



**MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS 2021**  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR HOSTING MARIE CURIE FELLOWS**

**HOST INSTITUTION**

NOVA University Lisbon | School of Social Sciences and Humanities

**RESEARCH GROUP AND URL**

Cities, Environment and Regional Development  
<https://www.cics.nova.fcsh.unl.pt/research/research-groups/3-cities-environment-and-regional-development>

**SUPERVISOR (NAME AND E-MAIL)**

Alison Laurie Neilson  
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**SHORT CV OF THE SUPERVISOR**

**Alison Neilson** is an interdisciplinary researcher who transcends boundaries between arts/sciences, academic/non-academic and researcher/researched in knowledge creation and fisheries governance. She works on environmental justice issues in small-scale fishing communities of the Azores Islands Portugal. She conducts narrative and arts-informed research on the way sustainability is understood and used in education and fishing policy. She looks at the way knowledge, wisdom and politics are mixed together. Alison is also associated with the Centre for Social Studies, CES, University of Coimbra and a member of multiple networks related to people and the sea (e.g., OceanGov COST, SIHD-ICES). She is also a trained facilitator and accredited teacher trainer.

Current projects:

- 2019-2021: Universidade do Oceano. As ciências do Mar para e com os jovens. Fundo Azul, Portugal
- 2018-2021: 9 Islands, 1 Book Azores Fishing Communities – photo narrative book, research/community collaborative crowdfunded initiative <https://nineislands.wordpress.com>
- 2018-2021: ALL Artist-Led Learning in Higher Education. EU Erasmus+

**5 SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- Neilson, A. L. & São Marcos, R. (2020). Catch of the day. In Joel Pontius, David Greenwood & Mike Mueller (Eds.). Hunting, gathering and fishing for food: Place studies and perspectives. Chpt 7. Pp. 87-104, New York, NY: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-42814-3\\_7](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-42814-3_7);
- Neilson, A.L. & São Marcos, R. (2019) Reframing marine resource management with relational ontologies and hybrid entanglements: Fishing for empathy between Azorean fishers and scientists. *Marine Policy*, 105, 30-37. Doi: 10.1016/j.marpol.2019.04.004;
- Neilson, A.L., São Marcos, R., Sempere, K., Sousa, L., & Canha, C. (2019). A vision at sea: women in fisheries in the Azores Islands, Portugal. *Maritime Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40152-019-00155-0>;
- Neilson, A. L. & São Marcos, R. (2017). "Escape" In response to a call - Evoking a keynote. Special issue on neoliberalism in higher education, *Critical Studies <=> Critical Methodologies*. 17(3) 266-268. Online first doi: 10.1177/1532708616673656;

- Neilson, A.L., & Castro, I. (2016) Reflexive research and education for sustainable development with coastal fishing communities in the Azores islands: A theatre for questions. In P. Castro, U. M. Azeiteiro, P. Bacelar Nicolau, W. Leal Filho, & A. M. Azul (Eds.), *Biodiversity and education for sustainable development*. pp. 203-217. Dordrecht, NL: Springer;
- Neilson, A.L., Bulhão Pato, C., Gabriel, R., Moura, A.A., Mendonça, E., & Picanço, A. (2016). In the Azores, looking for the regions of knowing. *Island Studies Journal*, 11(1), 35-56.

## PROJECT TITLE AND SHORT DESCRIPTION

### ***SEA-ALF: Fishing for ocean literacies that nourish (proposed project)***

SEA-ALF begins from the premise that Ocean Literacy is filled with contested ideas about “living in”, “living from”, “living as” and “living with” the ocean, but dominant narratives and ways of communicating hide all others. This research project seeks to uncover the ways that knowledge and worldviews from the very people most connected with oceans is missing from much of what passes as Ocean Literacy today. We draw from decades of living on islands and working with small-scale fishing communities in multiple research collaborations about participation, education, ocean governance, knowledge construction and sustainable justice. But we begin this research by seeking the voices of the people who live in small coastal communities and on islands in the Atlantic Ocean, making their livelihoods primarily from fishing. The first research activity is to seek diverse expressions of ocean-entwined worldviews from Portuguese and Spanish fishers and their families, as they go about their daily activities. As such we seek informal conversations which we hope will lead to a collection of short video-taped messages of the type that we regularly see posted on social media by fishermen and fisherwomen to their friends, family and community. These expressions of why the ocean is important and what these people need to sustain their livelihoods and coastal cultures will form the basis for our comparison to the narratives that we uncover in the subsequent parts of this research. After a series of document analysis, mapping 4 different sites of learning, we return again to the fishing communities to engage with them through citizen science and participatory research to learn about the ways that the ocean feeds their minds and stomachs. Finally, in addition to communication in scholarly journals, we share the results of the research through a facilitated process of creative collaborative story writing with community members so that we will co-create Ocean Literacy materials and pedagogy that can nourish these communities.

I am looking to build a larger team of social scientists (or researchers from humanities) who work on fisheries related issues in the Azores. For the past 12 years, I have managed numerous research grants and education projects in the islands. Currently I supervise a PhD project based on participation and governance in Azores fisheries and I collaborate with another PhD student who studies justice and compliance with regulations and laws. We collaborate with various fisheries biologists as well. I have strong working relations with the fishing associations on all 9 islands, women’s associations and multiple other local associations, FLAGs, government depts, etc. This is a very strong base from which to continue to do social and environmental justice projects, such as the proposed SEA-ALF, or others proposed by interested researchers.

## SCIENTIFIC AREA WHERE THE PROJECT FITS BEST\*

Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)