

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON COASTAL SYSTEMS: 2020

A. Membership

The Officers and Steering Committee of the Commission on Coastal Systems are:

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b. Number of Commission members **in total and by country** as of 31 December 2020.

ALBANIA	1	GABON	2	PERU	1
ALGERIA	2	GEORGIA	2	PHILLIPINES	2
ARGENTINA	5	GERMANY	21	POLAND	3
AUSTRALIA	11	GREECE	5	PORTUGAL	17
AZERBAIJAN	1	HONG KONG	2	ROMANIA	10
BANGLADESH	2	INDIA	9	RUSSIA	7
BELGIUM	24	INDONESIA	1	SENEGAL	1
BENIN	1	IRAN	1	SINGAPORE	1
BRAZIL	21	IRELAND	10	SOUTH AFRICA	7
BULGARIA	6	ISRAEL	3	SPAIN	19
CANADA	17	ITALY	15	SURINAM	1
CHILE	2	IVORY COAST	1	SWEDEN	3
CHINA	10	JAPAN	5	SWITZERLAND	2
COLOMBIA	2	KOREA	2	TAIWAN	5
COTE D'IVOIRE	3	LATVIA	1	THE NETHERLANDS	14
CUBA	1	MALAYSIA	1	TOGO	1
DENMARK	2	MEXICO	1	TUNISIA	1
ECUADOR	1	MOROCCO	3	TURKEY	7
EGYPT	1	NEW ZEALAND	10	UKRAINE	2
ESTONIA	5	MOZAMBIQUE	1	UNITED KINGDOM	31
FINLAND	3	NAMIBIA	1	U S A	93
FRANCE	80	NIGERIA	4	URUGUAY	1
FRENCH POLYNESIA	1	NORWAY	3	VIETNAM	2

B. Meetings

The following meetings were organised, or sponsored, by the Commission on Coastal Systems in 2020 with summary information. Plans for 2021 are also outlined.

MAY 3-8, 2020, VIENNA, AUSTRIA, EUROPEAN GEOSCIENCES UNION (EGU)

Two special coastal sessions, held virtually, at EGU2020 were sponsored by the Commission on Coastal Systems:

The GM 6.3 Session on ‘Coastal Morphodynamics: nearshore, beach, and dunes’

The session was successfully conducted for the fourth time (in an online format) and was convened by Derek Jackson (UK), Emilia Guisado-Pintado (Spain) and Irene Delgado-Fernandez (UK). The session chat was scheduled on Friday, 08 May 202, 08:30–10:15 (CEST) and the online chat closed with over 100 participants and there is a wealth of information online.

<https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2020/displays/37488>

GM 6.4 Session: ‘Coastal Zone Geomorphological Interactions: Natural versus Human-Induced Driving Factors’

The session was successfully conducted for the twelfth year in succession at the EGU General Assembly (this year in the online format by showing displays) on 8 May 2020, for more information follow the session link. The session was organised by Hannes Tonnison (Estonia), Margarita Stancheva (Bulgaria), Andreas Baas (UK), Giorgio Anfuso (Spain) and Guillaume Brunier (France). The session chat was scheduled on Friday, 08 May 202, 10:45–12:30 (CEST), it was joined by 76 active users all around the world with intense discussions and included 15 presented studies on a great variety of coastal zone geomorphology topics including climate change and human-induced impacts.

<https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2020/displays/37494>

6 MAY, 2020. INTEGRATING ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACH IN MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING: - MSPGLOBAL ONLINE SEMINAR

CCS Secretary Margarita Stancheva participated at the sixth MSPglobal online seminar – the first in English – organised on 6 May 2020, with a theme “How to ensure Ecosystem-Based Approach (EBA) principles in the context of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)”. More than 300 participants joined the online seminar from over 45 different countries and had the opportunity to hear the perspective of five different speakers all across the world.

OCTOBER 27-29, 2020. COASTAL HAZARDS IN AFRICA, 2020, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

The second International Symposium on Coastal Hazards in Africa went virtual in 2020. It was hosted by SAIAB (South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity – Durban, South Africa) in partnership with the University of Stirling, and the Oceanographic Research Institute. Seven sessions were convened over the three days, including one Industry Spotlight and three Keynotes sessions, involving 69 delegates interacting from 13 countries and over 50 institutes. Registered delegates were able to join the scheduled Zoom webinar series, while non-registered parties were able to watch via the live stream on the conference Facebook page.

NOVEMBER 4-8, 2020 COASTAL TRANSITIONS, NEW HAVEN, CONNETICUT, USA

The conference, a collaboration between the Department of the Environment, Geography and Marine Sciences at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) and the Geography Faculty at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) in the UK opened up a conversation about sustainability transitions in the coastal zone, focusing on the Blue Economy, from an inter- and trans-disciplinary perspective. It was hosted by Southern Connecticut State University at the Canal Dock Boathouse in historic New Haven, and involved online presentations. It was jointly sponsored by the Commission on Coastal Systems and the Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces.

DECEMBER 15, 2020. ESPON PEER LEARNING WORKSHOP: THE ROLE OF MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING IN REDUCING MARINE POLLUTION IN THE BLACK SEA

CCS Secretary Dr. Margarita Stancheva was a key note speaker at ESPON PEER LEARNING WORKSHOP, conducted virtually on 15 December 2020 and presented how the integration of Land-Sea Integrations (LSI) into the MSP can help to reduce marine pollution in the Black Sea.

POSTPONED MEETINGS

Participation in the following conferences, or convened sessions at congresses, were planned for 2020, but have been postponed to 2021.

AUGUST 16 – 20, 2021, 34th INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS (IGC) “GEOGRAPHY: BRIDGING THE CONTINENTS”, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

CCS plans to convene a session entitled “**Sustaining coastal and marine environments in the Anthropocene**”.

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2021, COASTGIS 2021: "SUSTAINABLE COASTAL PLANNING IN A CHANGING WORLD" RASEBORG FINLAND

CoastGIS will be sponsored by CCS

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS PROPOSED IN 2021

APRIL 19-30, 2021. EUROPEAN GEOSCIENCES UNION GENERAL ASSEMBLY VEGU21: GATHER ONLINE (#VEGU21)

GM 6.6 Session: Coastal Zone Geomorphological Interactions: Natural versus Human-Induced Driving Factors

CCS will convene this session for the thirteenth time at EGU2021; this will be a virtual session.

C. Networking and Communications

The CCS has established a new website - <http://igu-coast.org/> in 2020, and set up a Twitter account. It maintained networking and communication through its Newsletter, published twice a year, as well as through special sessions at meetings.

The CCS co-sponsored the Coastal Transitions conference (described above) with the Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces, and has been in discussion about the initiation of a new IGU Commission on the Ocean.

D. Publications

a. Newsletters, special journal issues, and books published or anticipated during 2020

Two Newsletters have been published in 2020; numbers 82 and 83 in January and July respectively. The next Newsletter will appear in January 2021.

The following special issues are in production;

Estuaries and Coastal Wetlands of the Southern Hemisphere – a virtual special issue of *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science* – completed in 2020. Guest editors, Janine Adams, Debora de Freitas, Kerrylee Rogers, and Colin Woodroffe. This comprises 21 papers, and an introductory overview, based on a session convened by the Commission on Coastal Systems at ECSA57 in 2018.

A special issue on Coastal Hazards in Africa is in preparation for the *Journal of African Earth Sciences*

E. Archival Contributions

Copies of Newsletters are archived with IGU and available on our CCS website.

F. IGU Funds

Funds from IGU have been used to contribute to registration for the International Geographical Congress, and to set up the new website.

Colin Woodroffe, Chair and **Margarita Stancheva**, Secretary