

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATIONS

First name: Ioanna

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ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ioanna-Xynogala?ev=hdr_xprf

Since 2025, Ioanna Xynogala has held a position at the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR) within the project “*WFD monitoring of the Greek surface waters (2024-2029)*”. Her main responsibilities include the application of specialised methodologies for the assessment of the hydromorphological condition of river ecosystems. She is a PhD candidate at the Department of Biology, University of Patras. She holds a BSc in Oceanography and Marine Biosciences, University of the Aegean and a MSc in Applied Ecology: Ecosystem and Biological Resources Management, University of Patras. Her main research interests focus on Freshwater Ecology, specifically on the assessment of ecological quality and the conservation of biodiversity and geodiversity in fluvial ecosystems.

EDUCATION

- **PhD Candidate, Department of Biology, University of Patras (12/2024 - Present)**
Proposed PhD Thesis Title: “*Geodiversity as a Determinant of Ecosystem Functions and Biodiversity Patterns in Greek River Ecosystems*”.
- **Master of Science (MSc): Biological Sciences. Research and Applications (2021 - 2024)**
Specialisation: Applied Ecology. Ecosystem and Biological Resources Management. Department of Biology, School of Natural Sciences, University of Patras.
Master's Thesis Title: “*Aquatic macrophytes of the Mediterranean Rivers Acheloos and Evinos: Environmental Factors, Hydrogeomorphological Characteristics and Anthropogenic Influences*”.
- **Bachelor of Science (BSc): Oceanography and Marine Biosciences (2015 - 2021)**
Department of Oceanography and Marine Biosciences, Environmental School, Mytilene, University of the Aegean, Lesvos, Greece.
Thesis title: “*Recording of Benthic Diversity on Rocky Reefs in the Upper Sub-littoral Zone and Ecological Status Assessment*”.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

- **07/2025 - Present**
Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR)
Research Project: “*WFD monitoring of the Greek surface waters (2024-2029)*”
Duties and responsibilities:
 - Collection, processing and analysis of hydromorphological river data

- Data entry, management and analysis within relational databases
- Preparation of technical reports, data assessment and evaluation documents
- **α) 05/07/2021 - 04.11.2021, β) 10/06/2022 - 09/11/2022, γ) 16/05/2023 - 30/10/2023**
University of Patras - Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE)
Research Project: “*MACRORIVER: Sampling and analysis of river macrophytes*”
Duties and responsibilities:
 - Collection of aquatic macrophyte samples and hydrogeomorphological characteristics from sampling stations of rivers in Greece.
 - Completion and entry in the database of field sampling protocols.
 - Entry of photographic and video material, as well as the identified macrophyte species in the Database.
 - Participation in the assessment of the ecological quality of the sampling stations.
- **07/2020 - 09/2020 (Internship)**
Fisheries Research Institute, Kavala, Greece
Research Project: “*Study and monitoring of the underwater meadows of seagrasses in the coastal zone of the North Aegean. Field samples and laboratory analysis of the samples for the purpose of assessing the ecological status of the study area*”, using CymoSkew και PREI bioindicators.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

- “Filling the Wallacean Shortfall for the Aquatic Quillworts – AQUAQUILL”, within the framework of the 2nd Call: “Actions for the protection, conservation and promotion of biodiversity – Field studies of endemic, threatened and nationally significant species in Greece”, funded by N.E.C.C.A. (05/2025 - 06/2025).

PUBLICATIONS

- Xynogala, I., Papastergiadou, E., Alahuhta, J., Dimitriou, E., Ramfos, A., & Stefanidis, K. (2026). Exploring the Geodiversity – Biodiversity Relationships in Freshwaters for Environmental Conservation: A Global Systematic Literature Review. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*. (submitted)
- Xynogala, I., Dimitrellos, G., Tsoukalas, D., Stefanidis, K., & Papastergiadou, E. (2024). Exploring the structure of macrophyte assemblages in regulated rivers of Greece. *Ecohydrology and Hydrobiology*. (submitted)
- Xynogala, I., Dimitrellos, G., Tsoukalas, D., Stefanidis, K., & Papastergiadou, E. (2024). Assessment of riparian habitats and vegetation in hydrologically impaired rivers - Insights from case studies in Greece. *Land*. (submitted)
- Savin, A., Sini, M., Xynogala, I., Lioupa, V., Vougioukalou, K., Stamatis, K., & Katsanevakis, S. (2023). Assessment of macroalgal communities on shallow rocky reefs in the Aegean Sea indicates an impoverished ecological status. *Mediterranean Marine Science*. 24(2), 241-258

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 12th Conference of the Hellenic Ecological Society. Title: “*Exploring the geodiversity – biodiversity relationships in inland waters: A global systematic literature review*” (1-4/10/2025).
- 17th International Symposium on Aquatic Plants 2025. Title: «*Riparian Landscape Dynamics, Ecological Integrity and Ecosystems Services in East Mediterranean Rivers*» (15-19/09/2025).
- 18th Panhellenic Scientific Conference of the Hellenic Botanical Society
Title: “*Riparian Zone / Riparian Vegetation: Hydrogeomorphological Assessment of the Mediterranean Rivers Acheloos and Evinos in Western Greece*” (2-5/10/2024).

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Research Scholarship, Department of Biology, University of Patras
Programme: “3320: *Funding of Postgraduate Student Scholarships of the Department of Biology, University of Patras for Teaching Assistantships*” (03/ 2023 - 06/ 2023).
- Research Scholarship, Department of Biology, University of Patras
Programme: ““82015: *Support of the Educational Activities of the University of Patras through the Integration of Supplementary Instruction in Addition to the Main Lectures for the Academic Year 2021–2022*”. Specific assignment: Ecology and Vegetation. Undergraduate courses: 1) Ecology of Biocommunities and Habitats, 2) Ecology of Vegetation (10/2021 - 02/2022).

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- **03/2024 - 06 2024:** Volunteer teaching assistantship and participation in field exercises for the courses "Ecology of Biocommunities and Ecosystems" and "Ecology of Vegetation" of the Undergraduate Curriculum of the Department of Biology of the University of Patras
- **12/2023 – 03/2024:** Specialty: “*Environmental Management Executive*”, Vocational Training Programme “*Natural Disasters, Prevention, Management, Restoration - Use of New Technologies*”, Operational Programme: "Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning 2014-2020", Project Beneficiary: Geotechnical Chamber of Greece (GEOT.E.E.).
- **4-7/10/2023:** Participation in the organizing committee of the 11th Panhellenic Ecology Conference, Patras

OTHER SKILLS

Languages

Greek: Native speaker

English: Independent user, B2

Computer Skills

Excellent knowledge of office applications (Microsoft Office, Open Office) and use of the Internet for scientific research (literature search in electronic scientific journal libraries and international databases, e.g. Scopus, Google Scholar, Web of Science).

Very good knowledge of the following fields and programs:

- Statistics (Rstudio, SPSS)
- Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing (ArcGIS, QGIS, SNAP)
- Probability of Occupation (Presence)
- Multivariate Analysis for Ecology (PRIMER)
- Simulation of Dynamical Systems (VisSim)

Skills in the use of digital image analysis programs for the management and processing of ecological and biological data, namely:

- Photoshop
- photoQuad

Scuba Dive Skills: PADI Open Water Diver (2019)

Driving license: B