

Symposium on Marine Carbon Sequestration

11 May 2022 – Bluebridge, Ostend Science Park, Belgium

On May 11th, 2022 [EMBRC-BE](#) and [ILVO](#) organize a Symposium on Marine Carbon Sequestration to assess the opportunities of oceans, seas and estuaries in reducing the causes and consequences of climate change, globally and locally.

To meet the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, greenhouse gas emissions must reach net-zero by mid-century. Achieving this will not only require reducing existing emissions in all sectors, but also the deliberate removal of atmospheric greenhouse gasses by human actions. By bringing scientists, political, industrial and non-governmental parties together the symposium aims at identifying the potential of such negative emission technologies and the required knowledge development that is still needed, thereby setting the scene for future actions in support of adopting ocean-inclusive mitigation and adaptation strategies by Belgian parties in an (inter)national context.

The symposium takes places at [Bluebridge, Ostend Science Park](#). Participation to the symposium is free but registration before May 4th is mandatory. Register now via this [form](#). For more information feel free to contact embrc@ugent.be.

Programme

- 9:15 Welcome. [Noémie Wouters](#), CEO Bluebridge
- 9 :20 Introduction. [Ann Vanreusel](#), Director EMBRC-BE
- 9:30 Opening keynote
 - Ocean-based climate action with a focus on negative emissions measures. [Jean-Pierre Gattuso](#), CNRS Sorbonne University and Iddri
- 10:15 Open ocean carbon: natural processes
 - The open ocean biological carbon pump. [Griet Neukermans](#), Ghent University
- 10:30 *Break*
- 11:00 Open ocean carbon: marine geoengineering
 - Ocean fertilisation. [Christine Klaas](#), Alfred Wegener Institut
 - Ocean alkalisation. [Filip Meysman](#), Antwerp University
- 11:30 Marine bioenergy with carbon capture and storage
 - Seaweed cultivation. [Olivier De Clerck](#), Ghent University

- Shellfish aquaculture. [Edwin Foekema, Wageningen University & Research](#)
- 12:00 Restoration and conservation of natural ecosystems
 - Restoring and increasing coastal vegetation. [Patrick Meire, Antwerp University](#)
 - Conserving seabed carbon sequestration. [Ulrike Braeckman, Ghent University](#)
 - Demersal fisheries and seabed carbon sequestration. [Hans Polet, Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food](#)

12:40 Lunch

- 13:50 Welcome afternoon session. [Zakia Khattabi, Minister of Climate & Vincent Van Quickenborne, Minister of North Sea](#)
- 14:00 The policy of ocean-based climate mitigation. [Steven Dauwe, Flanders Marine Institute](#)
- 14:10 The businesscase of marine carbon capture and the effects of the measurement method (on the businesscase). [Stephan Bostoën, Pebblewave](#)
- 14:30 Assessing the potential for ocean-based climate action by Belgian parties. [Panel discussion](#)

15:15 Break

- 15:45 Challenges for marine carbon sequestration and applications.
- 16:00 Closing + Network reception