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# SARChI

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## MARINE ECOLOGY & FISHERIES

### NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first issue of the SARChI group in Marine Ecology and Fisheries Newsletter, which we're aiming to send out three times annually. We hope you enjoy reading what we have been up to!



#### **Congratulations Dr Louise Gammage!**

Louise received her PhD in July 2019 "for a thesis that uses structured decision-making tools in a scenario-based approach with small-scale fishers in the southern Cape, in support of improved decision-making in marine social-ecological systems under global change". You can read her thesis [here](#) and view the citation [here](#). She has also just published a non-specialised summary of her PhD in [The Conversation](#).

#### **The alarming decline of our natural world**

Lynne Shannon has been an expert author on the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity ([IPBES](#)) global assessment report, released in May 2019. The report warns of the alarming and unprecedented rate of decline of our natural world and is a valuable tool for taking practical action. Read more about Lynne's involvement in the UCT Science Faculty [Science Matters](#) newsletter on page 17.



#### **Navigating the ocean under stress**

Lynne Shannon presented a keynote address at the IMBeR2 Future Oceans Open Science Conference in Brest, France. View her excellent address [here](#).



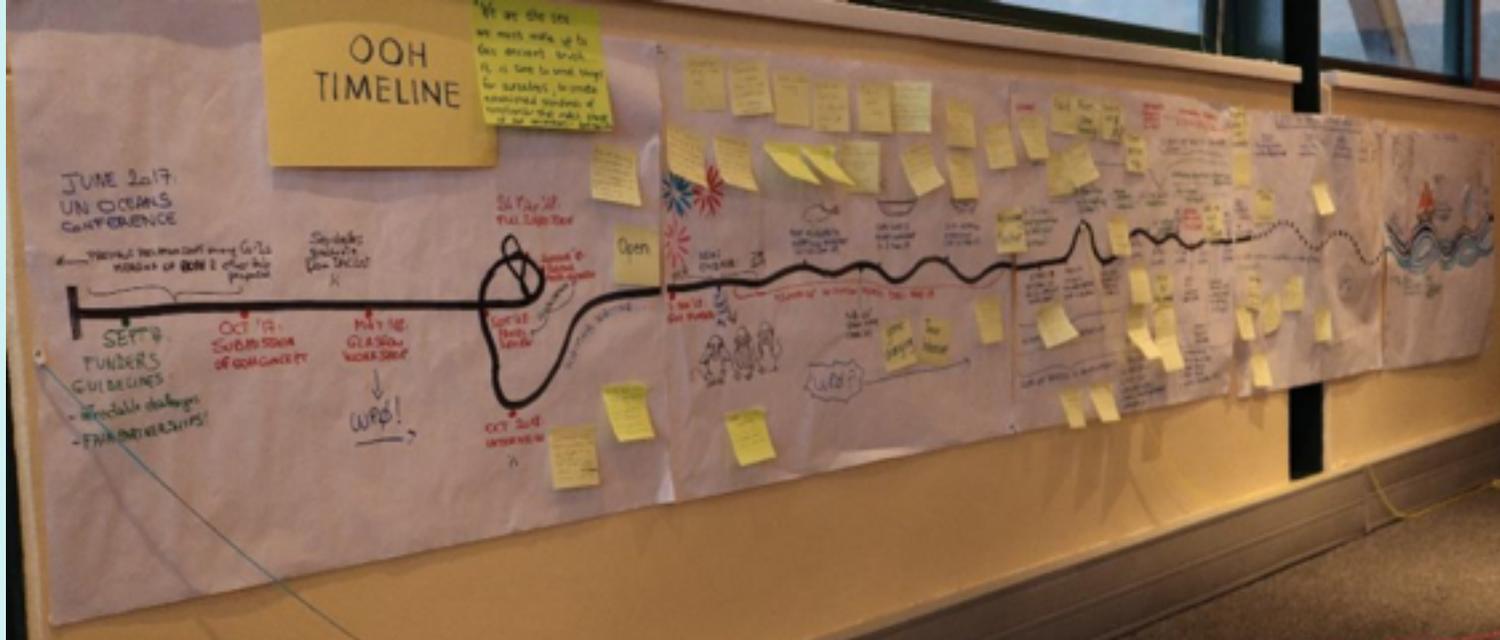
### Read our blog

We now have our first blog up on our website, written by two of our post-docs, Louise Gammage and Marieke Norton. Click [here](#) to read what they have to say about the IMBeR FutureOceans2 conference they attended in Brest, France.



### TRIATLAS: South and Tropical Atlantic climate-based marine ecosystem predictions for sustainable management

We are very pleased to be a partner in a large EU Horizon 2020 project, [TRIATLAS](#), co-ordinated by the University of Bergen, Norway. This project aims to contribute to sustainable management of human activities affecting Atlantic marine ecosystems, by delivering knowledge of the current state and possible future changes of tropical and south Atlantic marine ecosystems. Specifically, we are contributing expertise in Ecopath with Ecosim and the spatialised Ecospace modelling approach, and human social indicators of drivers of change, as well as synthetic evaluations of state and trends in marine social-ecological systems. Lynne Shannon and Astrid Jarre participated in the kick-off meeting at the end of August.



## One Ocean Hub

Another exciting global project we are very pleased to be part of is [One Ocean Hub](#), funded by the UK Research & Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund and co-ordinated by the University of Strathclyde. One Ocean Hub aims to bridge the disconnections between law, science and policy in addressing global ocean challenges. It will do this through transdisciplinary and innovative research and by integrating governance frameworks to balance ocean uses with conservation. The project will focus on developing nations in Africa and the South Pacific: Ghana, Namibia and South Africa, Fiji and the Solomon Islands. Lynne Shannon's specific role is centered around ecosystem modelling and indicator-based assessments.

## Southern Cape Interdisciplinary Fisheries Research (SCIFR)

We are continuing our learning-by-doing of inter- and transdisciplinary research in our SCIFR project, asking the following overarching research questions:

- How are natural and social changes in the southern Cape shaping and interacting with marine social-ecological systems?
- More specifically, how are selected users of natural resources in this area responding to global change and how are they shaping change in their region?
- How can the knowledge of the current state of the social-ecological system be used to build a more resilient, sustainable system?



With a number of MSc and PhD theses completed over the past years, we have updated the project's [overview document](#).

## Interesting reads

### Future states of the Benguela

The future of our marine systems is becoming ever more important to consider, so that we can protect our marine resources for future generations. Emma Lockerbie and Lynne Shannon have done some research towards assessing possible future states of the southern Benguela, which you can read in [Frontiers in Marine Science](#).

### A comparison of small-scale fishing communities under climate change pressure

Ivan Martins (São Paulo) and Louise Gammage collaborated to compare the vulnerability between the fishing communities in the southern Brazil Bight and the southern Cape, which was published in [Human Ecology](#).

### Marine resource law enforcement and the individual fisheries compliance inspectors

Based on 18 months of Marieke Norton's ethnographic fieldwork for her PhD, Marieke and Astrid Jarre suggest ways in which marine resource law enforcement can be evaluated at the level of individual fisheries compliance inspectors. This is important so that we can get a better understanding of the state of our marine law enforcement in the Western Cape of South Africa. Read the paper in [Ambio](#).



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