

Prof. Michele Scardi

Born in Naples (Italy), January 11, 1956

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EDUCATION. Biology degree with full marks and honours at the University of Naples (thesis on the ecology and distribution of Bryozoa in the harbour of Ischia, Italy).

RESEARCH. From August 1980 to 1986 he participated in several research programs in the Benthic Ecology Lab of the Stazione Zoologica "A. Dohrn" of Naples, at first on benthic ecology and then on the artificial reproduction and rearing of fishes. Since 1986 he has been involved in several research programs focusing on the *Posidonia oceanica* prairies and he has also been intensively working on data analysis techniques, applying the most modern methods to ecological and zoological problems. In October 1989 he joined the staff of the Stazione Zoologica "A. Dohrn" of Naples as researcher in the Biological Oceanography Laboratory, where he carried out his research activities for about ten years.

His current research activities include: a) neural networks as empirical models of ecological processes; b) models of phytoplankton primary production at global scale; c) models for evaluating ecosystem productivity; d) development and application of data analysis techniques in ecology and zoology. He has been involved in EU funded research (PAEQANN project, 5th Framework Programme) and in other national and international research projects. He is also the author of more than 130 scientific papers and a number of oral presentations.

He is a member of several scientific societies and founder member of the International Society for Ecological Informatics. In August 2002 he organized the 3rd Conference of this society (Villa Grazioli Park Hotel, 26-30/8/2002, Grottaferrata, Roma). He has been member of the Italian National Committee for Antarctic Research from 2007 to 2011. He is in the Editorial Board of *Freshwater Biology* (Wiley), *Ecological Informatics* (Elsevier) and *Scientific Reports* (Nature Publishing Group).

He has been assisting the Italian Ministry of the Environment in the implementation of the Marine Strategy Directive. At present he is member of the Board of the Italian Society for Marine Biology and of the Scientific Council of the Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA). He is also member of the Board and vice-president of the National Inter-University Consortium for Marine Sciences (CoNISMa).

TEACHING. From 1986 to 1989 he has been assistant professor at the Universities of Sassari (Sardinia, Italy) and Palermo (Sicily, Italy). Since November 1998 he has been Associate Professor of Ecology, at first at the University of Bari (Italy) and then, since November 2001, at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata". From October 2017 he is full professor of Ecology at the latter university. Moreover, he held several short courses and lectures on Numerical Ecology in Universities and private Institutions both in Italy and abroad. He has been the supervisor of 18 past and current PhD projects.

OTHER SKILLS Extensive knowledge of the Windows environment (both hardware and software), including Fortran, Basic and Java programming and Web site management. Basic Linux skills. High sea sailing. Ski instructor. Languages: English (good) and French (read only).