



Dear Nominator,

March 20, 2026

Thank you for your leadership with the Blue Economy in Portugal. At the Institute's **Global Blue Job Shadow Day™** a clear **Call to Action** emerged: the need to develop a vibrant Blue Economy workforce by empowering Portugal's youth with the tools, training, and networks needed to become innovators, entrepreneurs, and leaders.

For over seven years, the Institute has co-developed its **Blue Economy Career Pathways Platform** with youth, business and education leaders to develop a roadmap for its blue economy workforce. The research we've gathered is for US ([Learn more website](#)) We've been asked to customize the Platform to assist with Portugal's blue workforce.

The Institute's **Blue Economy Youth Ambassadors Initiative** will engage a cohort of university students to develop a template for the **Blue Economy Pathways in Portugal**. Ten students will work together for 10-weeks to conduct research on one pathway - projected jobs and salary range, required skills and education/training routes for each career pathway. They will conduct interviews with business, education and organizational leaders in their pathway. With this research, they will map emerging career pathways, design a foundational framework for Blue Economy sectors and identify strategic ways for industry and education to collaborate to build a blue workforce.

We would like to invite you to **nominate one student** from your university who demonstrates strong interest and leadership in one of the following Blue Economy career pathways:

- Aquaculture
- Blue Biotechnology
- Blue Finance
- Blue Tourism
- Clean Water Management
- Maritime Electrical
- Blue Renewable Energy
- Blue Shipping
- Blue Ocean Technology
- Marine Biology and Conservation

Timeline: April 18 to June 13, 2026

- In-person orientation session: **April 18**, followed by a research and interview phase.
- In-person session is on **May 16**.
- Student Presentation: **June 8, World Ocean Day** to invited government, industry, and partner organizations.
- The program will conclude with a debrief/celebratory session on **June 13**.

Each student who successfully completes the program will receive **500€** and a **Blue Economy Youth Champion** certificate from the Stone Soup Leadership Institute. They can use this experience to develop their professional profile and professional networks with organizations across Portugal's blue economy. **APPLICATIONS Due: April 1**

Please send signed application from nominated youth (attached) to miguel@blueeconomygeneration.org. Thank you for your time and your leadership to support the next generation of Portugal's Blue Economy leaders.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marianne Larned".

Marianne Larned
Author, Founding Director

Stone Soup Leadership Institute
www.StoneSoupLeadership.org • www.BlueEconomyGeneration.org/Portugal