

Fourth Maldives Marine Science Symposium – Schedule

13th & 14th August, 2022

Maldives National University Auditorium & via Zoom video conferencing platform

13th & 14th
August 2022



Fourth
**Maldives
Marine
Science
Symposium**

Day 1: 13th August 2022, Saturday

0900 – 0945: Inauguration ceremony

<i>Time-slot*</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>Presentation title / authors</i>	<i>Theme</i>
0945 – 1000		Instructions by moderators	
1000 – 1015	1	Preliminary findings on tuna association at AFADs in the Maldives through tagging and echosounder data. Ahmed Riyaz Jauharee, Fabien Forget, Manuela Capello, Mohamed Shiham Adam & Laurent Dagorn	Fisheries and Management
1015 – 1030	2	Evaluating extinction risk: a Maldivian national red list of corals. Hana Amir, Ahmed Basheer, Ilham Atho Mohamed, Simone Montano & Philippa Roe	Corals & Coral Restoration
1030 – 1100	TEA/COFFEE BREAK		
1100 – 1115	3	Methodology for the use of coral larvae settlement ex-situ for upscaling restoration of declining <i>Acropora</i> spp. Margaux Monfared, Simon Dixon & Thomas Le Berre	Corals & Coral Restoration
1115 – 1130	4	Monitoring coral reproductive cycles in Laamu Atoll. Miriam Staiger, Phillipa Roe, Ali Shareef, Matthew Drysdale & Jamie Craggs	Corals & Coral Restoration
1130 – 1145	5	Launching of a national monitoring protocol for coral reef restoration projects. Federica Siena, Hana Amir, Paolo Galli, Inga Dehnert, Jacopo Gobbato, Luca Fallati, Davide Maggioni, Davide Seveso, Enrico Montalbetti & Simone Montano	Corals & Coral Restoration
1145 – 1200	6	Coral gardening in the Maldives: opportunities and challenges of upscaling restoration efforts. Inga Dehnert, Luca Saponari, Paolo Galli, Federica Siena, Jacopo Gobbato, Davide Seveso & Simone Montano	Corals & Coral Restoration
1200 – 1300	LUNCH BREAK		
1300 – 1315		The Maldives Deep Ocean Research Expedition: Science Plan. Nekton Foundation & Maldives Marine Research Institute	

Please note that all times are in the Maldives time zone (GMT + 5 hours)

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1315 – 1330	7	Recovery and regeneration potential of coral in a shallow lagoon experiencing sustained high thermal values. Meral Hafeez, Eleanor Claire Butler, Bekki Hull & Tess Moriarty	Corals & Coral Restoration
1330 – 1345	8	Reef complexity influences distribution and habitat choice of the corallivorous seastar <i>Culcita schmideliana</i> in the Maldives. Enrico Montalbetti, Luca Fallati, Jacopo Gobbato, Inga Dehnert, Marco Casartelli, Davide Maggioni, Simone Montano, Paolo Galli & Davide Seveso	Reef Ecology
1345 – 1400	9	Hydrozoan research at the MarHE Center, F. Magoodhoo: an overview. Davide Maggioni, Davide Seveso, Enrico Montalbetti, Luca Fallati, Jacopo Gobbato, Inga Dehnert, Federica Siena, Yohan Didier Louis, Paolo Galli & Simone Montano	Reef Ecology
1400 – 1415	10	Monitoring changes in benthic communities on coral reefs on Laamu Atoll. Mara Fischer, Aminath Shaha Hashim, Vivienne Evans & Phillipa Roe	Reef Ecology
1415 – 1430	11	Bioprospecting of Maldivian soft coral: chemical ecology and cytotoxic activity of their secondary metabolites with a focus on the biochemical investigation of their effect against cancer cell lines. Federico Cerri, Paolo Galli, Francesco Saliu, Davide Maggioni, Simone Montano, Davide Seveso, Orazio Tagliatella-Scafati, Paola Fusi, Matilde Emma Forcella & Monica Oldani	Reef Ecology
1430 – 1500	POSTER PRESENTATIONS		
1500 – 1530	TEA/COFFEE BREAK		
1530 – 1545	12	Preliminary investigation of microplastic distribution and concentration in beach sediments in Greater Malé: a pilot study. Aminath Zana Shiraz, Irthisham Hassan Zareer, Adil Bakir, Denise Doran, Andy Smith, Alexandra McGoran, & Holly Nel	Plastic Pollution
1545 – 1600	13	The first multiuse water-landing fixed-wing drone trials in the Maldives. Melissa Schiele, Luca Fallati, Brian Taggart, Matt Pickett, Steven Lloyd, Paul Lepper & Paolo Galli	Plastic Pollution
1600 – 1615	14	Ensuring sustainable resort coral reef fisheries in Laamu Atoll. Jake William Edmiston, Aminath Shaha Hashim, Judith Brown, Afaaz Zahid & Vivienne Evans	Fisheries and Management
1615 – 1630	15	Assessing the effectiveness of Marine Protected Area management in the Maldives: a summary of three case studies. Emily Hardman, Jamie Small, Eirian Kettle, Beth Flavell & Muhusina Abdul Rahman	Fisheries and Management
1630 – 1645	DAY 1 CLOSING		

Day 2: 14th August 2022, Sunday

<i>Time-slot*</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>Presentation title / authors</i>	<i>Theme</i>
0900 – 0915		Instructions by moderators	
0915 – 0930	16	Tuna behaviour at anchored FADs inferred from local ecological knowledge (LEK) of pole-and-line tuna fishers in the Maldives. Ahmed Riyaz Jauharee, Manuela Capello, Monique Simier, Fabien Forget, Mohamed Shiham Adam & Laurent Dagorn	Fisheries and Management
0930 – 0945	17	Assessing the biomass of commercially important fish being removed from the coral reefs of Laamu Atoll. Kenza Thomas, Aminath Shaha Hashim, Vivienne Evans, Judith Brown & Hassan Moosa	Fisheries and Management
0945 – 1000	18	Addressing post-harvest mortality in the livebait fishery in the Maldives. Ahmed Riyaz Jauhary	Fisheries and Management
1000 – 1015	19	Seagrass meadows as valuable sources of reef island building sediments. Holly East, Jamie Johnson, Chris Perry, Grace Finlay, Azim Musthag, Hussein Zahir & Matthew Floyd	Seagrass and Mangroves
1015 – 1030	20	Generating a national-scale seagrass map and quantifying seagrass fish diversity and value. Matthew Floyd, Holly East, Vasile Ersek, Shaha Hashim & Vivienne Evans	Seagrass and Mangroves
1030 – 1100	TEA/COFFEE BREAK		
1100 – 1115	21	A multidisciplinary investigation into mangrove health in the Maldives using remote sensing and geochemical techniques. Lucy Carruthers, Vasile Ersek, Holly East & Areesh Abdulla	Seagrass and Mangroves
1115 – 1130	22	Sublethal injuries and physical abnormalities in Maldives manta rays, <i>Mobula alfredi</i> and <i>Mobula birostris</i>. Elspeth M. Strike, Joanna L. Harris, Kirsty L. Ballard, Julie P. Hawkins, Jennifer Crockett & Guy M. W. Stevens	Marine Mega-fauna
1130 – 1145	23	A social-ecological systems assessment of anthropogenic pressure on whale sharks in South Ari Atoll. Arzucan Askin, Chloe Winn, Clara Canovas Perez & Abdul Basith Mohamed	Marine Mega-fauna
1145 – 1200	24	Feeding ecology and behaviour of reef manta rays (<i>Mobula alfredi</i>) at a key aggregation site in the Maldives. Asia Armstrong, Hannah Moloney, Guy Stevens, Kathy Townsend, Anthony Richardson, Annie Murray, Mike Bennett, Julian Uribe Palomino, Christine Dudgeon, Amelia Armstrong & Phil Hosegood	Marine Mega-fauna
1200 – 1300	LUNCH BREAK		

1300 – 1315	25	Responsible dolphin watching: case study from the southern channel of Laamu Atoll. Philippa Roe, Miriam Stagier, Afaaz Zahid & Ali Shareef	Marine Mega-fauna
1315 – 1330	26	A hitchhiker guide to manta rays: patterns of association between <i>Mobula alfredi</i>, <i>M. birostris</i>, their symbionts, and other fishes in the Maldives. Aimee E. Nicholson-Jack, Joanna L. Harris, Kirsty L. Ballard, Katy M. E. Turner & Guy Stevens	Marine Mega-fauna
1330 – 1345	27	Environmental DNA as a tool for assessing cetacean occurrence: preliminary data from Maldives, an open-air lab for marine mammal biodiversity. Elena Valsecchi, Simone Innocente, Andrea Parmegiani, Grazia Visci, Marinella Marzano, Bruno Fosso & Paolo Galli	Marine Mega-fauna
1345 – 1400	28	Congenital malformations in green turtle (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>) embryos in Lhaviyani Atoll. Nairika Bharucha	Marine Mega-fauna
1400 – 1415	29	The importance of a key aggregation site for juvenile reef manta rays (<i>Mobula alfredi</i>) in the Maldives. Jessica Haines, Niv Froman, Guy Stevens & Tam Sawers	Marine Mega-fauna
1415 – 1430	30	Endangered and critically endangered: summary of the first marine national red list assessments for green and hawksbill turtles. Stephanie Köhnk & Martin Stelfox	Marine Mega-fauna
1430 – 1500	POSTER PRESENTATIONS		
1500 – 1530	TEA/COFFEE BREAK		
1530 – 1545	31	Maldives northern atolls cetacean survey. Mariyam Sara, Aishath Afa & R. Charles Anderson	Marine Mega-fauna
1545 – 1600	32	Entanglement of sea turtles: risk factors, health impacts and influences on successful conservation outcomes in the Maldives. Claire Painton, Stephanie Köhnk & Claire Petros	Marine Mega-fauna
1600 – 1615	33	Assessing the socio-economic value of sea turtles to the Maldives' tourism industry in 2019 (pre-pandemic). Claire Petros, Emily Mundy, Stephanie Köhnk, Fathimath Isha Afeef, Risha Ali Rasheed & Joe Rigby	Marine Mega-fauna
1615 – 1630	34	Where the baby turtles come from: summary of nesting from 2018-2021. Fathimath Isha Afeef, Emily Mundy & Stephanie Köhnk	Marine Mega-fauna
1630 – 1700	CLOSING CEREMONY		

POSTER PRESENTATIONS: Day 1 & 2, 1430 – 1500

#	Presentation title / authors	Theme
1	An observational insight into coral spawning patterns on two Maldivian reef ecosystems. Margaux Monfared, Simon Dixon, Amelie Carraut, Kate Sheridan, Matthew Gledhill, Thomas Le Berre & Alejandra Woolich	Corals & Coral Restoration
2	Effect of the COVID-19 lockdowns on the management of Maldivian coral restoration projects. Jacopo Gobbato, Inga Dehnert, Davide Seveso, Davide Maggioni, Enrico Montalbetti, Federica Siena, Paolo Galli, Giovanni Strona, Hana Amir, Athina Antoine, Camila Marino-Ramirez, Luca Saponari, Nirmal Jivan Shah, Ruben Azcarate Molina, Angela Alegria Ortega, Phanor Hernando Montoya-Maya & Simone Montano	Corals & Coral Restoration
3	Paradise under threat. Tess Moriarty, Bekki Hull, Humaam Nihad, Meral Hafeez & Rosie Brown	Corals & Coral Restoration
4	Assessing the impacts of nitrogen pollution on coral reef ecosystems in the Maldives: preliminary insights from Laamu Atoll. Jessica Annull, Aminath Shaha Hashim, Alexander W. Tudhope, A. Meriwether Wilson, Hassan Moosa & Raja Ganeshram	Corals & Coral Restoration
5	Exploration of linkages between coral reef complexity and soft coral growth in coastal environments. Aleef Naseem, Abdul Aleem, Ibrahim Faiz, Akif Maaz Shareef & Mohamed Affan Shakir	Reef Ecology
6	The use of local ecological knowledge (LEK) in manta ray conservation, Maldives. Hannah Cocks, Julie Hawkins & Ana Nuno	Marine Mega-fauna
7	The protection of sharks in the Maldives : a case study. Bekki Hull, Tess Moriarty, Meral Hafeez & Humaam Mohammed Nihad	Fisheries and Management
8	An atoll level mapping of resource use to inform improved marine resources management. Adam Rees, Aminath Shaha Hashim & Vivienne Evans	Fisheries and Management
9	Calculating the biomass of commercially and ecologically important fish families on the coral reefs of Laamu Atoll. Alicia Shephard, Aminath Shaha Hashim, Vivienne Evans, Judith Brown & Phillipa Roe	Fisheries and Management
10	Determining the current catch per unit effort of the gleaning fishery in seagrasses in selected locations on Laamu Atoll. Megan Walker, Aminath Shaha Hashim, Vivienne Evans, Judith Brown & Hassan Moosa	Fisheries and Management
11	Management and research on the livebait fishery of the Maldives. M. Shiham Adam, Ahmed Riyaz Jauharee, Ibrahim Nadheeh, Ibrahim Saneeh, Hawwa Nashfa & Craig Turley	Fisheries and Management
12	Seagrass colonization in recently disturbed areas. Humaam Mohamed Nihad, Meral Hafeez, Tess Moriarty & Bekki Hull	Seagrass and Mangroves
13	Microplastics in sewage: from monitoring challenges to mitigation technologies. Francesco Saliu	Plastic Pollution
14	First detection of microplastics in reef-building corals from a Maldivian atoll. Clarissa Barbara Raguso	Plastic Pollution