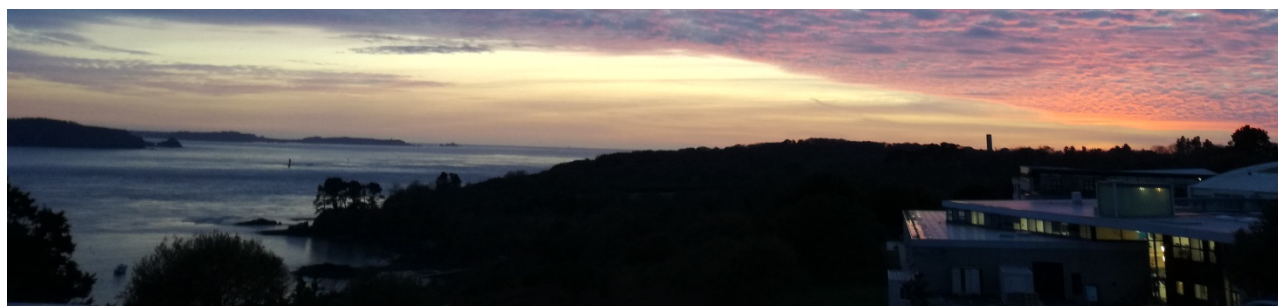*STUDENTS REPORT FROM FRANCE*

Students of the master degree "Biology and Ecology of Marine Environment and Sustainable use of marine resources" are doing their thesis projects in Brest, France!

In the framework of the master degree "Biology and Ecology of Marine Environment and Sustainable Use of Marine Resources", dr. Alessandro Pisaniello and dr. Federica Rebecchi, winners of the COINOR fellowship "Saperi Senza Frontiere" are doing their thesis projects between the University of Naples Federico II (Italy) and the Institut Français de Recherche puor l'Exploitation de la mer (Brest, France).

Under the supervision of Professor Anna Di Cosmo, Department of Biology - University of Naples Federico II, dr. Daniela Zeppilli (Researcher in the IFREMER, Institut Français De Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la mer) and dr. Jacques Grall (Researcher in the Institut Universitaire Européen de la Mer), - Alessandro and Federica are spending four months in France (November 2017 – February 2018).

Both thesis projects are focused on marine meiofauna: Alessandro is focused on deep-sea meiofauna biodiversity comparing molecular and morphological diversity analysis while Federica is investigating meiofauna community associated to maerl bed, corraligenous habitat supporting very diverse   communities.
Meiofauna organisms play a key role in sea-benthic communities, they are highly abundant and have an important functional role in the sediment. In particular, Nematodes are the most abundant and diversify   taxa   representing   a   very   important   group   to   study.
During the first 2 months Alessandro and Federica have been done extraction, sorting and preparation of permanent slides for working on the identification of Nematodes species with a classical taxonomical approach.

Here some beautiful pictures:

Greffiella sp1

Pselionema sp1

Longicyatolaimus sp1

Terschellingia sp1

…Work in progress!