



COMMONWEALTH  
of LEARNING

VUSSC



August 31 – October 4, 2020

# THE BLUE ECONOMY: Creating an Enabling Environment

Learn how to make the most of our ocean while ensuring that future generations can do the same

*A free MOOC presented in partnership between the University of Seychelles  
and the Commonwealth of Learning*

© Christopher Mason-Parker  
www.archipelagoimages.net

## What is this course about?

Planet earth's defining feature is the ocean and it is 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. Nations are increasingly looking to the ocean to meet the needs of their people, particularly coastal communities and islands. Some are looking at their large lakes and rivers to do the same. This MOOC introduces the key components that build a strong foundation for a sustainable blue economy.

## Why should you do this course?

Whether you live in a landlocked or coastal nation, the benefits of developing a sustainable Blue Economy are relevant. Over five weeks you'll discover how and why the Blue Economy concept is driving innovative thinking about how we engage with the ocean and how it supports societies. Through discussion forums and live sessions with experts, you'll get to interact and collaborate with other learners, plus the videos, reading and quizzes help you understand the material. All this for only 4-5 hours of your time per week.

## What will you learn?

This is an introductory course for persons from various backgrounds, both technical and non-technical. The integrated, multi-sectoral nature of the Blue Economy provides opportunity for new knowledge to be developed, regardless of how much or how little you may know. Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the role of ocean governance and integrated ocean management in the Blue Economy
- Explain the role of financing, research and capacity development in advancing the Blue Economy
- Critically evaluate the relationship between human rights, gender equality and the Blue Economy

## Course inclusions

Once you sign up, your access will include all materials, including videos and course-related readings. This is MOOC two of four, and it can be taken on its own, but you will gain the most value by taking all four MOOCs.

## Meet the team

This free MOOC is delivered through a partnership between two internationally recognised institutions: the University of Seychelles (UniSey) and the Commonwealth of Learning, and is facilitated by Kelly Hoareau, Director of the James Michel Blue Economy Research Institute at UniSey. Kelly is currently developing resources, networks and knowledge to support the Seychelles Blue Economy agenda. She works internationally on Blue Economy research, education and awareness to advance ocean-based sustainable development. For more visit <https://beri.unisey.ac.sc/>. Drs Holly Niner and Kaylee Smit will assist Kelly. Holly is a Research and Knowledge Exchange Fellow with the Marine Conservation Research Group at the University of Plymouth. As part of the One Ocean Hub, she seeks to support the sustainable, equitable and just use of marine and coastal resources and space. Kaylee is currently working on projects that are linked to intergovernmental marine spatial planning in the Western Indian Ocean and artisanal fisheries in Seychelles.

No of units: 5

Length of course: 5 weeks

Workload: 4-5 hours per week

Cost: FREE

Level: Introductory

Prerequisites: None

Language: English

Institution: University of Seychelles and Commonwealth of Learning

Subject: The Blue Economy

## Course outline:

**WEEK 1: Ocean Governance**

**WEEK 2: Integrated Ocean Management**

**WEEK 3: Ocean Finance**

**WEEK 4: Knowledge Co-Production**

**WEEK 5: Human Rights and Gender**

## What will you gain?

Upon completion you will receive recognition through a verified, easily shareable Certificate to highlight the knowledge and skills you've gained.

## How do you get started?

Registration is now open.

To sign up go to:

<https://bit.ly/2PN1Lkp>

## For more information

Visit the course home page at

<https://www.mooc4dev.org/BlueEconomy2>

or

**Email:** [vussc@col.org](mailto:vussc@col.org)

or visit us at

<https://vussc.col.org>

[www.col.org](http://www.col.org)