

Institute for Coastal and Marine Research

SEMINAR

Deep-sea Science for a Wider World



In recognition of World Environment Day

This World Environment Day, we will take you deep into realms that most people rarely think about, and few get to study. Although 97% of the ocean's volume lies below 200m, only a handful of countries have the ability to explore the deep sea.

Historic practices in deep-sea research have long excluded under-resourced countries, and in many cases these still continue. At a time when the deep sea is receiving more attention than ever before, this talk invites you to reflect on who gets to access it, and why this matters. Together we will explore what equity, meaningful collaboration, and African leadership look like for research in the largest biome of our planet.

Dr Kirsty McQuaid is a Research Associate at Nelson Mandela University. An abyssal benthic ecologist by training, her work now focuses on supporting equitable access to deep-sea research. Kirsty coordinates the African Network of Deep-water Researchers, a UN Decade of Ocean Science-endorsed initiative with a mission to strengthen Africa's deep-sea research community and promote African leadership in deep-water science.



DATE: 03 June 2026, Wednesday, 13:00 - 14:00

VENUE: Ocean Sciences Campus, B Block, Conference Hall, Nelson Mandela University

RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/uCHVM7EjTv>

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