



COMMONWEALTH
of LEARNING

VUSSC



March 29 to April 30, 2021

THE BLUE ECONOMY: Blue Space

Learn more about how we influence coastal and ocean space

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

Number 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

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 activities that take place in, and influence, coastal and marine space, for example coastal and climate adaptation, tourism, shipping and port infrastructure, waste and maritime security.

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 a live session with course tutors, you'll get to interact and collaborate with other learners, plus the videos (including featured experts), reading and quizzes help you understand the material. All this for only 4-5 hours of your time per week. This is the final course in our four-part series and it can be taken on its own.

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 some of the key activities that make use of coastal and marine space
- Explain the benefits and impacts of these activities
- Assess the role of sustainability in advancing development in coastal and marine space

Course inclusions

Once you sign up, your access will include all materials, including videos and course-related readings.

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.

Course outline:

- WEEK 1: Climate and Coastal Adaptation**
- WEEK 2: Coastal and Marine Tourism**
- WEEK 3: Maritime Transport and Ports**
- WEEK 4: Maritime Security**
- WEEK 5: Waste Assimilation**

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/38mazYQ>

For more information

Visit the course home page at <https://www.mooc4dev.org/BlueEconomy4>

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

or visit us at
<https://vussc.col.org>
www.col.org