ESMB
European Society for Marine Biotechnology

# *ESMB Newsletter*

*June 2026*

## President's welcome message

Dear members,

As the President of the European Society for Marine Biotechnology (ESMB), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the first ESMB's newsletter of 2026.
The ESMB society was set up to promote marine biotechnology in Europe. In the 31st year of our foundation, we continue to facilitate research collaboration between marine biotechnologists, as well as training and education of young marine biotechnologists with several activities. The ESMB society organise a series of webinars from leading researchers in the field of marine biotechnology. We hope these webinars will act as a platform for promoting and further enhancing collaborations while offering a window to new developments and stimulate interesting scientific conversations. The webinars are free to attend and their recording can be found on our society's website.
A dedicated area at ESMB website advertise post-graduation and advanced courses on marine biotechnology and associated specific fields and offers opportunities for training periods, internships and fellowships at international labs, under the scope of research projects in which marine biotechnology plays a pivotal role.
ESMB's official journal is Marine Biotechnology, edited by Springer.

This newsletter has been set-up to communicate with the ESMB members, facilitate the sharing of news, and to promote ESMB's activities. If you have any research ideas that you would like to share with the society, please let us know, and we will try to cover these in our upcoming newsletters. In the meantime, do stay in touch with us via our website, Instagram, or Linkedin.

Yours Sincerely,

ESMB President

Dr. Giovanna Romano

## ESMB NEWS

### The current board members (2026-2027) are:

President - Giovanna Romano
Past President - Tiago H. Silva
Secretary - Chiara Lauritano, Eleonora Curcuraci
Treasurer - Jean-Pascal Berge
Elected board member - Concetta Messina
Elected board member - Renata Denaro
Elected board member - Marina Pozzolini
Elected board member - Juan José Gallardo Rodriguez
Elected board member - Dina Simes
Young researchers' representative - Yolanda Soriano Jerez
Industry representative - Jean-Paul Cadoret
University of Brest representative - Claire Hellio
Honorary member of the board - Grant Burgess, Torger Børresen
Publisher's representative - Victoria Ferrara

### European Congress of Marine Biotechnology 2027 - First announcement

We are pleased to announce that the European Congress of Marine Biotechnology will be hosted in Faro, Portugal, in June 2027.
Stay tuned for updated information!

## WEBINARS

The first webinar *Blue Biotechnology and the Next Wave of Biobased Products* was given by Prof. Helena Vieira, on the 22nd of May.

The speaker explored how marine resources are driving innovation across sectors such as food, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, biomaterials, and sustainable industrial processes. Participants gained insights into the latest technological advances and real-world applications transforming marine biodiversity into market-ready solutions closer to everyday life.

Discussions addressed both the opportunities and challenges associated with moving discoveries from research to commercialization, emphasizing the need for strong collaboration between science, entrepreneurship, and governance.

You can **watch the video** soon on the ESMB website http://www.esmb.org/webinars.html

**The complete programme with forthcoming seminar will be available soon on the website. Stay tuned!**

## TRAINING SCHOOLS

### 3rd edition of the International Summer School of Blue Biotechnology (ISSBB)

Applications are officially open for the 3rd edition of the International Summer School of Blue Biotechnology (ISSBB)! Hosted at the Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn in Naples, Italy, from September 22–25, 2026. This intensive 4-day program is a unique opportunity to unlock the biotechnological and metabolic potential of marine resources.

What's on the topics? 

- Marine Bioprospecting & Drug Discovery;
- Circular Blue Economy;
- The EUREMAP Consortium Focus and Europe's Research Infrastructures;
- Masterclasses on European grant writing, funding opportunities, and high-impact academic publishing;
- Meet a company: interactive laboratory sessions and an exclusive visit to a leading local biotech company;
- Students oral communications.

 CRITICAL DEADLINE: July 15th, 2026: Deadline for Registration Form & Motivation Letter

 How to Apply & More Info:

Visit the official website for templates and full logistics: **https://lnkd.in/gSr3geaX**
For inquiries and submissions contact the committee at: **issbluebiotech@gmail.com**

## CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

### 6th Australia New Zealand Marine Biotechnology Conference

**Date/Venue** 26 - 28th August 2026, The University of Waikato Tauranga (New Zealand)

At the 6th ANZMBS August 2026 conference, we'll be shining a spotlight on marine biotechnology success stories. Celebrating the inspiring individuals and teams who have taken their discoveries beyond the lab and into the real world. Join us as founders, researchers, and industry leaders share their journeys from concept to commercialisation including the challenges they've faced, the breakthroughs they've achieved, and the lessons learned along the way. These stories showcase the diverse pathways within marine biotechnology, from developing novel marine bioproducts and sustainable aquaculture solutions to advancing ocean-based pharmaceuticals, biomaterials, and environmental innovations. Join our hands on workshops to develop your commercialisation skills, our local field trips and panel discussions to truly engage with Marine Biotechnology.
**website/contact:** https://www.ivvy.com.au/event/MAQA4Q/

### 4th International Aquatic Biotechnology Symposium

Naples, 9–11 September 2026

The 4th edition of the Aquatic Biotechnology Symposium will once again bring together leading scientists, young researchers, and industry experts from disciplines including marine biology, chemistry, molecular biology, environmental sciences, and biotechnology. Building

on the strong foundation of previous editions, this year's symposium will highlight the full value chain from bioprospecting and marine omics to product development, testing, production, and market launch. Submit your abstract by 20 June 2026.
Researchers, innovators, and professionals working in marine and freshwater biotechnology, sustainable aquaculture, and aquatic sciences are warmly invited to contribute and share their work. Join us in shaping a more sustainable future.
The Symposium is under the auspices of ESMB.

**Learn more**

## AlgaEurope

AlgaEurope is a unique opportunity to learn and understand all about algae production and commercialization and interact with over 400 key players from more than 45 countries.
AlgaEurope has a close cooperation between EABA - European Algae Biomass Association and DLG Markets Benelux. The main target of EABA is to act as a catalyst for fostering synergies among scientists, industrialists, and decision-makers in order to promote the development of research, technology, and industrial capacities in the field of Algae.

**Learn more**

## 14th Asia-Pacific Marine Biotechnology Conference (APMBC 2026)

**9 - 12 September 2026, Yantai (China)**

The 14th Asia-Pacific Marine Biotechnology Conference (APMBC 2026) will be held from 9–12 September 2026 in Yantai, China, continuing the long-standing tradition of APMBC as the flagship marine biotechnology conference for the Asia-Pacific region.
Early-bird registration & abstract submission deadline: 9 July 2026.
APMBC 2026 warmly welcomes participation from researchers, industry professionals, and policy stakeholders across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

**Learn more**

## Seagriculture

**16 - 18 June 2026, Gothenburg (Sweden)**

Seagriculture is an international conference focused on the seaweed industry, held annually in Europe. It brings together researchers, entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers to discuss developments in seaweed cultivation, processing, and markets. The event serves as a leading platform for innovation and collaboration in the global seaweed sector.

**Learn more**

## SETAC Europe 27th LCA Symposium

**19 – 21 October 2026, Bruges (Belgium)**

**Session 4.01: Advancing and Aligning Life Cycle Approaches for Emerging Bio-Based Systems: Lessons from Algae and Beyond**

The SETAC Europe 27th LCA Symposium will be held from 19–21 October 2026 in Bruges, Belgium, centering on the theme "Designing Tomorrow: Advancing Life Cycle Approaches for European Sustainability Initiatives." As part of Track 4 (Sustainability Steering in Bio-Based and Circular Economies), Session 4.01 explores the role of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in evaluating sustainable bio-based value chains. Recognizing the high multifunctionality and early-stage dynamics of algae systems, this session uses the algae sector—informed by collaborative initiatives like the European Algae Biomass Association (EABA) LCA Task Force—as a vital foundational test case to harmonize and advance LCA methodologies across broader emerging bio-based sectors.

**Learn more**

# THE MARINE BIOTECHNOLOGY WORLD

## The Australia New Zealand Marine Biotechnology Society (ANZMBS)

**ANZMBS** is the leading voice for marine biotechnology across Australasia. We connect scientists, industry, policy makers, and innovators to advance the sustainable use of marine resources for the benefit of people, the planet, and the blue economy.

More information at: https://anzmbs.asn.au/world

## The International Marine Biotechnology Association

The IMBA works to benefit and inform students, scientists and technologists, decision-makers and industry leaders, industries and governments of the world and facilitate communication among and between practicing experts and the various affiliated marine biotechnology societies and associations.

Learn more

## OPEN AND FORTHCOMING CALLS FOR FUNDING

Harnessing the unique properties of marine organisms to deliver sustainable blue bio-based productsHORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-11 | Calls for proposalsOpening date: **17 April 2026** | Deadline date: **17 September 2026** | Single-stage
Open For Submission
Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions**
Addressing aquatic pollution and biodiversity loss through nature positive solutions from source to seaHORIZON-MISS-2026-03-OCEAN-02 | Calls for proposalsOpening date: **04 February 2026** | Deadline date: **23 September 2026** | Single-stage
Open For Submission
Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Innovation Actions**

Centres of Vocational ExcellenceERASMUS-EDU-2026-PEX-COVE | Calls for proposalsOpening date: **04 December 2025** | Deadline date: **3 September 2026** | Single-stage
Open For Submission
Type of action: **ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants**

Unleashing the potential of sustainable small-scale aquatic food production and recreational fisheries for prosperous local communitiesHORIZON-CL6-2027-02-FARM2FORK-06 | Calls for proposalsOpening date: **20 April 2027** | Deadline date: **23 September 2027** | Single-stage
Forthcoming

Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Innovation Actions**

Pushing the frontier of knowledge and conservation action for deep sea ecosystemsHORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-03 | Calls for proposalsOpening date: **17 April 2026** | Deadline date: **17 September 2026** | Single-stage
Open For Submission
Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions**

Living Labs for the eradication and/or management of invasive alien speciesHORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-04 | Calls for proposalsOpening date: **20 April 2027** | Deadline date: **22 September 2027** | Single-stage
Forthcoming
Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions**

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## *THANKS FOR READING!*