

Training for CARIBE Blue School Coordinators

Place: Cartagena, Colombia

Dates: 1-3 March, 2025

Time	Session	Objective/Activity	Facilitator(s)
Day 1: Introduction to Ocean Literacy			
Morning Session: Introduction to Ocean Literacy			
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Welcome and Introduction	Brief introduction of trainers, objectives, and agenda overview	All
9:15 AM - 9:30 AM	Community Building and Networking	Ice-breaking activity and participant introductions	Raquel
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Ocean Literacy Gallery (Part 1)	Participants define ocean literacy using post-it notes	Paola, Keiko
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM	Introduction to Ocean Literacy	Presentation	Meghan Marrero
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Q&A	Open discussion and clarifications	-
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Ocean Literacy Gallery (Part 2)	Refining understanding of ocean literacy through gallery activity	Paola
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch Break	-	-
Afternoon Session: Ocean Literacy with All			
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Ocean Literacy Role-Playing	Engaging participants in developing sector- based OL initiatives	Meghan, Keiko, Raquel, Lorna
4:30 PM - 4:45 PM	Wrap-up and Action Plan	Develop collaborative OL action plan for CARIBE	Lorna Iniss
4:45 PM - 5:00 PM	Evaluation	Feedback on the day's session	-
Day 2: Introducing the Blue School Concept and Implementation			
Morning Session: Blue School Concept			
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Overview of the Blue School Concept/Program	Introduction to Blue School, governance, and implementation	Raquel, Keiko

10:30 AM - 12:45 PM	Building Your Blue School Network	Governance and implementation strategy development	Raquel, Keiko
12:45 PM - 1:45 PM	Lunch Break	-	-
Afternoon Session: Blue School Implementation			
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Experiences from Educational Coordinators	Sharing strategies and lessons learned	Meghan Marrero, Keiko Takahashi, Noemi/Sephora, Andira Guzman
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	Ocean Literacy Learning Stations	Hands-on application of ocean literacy concepts in education	Various partners
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Blue School CARIBE from Scratch	Developing strategies for governance, school engagement, and partnerships	Keiko, Raquel
Day 3: Engagement and Evaluation			
Morning Session: Development and Review			
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Developing Application Forms and Partner Templates	Collaborative development of application templates	Raquel, Keiko, Meghan, Paola
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Break	-	-
10:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Template Presentations and Refinement	Reviewing and finalizing templates	Meghan
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch Break	-	-
Afternoon Session: Evaluation Tools and Closing			
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Evaluation Tools - Surveys and Interviews	Developing tools for evaluating Blue School program impact	Raquel, Keiko
3:00 PM - 3:15 PM	Break	-	-
3:15 PM - 4:00 PM	Discussion and Review of Evaluation Results	Reviewing and discussing evaluation implementation	Meghan, Paola
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Final Remarks and Closing	Summary, key points, and next steps	Paola, Raquel

Trainers



Raquel Lorenz Costa is a Marine Geologist specializing in ocean education and literacy. Over the past 12 years, she has worked on OL, led the Portuguese Blue School network and co-coordinated the All-Atlantic Blue School network, promoting cross-border ocean education initiatives. Her expertise includes teacher training, developing educational resources, and contributing to ocean literacy research. She is a member of the IOC Ocean Literacy Group of Experts, a member of the OLWA steering committee and also a consultant for IOC-UNESCO to establish the Global Blue School Programme.

She is pursuing a PhD in Science Education focused on Blue Schools.



Camila Keiko Takahashi is a Program Manager at Maré de Ciência Program from Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP), co-coordinator of Blue Schools in Brazil and executive secretary of the Brazilian Ocean Literacy Alliance and the All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network, working on strengthening the interface between science, public policies, and society. She holds a BSc in Biology from State University of São Paulo (UNESP), a MSc degree in Water and Coastal Management from University of Plymouth in UK and University of Cadiz in Spain, and a MBA in ESG from Brazilian Institute of Capital Markets (Ibmec).



Dr. Meghan Marrero is a Professor of Secondary Science Education at Mercy University in New York, USA, and co-director of the Mercy Center for STEM Education. Her research centers on ocean literacy of students and teachers, as well as STEM teacher education. Meghan was a Fulbright Scholar in Ireland in 2018, where she focused on teaching and research around family learning in science and engineering for early childhood students and their families. A former high school science teacher in New York City, Meghan has been involved with several national and international ocean literacy initiatives and currently serves as the United States National Coordinator for the USA Blue Schools and on the National Sea Grant Advisory Board. She served as President of the New York

State Marine Education Association (NYSMEA) from 2009-2014, and President of the National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) in 2018-19. Meghan holds a B.S. in Biological Science from Cornell University, an M.A. and EdD in science education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and an advanced certificate in educational leadership from Queens College.



Paola Diaz-Canales is a Honduran marine biologist, works in marine ecology and conservation. She holds a Master's degree in Integrated Management of Tropical Coastal Areas from the University of Costa Rica (UCR). Currently, she collaborates with CIMAR-UCR on a project addressing pelagic sargassum influxes in the Costa Rican Caribbean, focusing on mitigation planning, community training for early warnings and responses, and stakeholder network development. She also serves as the regional coordinator for the Ocean Literacy Program with IOCARIBE-UNESCO. As the coordinator of ECOP-Honduras, Paola promotes interdisciplinary research and

inclusive initiatives. She is also the host and part of the management team of *The Sargassum Podcast*, which explores challenges faced by coastal communities impacted by sargassum.



Sephora Badmer is a Marine Environment Awareness Officer at the French Biodiversity Agency, at the marine natural Park of Martinique. She holds a Master degree in marine and island ecology from University of French Polynesia and Sorbonne University in Paris. Since 2022, she is the coordinator of a blue education academic program in Martinique called “Aires Marines Educative” whose aim is to raise children’s awareness about ocean issues and promotes ocean literacy from primary school to high school. She is also in charge of setting up and monitoring partnerships with all stakeholders involved in projects to raise awareness of marine environment issues (associations, institutions, schools, etc.).



Noémie Djellid is a Project Manager for the LIFE BIODIV’France European program at the French Biodiversity Office. Based in Guadeloupe, she works across the French West Indies to fully integrate biodiversity into public policies and territorial strategies. At the intersection of institutions, political stakeholders, and administrative bodies, she leads concrete actions to strengthen the consideration of environmental issues. She also coordinates the network of educational marine areas in the region, promoting a participatory and engaged approach to marine ecosystem conservation.

She holds a Master's degree in political science from Nice Côte d’Azur University, specializing in environmental policies and international relations, Noémie leverages her expertise to address a key challenge: structuring and driving environmental policies for the effective and sustainable protection of biodiversity.