

Programme of the 3rd biogeographical seminar for the
Atlantic and the Macaronesian marine
biogeographical regions

11-13 October 2023
The Grand Hotel Malahide
Dublin, Ireland



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NPWS An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra
National Parks and Wildlife Service

Programme

Introduction

The Biogeographical seminar for the Atlantic and the Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions will be held between 11th – 13th October. It is hosted jointly by the European Commission's DG Environment and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The venue is the [Grand Hotel Malahide](#) (Grove Rd, Malahide, Co. Dublin, K36 XT65) in the city of Dublin, Ireland.

The latest version of the programme, the background document as well as other useful documents for the seminar can be found online, at the website:

<https://biogeoprocess.net/atlanticandmacaronesia>

Or just scan this QR code:





NPWS

An tSeirbhís Páircenna
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúla
National Parks and Wildlife
Service

Day 1: Wednesday 11th October

Time	Activity	Location
8.30 – 9.15	Registration	O'Carolan suite entrance
9.15 – 10.30	<p>Official welcome & introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niall Ó Donnchú, Director General of National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Video message from Virginijus Sinkevičius, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Andrea Vettori, Head of Unit, Nature Conservation Unit, DG Environment, European Commission Biodiversity strategy for 2030: policy context for the biogeographical process – Vedran Nikolić, European Commission, DG Environment, Nature Conservation Unit Overview of the seminar programme, housekeeping rules – Luna Milatović, Biogeographical Process 	O'Carolan suite
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.00 – 13.30	<p>Protected area targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where are we – overview and distance to target – Anna Cheilari, European Commission, DG Environment, Nature Conservation Unit Scientific basis for identification of MPAs – Anna Maria Adamo, Horizon Europe Project - MPA EUROPE Pledges and approaches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denmark - Caroline Vestergaard Mikkelsen, Ministry of Environment Sweden - Lena Tingström, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management Spain - Jorge Alonso Rodríguez and Helena Moreno Colera, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge Methodology and initial analysis of received pledges – Paul Goriup, Biogeographical Process Discussion on way forward in groups Reporting back to plenary 	O'Carolan suite
13.30 – 14.30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14.30 – 17.00	<p>Conservation status targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where are we – overview and distance to target – Vedran Nikolić, European Commission, DG Environment, Nature Conservation Unit CIBBRiNA LIFE: International bycatch project – Lejo van der Heiden, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, the Netherlands Pledges and approaches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spain - Jorge Alonso Rodríguez and Helena Moreno Colera, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge Methodology and initial analysis of received pledges – Paul Goriup, Biogeographical Process Discussion on way forward in groups Reporting back to plenary 	O'Carolan suite
18.30 - 21.30	<p>Reception and gala dinner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister Darragh O'Brien - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage 	



Day 2: Thursday 12th October

All day	Excursion	
9.00 – 17.00	Dublin Bay (optional, organised by the host)	Departure from Grand Hotel
19.00	Dinner	Gibney's Of Malahide

Day 3: Friday 13th October

Time	Activity	Location
8.30 – 9.00	Registration	O'Carolan suite entrance
9.00 – 9.15	Opening plenary	O'Carolan suite
9.15 – 10.45	Session 1 - Role of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs in marine restoration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Nature Restoration Law and MPAs – Vedran Nikolić, European Commission, DG Environment, Nature Conservation Unit • Better BirdLIFE: Improvement of natural habitats for coastal birds - Jakob Pedersen, Middelfart Municipality, Denmark • Moderated discussion • Reporting back to the plenary 	
10.45 – 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.00 – 12.30	Session 2 - Strict protection in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict protection in the context of Biodiversity strategy targets – Anna Cheilari, European Commission, DG Environment, Nature Conservation Unit • MarHA: Nature Integrated Project for effective and equitable management of marine habitats in France – Alain Pibot, Office Français de la Biodiversité (OFB) • Management of existing uses in areas that are ecologically suitable as strictly protected areas – Jochen Krause, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Germany • Moderated discussion • Reporting back to the plenary 	O'Carolan suite
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13.30 – 15.00	Session 3 – Renewable energy and marine conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving renewable energy targets while protecting and restoring biodiversity – Vedran Nikolić, European Commission, DG Environment, Nature Conservation Unit • SeaLIFE: Seas full of life – Richard Hill, Marine Conservation Society and Seas at Risk • Moderated discussion • Reporting back to the plenary 	O'Carolan suite
15.00 – 15.45	Next steps for the pledge process and summary of discussions	
15.45 – 16.00	Closing plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister Malcom Noonan, Minister of State at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage 	