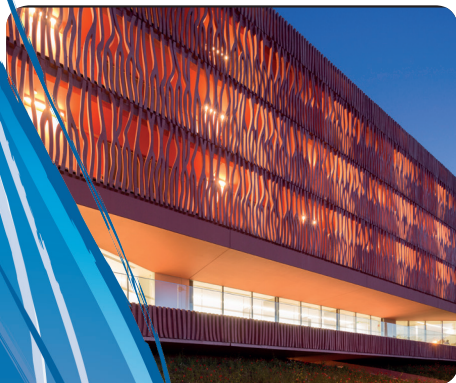


...a contemporary reception structure



The OOB has a new extensive accommodation and congress centre fully equipped to meet the present and future demands for scientific events and for public or private receptions.

- Restaurant with a capacity of 120 seats (with sea view & air-conditioning)
- Guest accommodation with a capacity of 74 rooms (sea or mountain view)
- Amphitheatre of 120 seats, video conference rooms, teaching labs...

# Oceanographic Observatory

of Banyuls-sur-Mer

*Arago Laboratory*

## Composition of the OOB (175 people):

- 125 permanent staff UPMC/CNRS (researchers, lecturers, research associates, technicians)
- 40 non-permanent staff including about 20 PhD students and post-doctoral researchers
- 1000 students per year from UPMC and other French and foreign universities
- Several hundred researchers from outside the OOB per year (collaborations, conferences...)



Observatoire Océanologique  
de Banyuls-sur-Mer  
18 Avenue du Fontaulé  
66650 Banyuls-sur Mer, FRANCE  
Tél: +33 (0)4 68 88 73 73



[www.obs-banyuls.fr](http://www.obs-banyuls.fr)

*Since 1882*



Biodiversarium



Please do not litter



UPMC  
SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉS



Photo credits: F. Guerra, L. Ardhuin, J. Loubet, P. Romans, S. Longa, W. Thomas. Copyright © BUPMC-photographic archives of the OOB. Drafting & Design 2015: G. Danjon. Graphic design: V. Domien.



### *...a history spanning more than 130 years*

Also known as the **Arago Laboratory**, the **O**ceanographic **O**bservatory of **B**anyuls-sur-Mer (**O**OB) was founded in 1882 by the French naturalist and zoologist, Professor Henri de Lacaze-Duthiers. Located on the rocky coast of Roussillon, it was responsible for the creation of the Massane Forest Nature Reserve and the first French marine nature reserve, the Marine Reserve of Cerbere-Banyuls. These reserves make this region an ideal place for the study of biology, marine ecology and oceanography.



Since its creation, the Arago Laboratory has built up an extensive university library and is renowned for its heritage collections on oceanography and marine biology with the oldest collections dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Since 1950, the Observatory publishes a quarterly international journal in general ecology entitled «Life and Environment». ([www.obs-banyuls.fr/Viemilieu/](http://www.obs-banyuls.fr/Viemilieu/))

The OOB is a centre for research, training and dissemination of scientific knowledge. With a long tradition of excellence in the field of marine science, it is both part of the Pierre and Marie Curie University (UPMC) and under the tutelage of the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS). It welcomes each year many scientists from bachelor students to PhD students and leading researchers from around the world who contribute to the international prestige of the laboratory. The courses in biology and marine ecology are an integral part of the Degree in Life Sciences and of the Master's degree in Science and Technology of the UPMC.

### *...five major missions*

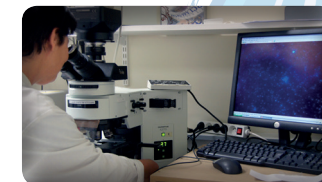
- **Research** in biology, marine ecology and oceanography
- **Observation** of biological, chemical and physical properties of coastal waters
- **Education and training** for different audiences
- **Giving access** to public and private researchers who benefit from services and marine resources and technology
- **Scientific mediation** to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge and contributing to active environmental citizenship

### *...targeted research open at an international level*

The Observatory is strongly committed to collaborative research with both the public and industrial sector, at a European and international level. The aim of these collaborations is to address major societal challenges in health and the environment, as part of conservation and restoration of biodiversity programmes, or as fundamental research projects.

To better understand marine ecosystems at different scales of observation, the Observatory has several associated research units UPMC/CNRS. They are organized around four major themes:

- Ecosystem responses to global change
- Basic and applied marine ecology
- Biology of marine model organisms
- Marine biotechnology



These research teams are supported by advanced technological platforms in the field of microscopy and imaging, marine biotechnology or in the analysis of marine biodiversity. The Observatory's Marine Operations team facilitates access to the marine biological resources.

### *...science for all: «to protect, you need knowledge...»*

The first challenge of nature conservation is to build up an inventory of species and their habitats. The OOB has always been engaged in various awareness campaigns in the marine environment with the local population. The valorisation of research is supported by a scientific mediation centre, the **Biodiversarium**. It consists of one of the first public aquariums on the French Mediterranean coast and the Mediterranean garden, «Mas de la Serre», which boasts more than 300 plant species. The construction of a next-generation aquarium is underway and will open in 2017. The Biodiversarium educates and raises public awareness to local biodiversity, contributing to eco-citizenship goals by encouraging participation in nature conservation.

[www.biodiversarium.fr](http://www.biodiversarium.fr)

