



## Alessandra Conversi, Ph.D.

*Associate Senior Scientist,*

National Research Council (CNR) - Institute of Marine Sciences (ISMAR) in Lerici, Italy

**LINKEDIN:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/alessandra-conversi-6b221035/>

**RESEARCHGATE:** [http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Alessandra\\_Conversi](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Alessandra_Conversi)

### EDUCATION

*Ph.D.* in Oceanography, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego, USA, 1992.

*Master of Science in Oceanography*, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, USA, 1987.

*Laurea, 110 Cum Laude in Biological Sciences*, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Italy, 1983.

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

I have worked for more than 20 years in the field of climate and global change impacts on marine populations (especially zooplankton), including interdisciplinary connections between biological oceanography, physical oceanography, and climatology.

In particular, my research has focused on the impacts of climate oscillations on marine biodiversity, tipping points, and marine ecological shifts. These abrupt changes involve entire ecosystems, often modifying ecosystem services and carrying high societal impacts.

Given the current global change scenarios, it is likely that there will be more abrupt shifts in the coming decades (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-019-0420-1>, <https://www.int-res.com/abstracts/cr/v95/cr01756>) thus there is need to foresee and adapt-to them. I am currently interested

in linking shifts in marine ecosystems and societies, and climate change science to policy actions. Additional interests include coastal management, social-ecological relationships, marine plastics education, and the intersection between art and scientific research.



### IN EVIDENCE

**Scientific Committee Member** for *Legambiente*. Topic: marine conservation and protection, 2024-present. <https://www.legambiente.it/>

**Co-Chair for the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO)** at the *Ocean Science Meeting (OSM) 2020*: "For a Resilient Planet", San Diego, CA, USA, 16–21 February 2020. The OSM is the flagship conference for the ocean sciences, co-sponsored by ASLO, the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and The Oceanography Society (TOS); the co-chairs and vice-chairs organize the scientific content of the entire conference; <https://www.aslo.org/meetings/>.

**Vice-Chair for ASLO** at the *Ocean Science Meeting 2018*, 11-16 February 2018, Portland, Oregon, USA.

**Lead Guest Editor** for *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 2015. Theme Issue "Marine regime shifts around the globe: theory, drivers and impacts", <http://rstb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/370/1659.toc>.

**Keynote Speaker** at the *50th European Marine Biology Symposium*, Helgoland, Germany, 21-25 September 2015. Topic: Marine regime shifts around the world: non-linear responses to increasing challenges.

**Marie Curie experienced Fellow**, *Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science*, Plymouth, UK, 2012-2014.



**Branch Director** at *CNR-ISMAR- Coastal and Lagoon Ecosystem Branch*, Lesina, Italy, 2003–2005.

**Dean John Knauss Sea Grant Marine Policy Fellow** at the *National Science Foundation*, USA, 1992.

**Fulbright Scholar** at *Scripps Institution of Oceanography*, San Diego, USA, 1985.

#### **BEYOND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY:**

**Technical Scientific Committee Member** for the *Italian Professional Association of Dance Movement Therapy (APID)*, 2022-present. <https://www.apid.it/apid/organismi-e-organigramma/>

**Invited speaker, APID National Conference**, 12 aprile 2024 “*Blu come oceano: scienza, arte e cambiamento climatico - Come l'integrazione di arte e scienza può sostenere l'umanità durante la sfida climatica*”(Blue as the Ocean: Science, Art, and Climate Change - How the Integration of Art and Science Can Support Humanity During the Climate Challenge), <https://www.apid.it/primo-avviso-convegno-nazionale-apid-2024/>

**EU initiative “Science is Wonderful!” 2023 event in Bruxelles:** Fostering curiosity through positive storytelling and emotional connection while “talking trash”. Outreach activity on *plastics* and *nature connectedness*, <https://zenodo.org/records/7970802>.

**Invited speaker, Rotary Club Alba**, 13 December 2022 “*Oceans and climate change*” (Oceani e cambiamenti climatici), [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFta2taTSSyp\\_ivpeOHPgCQ/streams](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFta2taTSSyp_ivpeOHPgCQ/streams), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiL98RLIQ-c&t=12s>

#### **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

Senior Researcher, CNR ISMAR, Lerici, Italy, 2007-2023.

Marie Curie experienced Fellow, SAHFOS, Plymouth, UK, 2012-2014.

Visiting Scientist, Plymouth University, UK, 2008-2017.

Researcher, CNR ISMAR Lerici, Italy, 2005-2007.

Branch Director, CNR ISMAR, Lesina, Italy 2003-2005.

Researcher, CNR ISMAR, Lesina, 2001-2003.

Researcher, ENEA S. Teresa, Lerici, Italy, 1997-1999.

Research Assistant Professor, 1993-1996, Marine Sciences Research Center, State University of New York at Stony Brook, USA, and then Adjunct Research Professor to 2001.

Dean John Knauss Sea Grant Marine Policy Fellow, at the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Oceanography, Washington, DC, USA, 1992.

California Sea Grant Trainee Fellow, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 1986-1991.

Fulbright Scholar, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 1985.

#### **FULL PUBLICATION LIST**

IRIS, CNR Institutional Research Information System: [https://bit.ly/Conversi\\_CNR\\_Iris](https://bit.ly/Conversi_CNR_Iris);

RESEARCH GATE: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Alessandra-Conversi>

SCHOLAR: [https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=pYotp\\_QAAAAJ&view\\_op=list\\_works](https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=pYotp_QAAAAJ&view_op=list_works)

#### **6 SELECTED PAPERS**

Beaugrand, G., Reid, P., and Conversi, A. (2025). Acceleration of changes in global surface temperature after the Earth system has crossed a tipping point. *Climate Research*, 95, 1-17. DOI:10.3354/cr01756.

Lenton TM, ..., Conversi A, ... et al. (2024). Remotely sensing potential climate change tipping points across scales. *Nature communications*, 15(1), 343. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-44609-w>.

Wood RA, ..., Conversi A... et al. (2024). Opportunities for Earth Observation to Inform Risk Management for Ocean Tipping Points. *Surv Geophys* . <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10712-024-09859-3>



Swingedouw D, ..., and Conversi A (2020). Early Warning from Space for a Few Key Tipping Points in Physical, Biological, and Social-Ecological Systems. *Surv Geophys* 41, 1237–1284.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10712-020-09604-6>

Beaugrand, Conversi, et al (2019). Prediction of unprecedented biological shifts in the global ocean, *Nature Climate Change* 9: 237–243. DOI: 10.1038/s41558-019-0420-1

**Press Releases** related to the article by Beaugrand, Conversi et al (2019):

- TV Interview, SKY TG24 08/06/2019, <http://www.cnrweb.tv/le-temperature-dei-mari-e-i-loro-effetti/>
- CNR, <https://www.cnr.it/comunicato-stampa/8703/cambiamenti-oceanici-mai-visti>
- PRESS: [https://www.adnkronos.com/sostenibilita/risorse/2019/04/30/studio-tra-cambiamenti-oceanici-mai-visti\\_tyMPdAeEzByHKiXSu9R5DM.html](https://www.adnkronos.com/sostenibilita/risorse/2019/04/30/studio-tra-cambiamenti-oceanici-mai-visti_tyMPdAeEzByHKiXSu9R5DM.html)
- [https://www.repubblica.it/ambiente/2019/04/30/news/clima\\_tra\\_il\\_2010\\_e\\_2015\\_cambiamenti\\_oceanici\\_mai\\_visti\\_prima-225184847/](https://www.repubblica.it/ambiente/2019/04/30/news/clima_tra_il_2010_e_2015_cambiamenti_oceanici_mai_visti_prima-225184847/)

Conversi A, et al, 2015. A holistic view of marine regime shifts. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 370: 20130279. Theme Issue Marine regime shifts around the globe: theory, drivers, and impacts, edited by A. Conversi, C. Möllmann, C. Folke and M. Edwards, ISSN 0962-8436,  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2013.0279>.

**Press Releases** related to the works by Conversi and co-authors in *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* (2015), Theme Issue - *Marine regime shifts around the globe: theory, drivers, and impacts*:

- MARIE CURIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, <https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/news/dr-alessandra-conversi-mcaa-member-helps-pull-together-comprehensive-overview-changes-global>,
- PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY, <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/news/plymouth-associate-scientist-leads-global-study-on-marine-regime-shifts>,
- CNR, <https://www.cnr.it/comunicato-stampa/6576/ecosistemi-marini-piu-che-l-inquinamento-pote-il-riscaldamento>
- LE SCIENZE, [http://www.lescienze.it/lanci/2015/01/08/news/ecosistemi\\_marini\\_pi\\_che\\_l\\_inquinamento\\_pot\\_il\\_riscaldamento-2439173/?ref=nl-Le-Scienze\\_09-01-2015](http://www.lescienze.it/lanci/2015/01/08/news/ecosistemi_marini_pi_che_l_inquinamento_pot_il_riscaldamento-2439173/?ref=nl-Le-Scienze_09-01-2015).

#### CONTACTS:

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