



Meet your Instructor

Kelly Hoareau LEAD INSTRUCTOR

Kelly Hoareau has over 15 years' experience in environmental, sustainability and leadership roles, with first-hand experience of working in Africa and with various small island developing states and coastal nations, across marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Kelly is the former and founding Director of the *James Michel* Blue Economy Research Institute - University of Seychelles (BERI-UniSey) and a co-founder and management committee member of UniSey's Island Biodiversity Conservation centre. She is currently working full time on her PhD which explores the role that knowledge systems play in supporting a more sustainable blue economy.

**James Michel Blue Economy Research
Institute - University of Seychelles
(BERI-UniSey)**

Certification

Certificates of Participation will be awarded to participants who pass two quizzes with 70% or more and contribute to at least two forum discussions.

Certificates of Completion will be awarded to those who meet the requirements for a Certificate of Participation as well as completing a final Position Statement.

Information and Registration

For further information and registration, visit:

mooc4dev.org/blueeconomy1

**James Michel Blue Economy Research
Institute - University of Seychelles
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Photo: Christophe Mason-Parker

THE BLUE ECONOMY

Sustainability, Innovation,
and our Ocean

29 October to 2 December 2023



COMMONWEALTH
of LEARNING

VUSSC



The Blue Economy: Sustainability, Innovation, and our Ocean

Course Description

Planet earth's defining feature is the ocean and it's the reason that life exists.

It produces oxygen, absorbs carbon dioxide and contributes to freshwater renewal. It connects countries and cultures and supports ecosystems that bridge national boundaries.

The ocean provides important goods and services to all of society. It is a major part of the world economy, with more nations looking to the ocean as a way to enhance livelihoods and wellbeing, particularly coastal communities and island nations. Some nations are looking at their large lakes and rivers to do the same.

The concept of the blue economy is a loosely defined development model that builds on that of the green economy and encompasses a range of activities and policy aspirations that vary globally. These aims include economic growth and socio-ecological sustainability through 'harnessing' opportunities present in the coastal and marine space.

To ensure that the progression of blue economies is equitable, just, sustainable and relevant for those communities within which it is enacted, will require innovation of governance and practice across all levels of society.

At a Glance

Schedule	October to November 2023
Level	Introductory
Prerequisites	None
Language	English
Workload	4-5 hours per week (20-25 hours total)
Cost	Free

Who Should Take this Course

This course is introductory, for participants from any background, technical or non-technical. The integrated, cross-sectoral nature of the blue economy provides opportunity for new knowledge to be developed, regardless of how much or how little you may know.



Why Take this Course?

The benefits of developing a sustainable blue economy are not only relevant to coastal and ocean nations, but also to landlocked countries who indirectly benefit from (and impact) the resources and services provided by the ocean. Additionally, this course is well aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goal #14 - Life Below Water, focused on conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources, as well as other SDGs.

You'll discover the potential the blue economy has to drive innovative ocean engagement. Through discussion forums with experts, videos and readings, you'll get to interact and collaborate with other learners. Our self-assessment model means you only take quizzes when you're ready. If you spend 4-5 hours of your time per week on this course, you should be able to complete it in five weeks.

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Discuss the blue economy, its priorities and some of the challenges in operationalising a blue economy.
- Identify ocean sectors that form part of the ocean economy and those with potential to build a sustainable ocean economy.
- Recognise the importance of natural capital and ecosystem services to the blue economy.

**Join us from 29 October to
2 December 2023**

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