



ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

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

AA-BSN Report: Coordination of the international network



**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 2 - Coordination of the international network that aimed at the establishment of the All-Atlantic Advisory Board, the All-Atlantic Governance Board and the deliverable of an updated list of these groups annually and annual communication of the name/country of the International Coordinator.





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SUMMARY

1. Summary

While “Task 1 – Coordination of the national teams” had a role organizing the national Blue Schools Networks, the Task 2 had the goal to manage the international network and to promote exchange of knowledge and coproduction of actions among the national coordinators, integrating all participant countries. This task demanded an indication of the AA-BSN international coordinator that was responsible to organize the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board and the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Advisory Board, in addition to promote integration among countries and organize the AA-BSN Annual Meeting.

The “Task 2 - Coordination of the international network” has being developed successfully. The All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board had 5 meetings and the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Advisory Board assumed a format of frequent exchanges of information in small group meetings, guaranteeing a diverse group of stakeholders with the opportunities for suggestions. The annual coordination has continued with Ronaldo Christofolletti (Brazil) from the beginning to March 2023, in co-coordination with Raquel Costa (Portugal) and Guadalupe Constanzo Diaz (Argentina). Task 2 had no seed funding from AANChOR and all the work dedicated from coordinators and border member were in-kind contribution.





2. All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board with updated list

The All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board is composed by the National Coordinators (Table 1) and, when pertinent, members of the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Advisory Board participated in the meeting as external evaluators. There were 5 group meetings of the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board (see list below) and some individual meetings.

Although the goal of the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board was to promote and exchange among countries, it was identified that language barriers and also differences in the stage of development of the countries were challenges for the development of common actions and frequent meetings with all the members of the governance board. Therefore, we also assumed an approach of individual meetings or smaller groups meeting (e.g. by language or continent) allowing to increase inclusion and discussions that would promote the best for the countries development, regardless the stage of development of their National Blue School Network.

Meetings of the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board:

- 21st May 2021: first general meeting - online
- 8th March 2022: second general meeting - online
- 12th May 2022: third general meeting - online
- 31st July 2022: fourth general meeting - in presence in Lisbon
- 10th to 14th October 2022: fifth general meeting - in presence in Brazil



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Table 1: List of the members of the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board (updated January 2023).

AA-BSN country	Institutions – National Coordination	National Coordinator(s)
Angola	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 Mtonsi
United Kingdom	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University	Liz Morris and Stuart Jenkins
USA	Mercy College and NMEA	Meghan E. Marrero



3. All-Atlantic AA-BSN Advisory Board with updated list

The All-Atlantic AA-BSN Advisory Board was composed by a range of experts from different Institutions worldwide, integrating expertise in education and also experts that interact at different stages of development of the AA-BSN, from the design to the delivery, within AANChOR scope and also regarding global Ocean Literacy movements.

A meeting at AANChOR scope was organized on 19th January 2022, after the establishment of the AA-BSN activities. The invited participants were:

- Agnes Lavergne – Nausicaa Centre National de la Mer
- Ana Noronha – Ciência Viva
- Anthony Akpan – Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE)
- Mara Abu-Raya – Universidade de Cabo Verde
- Nicola Bridge – European Marine Science Educators Association
- Pierre Strosser – ACTeon
- Rita Borges – Oceano Azul Foundation
- Russell Stevens – Two Oceans Aquarium
- Vanessa Batista – Ciência Viva

In addition, members of the All-Atlantic AA-BSN Governance Board participated in the meeting:

- Carmen Santos – Universidade do Namibe
- Diz Glithero – Canadian Ocean Literacy Coalition
- Guadalupe Diaz Constanzo – Centro Cultural de la Ciencia/Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación
- Meghan Marrero – Mercy College and NMEA
- Raquel Costa – Ministry of Economy and Sea
- Ronaldo Christofolletti – Universidade Federal de São Paulo – Programa Maré de Ciência

In addition to the formal All-Atlantic AA-BSN Advisory Board, we took advantage of a series of opportunities to promote discussions with experts during meetings of other educational movements that occurred during the AA-BSN development. These discussions allowed to present the AA-BSN goals and stage of development and to discuss synergies and to receive feedbacks and suggestions.



4. Annual communication of the international coordinator

The coordination of the AA-BSN was shared among Ronaldo Christofolletti (Brazil), Raquel Costa (Portugal) and Guadalupe Díaz Constanzo (Argentina) during the 2 years of AA-BSN implementation. The technical activities and discussions, the mentoring for national coordinators and the decision making regarding the tasks were decided among the coordinators, while the daily management, contacts with national coordinators, reports and meetings with AANChOR coordination were led by Ronaldo Christofolletti.



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5. Impact

The international coordination of the AA-BSN was an essential in-kind contribution to achieve the outputs of the network. While Task 1 was responsible for the establishment of the national networks and tasks 3-7 supported integration among countries, the development of all other tasks was dependent on the international coordination, specially guaranteeing the inclusion, diversity and equity.

As overall result it can be observed that all measures and indicators proposed in the AA-BSN characterization document (itens 5.1 and 5.3) were achieved and the final outputs were higher than the expected outputs (item 5.1) (Table 2).

Table 2: Measures and indicators expected (item 5.1 from AA-BSN characterization file) and achieved by January 2023.

Indicators	Expected output	Final output (January 2023)	Increase (%)
Number of countries	5	16	320%
Number of schools	400	455	113.8%
Number of teachers	1,600	3,458	216.1%
Number of students	12,000	125,178	1043.2%
Number of stakeholders	-	189	-
Number of Transatlantic meetings	-	8	-
Number of interactions with other JPAs, sisters and brothers projects	-	4	-
Number of actions with All-Atlantic Ocean Youth Ambassadors	-	2	-

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