

# TRADE AND THE BLUE ECONOMY

**3-7 October, 2022**

**9 am – noon EST Daily; 2 pm – 5 pm GMT Daily**

**Short Course facilitated by**

**Dr Jan Yves Remy and Dr Andrea Wilkinson**



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# Trade and the Blue Economy

## Course Description

The course will explore the origins of the blue economy and the manner in which it is regulated under international, regional and national governance frameworks – including the gaps in regulation/implementation that will allow continued erosion of the natural ocean capital – with a particular emphasis on how the trade context affects and is affected by the Blue Economy agenda. Using case studies, it will also consider how the blue economy and its sustainable development has been and is best integrated into national and regional development plans, identifying best practice and ultimately exploring how best the Blue Economy can yield substantial opportunities and benefits to small island development states, like those of CARICOM.



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## Rationale

The “blue economy” or “oceans economy” comprises economic activities that directly take place in the ocean and seas or use outputs from the sea for consumption or as a source of income. At its core, however, is the idea of sustainable use of ocean resources. The blue economy has its origins in the “green economy” concept endorsed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and has been embraced by many island and coastal nations as a mechanism to realise sustainable growth. The concept stems from the realisation that, with the extensive marine areas many



small island developing states are endowed, the future resource base for such countries is predominantly marine. It also embodies economic and trade activities that integrate the conservation and sustainable use and management of biodiversity. In this regard, the blue economy also supports sustainable livelihoods and food security for island and coastal communities.

Furthermore, Caribbean countries are surrounded by the sea and have jurisdiction over vast amounts of ocean areas that, in many cases, far exceed the land area of the countries themselves. The Caribbean’s significant per capita marine resource base means that the “blue economy” offers the prospect of sustained, environmentally-sound, socially inclusive economic growth and presents many possibilities for trade activities that integrate conservation policies and sustainable approaches to the exploitation of this resource. Reflecting this importance, a number of national, regional, and international policy institutions have established programmes designed to assist governments in understanding and sustainably developing the oceans. For example, in 2013 OECS Heads of Government adopted the Eastern Caribbean Regional Oceans Policy and Action Plan. This regional policy provides a framework that guides the planning and development of marine activities in the Eastern Caribbean region in a rational and sustainable manner.

It is evident that the marine environment can play a significant role in the overall economy of Caribbean countries. With this in mind, this course will seek to offer policy makers, business persons, University students, academics, and the general public the opportunity to understand and think of ways to sustainably develop the Blue Economy in a way that yields maximum trade advantages to the region, while ensuring that the ocean ecosystem services/resource is available to future generations.

## Goals of the course:

- Facilitate participants' understanding and tracing of the origins of the blue economy and their exploration of its links to the sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- Examine the relevant legal and governance frameworks under which the blue economy currently operates/is governed.
- Facilitate participants' exploration of the linkages between the blue economy and trade (at international and regional levels).
- Foster participants' appreciation of the commercial and business opportunities provided for developing countries to sustainably develop the blue economy and share in its resources.

## Specific Learning Outcomes/ Objectives

On successful completion of the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the blue economy, including its current value, and how it is currently regulated internationally and regionally.
- Explain how the blue economy can be successfully developed at the national and regional levels
- Develop the contours of a policy/strategy for the successful development of a particular sub-sector tools of the blue economy.
- Assess the policy and regulatory dimensions that countries must address in order to sustainably develop the blue economy.
- Identify successful national and regional strategies (best practice) for sustainable development of the blue economy (with a particular focus on SIDs and Caribbean economies).



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## Course Content

- Situating the blue economy in the SDGs: The emergence of SGD 14
- What is the blue/oceans economy?
- Basic principles of the law of the sea under UNCLOS; [how] does the blue economy intersect with the trade agenda
- Measuring the economic and trade value of the blue economy (different methodologies)
- The blue economy governance (traditional oceans governance vs economic and investment governance)
- The trade angle: Key Ocean economy and trade sectors and basic applicable principles under the WTO and UNCTAD work programmes
- The Oceans Economy and SIDS particularities
- Going deeper: best practices of oceans economic strategies and plans
- Special sectoral coverage: Fisheries, renewable energy, transport/ maritime, Blue BioTrade, and coastal and maritime tourism
- Commercial Aspects: Dollars and Sense Issues: EEZ issues etc
- Policy Planning: Developing a strategy for a Caribbean Blue Economy

## Teaching Methodologies (including mode of delivery)

The course will be delivered in one week and will be entirely online using a combination of synchronous and asynchronous tools and active learning strategies. These include:

Synchronous tools – Zoom

Asynchronous tools – discussion forums

Active learning strategies – presentations, case studies

## Draft Agenda

### **Trade and the Blue Economy: Caribbean Case Studies**

*UWI SRC/University of Newcastle*

3 – 7 October, 2022

**9 am – 12 noon EST Daily (Barbados)**

**2 pm – 5 pm GMT Daily (UK)**

Date	Time	Main Topic	Sub-Topic	Speakers
Mon 3 Oct	BDS: 9 am – 9:30 am  UK: 2pm – 2.30 pm	Opening Ceremony	Welcome Introductory Remarks	High Level Representatives
			Overview of course	Dr. Jan Yves Remy (Director, SRC/UWI)  Dr Andrea Wilkinson (Co-Director, Global Challenges Academy, NCL University)
	BDS: 9:30 am – 12 noon  UK: 2.30pm – 5pm	Understanding the Basics (including ecological and management considerations)	Definitional issues  Measuring the value of the Blue Economy  Key sectors of the Blue Economy  Management of the Blue economy  Environmental impact assessments/biodiversity loss and impact	Professor Phil McGowan (Professor of Conservation, Science and Policy, NCL, University)  Professor Judith Gobin (Professor/ of Marine Biology, Head of Dept of Life Sciences)
Tues 4 Oct	BDS: 9 am – 10:30 am  UK: 2pm – 3.30pm	Intersection of the Blue Economy with SIDS/SDG Agendas	Overview of the development of the Blue Economy Agenda under Rio + 20, SDG 14 and the United Nations Oceans Conference  The Blue Economy and the SIDS Agenda: How the Blue Economy intersects with concerns	Karen McDonald Gayle (CEO, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund)    Yuvan Beejadhur (Special Advisor to the DG, World Trade Organization)

			of small island developing states	
	<b>BDS: 10:45 am – 12 noon</b> <b>UK: 3:45pm – 5 pm</b>	<b>Management and Legal Regimes</b>	Managing the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism  International regimes that govern the blue economy	Marine Headly (Programme Manager, Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism Secretariat)  [tbc]
<b>Wed 5 Oct</b>	<b>BDS: 9 am – 10:30 am</b> <b>UK: 2pm – 3:30 pm</b>	<b>The Blue Economy and its intersection with trade rules:</b>	Organizational work programmes on the Blue Economy	David Vivas (Legal Officer in the Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, UNCTAD)  Claudia Contreras (Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD)  Alice Tipping (Lead, Sustainable Trade and Fisheries Subsidies at the International Institute for Sustainable Development)
	<b>BDS: 10:45 am – 12:00 noon</b> <b>UK: 3:45pm - 5pm</b>	<b>WTO Fisheries Agreement: Issues and implications for Small States</b>	The WTO Fisheries Agreement (MC12): What's Next?	H.E. Santiago Wills (Colombian Ambassador to the WTO)  Sainabou Taal (Acting Head, Fisheries Subsidies, WTO)
<b>Thurs 6 Oct</b>	<b>BDS: 9:00 am – 10:30 am</b> <b>UK: 2 pm – 3:30 pm</b>	<b>Cross-cutting issues on the trade /blue economy agenda</b>	Regulating the blue economy using the Trade Agreements (GATS, GATT, Trade Facilitation, the Environment, Transport, Fisheries, tourism)	H.E Colin Murdoch (OECS Ambassador to the WTO) [tbc'  Sajal Mathur (Counsellor, Trade and Environment Division WTO  Dr. Jan Hoffmann, (Head, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD)
	<b>BDS: 10: 45 am – 12:00 noon</b> <b>UK: 3:45pm – 5pm</b>	<b>The Blue Economy: Small Island Case Studies</b>	Roundtable Presentation on Blue Case Studies	Prof. Clare Fitzsimmons (Professor of Marine Ecosystems and Governance) NCL University (Newcastle)  Dr. Patrick McConney (Senior Lecturer, CERMES/UWI)

				<p>Professor Sue Farran (Professor of Comparative and Plural Laws) (Newcastle University)</p> <p>Dr. Sarah Coulthard (Senior Lecturer, Marine Social Science/ Blue Justice) (Newcastle University)</p>
Fri 7 Oct	<p><b>BDS: 9 am – 10 am</b></p> <p><b>UK: 2 pm – 3 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Trading in the Blue Economy: Commercializing Export Opportunities</b></p>	<p>Commercializing Opportunities for the Queen Conch</p>	<p>Lench Fevrier (Senior Technical Specialist, Agriculture, OECS)</p> <p>[tbc]</p>
	<p><b>BDS: 10:15 am – 12 noon</b></p> <p><b>UK: 3.15 pm – 5 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Closing Session: The Way Forward</b></p>	<p>The UWI Centre for Excellence for Oceanography and the Blue Economy [tbc]</p> <p>Opportunities and Challenges Ahead</p>	<p>[tbc]</p> <p>Eden Charles (Lecturer, Law Faculty UWI/ Commission of Small Island States Legal Experts Committee)</p>