

SERGIO STEFANNI

Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples (ITALY)

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PRESENT POSITION AND COMPETENCIES

Since 2016 I am a full-time researcher in the area of evolutionary biology and ecology contributing to studies of population genetics and phylogeny of marine organisms. My research activity is focused on the study of the evolutionary adaptations of marine organisms both of coastal and deep environments, diversity and distribution by means of metabarcoding methods (eDNA and mesozooplankton), identification of cryptic species, development of innovative molecular methodologies that can contribute to sustainable management of marine resources and the conservation of endangered species. I also use high-throughput sequencing platforms for seascape genetics studies (to compare oceanographic data with allele frequency variations on a spatial and temporal scale); genomics (to deepen the knowledge of the processes associated with speciation); and transcriptomics (for the study of genes related to adaptations to extreme environments: deep sea and hydrothermal sources). I also collaborate with colleagues from the Biorobotics Institute of the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa to develop innovative platforms for the collection and processing of samples at sea as well as the development of bioinspired vehicles.

EDUCATION, DEGREE AND QUALIFICATIONS

National Scientific Qualification as Full Professor in Zoology (BIO/05)	Since 2018
National Scientific Qualification as Associate Professor in Genetics (BIO/18)	
National Scientific Qualification as Associate Professor in Ecology (BIO/07)	
National Scientific Qualification as Associate Professor in Zoology (BIO/05)	Since 2014
Ph.D at the School of Biological Sciences, University of Bristol (UK)	March 2001
Master Degree (Marine studies), University of Genoa (Italy)	March 1992

BIBLIOMETRIC INDICATORS

Total number of citations: **1995** in Google Scholar (30/04/2025)

H-index: **25** in Google Scholar (30/04/2025)

IF total: **248.30** (15/05/2024), IF average: **3.96** (15/05/2024)

SOCIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Personally, I consider myself a motivated and enthusiastic professional. I enjoy being part of a team as well as working on my own initiative. I have demonstrated a high level of competence in project management and execution, dedication to meeting tight deadlines, proven ability to work under pressure and perform effectively in a variety of situations. Since I have lived abroad for almost 20 years, I easily adapt to new working and living environments. I am accustomed to and appreciative of interacting with multicultural communities where I easily establish good friendships.

LANGUAGES

Italian (mother tongue)

English (fluent, C2)

Portuguese (fluent, C2)

Spanish (intermediate level, B2).

PAST EXPERIENCE (SUMMARY)

2016: Associate professor in Zoology (5 months – 48 hours) at the University of Trieste, Department of Life Sciences. (05/05/2016 - 30/09/2016)

2013-2015: Marie Curie Research Fellow funded by the “Cofunded by the European Union under FP7-People - Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes, GA n. 600407” under the RITMARE project. During this period SS was involved in the molecular screening of marine zooplankton using mass parallel sequencing technology as well as contributing to the development of an autonomous biosampler.

2001-2013: research fellow at IMAR/DOP, University of the Azores, Dept of Oceanography and Fisheries. I was hired by IMAR/DOP to set up the molecular laboratory facilities and start a new line of research on phylogeny, phylogeography, and population structure of marine organisms. During this period I carried out studies on marine organisms, mainly fish and sharks from the coastal to the deep sea. The focus of my research was addressed on understanding speciation processes, contributing to the knowledge of biodiversity and conservation, and providing molecular tools for fishery management. My research was carried out thanks to several high-profile European projects granted funding during these years My teaching experience included lecturing “evolution and phylogeny” and “population genetics” classes with a compendium of practical laboratory classes on DNA extraction, PCR amplification, and sequence alignment. I was also involved in the supervision of undergrads, PhD students, and postdoctoral fellows

February-March 2006: spent a period of 6 weeks in the molecular lab at the Marine Science Research Centre, SUNY Stony Brook University collaborating with Dr B. Allam with the objective of detecting genetic variability among Quahog Parasite Unknown (QPX) strains

2001-2007: postdoctoral researcher for the position of “molecular phylogeny and population genetics” at the University of the Azores, Dept of Oceanography and Fisheries under the supervision of Dr. R.S. Santos

1999-2001: contracted by Brown Partworks Ltd, London, for revising and updating articles on fish for the new edition of the Marshall Cavendish International Wildlife Encyclopedia, published in the USA. For the same company, I was also involved in writing the fish section for the 10 volumes series “Aquatic Life” that was published in the USA

1997-2000: demonstrator for the practical laboratories for undergraduates in their 1st year: “taxonomy and classification of the chordate” and “fish dissection”; and for the ones in their 2nd year: “evolutionary biology” and “aquatic ecology” at the University of Bristol (UK)

29 May 1998: invited to a private meeting with His Majesty Akihito Emperor of Japan, expert in systematics of Japanese gobies, organised by the Linnean Society of London

From November 1995 to March 1996: granted a fellowship from the University of Venice (Italy) to spend at the University of Bristol under the supervision of Prof. P.J. Miller

From June 23 to July 22, 1995: participated in the comparative study of fish populations between “Parc National de l'Archipelago de Cabrera” (Mallorca) and the “Isla de el Toro” (Mallorca) in collaboration with Josep Coll from the University of the Balearic Islands (Spain)

1994-1997: collaborated on a three years project funded by the Ministero delle Risorse Agricole, Alimentari, Forestali and directed by Prof. P. Torricelli from the University of Venice, to estimate fish eggs and larvae in the south part of the Venetian lagoon and the neighbouring sea area

1993-1996: collaborated on projects on fish population structure in the Venetian lagoon's fishes using fishery data and visual census techniques for marine protected areas under the supervision of Dr. A. Marconato from the University of Padova 1993-1996: collaborated with AQUAPROGRAM srl (Vicenza) for the study of applied ecology in fresh water and joined several fieldwork expeditions.

CRUISES EXPERIENCE

September 16-30, 2024: field work activities in Ny-Ålesund, Svalbards (Norway) onboard of the R/V “Testien” for sampling in the Kongsfjorden for the SeDNA project.

June 03-10, 2024: field work activities in Ny-Ålesund, Svalbards (Norway) onboard of the R/V “Testien” for sampling in the Kongsfjorden for the SeDNA project.

February 20–26, 2018: organised and coordinated the EarthCruisers scientific campaign onboard of the R/V “Explora” for sampling on Palinuro and Marsili Seamounts

2001-2013: taking part in yearly cruises onboard the R/V “Arquipelago” for demersal and deep sea fishery campaigns

May 29–June 15, 2009: took part in the BIOFun Trans-Med cruise on board the R/V “Sarmiento de Gamboa” sampling for deep-sea fishes and sharks

July 3-13, 2008: organised and coordinated the DEECON cruise 2008, a fishing campaign on board the oceanographic ship ”R/V Arquipelago” and funded by FCT (Foundation for Science and Technology) aiming to deep-sea fishery on four seamounts located west of the Azores: Voador, Cavala, Monte Alto and Gigante

July 3-13, 2007: organised and coordinated the DEECON cruise 2007, a fishing campaign on board the oceanographic ship R/V “Arquipelago” and funded by FCT (Foundation for Science and Technology) aiming to deep-sea fishery on four seamounts located south of the Azores: Atlantis, Plato, Irving, and Great Meteor

October 1999: took part to the D243/99 campaign organised by Dr. J.C. Partridge (University of Bristol) on board the R/V “Discovery” with the project of collecting deep-sea organisms offshore western Africa.

FUNDED NATIONAL PROJECTS (NOT COMPETITIVE)

2016-2019: **EarthCruisers “EARTH’s CRUst Imagery for investigating Seismicity, volcanism and marine natural Resources in the Sicilian offshore”**. Funding source: the Italian Ministry of Education (MIUR) under the “bando premiale FOE 2015” (nota prot. N. 850, dd. 27 ottobre 2017). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 1,273,375 Euro. Project leader is Franco Coren, OGS (Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale). I am the representative leader for Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn and this project also sees the involvement of the INGV (Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia). (02/01/2018 - 16/05/2022)

FUNDED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS (COMPETITIVE)

2025: **TERRATWIN (Digital Twin-sustained 7D for the complex interplay between the climate and biodiversity crises including social-economic factors)**. Funding source: HORIZON-MISS-2024-CLIMA-01-04 — Research the complex interplay between the climate and biodiversity crises towards more systemic approaches and solutions. Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 3,997,645.00 euros. The project leader is Jacopo Aguzzi (ICM-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain) and in total there are 18 partners. (approved on 19/12/2024)

2024: **D4BLOND (Drone for Biodiversity assessment with imaging, fLow cytOmetry aNd eDNA)**. Funding source: NextGenerationEU - Spoke 8 “Maritime, Marine, and Inland Water Technologies: Towards the Digital Twin of the Upper Adriatic” within the programme PNRR “iNEST – Interconnected Nord-Est Innovation Ecosystem”. Duration: 15 months. Overall budget: 299,978.93 euros. I am the PI of this project with 3D Research company as partner. (01/04/2024 - 30/06/2025)

2023: **GLOB (The GLOmar Challenger Basin: a key area to study the inflow of CDW under the Ross Ice shelf and the connection of the eastern and western Ross Sea sectors)** Funding Source: National Research Project in Antarctica (ref. PNRA0000037). Duration: 3 years. Budget: 303,000.00 euros. PI: Enrico Zambianchi (University Parthenope) and in total there are 6 partners. (14/11/2023 - 13/11/2026)

2023: **DIGI4ECO (Digital Twin-sustained 4D ecological monitoring of restoration in fishery depleted areas)**. Funding source: HORIZON-MISS-2022-OCEAN-01-07 — Integration of biodiversity monitoring data into the Digital Twin Ocean. Duration: 4 years. Overall budget: 9,489,597.50 euros. The project leader is Jacopo Aguzzi (ICM-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain) and in total there are 18 partners. (02/03/2024 - 01/03/2027)

2023: **SEDNA-Pp (Whales as ecosystem sentinels: climate-induced changes on migration and feeding behavior in a pristine habitat model- Pilot project)**. Funding source: Italian Ministry of the Universities and Research (MIUR) within the calls for Projects of Relevant National Interest (PRIN). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 258,791 euros. The project leader is Elena Papale (CNR-IAS. Mazzara del Vallo, TP) and the other partners are the University “La Sapienza” of Rome. (07/10/2023 - 28/02/2026)

2023: **SESAM (Simulating an automated environmental DNA sampler/analyser for in situ metabarcoding)**. Funding source: Transnational Access JERICO-S3 to access CNR-ISMAR Venice infrastructure (Italy). Duration: 1 year. Overall budget: 5,500 Euros. The project leader is Maddalena Tibone (PhD student Atlantic Technological University (ATU, Galway, Ireland) and SZN; and the other partners are: ICM-CSIC and SARTI-Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) (Spain), University of Zagreb and the Ruer Bošković Institute of Šibenik (Croatia), Marine Institute (MI) (Ireland) and NIB of Piran (Slovenia). (01/04/2023 - 31/10/2023)

2021: **SeNSOR “Smart eDNA/eRNA bioSampler for studying seasOnal biodiveRsiTy on the Amen-dolara Seamount”**. Funding source: “Centro ricerche ed infrastrutture marine avanzate in Calabria (CRIMAC)” submitted by Stazione Zoologica to FSC 2014-2020 - Piano Stralcio Ricerca e Innovazione 2015-2017 – National Program for Research Infrastructures (PNIR), Action 1. Cofunding Research Infrastructure (IR). Duration: 3 year. Overall budget: 200,000 Euros. I am the PI of this project. (15/10/2021 - 31/12/2024)

2021: **CONAN (Cabled Observatory Network for the Advanced monitoring of ecosystems and their Natural resources)**. Funding source: Transnational Access JERICO-S3 to access SMARTBAY infrastructure (Ireland). Duration: 1 year. Overall budget: 3,000 Euros. The project leader is Jacopo Agussi (ICM-CSIC Barcelona, Spain). I am the representative leader for Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn and the other partners are CNR-CREA of Rome, CNR-IAS of Torrata Granitola, Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa, University of Zagreb, and the Ruer Bošković Institute of Šibenik (Croatia) e University of Montenegro, Kotor (Montenegro). (01/04/2021 - 30/04/2022)

2021: **ATLAS (Advanced ecosysTem monitoring in ecoLogicAl obServatory, ref. 21/1001604)**. Funding source: Transnational Access JERICO-S3 to access OBSEA infrastructure (Spain). Duration: 1 year. Overall budget: 3,000 Euros. I am the PI of this project and the partners are GMIT e MI (Galway, Ireland), University of Pola and Universit of Zagreb (Croatia), IMR of Kotor (Montenegro), NIB of Piran (Slovenia) and University of Pisa (Italy). (01/04/2021 - 30/04/2022)

2022: **EMBRC-ERIC AssemblePlus – Progetto “Validation of mussels as natural environmental DNA repositories - SmartMyt”**. Funding source: AssemblePlus application n. 13192. Duration: 1 year. I am the PI and this project was carried out at the National Institute of Biology of Piran (Slovenia) during the period 13/06/2022 and 02/07/2022.

2022: **EMBRC-ERIC AssemblePlus – Progetto “Comparative study of the evolution of brain anatomy and adult neurogenesis in the central nervous system in deep water Chondrichthyes - BraInDeep”**. Funding source: AssemblePlus application n. 11298. Duration: 1 year. I am the co-PI with Dr E. Terzibasi (SZN) and this project was carried out remotely with the colleagues from IMAR/DOP of the University of the Azores (Portugal) during the period 17/07/2022 and 27/07/2022.

2019: **EMBRC-ERIC AssemblePlus – Progetto “DiveRsiTy and host co-Evolution of mArine Micro-bial assemblages associated with the endemic MEDiterranean reef-builder coral Cladocora caespitosa - (DREAM MED)”**. Funding source: AssemblePlus application n. 730984. Duration: 1 year. I am the co-PI with Dr L. Bongiorno (CNR-ISMAR) and this project was carried out at the National Institute of Biology of Piran (Slovenia) during the period 30/06/2019 and 04/10/2019.

2019-2020: **PO FEAMP Campania 2014-2020**, aiming at characterising marine protected species inhabiting the coast of the region of Campania. The project is coordinated by Dr Franco Andaloro, SZN, and my involvement is in the activities of action 2 in the WP3.

2016-2019: **DEMBAI “Diversity and Evolution of marine Microbial assemblages associated with Benthic Antarctic Invertebrates”**. Funding source: the Italian Ministry of Education (MIUR) under the National Antarctic Programme (PNRA16/00173). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 64,700 Euro. The project leader is Cinzia Corinaldesi, Polytechnic University of Marche (Italy). My contribution is represented by the coevolutionary study between different Antarctic species and their microbiomes. (14/11/2017 - 13/11/2019)

2014: **LIFEWATCH ”Detection of alien species from gut contents of two commercially important fish in the Adriatic Sea and how food chain is affected”**. Funding provided by Bio4IU multidisciplinary infrastructure for study and enhancement of marine and terrestrial Biodiversity in the perspective of the ”Innovation Union” aiming to cover up to 20K € costs for Illumina MiSeq sequencing at the IBBE-CNR of Bari (Italy) (01/11/2014 - 30/10/2015)

2009-2012: **METAFISHCODE “Fish genetic diversity and meta-species phylogeography at global and regional scales: implications for fisheries management”**. Funding source: FCT, Portugal, ref.

PTDC/MAR/101795/2008. Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 109,854 Euros. The project leader was Filipe Costa, University of Minho, and I represented the partnership with the Azores (01/06/2010 - 31/05/2013)

2009-2012: **ReDEco “Regional Drivers of Ecosystem Change and its Influence on Deep-Sea Populations in the Mediterranean”**. Scope: Understand the effects of climate change on deep-sea ecosystems in relation to regional key factors including the impact of large-scale episodic events and other anthropogenic impacts. Funding source: Under the MarinERA programme funded by the EU FP6 ERA-NET Scheme (2004-2008) (ref. MARIN-ERA/MAR/0003/2008). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 924,753 Euros (Portugal: 207,720 Euros). Project Leader was Dr Nikolaos Lampadariou from Greece. I was the representative leader for Portugal and this project also involved Spain and France (01/04/2009 - 31/03/2013)

2008-2011: **HERMIONE “Hotspot Ecosystem Research and Man’s Impact On European Seas”**. Scope: Designed to make a major advance in the knowledge of the functioning of deep-sea ecosystems and their contribution to the production of goods and services. Funding source: Under the European Commission’s Framework (FP7-ENV-2008-1 Contract No. 226354). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 10,884,787 Euros. Represented by a consortium of 38 partners and coordinated by Phil Weaver, University of Southampton, UK. My contribution to the project was the cross-cutting theme 4 (CCT4: Biogeography and Demographic history of the Portuguese dogfish *Centroscymnus coelolepis*) (01/04/2009 - 30/09/2012)

2008-2011: **CONDOR “Observatory for long-term study and monitoring of Azorean seamount ecosystems”**. Scope: Improving our understanding and the quality of advice for the management of seamounts, through the case study of the Condor seamount, in the Azores. Funding source: Co-financed by the EEA Grants Financial Mechanism, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway (proposal No. PT0040). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 716,198 Euros. The principal investigator is Dr Gui Menezes (IMAR/DOP, Azores) and I was responsible for the tasks involving genetic components (01/06/2008 - 30/04/2011)

2007-2010: **DEECON “Unravelling population connectivity for sustainable fisheries in the Deep Sea”**. Source: Multidisciplinary approach to unravel population structure and population connectivity in economically important deep-sea fish species. Funding source: approved by the European Science Foundation (ESF) under the EUROCORES programme (proposal No 06-EuroDEEP-FP-008 and SFRHEuroDEEP/0002/2007) Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 835,000 Euros (Portugal: 166,012 Euros). Project Leader was Sir Nils Christen Stenseth from Norway. I was the representative leader for Portugal and this project also involved the collaboration with Ireland and UK (01/05/2007 - 30/06/2010)

2006-2007: **BIODEF “Biodiversity of defence molecules in marine invertebrates: looking for new biological factors with biomedical applications”**. Scope: Characterizing novel molecules participating in innate immune reactions against microorganisms. Funding source: Luso-American Foundation (FLAD). Duration: 1 year. Overall budget: 50,000 Euros. The project coordinated by Dr. R. Bettencourt (IMAR/DOP, Azores), and the project sees the involvement of myself and Dr. B. Allam from the Marine Science Research Centre, SUNY Stony Brook University, NY (USA). My contribution to the project was represented by the implementation of molecular tools for screening molecules.

2004-2009: **MarBEF, a network of excellence “Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning”** funded by the European Union (contract No GOCE-CT-2003-505446) within the Sustainable development, global change, and ecosystems RTD Programme and consisting of 83 European marine institutes, is a platform to integrate and disseminate knowledge and expertise on marine biodiversity, with links to researchers, industry, stakeholders and the general public.

2002-2005: **OASIS “Oceanic Seamounts: An Integrated Study”**. Scope: An holistic approach to yield an advanced understanding of the processes characterizing seamount ecosystems. Funding source: European Commission, under the fifth Frame Programme (contract No EVK3-CT-2002-00073-OASIS). Duration: 3 years. Overall budget: 2,813,849 Euros. Project coordinated by Bernd Christiansen (University of Hamburg, Germany), and my contribution was included in the work package aiming to explore the genetic diversity of marine organisms from Atlantic seamounts.

2002-2012: **MAR-ECO “Mid-Atlantic Ecosystem Project, patterns and processes of the ecosystems of the northern mid-Atlantic”** coordinated by the University of Bergen (Norway) and part of The Census of Marine Life pilot program (CoML) funded by Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. My contribution to the project was included in the work package aiming to explore the population structure of fish and sharks from Atlantic seamounts.

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SZN

Dec 2021 – Sept 2023: nominated Head Manager of the Project (RUP) for the execution phase of the contract stipulated with the AQ Aq Srl - Cantieri Navali Cilentani Srl for the construction of a Oceanographic Research Vessel (35 m LOA). (09/12/2021 - 30/09/2023)

Jan 2022 – Jul 2023: nominated Head Manager of the Project (RUP) for the execution phase of the contract stipulated with Cantieri Schiavone Srl for the construction of a small research vessel (17 m LOA. (21/01/2022 - 11/07/2023)

Nov 2022 – Sept 2023: nominated RUP for the purchasing of the auxiliary hybrid propulsion for the oceanographic research vessel of the Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn and referred to the call PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 “Upgrading for Marine Research and Infrastructures (EMBRC IT) - PRIMA” (CCI: 2014IT16M2OP005) (09/11/2022 - 26/09/2023)

2021: member of the technical tender committee for the supply of an underwater robotic vehicle complete with dedicated winch, umbilical cable and TMS, for the Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn for the call PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 “Upgrading for Marine Research and Infrastructures (EMBRC IT) - PRIMA” (CCI: 2014IT16M2OP005) (11/10/2021 - 22/10/2021)

2021: member of the technical tender committee for the supply of a naval unit for scientific and oceanographic research for the Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn for the call PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 “Upgrading for Marine Research and Infrastructures (EMBRC IT) - PRIMA” (CCI: 2014IT16M2OP005)

2020-2021: support to the Head Manager of the Project (RUP), and then a member of the technical tender committee for the operative unit “Upgrading the naval park and land vehicles” (OR3) for the call PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 “Upgrading for Marine Research and Infrastructures (EMBRC IT) - PRIMA” (CCI: 2014IT16M2OP005) (28/07/2020 - 08/12/2021)

2019-2023: PI for the third-party contracts between SZN and ENI “Attività di monitoraggio Ambientale Offshore per la società ENI S.p.A”. First contract named ”ENI2” (ref. n. 2500032813) further extended with a second contract (ref. n. 2500044361) to include the monitoring of a platform near Crotona (Italy) and with an additional contract (ref. n. 4310569430) for the monitoring of the local Posidonia meadow (27/02/2019 - 31/12/2023 but with possible 6 months extension)

Since 2018: representative for the bilateral Research Agreement (delibera n. 16 del 19/07/2018) with the Department of Life Sciences (DISVA) of the University of Trieste for the project “development and implementation of innovative molecular technologies to be applied on studies of marine biodiversity”

Since 2018 representative for the bilateral Research Agreement (delibera n. 9 del 09/05/2018) with the Institute for Marine Sciences (ISMAR) of the National Research Council (CNR) of Venice for the project: “Implementation and integration of molecular tools for studies of marine biodiversity”.

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Since 2020: associate editor for *Frontiers in Marine Science - Deep-Sea Environments and Ecology* (IF 3.661)

Since 2019: Editorial Board member for *Scientific Reports* (nature publishing group IF 4.011)

2020-2-23: editor (together with Dr Aguzzi J, Costa C, Mirimin L, Funari V and Calisti M) of the special issue “Robotic and Sensor Technologies in Environmental Exploration and Monitoring” for *Sensors* (IF 3.275)

2020-2023: editor (together with Dr Tirelli V) of the special issue “Biodiversity in Mediterranean Sea Ecosystem” for *Diversity* (IF 2.047)

2019: editor (together with Prof. Pallavicini A) of the special issue “Molecular Biodiversity Assessment in the Deep-Sea” for *Diversity* (IF 2.047)

2004: editor (together with Dr Bried J and Dr Bettencourt R) of the special issue of the *Acta of the 1st International Workshop in Marine Molecular Phylogenetics “Use of Molecular Markers for the study of Marine Biodiversity”* for *Arquipélago - Life and Marine Sciences*

MEMBERSHIPS

Italian Society of Evolutionary Biology (SIBE)

Italian Society of Ecology (SItE)

MEMBERSHIP OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Since 2023: member of the Italian Oceanographic Commission

2020-2022: SZN alternate the General Assembly **JRU “EMSO-Italy”**. (07/08/2020 - 24/05/2022)

2018: SZN representative at the Board for the coordination of the Italian contribution to the **International Seabed Authorities (ISA)**. Meeting organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Italian Cooperation together with the Ministry of Economy (18 April)

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2014: awarded an **ESF Short Visit Grant** within the framework of the ESF Activity 'Conservation Genomics: Amalgamation of Conservation Genetics and Ecological and Evolutionary Genomics' to collaborate with Prof. V. Savolainen at the Imperial College of London (UK)

2013: awarded a grant within the RITMARE Flagship Project call “BANDIERA – Best Action for National Development of International Expert Research Activities” - Co-funded by FP7 **Marie Curie Actions - “People” specific programme** (EC Contract n. 600407)

2013: successful with application project “**TALENTS UP for an International House (TALENTS UP)**”, co-funded by AREA, by the European Commission in the framework of the 7th Framework Programme for the period 2007-2013 – “People” specific programme – FP7 Marie Curie Actions – Co-Funding of Regional, National and International Programmes (G.A. n. 600204) and with a financial contribution of the Regional Authority of Friuli Venezia Giulia

2007: awarded a grant from **FCT (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology)** to support part of the cost of attending the Evolution2007 meeting held in Christchurch, NZ, in June 16-20

2007: awarded a grant from **DRCT (Ministry for Science and Technology, Azores, Portugal)** to support part of the cost of attending the Evolution 2007 meeting held in Christchurch, NZ, in June 16-20

2006: awarded a grant from **FLAD (Luso-American Foundation)** to support part of the cost of attending the Evolution 2006 meeting held at Stony Brook University, New York (USA) in June 23-27

2006: awarded a grant from **FCT (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology)** to support part of the cost for attending the Evolution 2006 meeting held at Stony Brook University, New York (USA) on June 23-27

2004: awarded a **three years post-doctorate grant on “molecular population genetics”** (ref SFRH/BPD/14981/2004) offered by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (MCT/FCT) and the centre of IMAR (Institute of Marine Research) at the University of the Azores, to be spent at the Dept. of Oceanography and Fisheries-UAç, IMAR, based in Horta, Azores

2003: awarded a grant for access to the facilities at Kristineberg Marine Station, Fiskebäckskil, Sweden, under the **EU “Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures” (ARI)** scheme

2001: awarded a **three years post-doctorate grant on “molecular population genetics”** (ref IMAR/FCT – PDOC – 002/2001 – MoleGen) offered by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (MCT/FCT) and the centre of IMAR (Institute of Marine Research) at the University of the Azores, to be spent at the Dept. of Oceanography and Fisheries-UAç, IMAR, based in Horta, Azores

1998: awarded a grant from the **Systematic Association** to support part of my project on the study of intraspecific variation of the control region in the mt-DNA in *Pomatoschistus minutus*

1998: awarded a grant to cover travelling expenses from the **Alumni Foundation** and funds for accommodation from the S.I.C.B. (Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology), to present the preliminary results of my PhD project at the annual conference organised by the S.I.C.B., in Boston (USA)

1996: awarded a grant from the **University of Padova** to support my first year of PhD

1995: awarded a three months grant offered by the **University of Venice** to work at the University of Bristol with Prof. P.J. Miller. I have undertaken a comparative study by electrophoretic analysis, morphometrics, and meristics of two different populations of *Pomatoschistus minutus* (Gobiidae, Teleostei), from the Adriatic Sea (Venezia) and Atlantic (Plymouth)

REFeree FOR INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS AND PROJECT COMMITTEE

Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution – Molecular Ecology – Journal of Biogeography – Conservation Genetics – Gene – Journal of the Marine Biology Association of the UK – Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology – Marine Biology – Deep-Sea Research Part I – Journal of Fish Biology

European Science Foundation – National Geographic Society

SUPERVISION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Carolina Ricci “L’integrazione del DNA ambientale nelle indagini sui mammiferi marini: approfondimento sul caso di studio del tursiope (*Tursiops truncatus*) nel Mar Mediterraneo” MSc co-tutored with Francesca Raffini and Prof. Daniela Silvia Pace University “La Sapienza” of Rome (01/12/2022 - 21/07/2023)

Martina La Torre “Deep-Sea Biodiversity Assessment in the Canyon Dohrn using Environmental DNA (eDNA)” MSc co-tutored with Prof. Alessia Cariani University of Bologna (01/06/2021 - 28/03/2022)

Sara Verni “The integration of environmental DNA in marine mammals surveys: a case study on bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the Mediterranean Sea” MSc co-tutored with Maria Vittoria Modica and Prof. Daniela Silvia Pace University “La Sapienza” of Rome. (01/06/2021 - 23/07/2021)

SUPERVISION PH.D STUDENTS

Maddalena Tibone “Marine Biodiversity Augmented Assessment Coupling Imaging Technologies with Environmental DNA (eDNA)” in co-funded grant between Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn (Italy) and Atlantic Technological University (ATU Galway, Ireland) and co-tutored with Dr. Luca Mirimin (in progress, started 21/01/2022)

Sara Verni “Integrative Taxonomy and Biogeography of Mediterranean Deep-Sea Polychaetes” in co-funded grant between Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn (Italy) and University of Pisa (Italy) and co-tutored with Prof. Alberto Castelli (in progress, started 01/11/2021)

Angela Mazzeo “Key Enabling Technologies for Anthropomorphic Robotic Hands” in co-funded grant between Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn (Italy) and Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna (Italy) and co-tutored with Prof. Ing. Christian Cipriani (01/11/2019 - 02/07/2023)

Mrudul Chellapurat “Soft Robotic Sampler for Screening Biodiversity at Sea” in co-funded grant between Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn (Italy) and Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna (Italy) and co-tutored with Prof. Ing. Cecilia Laschi (01/11/2017 - 01/06/2021)

Emanuela Buschi “Diversity and evolution of microbial assemblages associated with invertebrates inhabiting benthic deep-sea ecosystems” in co-funded grant between Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn (Italy) and Polytechnic University of Marche (Italy) and co-tutored with Prof. Antonio Dell’Anno (01/11/2016 - 24/03/2020)

Diana Sofia de Oliveira Catarino (ref: SFRH/BD/65730/2009) “How does climate change affect deep-sea organisms? A multidisciplinary study using key model species from two contrasting climatic regions, Atlantic vs Mediterranean”, University of the Azores and IMR (Norway) within the frame of the ReDEco project. (2009 - 2014)

Patrícia Gomes Antunes Madeira (ref: SFRH/BD/61146/2009) “Echinoderm phylogeography in oceanic islands: three edible sea urchin species of the Azores as a case study”, University of the Azores. (2009 - 2014)

Ricardo Jorge Paiva Cordeiro (ref: SFRH/BD/60366/2009) “Phylogeography of marine gastropods in oceanic islands: patterns and processes”, University of the Azores. (2009 - 2014)

June-Sept, 2009: hosted the PhD student *Isabel Calderon Moreno* from the University of Barcelona (Spain) to perform a training period at the IMAR/DOP genetic laboratory under my supervision. (completed in 2009)

SUPERVISION POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

Pedro Miguel de Azevedo Ribeiro, within the frame of the project DEECON proposal No 06-EuroDEEP-FP-008 and SFRH-EuroDEEP/0002/2007) (01/06/2012 - 31/05/2013)

Luciana de Melo Santos Génio, within the frame of the project REDECO (ref. Marin-ERA/MAR/0003/2008) (29/02/2012 - 31/03/2013)

GUEST SCIENTISTS UNDER MY SUPERVISION

2019 March-April: *Diana Sofia de Oliveira Catarino*, visited SZN under AssemblePlus (contract 20180928) with the project “environmental DNA as a monitoring tool for deep-sea fish and sharks: ConDor sEaMount as a case study – TANDEM”. (completed)

2018 June-July: *Diana Sofia de Oliveira Catarino*, visited SZN under AssemblePlus (contract SR2022018101c6) with the project “Ichthyoplankton Biodiversity on the Atlantic seamount Condor using DNA metabarcoding”. (completed)

2018 January-February: *Íris Sampaio da Costa*, visited SZN with a STSM grant (ref. 38491) within the EU-COST with the project “Bridging Lab Science with Policy: Molecular taxonomy and evolutionary relationships of deep-sea octocorals of the NE Atlantic Ocean”. (completed)

2009 June-September: *Isabel Calderon* visited my lab at IMAR-DOP as PhD student at the University of Barcelona (Spain) and under the supervision of Prof Xavier Turon

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL EXAMINER FOR PH.D

Jan. 29, 2025: invited member of the national evaluation committee for PhD viva of the University of Rome “La Sapienza” for 4 candidates from the “Environmental and Evolutionary Biology” curriculum.

Oct. 23, 2013: PhD defence “Population distribution and reproductive biology of the deep-sea fish community of the northwestern Mediterranean Sea” by *Ulla Carolina Fernandez de Arcaya Redondo* at the University of the Barcelona, (Spain)

Sept. 16, 2011: PhD defence “Molecular genetic diversity and shell shape variation in *Patella* limpets Mollusca: Patellogasteropoda): Evolutionary inferences and tools for species conservation in the North East Atlantic Ocean Archipelagos” by *Gilberto Manuel Pinto Carreira* at the University of the Azores, Horta (Portugal)

Oct. 2, 2009: PhD defence “Spatio-Temporal Genetic Structure and Reproductive Barriers in the Genus *Paracentrotus* (Echinodermata: Echinoidea)” by *Isabel Calderón Moreno* at the University of the Barcelona, (Spain)

Jan. 29, 2009: PhD defence “Social and genetic mating system in a fish with male parental care, the redlip blenny (*Ophioblennius atlanticus atlanticus*, Valenciennes 1836)” by *Mirko De Girolamo* at the University of the Azores, Horta (Portugal)

Jan. 17, 2007: PhD defence “Adaptaciones, exaptaciones y el estudio de la forma” by *Marta Linde Medina* at the University of the Balearic Islands, Palma de Mallorca (Spain)

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

2023: Environ 2023 “Evidence And Plans Towards Transitions To A Sustainable Future”, 33rd Irish Environmental Researchers Colloquium, 3 – 5 April

2020: “POGO’s International Virtual Conference on the use of Environmental DNA (eDNA) in Marine Environments: Opportunities and Challenges” online, Nov. 30 – Dec. 4

2019: SCOR MetaZooGene Symposium “Rediscovering pelagic biodiversity: Progress, promise, and challenges of metabarcoding of microbes to mammals” Gothenburg, Sweden, Sept. 13-14

2017: 52nd European Marine Biology Symposium (EMBS), Piran, Slovenia, Sept. 25-29

2015: 13th European Ecological Federation (EEF) conference (joint with the 25th Italian Society of Ecology, SItE) held in Rome, Italy, 21-25 September

2012. European Elasmobranch Association, Annual meeting held in Milan, Italy, 22-25 November

2012. Hermione final project meeting, held in Carvoeiro, Portugal, 11-14 September

2011. World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, Aberdeen, United Kingdom, 26-30 September

2010. ESF/Hermione workshop “Challenges in the study of deep-sea ecosystems’ interconnectivity”, held in Aveiro, Portugal, 8-10 September

2010. Deep-Sea Symposium held in Reykjavik, Iceland, 7-11 June

2010. ESF EuroDeep workshop final meeting held in Reykjavik, Iceland, 6 June

2009. MAR-ECO synthesis workshop held in Kristiansand, Norway, 20-22 October

2009. ESF EuroDeep workshop/meeting held in Venice, Italy, 22-23 September

2009. ICES meeting held in Horta, Azores, Portugal, 27-30 April

2009. Hermione Kick-Off Meeting held in Sorrento, Italy, 6-9 April

2008. ESF EuroDeep workshop/meeting held in Valencia, Spain, 10-11 November

2007. ESF EuroDeep workshop/meeting held in Taormina, Italy, 26-29 November

2007. MAR-ECO synthesis workshop held in Reykjavik, Iceland, 29-30 September

2007. “Evolution 2007” Meeting held at Christchurch Convention Centre, Christchurch (NZ), 16-20 June

2006. “Evolution 2006” Meeting held at Stony Brook University, New York (USA), 23-27 June

2005. OASIS Final Scientific Meeting held at DOP, University of the Azores, Horta, Portugal, 12-13 Oct

2005. MAR-ECO field phase workshop held at IPIMAR, Lisbon, Portugal, 2-5 June

2002. BIOMARE meeting held at IMAR/DOP, University of the Azores, Horta, Portugal, 18-20 April

1998 ”Morphometrics and Shape Analysis” meeting organised by The Systematics Association, in Glasgow, UK

MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Tibone M., Stefanni S., Aguzzi J., O’Neill B., Mirimin L., 2025. ”Illumina vs Oxford Nanopore: a multi-marker comparative study on fish eDNA metabarcoding”, 2nd Australian New Zealand environmental DNA conference 2025

Tibone M., Cariou T., O’Donnell C., Aguzzi J., Stefanni S., O’Neill B., Reid D. Mirimin L., 2024. ”Integrating eDNA in the characterization of the mesopelagic fish layer: insight from the Multidisciplinary Mesopelagic Scouting Survey (M2S2)”, Mesopelagic Symposium (Copenhagen, Denmark)

Tibone M., Cariou T., O’Donnell C., Aguzzi J., Stefanni S., O’Neill B., Reid D., Mirimin L., 2024. ”Characterization of the mesopelagic fish layer in Irish waters: a multidisciplinary approach integrating acoustic signatures, environmental DNA and direct catch data”, Fisheries Society of the British Isles (FSBI) 2024 Annual Symposium (Bilbao, Spain)

Tibone M., Stefanni S., Aguzzi J., O’Neill B., Mirimin L., 2023. ”Developing novel eDNA metabarcoding tools for in situ fisheries and megafauna biodiversity monitoring”, 33rd Irish Environmental Researchers Colloquium

Tibone M., Wiczorek A., Stefanni S., O’Neill B., Aguzzi J., Reid D., Mirimin L., 2022. ”Developing novel eDNA metabarcoding tools for in situ fisheries and megafauna biodiversity monitoring”, ICES Annual Science Conference (Dublin, Ireland)

- Favali P., et al. 2019. *Joint Research Unit EMSO-Italia: boosting the national marine science community contribution to the EMSO European Research Infrastructure for ocean observation. AGU Fall Meeting 2019.*
- Stefanni S., Catarino D., Loureiro C., Martins A., Stanković D., 2019. "A "cold case" of metabarcoding analysis unravel hidden mesozooplankton diversity at two Azorean seamounts and neighboring island slopes (NE Atlantic)". SCOR MetaZooGene Symposium "Rediscovering pelagic biodiversity: Progress, promise, and challenges of metabarcoding of microbes to mammals" Gothenburg, Sweden, Sept. 13 (oral presentation)
- Stanković D., Borme D., Tirelli V., Pallavicini A., Stefanni S., 2019. A DNA metabarcoding approach to diet comparison in two sympatric pelagic fish in the Adriatic Sea – European sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) and European anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*). SCOR MetaZooGene Symposium "Rediscovering pelagic biodiversity: Progress, promise, and challenges of metabarcoding of microbes to mammals" Gothenburg, Sweden, Sept. 13 (oral presentation)
- Stefanni S. 2018. *Filling the blank spaces: species traceability using eDNA as a complementary approach to imaging for the study of marine biodiversity. Workshop "Marine cabled observatories: moving towards applied monitoring for fisheries management, ecosystem functioning and biodiversity" organised by the Ocean Networks Canada and held at ICM-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain, Oct. 4-5 (oral presentation)*
- Stefanni S., Stanković D., Camatti E., Cantoni C., Pansera M., Schroeder K., Pallavicini A., Chiggiato J. 2017. *Large-scale metabarcoding analysis of zooplankton in the western Mediterranean Sea. 52nd European Marine Biology Symposium (EMBS), Piran, Slovenia, Sept. 25-29 (oral presentation)*
- Stefanni S., Tirelli V., Borme D., De Olazabal A., Juretić T., Del Negro P., Pallavicini A. 2016. *Use of meta-genetic analysis to monitor mesozooplankton biodiversity: the Adriatic Sea as a case study. Workshop on "Application of genomic tools for biomonitoring of marine environment: from technology to legal and socio-economic aspects", held at the University of Geneva (Switzerland), April 4-5 (oral presentation)*
- Stefanni S., Tirelli V., Borme D., De Olazabal A., Juretić T., Del Negro P., Pallavicini A. 2015. *Metagenetic analysis of zooplankton at large spatial scale. International workshop "Biodiversity in the Mediterranean Basin", Koper, Slovenia, 11-13 March (oral presentation)*
- Francisco S.M., Robalo J.I., Stefanni S., Levy A., Almada V.C. 2014. *Gaidropsarus (Gadidae, Teleostei) of the North Atlantic: a brief phylogenetic review. V Jornadas Ibéricas de Ictiologia, Museu Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência, Lisbon, Portugal, 24-27 June (oral presentation).*
- Stefanni S., Catarino D., Veríssimo A., Menezes G., Company J.B., Danovaro R., Dell'Anno A., Knutsen H. 2012. *Postglacial isolation of the Mediterraneanan Centrosymnus coelolepis reveals the importance of the Pillars of Hercules as a geographical barrier for deep sea sharks. European Elasmobranch Association, Annual meeting, Milan, Italy, 22-25 November (oral presentation).*
- Stefanni S., Bettencourt R., Pinheiro M., Egas C. 2011. *Transcriptome of the Deep-Sea Black Scabbardfish, Aphanopus carbo (Perciformes: Trachiuroidae): Tissue-Specific Expression Patterns. World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, Aberdeen, United Kingdom, 26-30 Sept. (oral presentation)*
- Monteiro, J.G. Stefanni, S., Kaufmann, M., Santos, R.S., Lajeunesse, T. 2011. *Ecological and biogeographical implications of Siderastrea symbiotic relation with Symbiodinium sp. C46 in Sal Island (Cabo Verde, East Atlantic Ocean). World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, Aberdeen, United Kingdom, 26-30 Sept. (oral presentation)*
- Stefanni S 2010. *Molecular tools to study larval recruitment. ESF/Hermione workshop "Challenges in the study of deep-sea ecosystems' interconnectivity", held in Aveiro, Portugal, 8-10 September. (oral presentation)*
- Stefanni S., Bettencourt R., Pinheiro M., Egas C. 2010. *Sequencing and analysis of a multiple tissue-specific transcriptome from the black scabbardfish, Aphanopus carbo (Perciformes: Trachiuroidae) using 454 technology. Deep-Sea Symposium, Reykjavik, Iceland, 7-11 June. (oral presentation)*
- Catarino D., Menezes G., Stefanni S. 2010. *Fishing Deep: Longline in Mid-Atlantic Seamounts. Deep-Sea Symposium, Reykjavik, Iceland, 7-11 June. (oral presentation)*
- Ribeiro P., Menezes G., Neat F., Stefanni S., 2010. *Preliminary results on molecular phylogeny for genus Deania (Elasmobranchii: Centrophoridae) from the NE Atlantic with implications on the taxonomy of the group. Deep-Sea Symposium, Reykjavik, Iceland, 7-11 June. (poster)*

Catarino D., Stefanni S., Menezes G. 2010. Genetic diversity and length distribution of the Offshore Rockfish (*Pontinus kuhlii*) from three Atlantic Archipelagos. Deep-Sea Symposium, Reykjavik, Iceland, 7-11 June. (poster)

Catarino D., Stefanni S. and Menezes G. 2009. DEECON – Deep-Sea Fishing Surveys on Eight Seamounts in the North East Atlantic. ICES meeting held in Horta, Azores, Portugal, 27-30 April. (oral presentation)

Stefanni S., Catarino D. and Machete M. 2009. Northern distribution limit of the intermediate scabbardfish, *Aphanopus intermedius* (Parin, 1983), based on PCR RFLP's screening. ICES meeting held in Horta, Azores, Portugal, 27-30 April. (oral presentation)

Catarino D., Stefanni S. and Menezes G. 2008. Deep-sea fishing on four Atlantic seamounts located south of the Azores. ICES, Halifax, Canada, Sept 22-26. (poster)

Stefanni S., Porteiro F.M., Bettencourt R., Gavaia P.J. and Santos R.S. 2007. Molecular insights indicate that the bathyenthic genus *Pachycara* (Perciformes: Zoarcidae) is represented by a single species in the North Atlantic hydrothermal vent fields. Evolution 2007 meeting, Christchurch (NZ), 16-20 June. (oral presentation)

Stefanni S. 2006. Phylogeography of the black scabbardfish in the NE Atlantic reveals the presence of two sympatric species in Azorean waters. Evolution 2006 meeting, Stony Brook University, USA, 23-27 June. (oral presentation)

Stefanni S. and Rosa A. 2005. Notes on captures and population structure of the deep-sea shark *Centrophorus squamosus* from the Azores and neighbouring seamounts. Annual Meeting of IMAR, Madeira, 5-7 December. (poster)

Stefanni S. 2005. Preliminary results on population history for two deep-water marine fishes from the Azores and neighbouring seamounts. MAR-ECO field phase workshop, IPIMAR, Lisbon, Portugal, 2-5 June. (oral presentation)

Stefanni S. and Menezes G. 2004. Preliminary results on population history for two deep-water marine fishes from the Azores and neighbouring seamounts. Annual Meeting of IMAR, University of Algarve, 2-4 December. (poster)

Stefanni S., 1998. Variation between population of sand gobies, *Pomatoschistus minutus* (Teleostei: Gobiidae). Annual Meeting of Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Boston, 3-7 January. (poster)

Stefanni S., Miller P.J. and Torricelli P., 1996. Comparative study of two populations of *Pomatoschistus minutus* (Teleostei: Gobiidae) from Venice lagoon and Plymouth. Annual meeting organised by A.I.I.A.D., Vicenza (Italy). (poster)

COURSES/WORKSHOPS (ORGANISED)

November, 2023: **co-organiser** of the Congress on Marine Evolution (**EVOLMAR 2023**) "r-Evolutionary routes in the Sea", organized by the Italian Society for Evolutionary Biology (SIBE-ISEB), and will take place in an entirely virtual format during November 14–17, 2023

November, 2020: **co-organiser** of the First Italian Congress on Marine Evolution (**EVOLMAR 2020**), organized by the Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples (SZN) and the Italian Society for Evolutionary Biology (SIBE-ISEB), and will take place in an entirely virtual format during November 23–25, 2020

February, 2020: **co-organiser** and **speaker** of the Course "**METABARCODING AND METAGENOMIC DATA PROCESSING and ANALYSES: a practical overview**" held at Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn, Naples, Italy during February 3-7, 2020

July, 2019: **co-organiser** of the Summer school "**Protein Evolution: from Environmental Adaptations to Biotechnological Applications**" held at Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn, Naples, Italy during July 24-26, 2019

December, 2016: **co-organiser** of the workshop "**Comparative methods in evolutionary biology**" held at Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn, Naples, Italy during December 5-7, 2016

July, 2016: **co-organiser** of the workshop "**Next Challenges in Nucleic Acid Sequencing**" held at Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn, Naples, Italy during July 13-14, 2016

November, 2015: **co-organiser** of the workshop “**introductory course on comparative methods in evolutionary biology**” held at the Dept of Life Sciences, University of Trieste, Italy during December 01-03, 2015

September, 2004: **co-organiser** and **speaker** of the **I^o Workshop in Marine Molecular Phylogenetics: “Use of Molecular Markers for the Study of Marine Biodiversity”** held at the “Centro do Mar”, Azores during September 1-7, 2004

COURSES/WORKSHOPS (ATTENDED)

December, 2024: I participated in the mandatory workshop “**The Strategy for Preventing Corruption and Illegality: Management and Assessment of Corruption Risks and General Prevention Measures**” course organized at SZN and presented by the lawyer. Alessandro Gasbarri, Lab4 e-learning (on December 17)

October, 2024: I participated in the mandatory workshop “**Proactive Transparency: Publication Obligations under Legislative Decree No. 33/2013, Personal Data Protection, and Transparency in the PNRR**” course organized at SZN and presented by the lawyer. Alessandro Gasbarri, Lab4 e-learning (on October 22)

October, 2024: I participated in the mandatory workshop “**The Regulation of Whistleblowing and the Code of Conduct for Public Employees: Innovations, Organizational, and Practical Aspects**” course organized at SZN and presented by the lawyer. Alessia Adamo, Lab4 e-learning (on October 14)

October, 2024: I participated in the mandatory workshop “**Prevention of Corruption and Transparency in Public Procurement: Analysis of the New Code and Legal Practice**” course organized at SZN and presented by the lawyer. Alessandro Gasbarri, Lab4 e-learning (on October 8)

June, 2023: I participated in the “**Mandatory anti-corruption and transparency training**” course organized at SZN and presented by the lawyer. Alessio Ubaldi, UB LEGAL, Ubaldi Law Firm (on June 23)

July, 2021: I participated in the “**Mandatory anti-corruption and transparency training**” course organized at SZN and presented by the lawyer. Alessio Ubaldi, UB LEGAL, Ubaldi Law Firm (on July 1)

March, 2021: I participated to the “**Software Carpentry Workshop Bash Shell, Git e Python**” organized online by The Carpentries Italia (March 19-26)

December 2020: Virtual event “**POGO’s International Virtual Conference on the use of Environmental DNA (eDNA) in Marine Environments: Opportunities and Challenges**” (from November 30 to December 4)

October, 2018: Workshop “**Marine cabled observatories: moving towards applied monitoring for fisheries management, ecosystem functioning and biodiversity**” organised by the Ocean Networks Canada and held at ICM-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain (October 4-5)

May-June, 2018: Course “**Una bussola per navigare, Il management strategico, La scienza e l’arte della pianificazione**” total duration of 10 hours and organised at Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn, Naples, Italy (from May 16 to June 13)

November, 2017: Workshop: “**bilateral exchange between researchers of Italy and Korea (National Research Foundation)**” held at The World Fisheries University a Busan, Korea (Novembre 29-30)

May, 2017: EMBO practical course “**Population Genomics: background and tools**” held at CNR-IGB, Naples, Italy (May 18-26)

June, 2015: Workshop: “**RADseq data analyses**”, held in Edolo, Italy (June 7–12)

May, 2015: Workshop: “**Population Structure Inference in R**”, held in Faro, Portugal (May 11-13)

March, 2015: Workshop: “**Biodiversity in the Mediterranean Basin**”, held in Koper, Slovenia (March 11-12)

November, 2014: Workshop: “**bilateral exchange between researchers of Italy (National Research Council) and Korea (National Research Foundation)**” held at KIOST (Korean Institute of Ocean Science and Technology) in Geoje, Korea (November 14-20)

May, 2013: Workshop on **population biology and population genetics**, UZI Spring School, Venice, Italy (from May 30 to June 1)

March, 2012: **Introductory course on bioinformatics** held at the Gulbenkian Institute of Science, Oeiras, Portugal (March 12-16)

November, 2011: Workshop on **Biogeography and Phylogeny of Atlantic Fish** organised by ISPA and CCMAR and held in Lisbon, Portugal (November 26-27)

March, 2010: course **PopABC “Approximate Bayesian Computation”** organised CCMAR (University of the Algarve, Portugal) and held by João Sollari Lopes (March 2-3)

May, 2007: International advance course **“Practical approaches to Ecotoxicogenomics”** organised by the University of Aveiro, Portugal (from April 30 to May 4)

May, 2005: **II Molecular Evolution workshop** organised by CCMAR (University of the Algarve, Portugal) and held by David Swofford, Gavin Naylor and Mark Holder (May 6-12)

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Underlined authors refer to students I have supervised; * indicates the authors that equally contributed to the manuscript

Manuscripts under revision:

Aguzzi J., Chatzidorous E., Flögel S., Bahamon N., Tangerlini M., Chatzievangelou D., Thomsen, Clavel-Henry M., Picardi G., Navarro, J., Masmitja, I., Robinson N.J., Nattkemper T.W., **Stefanni S.**, Quintana J., Campos R., Garcia R., Fanelli E., Francescangeli, M., Mirimin L., Danovaro R., Mihai Toma D., Del Rio-Fernandez J., White J. 2025. A robotic-based digital-twin strategy for marine ecosystem monitoring. (under revision)

Manuscripts that are published:

Verni S., Langeneck J., Silverj A., **Stefanni S.**, Musco L., Castelli A. 2025. Diversity and biogeography of mesophotic and bathyal Onuphidae (Annelida: Eunicida) of the Western Mediterranean sea. *Deep Sea Research Part I: Oceanographic Research* 220: 104476. doi: 10.1016/j.dsr.2025.104476

Tibone M., **Stefanni S.**, Aguzzi J., O’Neill B., Mirimin L. 2025. A multi-marker fish eDNA metabarcoding study comparing Illumina and Nanopore high-throughput sequencing platforms. *Authorea preprint*. January 27, 2025. doi: 10.22541/au.173797976.60860858/v1

Tibone M., Cariou T., O’Donnell C., **Stefanni S.**, Aguzzi J., O’Neill B., Reid D., Mirimin L. 2024. Towards the integration of environmental DNA analysis to profile the upper mesopelagic fish layer in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 81(10):2065–2078. doi: 10.1093/icesjms/fsae152

Sánchez O., **Stefanni S.**, Bhadury P. 2024. The deep sea biodiversity and conservation collection. *Scientific Reports* 14:27559 doi: 10.1038/s41598-024-77742-7

La Torre M., Cussigh A., Crobe V., Spiga M., Ferrari A., Cariani A., Piattoni F., Costantini F., Franzellitti S., Pallavicini A., Stanković D., **Stefanni S.** 2024. Environmental DNA Metabarcoding of Cephalopod Diversity in the Tyrrhenian Deep Sea. *Journal of Marine Science and Engineering* 12(11):1897. doi: 10.3390/jmse12111897

Buschi E., Dell’Anno A., Tangherlini M., Candela M., Rampelli S., Turroni S., Palladino G., Esposito E., Lo Martire M., Musco L., **Stefanni S.**, Munari C., Fiori J., Danovaro R., Corinaldesi C. 2024. Resistance to freezing conditions of endemic Antarctic polychaetes is enhanced by cryoprotective proteins produced by their microbiome. *Science Advances* 10:eadk9117. doi:10.1126/sciadv.adk9117

Aguzzi J., Cuadros J., Dartnell L.R., Costa C., Violino S., Canfora L., Danovaro S., Robonson N., Giovinnelli D., Flögel S., **Stefanni S.**, Chatzievangelou D., Marini S., Picardi G., Foing B. 2024. Marine science can contribute to the search for extraterrestrial life. *Life* 2024, 14(6): 676. doi: 10.3390/life14060676

Banchi E., Bettoso N., Borme D., **Stefanni S.**, Tirelli V. 2024. Environmental DNA enhances comprehension of the spatial and temporal dynamics of fish diversity in a coastal lagoon. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 304:108824 doi: 10.1016/j.ecss.2024.108824

Aguzzi J., Cuadros J., Dartnell L., Costa C., Violino S., Canfora L., Danovaro R., Robinson N.J., Giovannelli D., Flögel S., **Stefanni S.**, Chatzievangelou D., Marini S., Picardi G., Foing B. 2024. Marine Science Can Contribute to the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Life. *Life* 14(6):676. doi: 10.3390/life14060676

Montemagno F., Romano C., Bastoni D., Cordone A., De Castro O., **Stefanni S.**, Sperone E., Giovannelli D. 2024. Shark Microbiome Analysis Demonstrates Unique Microbial Communities in Two Distinct Mediterranean Sea Shark Species. *Microorganisms* 12:557. doi: 10.3390/microorganisms12030557 (Q1; h-index: 66; IF: 4.5; cit.: 0)

Aguzzi J., Thomsen L., Flögel S., Robinson N.J., Picardi G., Chatzievangelou D., Bahamon, N., **Stefanni S.**, Grinyó J., Fanelli E., Corinaldesi C., Del Rio Fernandez J., Calisti M., Mienis F., Chatzidouros E., Costa C., Violino S., Tangherlini M., Danovaro R. 2024. New Technologies for Monitoring and Upscaling Marine Ecosystem Restoration in Deep-Sea Environments. *Engineering* 34:195-211. doi: 110.1016/j.eng.2023.10.012 (Q1; h-index: 75; IF: 12.8; cit.: 0)

Astolfi A., Chellapurath M., Picardi G., Capriotti M., Mladinich K., Laschi C., **Stefanni S.**, Calisti M. 2024. Marine Sediment Sampling With an Underwater Legged Robot: A User-Driven Sampling Approach for Microplastic Analysis. *IEEE Robotics Automation Magazine*. doi: 10.1109/MRA.2023.3341288 (Q1; h-index: 95; IF: 5,229; cit.: 0)

Chatzievangelou D., Robinson N.J., Floegel S., Bongioni L., **Stefanni S.**, Aguzzi J. 2023. Editorial: Data acquisition and processing strategies for the development of ecological indicators in the exploration and monitoring of deep-sea ecosystems under natural and anthropogenic changes. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 10:1228891. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2023.1228891 (Q1; h-index: 49; IF: 4,912; cit.: 0)

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SOFTWARE'S AND INFORMATICS

familiarity with Ubuntu, Windows, and Apple environments and most popular software's packages

basic knowledge of Unix commands

familiarity with R to analyse molecular data (Adegenet, diveRsity, Ape, Vegan, Geneland, etc.)

familiarity with several packages to analyse molecular data for phylogeny (MEGA, METAPIGA, PAUP, etc.), population genetics (STRUCTURE, ARLEQUIN, DIY-ABC, etc.) and genomics (MEGAN, MALT, QIIME, etc.)

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

"Allievo Capitano di Lungo Corso", the equivalent of certification of qualification as a ship's master for merchant navy and skilled sailor

Radio operator (VHF-HF-MF) for maritime communications

Skilled sailor with 3 Atlantic crossings (Azores-Europe)

1995 Yacht Master (sail and motor)

2009 Certified Advanced e Rescue PADI

2008 first aid and CPR Certificate, PADI

1992 Certified diver, 1 star C.M.A.S.

2001 first DAN Ki-Aikido

Italian driving license for Categories: A and B

I solemnly declare that all the information furnished in this document is free of errors to the best of my knowledge. I hereby declare that all the information contained in this resume is in accordance with facts or truths to my knowledge. I take full responsibility for the correctness of the said information.

Date: 30/04/2025

Annexes:

copies of the 3 National Scientific Qualifications