

## PENDING AND NEW REQUESTS FOR ACCOBAMS PARTNERSHIP

### 1. Pending application

The existing application by **DelTa Association** (Italy) was re-examined during the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Extended Bureau, which decided to postpone its decision until the advice from the Italian National Focal Point was available.

The following required paperwork to apply for the status of ACCOBAMS Partner was forwarded to the Italian National Focal Point and appears in the [Annex 1](#):

- DelTa Association Application form
- DelTa Association supporting note for its application
- The Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners duly signed
- DelTa Association Legal Status
- The *Curriculum Vitae* of the DelTa Association representative, Mrs. Milena Tempesta

The advice received from Mr. Oliviero Montanaro, Italian National Focal Point is as follows:

*With reference to your request below, I would like to inform you that this Ministry has taken in due consideration all documents produced by Delta regarding the activities carried out in the field of cetacean conservation and their involvement in the implementation of ACCOBAMS programme of work, in particular through the programme of collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat during the 2020-2022 triennium that they have submitted at a later stage.*

*Although the Ministry has no direct contacts with such Association, I consider that ACCOBAMS objectives and activities could benefit from this programme of collaboration and from the experience declared by Delta in providing support to cetacean conservation, and therefore confirm that there are no impediments to include Delta as a Partner to ACCOBAMS.*

### 2. New request

**Delphis NGO** represented by **Eyal Bigal** in quality of **co-founder and member of management committee** applied for the Status of ACCOBAMS Partner.

The following required paperwork to apply for the status of ACCOBAMS Partner was received at the Secretariat on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and appears in [Annex 2](#):

- Delphis NGO Application form
- Delphis NGO supporting note for its application
- The Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners duly signed
- Delphis NGO Legal Status
- The *Curriculum Vitae* of the Delphis NGO representative, M. Eyal Bigal

**ANNEX 1**



## APPLICATION FORM

**Applicants shall send all relevant documents by email at: [secretariat@accobams.net](mailto:secretariat@accobams.net) or by mail at the following address:**

ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat  
 Les Terrasses de Fontvieille  
 Jardin de l'UNESCO  
 MC-98000 Monaco

The DelTa association (Delfini e Tartarughe in Golfo di Trieste) represented by Milena Tempesta in quality of scientific officer / project manager with the aim to apply for the ACCOBAMS Partner status declares that the application contains the following elements:

	YES	NO
1. A copy of the statute of the Entity (in original language and a translation into English or French);	X	
2. The signed Declaration of Commitment (included in the Application form) declaring that the Entity actions include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement;	X	
3. A note concerning its capacities with a particular attention to:	X	
(i) experience in providing support to cetacean conservation by implementing practical research, collection and analysis of information or other educational and training activities;		
(ii) demonstrated experience in implementing partnership ventures, such as for training and education, technical and scientific expertise, policy development or evaluation and assessment, particularly when such ventures would bring new and additional benefits to the functioning of the ACCOBAMS partnership;	X	
(iii) demonstrated willingness and ability to cooperate with national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies;	X	
(iv) readiness to contribute actively on a regular basis to further development of policies and tools of the Agreement and their application, particularly by assisting Parties to meet their obligations under the Agreement;	X	
(v) if any, previous experience in communicating with the Secretariat and cooperating with ACCOBAMS in the achievement of its objectives;		X
(vi) the benefits expected for the Entity and for ACCOBAMS	X	
4. <i>Curriculum Vitae</i> of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status	X	
5. A signed copy of the Rules and Commitments (Annex 2 of the Resolution)	X	

**DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT**

On behalf of the Entity, I commit to comply with the rules and commitments specified in the Resolution. Actions of the entity include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement.

Name of the Entity	DeITa (Delfini e Tartarughe nel Golfo di Trieste)
Address,	Loc. Giasbana 8 – San Floriano (Gorizia) - Italy
Telephone/fax	T: +393208238959/ +393336150121
email	E: delta.adriatico@gmail.com
website	<a href="https://deltaadriatico.wixsite.com/delta">https://deltaadriatico.wixsite.com/delta</a>
Social media link(s)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/DelTa.DelfiniTartarughe/">https://www.facebook.com/DelTa.DelfiniTartarughe/</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/AdriaticoDelta">https://twitter.com/AdriaticoDelta</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/delta.adriatico">https://www.instagram.com/delta.adriatico</a>

Date and place  
Gorizia, 04/02/2020.

Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status and Signature

Milena Tempesta

*Milena Tempesta*

Stamp and/or logo if applicable.



04/02/2020

DelTa – Application to the status of ACCOBAMS partners

### **Note concerning the applicant's capacities**

- (i) experience in providing support to cetacean conservation by implementing practical research, collection and analysis of information or other educational and training activities;

Since 2016 as part of the monitoring actions on large marine vertebrates on platforms of opportunity, monitoring of cetaceans and turtles takes place along the ferry line Grado-Trieste thanks to the collaboration with the local transport company. It is therefore possible to embark on the ferry, 2-4 researchers who twice a week in the summer months travel the round trip to observe and gather data on the presence of cetaceans and sea turtles. Scientific research is carried out according to ISPRA sampling protocols on fixed line transects for observations along the routes frequented by ferries in the Mediterranean.

In the field of environmental education activities, a project called N2K (species Natura 2000) obtained the regional contribution for the third consecutive year (2017-18-19). The intent is to carry out actions to support the training of responsible and sensitized citizens on the subject of the conservation of marine threatened species (cetaceans and sea turtles) included among those of the Natura 2000 network.

- (ii) demonstrated experience in implementing partnership ventures

The acquisition of experience and technical and professional skills has allowed over the years to establish relationships with national and international partners such as the Universities of Trieste and Padua, the Regional Environmental Protection Agency of the FVG, the Higher Institute for Protection and Environmental Research (ISPRA), the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, the Natural History Museum of Trieste, the Provincial Transport Company of Gorizia.

- (iii) demonstrated willingness and ability to cooperate with national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies;

DelTa is part of the regional alert network in case of stranding and first aid for cetaceans and sea turtles.

Is also partner of the MedPAN association (Mediterranean Protected Areas Network).

- (iv) readiness to contribute actively on a regular basis to the further development of policies and tools of the Agreement and their application, particularly by assisting Parties to meet their obligations under the Agreement;
- (v) if any, previous experience in communicating with the Secretariat and cooperating with ACCOBAMS in the achievement of its objectives;
- (vi) the benefits expected for the Entity and for ACCOBAMS

Benefits expected by DelTa from the partnership are: training, networking, experience sharing, being part of regional monitoring and awareness raising campaigns, exchange of ideas and knowledge among associates for common projects.

DelTa can assure to ACCOBAMS help and support to local and national campaigns for cetaceans conservation (monitoring, data gathering, awareness raising, education, information) and also help in implementing ventures and collaborations with local scientific institutions and governmental and non-governmental bodies.



## **RULES AND COMMITMENTS OF ACCOBAMS PARTNERS**

1. ACCOBAMS Partners shall be expected to contribute on a regular basis and to the best of their ability to the further development of policies, technical and scientific tools of the Agreement and to their application.
2. ACCOBAMS Partners shall present, at the latest two months after each Meeting of the Parties, a programme of collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat during the triennium. The programme shall include all activities carried out in the frame of the partnership and related to the conservation plan and the support to the Permanent Secretariat.
3. ACCOBAMS Partners shall make proper use of the ACCOBAMS Partners logo in compliance with ACCOBAMS Resolution 4.21.
4. ACCOBAMS Partners shall communicate with the Permanent Secretariat on activities related to ACCOBAMS objectives. ACCOBAMS Partners shall share information, including their publications, with their National Focal Point. ACCOBAMS Partners that own original data on cetaceans in the Agreement area are strongly encouraged to share such data, as appropriate, through NETCCOBAMS, the MEDACES stranding database and through the OBIS SEAMAP database and any other relevant tools.
5. Before each Meeting of the Parties, ACCOBAMS Partners shall report on the implementation of their activities and on the use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo. To this end, their reports shall reach the Permanent Secretariat and the relevant National Focal Point at the latest two months before the Bureau meeting held to prepare the Meeting of the Parties.
6. Partners shall be invited to participate, in an observer capacity and as advisors, in all activities of the Agreement, except when otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties.
7. ACCOBAMS Partners could be invited to contribute to the development of project proposals, project implementation and to the evaluation of project results.
8. The ACCOBAMS Bureau may decide to withdraw the status of ACCOBAMS Partner if no activities are reported, if they are considered not to be relevant and if they are contrary to the achievement of ACCOBAMS objectives or to the present Rules and Commitments. Withdrawal of the Partner status does not prejudice any legal action for improper use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo.

Date and place Gorizia, 04/02/2020

Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status and Signature

**Milena Tempesta**

Stamp and/or logo if applicable.

## **STATUTE**

### **Association “DeITa”**

#### **ARTICLE 1 - NAME**

1. It is constituted in compliance with the civil code and law 383/2000 the Social Promotion Association “DeITa - Dolphins and Turtles of the Gulf of Trieste” (from now on simply called “DeITa”).
2. “DeITa” is a non-profit, politically independent and non-confessional association.

#### **ARTICLE 2 - LOCATION AND DURATION**

1. The Association has its registered office in the Municipality of Gorizia.
2. The transfer of the registered office shall not entail any statutory change.  
The duration of the Association is unlimited.

#### **ARTICLE 3 - PURPOSES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

“DeITa” was established for the following purposes:

- a) to encourage public participation in the adoption of good practices for the conservation of marine and coastal habitats in order to protect organisms and ecosystems;
- b) to promote a culture of conservation and respect of natural ecosystems
- c) to promote a culture of sustainable development, understood as the ability to activate and manage processes that directly or indirectly meet the need of mankind and guarantee life to all species;
- d) to stimulate young people’s interest in preserving the environment, by transmitting values of responsibility and commitment through collective training experiences in schools;
- e) to encourage the individual and collective training of members in order to improve the effectiveness of their actions and their commitment to the protection of marine-coastal ecosystems.
- f) to encourage cooperation and networking between the local realities that pursue goals akin to those of the Association;
- g) to promote research and scientific activity for the purposes of knowledge and safeguarding of the marine biodiversity through the conservation of habitats, the wildlife and flora, and for their restoration to a favourable state of conservation, also through the exchange of experiences with national and international bodies and associations.

#### **ARTICLE 4 - ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

1. “DeITa” pursues its objectives through activities and services such as, but not limited to:
  - a) the organisation of meetings, conferences and debates, exhibitions and screenings, performances, events, to encourage the exchange of ideas and knowledge, particularly with regard to contacts with schools and young people, groups and institutions both public and private, which pursue similar aims;
  - b) the implementation of monitoring campaigns of cetaceans, sea turtles and large marine vertebrates to prepare reports on the conservation status of these species, in order to spread data and information, as well as encouraging exchanges between bodies and associations with similar purposes;
  - c) care-taking and study of sea turtles, cetaceans and large marine vertebrates in nature or in structures with spaces and environments suitable for the first rescue and hospitalization, showing respect for the well-being of the animal;

- d) participation in national and international projects for the protection and study of sea turtles, cetaceans and large marine vertebrates;
- e) drafting and production of editorial and multimedia materials for scientific publication purposes
- f) design of refresher and training courses.

2. “DeITa”, by means of specific resolutions, may:

- conduct occasional public fundraising, through parties, banquets and prize subscriptions;
- engage in other non prevailing activities of a commercial nature in order to provide financial support for the institutional activities; in this case, it will have to respect the existing administrative and tax regulations.

3. “DeITa” may also join national and international initiatives and associations that pursue the same objectives and may carry out any other act aimed at achieving its own goals.

4. The activities referred to in the previous paragraphs are mainly carried out by the Association, in an impacting manner and through the voluntary, free and unpaid services of its members. In case of particular necessity, the Association may also assume employees or use the services of self-employed professionals, as well as start further collaborations or occasional activity, also using their own associates.

#### ARTICLE 5 – MEMBERS

1. Any physical person or legal entity may become a “DeITa” Member by accepting the articles of this Statute and the internal rules, and by sharing the goals of the Association, regardless of sexual identity, national origin, ethnicity, political orientation and religious belief.

2. Membership is granted to all founding members of the Association and all physical person or legal entity in accordance with the provisions of the following Articles.

3. All Members have equal rights and obligations towards the Association, according to the provisions of this Statute.

4. The number of Members is unlimited.

#### ARTICLE 6 - CRITERIA FOR THE ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

1. The body responsible for deciding on applications for admission shall be the Board of Directors.

2. Admission to the Association shall be decided by the Board of Directors, following the written request of applicants, in which they will have to specify their complete details.

3. The Board of Directors shall examine and express itself, within a maximum of 30 days from the application for admission, by verifying that the aspiring Members are in possession of the requirements and, in particular, that they do not show attitudes that are not consistent with the aims of the Association. Reasons must be provided for any refusal.

4. In the event that the application is rejected, or response is not given in due time, the person concerned may lodge an appeal with the President who will initiate a proceeding and report



to the Assembly, which will take a final decision on the appeal during its first general meeting.

5. The application of legal persons, bodies and associations shall be signed by the relevant legal representative and include the appointment of a delegate within to the Association itself. Legal persons and associations shall be represented by the delegate appointed at the time of registration. The replacement of a delegate shall be communicated in writing to the Board of Directors, signed by the relevant legal representative.

6. Some members, defined as honorary, are elected by the Assembly on a proposal of the Board of Directors, following their acceptance.

7. The Board of Directors is responsible for annotating the members in the Members' register.

8. The admission of a member and consequently the right to vote in the Assembly is subject to the payment of the annual share of self-financing as established by the Board of Directors and approved by the Assembly's meeting convened for the approval of the budget. For the first year, however, the share of self-financing shall be determined by the founding members.

9. Members are required to pay their membership fee within 10 days from the communication of admission on the part of the Board of Directors. Such communication shall be deemed valid when carried out by means of electronic mail and/or by posting on the register set up at the Association headquarters.

10. The membership fee is not transferable.

11. Membership is also granted to minors, without voting rights, provided they are authorised by a parental authority.

#### ARTICLE 7 - MEMBERS' RIGHTS

Members of "DelTa" have the right:

- a) to participate in all the activities promoted by the Association;
- b) to attend the Assembly, with the right to vote, except for members who are below the legal age;
- c) to elect, and be elected to, the governing bodies (only if of legal age);
- d) to have access to the minutes of the meetings and to the financial papers;
- e) to be reimbursed of actual costs incurred during activities performed and authorized.

#### ARTICLE 8 - DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Members of "DelTa" are required:

- a) to comply with this Statute, with the internal rules and with the resolutions adopted by the governing bodies;
- b) to behave towards other members and outside the Association in a spirit of solidarity, correctness, good faith, honesty, probity and moral rigour, in line with this Statute and with the spirit of the Association;
- c) to pay the membership fee as approved annually by the Members' Assembly on proposal of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE 9 - WITHDRAWAL OF A MEMBER

1. A member may withdraw from the Association by means of a written communication to the Board of Directors.
2. Withdrawal becomes effective upon registration in the Members' register.
3. Members who have withdrawn and have ceased to belong to the Association are not entitled to be reimbursed of their contributions, nor have they any right to claim upon the assets of the Association or to vote at the Assembly.

## ARTICLE 10 - EXCLUSION OF A MEMBER

The exclusion of a member is decided upon by the Board of Directors. It shall be effected by letter to the member concerned, at the address reported in the Members' register, along with the motives that have led to the exclusion. The person concerned may lodge an appeal against such an exclusion with the President, who will initiate a proceeding and report to the Assembly, which will take a final decision on the appeal during its first general meeting, ratified by the Members' Assembly at the first useful date.

2. A member may be excluded from the Association in case of failure to comply with Article 8 of this Statute or for other serious reasons which have caused moral and/or material damage to the Association itself.
3. Members who have been excluded and have ceased to belong to the Association are not entitled to be reimbursed of their contributions, nor have they any right to claim upon the assets of the Association.

## ARTICLE 11 – GOVERNING BODIES

1. The governing bodies of the Association are:
  - the Members' Assembly;
  - the Board of Directors;
  - the President.
2. All appointments in the governing bodies shall be taken and carried out at no cost.

## ARTICLE 12 - THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly is the sovereign body of the Association and consists of all members who have fulfilled their obligation to pay the membership fee.
2. The Assembly is convened at least once a year by the President or, in case he/she is absent or so prevented, by the Vice-President, at the request of a Director or one-fifth of the members, by means of an e-mail or fax sent at least 10 days before the date set for the Assembly, containing the agenda, the place and the date of the meeting, and the time of the first and the second call, which must take place at least 24 hours after the first one. For members who do not have an e-mail or fax address, the convocation shall be deemed valid by posting the relative communication on the register set up in the Association headquarters. Even in the absence of a convocation, the meeting is considered to be valid when all members are present.
3. The discussions and resolutions of the Assembly are summarised in minutes to be drawn up by a Secretary appointed by the Assembly. The minutes, signed by the President and the

Secretary, shall be kept in the records of the Association and be accessible to all members, who can ask for a copy at their own expense.

4. The Assembly can be general or extraordinary: it is extraordinary if convened for amendments to be made to the Statute and for the dissolution of the Association, it is general in all other cases.

5. The Members' general Assembly meets in order to:

- a) approve the budget and balance sheet, as well as the report on the activities;
- b) elect the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer every 3 (three) years;
- c) elect the other members of the Board of Directors every 3 (three) years, determining its number from three to five;
- d) approve annually the membership fees, subject to the provisions of Article 6.7;
- e) decide on the exclusion of a member from the Association, in accordance with Article 10.1;
- f) establish the general guidelines for the Association's activities;
- g) deliberate on all other topics submitted for examination by the Board of Directors.

6. The general Assembly is valid on first call if half plus one of the members are present or represented by proxy. On second call the general Assembly is valid whatever the number of members present or represented by proxy. Each member may not have more than 2 written proxies.

7. The resolutions of the general Assembly shall be adopted by open ballot with a vote in favour of the absolute majority of the attending members.

8. The extraordinary Assembly adopt resolutions on the following topics:

- a) approval of any amendments to the Statute if two third of the members are present, in person or by proxy, and the decision is taken by majority vote;
- b) dissolution of the Association and devolution of its assets with two-third of the members' votes in favour.

## ARTICLE 13 – THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Association is managed by a Board of Directors which is elected by the Assembly on the basis of the applications submitted. The Board of Directors remains in office for three years and shall consist of the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer and other members elected by the Assembly. The members of the Board are always eligible for re-election.

2. The Board of Directors is tasked with the following:

- a) to draw up its internal rules in compliance with the principles of the Statute and to enact any regulation or provision deemed appropriate for the smooth functioning of the Association;
- b) to exercise all acts of ordinary and extraordinary administration which are not reserved to the member's Assembly;
- c) to plan the activities for the social year, ensuring the coverage of costs;
- d) to identify project, area and activity managers;
- e) to draw up and submit to the Assembly the final budget as well as the annual activity report of the Association, by depositing them at the Association's headquarters at least 15 days before the Assembly's meeting, so that they can be consulted by all members;

- f) to appoint its own representatives within other bodies and associations, when invited to join or participate to such bodies;
- g) to decide on the admissibility of the applications of aspiring members to the Association;
- h) to exclude members pursuant to Article 10 of this Statute.

3. The Board of Directors is convened by the President by means of a notice to be sent to each Director by fax or e-mail at least 3 (three) days before the date set for the meeting. For Directors who do not have an e-mail or fax address, the convocation shall be deemed valid by posting the relevant notice on the register set up at the Association headquarters. Even in the absence of a convocation, the meeting shall be deemed valid when all members of the Board of Directors are present. It shall be convened at least twice every year and whenever the President deems it appropriate. The President is obliged to convene the Board of Directors upon written request by the majority of the Directors. The meetings of the Board of Directors shall always have an agenda of points to be dealt with and shall be valid provided that at least a majority of its components are present.

4. The meetings shall be chaired by the President or, in case he/she is absent or so prevented, by the Vice-President or, in case he/she is absent or so prevented, by the senior Director.

5. Resolutions shall be taken by an absolute majority of votes and, in case of a tied vote, the vote of the President shall prevail.

6. Voting shall be by show of hands or by roll call, as the President deems appropriate.

7. In urgent cases, the meetings of the Board of Directors may be held by video or telephone conference as long as all the participants recognize themselves reciprocally; the meeting shall be deemed to have taken place where the President is, who shall necessarily have physically at his/her side the director who will draw the minutes of the proceedings.

#### ARTICLE 14 - PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, TREASURER

1. The President of the Association is elected by the Assembly; the Vice-President and the Treasurer are elected to the Board during the first meeting. They choose to present together their candidatures. The President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer remain in office for 3 (three) years and are always eligible for re-election.

The President:

- a) represents, also for all legal purposes, the Association itself;
- b) ensures the smooth functioning of the Board of Directors, convenes the meetings of the latter, chairs the meetings and signs, together with the Secretary, all resolutions that are adopted;
- c) signs the final budget to be presented to the members;
- d) chairs the Assemblies.

In case he/she is absent or temporarily prevented to do so, his/her duties shall be taken over by the Vice-President or, in case the latter is absent or temporarily prevented to do so, by the senior Director.

2. The Vice-President shall replace the President in the performance of his/her duties in case the latter is prevented to do so, in this case he also acts as representative of the Association for all legal purposes; the President and Vice-President exercise their legal representation with separate signatures.

3. The Treasurer :

- a) collects the incomes and membership fees;
- b) make the payments ordered by the President and deliberated by the Board of Directors;
- c) is responsible for the keeping of the accounts and prepares the draft budget to be submitted to the Board of Directors which, after examination, will submit it to the Assembly;
- d) cooperates with the President and ensure the implementation of decisions of the Board of Directors;
- e) retains all acts of the Association;
- f) updates the Members' register.

ARTICLE 15 – APPOINTMENTS IN THE GOVERNING BODIES

1. All appointments in the governing bodies shall be carried out at no cost.

2. The following persons may not be appointed in the governing bodies:

- a) citizens who are not of legal age;
- b) persons whose manifest behaviour is contrary to the fundamental principles of the Association.

3. If, for whatever reason, one or more Directors cease their functions, it is the task of the Assembly to elect the alternate Director(s) on the basis of the proposed candidatures.

4. Holders of appointments in the governing bodies shall cease their functions:

- a) in the event of resignation; resignations must be notified in writing or by e-mail to the Board of Directors, which reserves the right to accept them after consultation;
- b) by revocation, when they no longer carry out the activities in respect of their appointment or when serious reasons arise. Revocation shall be decided by the general Assembly, having heard the interested party.

ARTICLE 16 - FINANCIAL RESOURCES

1. The Association obtains economic resources for its functioning and activities from:

- a) annual membership fees;
- b) any donations made by its members and by private citizens;
- c) contributions from international bodies, State bodies and public institutions also aimed at achieving the objectives that meet the purposes of the Association;
- d) contributions from public and private bodies;
- e) donations and legacies;
- f) incomes from goods and services transferred to members and third parties also through economic activities in the commercial, craft or agricultural sector carried out in auxiliary and subsidiary form and in any case aimed at achieving the institutional objectives. These incomes are included in a specific item of the association's budget, any profits must be reinvested in the institutional activities.
- g) revenues from sales promotions such as parties and events with prize subscriptions.

2. The assets of the Association consist of:

- a) movable and immovable properties obtained by the Association on whatever grounds (donations, legacies, etc.) from individuals or entities or directly purchased;
- b) any reserve funds.

3. The Association's financial years begin on January 1 and close on 31 December of each year. By March of each year, the Board of Directors must be convened for the preparation of the final budget to be submitted to the Assembly by April of each year.

4. It is absolutely forbidden to distribute, even indirectly, profits or operating surpluses, as well as funds, reserves or capital during the life of the Association, unless otherwise required by law.

5. Profits and operating surpluses must be used for the realization of the institutional activities. The assets of the Association in any form are aimed exclusively at the realization of the purposes and the institutional activities provided for by the Statute.

6. The Board of Directors may refuse any donation that is intended to have an impact in any way on the activities of the Association.

7. The final budget shall be deposited at the Association's headquarters and in the various sections, at least 20 days before the Assembly and may be consulted by any member.

#### ARTICLE 17 - DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 8(b), the Assembly that decides the dissolution of the Association appoints one or more liquidators and the destination of the assets remaining from the liquidation itself.

2. The devolution of the assets shall be carried out for the purposes of public utility in favour of social promotion associations with similar aims.

#### ARTICLE 18 - FINAL PROVISIONS

For everything not expressly covered by this Statute, the provisions contained in the Civil Code and in the relevant, existing laws applies.

# EUROPEAN CURRICULUM VITAE FORMAT



## CERTIFICATION REPLACEMENT DECLARATION (art. 46 and 47 D.P.R. 445/2000)

The undersigned MILENA TEMPESTA,  
aware that false declarations involve the application of the penal sanctions provided for by art. 76 of the D.P.R. 445/2000, declares that the information reported in the following curriculum vitae, written in European format, is true:

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name and Surname	<b>MILENA TEMPESTA</b>
Address	<b>VIA SAN VITO, 9 – 34124 TRIESTE (ITALY)</b>
Telephone	<b>+39 338 2268432</b>
E-mail	<b>milena.tempesta@gmail.com</b>
Nationality	Italian
Date of birth	11/05/1968

### WORK EXPERIENCE

- Dates (from – to) June 2019 – Jan. 2022
- Name and address of employer ISPRA – Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale  
Via Vitaliano Brancati 48 – Roma
- Type of business or sector Scientific research and environmental protection
- Occupation or position held Expert for external evaluation of Interreg Med Project Plastic Busters MPAs
- Main activities and responsibilities Technical assistance in the implementation and transition phase of the project modules; facilitation of information exchange within the partnership; management of specific reporting activities; analysis of critical issues in the implementation of the project; management of formal communications with the Joint Technical Secretariat of the MED Programme.  
Plastic Busters MPAs is a project for preserving biodiversity from plastics in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas
- Dates (from – to) From January 2019 on voluntary basis
- Name and address of employer IUCN Green List Programme  
IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med)  
C/ Marie Curie 22, 29590 Campanillas (PTA) Malaga (Spain)
- Type of business or sector Assessment of protected areas management effectiveness
- Occupation or position held Member of the national-level IUCN Expert Assessment group for the Green List (EAGL) in Italy
- Main activities and responsibilities Evaluate PAs for compliance with the approved indicators following Green List Programme rules and procedures and recommend PAs for addition to the Green List if they are found to comply with all indicators
- Dates (from – to) July – Nov. 2018
- Name and address of employer Federparchi Europarc Italy – Italian Federation of Parks and Natural Reserves  
Via Nazionale 230 – Roma (Italy)
- Type of business or sector Network of parks and reserves
- Occupation or position held Expert for external evaluation of Interreg Med Project FishMPABlue2
- Main activities and responsibilities Evaluative monitoring including assistance for the good implementation of the project and as well as methodological support to identify and anticipate potential difficulties that the project might face. FishMPABlue2 is a project on integration of small scale fishery in the management of a marine protected area in order to preserve biodiversity and support Blue Economy

- Dates (from – to) May 2016 – at present
- Name and address of employer APS DelTa – Delfini e Tartarughe in Alto Adriatico  
Loc. Giasbana – S. Floriano (GO, Italy)
- Type of business or sector Research and monitoring, conservation and dissemination on big marine vertebrates
- Occupation or position held Founder member, marine biologist and scientific responsible
- Main activities and responsibilities Organisation and co-ordination of environmental education projects on marine issues and sustainable development (2016-17-18) including:
  - Species N2000: educational project on presence of cetaceans and sea turtles in the Gulf of Trieste, their etho-ecological and anatomical characteristics for secondary and high schools students (“N2K”) (2016-17; 2017-18).
  - Citizen science: monitoring by ferry-boat of the presence of big marine vertebrates and of floating macro plastics as threat to marine fauna with the involvement of high school students as example of green works (“Alternanza Scuola Lavoro”).
  - Marine and freshwater environments: collaboration in educational project on mapping and characterization of the marine and freshwater sites in the Province of Gorizia for secondary and high schools (“I luoghi dell’acqua” – 2017-18)

Scientific responsible in marine environment monitoring studies including:  
Study and monitoring of the presence of cetaceans and sea turtles in the Gulf of Trieste along fixed transect by a ferry boat platform (2017-2018)  
First aid intervention in case of stranding of marine turtles and cetaceans
- Dates (from – to) Nov. 2016 – June 2017
- Name and address of employer Italian Ministry of Education
- Type of business or sector School education
- Occupation or position held High school teacher
- Main activities and responsibilities Support and help in scientific issues for students with reduce capacities and/or disabilities
- Dates (from – to) Feb. – Oct. 2016
- Name and address of employer University of Trieste – Dept. of Life Science  
Via L. Giorgieri, 4 - Trieste (Italy)
- Type of business or sector Scientific research, seminars
- Occupation or position held Visiting researcher
- Dates (from – to) Feb. 2001 – Dec. 2016
- Name and address of employer Shoreline company (Trieste, Italy)
- Type of business or sector Environmental education and communication, scientific research on marine environment
- Occupation or position held Researcher, marine biologist and environmental educator
- Main activities and responsibilities Organisation and co-ordination of environmental education activities in wetland areas (2008 – 2016);  
Organisation and co-ordination of environmental education activities on marine issues and sustainable development (2008 – 2016) including:
  - Halt of biodiversity loss: educational project on active citizenship for the halt of coastal biodiversity loss tailored for high school students (“Protect the environment proactively! – CLANFA”) (2009-2010)
  - Marine litter: educational projects for primary school children (“The greedy whale”) and secondary schools (“Dangerous species threaten our shores”) of the Province of Trieste (2013-2014-2015) and project “3R reduce, recycle, reuse” for the Regional Laboratory of Environmental Education of the FVG (2013)
  - Sustainable seafood consumption: educational project for primary and secondary schools and high schools on the sustainability of the consumption of marine products (2012-2013-2015)
  - Naturalness of the coasts: educational project on the use of indicators to assess the naturalness of the coast open to secondary schools and high schools (“Coastnet”) (2012-2013-2015-2016)
  - Consumer awareness: educational project on the awareness of the environmental impacts resulting from food consumption aimed at primary schools (“Consapevolmente”) (2016)



Scientific collaboration in environmental audit projects;

- Characterisation of the macrozoobenthic communities for the environmental analysis inside an ecomanagement and environmental audit project in a fish – farm;
- Collaboration in the project “Gap Analysis in Mediterranean Coastal Zones Management” with WWF International MedPO;

Characterisation and monitoring of the macrozoobenthic communities under a floating fish - farm cages to evaluate the environmental impact of the breeding

Scientific collaboration for the elaboration of programmes for promoting public access, information and education for the following protected areas: Al Hoceima National Park (Morocco) and the Zembra and Zembretta National Park (Tunisia) on behalf of RAC-SPA (Regional Activities Center for Special Protected Area, Tunis) (2004 - 2005)

Scientific collaboration for evaluating marine protected areas management efficiency on behalf of WWF Italy (2006 – 2007)

Reporting and final elaboration of the handbook on Management Effectiveness Evaluation in 5 Italian MPAs on behalf of WWF Italy project named “Management Effectiveness Italia” (2006 – 2007)

Scientific collaboration for the preparation of an educational exhibition on the loss of biodiversity on behalf of WWF Italy (2008).

Teacher as expert in environmental education and marine biology in training course for environmental educator in protected areas of the Girona Province –Catalunya, Spain (2009) and of the Rijeka province – Croatia (2009)

Organisation of a workshop on how to establish and manage a MPA held in Montenegro on behalf of the Montenegrin Ministry of Sustainable Tourism and Development. Outline of the agenda, selection of the international experts and case studies, preparation of presentation and materials to distribute to participants (2012)

Report on recreational fishing within the Italian marine protected areas as the Italian contribution to the transnational document reviewing the state of the art of recreational fisheries in the Mediterranean, envisaged in the framework of the MedPAN North project, funded by Programme Med EU funds. (2012)

Report on the use of eco-friendly mooring systems in Italian marine protected areas in the framework of component no. 5 entitled “Sustainable Management of Tourism in Mediterranean MPAs” of the MedPAN North project, funded by Programme Med EU funds (2012)

Manual for MPA managers for integrating cetacean conservation to MPA management on behalf of ACCOBAMS (Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area) (2013)

Organisation of a field study for PA managers of Albania, Macedonia e Montenegro on management of Natura 2000 sites in Friuli-Venezia Giulia and bordering Slovenia on behalf of GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) -German international cooperation for sustainable development. Outline of the agenda, selection of the experts and case studies, preparation of presentation and materials to distribute to participants (2014)

Jan. 1997 – Dec. 2015

WWF - Miramare Marine Protected Area (Trieste, Italy)

Conservation of marine environment, environmental education and communication, scientific research on marine environment

Researcher marine biologist and environmental educator

Responsible for environmental education activities (2000 – 2005) with skills in planning, organisation and evaluation of EE activities and related materials (didactical sheets, books and leaflets);

Scientific and administrative responsible for WWF Italy - Miramare MPA inside the European Interreg IIIC Project named MedPAN (Mediterranean Protected Areas Network) (2005-2007):

- organisation of one meeting;
- preparation of one specific management tool on marine litter;
- coordination for one study on the evaluation of the environmental education effectiveness.

Scientific responsible for WWF Italy - Miramare MPA inside the Programme Med project named MedPAN North (Mediterranean Protected Areas Network) (2009-2013) with the task of:

- defining a list of indicators for management effectiveness of the MPAs of the network;

- **Dates (from – to)**
- Name and address of employer
- Type of business or sector
- Occupation or position held
- Main activities and responsibilities

- preparation of a quick guideline for the evaluation of the effectiveness of Mediterranean MPAs in managing and pursuing their own activities;
- coordination for one communication and awareness-raising campaign on the sustainable consumption of seafood.

Member of the Board of Directors of MedPAN Association (Mediterranean protected Areas Network) on behalf of WWF Italy (2011-2012).

Teacher as expert in environmental education and marine biology in national and international workshops:

- “Blue School” training course for MPAs managers and environmental educators on behalf of WWF International Mediterranean Programme Office (1995-1998),
- several training courses for Italian MPAs managers for different centres of continuous training (C.I.F. of Cagliari and I.F.O.L.D. of Cagliari) (1995 - 2000);
- training courses for young volunteers inside the Miramare MPA (2006)
- transfer of knowledge for the organisation of the educational and interpretation services at the Plemmirio MPA (Sicily) (2008) on behalf of Italian Ministry for Economical Development;
- training course on MPA Management Effectiveness Evaluators: evaluation cycles and SPAMI procedures (Izola, Slovenia 21-22 Sept. 2011)
- training course for future manager of MPAs “Building the next generation of leadership in marine conservation: a learning forum” organised by DiSVA-Università Politecnica delle Marche, WWF MedPO, NOAA (Ancona, Italy 1-12 Oct. 2015)

Scientific responsible in monitoring studies:

- Studies of the benthic communities (2003);
- Monitoring of the impact of human trampling on tidal zone communities inside Miramare MPA (2003-2005);
- Acoustic classification of the seabottom inside the Miramare MPA (2007);
- Population study of endangered species *Pinna nobilis* inside the Miramare MPA (2007 – 2011)
- Evaluation of the ichthyoplankton distribution inside the Miramare MPA (2010)
- Monitoring of phanerogams seabed in Miramare MPA (2010-2011)
- Monitoring of the presence of cetacean in the Gulf of Trieste in collaboration with the Coast Guard units of Trieste and Grado (2010-2011-2012-2013-201-2015)
- Aerial survey for monitoring the presence of cetacean in the Gulf of Trieste in collaboration with the State Forestry Corp – Aerial Unit (2014)
- Diving monitoring of the presence and distribution of sea-urchins in Miramare MPA (2014-2015)

Scientific collaboration in evaluation of the Initial Environmental Analysis of the Miramare Marine Reserve inside the EMAS (EC Reg. 761/01) certification (2004 and 2009);

Tutor for University degree thesis works.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Dates (from – to) 2014
- Name and type of organisation providing education and training University of Padua (Italy) – Dept. of Comparative Biomedicine and Food Science
- Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Research, monitoring and management for cetaceans conservation
- Title of qualification awarded Advance training course diploma in methods of conservation and integrated management of cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea
- Dates (from – to) 2002-2005
- Name and type of organisation providing education and training University of Trieste (Italy)
- Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Environmental monitoring techniques, impact of human activities
- Title of qualification awarded PhD diploma in methods of environmental biomonitoring with a thesis on the impact of human trampling on the marine population of the tidal zone

- Dates (from – to)
- Name and type of organisation providing education and training
- Principal subjects/occupational skills covered
- Title of qualification awarded

1993-1994  
COREP - Polytechnic of Turin (Italy)  
Environment, environmental pollution

European Master Diploma in Environmental Engineering with a thesis on the waste management in small islands territories

- Dates (from – to)
- Name and type of organisation providing education and training
- Principal subjects/occupational skills covered
- Title of qualification awarded

1988-1993  
University of Trieste (Italy)

Biology, marine environment

University degree in Marine Biology with a thesis on the study of macrobenthic community inside the Miramare MPA

## PERSONAL SKILLS

### AND COMPETENCES

*Acquired in the course of life and career but not necessarily covered by formal certificates and diplomas.*

#### MOTHER LANGUAGE

#### OTHER LANGUAGES

- Reading skills
- Writing skills
- Verbal skills

- Reading skills
- Writing skills
- Verbal skills

- Reading skills
- Writing skills
- Verbal skills

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

#### AND COMPETENCES

*Living and working with other people, in multicultural environments, in positions where communication is important and situations where teamwork is essential (for example culture and sports), etc.*

#### ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS

#### AND COMPETENCES

*Coordination and administration of people, projects and budgets; at work, in voluntary work (for example culture and sports) and at home, etc.*

#### TECHNICAL SKILLS

#### AND COMPETENCES

*With computers, specific kinds of equipment, machinery, etc.*

#### OTHER SKILLS

#### ITALIAN

#### ENGLISH

C1 advanced

C1 advanced

C1 advanced

#### FRENCH

B2 post intermediate

B2 post intermediate

C1 advanced

#### SPANISH

B2 post intermediate

B2 post intermediate

B2 post intermediate

Team working and group management acquired following different courses on communication; Communication skills acquired during the environmental education activities with schoolchildren; Oral presentations in conferences and seminars related to marine environment and environmental education

Bridge building capacity acquired working to link scientific world with citizens during awareness raising campaigns

Capacity to organise and work autonomously;

Co-ordination of people as responsible for the environmental education at the Miramare MPA;

Co-ordination of EU projects and budget management acquire during the Interreg IIIC project and Programme Med project;

Co-ordination of monitoring activities and scientific research as tutor during university students' works of thesis;

Co-ordination of marine environmental education projects.

Computer skills (Windows Office Software Package, Statistic Software Packages).

Underwater licence PADI "Open Water Diver" and "Advanced Water Diver".

Enrolment in the Italian professional register of biologists (1995).

AND COMPETENCES  
*Competences not mentioned above.*

Teaching qualification at secondary school for natural sciences, chemistry, microbiology and geography (2001).

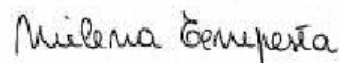
VAT number holder 01314010321 – 04/07/2018.

DRIVING LICENCE(S)

Italian driving licence type B

Date 01/10/2019

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Milena Tempesta". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the "Signature:" label.

**ANNEX 2**



**APPLICATION FORM**

**Applicants shall send all relevant documents by email at: [secretariat@accobams.net](mailto:secretariat@accobams.net) or by mail at the following address:**

ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat  
 Les Terrasses de Fontvieille  
 Jardin de l'UNESCO  
 MC-98000 Monaco

The \_\_\_\_ Delphis NGO \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Entity applying) represented by (Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status ) \_\_\_\_ Eyal Bigal \_\_\_\_ in quality of \_\_\_\_\_ co-founder and member of management committee \_\_\_\_\_ with the aim to apply for the ACCOBAMS Partner status declares that the application contains the following elements:

	YES	NO
1. A copy of the statute of the Entity (in original language and a translation into English or French);	V	
2. The signed Declaration of Commitment (included in the Application form) declaring that the Entity actions include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement;	V	
3. A note concerning its capacities with a particular attention to:	V	
(i) experience in providing support to cetacean conservation by implementing practical research, collection and analysis of information or other educational and training activities;		
(ii) demonstrated experience in implementing partnership ventures, such as for training and education, technical and scientific expertise, policy development or evaluation and assessment, particularly when such ventures would bring new and additional benefits to the functioning of the ACCOBAMS partnership;	V	
(iii) demonstrated willingness and ability to cooperate with national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies;	V	
(iv) readiness to contribute actively on a regular basis to further development of policies and tools of the Agreement and their application, particularly by assisting Parties to meet their obligations under the Agreement;	V	
(v) if any, previous experience in communicating with the Secretariat and cooperating with ACCOBAMS in the achievement of its objectives;	V	
(vi) the benefits expected for the Entity and for ACCOBAMS	V	
4. <i>Curriculum Vitae</i> of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status	V	
5. A signed copy of the Rules and Commitments (Annex 2 of the Resolution)	V	



### DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

On behalf of the Entity, I commit to comply with the rules and commitments specified in the Resolution. Actions of the entity include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement.

Name of the Entity	Delphis NGO
Address,	Ort 2, Ashdod, Israel
Telephone/fax	<a href="mailto:delphis.israel@delphis.ngo">delphis.israel@delphis.ngo</a>
email	<a href="https://www.delphis.ngo/">https://www.delphis.ngo/</a>
website	<a href="https://twitter.com/Delphis09457967">https://twitter.com/Delphis09457967</a>
Social media link(s)	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/delphis_israel/">https://www.instagram.com/delphis_israel/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Delphis.ngo">https://www.facebook.com/Delphis.ngo</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCursuq67V-4P89ZSPTyKWmA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCursuq67V-4P89ZSPTyKWmA</a>
Contact person	Eyal Bigal +972 508 562 795 <a href="mailto:eyalbigal@gmail.com">eyalbigal@gmail.com</a>

Date and place

11.11.2022

Israel

Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status and Signature

Eyal Bigal

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eyal Bigal".

Stamp and/or logo if applicable.



## **Application for Partner Status – Delphis NGO**

The organisation's capacity to support cetacean conservation includes active implementation of shipboard surveys in coastal and offshore waters throughout Israel's Mediterranean marine space, following standardised scientific protocols. In addition, we conduct citizen science based on reports of marine mammal encounters by sailors and fishers at sea. Furthermore, the organisation provides emergency response to sick, injured, distressed or dead marine mammals along the country's coastline and maintains all data, including the histories of- and biological samples from all stranding events. Finally, we conduct long-term research into conserving the Mediterranean monk seal in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. Concerning educational and training activities, the organisation's visitor centre hosts families and schools to raise awareness of marine mammals, their environment and the anthropogenic threats to which they are exposed at the individual and population levels.

The organisation's core team includes experts in environmental education, law, media outreach, and marine mammal ecologists with over 25 years of experience in field conservation research. We conduct collaborative studies as part of national- and regional-scale monitoring projects, such as the IUCN's monk seal protection program, a deep-sea study for Greenpeace, and surveys following the Barcelona Convention's guidelines and requirements. At a national level, the organisation collaborates with the Israel Nature and Parks Protection Authority in regularly-ongoing marine surveys and through immediate response to stranding events. Notably, this collaboration extends to large-scale projects such as the international initiatives described above.

Given that the state of Israel is not a contracting party of ACCOBAMS, the organisation seeks to promote the application of the Agreement's policies and tools as a local entity that deals with the conservation of marine mammals and their habitats through scientific research, education and lobbying. The organisation's members' long-term experience in communicating with the ACCOBAMS Secretariat includes board membership in scientific and oversight committees, participation in the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (ASI), including data collection and analysis, and conducting a study into the integration potential of drones with conventional cetacean surveys funded by the Secretariat.

As an ACCOBAMS partner, it is expected that the Delphis NGO will be more capable of promoting marine conservation on national and regional levels and, eventually, Israel's addition to the list of contracting parties.





## RULES AND COMMITMENTS OF ACCOBAMS PARTNERS

1. ACCOBAMS Partners shall be expected to contribute on a regular basis and to the best of their ability to the further development of policies, technical and scientific tools of the Agreement and to their application.
2. ACCOBAMS Partners shall present, at the latest two months after each Meeting of the Parties, a programme of collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat during the triennium. The programme shall include all activities carried out in the frame of the partnership and related to the conservation plan and the support to the Permanent Secretariat.
3. ACCOBAMS Partners shall make proper use of the ACCOBAMS Partners logo in compliance with ACCOBAMS Resolution 4.21.
4. ACCOBAMS Partners shall communicate with the Permanent Secretariat on activities related to ACCOBAMS objectives. ACCOBAMS Partners shall share information, including their publications, with their National Focal Point. ACCOBAMS Partners that own original data on cetaceans in the Agreement area are strongly encouraged to share such data, as appropriate, through NETCCOBAMS, the MEDACES stranding database and through the OBIS SEAMAP database and any other relevant tools.
5. Before each Meeting of the Parties, ACCOBAMS Partners shall report on the implementation of their activities and on the use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo. To this end, their reports shall reach the Permanent Secretariat and the relevant National Focal Point at the latest two months before the Bureau meeting held to prepare the Meeting of the Parties.
6. Partners shall be invited to participate, in an observer capacity and as advisors, in all activities of the Agreement, except when otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties.
7. ACCOBAMS Partners could be invited to contribute to the development of project proposals, project implementation and to the evaluation of project results.
8. The ACCOBAMS Bureau may decide to withdraw the status of ACCOBAMS Partner if no activities are reported, if they are considered not to be relevant and if they are contrary to the achievement of ACCOBAMS objectives or to the present Rules and Commitments. Withdrawal of the Partner status does not prejudice any legal action for improper use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo.

Date and place

11.11.2022

Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status and Signature

Eyal Bigal



Stamp and/or logo if applicable.

## **Statute of the Entity – Delphis NGO (translated from Hebrew)**

Delphis is a national organisation working to improve the conservation of marine mammals in Israel, with the aim of preserving and protecting them and the marine environment. The organisation also raises public awareness to the issue through educational activities, citizen science research and national and international collaborations.

This, through various means and objectives, including:

1. Environmental education, awareness raising and advocacy.
  - 1.1 The dolphin will be used as a flag species for activity, and through it, the discussion will be extended to other marine mammals, the marine environment and the place of humans within it.
  - 1.2. The activity will be carried out for the general public, independently, in educational settings and in accordance with the requests of various bodies.
  - 1.3 The activity will include liaising with the media in order to increase public awareness to the issue and to advertise the organisation's activities.
  - 1.4. The education activity primary core will take place at the "Dolphin and the Sea Center" along with information stands, instructions and private lectures, conferences and so forth.
2. Promoting marine reserves in Israel
  - 2.1 Actions for the expansion, declaration and validation of proposed and existing reserves.
  - 2.2 This objective will be promoted through the tools proposed in section 3 "Promoting Policy and Legislation" and will be part of the educational scope in section 1.
3. Promoting policy and legislation
  - 3.1 At the municipal, national and international levels, including promoting Israel's accession to the relevant international conventions and encouraging international collaborations with other associations and countries.
  - 3.2 The organisation will produce lobbying among the decision makers.
  - 3.3 Concurrently, the organisation will work to influence decision-makers through the involvement of the public, based on section number 1 " Environmental education, awareness raising and advocacy" and in cooperation with spiritual support for independent communities working for the marine environment as a whole.
  - 3.4. The organisation's activities are intended for the welfare of Israel's dolphins, the marine environment, and those enjoying its various services (both on the private and economic/business levels).
  - 3.5. Therein, the organisation's main objective is to lead the process for the establishment of marine nature reserves in the waters of Israel (section 2).
4. Promoting research and citizen science
  - 4.1. appropriately, the organisation will share with the public that a citizen science research is taking place.
  - 4.2. Any authority - private, public or business - is a possible partner to the process.
5. Promoting ecological marine tourism
  - 5.1 The organisation will promote leisure and tourism services in the marine habitat, separate from other terrestrial activities carried out.

5.2. Marine activities coincide with educational activities elaborated in section 1, thus making the marine habitat and the dolphin population off the coast of Israel accessible, and bringing them closer to the public's heart through encounters with the sea.

## 6. networks and collaborations

6.1. The organisation deems it appropriate to cooperate with various entities in order to achieve the above objectives, while maintaining past ties formed by members of the organisation with various bodies, as well as creating new collaborations with entities that consider these objectives important.

6.2. Among the bodies with which the association will make contact will be other charities, government ministries at various levels of organization, business and private sector.

6.3. The organisation considers it appropriate to emphasize that its purpose is to produce fruitful collaborations and not to create a sense of competition. The organisation's activities do not involve undermining other environmental associations that operate in parallel and / or other directions.

## 7. Volunteer community

7.1 The organisation considers it appropriate for the public to participate in its various activities while establishing a community of volunteers called "organisation members".

7.2 Volunteers are able to contribute, using their skills, to the advancement of the organisation's goals, in full coordination with the organisation.

# EYAL BIGAL

## MARINE ECOLOGIST

**Date of Birth** 03.04.1986

**Nationality** Israeli, German



+972-508-562-795



eyalbigal@gmail.com



## EDUCATION

### PhD MARINE BIOLOGY / 2016-PRESENT (EXPECTED NOV 2022)

MORRIS KAHN MARINE RESEARCH STATION, LEON H. CHARNEY SCHOOL OF MARINE SCIENCES, FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA, ISRAEL

- Thesis title: Abundance and health of apex predators in the eastern Mediterranean Sea.
- Distance sampling data analysis workshop (2019), ACCOBAMS, Gondolfo, Italy.
- Advanced distance sampling workshop (2018), CREEM, University of St. Andrews, UK.
- Aerial observer, ACCOBANS Survey Initiative (ASI; 2018), eastern Mediterranean Sea.
- ASI Data collection training (2018), ACCOBAMS, Cuers, France.

### MSc ENVIRONMENTAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING / 2015-2016

FACULTY OF SPATIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS

- Thesis title: Sea-use planning as a complex adaptive system in transition; the case of Israel's Mediterranean marine space (Dean's award for best graduate research presentation).
- Coursework at the Royal Netherlands Institute of Sea Research (NIOZ).

### MSc WATER AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT / 2014-2016

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCE, CARL VON OSSIETZKY UNIVERSITY OF OLDENBURG, GERMANY

- Coursework at the Institute of Chemistry and Biology of the Marine Environment (ICBM).
- Multidisciplinary studies of socioeconomics, planning and marine sciences.

### BSc MARINE BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT (*magna cum laude*) / 2008-2012

SCHOOL OF MARINE SCIENCES AND ENVIRONMENT, RUPPIN ACADEMIC CENTER, ISRAEL

- Title of final seminar: The neuro-cerebral pathway of sleep paralysis.
- Title of final project: Experimental evaluation of physiological and haematological changes caused by increased activity in captive sea turtles; a pilot study of the green sea turtle.

## ABOUT

I am a passionate marine conservation scientist, interested in the spatial ecology of megafauna populations and the development of fishery-independent methods for their abundance estimation. Further work is focused on apex marine predators as bio-indicators for the state of the environment.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

- Software abilities: RStudio, GIS, Distance, SPSS.
- Scientific diver, American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS).
- Extended Range 45 / Stress and Rescue-Diver (over 600 logged dives), SSI.
- Elite diver, IANTD
- Commercial Offshore Skipper, Israel Ministry of Transportation.
- GMDSS Operator, Israel Ministry of Communication.

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

### CO-FOUNDER AND BOARD MEMBER / 2020-PRESENT

DELPHIS NGO FOR MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION, ISRAEL

- Overseeing the organisation's international relations.
- Ensuring legal and ethical governance and financial management.

### SCIENTIFIC BOARD MEMBER / 2022

EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY (ECS) CONFERENCE 2022, ASHDOD, ISRAEL

- Thematic development of scientific programme.
- Abstract reviewing.
- Chair manager: New Techniques (II) in Marine Mammal Research.

### APEX PREDATOR LABORATORY MANAGER / 2016-2022

MORRIS KAHN MARINE RESEARCH STATION, LEON H. CHARNEY SCHOOL OF MARINE SCIENCES, FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA, ISRAEL

- Management of laboratory database, equipment and budget.
- Initiation and execution of long-term ecological research (LTER) projects and field operations (e.g., shark and tuna tagging-programmes, shipboard and aerial surveys, research expeditions).
- Establishment and maintenance of autopsy laboratory and regional tissue bank for marine megafauna.
- Emergency response to sick, injured, distressed or dead marine megafauna.
- Writing research proposals and scientific reports.
- Support to MSc and PhD students in ongoing research.
- Coordination of volunteer team.
- Media communication.

### SCIENTIFIC AND GENERAL BOARD MEMBER / 2016-2020

ISEAEL MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE CENTER (IMMRAC), ISRAEL

- Ensuring legal and ethical governance and financial management.

### CAPTAIN AND NAVIGATOR / 2013-2014

YACHT DELIVERY, CROSS-MEDITERRANEAN AND CROSS-ATLANTIC

- Enforcement of applicable regulations, including IMO, SOLAS, and GMDSS.
- Route planning and itinerary scheduling according to nautical charts and publications.

### SURVEY VESSEL OPERATOR / 2012-2013

EDT MARINE CONSTRUCTION LTD., ISRAEL

- Bathymetric surveys and seawater monitoring.
- Captaining of survey boat and crew.

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

### SEAL CARETAKER / 2016

PIETERBUREN SEAL REHABILITATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE, THE NETHERLANDS

### SEAL CARETAKER / 2015

NORDDEICH NATIONALPARKHAUSE SEEHUNDSTATION, GERMANY

### SEA TURTLE CARETAKER / 2009-2011

SEA TURTLE RESCUE CENTRE, NATURE AND PARKS AUTHORITY, ISRAEL

## MILITARY SERVICE

### DEFENSIVE DIVER, STAFF SERGEANT / 2004-2007

IDF NAVY, YALTAM

## LINGUAL PROFICIENCY

- Hebrew (native)
- English (fluent)
- German

### SENIOR SKIPPER INSTRUCTOR / 2010-2013

SEA-GAL YACHT CLUB LTD., ISRAEL

- Professional teaching of all theoretical courses required for the coastal and offshore skipper certificates in Israel.
- Leading captain on mile-building flotillas in international and coastal waters.

### ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR / 2009-2012

NATURE AND PARKS AUTHORITY, ISRAEL

- Directing science-oriented educational programmes.
- Assisting national park rangers on duty.
- Tour guiding at the NPA Sea Turtle Rescue Centre.

## PUBLICATIONS

- Bregman, G., Lalzar, M., Livne, L., **Bigal, E.**, Zemach-Shamir, Z., Morick, D., Tchernov, D., Scheinin, A., Meron, D., Preliminary study of shark microbiota at a unique mix-species shark aggregation site in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, *Front. Microbiol. In press.*
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- **Bigal, E.**, van Rijn, I., Galili, O., Rosso, M., Cleguer, C., Hodgson A., P. Scheinin, A., Tchernov, D., 2022. Reduction of species identification errors in surveys of marine wildlife abundance utilising unoccupied aerial vehicles (UAVs). *Remote Sens.* 14 (16), 4118.
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- **Bigal, E.**, Morick, D., Scheinin, A.P., Salant, H., Berkowitz, A., King, R., Levy, Y., Melero, M., Sánchez-Vizcaíno, J.M., Goffman, O., Hadar, N., Roditi-Elasar, M., Tchernov, D., 2018. Detection of *Toxoplasma gondii* in three common bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*); A first description from the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. *Vet. Parasitol.* 258, 74–78.
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## PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

- **Bigal, E.**, Bar Nathan, O., Levy, A., Galili, O., Rosso, M., Treibitz, T., P. Scheinin, A., Tchernov, D., in prep. Automated detection of dolphins in imagery from unmanned aerial vehicles and performance optimisation.
- **Bigal, E.**, Van Rijn, I., Livne, Leigh., Zemach Shamir, Z., Alexandri, T., Diamant, R., Chapman, D., Shemesh, E., Tchernov, D., Scheinin, A., in prep. Secondary contact and habitat use of adult requiem sharks (genus *Carcharhinus*) at coastal infrastructures in the eastern Mediterranean Sea.
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- Barash, A., Scheinin, A., **Bigal, E.**, Zemach Shamir, Z., Martinez, S., Tchernov, D., In press. Some like it hot: Investigating thermoregulatory behaviour of carcharhinid sharks in a natural environment with artificially elevated temperatures. *Fishes*.
- Galili, O., Gofman, O., Roditi-Elasar, M., Mevorach, Y., **Bigal, E.**, Zuriel, Y., Haitovich, Y., Hadar, N., Markovich, M., Vardimon, D., Reiningger, D., Marco, S., Ratner, E., Tchernov, D., Scheinin, A., in prep. Two decades of coastal dolphin population surveys in Israel, eastern Mediterranean.
- Starostinetsky Malonek, T., Scheinin, A., Aroch, I., Davidovich, N., **Bigal, E.**, Livne, L., Wosnick, N., Tchernov, D., Morick, D., submitted. Description and Discussion of Serum Chemistry and Hematology of Two Free-Ranging Carcharhinids in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea.
- Azrieli, B., Scheinin, A., Livne, L., Ramon, D., Barash, D., **Bigal, E.**, Zemach Shamir, Z., Shemesh, E., Tchernov, D., submitted. First documentation of nearshore nursery grounds for the blackchin guitarfish (*Glaucostegus cemiculus*) in Israel.

## CONFERENCE COMMUNICATIONS

- **Bigal, E.**, van Rijn, I., Galili, O., Rosso, M., Cleguer, C., Hodgson A., P. Scheinin, A., Tchernov, D., 2022. Assessing the integration potential of unoccupied aerial vehicles (UAVs) with conventional cetacean surveys (oral). European Cetacean Society (ECS).
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- **Bigal, E.**, 2019. Tagging at aggregation hotspots in the easternmost Mediterranean Sea (oral). Expert meeting on sharks and rays in the Mediterranean Sea – International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- **Bigal, E.**, Diamant, R., Tchernov, D., Morick, D., Scheinin, A.P., 2019. Active acoustic sampling of highly-migratory megafauna (oral). European Elasmobranch Association (EEA).
- **Bigal, E.**, Morick, D., Davidovich, N., Wosnick, N., Zemach Shamir, Z., Tchernov, D., Scheinin, A.P., 2019. Microbial infection in sharks as a bioindicator for the state of the environment in the eastern Mediterranean Sea (poster). European Elasmobranch Association (EEA).
- Scheinin, A.P., **Bigal, E.**, Zemach Shamir, Z., Barash, A., Starostinetsky-Malonek, T., Morick, D., Tchernov, D., 2019. Shark research hub for dusky sharks (*Carcharhinus obscurus*) and sandbar sharks (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*) in the easternmost Mediterranean Sea (oral). European Elasmobranch Association (EEA).
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- Morick, D., **Bigal, E.**, Scheinin, A.P., Salant, H., Berkowitz, A., Tchernov, D., 2018. Toxoplasmosis in common bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) (oral). International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine (IAAAM).

- **Bigal, E.**, D. Morick, D., Scheinin, A.P., Salant, H., Berkowitz, A., King, R., Levy, Y., Melero, M., Sanchez-Vizcaino, J., Goffman, O., Hadar, N., Roditi-Elasar, M., Tchernov, D., 2018. Toxoplasmosis and herpesvirus in common bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*); a first report from the Eastern Mediterranean Sea (oral). European Cetacean Society (ECS).
- Scheinin, A.P., Marco, S., Reininger, D., **Bigal, E.**, Haitovich, Y., 2018. Delphis – open source coastal cetacean surveying app (oral). European Cetacean Society (ECS).
- **Bigal, E.**, Barash, A., Scheinin, A.P, Tchernov, D., 2018. Introduction of the shark tagging programme in Israel and preliminary results from the first two seasons (oral). European Elasmobranch Association (EEA).

## • AWARDED GRANTS

- 2022, Israel Nature and Parks Authority, Behavioural response of sharks to anthropogenic disturbances at a coastal aggregation area (researcher).
- 2020-2021, Data Science Research Center (DSRC) – University of Haifa, Collection and automated annotation of marine megafauna footage obtained from unmanned aerial vehicles (lead author and researcher).  
<https://dsrc.haifa.ac.il/index.php/component/content/article/101-research-blog/178-how-high-can-you-fly?Itemid=437>
- 2018-2021, Israel Ministry of Defense. Classified (co-author and researcher).
- 2018-2020, ACCOBAMS, Feasibility study and experimentation on the use of drones for cetacean monitoring in the ACCOBAMS Agreement Area (lead author and researcher).
- 2017-2019, European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, SYMBIOSIS – A holistic opto-acoustic system for monitoring marine biodiversities (co-author and researcher).  
[https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/429958-the-innovative-subsea-device-that-monitors-fish-stocks?WT.mc\\_id=exp](https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/429958-the-innovative-subsea-device-that-monitors-fish-stocks?WT.mc_id=exp)
- 2017-2019, Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Fishery and Mariculture Division, Assessment of jellyfish swarm size and movement direction relative to fish farms (lead author and researcher).