



## **Environmental Information: Use and Influence Research Program**

(Web: www.eiui.ca; Twitter: twitter.com/eiui\_dal)

The interdisciplinary Environmental Information: Use and Influence (EIUI) Research Program, based in the Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University, continues to pursue research regarding the role(s) of information in science-policy interfaces in marine contexts. The EIUI research team welcomes opportunities to pursue studies of relevance to BoFEP.

The pandemic has had an impact on the work of the EIUI research group since March 2020. Nonetheless, the research team meets every two weeks via MS Teams, and this digital platform has provided an opportunity to engage researchers external to the group in discussion of marine social science research studies. Dr. Philippe Mongeon, a new faculty member in the School of Information Management at Dalhousie University and a knowledge transfer/knowledge mobilization researcher, has joined EIUI as well as new Masters students who are undertaking research within the ambit of EIUI.

Since last fall, members of the research team have presented papers or posters at conferences in Hanover, Germany, and Washington DC, USA, and participated in online conferences. Team members have also published the following papers so far this year:

Cadman, R., MacDonald, B. H., & Soomai, S. S. (May2020). Sharing victories: Characteristics of collaborative strategies of environmental non-governmental organizations in Canadian marine conservation. *Marine Policy*, *115*, 103862. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2020.103862

MacDonald, B. H., Cadman, R., Martin, C., Ryder-Burbidge, S., Soomai, S. S., Stewart, I., & Wells, P. G. (2020). Is the production and use of grey marine literature a model for open science? *The Grey Journal*, *16*(2), 73–83.

Other papers are in review with journals and others will be submitted this fall. In addition, EIUI's book, <u>Science, information, and policy interface for effective coastal and ocean management</u>, is now available in an open access mode from CRC Press/Taylor and Francis Group.

Members of the EIUI research team continue to offer a graduate course on "Information in Public Policy and Decision Making," which regularly attracts Masters and Doctoral students from five or more programs each year. The Winter 2020 offering of this course could not have been more timely as the pandemic spread globally and the relevance of scientific information for public policy decisions became pronounced. An account of the course, including the line-up of guest speakers, is documented in a blog post on the EIUI website.

The EIUI research program is currently supported by an Insight Research grant from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Further details about the EIUI research work are available at the EIUI <u>website</u>. In addition, research and related activities about the use of evidence in decision making globally are highlighted via EIUI's active <u>Twitter account</u>.

Bertrum MacDonald, PhD For the EIUI Research Team 13 October 2020