




Sini Maria

Personal Information

 Department of Marine Sciences, University Hill, 81100 Mytilene, Greece
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 mariasini@marine.aegean.gr

Research Overview

Research projects: 15 research projects

Publications: 1 thesis, 2 dissertations, 24 publications in peer review journals, 52 conference contributions

Scientific/educational productions: 2

Citations: 473 (h-index = 10)

Coordination: leader in 3 large-scale sampling expeditions

Skills

Languages: English (proficient user), Spanish (basic user)

Fieldwork: Scientific SCUBA diving, Speedboat license (1995), underwater non-destructive sampling techniques, underwater photography, destructive methods and on-board sampling, questionnaires and interviews for collection of socio-economic and biological data.

Data collection: Underwater visual surveys and experimental applications, assessment and monitoring of benthic and fish communities, mapping of marine habitats, taxonomy of marine organisms, measurement of environmental parameters.

Data analysis: Statistical analysis (Statistica, SPSS, Primer-e), Mapping (QGIS, ArgGIS), Seabed image processing (PhotoQuad), Habitat mapping (cavetopo)

Other: Diving instructor (PADI OWD Instructor), Sailing license (1996)

Education & Training

2009-2015 [PhD Student - Research fellow](#)

Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece | www.mar.aegean.gr

Thesis title: “Ecology and diversity of coralligenous assemblages in the Aegean Sea”

Scholarship: Herakleitos II

2001-2002 [MSc Marine and Fisheries Science: for the sustainable development of living marine resources.](#)

University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK | www.abdn.ac.uk

Dissertation title: Bottlenose dolphins around Aberdeen Harbour: a study on habitat utilization and the potential effects of boat traffic.

1997-2000 [BSc Marine Biology and Coastal Ecology](#)

Dissertation title: Physiology and morphology of *Patella* limpets in relation to zonation

Plymouth University, UK | www.plymouth.ac.uk

Professional Experience

2016-2017 [Post-doc Researcher](#)

Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr

2009-2015 [PhD Student - Research fellow](#)

Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr

2005-2009 [Research fellow](#)

Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr

2004-2013 [Diver](#)

AquaLand Diving Center, Chalkidiki, Greece | www.aqualand.gr, Lesvos Scuba, Lesvos | www.lesvosscuba.gr

2002-2004 [Work experience](#)

Greek NGO - Med S.O.S. | www.medsos.gr

1999-2000 [Work experience](#)

Greek NGO: ARCHELON - Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece | www.archelon.gr

Teaching Experience

2018 [Lecturer:](#) “Biological conservation and Marine Protected Areas”

[Undergraduate program:](#) Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr

2018 [Guest Lecturer:](#) “Quantitative analyses on benthic images through the photoQuad software”

[Field course:](#) Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr

in collaboration with University of Aberdeen, Scotland, <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/sbs/>

- 2017 **Lecturer:** “Biological conservation and Marine Protected Areas”
Undergraduate program: Marine Sciences
 Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr
- 2016 **Guest Lecturer:** “Quantitative analyses on benthic images through the photoQuad software”
Graduate program - M.Sc. Integrated Coastal Management: Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr
- 2016 **Guest Lecturer:** Lecture on “Mediterranean coralligenous formations / coralline reefs”
Undergraduate program: Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr
- 2014 **Guest Lecturer:** Lecture on “Coralligenous formations in the Mediterranean”
Undergraduate program: Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr
- 2004 **Technical assistant:** Biology laboratory
Undergraduate program: Department of Marine Sciences, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece, www.mar.aegean.gr

Publications

Scientific journals

- Sini M**, Garrabou J, Trygonis V, Koutsoubas D **2019**. Coralligenous formations dominated by *Eunicella cavolini* (Koch, 1887) in the NE Mediterranean: biodiversity and structure. *Mediterranean Marine Science*, 0. doi: 10.12681/mms.18590
- Katsanevakis S, Tsirintanis K, Tsaparis D, Doukas D, **Sini M**, Athanassopoulou F et al **2019**. The cryptogenic parasite *Haplosporidium pinnae* invades the Aegean Sea and causes the collapse of *Pinna nobilis* populations. *Aquatic Invasions* (in press)
- Dimitriadis C, **Sini M**, Trygonis V, Gerovasileiou V, Sourbès L, Koutsoubas D **2018**. Assessment of fish communities in a Mediterranean MPA: Can a seasonal no-take zone provide effective protection? *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 207: 223–231. doi: 10.1016/j.ecss.2018.04.012
- Gerovasileiou V, Dailianis T, **Sini M**, Otero MDM, Numa C, Katsanevakis S et al **2018**. Assessing the regional conservation status of sponges (Porifera): the case of the Aegean ecoregion. *Mediterranean Marine Science* 19 (3): 526-537
- Mačić V, Albano PG, Almpantidou V, Claudet J, Corrales X, Essl F et al **2018**. Biological invasions in conservation planning: A global systematic review. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 5: 178. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2018.00178
- Thanopoulou Z, **Sini M**, Vatikiotis K, Katsoupis C, Dimitrakopoulos PG, Katsanevakis S **2018**. How many fish? Comparison of two underwater visual sampling methods for monitoring fish communities. *PeerJ*. doi: 10.7717/peerj.5066
- Tsirintanis K, **Sini M**, Doumas O, Trygonis V, Katsanevakis S **2018**. Assessment of grazing effects on phyto-benthic community structure at shallow rocky reefs: An experimental field study in the North Aegean Sea. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 503: 31–40. doi: 10.1016/j.jembe.2018.01.008
- Katsanevakis S, **Sini M**, Dailianis T, Gerovasileiou V, Koukouroufli N, Topouzelis K et al **2017**. Identifying where vulnerable species occur in a data-poor context: combining satellite imaging and underwater occupancy surveys. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. 577: 17–32. doi: 10.3354/meps12232
- Sini M**, Katsanevakis S, Koukouroufli N, Gerovasileiou V, Dailianis T, Buhl-Mortensen et al. **2017**. Assembling ecological pieces to reconstruct the conservation puzzle of the Aegean Sea. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 4: 347. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2017.00347
- Salomidi M, Giakoumi S, Gerakaris V, Issaris Y, **Sini M**, Tsiamis K **2016**. Setting an ecological baseline prior to the bottom-up establishment of a Marine Protected Area in Santorini Island, Aegean Sea. *Mediterranean Marine Science* 17(3): 720-737
- Sini M**, Dailianis T **2016**. Further expansion of *Oculina patagonica* in Evoikos Gulf. In: *New Mediterranean Biodiversity Records* (July 2016) Dailianis T, et al. *Mediterranean Marine Science* 17(2): 608-626
- Gerovasileiou V, Dailianis T, Panteri E, Michalakis N, Gatti G, **Sini M** et al **2016**. CIGESMED for divers: Establishing a citizen science initiative for the mapping and monitoring of coralligenous assemblages in the Mediterranean Sea. *Biodiversity Data Journal* 4: e8692
- Sini M**, Kipson S, Linares C, Koutsoubas D, Garrabou Q **2015**. The yellow gorgonian *Eunicella cavolini*: Demography and disturbance levels across the Mediterranean Sea. *PLoS One* 10(5): e0126253
- Gerovasileiou V, Chintiroglou CC, Vafidis D, Koutsoubas D, **Sini M**, Dailianis T et al **2015**. Census of biodiversity in marine caves of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. *Mediterranean Marine Science* 16(1): 245–265
- Giakoumi S, Halpern BS, Michel L, Gobert S, **Sini M**, Boudouresque CF et al **2014**. Towards a framework for assessment and management of cumulative human impacts on marine food webs. *Conservation Biology* 29: 1228–1234
- Sini M**, Gerovasileiou V, Koutsoubas D **2014**. New records of the non-indigenous nudibranch *Flabellina rubrolineata* (O'Donoghue, 1929) from the Aegean Sea. In: *New Mediterranean Marine biodiversity records* (April, 2014), Collective Article A. *Mediterranean Marine Science* 15(1): 200–201

- Gerovasileiou V, **Sini M**, Dimitriadis C, Koutsoubas D **2014**. New records of the fangtooth moray *Enchelycore anatina* (Lowe, 1838) from the National Marine Park of Zakynthos (eastern Ionian Sea, Greece). In: New Mediterranean Marine biodiversity records (April, 2014), Collective Article A. Mediterranean Marine Science 15 (1): 202–203
- Giakoumi S, **Sini M**, Gerovasileiou V, Mazor T, Beher J, Possingham HP et al. **2013**. Ecoregion-based conservation planning in the Mediterranean: Dealing with large-scale heterogeneity. PLoS ONE 8(10): e76449
- Gerovasileiou V, Trygonis V, **Sini M**, Koutsoubas D, Voultziadou E **2013**. Three dimensional marine cave topography using a handheld echosounder. Marine Ecology Progress Series 486: 13–22
- Trygonis V, **Sini M** **2012**. photoQuad: A dedicated seabed image processing software, and a comparative error analysis of four photoquadrat methods. Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology 424–425: 99–108
- Katsanevakis S, Poursanidis D, Issaris Y, Panou A, Petza D, Vassilopoulou V, et al **2011**. “Protected” marine shelled molluscs: thriving in Greek seafood restaurants. Mediterranean Marine Science 12(2): 429–438
- Dounas C, Koutsoubas D, Salomidi M, Koulouri P, Gerovassileiou V, **Sini M** **2010**. Distribution and fisheries of the red coral *Corallium rubrum* (Linnaeus, 1758) in the Greek seas: an overview. 106–114. In Bussoletti E, Cottingham D, Bruckner A, Roberts G & R Sandulli (eds) 2010. Proceedings of the International Workshop on Red Coral Science, Management, and Trade: Lessons from the Mediterranean. NOAA Technical Memorandum CRCP-13, Silver Spring, 106–114 p
- Gerovassileiou V, Koutsoubas D, **Sini M**, Paikou K **2009**. Marine Protected Areas and diving tourism in the Greek Seas: practices and perspectives. TOURISMOS: an international multidisciplinary journal of tourism 4(4): 181–197
- Sini M**, Canning SJ, Stockin KA, Pierce GJ **2005**. Bottlenose dolphins around Aberdeen harbour, north-east Scotland: a short study of habitat utilisation and the potential effects of boat traffic. Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom 85: 1547–1554

Selected Conference Proceedings

- Galani A, Dailianis T, **Sini M**, Katsanevakis S, Gerovasileiou V **2019**. Characterization of benthic communities in marine caves of the island-dominated Aegean Sea (Eastern Mediterranean). In: Langar H., Ouerghi A. (edits), Proceedings of the 2nd Mediterranean Symposium on the conservation of Dark Habitats, Antalya, Turkey, 17 January 2019, SPA/RAC publi., Tunis, 76 p.
- Sini M**, Katsoupis C, Thanopoulou Z, Vatikiotis K, Petrou A, Karachle PK et al **2018**. Fish community structure at shallow sublittoral rocky reefs: areas of low versus high fishing pressure. 12th Panhellenic Symposium of Oceanography and Fisheries, 30 May – 3 June, Corfu, Greece.
- Thanopoulou Z, **Sini M**, Vatikiotis K, Katsoupis C, Dimitrakopoulos PG, Katsanevakis S **2018**. How many fish? Comparison of two underwater visual sampling methods for monitoring fish communities. 12th Panhellenic Symposium of Oceanography and Fisheries, 30 May – 3 June, Corfu, Greece.
- Gerovasileiou V, **Sini M**, Dailianis T, del Mar Otero M, Numa C, Katsanevakis S et al **2017**. Assessing the regional conservation status of sponges: the case of the Aegean ecoregion. 10th World Sponge Conference, 25–30 June, Galway, Ireland, UK.
- Sini M**, Topouzelis K, Koukouroufli N, Zotou M, Katsanevakis S, Andreadis, O et al. **2016**. Mapping ecological features for the conservation of biodiversity in the Aegean Sea: the MARISCA project. 51st European Marine Biology Symposium, 26–30 September 2016, Rhodes, Greece – [available in: www.researchgate.net/publication/308364756].
- Dailianis T, Gerovasileiou V, Issaris Y, Salomidi M, **Sini M**, Gerakaris V, et al **2015**. Assessment of coralligenous assemblage in Korinthiakos Gulf, Ionian Sea, SW Greece. **13th ICZEGAR**, 7–11 October, Irakleio, Crete: 203p
- Sini M**, Kipson S, Linares C, Garrabou J, Koutsoubas D **2014**. Distribution of *Eunicella cavolini* (Koch, 1887) across the Mediterranean. 2nd Mediterranean Symposium on the conservation of coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions (Portorož, Slovenia, 29–30 October 2014). Bouaff C, Langar H, Ouerghi A, edits., RAC/SPA publi., Tunis:
- Sini M**, Garrabou J, Koutsoubas D **2014**. Diversity and structure of coralligenous assemblages dominated by *Eunicella cavolini* (Koch, 1887) in the Aegean Sea. . 2nd Mediterranean Symposium on the conservation of coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions (Portorož, Slovenia, 29–30 October 2014). Bouaff C, Langar H, Ouerghi A, edits., RAC/SPA publi., Tunis: 247p
- Dimitriadis C, **Sini M**, Gerovasileiou V, Fournari-Konstantinidou I, Sourbes L, Poursanidis D et al **2013**. Herbivorous fish in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos. **MARBIGEN**, 7–8 October 2013, Heraklion, Crete