

Open position for PhD student / Postdoc in biogeochemistry

For a fully funded four-year project exploring environmental and ecological dynamics in the Mediterranean and Red Sea, we seek a top tier PhD student or postdoc. The project aims to understand the formation and persistence of biodiversity hotspots, especially in light of global climate change and local stressors. The ultimate goal is to gather insights across different organizational levels, from molecular, organismal, and community to habitat structure and biogeochemical pathways, in order to construct comprehensive models that forecast the future dynamics and fate of these ecosystems under changing conditions. This position would be focused on a key aspect of this project – the variability of seafloor fluxes and their interaction with the microbial community to facilitate the habitability of shallow (up to 40 m) and mesophotic (up to 200 m) biodiversity hotspots such as reefs.



The successful candidate will be part of the multidisciplinary team of the MARBEDS project. They will be involved in the preparations for sea-going expeditions (including diving opportunities) and carrying out measurements and experiments on nutrient flux and microbial activity. Further tasks include the scientific interpretation of the data, their presentation at national and international conferences, as well as their publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals. The successful candidate will regularly communicate with the other team members and will contribute to the management of the project and the curation of the data.

Requirements:

1. An MSc degree in geosciences, analytical chemistry, microbiology, environmental sciences or a closely related discipline prior to appointment.
2. Written and spoken fluency in English.
3. Willingness and capability to participate in sea-going expeditions and operations.

The following will be an advantage:

1. A diving license and some diving experience.
2. Experience working in an analytical or biological lab.
3. Any research background related to marine environments, marine chemistry, the Red Sea, or the Eastern Mediterranean.

We offer an exciting work environment with the opportunity to provide important input on the development of sustainable solutions. We also offer exciting topics and work in the field of marine and climate research, a forward-looking area with social significance.



Interested candidates, please contact by email Dr. Or Bialik (obialik@ocean.org.il) or Prof. Eyal Rahav (eyal.rahav@ocean.org.il) with a letter of motivation, CV, and contact details of at least one referee for this post not later than the 28th of August 2025.
