

## Agenda

### DAY 1 – Thursday April 20, 2023

#### 09:00 – 09:30 REGISTRATION

#### 09:30 – 10:10 WELCOME

*Moderator: Alessandro Marroni, DAN Europe*

09:30 – 09:35 Welcome by **Pierre Fenech**, CEO Mediterranean Conference Centre

09:35 – 09:40 Welcome by **Simon Sciberras**, President of PDSA Malta

09:40 – 10:10 Academic Diving Educational program in Malta (**Alessandro Marroni**, DAN Europe)

#### 10:10 – 11:10 SESSION 1: CHALLENGES AND IMPLICATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC DIVING (first part)

*Moderator: Kimon Papadimitriou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

10:10 – 10:40 Keynote Speech: **Scientific diving as part of UCH management in Greece. The Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities, new challenges, and perspectives** (Dimitrios Kourkoumelis, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports)

10:40 – 10:55 **Surveying as a common reference for underwater science** (Konstantinos Tokmakidis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

10:55 – 11:10 **An interdisciplinary underwater research project: the case of Early Neolithic settlement of Agios Petros** (Panagiotis Tokmakidis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

#### 11:10 – 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

#### 11:30 – 12:45 SESSION 1: CHALLENGES AND IMPLICATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC DIVING (second part)

*Moderator: Kimon Papadimitriou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

11:30 – 11:45 **Building a new scientific diving framework from scratch. The Greek case** (Alex Tourtas, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

11:45 – 12:00 **First amphibalanus amphitrite adhesion strength data on the self-polishing coatings off the Aegean Sea** (Ibrahim Kirkiz, Levent Cavas, Dokuz Eylül University)

12:00 – 12:15 **Divers can have a role to protect underwater cultural heritage: the new CMAS program** (Hakan Oniz, Akdeniz University)

12:15 – 12:30 **Marine weather forecasts and their significance for the design of scientific diving operations** (Dr. Georgia Kalantzi, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)



12:30 – 12:45 **Q&A for SESSION 1**

**12:45 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK**

**14:00 – 15:00 SESSION 2: EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTIFIC DIVERS (first part)**

*Moderator: Fabio Bruno, University of Calabria*

14:00 – 14:30 Keynote Speech: **International Standards for Scientific Divers** (Mark Caney, PADI Worldwide)

14:30 – 14:45 **More than 20 years of training in Occupational Scientific Diving at work in Europe, The European Scientific Diving Panel (ESDP) model** (Alain Norro, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences)

14:45 – 15:00 **Hazard Identification, Risk assessment and First Aid training for Science Divers** (Guy Thomas, DAN Europe)

**15:00 – 15:15 COFFEE BREAK**

**15:15 – 16:00 SESSION 2: EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTIFIC DIVERS (second part)**

*Moderator: Fabio Bruno, University of Calabria*

15:15 – 15:30 **The pilot courses of the ScienceDIVER project, overview and focus on the Italian case study** (Fabio Bruno, University of Calabria)

15:30 – 15:45 **About benefits of courses for scientific divers in Bulgaria, topic trends, consecutive methodology changes, social demand and investigations of water habitats by scientific diving methods** (Dimitar Kozhuharov, University of Sofia St. Kliment Ohridski)

15:45 – 16:00 **Scientific diving training in Greece. Before and after ScienceDiver project** (Kimon Papadimitriou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

16:00 – 16:15 **Q&A for SESSION 2**

**16:15 – 17:00 COMMON DECLARATION OF SCIENCEDIVER & CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE FIRST DAY**

*Moderator: Angelos Manglis*

16:15 – 16:30 **Common Declaration of ScienceDIVER project** (Yana Popova, Marine Cluster Bulgaria)

16:30 – 17:00 Discussion panel with all moderators



**DAY 2 – Friday April 21, 2023**

**09:00 – 09:40 REGISTRATION**

**09:40 – 09:45 WELCOME**

*Moderator: Alessandro Marroni, DAN Europe (tbc)*

**09:45 – 11:30 SESSION 3: OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES (first part)**

*Moderator: Ralph O. Schill, envirocom*

09:45 – 10:15 Keynote Speech: **Scientific Diving - extended range** (Steffen Scholz, Institute for Automation and Applied Informatics)

10:15 – 10:30 **Operational challenges in biological sampling underwater - A case study from the Red Sea** (Jennifer Tersteegen, Aalto University)

10:30 – 10:45 **Geological sampling technics for scientific divers** (Richard Stanulla, CMAS Scientific Diving Center Freiberg; Judy Adamek, GeoWissenschaftliche Dienste GmbH)

10:45 – 11:00 **Research and protection of shallow water archaeological sites around the Alps** (Hellena Seidl da Fonseca, Naturhistorisches Museum Wien)

11:00 – 11:15 **Doing research underwater: academic education, diving skills or commercial certification?** (Paulo Costa, NOVA FSCH)

**11:15 – 11:30 COFFEE BREAK**

**11:30 – 12:45 SESSION 3: OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES (second part)**

*Moderator: Ralph O. Schill, envirocom*

11:30 – 11:45 **Overcoming challenges to conducting underwater behavioural research on coral reefs** (Claire Dell, State University of New York)

11:45 – 12:00 **Molecular and skeletal fingerprints of scleractinian coral biomineralization: From the sea surface to mesophotic depths** (Tali Mass, University of Haifa)

12:00 – 12:15 The deepest Spot in the northern Adriatic Sea; a deep-sea experience in an overall shallow sea (**Rouven Metternich**, MareMundi, Verein zur Förderung der Meereswissenschaften)

12:15 – 12:30 **Challenges in researching the deep sea cultural heritage in the Bulgarian Black Sea** (Pavel Georgiev, Center of Underwater Archeology)



12:30 – 12:45 **When Neither Commercial or Recreational Diving are Solutions: Navigating the Challenges of Scientific Diving in Underwater Archaeology** (Alexandre Monteiro, HTCCFE FCSH/UNL, Lisbon Nova University)

12:45 – 13:00 **Q&A for SESSION 3**

**13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK**

**14:00 – 15:30 SESSION 4: TOWARDS A COMMON OCCUPATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SCIENTIFIC DIVING**

*Moderator: Angelos Manglis*

14:00 – 14:30 Keynote Speech: **Challenges of scientific diving in the absence of a legal framework. From the experience of the FRI scientific diving team in Greece** (Vasillis Papathanasiou, Fisheries Research Institute in Greece)

14:30 – 14:50 **Towards a common legal framework for Scientific Diving. Lessons learnt and future steps** (Themistoklis Ioannidis, Atlantis Consulting S.A.)

14:50 – 15:10 **Lessons learnt from the ScienceDIVER project** (Angelos Manglis, Atlantis Consulting S.A.)

15:10 – 15:30 **Sciencediver.jobs - bridging the skill gap in the Blue Economy, Scientific Diving and Blue Technologies sectors.** (Vasiliki Drouga, Atlantis Consulting S.A.)

**15:30 – 16:00 CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS & CLOSING REMARKS**

*Discussion panel with all moderators*

**16:00 – 16:30 COFFEE CORNER & NETWORKING**

**ScienceDIVER** is addressing the needs of the European scientific diving community, supporting specialists in various fields of the marine science, who perform diving activities related to their research. For its final event, **ScienceDIVER** is organizing an international conference about the current challenges and future of scientific diving with a focus on the educational approaches, operational challenges and occupational modes of scientific diving.

The SCIENCE DIVER IN THE BLUE ECONOMY ERA conference aims to raise awareness about the training standards, professional recognition and mobility of scientific divers and the need for the establishment of a common framework for scientific diving.

**Format:** Hybrid

**Venue:** [Mediterranean Conference Centre](#), Valletta, Malta.

Conference [website](#)

**Online attendance:** For online participants, you must first register via this [link](#). You will receive by email a separate link for each day of the conference. The virtual access will be via GoTo Webinar.

