

Second Mares Conference

Abstract Submission Guidelines

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1. Introduction

This document is designed to assist participants in submitting an abstract for the second international Mares Conference on Marine Ecosystems Health and Conservation to be held in Olhão, Portugal, from the 1st to 5th February, 2016.

The Mares Conference will bring together scientists from different levels and disciplines to discuss and address issues regarding marine ecosystems health and conservation. The small-scale, relaxed and multigenerational nature of this event will provide an ideal opportunity for networking, and foster knowledge exchange over current key topics and emerging issues.

During the conference, six thematic topics will be explored:

- Future oceans: temperature changes - hypoxia - acidification
- Understanding biodiversity effects on the functioning of marine ecosystems
- Biological invasions
- Natural resources: overexploitation, fisheries and aquaculture
- Ocean noise pollution
- Habitat loss, urban development, coastal infrastructures and marine spatial planning

Abstracts must be related to at least one of these themes. Description of the themes can be found on the Mares Conference website [here](#).

2. Abstract Submission & Conference Proceedings

To offer an interesting and unique programme, the conference organisers invite participants to submit an abstract of the research they would like to present during the conference. Abstract submissions will be open **until the 9th October 2015** for both the plenary (oral presentation) and exhibition (digital objects, poster, demonstrations, and displays) sessions. Abstracts will be reviewed by the conference Scientific Committee and selections of abstracts will be communicated by the 27th October 2015 (subject to change). All authors will be notified of acceptance/rejection of abstracts and the final conference programme, with selected abstracts, will be posted on the Mares Conference website.

3. Conference Programme

	Monday Feb 1st	Tuesday Feb 2nd	Wednesday Feb 3rd	Thursday Feb 4th	Friday Feb 5th
Morning	Training Workshop	Training Workshop	Scientific Session <i>Future Oceans</i>	Scientific Session <i>Biodiversity Effects</i>	Scientific Session <i>Ocean Noise & Habitat Loss</i>
Afternoon	Training Workshop	Training Workshop	Scientific Session <i>Natural Resources</i>	Scientific Session <i>Biological Invasions</i>	Closing Event Excursion
Evening	MARES Doctoral Programme Closed Meeting	Opening Lecture Welcome Reception	Scientific Exhibition	Scientific Exhibition Conference Dinner	

As shown in the above programme the conference will consist of the following main elements:

- **Training workshops:** The training workshops will cover topics such as open science, data visualisation, public speaking and presenting, manuscript submission, and media skills for researchers. Final selection of training workshops will be dependent on interest.
- **Scientific sessions (plenary session):** Each session will focus on one (or two) of the six thematic topics of the conference. Each session will start with an invited keynote speaker and 10 short oral presentations of 15 minutes in total (10 minutes presentation followed by 5 minutes discussion).
- **Scientific exhibitions:** The exhibition sessions will provide an ideal opportunity for attendees to meet, exchange ideas and discuss their research or developments. Attendees can showcase innovative research, ideas or products through digital objects, posters and demonstrations or displays. We foresee poster panels and tables, however other equipment needs to be brought or can be ordered (on a paying basis).

4. How to submit an abstract?

The organising committee welcomes all abstracts within the scope of the Second Mares Conference on Marine Ecosystems Health and Conservation. Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the conference Scientific Committee and selected abstracts will be scheduled for either oral presentation or scientific exhibition.

Abstracts should be submitted online via the Mares Conference website **before the 9th October 2015**. The abstract submission form can be filled in at <http://www.maresconference.eu/submit/abstract>

The **submission of an abstract does not require any registration to the conference**. Note that the presenting author will need to register for the conference, and that the acceptance of the abstract does not include free registration to the conference nor any other financial compensation. Further information on conference registration is available at <http://www.maresconference.eu/registration>

Please complete the abstract submission form according to the following instructions with all the requested information for each of your abstracts:

- Enter your personal data.
- Enter the title of your abstract.
- Enter the author's names (with presenting author first), affiliations and email.
- Enter the text of the abstract: it should be written in clear English and not exceed 2000 characters (about half a page in length). An abstract should not contain tables, figures and references.
- Enter up to five relevant keywords.
- Select the theme of the conference most relevant to your research topic. The six themes are listed below and further details can be found on the Mares Conference website.
 - Future oceans: temperature changes - hypoxia – acidification
 - Understanding biodiversity effects on the functioning of marine ecosystems
 - Biological invasions
 - Natural resources: overexploitation, fisheries and aquaculture
 - Ocean noise pollution
 - Habitat loss, urban development, coastal infrastructures and marine spatial planning
- Specify your preference for an oral presentation or scientific exhibition (software demonstration, digital object, poster, display, other).

Only abstracts submitted online will be accepted. All abstracts received **before the 9th October 2015** will be reviewed by the Mares Conference Scientific Committee. **By the 27th October 2015** (subject to change) all authors will be notified of the acceptance/rejection of their abstract to either the scientific sessions or exhibitions. The detailed conference programme, with accepted abstracts, will then be published on the Mares Conference website. Each accepted abstract will also be released in the digital conference programme and conference mobile app.

5. Oral Presentation Guidelines

Presentation Timing

Oral presentations will be held during the scientific sessions and shall be 10 minutes long followed by 5 minutes of questions and discussion. Please respect this allocated time.

Digital Presentation Format

All oral presenters will be requested to submit their digital presentation on the Mares Conference website **by Friday 29th January 2016, 14:00** at the latest (this deadline is subject to change). Guidelines for submission will be communicated in due time. Presenters are strongly encouraged to bring an additional electronic copy to prevent unforeseen events.

Supported formats for digital presentation are:

- PDF
- Powerpoint: .ppt , .pptx
- Prezi Presentation (as a portable Prezi in a zip file)

6. Exhibition Guidelines

Attendees can showcase innovative research, ideas or products through demonstrations, digital objects, posters, displays or by other methods. We foresee that poster panels and tables will be provided, however, other equipment needs to be brought or can be ordered (on a paying basis). Creativity and innovation are encouraged for the scientific exhibitions, which will focus on the six conference themes. The first session will gather presentations covering the Future Oceans and Natural Resources themes, while the second one will address the Biodiversity Effects, Biological Invasions, Ocean Noise Pollution and Habitat Loss themes.

6.1. Digital Objects

A digital object is a multimedia object which can be made using a variety of software tools and combining sound, video, pictures, text, and animations to present a topic. It can be considered as a digital replacement of the classic paper poster and can be reused for multiple purposes (conference, website, teaching material). Digital objects will be promoted throughout the Mares Conferences particularly at the scientific exhibition sessions.

Digital Object submission

Accepted digital objects will be available for viewing during the entire conference on both tablets and big screens. They will also be released in the digital conference programme and on the mobile app.

All digital objects need to be submitted **by 25th January 2016, 18:00** (this deadline is subject to change). Guidelines for submission will be communicated in due time.

Digital object general rules

Please follow these general rules when designing your digital object:

- Digital object should not be longer than 3 minutes.
- The maximum size allowed is 100 MB
- Digital objects should be provided in a common **movie format (mp4, etc.)**. Please download the digital object instructions for advice on how to create movies from regular presentations.

6.2. Poster Presentations

Poster size

The maximum size for posters is 70 cm wide by 90 cm high. If your poster exceeds this specifications, it may be subject to removal.

Poster display

We recommend that you print your poster prior to arrival at the conference. Posters will be displayed during the entire conference on panels and fixing materials will be provided. A number will be allocated to your poster determining its location in the poster exhibition hall (posters will be arranged topically). Posters can be set up between **Sunday 31st January 2016, 14:00** and **2nd February 2016, 18:00** (subject to change).

6.3 Demonstrations / Displays

This option at the scientific exhibitions provides participants the opportunity to demonstrate software, websites, research techniques or tools/equipment related to the six themes of the conference. Additional equipment required for demonstrations or displays should be brought by the participant or can be ordered (on a paying basis). Please note that demonstration or displays in the exhibition sessions should not to be used as commercial marketing opportunities for equipment, products, software, or services. For further queries regarding commercial demonstrations/displays or for further information regarding the exhibitions please contact the Mares Conference Coordination Office at info@maresconference.eu