




AQUACOSM-plus Early Career Researcher Network Newsletter

With our first newsletter of 2025, we're excited to share a recap of our recent events, a sneak peek at what's coming up, and some exciting opportunities from the wider community.

Announcements

- ❖ We organised our **first coffee chat** ☕ on April 1, 2025, where ECRs discussed their thoughts, ideas and research interests on **Plankton communities**.
Our next coffee chat will focus on **Algal Blooms** and **Green House Gases**. The date will be announced soon on our **Discord** channel—so be sure to [join](#) to stay updated and connect with fellow ECRs!
- ❖ We're excited to **welcome Maria Nicoară** (PhD student, Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj & Institute of Biological Research Cluj) to Focus 2 of our team. Her research explores how phytoplankton respond to long-term warming and acidification.



 We are now looking for **members for Focus 1**, which offers learning opportunities for early career researchers (ECRs) through online lectures and in-person workshops at major conferences. Focus 1 also focus on providing a platform for ECRs with specialised skills to share their expertise via seminars and special sessions.

Interested in joining? Email [Katerina Symiakaki](#) with your brief details and a short statement (100 words or less) about how you'd like to contribute. The deadline for applications is June 13, 2025.

Upcoming ECR opportunities and events

- **Join us on June 12, 2025 at 4:00 PM CET** for the next session in our **Diversity and Women in Science** series, featuring **Núria Catalán** and **Alison Derry**.

 Announcement and registration link will follow soon.

- **EU JRC Graduate Traineeship Programme**  **Application deadline: May 20, 2025**  **Petten (Netherlands), Geel (Belgium), Karlsruhe (Germany), Ispra (Italy), Seville (Spain)**

Join the Joint Research Centre (JRC) for a 5-month paid traineeship in a vibrant, multicultural research environment. Open to nationals of EU Member States and countries associated with the Research Framework Programmes

 [More information](#)

- **International Summer School – PhD Program in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology**  **June 17–19, 2025**

The University of Florence and the University of Parma are organizing the 2025 International Summer School as part of the PhD Program in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology. The event will take place from June 17-19, 2025 at the University of Parma, Campus – Parco Area delle Scienze, Italy. This year's summer school is titled "Network analysis in ecology: different approaches for complex ecological systems" and will focus on advanced methods in ecological network analysis. Registration is open until May 31, 2025. To register, interested individuals must send an email with their CV to antonio.bodini@unipr.it (school coordinator) by the registration deadline.

 [More information](#)

- **Call for Researchers – Tvärminne Zoological Station (IRISCC Project)**  **Application deadline: 30 June, 2025**


An opportunity from one of our Aquacosm-plus partner to come to Tvärminne Zoological Station to either conduct your own experiment / study or to join an indoor mesocosm experiment on Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement (contact [Jonna Engström-Öst](#) and [Henna Yliuikki](#)) in September-October. The EU-funded project IRISCC (Integrated Research Infrastructure Services for Climate Change Risks) includes 79 partners from 22 European countries. Through IRISCC, you can gain access to a network of interdisciplinary cutting-edge European RIs, terrestrial as well as aquatic. These services include observational platforms, experimental installations, modelling tools, and integrated data resources—designed to support innovation in climate change adaptation and mitigation.


IRISCC has now opened the first call for Transnational Access to facilities throughout Europe.

What's offered:

- ♦ Full access to IRISCC installations and services.

- ♦ Travel & accomodation support up to €2000 per accepted proposal
- ♦ Salary not included

 [Catalogue of facilities](#)

 [Open call details](#)



Past events

➤ **Online Event: January 21, 2025 | The future of Meta Analysis in Ecology and Evolution | Shinichi Nakagawa**

This online event introduced ECRs to meta-science and meta-analysis as research techniques in ecology and evolution. Dr. Nakagawa's talk focused on past developments in the field of meta-analysis and how meta-analyses can be used along with other statistical techniques in ecological research.

➤ **Online Event: February 24, 2025 | ECR event | Maneesha MS and Federico Kerdmann Iribarne**

Two young ECRs presented their research, ranging from “Phytoplankton diversity in rivers” in India by Maneesha MS to “The buffer effect of littoral vegetation in small water bodies against nutrient-enriched runoff: a littoral mesocosm study” in Argentina by Federico Kerdmann Iribarne.

➤ **Online Event: March 18, 2025 | Social Media for Scientists: Communicate your science in social media | Phoebe Griffith and Gregor Kalinkat**

The workshop focused on the importance of social media for scientists, discussing various platforms like Instagram, Blue Sky, and Mastodon. Phoebe Griffith and Gregor Kalinkat emphasized the need for visibility in academia, effective science communication, and networking. Participants learned how to engage with different audiences and construct their online identities to enhance their scholarly reputation. The speakers led interactive discussions and practices on how to make your research visible to the non-academic audience.



Job Board

- **MSc Opportunity** - Université de Montréal (UdeM) is offering a fully-funded 2-year MSc position in “*Aquatic food web ecology and network analysis*” starting Fall 2025. [More details](#)
- **PhD position in the Ecophysiology of Aquatic Cyanobacteria at the Institute of Microbiology AS CR in Třeboň, Czechia.** Explore how cyanobacteria adapt to environmental fluctuations using innovative techniques—applications until May 16, 2025. [More details](#)




- **PhD Opportunity** - Uppsala University is offering a PhD position in DOM biogeochemistry and microbial ecology. Applications are open until **May 30 2025**. [More details](#)
- **PhD Opportunity** – Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) is offering a PhD position titled "*Marine zooplankton mortality: new solutions for age-old problems*". Applications are open until **24 June 2025**. [More details](#)
- **PhD Position in Biogeochemistry at Uppsala University** - This role focuses on studying dissolved organic matter and microbial interactions using advanced chemical and biological techniques. Apply by May 30, 2025. [More details](#)
- **PhD position in fishpond ecology at WasserCluster Lunz, Austria** | FWF project "HydroFat" application deadline: May 31, 2025. [More details](#)
- **Postdoc Position** (3 years) - University of Potsdam (Germany) on Individual-based Global Change Ecology. Apply by **June 2nd 2025** Please submit your application with your CV, publication list, contact info of two references, a three page outline of proposed research via the [application portal](#) of the University of Potsdam under the ID no: 226/2025. [More details](#)
- **Tenure Track Assistant or Associate Professor in Freshwater Biodiversity** - University of Oulu, Finland. Deadline for application is May 19, 2025. [More details](#)
- **Research Senior Technician in Aquatic Ecology at Ohio State University, USA** | Apply by May 30, 2025. [More details](#)




Conferences


-  **CEST2025 – 19th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology**  **Dates:** September 3–6, 2025  **Location:** Kos Island, Greece
 **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 31st May, 2025  [More Information](#)
-  **The Global Water Future: A Holistic Approach to Water Monitoring and Conservation**  **September 17–19, 2025**  **Borucino, near Gdańsk, Poland**
 **Abstract Submission Deadline:** May 31, 2025  [More information](#)




 **Missed the Abstract? Don't Miss the Conference!**

5th International Conference on Community Ecology (COMEC)  **September 3-5, 2025**
 **Budapest, Hungary**  [More information](#)

European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA 2025)  June 16–18, 2025 
Rimini, Italy  [More information](#)

58th European Marine Biology Symposium (EMBS)  July 6–9, 2025  Bodø, Norway 
[More information](#)

14th Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences (SEFS14)  July 20–25, 2025 
Bolu, Türkiye  [More information](#)

20th World Lake Conference (WLC20)  July 21–25, 2025  Brisbane, Australia  [More information](#)

Stay tuned for events to follow!

Are you planning to attend a conference in 2025 and are interested in networking with other ECRs? Would you like to host an AQ+ ECR meetup at this conference? If so, please provide your name and email [on this list](#) and find other ECRs from our network who will attend the same conference as you!


If you have an upcoming presentation or poster on aquatic ecology at a conference, feel free to email us, and we'll gladly **feature you in our newsletter** to increase its visibility within our ECR community.

If you know of any online events, job opportunities, and conferences that would be relevant to our ECR community, please contact Varsha Rani (vysneha9@gmail.com) and Anika Happe (anika.happe@uni-oldenburg.de) to feature them in our newsletter and via other social media handles.

If you are interested in leading an online presentation (lecture/workshop) on the topic of your expertise, **or if you would like to join the next Ecology Toolbox Event** (5-minute quick, casual presentation of a tool you regularly use in your research), **please register [here](#).**

And lastly, if you do not want to miss out on information regarding ECR activities and opportunities regarding mesocosm-based research and aquatic science, you can sign up [here](#) to receive our newsletter and [join our Discord server](#). The newsletter is sent out every two to three months. We post upcoming grants and opportunities in between our newsletter on Discord!

For more information, visit us at <https://www.aquacosm.eu/>.

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