the June event, three of the WGs core team attended the All-Atlantic Ministerial event in Washington D.C. 12-14 July. An interview with our Forum members, Kelly Goodwin, NOAA, and Fabiano Thompson, AA-BIOTECMAR, can be seen on our website.

As a follow-up of the events in June and July, where the inclusion of the South Atlantic was confirmed based on the Belém Statement, and with the encouragement of the All-Atlantic leadership, the WG decided to expand its forum and join forces with the All-Atlantic Marine Biotechnology Initiative, AA-BIOTECMAR, to form a Forum under the name of BBAMM, BlueBiotechnology, Aquaculture, and MarineMicrobiome. Accordingly, a new logo was designed under the name of AAORIA-BBAMM. This Forum is still under development at a high level.

COP15 - An Ocean of Life

The 15th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) was held in Montréal, Canada from December 7–December 19, 2022. Governments from around the world came together to agree on a new set of goals to guide global action through 2030 to halt and reverse nature loss.



The outcome of the conference was the [Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework](#), which will guide international efforts to protect nature and mitigate biodiversity loss. As part of the conference Alice Ortmann (Co-Chair of the AAORIA forum) from Fisheries and Oceans Canada participated in the panel discussions as a representative of the Ocean Biomolecular Observing Network (OBON) Ocean Decade. A new publication (Ocean science for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use) about the role of the Ocean Decade in addressing the challenges of biodiversity and ocean health was launched at the meeting.

Upcoming



Galway Statement celebrating 10 Years: 5-6 July 2023, Galway, Ireland

Since the United States, Canada, and the European Union signed the Galway Statement in May 2013, much has happened. Over 1000 research teams have started to map the North Atlantic seabed bringing on exciting achievements and has created a network of floating universities, shared infrastructure in the Atlantic and Arctic region. It has led to a new ocean-scale cooperation, culminating in the signing of the [All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance Declaration](#) in Washington DC.

To celebrate this decade of achievement and renew our shared commitment to the Atlantic Ocean, the Irish Government, and the European Commission, together with the Marine Institute and the University of Galway will organise a hybrid event in Galway (Ireland), on 5-6 July 2023. Mark this date in your agenda so that you do not miss that chance to join in for this new milestone in our All-Atlantic Ocean cooperation!



ASM Microbe 2023

The American Society of Microbiology Microbe meeting will be in Houston, Texas in June.

Anyone attending the ASM meeting is invited to the [session](#) "Leveraging Marine Microbiomes to Understand and Address the Changing Seas". Our forum members will be active in the session. Alice Ortmann is chairing the Session and Kelly Goodwin (NOAA, US) and Henk Bohuis (NOIZ NL) will give presentations. Alice Ortmann and Fabiano Thompson will lead the final question and answer discussion. There will be a full coverage of the meeting on our website.

On June 17th, in person attendees, as well as other joining virtually, will meet to carry out a Research Prioritization Exercise and Writing session. The goals of the session will be to work on two documents that will guide the activities of the BBAMM group. One document is a high-level document that will outline an action plan based on a previously completed [Road Map](#). The second document will be an in-depth document aimed at a scientific audience for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. This document will provide details on the background and driving forces behind priorities and proposed actions. If you are interested in participating in shaping the future strategic actions please sign up for the session



All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance

AANCHOR has introduced a brand-new look of their [website](#), presenting a very comprehensive info on the alliance, joint actions, projects and working groups. We are very excited to be part of the collaborative effort to bring ocean exploration forward.



Fifth meeting of the AANCHOR CSA Steering Committee in Brasilia

The AANCHOR CSA Partners and the 6 All-Atlantic [Joint Pilot Actions leaders](#) recently met in Brazil for the fifth and final AANCHOR CSA Steering Committee hosted by the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MCTI) of Brazil, to present and discuss the achievements, impacts and future plans.

Career opportunities

Early Career Researchers in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Marine Institute Ireland - Our Shared Ocean Master's Degree Programme

This program aims to facilitate research, knowledge exchange, and capacity building in partnership with Small Island Developing States. Spanning from January 2022 to December 2026, the program has received a total investment of 3.8 million euros. Additionally, it offers generous stipends to support the participants.

For more details visit the [Master's Degree Scholarships 2023 initiative](#). Closing date for applications June 12th, 2023 (16:00 Irish Standard Time).

[Learn more](#)

Social Media & Greater Visibility

We invite you to follow us, share, react and together promote greater awareness of the importance of marine biotechnology and the marine microbiome:

- Twitter [MarineMicrobio1](#)
- Facebook [marinemicrobiome](#)
- LinkedIn [marine-microbiome-working-group](#)

Tag us on your posts and we will help promote them. Use the following hashtags to create greater visibility: #MarineMicrobiome #AtlanticAll #AtlanticYouth #oceanscience

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MarineMicrobiome Website [↗](#)