



International
Marine Protected Areas
Congress Chile 2017



WCPA
WORLD COMMISSION
ON PROTECTED AREAS

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

ORAL, SPEED & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

SYMPOSIUM, WORKSHOPS and
KNOWLEDGE CAFES

&

IUCN OCEAN PAVILION

MPAs: Bringing the ocean and people together



4th International Marine Protected Areas Congress IMPAC4

La Serena-Coquimbo, Chile, September 4th to 8th, 2017.

IMPORTANT DATES

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:
February 20th to May 15th

(see below for specific submissions)



Introduction

We have designed this document to assist participants of the Fourth International Marine Protected Areas Congress, IMPAC4, to be held in La Serena-Coquimbo, Chile, from September 4th to September 8th, 2017. Please note that this document does not consider the High Level Segment (HLS) that will take place after or during IMPAC4 with restricted access. In these guidelines we include instructions to submit abstracts for oral, speed and poster presentations, as well as for symposiums, workshops and knowledge cafes.

Vision

The Fourth International Marine Protected Areas Congress, IMPAC4, with the motto ***Marine Protected Areas: Bringing the people and ocean together***, will focus on the need to highlight the intricate nature of ocean-human relationship and the benefits of marine protected areas (MPAs) and the ocean for millions that rely on their ecosystem services. Independent of the seas we need to protect –coral reefs, temperate rocky shores, small islands or fjords– we need to put people at center stage to develop practical and effective management measures and therefore have successful MPAs.

We strongly believe that MPAs are places of the ocean - where marine biodiversity – and the social, economic, cultural and spiritual value it provides – meet with human beings and their activities. The complex web of ocean-human interrelationships, bringing both impacts and benefits, reinforces the need to effectively managing these areas of the ocean with local communities and other stakeholders, to secure their benefits and their wonders for the next generations.

What is IMPAC4?

The IMPAC series are a high-quality and professionally coordinated international congress which:

- Allows managers and practitioners of marine protected areas to exchange ideas and learn from each other;
- Defines recommendations to orient relevant global, regional and national policy processes;
- Assist in the establishment and ongoing implementation of global, lasting, ecologically representative and effectively managed networks of MPAs, in coherence with the sustainable development of coastal and marine activities;
- Strives to inform, involve and influence stakeholders at different stages.

Since 2005, the MPA global community has convened every four years at IMPAC, a congress designed for managers and practitioners of marine conservation through MPAs. IMPAC aims to share knowledge and experiences, and join efforts to strengthen best practices on MPA planning



and management, for the effective conservation of marine biodiversity, and the natural and cultural heritage of the oceans.

The three first versions of IMPAC were held with large attendance and success in Geelong, Australia (2005), Washington, D.C., United States of America (2009), and Marseille, France (2013). IMPAC has not only grown in participants and representation of different countries and organizations committed with MPAs but also gathered momentum as a highly relevant platform both technically and politically to promote MPAs as a key instrument for ocean sustainability.

During the last couple of years, our country –Chile- has created several large remote and coastal MPAs, highlighting its engagement to advance in the protection of marine habitats and allocating efforts towards effective management of MPAs. We are moved by our strong commitment to conservation and sustainable use of marine resources and ecosystems as a key path to sustainable development of vibrant coastal communities, all beneficiaries of ecosystem services.

Why IMPAC4 is important?

IMPAC4 will be the last, most relevant milestone on the road of marine conservation events before reaching the 2020 deadline for the Aichi Targets. It will be a major opportunity to evaluate and review our practices in MPAs towards fulfilling Target 11, and for combining MPA management with advances on UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources – that will be analyzed in June 2017. It is also a great opportunity to call attention to the important role of the oceans in regulating the planet's climate, including the steps needed to protect this crucial ecosystem service.

We expect that the 2017 version of IMPAC will inspire new generations of MPAs leaders, achieve strong involvement of youth, promote indigenous communities participation, integrate and connect relevant actors across the oceans for MPA development. We would like to boost innovative ideas and community-based initiatives, increase networking, foster regional and global collaborations, strengthen the science-policy interphase and integration at all scales. Following our motto, we want to put the people working and benefiting from MPAs at center stage.

In addition to the very important matters addressed in France in 2013, we foresee a deeper discussion in emerging issues such as the role and contribution of MPAs to ecosystem and social resilience, ocean recovery, and rebuilding of fisheries; conservation in polar and temperate seas; MPAs and climate change; MPAs and marine spatial planning; MPA challenges in the developing world; the protection of areas of the oceans beyond national jurisdictions; and much more.

Congress themes

The transdisciplinary nature of topics related to MPAs will be covered by a broad and diverse program. We have structured IMPAC4 to be an opportunity to learn from experts and peers around the world but especially to interact, socialize and discuss ideas, points of view and initiatives. IMPAC4 will take place during four days, plus a first day for the opening of the congress.



Each of the four days will be dedicated to an overarching theme with more specific subthemes or *streams* to structure the sessions and discussion. The themes for each the days are shown in the Table below:

Monday 4 th Day 1	Tuesday 5 th Day 2	Wednesday 6 th Day 3	Thursday 7 th Day 4	Friday 8 th Day 5
Opening	MPAs & Global change	MPAs & coastal communities	Effective/successful management of MPAs	MPAs: our shared vision

MPA & Global Change (day 2)

We are living in a changing world. Our climate, ecosystems and uses of the ocean are changing. Human population is growing demanding more marine resources and coastal space. During this day we would like to hear about and discuss the challenges facing the oceans in relation to climate change, acidification, overfishing, natural disasters and others, as well as how MPAs serve to improve ecosystem resilience, reduce natural disasters, rebuild fisheries and maintain vital ecosystem services. During this day the topics include:

- Climate change: impacts on MPAs and MPAs as monitoring tools
- Coping with ocean acidification in MPAs
- Resilience and ecosystems services
- Using MPAs for fisheries recovery
- Protection from natural and anthropomorphic disasters through MPAs
- Climate change adaptation strategies for MPAs
- Climate regulation via marine conservation
- Latest impacts of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)
- Conservation biology at the service of MPAs

MPAs & coastal communities (day 3)

Underlining IMPAC4's motto, *MPAs: bringing the ocean and people together*, during this day, we would like to see a vibrant discussion about the benefits of MPAs for people. These include users, visitors, and advocates, but especially people living in coastal communities that live by and from the sea. These coastal communities have diverse approaches to MPAs: they are business opportunities, they are the basis for artisanal fisheries and aquaculture activities, they have cultural value, and many others. Indigenous people and communities may see MPAs as a way to sustain their traditional livelihoods, and women organize to protect the ocean in many ways. We would promote the exchange of MPAs experiences as an engine of coastal development, educational tools and sustainable economic growth. During this day the topics include:

- Indigenous communities and MPAs
- Impacts and opportunities for small-scale fisheries



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- Private sector development
- Assessing Territorial User Right Fisheries (TURF) efficacy
- Education for marine conservation
- Women's leadership in MPAs
- Valuation of ecosystem services beyond economic value
- Community development
- MPAs: helping conflict resolution, or increasing them?

Effective/successful management of MPAs (day 4)

The day-to-day challenges to effectively manage MPAs are complex and diverse. Financial, regulatory, logistical, scientific, cultural, and governance issues need to be considered. Traditional topics discussed for effective management include regulations, education, monitoring, surveillance and enforcement, applied science and financing/budgeting. We will highlight technological advances that are developing new ways on how we manage our MPAs, improving surveillance, monitoring and educational capacities. We would like to see public and private managers and decision makers working in MPAs to lively discuss the best ways we should manage our MPAs. During this day the topics include:

- Lessons, challenges and opportunities with technological tools for management
- Sustainable development initiatives involving MPAs
- Capacity building for MPA management
- Governance challenges and solutions
- Applied science for management
- Financial management of MPAs
- Surveillance and enforcement techniques

MPAs: our shared vision (day 5)

During the last years, MPAs are gaining attention as one of the most important tools to protect our oceans. However, the challenges of the MPAs *process* are huge and need to be tackled together. IMPAC4 will be an excellent opportunity to visualize the global marine conservation targets beyond 2020, when the 11th Aichi Target will expire. To meet the target, we need to evaluate, review and disseminate what we have done and set concrete plans to protect 10% of our oceans during the next few years. Capacity sharing, international collaboration and regional efforts are needed to fulfill the target. Also during this day will engage the current and future generation of MPA leaders, scientists and advocates to envision the goals needed for a healthy ocean

- Assessing advances towards global 2020 and 2030 MPA targets
- Capacity needs on global reporting, assessing and reviewing strategies
- Capacity-sharing among MPA stakeholders
- Partnering for stronger MPAs
- MPA networking
- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and MPAs
- Youth-based collaborative action for MPAs



Cross-cutting themes

Along the five days of congress, we would like to promote the cross cutting themes to be discussed across days. These topics are relevant in today's agenda and will be important for the future of MPAs. These themes are:

- Engaging youth in MPAs
- Communicating the relevance of MPAs
- Challenges in the protection of polar and subpolar ecosystems
- Large and remote MPAs
- MPAs in the high seas and Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions
- The role of MPAs in reducing the impacts of global change

Congress structure

The diverse array of themes of IMPAC4 will be presented in varied formats, with preference to more learning and discussion-oriented formats. However, a portion of the space and time will be given to presentations to listen and learn from others about the latest developments on the themes. These presentations include oral presentations, shorter speed presentations and posters. Workshops, symposiums and knowledge cafes will be discussion and learning experiences, covering a larger part of the space and audience. In addition, **IUCN's Ocean Pavilion** is open for presentations with a strong technological and visual component, making the most of its multimedia equipment.

- **Oral, speed and poster presentations**

An important part of IMPAC4 will be the oral presentations of experts, scientists, leaders of the civil society, decision and policy makers, practitioners and others working on MPAs.

Oral presentations will take 12 minutes followed by 3 minutes for questions from the audience. Talks will be grouped into session of up to 5 presentations, led by a session moderator. The time limit will be strictly enforced to keep agenda on time and facilitate movement between sessions. Personal computers cannot be used to run the presentations.

Speed presentations will be shorter and a more informal way to learn about new ideas. These will last 3 minutes and time for the slides will be preset. Speed sessions are composed of a group summarizing studies and projects in process in a particular theme. They provide the audience with rapid and intensive overview, allowing an informal discussion among presenters and the audience. Personal computers cannot be used to run the presentations.



Finally, **poster presentations** are a visual and informal way of presenting to small audiences in 5 minutes. Poster should be concise and image oriented. Avoid using too much text; restrict the use of text to shown brief statements. Text and visual should be of professional quality and be clearly legible from short distance. These posters will be showcased in an electronic format or *e-posters* that will be presented in front of a screen and **NOT using printed paper**. Poster sessions will be at specific time slots during the days of the congress.

- Workshops, KC and Symposia

Workshops

Workshops are opportunities to work and learn about a specific topic and will be led by one (or few) facilitator or instructor. Workshops are intended to share an approach, methodology, technology or scientific finding that can provide others with practical solutions to their work on MPAs. They will take 1-2 hours and must try to engage their attendees in a fun but effective way. Workshop sessions are expected to hold up to 60 people that should have an active participation in the activities and discussions.

Knowledge cafes

Knowledge cafes are dialogs of a small group of people to foster a roundtable discussion, the mutual understanding or create new partnerships around a certain issue. These are expected to be a forum (led by a facilitator) for people (10-15) with experience or interest in a topic that will contribute to the discussion. Knowledge cafes are expected to last about an hour. Special focus of discussion will take place in relation to cross cutting themes.

Symposia

Symposia are spaces where several experts, leaders or practitioners in a specific topic presents their knowledge and experience to an audience, followed by a round of questions. They are intended to address a critical or cutting edge issues of MPAs or innovative themes proposed by a facilitator. A symposium might include few speakers (maximum 6) that will present in 40 to 90 minutes sessions approx. in total time. Speakers must strictly limit their talks to the allocated time (defined by the moderator and the program committee), ideally bringing complementary views to the others' speakers. Symposia, for example, might include presentations on specific themes such as coral reef surveillance, indigenous people's experiences on MPAs or about new technological surveillance methods. Special focus will be given to innovative and cutting edge topics and ideas.

Alternative formats

The MPA & People Place and Pavilions



The *MPA & People Place* will be an open space with the objective of being a hub for the global MPA community in specific pavilions. This space will gather attendees to chat about their experience in an informal and multidisciplinary way. Each sponsored thematic Pavilion will be an excellent place to have quick thematic presentations, exposition of outreach and educational material using multimedia and the arts. The *MPA & People Place* will include exhibit areas for government agencies, enterprises, NGOs, local organizations and others to expose their work and products to thousands.

Within the *MPA and People Place*, **IUCN's Ocean Pavilion** is an open space where special events (presentations, expositions, or similar) may be proposed. The presentations are limited to 45 minutes so as to ensure a lively pace that will appeal to participants looking for fresh perspectives between presentations session, workshops and knowledge cafés. This space is ideal for presenters to interact with the audience in a relax atmosphere reflected in the Pavilion's informal setting and bar tables, where food and drinks are allowed.

Guidelines for contributions

ALL abstracts for contributions will be electronically submitted at the congress web site www.impact4.org

Then, please enter the basic information and select the preference of presentation format (oral, speed, poster, symposium, workshop or knowledge cafes). Once the abstracts are revised, the congress's program committee may suggest changes in the format you submitted.

Please follow carefully the instructions. Abstracts in incorrect format will be discarded.

Paper copies or email submissions will be **NOT accepted.**

Guidelines for oral, speed and poster presentations ([Submission dates: February 20th to May 15th](#))

- We recommend using Google Chrome (or other depending on IT request) to submit your abstracts.
- Select one of the three (oral, speed or poster) presentation options in the menu.
- Your abstract must be submitted online and in ENGLISH (however, Spanish speaking speakers may present in Spanish with translation to English and vice versa, where required).
- Special attention will be given to well written, innovative and enriching contents and result oriented abstracts that focus on innovative ideas or data, and community-based solutions to current MPA challenges. We will also focus on interdisciplinary presentations.
- IMPAC4 abstract review process is DOUBLE-Blind. Any abstract with names in the text will be discarded.
- Your abstract must not exceed 2000 characters, spaces included (about 300 words).



- It should NOT include plots, figures or tables.
- Title and author's names and affiliations need to be typed in another separate field.
- All text should be typed in lower case.
- If oral presentations time slots are full, you will be given an opportunity to present a poster or a speed presentation.
- Poster presentations but will be electronic or e-posters, presented to a small audience in predefined time slots. Poster instructions will be posted at the congress's website.

Guidelines for symposia, workshops and knowledge cafes (Submission dates: February 20th to May 15th)

- For submissions to symposia, workshop and knowledge cafes (KC), presenters should submit one abstract only. However, presenters submitting presentations (oral, speed or poster) might submit to these other formats. Symposium, workshop and KCs organizers are in charge of running the sessions, securing the participation and defining the role of the presenters or panelists.
- We encourage the submissions of multidisciplinary and international sessions.
- It is the responsibility of organizers to obtain funds to support speaker travel to the congress. Preference will be given to funded sessions.
- **Symposia** organizers must submit a proposal (2 pages max.) explaining the topic of the symposia and listing the expected speakers and talk titles. Presenters in accepted symposia will be required to submit an individual abstract after the acceptance of the symposium the weeks after the decisions.
- All symposium organizers and speakers must register by the early registration deadline.
- Symposia abstracts must not exceed 4000 characters, spaces included (about 600 words).
- **Workshops** proposals should be as brief as possible and include the following: (1) a half-page synopsis composed of a title, goal or purpose and justification, (2) half-page with organizational structure including format of presentations or group activity, expected number of participants, and technical requirements, and (3) complete contact information for the organizers.
- Abstracts for **knowledge cafes** must not exceed 2000 characters, spaces included (about 300 words). They should state the topics to be discussed and the methodology to guide the session.

Guidelines for IUCN's Ocean Pavilion

- For submissions to the Ocean Pavilion presenters should submit one abstract only of the presentation or activity. Presenter or organizers are in charge of running the sessions in coordination with IUCN's team, securing the participation and defining the role of the presenters or panelists.



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- We encourage the submissions of multidisciplinary, innovative, educational, technological, artistic and global initiatives.
- It is the responsibility of organizers to obtain funds to support speaker travel to the congress. Preference will be given to funded sessions.
- Ocean Pavilion's proposals (1 page max.) explaining the topic of the activity and, when needed, listing the expected speakers and talk titles.

IMPORTANT: You will receive a confirmation email from submissions@impac4.org after you submit your abstract at the Congress website www.impact4.org. Be sure to check your spam folder if it does not arrive in your inbox.

IMPORTANT: Final selection will be made and notified by June 25th 2017. If your abstract is not accepted, we might suggest a change to another format.

Please check our website at www.impact4.org for updates and instructions for submission, deadlines and registrations.

We hope that the international MPA community will have a productive and fruitful meeting in La Serena-Coquimbo, Chile in September 2017, and to count with you all for a great IMPAC4.

¡Nos vemos pronto en Chile!

The IMPAC4 Program Committee