



CICLO

**CONFERÊNCIAS 18|19**

ISPA - INSTITUTO UNIVERSITÁRIO

# ANTHROPOGENIC PRESSURES IN MARINE ECOSYSTEMS OF ISLANDS



**JOÃO  
CANNING-CLODE**

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Most of the world's population lives within 100km of the ocean, and nearly 75% of all large cities are located on the coast. These coastal ecosystems are therefore of great importance because they are fundamental for human services on biological, social and economic grounds. They sustain a variety of terrestrial and marine fauna and flora, and contribute to the economic sector through tourism, transportation, coastal development and resource extraction. This human dependency on ocean and coastal ecosystems has resulted in the gradual modification of these ecosystems through direct and indirect pressures. Islands ecosystems, in particular, are often biodiversity hotspots that are acutely sensitive to disturbances and are experiencing rapid increases in tourism and other human pressures. In these coastal ecosystems, key human-driven stressors include biological invasions, marine debris, coastal development and climate change, all of which have diverse and significant consequences on biodiversity.

The accumulation of debris in the ocean is severely affecting ocean and coastal ecosystems, as its ingestion and entanglement directly impacts marine life. Furthermore, recent research indicates that marine debris is both a growing vector for the introduction of Non-indigenous Species (NIS), with transoceanic rafting already likely intensifying species invasions worldwide.

In this context, and based on monitoring surveys, field campaigns, manipulative mesocosm experiments and by implementing citizen science initiatives, I am developing a pioneer research program in Madeira Island, Portugal, that integrates in a timely manner with the key questions, hypotheses and challenges now being posed in invasion and ecological science.

**11 MARÇO 2019**

12H30 | SALA DE ATOS

HOST  
**FREDERICO  
ALMADA**

**ENTRADA LIVRE**



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