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ASI SPECIAL ISSUE IN FRONTIERS FOR MARINE SCIENCES CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

Presented by the Secretariat

Issue: presentation of the on-going call for abstracts and contribution in ASI special issue in Frontiers for Marine sciences

1. Action requested

The Scientific Committee is invited to note the information provided on the on-going call for abstracts and contribution in ASI special issue in Frontiers for Marine sciences

2. Background

The main results of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative are estimates of abundance and distribution of cetaceans, marine mega-fauna and marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Black Sea. In line with the data policy and terms of use established in 2018 for the Mediterranean survey data, many requests have been submitted to the ACCOBAMS Secretariat, aiming at examining different parts of the multi-target datasets collected during the campaign with a view to develop specific scientific papers.

Following the suggestion by the Chair of Scientific Committee/ASI Scientific Coordinator early 2020, the ASI Steering Committee agreed that the development of scientific peer reviewed papers / Special Volume based on the ASI/CeNoBS data and results would be relevant as an added value to the ASI effort and would improve the Survey visibility and the credibility of its outcome.

The ACCOBAMS Bureau was consulted on the matter during its 13th Meeting in December 2020 and following its deliberation the proposal was circulated to all National Focal Points in March 2021. Subsequently, the topic Editors Simone Panigada, Vincent Ridoux, Ayaka Amaha Ozturk, Nejla Bejaoui & Oliver Boisseau launched the opening of a Research topic in the scientific journal Frontiers in Marine Science: [The ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative \(ASI\): Implementing Large Scale Surveys for Marine Megafauna in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.](#)

The main goal of this special issue is to bring together original research papers, perspectives, and reviews focusing on the results collected and the data arising from the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative.

The topic Editors will receive and review abstracts (or a short description outlining the general idea) by 31 December 2021 and the documents for peer-review by 29 April 2022.

In this process, geographical and gender balance in relation to authorship will be sought by the Topic Editors, in accordance with the ACCOBAMS Bureau's recommendation.

Thanks to a Voluntary contribution from Italy, a financial support to overcome publication fees is foreseen as to be provided by ACCOBAMS to interested researchers who are invited to indicate such need when contacting the Topic Editors.

Frontiers' Research Topics - Important information

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