

## Love in warming times

By Aurora Campo

Global warming is changing our lives very rapidly and threatening the survival of many species.

Cold blooded animals are affected by warming waters in particular because their physiological processes are linked to temperature. In fact, many thousands of aquatic species have experienced a reduction of 95% of their population in the last three generations and are now close to extinction.

That is the case with European eels that migrate over long distances from European rivers to the Sargasso Sea in the western Atlantic to reproduce. In their travels, they face migration barriers as dams and industrial turbines that chop the teenagers in to pieces while they are swimming to their love nests. In case some brave eels arrive to the ocean, the temperature no longer shows them the path to the Sargasso Sea. Finally, not even most of the stronger eels are guaranteed they will meet a partner in this warmer world.



[Simpleshow video -](#)

<https://vimeo.com/271433900>

Such a bitter destiny can be changed with research. We are a group of young researchers trying to preserve cold blood species in a warming world. We work under the Marie Curie fellow with representation in research institutions in Europe. Our research develops methods for reproduction in captivity or sexual maturation for eels, salmons and sturgeons. We want to give an opportunity these species to adapt their love ways in the new warm environment humans have created.