# The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Global Blue Job Shadow Day 2026

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Global Blue Job Shadow Day 2026 will be an exciting intergenerational, multicultural transformational experience for business, education and government leaders who want to design customized workforce development strategies for their communities. This one-hour hybrid event will feature the Institute's communities who use our video-based educational tools, trainings and Sustainable Career Pathways Platform. Each community will create an in-person event and invite their leaders and young people to join. Each will share their experiences, best practices and lessons learned. Together we will learn from each other and explore how we might engage others in this New Frontier to maximize the \$2.5 Trillion goal set at UNOC3 in June 2025.

- Aquaculture: Peniche, Portugal with Perry Raso, So. Kingston RI
- Blue Finance: Lisbon, Portugal with Sausalito, CA

- > Blue Tech: Newport, RI
- Water Management: Marin County CA with The Blue Center, Fall River, MA

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is a global leader in developing sustainable workforce development initiatives that prepare multicultural youth to become leaders of their lives, and in their communities. Founded in 1997 on Martha's Vineyard, the Institute collaborates with business, education, government, and community leaders to design customized workforce development initiatives that build bridges to empower local youth. We've worked with Blue Economy communities on islands and coastal communities since 2018. Our multi-faceted educational tools, trainings, place/project- based learning programs build a sustainable workforce.

The Institute's Job Shadow Day is an essential building block in all our initiatives: Case Studies

We expose high school students to the Blue Economy by connecting them with practitioners who share their career journeys. This is a pivotal time in students' lives to expand their thinking about possible career opportunities and to influence their decision-making process about their future education. Developed in partnership with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce in the early 90's, this program has had a tremendous impact on high school and community college students. Since 2020 we've tailored the program to guide students to sustainable workforce development opportunities with a **Green Job Shadow Day** and a **Blue Job Shadow Day**.

### The Blue Economy Workforce: Investing in the New Frontier

The success of the Blue Economy ultimately depends on the next generation. To truly thrive in this New Frontier, we need to invest in our children's education and the collective future of our oceans. As the Blue Economy gains momentum, the greatest challenge is the need for a road map so we can build a vibrant workforce development pipeline by educating our students for these exciting career pathways. **BLOG**: The Blue Economy is the New Frontier

We are building partnerships with companies, organizations for the Global Blue Job Shadow Day 2026.

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# The Institute's Sustainable Career Pathways Platform & Video-Based Training Program

For the last 7 years the Institute has developed the **Sustainable Career Pathways Platform** in partnership with Blue Economy business, education, and government leaders. It has been designed by young people – with the Institute's tech team -- for educators and career counselors to help students navigate this New Frontier towards good-paying blue and green jobs. Our Platform's teaching tools present fact-based, up-to-date research – and offer a roadmap so they can guide students to explore Blue Economy career pathways — from aquaculture and marine electrification to blue finance, marine biology, coral restoration, and water management. We've produced a series of instructional videos that engage students by spotlighting our real-life stories of young champions of sustainability solutions featured in our book and curriculum, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes*.

## Career Counselor/Teacher Training Module

The Institute's Teacher Training Module equips educators so they can empower their students with our educational tools. To support the growing Blue Economy, we must create a roadmap that educates and prepares students for sustainable careers, training career counselors and connecting academic institutions with the tools and knowledge needed to guide the next generation of ocean leaders.

Video: Teachers from Terceira, Azores

#### The Institute's Blue Job Shadow Day Benefits

- Exposes young minds to inspiring leaders, opens doors and expands their horizons;
- World of Work: Youth gain practical experience in the job market;
- Promotes Good Work Ethic: Youth gain positive experience and build relationships with companies
- Career Pathways and Internships with business, government leaders and blue-green companies;
- **Better trained workforce:** Youth are prepared to be good employees.
- **Develops New Leadership:** We are grooming a generation of multicultural leaders.
- Youth become motivated students who receive support from mentors: internships, scholarships and jobs.

During these challenging times, the solution is clear:
we must come together—Stone Soup style—to build a generation of ocean leaders.
The Blue Economy is a movement that requires all of us.
Let's work together to educate the Blue Economy Generation
and help them become the champions our oceans need.

#### **PRESS**

California: The Institute's Blue Job Shadow Day 2025

Building the Blue Economy: How One Nonprofit Is Engaging CA Companies for a Sustainable Future: California Business Journal

**Portugal**: Portugal and the Strength of the Blue Economy An inspiring meeting in Cascais: The Portugal News

Martha's Vineyard: MVYLI holds Job Shadow Day for high school students

Hawaii: Hawaii Job Shadow Day

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