



Benthic Species and Habitats

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Message from the Guest Editor

The sea bottom hosts a striking variety of species and habitats, many of which have still not been described or are barely known. In spite of the critical role played by benthic life, the species distribution and main features are not yet comprehensively understood, nor are the patterns and processes that shape its presence and that could threaten its future survival. Thanks to the use of cutting-edge technologies (e.g., underwater vehicles and autonomous devices) and sophisticated molecular techniques, scientific research is advancing remarkably, unveiling the secrets of the marine benthos from the poles to the tropics, from the coastal zones down to the most inaccessible deep habitats. This Special Issue aims to share relevant scientific work focused on everything from large-scale patterns to detailed aspects and case studies, encouraging the publication of new emerging information that contributes to the knowledge of the benthic realm. Topics of interest include:

- Taxonomy;
- Biodiversity;
- Species distribution;
- Species interaction;
- Habitat mapping;
- Ecosystem goods and services;
- New methodologies;
- Monitoring;
- Impacts and threats;
- Conservation and management.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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