

Improving ECOPs' training, connection and representativity: Outcomes from the EMB ECOP Forum in Santiago



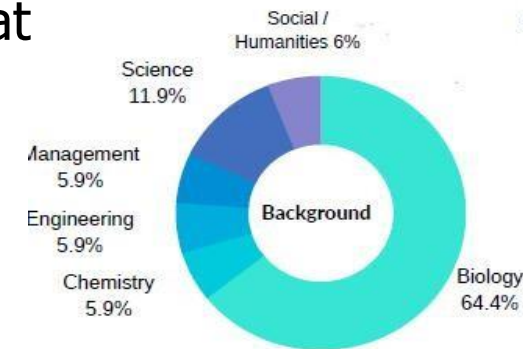
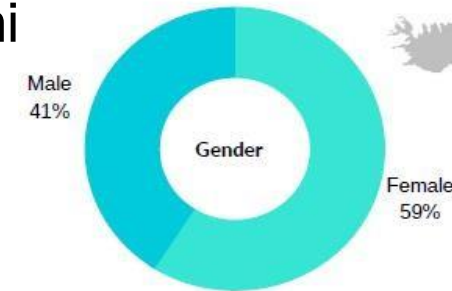
Alfredo García de Vinuesa & Juliette Aminian Biquet

About us

- Outgoing young ambassadors of the EMB: now EMB alumni
- We have ECOP's: Mainly from the academic and research world
- We are in our PhD or Postdoc stage: Good to connect with our peers
- We have people especially enthusiastic: To communicate at EMB and European level

Our tasks

- Participate in EMB activities
- Represent early careers at board meetings
- looking for ways to connect ECOPs with EMB and the science-policy interface (EMB ECOP Network)
- Spread the word about the work of the EMB (by giving talks, writing blogs, etc.)

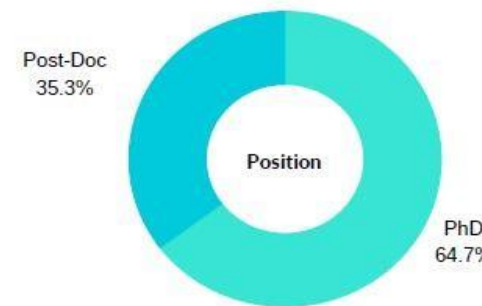
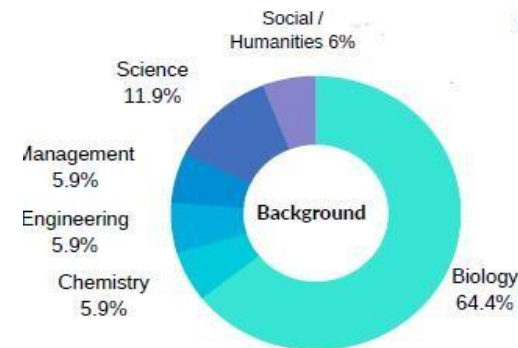
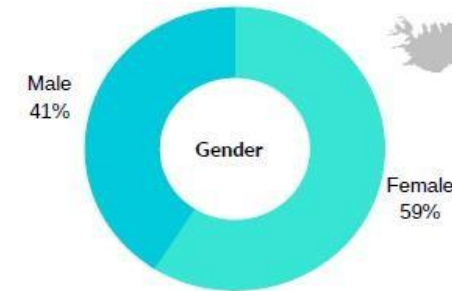


Why applying?

- Get involved in a large European marine science network
- Increase ECOPs representation
- Your activities are funded + 2,000€ grant over the 2 years

Call for Ambassadors open in February 2025

- looking for ways to connect ECOPs with EMB and the science-policy interface (EMB ECOP Network)



What ECOPs can bring to the table

- Ensure the future of the ocean conservation
- Represent the next ocean professionals generation
- New perspectives and fresh ideas
- Connection with young people across the world is necessary to raise awareness among them, about current and forthcoming issues affecting the ocean



How have young ambassadors worked to achieve this goal up to now?

Connect ECOP's with EMB

Long long time ago fantastic previous young ambassadors...



With the wonderful secretariat support...



This is a network open to anyone who self-identifies as an Early Career Ocean Professional, and has a demonstrable link to an EMB Member Organization

The aim of the network is to:

- **Link ECOPs** from EMB member organizations and help them expand their network in Europe;
- **Help EMB member ECOPs engage with and gain benefits from EMB** membership;
- **Provide a platform that allows EMB member ECOPs to have a voice at EMB Board level** and at a wider European marine science policy landscape level;
- Inform EMB member ECOPs about how **the European marine science policy landscape** operates.

The EMB ECOP Network



Our activities

ECOP Wednesdays

- Monthly webinar
- Topics focus on European and international marine science-policy interfaces
- You can suggest speakers or speak yourself

“Meet Our ECOPs”

- Short introductions of network members on social media and EMB website
- Highlighting their expertise and interests

Participation in EMB activities

But the activities were exclusively **virtual**, and in order to engage and unify the network, **in-person** contact is necessary...



Twitter: @EcopsEmb



Creating the first ECOP network forum



EMB ECOPs participating in a Galician traditional dance.

Organizing the first ECOP forum was an enormous challenge for young ambassadors, but the experience and the outcomes proved that it was worth it





ECOP Network

European **MARINE BOARD**





- **38 ECOPs** from 25 member organizations

Turned the network into reality!

- **Networking**
- **Training** about science-policy landscape & communication
- **Brainstorming** about the network and ECOPs' needs



- **Funding:** to participate & get trained, job insecurity
- **Time:** short-term positions make it difficult to engage
- **Training:** in (complex) policy & communication

- **Connection:** with policy people
- Organization of science & policy institutions: **hierarchy & complexity**
- **Including** ECOPs as
 - keynotes, panellists-not only ECOP-related
 - actors in decision-making for labs, projects, working groups

Seniors as advocates for ECOPs!



Anastasiya Laznya at EurOcean

training + connection + inclusion

Forum proceedings:



fundings

ECR SEMINAR SESSION

EU grants landscape for ECRs: how to be in the game

The "**EU grants landscape for ECRs**" is an informative online seminar tailored specifically for early career researchers (*MSc, PhD, Postdoc, and Assistant Professor*) in the field of environmental science. The seminar aims to provide participants with an overview of the European funding landscape, with a particular emphasis on Horizon EU and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) grants.



Erasmus+

EU programme for education, training, youth and sport

**NAVIGATING
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE BLACK SEA
BLUE ECONOMY**
MAY 8, 2024

Society for Conservation Biology Europe

Early Career Conservation Award 2024

**THE EUROPEAN
CHARLEMAGNE YOUTH PRIZE**



FUNDACIÓN
RAMÓN ARECES

🌟 working for free is not OK 🌟

connection



training

- Legal frameworks
- Behind the scenes
- Communication
- STS! (e.g., KiTeS group)

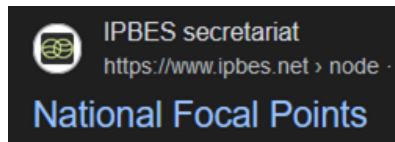


- Identify ECOPs groups/representatives & reach out!
- Share & organize intergenerational events/groups
- Don't throw ECOPs into the lion's den without support+training

Engaging in science policy interfaces



Want to be nice to our Ocean? Start with your ECOPs



CAREERS

From Academia to Embassy: An Unusual Career Path

Engaging in science policy interfaces

Youth Innovation Forum UNOC 2022



Join the Network

Join the network:



Present your work!

Get featured in the Meet our ECOPs format!

emb.young.ambassador@gmail.com



Webpage



Share your thoughts!

- What's your take on all of take?
- Any tips for other ECOPs?
- Any opportunities to share?
- What would you like the EMB ECOP Network to do?

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