



COMPETITION FRAMEWORK

All over Europe and beyond, teachers are looking for innovative ways of engaging their students with the big issues facing today's societies. Blue Schools is inviting secondary school teachers of all subjects to use the blue economy as a way of engaging pupils in school subjects, and to share their ideas!

Blue Schools project aims to introduce Blue Economy to school education and support students to build a sustainable future in coastal areas and islands. This can be achieved through the development of educational resources and building synergies at local level.

The **Mediterranean Sea** is an invaluable natural and economic resource in Europe and Africa, mainly for habitants living along the coast. Currently, students learn from textbooks or multimedia. Field activities are not common during school education. Thus, Mediterranean students have not the opportunity to gain additional familiarity with the marine environment.

People that live in coastal areas face a variety of challenges in their everyday life: Depopulation, marine and sea pollution, unemployment or seasonal and low-quality jobs, loss of traditional economic activities, like fishing etc. Most of these areas host a large amount of tourists during spring/summer time, which causes an overexploitation of natural resources and large amounts of waste while in the winter time these areas are shranked and struggling to survive.

Having the above mentioned things in mind, partners of Blue Schools project are setting up a European competition, in order to bring awareness to secondary education students and create a network of schools that face the same "Blue challenges".

The **Competition** is organised by **Blue Schools' partnership** aiming at introducing the concept of Blue Economy to young age people from 12 to 16 years old.

The competition is made of **two parts**:

1. What have you done to **become a Blue School?** (1 award)

A blue school is a school turned towards its sea, its ocean and its coastline.

It means that the school implements sustainable practices (sorting and recycling of waste, reduction of greenhouse gases, saving of renewable energies, etc.), in connection, or in partnership, with the local ecosystem of the maritime economy.

A blue school educates its students (secondary level – between 12 and 16 years old) on sustainable development and encourages them to be involved in the society as a responsible citizen, who finds interest in sustainability issues and by the participation in the development of local agendas to build a better future and in line with the SDGs.

The idea is therefore to introduce the Blue Economy into school education in order to build a generation based upon environmental sensitivity and empathy, inspired by local cultural heritage, linking marine life to economic growth and employment.

Describe the actions you have undertaken in your school to become Blue in 2 pages maximum

2. Develop a **Blue Economy project** to solve a blue economy problem (5 awards)

The pupils will have to address a problem of the Blue Economy through a solution, resolution, reduction or even soft exploitation of natural resources rather than destroying the coastal areas and seas collectively set up (individually or by team) with a multidisciplinary approach.

Categories: (Each project must address **only one category**, the sub-categories are indicative)

- **Tourism, coastline and marine heritage:**
 - Enhancing the discovery of port heritage
 - Discovery of traditional activities (*folk dances, embroidery, art, traditional professions, etc.*)
 - Discovery of the marine coastline (*environmental and historical approach - interdisciplinary*)
 - Discovery of the marine ecosystem

- **Sea Pollution and global warming:**
 - Waste management
 - Saving and management of renewable resources (water, electricity, greenhouse gas, etc.)
 - Circular economy

- **Protection of the marine environment**
 - Management of fisheries resources
 - Preservation of marine fauna and flora
 - Raising awareness of marine biodiversity

- **Blue economy entrepreneurship**
 - Waste recycling
 - Innovative renewable energies

- New technologies
- Innovative materials

- **Water sports**
- Traditional sports activities
- Nautical activities

Terms and conditions:

- Working individually or in groups belonging to the same class or different classes. Only students who volunteer for the competition must participate.
- Work on several school subjects: geography, economics, history, arts, etc.
- Identify a problem and propose a solution, for a true blue economy
- If possible, involve at least one local external public-private partner from the marine world
- If possible, involve members of the school other than teachers: parents, school staff, etc.

Duration

The competition is open from 22th of February 2021 until 10th of May 2021.

Submission

You can submit the proposition of submission in English by sending the link of a 2 to 5 minutes video (not more than 1 Go) by email at blueschools.competition@gmail.com **before 10th of May 2021 at 4 pm** (CET).

The use of wetransfer or other means to download are accepted.

Eligibility

The competition is open to all schools from European Union countries and beyond in the classes of pupils from 12 to 16 years old.

Judging process

From the 11th of May, the jury composed by 4 members of the partnership (one representative of each of the following organisations: PONATHA, Chios Marine Club, IDEC SA, Petra Patrimonia Corsica) will open the files and choose the winners according to the criteria of selection.

Criteria of selection: *(Scoring from 1 to 5 for each criteria - 1 point by subcriteria)*

- Impact of project *(Fit in the settled category, Fit with the definition of Blue economy, Relevance between needs and solution, Sustainability of the project, Impact in real life)*

- Respect for terms and conditions (*Multidisciplinary, Identification of a problem, Finding of a solution, Involve other members from schools than teachers, Involve local actors*)
- Communication (*Oral fluency, Vocabulary and style, Clarity of ideas, Aesthetic sense, Creativity/Innovation (in relation to existing practices)*)
- How realistic is the project? (*Identification of a real problem, Solution related to an existing situation, Affordable, Impact on local community, Solution which can be implemented in real life*)

Projects with the best notes will be the winners of the different categories.

Award

The winners of each categories (Water sports, Innovative blue economy activities, Protection of the marine environment, Sea Pollution and global warming, Tourism, coastline and marine heritage) of partners' schools will be invited at the ceremony in Sicily in May 2021 (or online if not possible due to the pandemic).

All the winning schools will obtain the book "Renewable Energy Compass" and each pupils will receive a certificate of winner for its own category.

All participants whose submission comply with the terms and conditions of participation will receive a Blue School badge.

Winners

Winners will be contacted through the email provided in the email of participation.

Releases: By accepting a prize, the winner allows Blue Schools to use his/her name and winning submission to be disseminate as the result of the competition.

Content restrictions:

Submitted content must comply with the following criteria:

- Content must be original and neither copied or rephrased from any source
- Content must not show children's faces (or they must be hidden)
- Content must not violate the rights of any third party
- Content must not be inappropriate or unfit for publication

GDPR declarations

The organiser will process any personal data in accordance with the "General Data Protection Regulations" of European Union (<https://gdpr.eu/>).

Contact:

All participants have the right to contact the organiser at any time and ask for corrections to any personal data held on them or ask it to be deleted: by email at blueschools.competition@gmail.com.