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.

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.

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.

Sephora Badmer is a Marine Environment Awareness Officer at the French Biodiversity Agency, at the Marine Natural Park of Martinique. She holds a Master's degree in marine and island ecology from the 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 promote 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.).

Camila Keiko Takahashi is a Program Manager at the Maré de Ciência Program from the 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 the State University of São Paulo (UNESP), a MSc degree in Water and Coastal Management from University of Plymouth in UK and the University of Cadiz in Spain, and a MBA in ESG from the Brazilian Institute of Capital Markets (Ibmec).

Training for CARIBE Blue School Coordinators

Day 1: Introduction to Ocean Literacy and the Blue School Concept

Morning Session: Introduction to Ocean Literacy

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM
Welcome and Introduction (All)
Objective: A brief introduction of the trainers, training objectives, and the agenda for the next three days.
Facilitator:

9:15 AM - 9: 30 AM
Community Building and Networking
Objective: Warm-up and ice-breaking activity to facilitate participant introductions and networking.
Activity: Participants present themselves and share their motivations and expectations for the training in a roundtable format to foster a sense of community.
Facilitator: Raquel

9:30 AM - 9: 45 AM
Objective: Engage participants in expressing what ocean literacy means to them. Create a dynamic visual representation of OL meaning.
Facilitator: Paola and Keiko

Activity 1: Ocean Literacy Gallery (Part 1) - Participants write what ocean literacy means to them on post-it notes and place them on a large wall. This serves as a dynamic visual that will be referenced throughout the training.
Materials Needed: Post-it notes, coloured pens.

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Introduction to Ocean Literacy
Presenter: Meghan Marrero

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM
Q&A

11:00 AM - 11:15 PM
Meaning of Ocean Literacy - Part 2
Facilitator: Paola

Activity 2: Ocean Literacy Gallery (Part 2) - Participants go to the gallery and rearrange or rewrite what ocean literacy means to them and place them on a large wall. Followed by further discussion.

11:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Lunch Break

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Overview of the Blue School Concept
Objective: To introduce the foundational concepts, and core objectives of the Blue School program, the network, and its relation to ocean literacy, citizenship education, and education for sustainability. OL Dimensions.
This informal presentation will provide a global vision of the program and explore how the Blue School program aligns with broader educational goals and its impact on communities and educational systems. It will also touch on integrating the Blue School within the UN Decade of Ocean Science and Sustainable Development Goals framework.
Presenter: Raquel + Keiko

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM
Break

2:45 PM - 4:30 PM
Introduction to Governance and Blue School Implementation Process
Objective: To deepen understanding of the network's governance structure and implementation processes.
Materials Needed: Large sheets of paper (e.g., flip chart paper), markers, post-it notes, and coloured pens for each group.
Room Setup: There is ample space for each group to work comfortably around their large sheet. 4 groups.
Facilitator:
Activity:

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM
Step 1: Brainstorming
. Two groups brainstorm the essential components of a governance structure tailored for CARIBE:
Governance/coordination: Consider roles, responsibilities, communication flows, documents/sites, etc.
. Two groups brainstorm the critical components of the implementation process of the Blue School CARIBE:

Consider the steps to build the network—schools, partners, strategies, and processes/steps.

Within each group, participants assign roles to ensure that every aspect of the governance/network structure is covered. Use diagrams with Post-it notes detailing the responsibilities or processes. Groups discuss and refine their structures, ensuring clear communication pathways are established and effective processes are highlighted.

3:15 PM — 3:45 PM
Step 2: The groups change their positions and discuss the other topic, using the charts created by the other groups or creating new ones.

Step 3: Presentation and Feedback

Each group presents one model to the rest of the participants. One representative can speak, or the entire group can participate.

Following each presentation, other participants and facilitators provide feedback, focusing on the proposed governance structures' feasibility, comprehensiveness, and potential challenges. This feedback can be written directly onto the large sheets with different coloured pens to highlight areas of strength and suggest improvements.

3:45 PM — 4:00 PM Wrap-Up: Facilitators Paola & Raquel
Summarize the key points discussed and the various governance models presented. Emphasize the importance of clear and effective governance in the success of the Blue School network.

Photograph the sheets to create a visual record of the work done, which can be shared with participants after the training as a resource.

Day 2: Building Your Blue School Network

Morning Session: Get inspired by OL Educational Coordinators

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM: Sephora

Sharing experience as the coordinator network of stakeholders involved in the "Marine educated area" project :

→ How to mobilise different kinds of partners?

→ What is the aim of the network?

→ How to maintain good rhythm and communication?

→ How does the network help in the promotion of ocean literacy in the territory?

To learn from the experiences of established Blue School networks in Europe, focusing on successful coordination strategies.

Presentations will cover overcoming common challenges, leveraging opportunities, and fostering effective communication and collaboration across different regions.

9:45 AM - 11:15 AM
Experiences from Blue Global Coordinators
Sharing practical experiences and strategies from different countries. Each coordinator discusses unique challenges they've faced, innovative strategies they've implemented, and lessons learned that can be applied globally.
Presentations by:
. Meghan Marrero (USA),
. Bernardo Mata (Portugal), and
. Keiko Takahashi (Brazil)

11:15 AM-11:30 AM
Break

11:30 AM - 12h45
Blue School CARIBE from Scratch
Develop comprehensive strategies for various aspects of the Blue School network.
Activity: Breakout Sessions

      Group 1: BS Governance & Partner Engagement - Strategies for identifying and engaging potential stakeholders and partners, including NGOs, government agencies, and private sector partners.

      Group 2: School Engagement - Approaches to recruiting and retaining schools within the network, focusing on benefits and responsibilities.
        - Resource Needs - Identifying resource needs, including educational materials and financial support.

- Annual Dynamics - annual tasks for schools, Planning for annual events, meetings, national/regional school challenges, and ongoing communication strategies.

Presentation and debate: Each group presents their strategy to the entire class. Participants and facilitators provide constructive feedback, focusing on practicality, scalability, and potential impact.

Materials: Participants use large sheets to document their group's strategies and prepare for presenting these plans.

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM
Lunch Break

Afternoon Session:

First Part : Theory (inside) :

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM : ice breaker and introduction

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM : Presentation of the Marine Educated Area Project: Methodology, goals and examples

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM : Ask

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM : Break

Second Part : Let's practice (outside)!

3:15 PM - 4:00 PM : Activity

Chose a site and make an inventory of the chosen site with your student

→ Split into several groups, you will have to choose a place and make a sensory diagnosis of the site, using the marine educative area methodological sheet edited for students and teachers

04:00 PM - 04:30 PM : Group restitution

Day 3: Engagement and Evaluation

Morning Session: Development and Review of School and Partner Templates

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Developing Application Forms and Partner Templates

> **Objective:** Create effective application forms for schools and engagement templates for partners.
>
> **Activity:** Split into two groups, each focusing on one type of template (application forms for schools, and templates for partners). Participants collaborate to draft these documents, incorporating essential elements that align with Blue School criteria and partnership goals.
>
> **Collaboration Method:** Use large sheets or digital documents (if available) to facilitate group collaboration. Encourage creativity and comprehensive detail in drafting the templates.

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Template Presentations and Refinement

> **Objective:** To finalize the templates based on group discussions and feedback.
>
> **Activity:** Each group presents the template they initially worked on. After presentations, groups swap templates to provide feedback and suggest improvements to the other group's draft.
>
> **Discussion:** Finalize the templates by integrating feedback from both groups, ensuring all necessary adjustments are made for clarity, effectiveness, and alignment with Blue School objectives.

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Lunch Break

Afternoon Session: Development and Application of Evaluation Tools

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Evaluation Tools - Surveys and Interviews

> **Objective:** To develop effective evaluation tools that can be used to measure the performance and impact of various aspects of the Blue School program.
>
> **Activity:** Discuss and design different types of evaluation tools:
>
> > **Surveys:** Focus on how to structure surveys, including the types of questions to ask (Likert scale, closed questions, etc.).
> >
> > Interviews: Outline the process for conducting meaningful interviews with coordinators, partners, teachers, and students.
> >
> > **Workshop:** Utilize provided templates to design tailored evaluation tools specific to different target groups (coordinators, partners, teachers, students).

Discussion Points: What to measure (engagement, satisfaction, learning outcomes), and how to analyze and use this data for program improvement.

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM
Break

3:15 PM - 4:00 PM
Discussion and Review of Evaluation Results

Objective: To review and discuss the evaluation tools developed and how they can be applied to effectively gather and analyze data.

Activity: Participants share the evaluation tools they have developed and discuss potential scenarios for their application. Groups discuss how to effectively implement these tools in real-world settings and anticipate challenges they might face.

Feedback Session: Facilitators and peers provide feedback on each group's proposed tools, focusing on practicality, comprehensiveness, and the potential for capturing valuable data.

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM
Final Remarks and Closing
Summarize the outcomes of the training, reinforce key points, and discuss the next steps for the participants as they return to their roles.