

# Policy research – why you should care

Blue growth and the future(s): governance, science, society, and industry

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## Background and motivation

I “grew up” in business and environmental studies programs, with final touches made by a PhD in public policy.

With the rise of blue growth hopes and initiatives in the Ocean Decade, who has a say and who benefits? Why should you care? Politics often trumps science. So, to understand the future, it is crucial to have policy research.

## Project description

I arrived in Bergen with an idea for a one single project. Today, I have two. One is about the SEAS programme, the other one is about the deep-sea mining policy process in Norway. Both projects have a strong focus on the future.

## Main guiding research questions

- What blue future(s) is emerging through science and policy?
- Whose and what knowledge is deemed relevant in creating blue futures?
- How do experts deal with uncertainties?

## Aims

- To collect valid, saturated data that is useful in the real world.
- To engage the public and policy makers.
- To publish academic and media articles.
- Would like to know more about my work? Scan the QR code;)



## Marine sustainability

The larger context of my two specific research projects is the idea of *blue growth* – that acceleration of industrial activities needs to move to the Ocean space. That vast space, in turn, needs to accommodate various ideas of sustainable development as we move from land to water. There are various definitions of marine sustainability that I come across in my fieldwork. I am curious as to what are these ideas of sustainability offering for the blue future?

## Highlighted results and activities

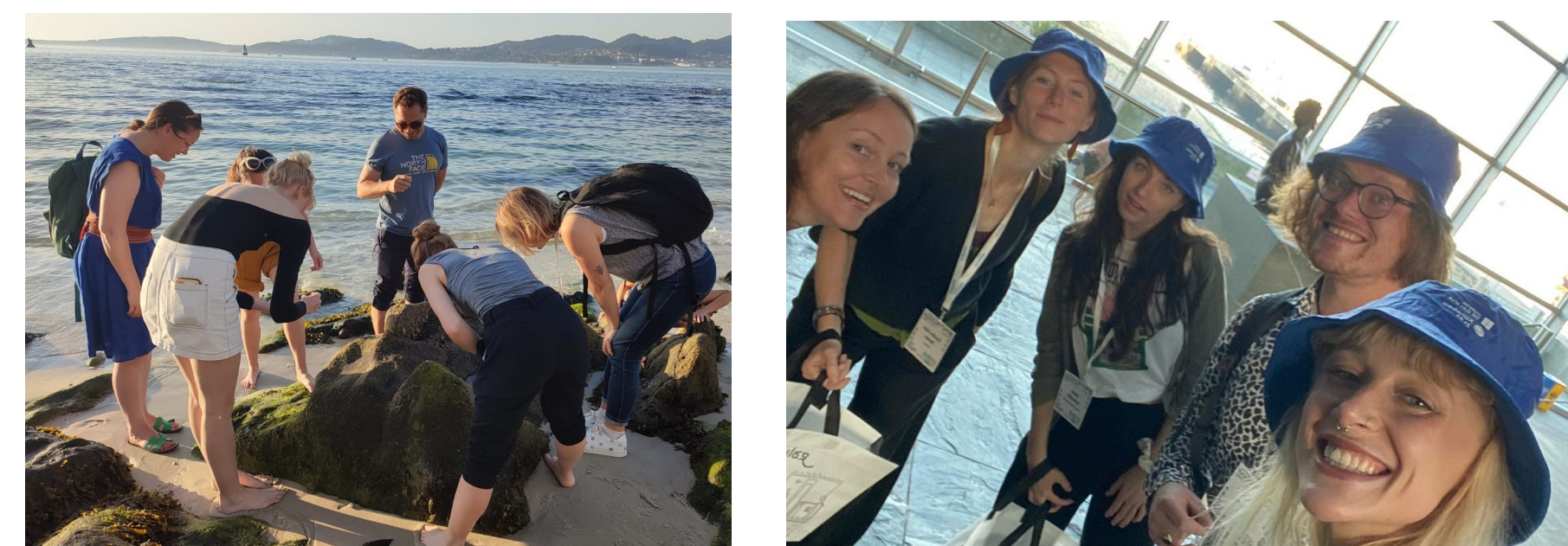
- I have initiated two commentary articles with a few SEAS fellows from different backgrounds and it all went very well! One text is in review and the other one is ready for submission.
- I presented my work at 4 conferences this year! Scan the QR to see the very first one, Arctic Frontiers, where I presented my preliminary findings:
- I presented at *Pint of Science*. It is one of the largest science communication events in the world!



- I wrote a letter to the editor of *FT* with a colleague.
- I wrote a few texts on our SEAS blog. Check it out if you are interested in behind the scenes work and life in the SEAS team. Scan the QR to read my favorite blog post.



- I went to an Early Career Ocean Professionals forum focused on marine science-policy discussions. I met 40+ amazing young researchers from a range of marine fields. We have some plans, just you wait!



- I directed and shot one of the most famous SEAS documentaries. Scan the QR to see the final cut:
- I am a member of a network of ECRs in Norway researching deep-sea mining. So, we planned a deep-sea symposium with SEAS Ed.
- I participated in a local coastal community clean-up.



## Supervisory team

- Main supervisor: Mimi E. Lam from SVT.
- Co-supervisor: Ragnhild Overå, Dept of Geography.
- Mentor: André Marcel Bienfait from IMR.



SEAS

