

Policy Brief for Educators 1.0

The New Blue Curriculum: A Toolkit for Policymakers (2022)

The New Blue Curriculum toolkit is a UNESCO initiative designed to integrate ocean literacy into national (or regional/provincial/territorial) policy for K-12 education systems. This brief outlines its purpose, context, significance, and implementation guidelines for policymakers, curriculum developers, and educators seeking to incorporate ocean literacy into regional education policy.

Why the New Blue Curriculum?

The toolkit addresses the critical need to educate future generations about ocean and freshwater conservation and the sustainable use of aquatic resources. It aims to foster a deeper understanding of the ocean's importance and interconnectedness with human life and the planet's well-being.

What is the New Blue Curriculum?

The toolkit provides a comprehensive framework for policymakers to incorporate ocean (water and climate) literacy into regional curricula across various subjects and grade levels. It includes:

01

Guidelines for developing ocean-related educational policies

02

Strategies for integrating ocean (aquatic) topics into existing curricula

03

Resources for teacher training and professional development

04

Examples of successful ocean literacy programs worldwide

05

Significance for education

Implementing the New Blue Curriculum can:



Enhance students' environmental awareness and responsibility



Promote interdisciplinary learning and critical thinking skills



Prepare students for careers in the blue economy



Contribute to achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 14 (Life Below Water)

How to Use the Toolkit

Teachers, policymakers and education actors can utilize the New Blue Curriculum toolkit by:

01

Familiarizing themselves with the content and objectives of ocean literacy education

02

Collaborating with school administrators and curriculum developers to integrate ocean-related topics into their subjects

03

Incorporating ocean themes into lesson plans and classroom activities

04

Utilizing provided resources for professional development and enhancing ocean knowledge

05

Engaging students in experiential learning related to ocean conservation and sustainable use

06

Participating in or organizing ocean literacy workshops and training sessions

By aligning existing curricula with the New Blue Curriculum, educators will help students see the connections between the ocean, water, and climate, shaping environmentally conscious and ocean-literate future generations. This toolkit empowers educators to contribute significantly to global efforts in ocean conservation and sustainable development through education