Adapting to sargassum risks in the Caribbean and West Africa

Conference

Dates: 29-30 March 2023

Time: Day 1: 9:00-17:00 GMT; Day 2: 8:15 – 17:00 GMT

Location: Virtual, Microsoft Teams. ***Please join 10 min before the session to ensure any technical problems can be resolved before the session.*** There are two links to join the event, one for each day. Both links are provided below.

*Please watch this 5 min video which sets the scene for this event: https://southampton.cloud.panopto.eu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=1fa559c5-b3ae-4659-a752-afcb00c2ae71&start=0

Conference Programme

Day 1: Click here to join the meeting

DAY 1 (March 29, 9:00-16:45)	
9:00 -11:00 - Session 1: Sargassum movement, distribution, and forecasting **Chair:** *Prof Robert Marsh, University of Southampton* **Rapporteur:** *Winnie Naa Adjorkor Sowah, University of Ghana*	
Time	**Presentation**
9:00-9:15 (15 min)	**An overview of the drivers of sargassum (WP1)** *Prof Robert Marsh, University of Southampton*
9:15-9:45 (20 min)	**Tracking sargassum and measuring in situ growth rates** *Prof Hazel Oxenford, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), University of West Indies*
9:45-10:15 (30 min)	**Large-scale drivers of sargassum** *Dr Nikolaos Skliris, University of Southampton*
10:15-10:35 (20 min)	**Keynote: Globalizing Oceanographic Research: The Coastal Ocean Environment Summer School in Nigeria and Ghana (Keynote)** *Prof Brian Arbic, University of Michigan, USA*
10:35-10:45 (10 min)	Break
10:45- 12:30 - Session 2: Forecasting sargassum in the Atlantic **Chair:** *Prof Hazel Oxenford, CERMES, University of West Indies*	
10:45-11:15 (30 min)	**Seasonal forecasting – SARTRAC-EFS & collaborations with CERMES** *Prof Robert Marsh, University of Southampton*
11:15-11:45 (30 min)	**Perspectives of sargassum in Ghana and West Africa** *Prof Kwasi Appeaning Addo, University of Ghana*
11:45-12:00 (15 mins)	**Reflection on session from rapporteur** *Dr Winnie Sowah, University of Ghana*

12:00-12:30 (30 min)	**Discussion and activities** (including audience engagement) *Prof Robert Marsh, University of Southampton*
12:30 – 13:30 (60 min)	Lunch break
13:30-17:00 - Session 3: Mapping and managing Sargassum **Chair:** *Prof Jadu Dash, University of Southampton* **Rapporteur:** *Dr Subhajit Bandopadhyay, University of Southampton*	
13:30-13:50 (20 min)	**Keynote: Using Sentinel-1 Satellite Radar to Detect and Track Holopelagic Sargassum in the Caribbean.** *Dr Lauren Bierman, Plymouth Marine Laboratory*
13:50-14:20 (30 min)	**From point to pixel: the role of remote sensing in characterising sargassum** *Prof Jadu Dash, University of Southampton*
14:20-14:50 (30 min)	**Mapping of sargassum events in the west coast of Ghana** *University of Ghana and Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana*
14:50-15:15 (25 min)	**Understanding sargassum beaching risks in the Caribbean** *Prof Robert Marsh, University of Southampton*
15:15-15:35 (20 min)	Break
15:35-16:05 (30 min)	**Developing a sargassum early advisory system in Jamaica** *Mona Geoinformatics Institute, Jamaica*
16:05-16:35 (30 min)	**Future opportunities and translating to Ghana** *Dr Philip-Neri Jayson-Quashigah, University of Ghana*
16:35-16:45 (10 mins)	**Reflections on session from rapporteur** *Dr Subhajit Bandopadhyay, University of Southampton*
16:45-17:00 (15 min)	**End of Day 1: reflection and closure** *Prof Emma Tompkins, University of Southampton*

Day 2: Click here to join the meeting

DAY 2 (Thursday March 30, 08:15-11:00)	
Science-policy and sargassum management (08:15-11:00)	
08:15-11:00 - Session 1 Governance of sargassum	
8:15-9:30 (75 min)	***Governance of sargassum*** *Various speakers*
9:30-9:40 (10 min)	Break
9:40-10:00 (20 min)	***Experience of Ghanaian EPA in managing sargassum*** *Mr Peace Kove, Environmental Protection Agency-Ghana*
10:00-10:20 (20 min)	***Experiences of Jamaican NEPA in managing sargassum*** *Ms Kaodi McGaw, Mona Geoinformatics Institute, Jamaica*
10:20-10:40 (20 min)	***Discussion of government policy experiences, needs and constraints***
10:40-13:30 (170 min)	Break
Sargassum composition and re-use potential (13:30- 16:45)	

13:30-16:30 - Session1: Re-use potential and biochemistry of sargassum –
Chair: *Dr Thierry Tonon, University of York*
Rapporteur: *Yanna Fidai, University of York and Dr Carla Machado*

13:30-13:40 (10 min)	**Introduction to WP3** *Dr Thierry Tonon, University of York*
13:40-14:05 (25 min)	**Keynote: Pelagic sargassum inundations - an ABC: Arsenic - Biogas – Composition.** *Dr John Milledge, University of Greenwich*
14:05-14:30 (25 min)	**Composition and provenance of pelagic sargassum harvested in Jamaica** *Dr Thierry Tonon, University of York*
14:30-15:00 (30 min)	**Effect of sargassum on seed germination and seedling growth of corn (*Zea mays*), scotch bonnet pepper (*Capsicum chinense*), and tomato (*Solanum sp*.)** *Prof Mona Webber, University of West Indies*
15:00-15:15 (15 min)	Break
15:15-15:40 (25 min)	**Application of stranded sargassum compost in mangrove seedling production with heavy metal analysis** *Prof Mona Webber, University of West Indies*
15:40 -16:00 (20 min)	**Bio-methane potential (BMP) of co-digested sargassum with heavy metal analysis of the residue** *Prof Mona Webber, University of West Indies*
16:00-16:30 (30 min)	**Assessment of Toxicity levels / Possible sargassum use in Ghana** *Bernice Wilmot, University of Ghana*
16:30 -17:00 (30 min)	**Reflection and formal closure of conference** *Prof Emma Tompkins, University of Southampton*