

Thomais Vlachogianni (Munich, 1977) studied chemistry at the University of Athens (Greece) and obtained her diploma in 2001. She continued her studies at the same university, where she received her MSc in Environmental Chemistry and Technology (2003) and her PhD in Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology (2007), while investigating the mechanisms of oxidative stress mediated toxicity induced by environmental pollutants (metals, PAHs, etc.) and the potential usefulness of oxyradical-mediated responses as biomarkers for marine pollution monitoring. She has authored more than 50 peer-reviewed articles, books and/or chapters in books, technical reports, etc. on a wide range of topics from environmental pollution and aquatic toxicology to green chemistry, airborne particulate matter and oxidative stress mechanisms, engineered nanoparticles, marine litter, etc.



Since 2008, she has been working at the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE, www.mio-ecsde.org) as a Programme and Policy Officer, and has been involved in several projects and activities implemented at European and Mediterranean level, covering various thematic areas such as environmental protection and sustainable development, nanotechnologies and endocrine disrupting chemicals, marine pollution including marine litter, biodiversity conservation and invasive alien species, water resources management in transboundary settings, public participation in environmental decision making, ecosystem-based management approach, blue growth, waste and circular economy, etc. Indicatively some projects that she has been involved are: *the IPA funded project “Derelict Fishing Gear Management in the Adriatic Sea (2013-2016); the UNEP/MAP GEF project “Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem” (2009-2014); the EU funded project “Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme” (2009-2014); the FP7 project MARine Litter in Europe Seas: Social Awareness and CO-Responsibility (MARLISCO) (2012-2015); the EU funded “Pilot Project on the plastic recycling cycle and its loopholes in the four European regional seas” (2012); the FP6 project “Nanotechnology Capacity building NGOs” (2007-2009); the EU funded project “REACHing a Sustainable Management of CHemicals in the Euro-Mediterranean Region” (2006-2008); etc.*

She participates in and contributes to the work carried out by the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Good Environmental Status (GES) Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter; the UNEP/MAP Experts Group on the application of the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean and the Correspondence Group on Monitoring, Pollution and Litter (CORMON); the Drin Dialogue Expert Working Groups on the Water Framework Directive implementation, Monitoring and Information exchange, Biodiversity; etc.

Among other activities, currently she is leading the monitoring and assessment related activities of the IPA funded DeFishGear project (www.defishegear.net) aiming to facilitate the efforts of policy makers and stakeholders in effectively dealing with the issue of marine litter in the Adriatic Sea. She is also the Mediterranean Node Leader of the FP7 MARLISCO project (www.marlisco.net) seeking to raise societal awareness, facilitate dialogue and promote co-responsibility among the different actors, while defining a more sustainable collective vision on both the problems and the potential solutions relating to waste and marine litter.

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