

A Call to Action

Blue Economy + Our Youth A Vision for our Future

**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
Blue Economy Youth Ambassadors Initiative
April 7, 2026**

**Presented to Fórum Oceano General Assembly
by Miguel Roque, Blue Economy Youth Ambassador • Portugal**

www.stonesoupleadership.org •
www.BlueEconomyGeneration/Portugal.org



“The blue economy is a top priority of our government. To get our blue economy up and running, we need people; we need new generations with ocean literacy.

Since I took office as Secretary of State for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, I have had the opportunity to meet many young people like Miguel.

Young women and men with a surprisingly clear understanding of the challenges we face – The ocean: its protection, its economic potential and its role in our shared future.

Young leaders taking action. What they often need is not motivation. They already have it.

What they need is the pathways leading to that common goal. They are ready to lead; we must provide the bridge.

You can count on the Government of the Portuguese Republic to be at your side in future initiatives.

Your success will be Portugal's success.”



Salvador Malheiro

Secretary of State for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs Global Blue Job Shadow Day™ 2026



**REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA**



Blue Economy + Our Youth A Vision for Our Future



Miguel Roque

Blue Economy Youth Ambassador Portugal
Stone Soup Leadership Institute



Global Blue Job Shadow Day™



*Open this blue economy to the youth.
Show us where the opportunities are.
Create clear bridges
between education, training, and work.*

*Let us see what you do –
and be a part of building it.*

*If we work together, we can turn potential into
people, and ambition into careers.*

*The future of the blue economy
depends on the youth.*

And our youth are ready!

Blue Economy Youth Ambassadors



Blue Finance Champion

Diogo Silva
NOVA

School of Business & Economics



Blue Tourism Champion

Leonor Baldaque da Silva
Católica University Lisbon



Blue Renewable Energy Champion

Ana Carolina Sobreira
NOVA School of Law



Blue Shipping Champion

Ines Sousa
University of Lisbon



Ana Bertazzo Lemos
Center for Sustainable Finance
Católica University Lisbon



Clean Water Management Champion

Ioanna Pereira
NOVA

School of Business & Economics



Fábio Dias Lobo
Junior Consultant
Mercer Portugal



University of Algarve



Ciencia Viva
Blue Schools & Polytechnic of Leiria



Polytechnic University of Leiria



Blue Schools - Escola Azul

Blue Economy Youth Ambassadors Initiative

- Internship: 10 weeks: April 18–June 8
- 10 university students: Lisbon, Peniche, Porto, Algarve
- Conduct interviews: Blue Economy leaders business, education, organization
- Conduct research pathway: projected jobs, salary range, skills, education/training resources
- Map career pathways and design a foundational Blue Economy framework

Outcomes

- Presentation for decision-makers on the Blue Economy Career Pathway opportunities & challenges
- Recommendations for how Portugal's leaders can build bridges to develop a blue workforce
- Ambassadors invited to speak at Blue Economy conferences
- Ambassadors interviewed by media: engage youth to realize goal of being a Blue Economy leader

Blue Economy Youth Ambassadors receive

- Stipend 500€
- Certificate from the Stone Soup Leadership Institute
- Develop communication skills and training
- Build professional network & mentors

Blue Economy Career Pathways • Portugal

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

Ambassadors develop foundation for the Blue Economy Career Pathway Platform in Portugal.

• Build momentum among all stakeholders to work together to build the Blue Economy Workforce in Portugal


- Research Training: Blue Economy Career Pathways** April 18
- Communication Training: writing, video, social media, LinkedIn** May 16
- Presentation: World Ocean Week** June 8-12
- Cronkite Ocean Awards 2026 • Tall Ships • Boston 250th** July 11-15
- Press + Public Awareness Campaign in Portugal** July-September
- Blue Economy Leaders Mentor Ambassadors** September-December
- Global Blue Job Shadow Day™ 2027** February 2027

• EEA Grants: Build coalition to secure funds to scale Blue Economy Platform in Portugal

The Institute's History with Building Blue Economy Career Pathways Platform with College Students

*How Might We Build a Blue Economy
By Empowering Young People to Become Leaders of a More Sustainable World?*

CALIFORNIA BUSINESS JOURNAL
September 1, 2025




BREAKING NEWS

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

Explore how one nonprofit is driving the blue economy in California. See how local companies are partnering for ocean sustainability and long-term growth.

By K.H. Koehler, Special to California Business Journal



Marin County Leaders Join Global "Call to Action" for the Future Blue Economy Workforce - Connecting local youth to sustainable ocean careers through 2026 Global Blue Job Shadow Day™



The Institute's World Map



Case Studies:

- Public-private partnerships developed with local business, government, high schools & community colleges that empower young people to become leaders of a more just, equitable and sustainable world.
- *Stone Soup for the World: 100 stories of heroes from 29 countries.*
- *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: 100 stories of young heroes from 38 countries.*
- Curriculum: Lesson Plans bring stories to life with Language Arts & STEM Activities, Service Learning, Sustainable Career Pathways.





Global Blue Job Shadow Day™

Blue Economy Generation



www.stonesoupleadership.org
www.blueeconomygeneration.org
www.globalbluejobshadowday.org
www.cronkiteawards.com