## The 2022 Hybrid University

Introduction, goals, structure, methodology

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# Introduction

The 2022 Hybrid University is based:

- on the continuation of a long tradition of Summer Universities established already in 2012
- on the necessary adaptation to the health provisions that became necessary because of the COVID-19 pandemic
- on the specific opportunities and priority issues reflecting key global concerns

# The background

- MIO-ECSDE
- the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (Venice Office)
- the UNESCO Chair and Network on Sustainable Development Management and Education at the University of Athens (UoA)

in cooperation with international and national actors:

have jointly run series of summer universities for managers, scientists and educators on how to design and implement Sustainable Development initiatives in Biosphere Reserves and other designated areas: the <u>Hybrid University of Asterousia</u> (2020); at the <u>Central</u> <u>Balkan BR</u> (2019); <u>Parnon</u> (2018); <u>Sardinia</u> (2017); <u>Samothraki</u> (2016); and <u>Amfissa</u> (2014); <u>Lavrion and Amfissa (2012)</u>





### Asterousia Hybrid 2020



Bulgaria, 2019



Amfissa 2014





Sardinia, 2017

Samothraki, 2016

# Hybrid University Structure

#### Phase A: Crete (12-14/09/2022)



- Lecturew, field visits and workshops with a small number of participants.
- Select material will be used to enrich the virtual Phase.

### Phase A: Cyprus (5-10/10/2022)



- 5-7/10: The Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, "Transforming Planet"
- 8-10/10: Active participation in a series of lectures, field visits, workshops and hands-on activites.

#### Phase B: Virtual (Nov.-Dec. 2022)



- A self-paced, asynchronous e-course, 3 weeks-long, including 3 meet-theexperts web-meetings
- In English



## **Overall Objectives**

- The promotion of the concepts behind the establishment and operation of Biosphere Reserves helping key stakeholders and target groups to better understand and actively participate in the proper management of these areas
- Address the relationship of management with different forms of education, awareness raising and participation of local communities
- Train, enhance the capacities of managers, post-graduates and other stakeholders involved



### Key thematic areas for this year

- Familiarity with current threats to marine and coastal ecosystems and possible ways to combat them.
- The **impact of climate change** on the oceans and their biodiversity.
- Highlighting the value of the Ocean in the context of **SDG 14** *"Life below water"* and the UN "Decade for Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)".
- Familiarity with Ocean Literacy and how it can be applied in various settings.
- Ways and good practices to integrate Ocean Literacy in the field of work of the various participants.
- Discussion of challenges and opportunities for the implementation of Ocean Literacy in practice, and in particular in Biosphere Reserves.
- Suggestions for improving communication about marine ecosystems through **formal** and **informal learning processes**.
- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Ocean literacy

## Key thematic areas for this year

- 1. Importance of Oceans
- Biodiversity
- Κοινωνικά Οφέλη των Ωκεανών
- Global and Mediterranean policies
- Sustainable Development Goals -2030 Agenda (SDG 14)

- 2. Ocean Challenges
- Marine pollution & Single-use plastics (SUPs)
- Climate Change
- Invasive species
- Overfishing
- Challenges for the Mediterranean

- 3. Addressing the challenges
- Adapting to climate change
- BR Management
- Marine Protected
  Areas
- Παράκτιοι καθαρισμοί και παρακολούθηση θαλάσσιων απορριμμάτων

- 4. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Ocean literacy
- Examples of formal and sos formal education
- Participatory / citizen science
- Gaps on Ocean Literacy

## What is Ocean Literacy?

Ocean Literacy has historically been described as 'the understanding of the ocean's influence on us and our influence on the ocean '(IOC UNESCO).

Ένα «θαλάσσια εγγραματισμένο» άτομο:

- κατανοεί τις βασικές αρχές και τις θεμελιώδεις έννοιες
- μπορεί να επικοινωνήσει για τα θαλάσσια οικοσυστήματα με ουσιαστικό τρόπο
- είναι σε θέση να λαμβάνει ενημερωμένες και υπεύθυνες αποφάσεις σχετικά με τον ωκεανό και τους πόρους του

Ocean Literacy is defined by seven principles:

1	2	3	4
The Earth has one big ocean with many features	The ocean and life in the ocean shape the features of the Earth	The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate	The ocean makes Earth habitable
5	6	7	
The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems	The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected	The ocean is largely unexplored	Figure 1. The Seven Essential

## Ocean Decade Challenges and Objectives in terms of their connection with Ocean Literacy



Source: UNESCO-IOC 2021

# Thank you!

#### Secretariat of the HYBRID UNIVERSITY of ASTEROUSIA

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