

## SYNTHESIS IN ENGLISH

Public selection, based on qualifications and interview, for awarding a research fellowship (Assegno di ricerca n. 27/2024) for conducting the activities specified below:

**Title of research activity:** "Positive species interactions and microbial ecology of seagrasses"

**Duration:** 12 (twelve) months, renewable

**Research location:** Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, EMI Department, Genova, Italy

**Supervisor:** Dr. Ulisse Cardini

**AREA CUN:** Area 05; **Settore scientifico disciplinare:** BIO/07; **AREA ERC:** LS8\_8, LS8\_10, LS8\_11

**Brief description of the research:** Increasing evidence suggests that positive interactions with invertebrates and the microbial community are vital to sustain seagrass ecosystems functioning and survival. Nonetheless, such species interactions received sparse attention in these systems. In this project, we will focus on two study systems: i) *Posidonia oceanica* and the sponge *Chondrilla nucula* and ii) *Cymodocea nodosa* and the lucinid bivalve *Loripes orbiculatus*. In each of these model associations, we will assess whether the organisms alone vs the association can reduce levels of local/regional stressors, alone or in combination with global stressors, using *in situ* and mesocosm experiments. We will simultaneously investigate diversity and function of host-associated and free-living microbes, to evaluate their role in promoting the success of the association. This project requires a candidate with strong motivation and scientific independence, ideally with previous experience of laboratory techniques and analysis in microbial ecology and of *in situ* and/or mesocosm experimentation.

**Pre-requisites:** a) MSc degree in Biology, Environmental Sciences, Natural Sciences or equivalent qualification obtained abroad; b) Knowledge of English.

**Fellowship amount:** The salary will be in accordance with the so-called Assegno di Ricerca for a gross total over the one-year period of €19,456.83 (subject to social security contributions but except from taxation).

**Application guidelines:** The application must include: a) the form filled out using the doc template attached to the announcement; b) a copy of the applicant's ID; c) a duly self-certified scientific curriculum (in Italian or in English), bearing at the bottom the following statement (in Italian): "*A conoscenza di quanto prescritto agli art. 46 e seguenti del DPR 28/12/2000 n.445 sulla responsabilità penale cui può andare incontro in caso di falsità in atti e di dichiarazioni mendaci, nonché in quanto prescritto dall'art.75 del DPR 28/12/2000 n.445 sulla decadenza dai benefici eventualmente conseguenti al provvedimento emanato sulla base di dichiarazioni non veritiere, ai sensi e per gli effetti del citato DPR n.445/2000 art.46 e sotto la propria personale responsabilità dichiaro che tutte le informazioni contenute nel proprio curriculum vitae sono veritiere. Presto consenso all'utilizzo dei dati personali in conformità al Regolamento Generale sulla protezione dei dati (GDPR) n.679/2016 ed al D. lgs. 10/8/2018 n. 101 in materia di protezione dei dati personali*".

The application documents must be sent to the following e-mail address: [stazione.zoologica@szn.it](mailto:stazione.zoologica@szn.it), with the subject line of the email reading "**Domanda di partecipazione alla selezione pubblica per assegno di ricerca 27/2024**".

The application deadline is **04/04/2024**. Evaluations are planned shortly thereafter, and interviews will be conducted from remote on **19/04/2024**.

The General Director  
Massimo Ferdinando Francesco Cavaliere