

Salinization impact on inland waters: from changes in local water quality to global biogeochemical cycles

Time schedule:

We plan a 2 hour online pre-workshop meeting and a 3-day meeting on site.

Day 0 Tuesday January 27th 2026: Pre-workshop online meeting (Dutch time)

Objective: Setting the scene: salinization in inland waters

	Activity	Who	Outcome
13:00	Introducing ourselves (5-10 min each) [a more detailed intro will follow on site]	all	
14:00	Explaining aim of the workshop	organizers	Everybody understands the aim and gets 'homework' to think about aims 1-5
14:15- 15:00	Presentation of the draft global map	Gualbert	Homework: everybody think of how the global map can be 'supported' by regional data

Day 1 (Monday April 13 2026): onsite

Objective: Salinization around the world – examples + first ideas for [II and III] + where are the saline waters [I]

	Activity	Who	Outcome
10:00	Welcome by organizers and Lorentz Center (LC)	Organizers and LC	
10:15	Ice breaker		
10:30	Introducing yourself and ‘your’ systems and region in relation to salinization <i>Topics that could be included into the introductions are:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Cause of salinization/type of salinization (salt composition)</i> - <i>Characteristics of salinization (salinity level, duration, fluctuation etc.)</i> - <i>Type of ecosystem and sediment type</i> - <i>Interaction with eutrophication</i> [prepare max 5 slides]	All: In pairs of two introduce yourself to your partner (15 min. each).	Getting to know each other and setting the stage for later discussion on white paper, research questions and hypotheses
10:50 -12:00	Introduction to the group by your partner (~4 min. each)	The other will present you to the group.	idem
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:30	Brainstorm on topics for white paper ¹ section ‘Drivers and processes’ [what do we know, what do we not know] and ‘ecosystem impacts’	In groups of 3 or 4: ideas written on flipovers	Bullet point (long) lists of eye openers/ interesting angles for the white paper
14:30 -16:00	Circulation -Visit flip overs of other groups / discussion / highlighting major and most interesting points with stickers	All	Identification of common points of interest by group representative
16:00-17:00	Plenary recap	Representatives of each group	Each group writes (max 1 page) summary of their discussion
17:00	End of day reception [note from LC: this is not a full meal, no dinner provided]	All	

¹ **White paper:** A structured, evidence-based document that outlines a problem, provides relevant background, and proposes a clear set of recommendations or directions. In this workshop, the white paper serves as a way to synthesize insights and define a shared research or action agenda. It may form the basis for a follow up review publication. Preliminary content: **Problem statement/context; Drivers and processes; global patterns/case studies; ecosystem impacts; knowledge gaps and research agenda**

Day 2 (Tuesday April 14 2026): onsite

Objectives: Identify how participants would like to contribute to the white paper and discuss outline [II]. Discussion on research agenda and possibilities to execute part of this agenda involving researchers around the world [II-IV], Linking the map with regions/local knowledge on salinity and ecological functioning and potential threats [I].

	Activity	Who	Outcome
9:00 -9:10	Short reflection on day 1	Volunteers	
9:10- 9:20	Reading yesterday's summaries regarding white paper topics section 'Drivers and processes' and 'ecosystem impacts'	All	All are updated on discussions of all groups
9:20-10:20	Hackathon: Selection of most exciting topics for paper and draft a possible outline (i.e bullet points)	Groups of 3-4 working on 'Drivers and processes' or 'ecosystem impacts'	Potential outlines
10:20 -10:40	Coffee break		
10:30-12:00	Plenary recap & discussion	All groups present	Favorite/merged outline?
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:00	Hackathon: Selection most exiting topics for research agenda and research questions we want to focus on in global participatory project	In groups of 3 or 4:	Ideas written on flip overs Ideas for funding opportunities
14:00-14:30	Circulation -Visit flip overs of other groups / discussion / highlighting major and most interesting points with stickers	All groups present	List of research question (& hypotheses)
14:30-15:15	Plenary discussion on research agenda and	All - plenary	Decision on research questions to further develop
15:15-15:30	Tea break		
15:30-16:15	Presentation of the updated world map of brackish and saline inland waters with methodological explanation	Gualbert	
16:15-17:00	Linking the map with regions/local knowledge on salinity and ecological functioning and potential threats. Discuss if/how we can use maps of different future scenarios of salinization in the white paper 'global patterns / case studies'. Identify weaknesses in map linked to gaps in data/information availability.	In groups	Sketch of regional infographics (eg. as here focus on ecology and biogeochemistry)
17:00-18:00	Free		

18:00-20:00	Mid workshop dinner	All + ECRs/colleagues that are interested in the topic	Dynamic dinner ECRs bring a hand-out of their work as a basis to discuss with workshop participants
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Day 3 (Wednesday April 15): onsite

Objective: working on outcomes I-VI and decide on possible follow-up. Design the basic elements that are needed for the future global sampling protocol.

	Activity	Who	Outcome
9:00 -9:30	Short reflection on day 2	Volunteers	Agree on agenda of last day / changes needed?
9:10-10:10	Groups report back on their findings when zooming in on world map and links to ecology and biogeochemistry (possible case studies). Discuss information (sampling) needed to improve mapping.	Yesterday's group representatives	Decision on inclusion case studies in white paper
10:10 -10:30	Decide on necessity of follow up actions, who does what		Action and decision list
10:30-11:00	Coffee break		
11:00-12:00	Elaboration of parts of white paper / parts of field research (protocol) / info graphic / other ideas developed during workshop	Work in couples	Bullet points or first draft of different sections
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-15:15	Continuation	Work in couples / switch topic after ~ 45 minutes	Advanced paper parts / protocol / infographic / other ideas
15:15-15:30	Tea break		
15:30-16:00	White paper, where are we. Next steps	Organizers/volunteer	Next steps identified (who can do what, timeline)
16:00-16:20	Field research (protocol): how to start. Funding options	Organizers/volunteer	Protocol: next steps? List with funding opportunities; who can do what?
16:20-16:30	Wrap up	organizers	