

# NRF-SAIAB Seminar Series 2024

Thursday 29 August 2024, 10.30am (SAST)

**Venue:** Lecture Room, NRF-SAIAB, Somerset Street, Makhanda

## **Zoom Registration link:**

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvceugrT4jHtDy0ezxScDrt-JhdaQCGeN8>

Passcode: 017205

## **Dr Eleonora Puccinelli**

Principal Investigator, Department of Coastal Systems (COS),  
Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ)

## ***Food Web Interactions in Marine Ecosystems: From Urban to Offshore Environments***



Dr. Eleonora Puccinelli is a marine trophic ecologist with a primary interest in understanding how natural and anthropogenic processes mediate trophic interactions and translate into ecosystem-wide effects on biogeochemical cycling, environmental amelioration and marine food production. Dr. Puccinelli's focus is on primary consumers, particularly benthos and zooplankton from intertidal to offshore environments, and how top-down and bottom-up processes affect their distribution, roles in biogeochemical cycling and other ecosystem services. Specifically, she is very interested in understanding how processes that affect phytoplankton communities translate into effects on primary consumers, focusing on the nitrogen cycling. These have included evaluating the role of upwelling in determining the diet of primary consumers, pollution inputs in coastal areas, and the effects of climate change in the North Sea. Dr. Puccinelli will provide an overview of her past and current research questions, presenting the work from three case studies set in an upwelling system, urban coastal environment, and a shallow open sea.