



# Seminar(i)

## **BIODiversity PATterns of Crustacea from Karstic Systems (BIOPACKS): molecular, morphological, and functional adaptations**

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Groundwater is a strategic natural resource, especially in Mediterranean countries where surface water cannot satisfy on its own the demand of agriculture and human consumption. However, groundwater habitats remain practically unexplored and their ecological role is hardly being considered. The study of groundwater fauna began on the 1960s and molecular techniques are just opening access to new discoveries and practical applications. The BIOPACKS project is focused on the study of the underground aquatic fauna of the Valencian Community to provide novel information and incorporate new molecular methods into the field. The BIOPACKS project will provide the first molecular identification and catalogue of the groundwater aquatic fauna (mostly crustaceans) present in the region, complete a phylogenomic study on the evolution of the malacostraca and characterize the genomes of the bacteria associated with groundwater crustaceans using state-of-the-art metagenomics and bioinformatic methods. This new data will allow us to better understand the causes for the establishment and evolution of bacterial-host symbiosis in unique groundwater ecosystems and discover new enzymes with potential biotechnological application.

**WHERE?**

Seminar room – SS6  
(Institutes building floor -1)

**WHEN?**

Thursday 9/1/2020 – 12:00 h

**LANGUAGE?**

English