


# Let's Bring the Ocean to Our Education Systems

## A Collaborative Workshop

 UNOC 2025 - Nice – Beyond Borders, La Baleine

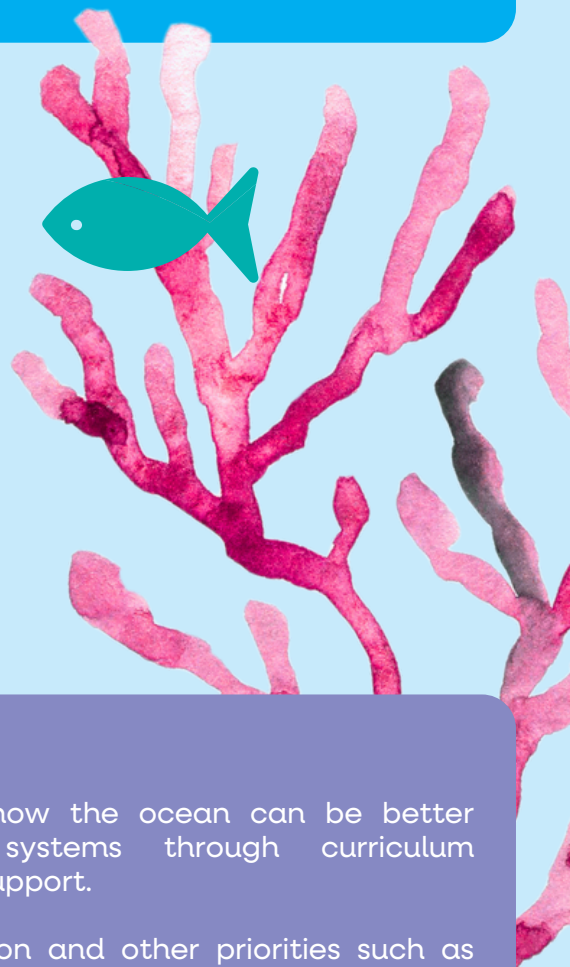
 10 June 2025, 16:30-18:00

 Co-organised by the BlueLights/SHORE/ProBleu Mission Ocean projects, Canadian Ocean Literacy Coalition, EU4Ocean, IOC-UNESCO, Oceanário de Lisboa (in collaboration with Oceano Azul Foundation)

### Background

Across the globe, many initiatives are supporting ocean education in individual schools, contributing to the growth of blue schools. However, their overall reach remains limited compared to national education systems, and they often struggle to engage children from socially vulnerable backgrounds.

To ensure all children have access to ocean education—and to meaningfully contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 14 (Life Below Water)—a more systemic and inclusive approach is needed.



### Workshop Objectives

- **Promote systemic change** by exploring how the ocean can be better integrated into national education systems through curriculum development, teacher training, and policy support.
- **Create synergies** between ocean education and other priorities such as sustainability, citizenship, and media literacy to strengthen its relevance and impact.
- **Foster inclusion** by identifying ways to ensure ocean education reaches all children, especially those from socially vulnerable backgrounds.
- **Rethink evaluation** to better capture local engagement, shifts in attitudes, and the development of critical thinking and active citizenship.



## Agenda

The workshop will feature a dynamic mix of plenary sessions and interactive group work, combining expert input with participant-led discussion and reflection.

### Opening Session:

Welcome and overview of objectives, a snapshot of global priorities and commitments on ocean education, and a warm-up icebreaker (Nice will be warm!).

### Integrating the Ocean into Education Systems:

A brief overview of the building blocks of education systems, followed by four concise Lightning Talks to inspire group discussions.

### Designing Adaptations and Conditions for Change:

An interactive role-play session to co-develop practical recommendations—focusing on curricula, national strategies, inclusivity, and evaluation.

### Collective Reflection and Way Forward:

Group reporting and open discussion to identify priority areas and next steps for strengthening ocean education across systems.

### Wrap-Up and Informal Networking:

A relaxed closing session for participants to connect and continue conversations—because your next ocean education idea may be just a conversation away!

## Participants

The workshop brings together key actors committed to embedding ocean literacy within education systems. It aims to foster dialogue between:

### Education stakeholders:

Teachers, school leaders, education ministries and agencies, teacher training institutes, education researchers, local education departments, and organisations supporting vulnerable learners.

### Ocean stakeholders:

Marine scientists, representatives from ocean-related ministries and agencies, environmental educators, civil society organisations, and private sector actors involved in ocean knowledge and outreach.