



The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics

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Joint ICTP-TWAS Workshop on

**Climate Change in Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas:
Research experiences and new scientific challenges**

7 May – 12 May 2012
CIIFEN Headquarters, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas, though geographically different, present many interesting analogies when climatic change impacts, adaptation and mitigation strategies are addressed. Both basins are, in different measure, affected by major natural pressures such as changes in precipitation, sea temperature, storm tracks, plus effects due to sea level rise and ocean acidification. These pressures have impact in the freshwater availability, degradation of marine and coastal ecosystems, frequency of extreme events and coastal flooding. Anthropogenic pressures such as coastal overexploitation, overfishing and unsustainable tourism are important as well. The climate change in both Caribbean and Mediterranean basins are therefore tightly connected with an ensemble of risks and threats, but also with challenges and opportunities.

This workshop intends to review the current knowledge and understanding of the natural pressures acting on Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas and their impacts. The backbone of the Workshop will be mainly structured in terms of exchanges of scientific experiences, comparing the climate research achievements, tools and results recently gained in the Mediterranean area and in the Caribbean one. The final outcome will be finalized into a scientific report, with the aim to create a science-based support to mitigate climate impacts in Caribbean area.

PRIMARY WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Primary Objectives are:

- To review the latest scientific advances in Climate Change in the Mediterranean and Caribbean seas;
- To identify similarities between Mediterranean and Caribbean seas and to promote concrete strategies to monitor and mitigate the impact of climatic pressures;
- To discuss observational efforts in the Caribbean as a contribution to modeling initiatives, including information about recent data from oceanographic campaigns;
- To draft a Science/Action plan for the Caribbean Sea.

The workshop will be organized in four daily sessions, with the following thematic sessions:

- Major outcomes of climatic research in Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas: contributions from scientific programs and projects focused on the variability and trends in ocean circulation, thermohaline properties, sea level and atmospheric forcings;
- Adaptation strategies to climate changes in the Caribbean Sea;
- Impact of climate variability and change, and ocean acidification on the Caribbean marine ecosystem;
- Similarities between Caribbean and Mediterranean Sea as a source to build a concrete strategy to decrease climate vulnerability, with special focus to modeling and monitoring tools developed in Mediterranean Sea.

PARTICIPATION

The workshop will be conducted in English. Limited funding for participation is available for scientists from developing countries. No registration fee is required.

HOW TO APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION

Applicants who would like to present a contributed paper to the Workshop should submit title and short abstract of their contribution.

The on-line application form can be accessed via the ICTP activity agenda page at:

<http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?2382>

Once in the website, comprehensive instructions will guide you step-by-step, on how to fill out and submit the application form. Please send all file attachments in PDF format.

Deadline for receipt of applications is 29 February 2012.

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Call For Papers

For those interested in making an oral or poster presentation during the Workshop, a one-page abstract (size A4) should be uploaded **directly to the on-line application**. (Please upload file attachments in **.pdf**). The time available for contributed oral presentations will be very limited; some authors who submit abstracts for oral presentation may be asked to present a poster instead.

ORGANIZERS

- A. Crise (OGS, Italy)
R. Farneti (ICTP, Italy)
R. Martinez (CIIFEN, Ecuador)

SPEAKERS

to be confirmed

- Vincenzo Artale (ENEA, Italy)
Daniel Ballester (Univ. Costa Rica)
Alessandro Crise (OGS, Italy)
Lorna Inniss (Coastal Zone Manag. Unit, Barbados)
Giuseppe Manzella (ENEA, Italy)
Nadia Pinardi (INGV, Italy)
Julio Sheinbaum (CICESE, Mexico)
Samuel Somot (CNRS, France)

Application Deadline

29 February 2012