

# OPP

Members of the Working Group on Marine Aquaculture are part of multiple COST-Actions. The COST Association is an EU wide organisation fostering the creation of and cooperation of networks of researchers from all scientific backgrounds. COST-Actions subsidize travel costs as well as event costs to further the exchange between actors.

The Action, [Oceans Past Platform](#) (OPP), aims to measure and understand the significance and value to European societies of living marine resource extraction and production to help shape the future of coasts and oceans. The Integrative Platform will lower the barriers between human, social and natural sciences; multiply the learning capacity of research environments; and enable knowledge transfer and co-production among researchers and other societal actors, specifically by integrating historical findings of scale and intensity of resource use into management and policy frameworks.

The oceans offer rich resources for feeding a hungry world. However, the sea is an alien space in a sense that the land is not. Fishing requires skills that must be learnt, it presupposes culinary preferences, technical ability, knowledge of target species, and a backdrop of material and intangible culture. OPP asks when, how and with what socio-economic, political, cultural and ecological implications humans have impacted marine life, primarily in European seas in the last two millennia. The Action calls on historians, archaeologists and social scientists as well as colleagues from the marine sciences to engage in dialogue and collaboration with ocean and coastal managers. OPP will develop historical descriptors and indicators for marine and coastal management.

## Project fact sheet

**Project name** Oceans Past Platform (OPP)

**Project duration** 48 months

**Project level** international

**Project partners** >50

**Stakeholders** Research, Regulators

## Contact

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## Links

[COST Programme](#) ▶

[Oceans Past Platform \(OPP\)](#) ▶



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## Events

[Oceans Past VII](#) ▶

## 22th to 26th October 2018 ↗

### Tracing human interactions with marine ecosystems through deep time: implications for policy and management ↗

**Rationale:** Knowing the past is vital for developing a vision of the future. The oceans and inshore seascapes of the world are rapidly changing, and understanding the human and marine ecosystem forces, trajectories and responses - sometimes over centuries or millennia - is vital for their informed management. Understanding, quantifying, and predicting humanities interactions with the world's coastal seas and oceans requires examination of our practices of consumption, transportation, extraction and pollution, as well as our values and governance systems. The conference aims to bring together the vast knowledge pool of two decades of marine historical ecology and environmental history to inform the policies of the Anthropocene.

**Invitation:** The conference welcomes researchers, practitioners, policy-makers and students of all disciplines under the unifying view of our oceans as networks of social-ecological or coupled human-nature systems. If you have an interest in the history of human interactions with life in the ocean and implications for policy and management, this is the 2018 conference you must attend.