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NETWORK OF EUROPEAN BLUE SCHOOLS

The Network of European Blue Schools Workshop EMBARKING ON A JOURNEY FOR OCEAN LITERACY

24 September 2020, 16:00-17:30 CEST

Speaker Profiles



Nicola Bridge is a Conservation Biologist, currently employed as Head of Conservation Education and Communications at the Ocean Conservation Trust (OCT). She has over 14 years' experience in the field of conservation, environmental education and ocean literacy. She is responsible for developing and evaluating the formal and informal conservation learning programmes for the Trust. The programme is delivered across the UK and at the National Marine Aquarium (NMA) in Plymouth, with an audience of hundreds of thousands of people, both physically and virtually. As well as this, she is responsible for the Marketing and Communications strategy for both the OCT and NMA. Additionally, Nicola is the president of EMSEA, an organisation that has a mission to act as a hub for the European marine education community, promoting Ocean literacy across society and working with scientists, teachers, policy makers and the public. She has a passion for working with the community to help people to learn about, love and protect our Ocean.



Carla Lourenço has a PhD in Marine Biology by Rhodes University (South Africa) and she is a Science Project Manager at Pavilhão do Conhecimento – Centro Ciência Viva since 2018, specifically co-managing the H2020 Education and Outreach projects of Ocean Literacy (AORA-CSA and AANCHOR). Carla participated in several research projects aimed at deepening the knowledge, awareness and conservation of aquatic ecosystems along southern Europe and northern Africa. Carla Lourenço is also the founder and coordinator of Straw Patrol, an environmental awareness and ocean literacy initiative, aimed at raising awareness about the impact of marine litter on marine and freshwater habitats.



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Vanessa Batista graduated in Applied and Environment Geology at the University of Lisbon in 2004 and Postgraduate in Physical Geography, Resources and Environmental Risks at University of Lisbon in 2007. She worked as a researcher in the Antarctica, managed the Portuguese Education and Outreach Program for the International Polar Year (2007-2008) and had a long experience in the private sector developing Environment Impact Assessments studies. She is Science Project Manager of the Unit of Scientific Culture, Outreach and Programme at Pavilhão do Conhecimento – Centro Ciência Viva and co-manages the FP7 and H2020 Education and Outreach projects of Ocean Literacy (Sea for Society, Sea Change, AORA-CSA and AANChOR).



Evy Copejans is Co-founder and Director of the European Marine Science Educators Association (EMSEA), where she is the project manager of the EU4Ocean Network of Blue Schools. Previously she has been Senior Science Communication Officer at the Flanders Marine Institute. She has been an experienced education consultant, creating professional development workshops focused on the use of technology in the classroom and has participated in different European projects, namely Sea Change.



Andrée-Anne Marsan is Operations and Communication Manager at Seascope Belgium. She is coordinating the communication and outreach activities for the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) Secretariat as well as for the European Atlas of the Seas, the official digital mapping tool of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries dedicated to ocean literacy. She has an extensive experience in communication, event management and project management in both the public and private sectors, on two continents. She is certified as a Project Management Professional (PMP®) since 2017.



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Dr Agueda Gras-Velazquez is the Science Programme Manager of European Schoolnet (EUN). She is the Head of the Science Education Department at EUN, in charge of overseeing and coordinating all the Maths and Science projects in which EUN is involved. Additionally, she is in charge of the day to day management of “Scientix” (<http://scientix.eu>, the community for science education in Europe), coordinates EUN’s Ministries of Education STEM representatives Working Group. In her 12 years at EUN, Agueda has been involved in over 40 European Commission funded projects and 17 private funded ones and also sits in the advisory board of a number of projects. Prior to joining EUN in May 2008, she worked as an independent eLearning Professional, as Tutor, Content designer, IT manager, Administrator, Project Manager and Consultant for international projects. She has co-authored several papers in the area of Science Education Research and has a PhD in Astrophysics from Trinity College Dublin, which she carried out at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies.



Dr Marc Wilikens is the Head of the knowledge management methodologies, communities and dissemination unit at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. The unit provides practical and comprehensive solutions to support the vision of the JRC "to play a central role in creating, managing and making sense of collective scientific knowledge for better EU policies". In this context, informing policymakers and citizens of our science in impactful ways increasingly relies on the power of visual communication. As part of the activities, the unit develops core competence in the design of infographics and audio-visual products in co-creation with JRC scientists for integration in flagship publications and knowledge for policy communication products.



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Dr Vladimir Garkov works in the Directorate General for Education and Culture of the European Commission (DG EAC). With a background as a medical doctor with a specialization in public health, he holds a PhD degree in nutritional biochemistry and has spent most of his professional career in the US as a post-doctoral fellow in biochemistry at Pennsylvania State University and as an associate professor of chemistry at Mary Baldwin University in Virginia.

Vladimir has a 16-year-long experience teaching science courses for non-STEM students as well as general, organic and biochemistry for STEM majors. His research focuses on curricular reform along the liberal-arts tradition and especially on bridging the gap between the sciences on one hand and the humanities and the arts, on the other. In 2008, Vladimir joined the European Commission as a managing officer of the scientific committees evaluating the health and environmental impact of new legislative proposals. In 2013, he moved to the Directorate General for Education and Culture where he works on the analysis of the PISA results and their implications for the EU Member States policy development. Recently, his efforts have been focused on the STE(A)M approach to STEM learning and on the education for sustainable development.



Ana Noronha is Executive Director of Ciência Viva, Portugal and leads the task on the EU4Ocean Network of Blue Schools for DG MARE. At Ciência Viva, she coordinates initiatives about education and public awareness of science at national and international level, particularly on space science and ocean literacy. She is part of the Advisory Committee on Education of the European Space Agency. She has a large experience of liaison with scientific institutions, companies and official institutions and in the participation in European projects, namely on ocean literacy, like Sea Change (H2020), Sea for Society (FP7) and, more recently, AORA-CSA and AANCHOR- CSA. A physicist with a PhD on Non-Linear Dynamics, space and ocean are her preferred topics to motivate the future generations for science and for a more sustainable relation of humankind with the blue planet.

