



International scientific workshop

# INFLUENCE OF ACTIVE MINES ON FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

May 12-16, 2014



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Ruđer Bošković Institute  
Zagreb, Croatia

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Zagreb, 2014

**RUĐER BOŠKOVIĆ INSTITUTE**  
Division for Marine and Environmental Research  
Laboratory for Biological Effects of Metals  
Laboratory for Aquaculture and Pathology of Aquatic Organisms  
Zagreb, Croatia

**SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY IN SKOPJE**  
Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
Skopje, Macedonia

**INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCES**  
Skopje, Macedonia

**UNIVERSITÉ DE PAU ET DES PAYS DE L'ADOUR/CNRS**  
Institut des Sciences Analytiques et de Physico-chimie pour l'Environnement et les Matériaux  
Pau, France

organize

International scientific workshop

## **INFLUENCE OF ACTIVE MINES ON FRESHWATER**

### **ECOSYSTEMS**

May 12-16, 2014

within activities of the Projects:

1. The assessment of availability and effects of metals on fish in the rivers under the impact of mining activities (project leaders: Dr. Zrinka Dragun and Dr. Maja Jordanova)
2. Bacterial and parasitological communities of chub as indicators of the status of environment exposed to mining activities (project leaders: Dr. Damir Kapetanović and Dr. Rodne Nastova)
3. Intracellular mapping of essential and nonessential trace elements in the organs of indigenous fish by NanoSIMS (project leaders: Dr. Zrinka Dragun and Dr. Dirk Schaumlöffel)

#### Workshop organizers:

Dr. Zrinka Dragun and Dr. Vlatka Filipović Marijić  
Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia  
Division for Marine and Environmental Research  
Laboratory for Biological Effects of Metals

Dr. Damir Kapetanović and Dr. Damir Valić  
Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia  
Division for Marine and Environmental Research  
Laboratory for Aquaculture and Pathology of Aquatic Organisms

# PROGRAMME

## Monday, May 12, 2014

Arrival and registration

## Tuesday, May 13, 2014

- 10:00-10:15 Zrinka Dragun, Damir Kapetanović: Welcome address and introduction to the workshop
- 10:15-10:35 Zrinka Dragun: Water quality of mining impacted rivers in the north-eastern Macedonia: I. Physico-chemical parameters and concentrations of dissolved metals/metalloids
- 10:35-10:50 Damir Kapetanović: Water quality of mining impacted rivers in the north-eastern Macedonia: II. Microbiological water quality of rivers Bregalnica, Zletovska and Kriva - Preliminary results
- 10:50-11:20 Coffee break
- 11:20-11:40 Katerina Rebok: Morphometric data of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) in the rivers under the impact of mining activity
- 11:40-12:00 Sheriban Ramani: Accumulation of metals and metalloids in the liver and gills of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) from three mining impacted rivers in north eastern Macedonia
- 12:00-14:00 Lunch break
- 14:00-14:20 Vlatka Filipović Marijić: Evaluation of dietary metal exposure of *Squalius vardarensis* dwelling in mining impacted rivers in the north-eastern Macedonia
- 14:20-14:40 Nesrete Krasnići: Cytosolic distribution of Cd, Co, Cu, Fe, Pb, V and Zn in liver, gills and intestine of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) from mining impacted rivers in Macedonia
- 14:40-14:50 Irena Vardić Smrzlić: Molecular characterisation of the metazoan parasites of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardariensis*) from three rivers in north eastern Macedonia
- 14:50-15:20 Coffee break
- 15:20-15:40 Vlatka Filipović Marijić: Acanthocephalans, fish intestinal parasites, as bioindicators of metal exposure in rivers impacted by mining waste
- 15:40-16:00 Nesrete Krasnići: Metallothionein and total protein concentrations in gills and liver of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) as biomarkers of water contamination in three rivers in Macedonia



### **Wednesday, May 14, 2014**

- 10:00-10:15 Damir Kapetanović: Bacterial community of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*): Preliminary results
- 10:15-10:30 Damir Valić: Hematological assessment of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) from three rivers in north-eastern Macedonia
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00-11:20 Josip Barišić: Spatial and seasonal variability of histopathological alterations on the gills of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) from mining impacted rivers in the north-eastern Macedonia
- 11:20-11:40 Maja Jordanova: Toxicopathic changes in Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) in rivers under the impact of mining activities
- 12:00-14:00 Lunch break
- 14:00-14:30 Dirk Schaumlöffel: Potential and challenges of NanoSIMS for element imaging in biological cells
- 14:30-14:45 Zehra Hajrulai-Musliu: Fatty acid composition in some river fish species in Republic of Macedonia
- 14:45-15:00 Risto Uzunov: Detection of methyltestosterone with ELISA method in fish

### **Thursday, May 15, 2014**

- 08:00-21:00 Visit to Research marine station "Martinska" near Šibenik and National Park "Krka"

### **Friday, May 16, 2014**

Departure

## Molecular characterisation of the metazoan parasites of Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) from three rivers in north eastern Macedonia

Irena Vardić Smrzlić<sup>1</sup>, Damir Kapetanović<sup>1</sup>, Damir Valić<sup>1</sup>, Zrinka Dragun<sup>2</sup>, Vlatka Filipović Marijić<sup>2</sup>, Nesrete Krasnići<sup>2</sup>, Emil Gjurčević<sup>3</sup>, Maja Jordanova<sup>4</sup>, Katerina Rebok<sup>4</sup>, Sheriban Ramani<sup>5</sup>, Riste Uzunov<sup>6</sup>, Aleksandar Cvetkovikj<sup>6</sup>, Zehra Hajrulai-Musliu<sup>6</sup>, Stojmir Stojanovski<sup>7</sup>, Rodne Nastova<sup>8</sup>, Vasil Kostov<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Laboratory for Aquaculture and Pathology of Aquatic Organisms, Division for Marine and Environmental Research, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Bijenička c. 54, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia, ivardic@irb.hr

<sup>2</sup>Laboratory for Biological Effects of Metals, Division for Marine and Environmental Research, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Bijenička c. 54, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

<sup>3</sup>Department for Biology and Pathology of Fish and Bees, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb, Heinzelova 55, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

<sup>4</sup>Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Gazi Baba bb, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia

<sup>5</sup>National Hydrometeorological Service; Hydrology and Ecology Department; Skupi 28, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia,

<sup>6</sup>Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Gazi Baba bb, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia

<sup>7</sup>Hydrobiological Institute, Naum Ohridski 50, 6000 Ohrid, Macedonia

<sup>8</sup>Institute of Animal Sciences, Ile Ilievski 92a, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia

Fish parasites with a complex life cycle, including intermediate and paratenic hosts, can be used as indicators of aquatic environmental stress. Their identification is however often difficult, due to the high level of intraspecific variability. The aim of the present study was to identify metazoan parasites found in Vardar chub (*Squalius vardarensis*) from three rivers in northeastern Macedonia under different mining impact.

Parasite specimens were collected from the dissected Vardar chub (*S. vardarensis*) sampled in spring and autumn from three rivers in northeastern Macedonia: Zletovska River and Kriva River under mining activity impact and Bregalnica River which is non-impacted. Abdominal cavity cysts were observed in the fish from Bregalnica (spring and autumn) and Kriva River (spring) and cysts from two fish specimens were used for the identification. Intestinal parasites were observed in the fish from Bregalnica (spring and autumn) and Zletovska River (spring) and specimens from four different fish were used for identification. Morphological analysis of the parasitic cysts content was done by light microscope, while molecular identification was performed by sequence analysis of 18S rRNA region. Molecular identification of intestinal parasites was done by sequence analyses of three different DNA regions: 18S rRNA, ITS and COI gene. For the phylogenetic analysis of intestinal parasites based on partial COI sequence data, maximum likelihood as well as maximum parsimony method was applied by MEGA 6 software.

Members of two different parasitic phyla were determined from the examined Vardar chub: Myxozoa (Cnidaria) in the abdominal cavity and Acanthocephala in the intestine. Morphological analysis of myxozoan cysts indicated presence of *Myxobolus* sp., while molecular analysis based on 18S rRNA analysis confirmed this genus. Molecular analysis of acanthocephalans based on the 18S rRNA and ITS region confirmed two different species:



*Pomphorhynchus laevis* and *Acanthocephalus* sp. most closely related to the *A. anguillae* (99.8% identity to the sequence from the GenBank). Phylogenetic analysis of *P. laevis* based on COI sequence data indicated separated clustering of Macedonian specimens in relation to the other European specimens available from the GenBank.

Identification of *Myxobolus* sp. in Vardar chub is important as members of this genus are potentially dangerous to their fish host. Determination of acanthocephalans is important not just for their further phylogeographic studies, but also for the water contamination studies, as these parasites were suggested as a sensitive biological indicator of metal bioavailability in the river water.