



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION**  
**19 & 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**



## Special Plenary

### BLUE EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

**Date & Time: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (1h30 length) 16:30 – 17:30 hrs**  
(GMT+5:30)

#### Background:

The **Blue Education** “focuses on integrating ocean literacy and marine sustainability into educational frameworks. It emphasizes the importance of our oceans and waterways in the broader context of environmental sustainability and aims to inspire students to become stewards of the marine environment.”

Therefore, the blue education is much broader in scope combining ocean literacy and sustainability and covers programmes and activities in both formal and informal education and communication, ensuring that emotional connection to the Ocean and behaviour change are goals, rather than simply knowledge exchange. This is in line with many global initiatives including UNESCO’s ESD 2030 Framework and IOC-UNESCO initiative on Blue education Curricula which contribute to enhance the blue education and ocean literacy efforts carried out within the framework of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) as well. The European Union was the first to launch a Blue Education Charter to respond to the challenges faced by marine ecosystems and the ocean in Europe and to engage pupils in ocean knowledge and conservation

#### About the Session:

The session aims to focus on blue education in its broader sense, in a holistic and multidisciplinary perspective covering ocean literacy and sustainability education. The objectives of the session are as below:

- Raise awareness on blue educational activities: Linking blue education with green education underscores the interconnectedness of marine and terrestrial ecosystems, promoting a holistic understanding of environmental stewardship.
- Boost regional and global interdisciplinary collaboration: Integrating blue education with the broader sustainability agenda encourages collaboration across different fields, fostering innovative solutions that address both land and sea environmental challenges.
- Provide a platform for interested groups to understand how to collaborate with the future Blue Schools National Network of India. This platform could also facilitate sharing of best practices between Blue and Green Schools, creating a unified approach to sustainability education.

**Expected Outcomes:**

- The session will be the first opportunity to start a dialogue on Blue Schools in India, and therefore inspire participants and support local connections
- Case studies will support OL practitioners and the audience to understand how initiatives can be developed taking into account cultural and educational aspects
- Certification process for blue schools will be presented, therefore interested schools can volunteer for a pilot project after the session