



ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Creating an Atlantic Ocean Community by Implementing
the Galway and Belém Statements

AA-BSN Report: Coordination of the national teams



**BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC
OCEAN COMMUNITY**
Implementing the Belém Statement



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JOINT PILOT ACTIONS

ALL-ATLANTIC JOINT PILOT ACTIONS

Following a year-long collaborative process among more than 70 stakeholders at the Atlantic level, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Multi-Stakeholder Platform, divided into 5 sub-multi-stakeholders platforms, identified more than 1000 initiatives towards strengthening marine research and innovation collaboration at the Atlantic level, 56 gaps and 79 needs/recommendations to achieve the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance ambition, guided by a total of 20 Strategic Objectives, 20 Operational Objectives, and 10 Key Performance Indicators.

Based on these findings and on the idea of collaboration, alignment, and use of existing resources, they have developed six ambitious and long-term collaborative Joint Pilot Actions:

- [All-Atlantic Training Platform \(AA-TP\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform \(AA-ATiP\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Marine Biotechnology Initiative \(AA-BIOTECMAR\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Data Enterprise 2030 \(AA-DATA2030\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network \(AA-BSN\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network \(AA-MARINET\)](#)

This report is developed by the **All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network (AA-BSN)** Joint Pilot Action, that aims to connect schools from the Atlantic countries to rise and promote Ocean Literacy and society awareness, with no geographical, cultural, social, or language boundaries. The All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network is promoting a bottom-up process where each school builds its own project based on its socio-cultural-economic reality. Linking all schools together will enhance knowledge exchange and create synergies.

This report is a deliverable in scope of All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network (AA-BSN) Task 1- Coordination of the national teams that aimed at the establishment of a local coordinator per country involved in the AA-BSN, and the deliverable of an annual list of local stakeholders involved by country.





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SUMMARY

1. Summary

The AA-BSN is an All-Atlantic Network that involves national commitments. The AA-BN coordination provided technical support for the countries that added to the AA-BSN in order to help them to identify national coordinators and to understand their roles in developing a national Blue School Network. All National Coordinators had a role in identifying the educational partners, select at least one blue school in the country and to monitor the school progress.

The National Coordinators were able to format their national networks considering the cultural, economic and social reality of their country and educational system and to share with the AA-BSN their learnings, challenges and opportunities during the AA-BSN Annual Meeting. The number of Blue Schools in each country varied depending on the resources available. There was no seed funding from AANChOR for this task, therefore, all the activities at national level, including the National Coordinators dedication were in-kind contribution. Also, each country and institution participant had a goal to find their own resources for the national activities. While all the countries participants were able to attend the demand, an overall learning from AA-BSN is the goal of looking for support for the development of the national Blue Schools Network, especially international funding that would support the low and middle incoming countries, promoting justice, diversity, equity and inclusion in the AA-BSN.





2. Deliverable 1: identification of the national coordinators

The AA-BSN has reached 16 countries (Figure 1), with 28 national coordinators from 18 Institutions, including government, universities, non-governmental institutions and private sector (Table 1).



Figure 1. Countries participants of the AA-BSN by January 2023



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Table 1: List of countries participants of the AA-BSN (updated by January 2023), including National Coordinators and their institutions

AA-BSN country	Institutions – National Coordination	National Coordinator(s)
Angola	Ministério das Pescas e Recursos Marinhos and Universidade do Namibe	Carmen Van-Dúnem Santos, Alexandre Costa and Cremilda Domingos
Argentina	Centro Cultural de la Ciencia/Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación	Guadalupe Díaz Costanzo and Julieta Molinas
Brazil	Universidade Federal de São Paulo – Programa Maré de Ciência	Ronaldo Christofolletti, Camila Keiko Takahashi, Fernando Martins
Canada	Canadian Ocean Literacy Coalition	Diz Glithero
Cape Verde	Universidade Técnica do Atlântico (UTA) - Campus do Mar	João do Monte Duarte and Yara Rodrigues
France	Tara Ocean Foundation	Andre Abreu de Almeida
Ireland	Galway Atlantaquaria Limited	Noirin Burke
Mexico	Instituto De Ciencias del Mar y Limnología de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	Mariana Caparelli and Iran Andira Guzman
Morocco	University of Chouaib Doukkali	Khalidi El Khalid and Mohamed Hadani
Namibia	BlueGrowth Namibia	Harold Efraim //Guiob
Nigeria	Nigerian Institute for Oceanography & Marine Research	Stephnie Waniko and Patricia Anyanwu
Portugal	Ministry of Economy and Sea	Raquel Lorenz Costa and Patrícia Conceição
São Tomé and Príncipe	Associação Missão Dimix	Sónia Pessoa and Patricia Conceição
South Africa	South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON)	Kogie Govender and Thomas Mtosi
United Kingdom	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University	Liz Morris and Stuart Jenkins
USA	Mercy College and NMEA	Meghan E. Marrero



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3. Deliverable 2: list of the local stakeholders involved by country

The development of national Blue Schools networks involves the mapping and integration with stakeholders from the educational, private and public sectors, non-governmental organizations and civil society to undertake local projects that goes beyond the classroom and link the knowledge with the local reality. All countries were requested to develop national partnerships and the extension of these interactions varied among countries depending on the stage of development and also resources available. A total of 180 stakeholders were involved in actions with Blue Schools by January 2023 (Table 2).

Table 2: List of stakeholders, excluding the Institutions of the National Coordinators, from different countries of the AA-BSN engaged with national Blue Schools activities.

AA-BSN country	List of stakeholders
Angola	Administração Municipal de Moçâmedes; 2M Produções; UNESCO Angola
Argentina	Universidad de Buenos Aires, Universidad de Jose C. Paz, Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia San Juan Bosco, Universidad de Tierra del Fuego, Investigation Centers & Institutes: CADIC, CENPAT, CNEA, INIDEP, CNEA, Instituto de Conservacion de la Ballena, Municipalidad de Comodoro Rivadavia, National Ministries: MAGYP, MINCYT, Scientists of the National Inter- Ministerial Initiative: "Pampa Azul Initiative"
Brazil	Fundação Grupo Boticário, British Council, UNESCO Brasil, Aquário Municipal de Santos
Cape Verde	ODIF & Biosfera
Ireland	Irish Ocean Literacy Network
Mexico	Instituto Tecnológico de Chetumal – TecNM, Centro de Investigación y Estudios Avanzados del I.P.N, OCEANUS, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, Universidad Autónoma del Carmen (UNACAR), Instituto de ciencias Marinas y Pesquerías de la Universidad Veracruzana (UV), Laboratorio Nacional de resiliencia costera (LANRESC), Takaha experience, Cetmar 08 Mazatlan
Morocco	Higher Normal School of Rabat, University of Abdelmalek Essaadi, School Melrose El Jadida, Higher Normal School of Marrakech, University of Ibn Zohr
Nigeria	All Atlantic Ocean Sustainable Profitable and Resilient Aquaculture (ASTRAL), International Ocean Institute (IOI-Nigeria), Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT)
Portugal	As the pioneer country with the Portuguese Blue Schools Network established since 2017, Portugal has 115 stakeholders, which updated list can be found in the website: https://escolaazul.pt/a-nossa-rede/parceiros
South Africa	Nelson Mandela University, Conservation Education Trust, Shallow Marine Coastal, Research Infrastructure, South African Polar Research Infrastructure, Department of Basic Education , Marine and Coastal Educators Network (MCEN)
USA	NOAA, National Marine Educators Association



4. Impact

The Task 1 - Coordination of the national teams provided a diverse group of national coordinators and increased the participants countries from 6 in the approval phase (documents: AA-BSN Joint Action characterization and Reply Letter to the Belém Co-Chairs) to 16 countries. There are also other countries from Atlantic in contact to possible participation (e.g. Spain, Ghana). The diversity of realities and approaches among different National Coordinators to allow the development of national networks valued the different knowledge existent among the Atlantic countries for development of networks, increasing the learning outputs and the identification of opportunities and challenges for next steps.

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