



ICMERS-3 NOV 13-15

KAUST Research Conference
Third International Conference
on the Marine Environment
of the Red Sea at KAUST

ICMERS-3 Oral Presentations

Nov. 13

Time	Session	Name	Affiliation	Presentation title
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 20 Auditorium SESSION 1.1 Vision 2030 and Red Sea Giga-projects	David Wells Jessica Bouwmeester Nikolaos Papagiannopoulos Lina Eyouni Ivor Williams David McGrath Ricardo Nuno Alves Eva Aylagas Martinez	KAUST, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Zone Authority, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	KAUST Beacon Development's Environmental Planning support to Vision 2030 and the Gigaprojects Integrated approach to coral protection and regeneration at the Red Sea Project Mapping coastal marine habitats using UAV and multispectral satellite imagery in the NEOM region, northern Red Sea, Saudi Arabia Environmental Sustainability Smart Network Science-informed Marine Conservation of the Red Sea Zone Embedding Environmental Planning and Ecosystem Services into the Masterplan Development Process at the Red Sea Project Multi-tissue transcriptome analysis reveals new insights into the effects of UVB radiation exposure in aquaculture reared European seabass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>): a case study at the Red Sea Revealing the hidden biodiversity of NEOM waters using a combination of morphological and molecular approaches: Towards developing evidence-based management frameworks
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 4 Room 5209 SESSION 2.1 Subseafloor structure, earthquakes, and geohazards	Adrien Moulin Guillaume Baby Ayoub Kaviani Tihana Pensa Margherita Fittipaldi Khaled Yousef	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Geophysics Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Saudi Geological Survey (SGS), Saudi Arabia	Lithospheric inheritance controls on early sea-floor spreading: new insights from magmato-structural patterns along the Red Sea axis Tectonostratigraphic latitudinal evolution of the eastern Red Sea rifted margin Along-strike variation in the crustal and uppermost mantle structure beneath the Red Sea as seen in seismic images Evolution of the post-rift evaporitic section in the Red Sea basin The Zabargad Fracture Zone and Mabahiss Deep, Northern Red Sea: new insights from new high-resolution bathymetric mapping Seismic activity distributions study in Harrat Al-Ais and around, Saudi Arabia: compared to a similar area in the southeast of Egypt
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 5 Room 5220 SESSION 3.1 Marine habitat restoration	Mark Gillan Elizabeth Goergen Edwin Palmer Cecilia Martin Eslam O. Osman Francisca C. Garcia	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	KAUST Reefscape Restoration Initiative Optimizing large-scale in situ propagation and outplanting methods for reef restoration at Shushah Island, Saudi Arabia The success of the RSG coral relocation project, Conservation and restoration of red mangroves (<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>) in RSG Coral spawning and large-scale recovery of coral populations Effects of long-term probiotic inoculation on coral reef holobionts
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	lecture hall b/w bldg 4 & 5 Room 215 SESSION 4.1 Advances in marine technologies	Eric Feron Brian Owain Nieuwenhuis Andres Alonso Martirena Indah Putri Walter Rich IV	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia QUALITAS REMOS / CODAR EUROPE, Spain KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Underwater robotic development initiatives for Red Sea coral survey and restoration Detecting live coral cover from multispectral drone imagery SeaSonde HF radar facility: Operational met-ocean observing, new AI functionalities and cutting edge research Sea Floor Characterization using Machine Learning and Multibeam Echosounder ,A Case Study from Al Wajh Carbonate Platform, NE Saudi Arabia Taking the temperature of coral reefs: An in-situ comparison of nine temperature loggers to inform best practices for future monitoring efforts



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14:30 PM ↓ 16:30 PM	Building 20 Auditorium SESSION 5.1 Environmental change impacts on Red Sea biology	Silvia Arossa Natalie Dunn Isabel Armelles Vicent Erik Krieger Huajing Yan Irfan Mahmood Mohammed Naufal Chunzhi Cai	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia COMSATS University Islamabad, Pakistan Pondicherry University, India KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Oxygen availability modulate clownfish larvae responses to acute thermal stress Detection of change in Red Sea shallow water coral reef communities following the 2020 bleaching event WARMING ADAPTATION TRADE-OFFS IN CORAL SYMBIONT SYMBIODINIUM ADRIATICUM FROM THE RED SEA Effects of Temperature Stress on Central Red Sea Crustose Coralline Algae Decadal Variations in Sea Surface Temperature and Biological Parameters in the Red Sea: Implications for Climate Change Bio mineralization and ocean acidification of bryozoans with the status of bryozoan research in Saudi Arabian EEZ of Red Sea Declining Nutrient Availability and Element Pollution in the Red Sea: Indicators of a Global Oceanic Trend
14:30 PM ↓ 16:30 PM	Building 4 Room 5209 SESSION 2.2 Subseafloor structure, earthquakes, and geohazards	Xing Li Ribot Matthieu Zeynep Bektas Ahmed Hosny Laura Parisi THEODOROS ASPIOTIS Bo Li Adel Moustafa	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Middle East Technical University, Turkey Saudi Geological Survey (SGS), Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Ain Shams University, Egypt	Burst-overlap interferometric time-series analysis of satellite radar images of the southern Gulf of Aqaba Uplifted Marine Terraces due to Normal Faulting along the Gulf of Aqaba and on Tiran Island Relocation of seismicity around the northern Red Sea region: Contribution of regional seismic networks in improving locations The current seismic activity in the Gulf of Aqaba A Physics-based PSHA study for the Gulf of Aqaba Dynamic Earthquake Rupture and Ground Motion Simulations for the Gulf of Aqaba Fault System New Geological Concepts for Unlocking the Potential of Red Sea Hydrocarbon Exploration
14:30 PM ↓ 16:30 PM	Building 5 Room 5220 SESSION 3.2 Marine habitat restoration	David Suggett Thomas Ressa Marco Casartelli Barbara Ribeiro	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Success carries many forms for meaningful reef restoration in the Red Sea 3D Printing Innovations Enhancing Coral Growth and Microbiome Development with High-Resolution Designs Vertical transmission of coral probiotics and their effect on coral larvae heat-stress performance Probiotics do accelerate coral growth and support coral reef restoration efforts



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Nov. 14

Time	Session	Name	Affiliation	Presentation title
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	lecture hall b/w bldg 2 & 3 Room 215 SESSION 7.1 Policy, governance and management	Mark Dimech Winston Cowie Vahdet Unal Mahmoud Ahmed Mohamed Bashar Albataineh Zaher Al Agwan	KAUST, Saudi Arabia NEOM, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia PERSGA, Saudi Arabia PERSGA, Saudi Arabia PERSGA, Saudi Arabia	Moving Towards Sustainability of Red Sea Coral Reef Saudi Fisheries: a case study from a traditional setting to certification NEOM Sustainable Fisheries Programme: Towards Fisheries Management within a Nature Reserve covering 95% of NEOM Socio-economic aspects of small-scale fisheries and contribution to the management process in the Northern Red Sea, KSA Prevention and response to marine pollution from sea-based sources in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden– Challenges and Achievements in the PERSGA region Electronic and electrical waste management in PERSGA region PERSGA Marine Litter Programme
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 4 Room 5209 SESSION 8.1 Volcanism, hydrothermal activity, and biodiversity in the deep Red Sea Rift	Nico Augustin Webster Ueipass Mohriak Morgane Le Saout Joerg Follmann Froukje van der Zwan Sharifah Altalhi Ali Elbeherly	GEOMAR Kiel, Germany Rio de Janeiro State University, Brazil GEOMAR Kiel, Germany KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia University of Sadat City, Egypt	Tracing 13 million years of ocean spreading and recent volcanic activity under the salt and sediment in the Red Sea Neo-formed oceanic crust and salt basin splitting in the Red Sea and the South Atlantic Fluctuation of the magmatic activity recorded in the seafloor morphology at Hadarba Deep, Red Sea Sulfides chimneys from Kebrit Deep, Red Sea ,Ai insights into hydrothermal circulation of a young, sedimented ocean basin Red Sea hydrothermal vent fields: discovery of low-temperature venting and microbial Fe-deposit formation Microbial diversity and metabolism in Red Sea hydrothermal vent fields and their potential impact on the mitigation of the greenhouse gas nitrous oxide Unveiling Antibiotic Resistance Genes in Red Sea Brine Pools
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 4 Room 5220 SESSION 9.1 Oceanography: physical and biogeochemical processes	Aislinn Dunne Radharani Sen Malika Kheireddine Yixin Wang Surya Prakash Tiwari Afrah Alothman Portia Joy Nillos-Kleiven	formerly KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KFUPM, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Institute of Marine Research- Norway	Tracking hydrodynamic connectivity between coastal habitats with UAVs and dye tracers Detection of thermal and color fronts using remote sensing data and its preliminary results in the Red Sea Does eddy-driven subduction matter for carbon export in tropical seas? A Lagrangian model-based physical connectivity atlas of the Red Sea coral reefs Heterotrophic bacterial production and contribution to the trophic carbon flow in oligotrophic waters Trends in commercially important fish resources in Sudan's coral reefs: results from BRUV monitoring from 2015-2022
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 20 Auditorium SESSION 10.1 Marine communities through space and time	Susanne Bahr Marcos Teixeira Silvia Vimercati Nicolas Oury Joao Duarte-Rosado Gloria Gil Adam Barno	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Unexpectedly dynamic coral-dwelling gall crab communities on central Red Sea reefs The Mediterranean and Red Seas as cryptic hotspots: the striking cases of the <i>Perinereis cultrifera</i> and <i>P. nuntia</i> (Annelida, Nereididae) species complexes The unknown diversity of the family Agariciidae from the Saudi Arabian Red Sea: a phylogenomic approach A multi-species genomic assessment of coral population connectivity around the Arabian Peninsula The Cryptobiome Relativity: Investigating the Relationships Between Habitat Heterogeneity and the Diversity of Cryptobenthic Assemblages Over Time and Space Reef Monitoring in the Red Sea: Insights from long-term observations in the central Saudi Arabian coast



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14:30 PM ↓ 16:30 PM	Building 4 Room 5209 SESSION 11.1 Evolution and ecology of marine carbonates systems	Marco Taviani Abdulkader Al Afifi Nazik Ogretmen Elisa Garuglieri Matthew Tietbohl Marleen Stuhr Volker Vahrenkamp	ISMAR Bologna KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Germany KAUST, Saudi Arabia	How past history determined the physiognomy of marine ecosystems in the Red Sea Dynamics of reef platforms in the Red Sea Late Cenozoic foraminifers of the Red Sea: archives to learn from the past, tools to monitor the present and protect the future Microbial community of the first living stromatolites discovered in the Red Sea Assessing In-Situ Coral Reef Calcification Rates in the Red Sea Using Standardized Sampling Tools Plastic particles can be mistaken as a food source and incorporated into benthic foraminifera tests Brine-pool sediments as high-resolution archive for Holocene climate variations in the African-Arabian desert belt (Red Sea, Saudi Arabia)
14:30 PM ↓ 16:30 PM	Building 4 Room 5220 SESSION 9.2 Oceanography: physical and biogeochemical processes	Zoi Kokkini Manuel Ariza-Fuentes Lina Eyouni Daquan Guo Junchuan Sun Nikolaos Zarokanellos	CNR-ISMAR, ITALY KAUST, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia SOCIB, Spain	Hydrographic variability of the upper layer from high-resolution glider and remote sensing observations in the Central Red Sea Lateral, temporal and compositional wind-blown dust supply to Al Wajh lagoon islands, Northern Red Sea Summertime Appearance of Gulf of Aden Water in the Northern Red Sea Tidal influence on the general circulation in the Red Sea Extreme freshening event of the Red Sea caused by the 2015/16 Super El Niño Unveiling the Annual Physical and Biogeochemical Variability of Red Sea: Insights from High-Resolution Glider and Remote Sensing Observations
14:30 PM ↓ 16:30 PM	Building 20 Auditorium SESSION 10.2 Marine communities through space and time	Milica Predragovic Pedro Pereira Vincent Saderne Igor Polikarpov Faiza Yousef Al-Yamani Sdena Nunes Song He	CCMAR, Portugal KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	A decade of observations of fish and benthic communities in Saudi Arabian Red Sea Challenges and opportunities in evaluating fish community composition for reefs under restoration at unprecedented scales Seasonality of methane and carbon dioxide emissions in tropical seagrass and unvegetated ecosystems Taxonomic diversity of benthic dinoflagellates in the Red Sea An overview of phytoplankton blooms in the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea: what are the differences and wherefore? Exploring the Influence of Environmental Changes on Phytoplankton Dynamics in the Western Coast of Arabian Gulf Egg development and hatching in Red Sea damselfishes



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10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	lecture hall b/w bldg 2 & 3 Room 215 SESSION 12.1 Deep-sea and mesophotic biology and conservation	Alan Barozzi Carlos Angulo-Preckler Elisa Laiolo Francesca Giovenzana Megan K. B. Nolan Eleonora Re	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Exploring the hidden depths: Unveiling bacterioplankton communities across the Red Sea Diversity and functionality of benthic microbial communities in an iron-rich deep seep site of the Saudi Arabian Coast of the Red Sea Benthic foraminifera assemblages in a mesophotic coral reef ecosystem in the northern Red Sea, Saudi Arabia Deep-sea coral frameworks are abundant along the northern Saudi Arabian continental margin Exploring growth patterns of Dendrophylliidae corals from the exceptionally warm deep-sea environment of the Eastern Red Sea
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	lecture hall b/w bldg 4 & 5 Room 215 SESSION 13.1 Extreme conditions, resilience and refugia	Lily Genevier Eslam O. Osman Bayoumy Mohamed Ahmed Eladawy Claudia Hill Selma Mezger	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia University of Liege, Belgium Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan University of Bremen, Germany University of Bremen, Germany	Marine heatwaves associated with coral bleaching are extending further, deeper and persisting for longer time periods Spatial variation in spawning timing for multi-species Acropora assemblages in the Red Sea Recent Evidence for the Occurrence of Marine Heatwaves from the Red Sea to the North Sea Analyzing Thermal Modulation Mechanisms and Possible Connectivity-Induced Variability in Beaching Thresholds via Multiscale Hydrodynamics Modeling Physiology of the widespread pulsating soft coral Xenia umbellata is affected by food sources, but not by water flow A Tale of Thermal Tolerance: Xenia spp. and turf algae assemblages display higher thermal tolerance than hard corals in the central Red Sea
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 20 Auditorium SESSION 14.1 Megafauna ecology and conservation	Eloise Richardson Kirsty Scott Hector Barrios-Garrido Natalie Wildermann Ashlie J. Mclvor Mark Dimech	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia MARE-Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, Portugal KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Primary sex ratio and hatchling success at the Red Sea's largest green sea turtle rookery Marine turtles at the Vision 2030 Programme: conservation hotspots, distribution, migratory pathways in the Red Sea Identifying important marine conservation areas for breeding sea turtles in the Al-Wajh region of the Red Sea Spatial Ecology and Multiscale Morphology of the Blue-Spotted Ribbontail Stingray (Taeniura lymma) in the Red Sea Stock Assessment and Conservation of Narrow-Barred Spanish Mackerel (Scomberomorus commerson) along the Red Sea Coast of Saudi Arabia: Insights and Findings
10:00 ↓ 12:00 PM	Building 2 Room 5220 SESSION 15.1 Geological, biological and renewable resources	Aisha Salim Al Wahaibi Najwa Al-Otaibi CHERIYERI POYIL ABDULLA Santhosh Kumar Charles Ricardo Clapis Garla Sirajudheen Thayyil Kadengal Goutham Bharathi Muthu Pal Zahra Okba	Sultan Qaboos University, Oman Taif University, Saudi Arabia KFUPM, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Isolation and Staining Reveal the Presence of Extracellular DNA in Marine Gel Particles Transferring understanding of Red Sea microbial plankton to freshwater sources: Environmental sustainability Long-term Trends and Inter-annual Variations of wind speed in the Northern Red Sea Fisheries and Biology of Longnose parrotfish (Hippocampus harid), a fish of cultural, commercial, and ecological importance in the Red Sea of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Stock assessment of the Sky Emperor, Lethrinus mahsena, in the Saudi Arabian Red Sea Population dynamics and Fishery biology of yellow, e-edged lyretail Variola louti (Forssakal, 1775) along the Saudi coast of the Red Sea Life history patterns of the orange, spotted trevally, Carangoides bajad (ForsskV•I, 1775) from the Red Sea Observations on the Biology and Fishery of the Marbled Spinefoot (Siganus rivulatus) in the Eastern Red Sea



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14:15 PM ↓ 16:15 PM	lecture hall b/w bldg 2 & 3 Room 215 SESSION 12.2 Deep-sea and mesophotic biology and conservation	Jacqueline Alva Anieka Parry Alexandra Steckbauer Sofia Frappi Michelle-Nicole Havlik	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Assessing the Resilience and Metabolic Adaptations of <i>Rhizotrochus typus</i> a Deep-Sea Coral in Response to Hypoxic Conditions in the Red Sea Remarkable thermal tolerance of a zooxanthellate scleractinian coral from the Red Sea mesophotic zone Respiration in Deep-Sea Corals: Unveiling Metabolic Adaptations in Extreme Environments New depth records and novel feeding observations of three elasmobranchs species in the eastern Red Sea What goes bump in the dark? Uncovering cryptic biological activity using Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) in the Central Red Sea Mesophotic reef zones
14:15 PM ↓ 16:15 PM	lecture hall b/w bldg 4 & 5 Room 215 SESSION 13.2 Extreme conditions, resilience and refugia	Abdulrahman Shaaban Chunzhi Cai Charlene Odobel Nicholas Kontis Yue Chen	AL-AZHAR UNIVERSITY, Egypt KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia	Evaluate the resilience status of the coral reef ecosystem in Wadi El-Gemal-Hamata National park, Southern Red Sea Influence of Global Warming and Industrialization on Coral Reefs: A 600-Year Record of Elemental Changes in the Eastern Red Sea DNA-Stable Isotope Probing identifies acetate and pyruvate consumers in the brine seawater interface's microbial communities of the Afifi brine pool in the Red Sea Culturing the Microbiome of the Hypersaline Pink Lake on the Red Sea Coast DNA-Stable Isotope Probing reveals the diversity of glucose consumers in the microbial communities in the brine-seawater interface of the Afifi brine pool
14:15 PM ↓ 16:15 PM	Building 20 Auditorium SESSION 14.2 Megafauna ecology and conservation	Licia Calabrese Raul Vilela Chris Poonian Ricardo Oliveira Ramalho Royale Hardenstine Hugo Mann William David Paterson	Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Zone Authority (RSZA-EPR), Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia	A sea of birds: first seabirds population assessments in the Saudi Red Sea Estimation of main turtle nesting areas and total nesting female population in The Red Sea and Amaala project areas Evaluation of Marine megafauna bycatch in Saudi Red Sea Shrimp trawl fisheries using on-board observers Using Multidisciplinary Approaches to Understand Threats to Dugongs In NEOM Identification of a potential new Red Sea elasmobranch nursery area within the Al Wajh Lagoon A Multidisciplinary Approach to Quantifying Marine Megafauna Populations and Habitat Use in NEOM
14:15 PM ↓ 16:15 PM	Building 2. Room 5220 SESSION 16.1 Human interactions with the marine environment	Andrew J. Temple Rihab Larayedh Ioana Andreea Ciocanaru Juan Sempere-Valverde Sirajudheen Thayyil Kadengal David McGrath Nausha Asrar	KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia KAUST, Saudi Arabia Saline Water Conversion Corporation, Saudi Arabia	Linking social and economic value to the extinction risk of species Numerical Investigation of Shipping Noise in the Red Sea Mangrove response to coastal development using UAV remote sensing and environmental monitoring Impacts of coastal sprawl and the importance of monitoring non-indigenous species in artificial coastal habitats. A case study in a marina of the Red Sea Diversity and potential commercial value of edible discarded by-catch species in shrimp trawl fishery in the Southeastern Red Sea New Standard for Mitigating Dredging Impacts in Sensitive Marine Habitats in the Red Sea Critical Aspects of Marine Corrosion and its Management