



MARIN 2026 International Conference

Interdisciplinary approaches to the study of human and marine invertebrate interactions

25th - 26th March 2026

Auditorium of the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution
French National Museum of Natural History, Paris

Principal organiser

Ariadna Burgos (IRD-MNHN)

Co-organisers

Yoann Thomas (IRD)

Quentin Wackenheim (MNHN)

Logistics and infographics

Laurence Billault (Infographics)

Huguette Fenneteau (Logistics)

Ana Camacho (Logistics)

Duration: Two days of public conference (25th and 26th March 2026) and one day reserved for speakers' discussion (27th March 2026).

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Registration: The conference is free of charge, but participants must register in advance. Participation is limited to 100 attendees and will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Register here:

<https://marin2026.sciencesconf.org/registration>

Introduction

Marine invertebrates, including mollusks, crustaceans, echinoderms, annelids, and cnidarians, play a crucial role in ocean ecosystems and are vital to the diets of many coastal communities. Far from being marginal, the exploitation of these species has persisted for millennia across various industries, such as food, souvenirs, and ornamentation. Currently, marine invertebrate fisheries and aquaculture amount to several million tonnes of live weight each year, providing a wide array of uses and applications that raise numerous scientific, ecological, socioeconomic, and political challenges. Moreover, while theoretical and methodological advances have been made in the study of marine invertebrates across different research fields, these approaches often operate in parallel rather than in synergy. Today, the diversity of knowledge and practices related to marine invertebrates, along with the increasing vulnerability of these species to pollution, overfishing, and climate change, calls for an interdisciplinary dialogue.

Scientific themes

This international and interdisciplinary conference aims to highlight the diversity of relationships between humans and marine invertebrates and the challenges these relationships face in the context of environmental change. It will showcase a range of approaches from archaeology, anthropology, fisheries science, aquaculture, nutrition, ecotoxicology, and ecology to:

1. Explore past and present interactions between humans and marine invertebrates, including subsistence practices, and symbolic and cultural representations;
2. Characterize marine invertebrate production systems: local knowledge, uses, practices, and management strategies;
3. Understand the nutritional roles and health risks associated with marine invertebrates;
4. Examine the ecological, socioeconomic, and political challenges related to human and marine invertebrate interactions;
5. Open a debate on the role of local knowledge and marine invertebrates in monitoring social and ecological transformations in coastal ecosystems.

Programme

The conference will take place over three days, from 25 to 27 March 2026, at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris. The first two days will be held in the Auditorium of the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution (GGE) at the Jardin des Plantes and will be open to all participants. The last day is reserved for a speaker's workshop. The programme is structured into seven sessions, each consisting of four 12-minute oral presentations. At the end of each presentation, a 5-minute discussion will be held. Abstracts can be consulted on the [conference site](#).

First day – 25 March 2026
Auditorium of the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution

9:30 – 10:00 **Registration**

10:00 – 10:20 **Welcome remarks**

Frédérique Chlous (MNHN), Gilles Kleitz (IRD) and Ariadna Burgos (IRD-MNHN)

10:20 – 10:45 **Keynote**

Philippe Bouchet (MNHN) and Alexander Mawyer (University of Hawai'i)

10:45 – 12:00

**Session 1: Human and marine invertebrate interactions
in ancient environments**

Session chair: Frank Thomas (University of the South Pacific (USP), Fiji)

**Shells as indicators of human behaviours and environments: a few
archaeological reflections**

Marcello A. Mannino¹

¹ Department of Archaeology & Heritage Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark

**Climate change, migrations, and the peopling of sine-Saloum mangroves
(Senegal) by mollusc gatherers in the past 6000 years**

Matthieu Carré¹, Louis Quichaud², Abdoulaye Camara³, Julien Thébault⁴,
Yoann Thomas⁴

¹ LOCEAN laboratory, CNRS, IRD, MNHN, Sorbonne Université, France

² École normale supérieure de Lyon, Département de Biologie, France

³ Laboratoire d'archéologie, Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire, Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal

⁴ Univ Brest, CNRS, IRD, Ifremer, LEMAR, France

**When crabs show us how to preserve the intangible heritage of intertidal
zone exploitation**

Catherine DUPONT¹ & Alessandro MARCUZZI¹

¹ CReAAH, UMR 6566, CNRS, Rennes University, Campus Beaulieu, France

Indigenous oyster harvest and cultural connections from past to present

Leslie Reeder-Myers¹

¹ Department of Anthropology, Temple University, USA

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:15

Session 2: Marine invertebrate fisheries

Session chair: Yoann Thomas, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), France

Rising stars, moon and tides: the cultural and ecological dynamics of the sea worm *Palola viridis* fishery in Timor-Leste

Joctan Dos Reis Lopes¹, Nicodemos dos Santos², Zeconio dos Santos², Ariadna Burgos³

¹ French National Museum of Natural History, France

² Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL), Timor-Leste

³ French Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), France

Forgotten fisheries: characterizing small-scale shellfisheries in Solomon Islands

Jan van der Ploeg¹, Meshach Sukulu² and Hampus Eriksson³

¹ Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands

² WorldFish, Solomon Islands

³ University of Wollongong, Australia

Crossing the tides: an interdisciplinary journey to understand gleaning fisheries

Benedetta Longoni¹ and Ariadna Burgos²

¹ James Cook University, Townsville, QLD, Australia

² French Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), France

More than a fishery: ark clams (piangua, *Anadara* spp.) as cultural keystones and gendered economic lifelines in coastal tropics

Ana M. Ortiz^{1,2}, César Lemos-Lucumi¹, Diana V. Gallego-Sanchez^{1,3}, María A. Chará¹, Jareth M. Zarta¹, Jaime Cantera-Kintz^{1,2}, Edgardo Londoño-Cruz^{1,3} & Luz Ángela López de Mesa^{1,2,3}

¹ Department of Biology, Universidad del Valle, Colombia

² Estuarine and Mangrove Ecology Research Group (Ecomanglares), Colombia

³ Intertidal and Shallow Subtidal Rocky Ecosystems Research Group (Lithos), Colombia

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 17:15

Session 3: Aquaculture of marine invertebrates: opportunities and challenges

Session chair: Marco Hatch, Western Washington University (WWU), USA

Between animal and vegetal, the ambiguous status of oysters on French farms

Julie Dulat¹

¹ French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE), France

From reciprocity to commodity: shifting human-invertebrate entanglements and socio-ecological change in the Ecuadorian mangroves

Melva Treviño¹

¹ University of Rhode Island (URI), South Africa

Feasibility of restorative aquaculture of *Cittarium pica* for reef recovery and food security in the Dutch Caribbean

Luc Roozendaal¹ & Alwin Hylkema^{1,2}

¹ Van Hall Larenstein, University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands

² Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands

Producing shrimp in certified farms: does it improve their welfare?

Urja Thakrar¹, Alexander Antonarakis², Charlotte Burn¹, Andrew Crump¹

¹ Animal Welfare Science & Ethics Group, Department of Pathobiology and Population Sciences, Royal Veterinary College, University of London, UK

² Department of Geography, School of Global Studies, University of Sussex, UK



Second Day – 26 March 2026
Auditorium of the Grand Galerie de l'Évolution

09:30 – 10:45

**Session 4: Marine invertebrate species and cultural practices:
art, rituals, and magic**

Session chair: Tamatoa Bambridge, National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS),
France

**Marine invertebrates in funerary contexts: food, ritual and symbolic practices in
the Three Gauls**

Caroline Mougne¹ and Nicolas Morand^{1,2}

¹ UMR 7209 BioArch, BioArchéologie, Interactions Sociétés Environnements, National Museum of Natural History, France

² Eveha international, France

**Between wonder and extinction: the artistic and scientific construction of marine
invertebrate perception**

Chloé Pretesacque¹

¹ Sorbonne-Nouvelle, LIRA, France

**Marine invertebrates and cultural practices: answers from the zoological
phonebook**

Mark Carnall¹

¹ Oxford University Museum of Natural History, United Kingdom

**Divinatory and talismanic cowries from Senegal: between fieldwork and museum
collections**

Alain Epelboin¹ and Manuel Valentin²

¹ Physician and anthropologist, active retiree, French National Museum of Natural History, France

² Scientific coordinator of the Cultural Anthropology Collections of the Musée de l'Homme, Paris, France

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30

Session 5: Craft, trade and curio trade of marine invertebrates

Session chair: Nicole Smith, Clam Garden Network, Canada

Tableterie in Méru: history, craftsmanship, and heritage of mother-of-pearl

[Florentin Gobier](#)¹

¹ Musée de la nacre et de la tableterie, Méru, France

Shellcraft in Papua New Guinea: the role of local knowledge and marine invertebrates through a livelihood lens

[Nitty S.M. Simard](#)¹

¹ University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia

The enduring value of shells: symbolic currency in Solomon Islands

[Janet Saeni-Oeta](#)¹, [Jan van der Ploeg](#)²

¹ WorldFish, Solomon Islands

² Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands

Mollusks and money: the role of shells in the development of monetary economies around the world

[Mikael Fauvelle](#)¹

¹ Lund University, Sweden

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break



14:00 – 15:15

Session 6: Food security, nutrition, and sanitary risks of marine invertebrates

Session chair: Eva Maire, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), France

Nutrients on the move: production, export, and domestic retention of nutrients from farmed molluscs in South Africa

Maria J. Darias¹, Brett M. Macey^{2,3}, Suné Henning⁴, John J. Bolton³, Frank T. Wieringa¹, Maretha Opperman⁴

¹ IRD, Montpellier, France

² Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Cape Town, South Africa

³ University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

⁴ Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Bellville, South Africa

Predicting the nutrient content of aquatic invertebrates (and other aquatic foods...)

James P.W. Robinson¹, Jessica Zamborain-Mason^{1,2,5}, Eva Maire^{1,3}, M. Aaron MacNeil⁴, Christopher D. Golden⁵, Christina C. Hicks¹

¹ Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, UK

² Biological and Environmental Science and Engineering Division, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia

³ French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development, France

⁴ Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Canada

⁵ Department of Nutrition, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, USA

Microbiological monitoring of shellfish production areas in France: approaches, socio-economic impacts, and research perspectives

Yann Reynaud¹

¹ French Institute for Ocean Science (Ifremer), France

Cephalopods at the crossroads of fisheries, contamination, and environmental change

Thomas Lacoue-Labarthe¹

¹ Littoral Environnement et Sociétés (LIENSs), UMR 7266 CNRS – La Rochelle Université, France

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee break

16:00 – 17:15

Session 7: Inter- and transdisciplinary approaches for the sustainable management of marine invertebrates

Session chair: Anaïs Marrast, French National Research Agency (ANR), France

Women and shellfish: a companion modelling approach for the management of an overexploited common in West Africa

Mia Reynaud^{1,2}, Christophe Le Page^{2,3}, Clara Therville², Yoann Thomas⁴

¹ AgroParisTech, France

² SENS, IRD, CIRAD, Université Paul Valéry du professeur Henri Serre, France

³ CIRAD, UMR SENS, France

⁴ LEMAR, IRD, University of Brest, CNRS, Ifremer, LEMAR, France

The urgent need of inclusive management of invertebrate collection activities in Zanzibar's seascapes

Maricela de la Torre-Castro¹, Lars Lindström², Narriman Saleh Jiddawi³

¹ Stockholm University, Department of Physical Geography, Sweden

² Stockholm University, Department of Political Science, Sweden

³ University of Dar es Salaam, Institute of Marine Sciences (emeritus), Tanzania

Sentience in marine invertebrates: evidence & ethics

Andrew Crump¹

¹ Royal Veterinary College, Hawkshead Lane, UK

Pacific Northwest indigenous clam tending: cultivating a network of collaboration

Marco B.A. Hatch¹, Nicole Smith², Clam Garden Network³

¹ Western Washington University, USA

² Clam Garden Network and Independent Archaeologist, Canada

³ Clam Garden Network

17:15 – 17:30 **Closing remarks**

17:30 – 19:45 **Friendly gathering at l'Orangerie (MNHN)**

[Abstracts here!](#)



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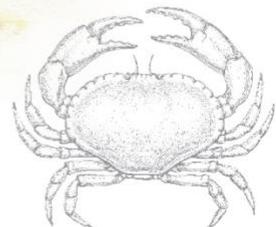
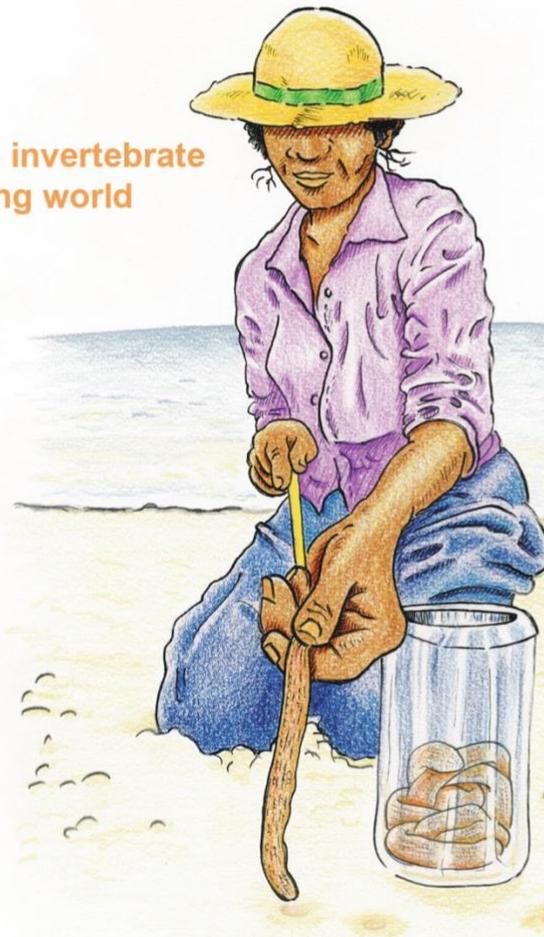
Auditorium of the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution,
French National Museum of Natural History, Paris

Exploring human–marine invertebrate
relationships in a changing world

Registration



Free entry
Registration required



<https://marin2026.sciencesconf.org/>

Primary funders



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