

SESSION 2: Oceans and human health: toxic and pathogenic micro-organisms

Toxic and pathogenic micro-organisms in marine and coastal environments may affect humans directly through respiratory health problems for beachgoers or indirectly through consumption of contaminated seafood and economic impacts on commercial sectors. This session will address the public health and societal impacts including human health and economic losses to aquaculture and tourism sectors. The session welcomes in particular any contributions describing recent case studies on the extent of the impact of toxic or harmful micro-algae or of pathogenic micro-organisms, either on public health or on the economy. Equally welcome are contributions describing efforts towards mitigation strategies, public perception and legislative as well as governance issues around problems caused by such micro-organisms.