



# Characterization of maritime noise in different European basins and its impact on ecological relevant deuterostome invertebrates

**JPI Oceans Kick-off meeting – Bruxelles - 14 February 2023**

Lucia Manni

Department of Biology

University of Padova

# The consortium and its interdisciplinarity

Plus  
Hired young researchers  
and  
other collaborators

University of Padova

University  
of Milano-Bicocca




Stazione  
Zoologica  
Napoli

University of Bergen

Institutul National  
De Cercetare Dezvoltare  
Pentru Geologie Si  
Geoecologie Marinali

La Salle  
Ramon Llull University

University of Barcelona

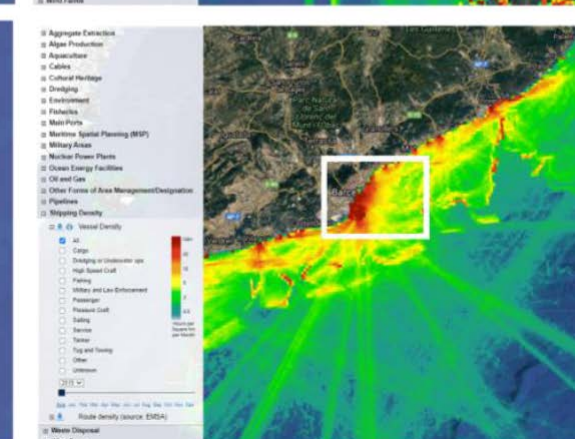
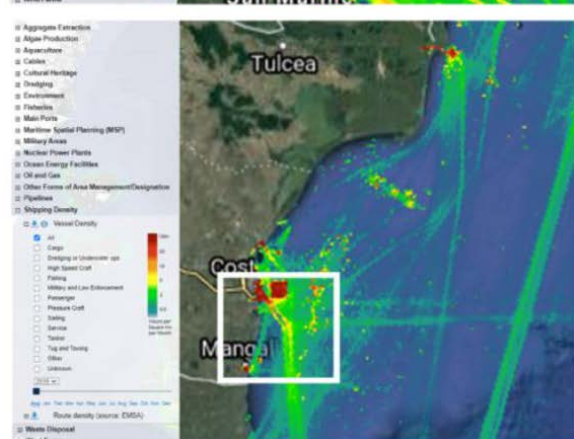
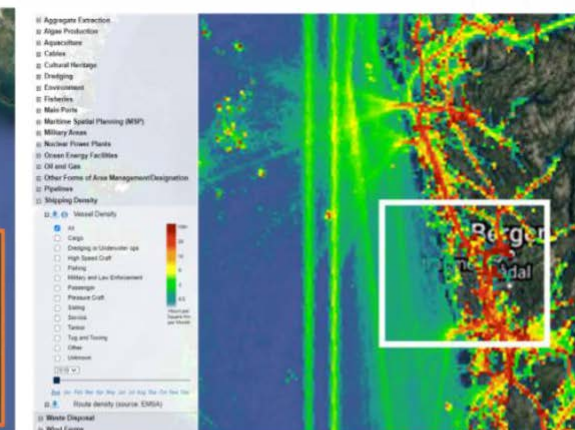
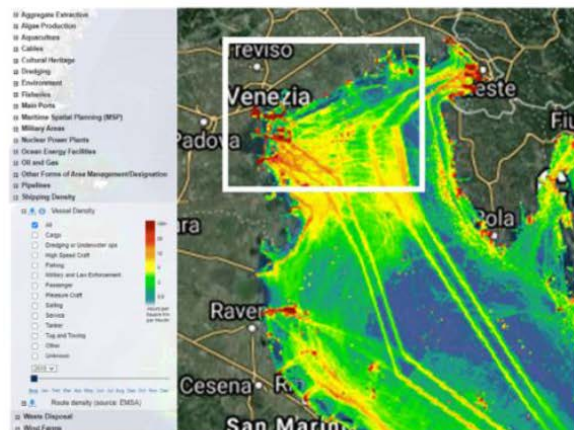
Partner	Team member / Subcontract or	Expertise							
		Noise	Modeling	Physics of Complex Systems	Nervous system/ sensory organ biology	Immuno biology	Behavioral biology	Ecology	Developmental Biology and Genetics
1.UNIPD 	L. Manni				x		x		x
	L. Ballarin					x			
	F. Gasparini				x	x	x		
	I. Guameri							x	
	S. Candiani				x		x		x
UNIMIB 	G. Zambon	x	x						
	R. Benocci	x	x						
	A. Bisceglie	x							
	F. Angelini	x							
	R. Pennati				x		x		x
	A. Vailati		x	x			x		
3.SZN 	F. Ristatore				x	x	x		x
	A. Spagnuolo				x	x	x		x
	Fabio Ferri		x				x		
4.UiB 	D. Chourrout								
	M.Chatzi Georgiou				x		x	x	
	TuniCell								
5.Geo EcoMar 	A.Teaca						x	x	
	M.Muresan						x	x	
	T.Begun						x	x	
	S.Menabit						x	x	
	D.Vasiliu							x	
	D. Vasile							x	
	J. Bujini							x	
6.LS-URL 	R.M.Alsina-Pages	x	x						
	M. Freixes	x	x						
	M. Amela	x	x						
	E. Vidaña-Vila	x	x						
	C. Martinez-Suquia	x	x						
7.UB 	C. Canestro				x		x		x
	R. Albalat								x

## DeuteroNoise integrates researchers belonging to different sectors:

- **Universities:** UNIPD, UNIMIB, UiB, LS-URL, UB, University of Genova (UNIPD's subcontractor), University of Milan (UNIMIB's subcontractor), University of Insubria (SZN 's subcontractor)
- **Research Institutions:** SZN, GeoEcoMar, CNR (UNIPD's subcontractor)
- **SME:** TuniCell (UiB's subcontractor)

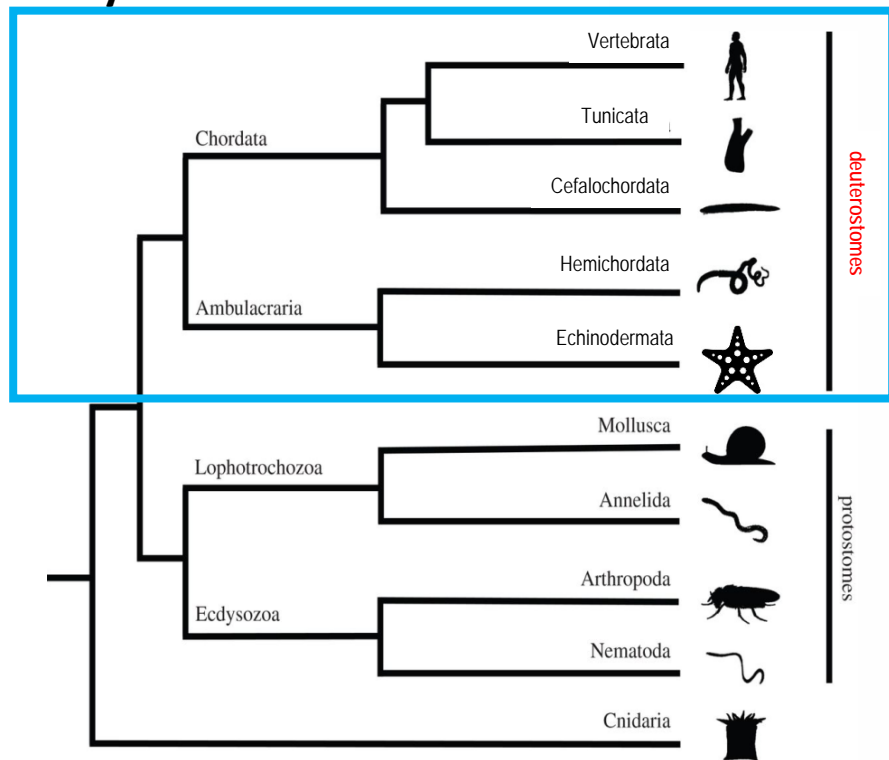
to contribute to reach the GES of European seas and oceans by characterizing noise pollution caused by maritime traffic in selected sites of the North Adriatic Sea, Lagoon of Venice, Barcelona shore, North Sea, and Black Sea, and testing its effects on animal behavior, nervous system and sensory organs, immune system, and resilience in marine invertebrate deuterostomes





● Noise polluted site  
● Unpolluted site

## Why marine invertebrate deuterostomes?



<https://sites.google.com/site/section69group6echinodermata/feeding-habits>

- Species abundant in European seas
- Sessile or sedentary filter-feeders as adults
- Planktonic, during at least part of their life style
- Noise effect not known on marine invertebrate deuterostomes
- Larval and embryonic stages easy to study (impaired development and larval mortality provoked by noise)
- Anatomical simplicity, but
- Sensory cells homologous to vertebrate hair cells, at least in some taxa
- Behavioral, morphological and molecular tools available

# Why Deuterostomes?

## TUNICATES

### Larvaceans

 *Oikopleura dioica*

### Solitary ascidians

 *Ciona robusta*

 *Ciona intestinalis*

 *Ascidella aspersa*

 *Styela plicata*

 *Styela clava*

 *Molgula manhattensis*

### Colonial ascidians

 *Botryllus schlosseri*

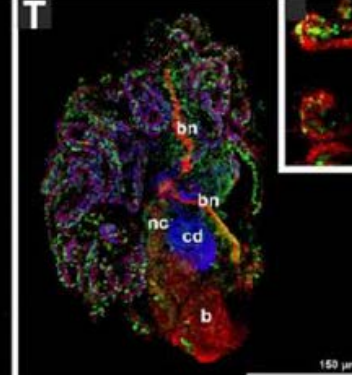
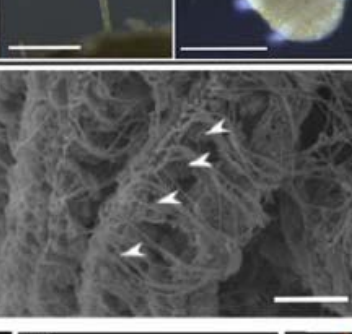
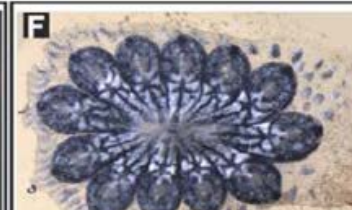
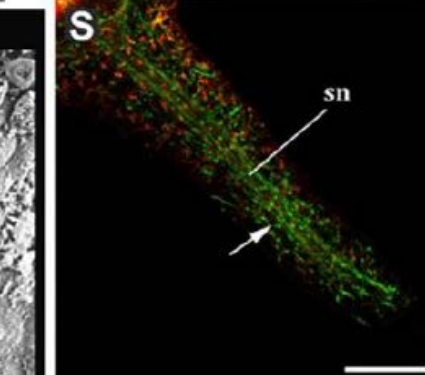
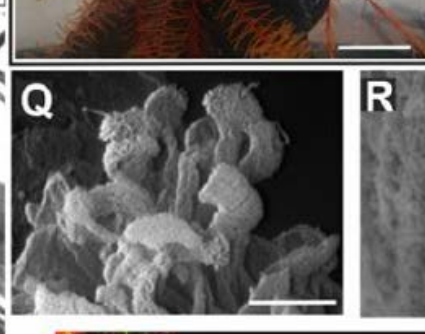
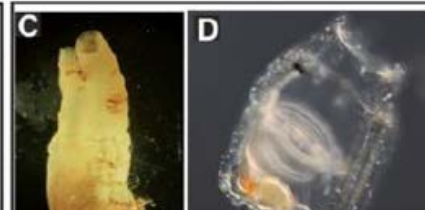
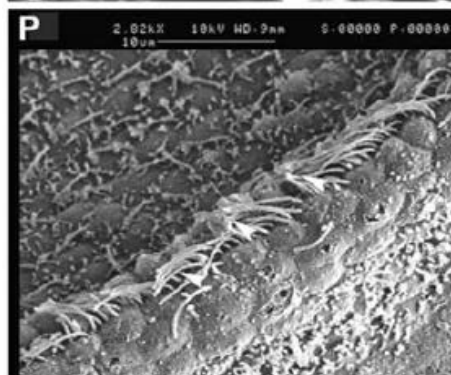
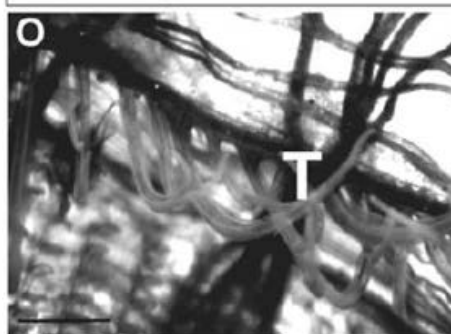
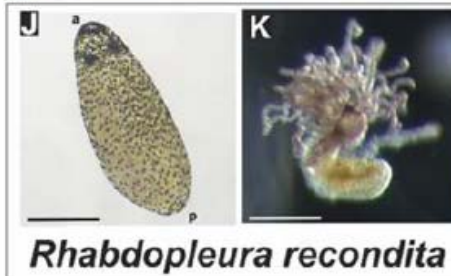
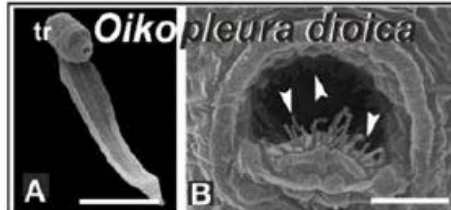
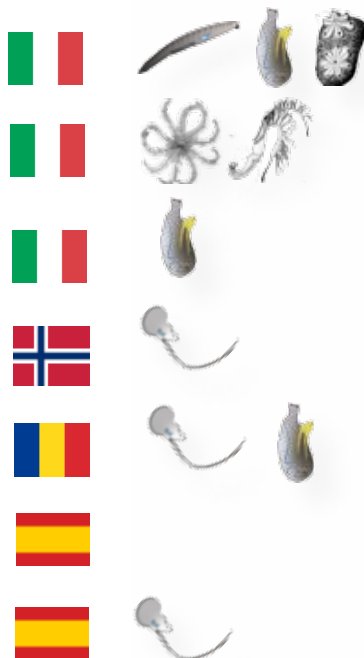
## HEMICHORDATES

 *Rhabdopleura recondita*

## CRINOIDS

 *Antedon mediterranea*

## CEPHALOCHORDATES



# Species studied in the different basins

## TUNICATES

### Larvaceans

 *Oikopleura dioica*

### Solitary ascidians

 *Ciona robusta*

 *Ciona intestinalis*

 *Asciidiella aspersa*

 *Styela plicata*

 *Styela clava*

 *Molgula manhattensis*

### Colonial ascidians

 *Botryllus schlosseri*

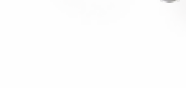
## HEMICHORDATES

 *Rhabdopleura recondita*

## CRINOIDS

 *Antedon mediterranea*

## CEPHALOCHORDATES



Species		North Adriatic	Lagoon of Venice	North Sea	Black Sea	Barcelona shore
Crinoids	<i>Antedon mediterranea</i>	x				
Hemichordates	<i>Rhabdopleura recondita</i>	x				
Ascidians	<i>Ciona robusta</i>		x			
	<i>Ciona intestinalis</i>			x	x	
	<i>Asciidiella aspersa</i>		x		x	
	<i>Styela plicata</i>		x			
	<i>Styela clava</i>		x			
	<i>Botryllus schlosseri</i>		x		x	
	<i>Molgula manhattensis</i>				x	
Larvaceans	<i>Oikopleura dioica</i>			x	x	x
Cephalochordates	<i>Branchiostoma lanceolatum</i>	x				

# The same species is studied by different partners, allowing comparative

TUNICATES

Larvaceans

Oikopleura dioica

Solitary ascidians

Ciona robusta

Ciona intestinalis

Ascidella aspersa

Styela plicata

Styela clava

Molgula manhattensis

Colonial ascidians

Botryllus schlosseri



HEMICHORDATES

Rhabdopleura recondita

CRINOIDS

Antedon mediterranea

CEPHALOCHORDATES

Partner	Crinoids (Echinoderms)	Hemichordates	Ascidians (Tunicates)	Larvaceans (Tunicates)	Cephalochordates
1.UNIPD			Solitary ascidians ( <i>Ciona robusta</i> , <i>Ascidella aspersa</i> , <i>Styela plicata</i> , <i>S. clava</i> ); colonial ascidians ( <i>Botryllus schlosseri</i> )		<i>Branchiostoma lanceolatum</i>
2.UNIMIB	<i>Antedon mediterranea</i>	<i>Rhabdopleura recondita</i>			
3.SZN			Solitary ascidians ( <i>Ciona robusta</i> , <i>Ascidella aspersa</i> , <i>Styela plicata</i> , <i>S. clava</i> ); <i>Antedon mediterranea</i> ; <i>Rhabdopleura recondita</i>		
4.UiB			<i>Ciona intestinalis</i>	<i>Oikopleura dioica</i>	
5.GeoEco Mar			Solitary ascidians ( <i>Ciona intestinalis</i> , <i>Ascidella aspersa</i> , <i>Molgula manhattensis</i> ), colonial ascidians ( <i>Botryllus schlosseri</i> )	<i>Oikopleura dioica</i>	
6.UB				<i>Oikopleura dioica</i>	

## WP1. Coordination, Integration and Synthesis

**WP leader: unipd**

**Partner:** *UNIMIB, SZN, UiB, GeoEcoMar, LS-URL, UB*

### Objectives:

- O1.1 - Collect, review, and submit all different deliverables to funding agencies
- O1.2 - Monitor project progresses and suggest remedies in case of deviations
- O1.3 - Organize meetings, conference, workshops, and a summer school
- O1.4 - Provide the support for data management
- O1.5 - Coordinate outreach and dissemination activities

- Kick-off meeting: 2 February 2023
- Bimonthly Steering Committee meeting
- Web-based cloud drive to share relevant documents
- Web-site by the end of February
- Logo chosen thanks to a contest for Digital Arts Students of La Sale University (Barcelona)



## WP2. Identification of soundscapes in five different basins by means of measurements and simulations and their reproduction in laboratory

**WP leader:** unimib

**Partner:** unipd, UiB, GeoEcoMar, LS-URL

Objectives:

O2.1 - Identify soundscapes and sensitive habitats in selected sites of the five basins affected by maritime traffic

O2.2 - Representation of levels by means of noise maps

O2.3 - Develop and improve measurement standards and methods for laboratory reproduction

- Measurement campaigns to characterize noise level in polluted vs not polluted sites
- Visits to set-up laboratory conditions (tanks with hydrophones, accelerometers and loudspeakers) for noise simulations on animals
- Animal rearing

European Marine Region	Mediterranean Sea						Black Sea			North-East Atlantic Ocean					
Subregion	Adriatic Sea			Western Mediterranean Sea			Black Sea			Greater North Sea					
Basin	North Adriatic Sea		Lagoon of Venice	Barcelona Shore			Black Sea			North Sea					
Activity	O	L	M	O	L	M	O	L	M	O	L	M	O	L	M
1.UNIPD	x	x		x	x										
2.UNIMIB	x	x	x	x	x	x							x	x	x
4.UiB													x	x	
5.GeoEcoMar										x	x				
6.LS-URL			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x

O: on-site measurement; L: laboratory simulation; M: Noise modelling

## WP3. Understanding the effects of noise on animal behavior

**WP leader: UiB**

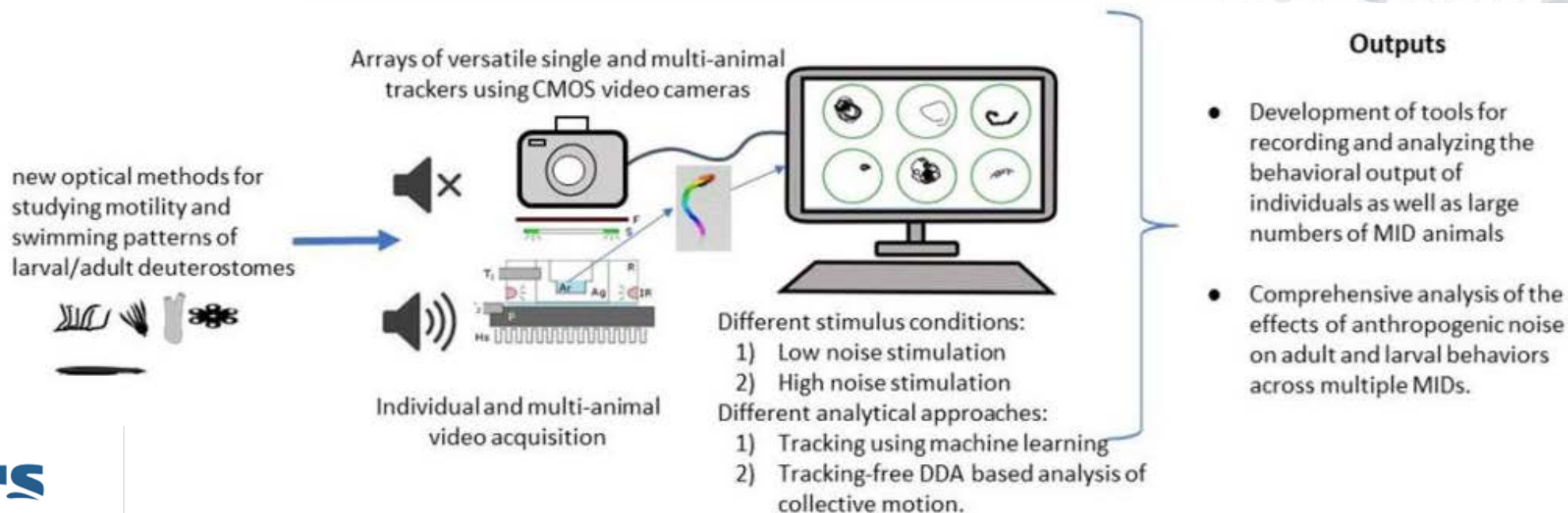
**Partner: UNIMIB, SZN, GeoEcoMar, LS-URL, UB**

**Objectives:**

O3.1 - Set-up of tools for characterizing animal locomotor activity

O3.2 - Investigate the effects of noise exposure to larval motility

O3.3 - Investigate the effects of noise exposure to adult motility and mechano-sensor functionality



## WP4. Noise effects on in-lab treated animals

**WP leader: UB**

**Partner: UNIPD, UNIMIB, SZN, GeoEcoMar**

Objectives:

O4.1 - Investigate the effect of noise pollution on development, survival and morphology of nervous, sensory and immune systems

Noise effect in 1) adult treated animals (cellular level on sensory cells and immune system) and 2) larvae/embryo (development, mortality, hatching rate, larval growth and viability, settlement)

O4.2 - Identify the diagnostic molecular signature of noise effects on nervous, sensory and immune systems (“noisesome”)

Noise effects at transcriptomic level: differentially expressed genes in treated vs non-treated animals relate to nervous system and sensory organs, immune and inflammatory factors

O4.3 - Verify by a comparative approach among species the presence of a common molecular signature

Searching for noise effects at transcriptomic level in other species

O4.4 - Verify noise pollution effects over generations to assess animal resilience

Treatment on adults and study of effects in offspring

## WP5. Validation of the diagnostic prediction tool “noisesome” in on-field animals

**WP leader:** SZN

**Partner:** UNIPD, UNIMIB, UiB, GeoEcoMar, UB

Objectives:

**05.1** - Perform a [lab-field comparison](#) of the “noisesome” in focus species (*Ciona* sp., *B. schlosseri*, amphioxus, *O. dioica*, Crinoids)

[Noise effect at transcriptomic level \(noisesome\) in animals collected in basins with respect to those treated in lab](#)

**5.2** - Perform a field-field comparison of the “noisesome” in animals of the [same species sampled in different basins](#) (*Ciona* spp., *B. schlosseri*, and *O. dioica*)

**05.3** - Validate the “noisesome” as diagnostic [prediction tool](#) in other deuterostome species sampled in different basins

## WP6. Modeling and statistical analyses of noise

**WP leader:** LS-URL

**Partner:** UNIMIB, UiB

Objectives:

**O6.1** – Improve detection and modeling tools: generation of artificial intelligence algorithms to model and predict the anthropogenic noise existent in the five basins

- Vessel noise characterization depending on the basins
- Modelling of type of vessel noise and underwater propagation

## **WP7. Development of new options and strategies for underwater noise mitigation**

**WP leader: GeoEcoMar**

**Partner:** UNIPD, *UNIMIB, SZN, UiB, LS.URL, UB*

Objectives:

**07.1.** Generate technical recommendations based on the project results for noise mitigation

*Findings of the project translated in concrete technical and monitoring recommendations for the policy makers*

**07.2.** Engage public consultation and stakeholders in the process of decision making on noise mitigation measures needed to reach GES (D11) of marine basins

*Public consultation with national stakeholders (shipping industry, maritime spatial planners, NGOs, technology developers, interested public) in each pilot study*

**4.1 Outreach (Non-scientific target audiences)**

**4.2 Scientific community**

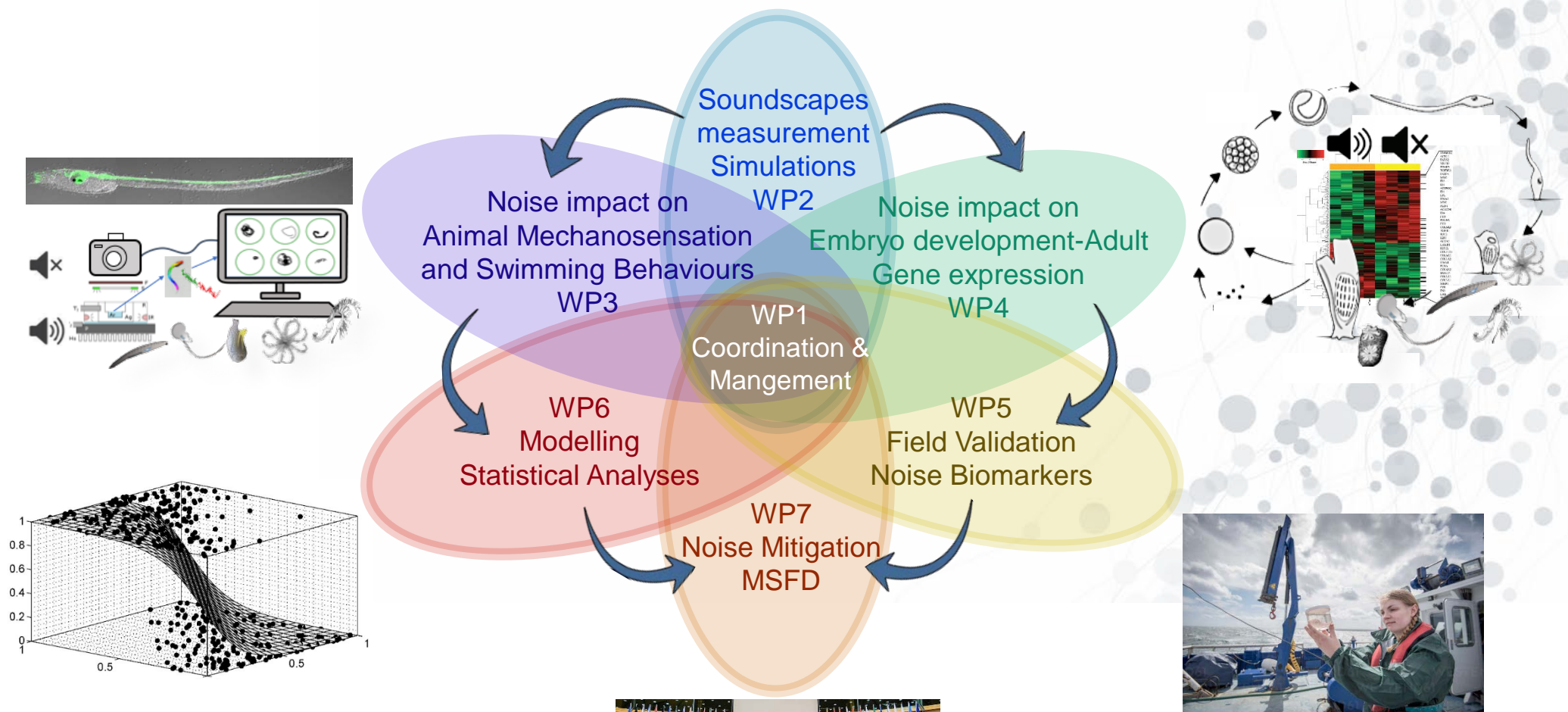
**4.3 Training opportunities (summer school at Ischia, Italy)**

**4.4 Decision makers**



DeuteroNoise will contribute to reach the GES of European seas and oceans at basin scale, since it

- Works on 5 different basins
- Uses a large and innovative panel of species, studied at different developmental stages and ranging from zooplankton to primary consumers
- Conducts observational and experimental research on living organisms combined with numerical modelling
- Defines a diagnostic molecular signature caused by noise
- Connects different expertise converging on noise pollution
- Facilitates knowledge exchange, involving 5 basins, 7 partners, 4 countries
- Stimulates cross-basin comparative research, since some species are diffused in more than one basin
- Promote a pan-European cross-disciplinarity
- Develops and implements a strategy for Dissemination and Communication



Thank you for your attention!

# Underwater noise in the marine environment

Research projects – 2022 - 2026

Co-branded by:

