INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

MECOS 3

MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

Challenges & Opportunities

7-10 January 2020, Kochi, India

Announcing MECOS3

The year 2020 is the time for the 3rd International Symposium on Marine Ecosystems Challenges and Opportunities (MECOS3) organized by the Marine Biological Association of India (MBAI). The previous 2 MECOS's have been outstanding successes. MECOS2 brought together marine scientists, researchers and teachers from all over the world. In all, 628 authors, including four invited keynote speakers contributed and the presenting authors were from 49 affiliations such as research institutions, universities, colleges and NGOs.

Healthy oceans, coasts and related ecosystems are crucial for economic growth and food production, but they are also fundamental to global efforts to mitigate climate change. The MBAI executive viewed the concerns about marine ecosystems and the large amount research work addressing these, and felt that MECOS3 would be an ideal platform to address the current status of the marine ecosystems of the world during 7-10 January, 2020.

Billions of people worldwide -especially the world's poorest- rely on healthy oceans to provide jobs and food, underscoring the urgent need to sustainably use and protect this natural resource. According to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), oceans contribute $1.5 trillion annually in value to the overall economy. The FAO estimates that around 60 million people are employed in fisheries and aquaculture, with the majority of those employed by capture fisheries working in small-scale operations in developing countries. While ocean resources have the potential to boost growth and wealth, human activity has taken a toll on ocean health. Proper management of fisheries, investment in sustainable aquaculture and protection of key habitats can restore the productivity of the ocean and return benefits to billions in developing countries while ensuring future growth, food security and jobs for coastal communities.

MECOS3 aims to address the above concerns by inviting marine biology/ fisheries/ oceanography/ marine biotechnology/ social science researchers to present their new work on the following theme areas amidst their peers. It is expected that the outcome of the deliberations in MECOS3 would be guidance for researchers and policy makers for the next 3 years.

Photographs from previous MECOS events

Focal Themes

1 **Fisheries and ecosystem sustainability**

2 **Responsible aquaculture production systems**

3 **Marine biodiversity assessments and valuation**

4 **Climate change and meeting SDG-14 goals**

5 **Marine biotechnology and bio-marine products**

6 **Livelihood, economics and trade**

7 **Green harvest and post-harvest technologies**

What will you gain from attending MECOS3?

- Present your results among your peers and get feedback and awards
- Get updated by listening to a galaxy of lead speakers on hot topics
- Interact and socialize with your peers and fund providers; see the latest developments in the Expo.
- There will be no concurrent sessions; participants can fully benefit from all sessions
- Completely environment friendly digital platform (digital posters, abstract book and programme app)
- Explore the beautiful tropical city of Kochi and Gods own Country (Kerala)

Registration

Only registered participants will have the privilege of attending the scientific sessions, special sessions, conference lunch, tea and dinner. Registration fee for various categories are:

MBAI Members	Rs. 8,000	20% hike in charges after December International participants have to pay in US$ equivalent
Non-members	Rs. 10,000	
Retired MBAI Members/ Students*/spouses	Rs. 1,500	
Exposition Stall	By enquiry	

* There is provision for travel grants for limited national and international students. Please visit MECOS3 website

Awards of MECOS3

Third Dr. S. Jones Memorial Prize

The MBAI has instituted a triennial Dr. S. Jones Memorial Prize in memory of its founder President for researchers who have made outstanding contributions in marine biology and fisheries. Read about the visionary Dr. S. Jones at http://mbai.org.in/uploads1/userfiles/file/Dr_%20S%20Jones(1).pdf

The first award was given in 2011 to Dr. Madhusoodana Kurup, the then Vice Chancellor of the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies.

The second award was given in 2014 to Prof. I. S. Bright Singh, Emeritus Professor, National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health, Cochin University of Science and Technology.

The prestigious third Dr. S. Jones Memorial prize carrying a cash prize of Rs. 25,000, a medallion and citation would be given away during MECOS3 to a researcher identified by the prize committee.

(for application details visit: http://mbai.org.in/uploads1/userfiles/file/Brochure(1).pdf)

Dr. R. Reghuprasad Memorial Award for the Best Poster

Instituted by MBAI in memory of its founding Secretary, Dr. R. Reghuprasad. It carries a Rs. 10,000 cash award and citation and will be given to the best poster presentation during MECOS3.

Dr. M. Devaraj Memorial Award for the Best Paper

Instituted by MBAI in memory of its past President, Dr. M. Devaraj. It carries a Rs. 10,000 cash award and citation and will be given to the best paper presentation during MECOS3

Young Marine Biologist Award

Researchers below the age 35 years have the opportunity to win Young Marine Biologist Awards for the best paper/poster of each theme. A certificate and citation will be given to winners.

Article Publication

All authors have the opportunity to publish their full paper in the Journal of the Marine Biological Association of India (NAAS Imapact factor: 5.28) after the peer review in 2020.

Dates to remember		
	Last date for Abstract submission	October 31, 2019
	Late registration & closure	December 31, 2019
	Symposium dates	7-10 January 2020

MBAI

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