



The Fishmongers' Company

“New Challenges and Opportunities
facing Marine Fisheries Science”

Fishmongers' Hall, London
Monday 31st October 2011
09:00 – 17:30

Speaker Biographies

Commissioner Maria Damanaki
Sir John Beddington
Dr Carl O'Brien
Dr Steve Mackinson
Mr Phil MacMullen
Dr Beth Scott
Professor David Sims
Professor Chris Frid
Professor Ray Hilborn
Dr Menakhem Ben-Yami
Dr Ciaran Kelly
Dr Colin Bannister

Commissioner Maria Damanaki

European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

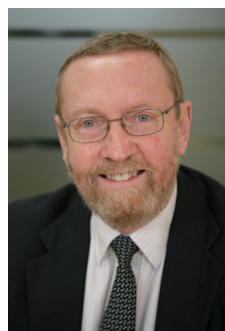
Maria Damanaki is the European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. She was born on the Greek island of Crete and went on to graduate with honours from the National Technical University of Athens as a Chemical engineer. She is the mother of three children. As a famously influential politician in Greece, she served as a member of the National Parliament for more than 25 years. At the age of 25, she became the youngest Greek M.P in history. She then became the first woman ever to be elected Vice-president of the Greek Parliament (1986 to 1990). From 1991 to 1993 she was the leader of the political party "Coalition of left and Progress" making headlines once more by being the first woman ever to lead a Greek political party.



During her studies in the National Technical University of Athens she played a leading role in the underground student opposition to the dictatorship in Greece (1970-1974). Her voice thus became known as "the voice of the uprising". She was subsequently imprisoned by the regime after the students uprising of November 1973 and until the fall of the dictatorship in 1974. Maria Damanaki has also been elected twice as a member of Athens City Council (1994-2000) and she is the author of four books on European issues, human rights and education.

In November 2009 she was nominated as the representative of Greece in the European Commission and on 27 November 2009 was nominated as the Commissioner-designate for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.

Sir John Beddington - Chief Scientific Advisor to HM Government



Sir John Beddington was appointed as Government Chief Scientific Adviser (GCSA) on 1 January 2008. Since being in post, the GCSA has led on providing scientific advice to Government during the 2009 swine flu outbreak, the 2010 volcanic ash incident, and the emergency at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in 2011. The GCSA has also been responsible for increasing the scientific capacity across Whitehall by encouraging all major departments of state to recruit a Chief Scientific Adviser.

Throughout 2008 and 2009 Sir John raised the concept of the "Perfect Storm" of food, energy and water security in the context of climate change, gaining considerable media attention and raising this as a priority in the UK and internationally.

Prior to his appointment as GCSA, he was Professor of Applied Population Biology and headed the main departments of environmental science and technology at Imperial College. His main research interests are the application of biological and economic analysis to problems of Natural Resource Management including fisheries.

Dr Carl O'Brien

Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Cefas), UK

Carl joined Cefas' Lowestoft Laboratory in February 1995; after a period of nearly four years working in the Brazilian Amazon where he undertook tropical research and statistical consultancy in the natural sciences. Since joining Cefas he has applied his modelling and data analytic skills to problems of fish stock assessment, management and advice. Carl's work on fisheries science has led to much work internationally and within ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) where he is currently ICES' ACOM Vice-chair (fisheries portfolio).



In June 2010 Carl was appointed Defra Chief Fisheries Science Adviser – a role in which he provides best scientific advice on fisheries science in support of government policy objectives. A critical element of his role is to support cross-sectoral discussions by linking fisheries perspectives into a broader, integrated, marine agenda. This includes supporting effective working and communications across policy/delivery/industry interfaces.

Dr Steve Mackinson - Cefas



Since childhood I've been passionate about the aquatic environment, with a particular interest in fish and fisheries. This has led me on a journey through my studies and work. Since working with Canadian herring fishermen in the late 90s and realising the missed opportunities for research and management that occurs when science is not well connected with reality, my interest has been in building stronger collaboration among scientists, stakeholders and policy. Collaborating with like-minded researchers around Europe, the GAP programme was conceived in 2003, and received EU funding for Phase 1 in 2008, and Phase 2 in 2011. GAP2 is aimed at improving governance in fisheries by bringing scientists, stakeholders and policy makers together (www.gap2.eu).

Since joining Cefas in 2000, my research has covered a variety of topics ranging from acoustic studies on predators and prey, the effects of renewable energy plans on fishermen and using ecosystem models to investigate the impacts of management and environmental change on ecosystems and dependent fisheries.

Mr Phil MacMullen - Seafish

Philip MacMullen has worked in the fishing and seafood industries for over 30 years. He has 25 years' experience in the management of very diverse research and development programmes focusing on fish harvesting technology and the interactions between fisheries, the broader natural environment, management regimes and the market. He also has extensive knowledge of the seafood industry in the UK, continental Europe and elsewhere plus consultancy experience in the Middle East and the Americas. All of his work has reflected a keen interest in issues relating to sustainable and integrated development and has benefited from his strong record in initiating and co-ordinating research and development projects

In early 2005 Philip was appointed Head of Environment at Seafish. This new post was built on his existing skills and experience. Much of his current work involves encouraging dialogue between the disparate stakeholders that have an interest in the marine environment, looking for the factors that are driving their policy decisions and exploring supply chain solutions where there are problems in sustainable or responsible sourcing. This involves working with the major players in the multiple retail and foodservice sectors, with regulators and conservationists and with fishermen and their representatives.



Dr Beth Scott - University of Aberdeen



Dr. Scott is a marine ecologist who's earlier non-academic career includes several years working within the fishing industry as a Joint Representative onboard fishing vessels in Alaskan waters. Her academic research focuses on functional linkages between bio-physical oceanographic processes, flexible life history traits and population dynamics of fish and seabird species. Her research team uses both a range of modelling techniques and at-sea empirical data collection. Her work is helping to identify the critical marine habitats where mobile predators (seabirds, mammals and fishermen) and prey species interact. She has also been a member of Scottish Natural Heritage's Scientific Advisory Committee (2005-2011), and is currently one of the members of the DEFRA Marine Protected Areas Science Advisory Panel.

Professor David Sims - Marine Biological Association of UK

Professor David Sims leads a research group focused on the behavioural ecology of fish spatial movements and their long-term changes in distributions and abundance. His research uses a combination of electronic tagging technology, lab behaviour experiments, computer simulations and statistical analyses to unravel where animals go, what they do, why they do it, and what this means for population structuring and long-term change in response to fishing and climate. After receiving a Ph.D. in animal behaviour, in part working at the Laboratory of the Marine Biological Association (MBA) in Plymouth, David Sims spent several years as a Lecturer in zoology at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, before moving in 2000 to the MBA as a Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)-funded Fellow. He is now MBA Senior Research Fellow as well as Deputy Director for Research.



In recognition of his research he has been awarded a Royal Institution 'Scientist for the New Century' Lecture (2001), the FSBI Medal of the Fisheries Society of the British Isles (2007), and the Stanley Gray Silver Medal from the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (2008). He has served as series editor for *Advances in Marine Biology* and associate editor of the *Journal of Animal Ecology*.



Professor Chris Frid - University of Liverpool

Chris Frid is professor of marine biology at the University of Liverpool. Specialising in the ecology of the seafloor Prof Frid has over 30 years research experience, much of it focussed on understanding how human activities alter ecological processes. In recent years he has increasingly sought to work in inter-disciplinary teams bring science, social science and policy together. He has published over 95 peer reviewed papers and a number of textbooks.

Professor Ray Hilborn - University of Washington

Ray Hilborn is a Professor in the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington specializing in natural resource management and conservation. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in environmental science, conservation and quantitative population dynamics. He co-authored "Quantitative fisheries stock assessment" with Carl Walters in 1992, and "The Ecological Detective: confronting models with data" with Marc Mangel, in 1997 and has published over 200 peer reviewed articles. He serves on the Editorial Boards of 7 journals including the Board of Reviewing Editors of Science Magazine. He has received the Volvo Environmental Prize, the American Fisheries Societies Award of Excellence, The Ecological Society of America's Sustainability Science Award and the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists Outstanding Achievement Award. He is a Fellow of the Washington State Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of Canada and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Dr Menakhem Ben-Yami - Freelance Fisheries Consultant



Menakhem Ben-Yami is a fishery ecologist, a free-lance fisheries adviser and writer on fisheries. Starting in 1950 as a fisherman and fishing skipper, he became chief of Israel's fisheries technology, and (1975-1982) an FAO Fishery Industry Officer. He fished commercially and experimentally and executed fishing surveys in the Mediterranean, Southern Red Sea, Central Atlantic Ocean, lakes and lagoons, and worked in African, Central and South American and Asian countries, and in island nations for FAO, IFAD, UNDP, GTZ, the Commonwealth of Nations, and IRDC. He visited and advised fisheries in Europe, Australia and both Americas, and consulted and lectured at universities and research institutes in Israel, Russia, Poland, U.S.A. and Canada, and at numerous international conferences. Ben-Yami authored, co-authored and translated numerous books, research papers and articles, and designed software in fishing technology and vessel economics. For the last 19 years he has written a personal page for the World Fishing monthly and recently also a personal column for the Fishing News International. In 1996, the Kaliningrad State Technical University awarded Ben-Yami the "scientific title of Doctor Honoris Causa for substantial contribution to development of fisheries science and to training of specialists".

Dr Ciaran Kelly - Marine Institute, Galway

Ciarán is a fisheries scientist working for the Irish Marine Institute, where he leads teams responsible for acoustic surveys, data management, and pelagic fish stock assessment. Ciarán began his career as a researcher on exploratory fishing surveys for deep water fish in the early 1990's and shortly afterwards became involved with pelagic fisheries assessment. With an open mind Ciarán took his work and himself to live in Killybegs for three years in the late 1990's, where he learned the importance of dialogue in how fisheries science is conducted and communicated. Since then Ciarán has been a strong advocate of bringing more transparency to the fisheries assessment and advice process, and has a personal goal to improve the legitimacy and credibility of the scientific advice which underpins fisheries management.

Ciarán is a keen contributor to ICES where he has chaired the mackerel and horse mackerel assessment working group (2004-2008) and is currently chair of a workshop which helps develop the basis for ICES advice (WKFRAME 2010-2012). Ciarán has been closely involved with the development of management plans for mackerel and horse mackerel and has contributed to resource assessment reviews in the USA/Canada and Mauritania.



Dr Colin Bannister - Fisheries Expert



Colin began at Lowestoft in the 1960's, studying the biology of Icelandic and North Sea flattish stocks, before becoming fisheries science advisor in the European Commission from 1975-77 during gestation of the CFP. He was head of the shellfish resource and management group at Lowestoft from 1981 to 2000. From 2001-2004 he became head of the large team providing assessments and management advice on demersal and pelagic stocks at a time when the crisis in UK cod fisheries gave rise to the Fisheries Science Partnership. Now retired he advises the Shellfish Association, of which he is Chairman, and undertakes advisory projects, lecturing, and MSC assessments and peer reviews. He strives to make the science accessible to fishermen, but knows how easily the message goes astray amidst the regressive effects of over-investment, overfishing, climate change, and crisis regulation.