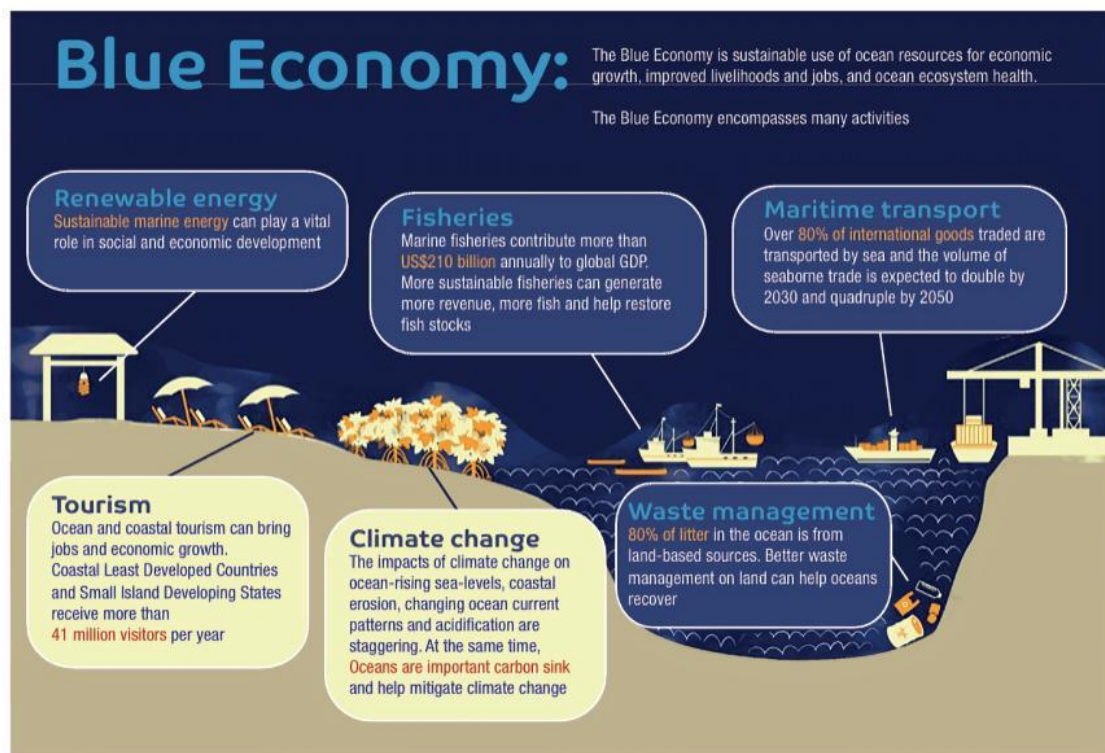


Platinum Jubilee Conference

Blue Economy in the Era of Sustainability

Introduction

The Blue Economy refers to the **sustainable use of ocean resources** for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and ocean ecosystem health. The Blue Economy has emerged as a strategic domain integrating ocean resources with sustainability imperatives. With increasing climate risks and economic dependencies, there is a need for structured capacity building. The blue economy encompasses all economic activities related to oceans, seas, and coastal areas. It includes sectors such as fisheries, aquaculture, maritime transport, renewable energy, and tourism. The goal is to utilize these resources sustainably, balancing economic growth with environmental conservation and social equity (UNEP). The sustainable blue economy focuses on the responsible use of ocean resources to promote economic growth, environmental health, and social equity, ensuring that marine ecosystems are preserved for future generations.



India's blue economy is a dynamic sector, transforming coastal regions into thriving economic hubs with a focus on sustainable development and environmental preservation. India's blue economy, including its diverse economic activities, growth prospects, policies, and research areas. Spanning fisheries, aquaculture, maritime trade, shipbuilding, tourism,

and renewable energy, the blue economy offers immense potential for socio-economic growth and job creation, supported by a 7500-km coastline and abundant maritime resources. The government's "National Policy for India's Blue Economy-2021" outlines a strategic roadmap to enhance the sector's gross domestic product (GDP) contribution, protect marine biodiversity, and ensure national security. Through academic research and a focused blue economy mission, India aims to foster collaboration, innovation, and responsible resource management, unlocking the sector's vast potential and securing a sustainable future.

Thus, the blue economy has emerged as a framework aimed at balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability in marine and coastal regions. It encompasses a wide range of activities, including fisheries, aquaculture, marine tourism, and renewable energy, emphasizing the sustainable use of ocean resources. The existing literature and research on the blue economy and its connection to sustainability focus on key determinants such as trade openness, gross fixed capital formation (GFCF), electricity consumption, information and communication technology (ICT), and fisheries and aquaculture production.

Key Sectors of Blue Economy:

Fisheries & Aquaculture

Marine Biotechnology

Coastal Tourism

Renewable Ocean Energy

Maritime Transport

Workshop Objectives

Participants will:

- Understand the concept of the **Blue Economy** and its linkage to sustainability
- Analyse global frameworks like the United Nations **SDGs (especially SDG 14: Life Below Water)**
- Explore India's Blue Economy policy initiatives (e.g., Sagarmala Programme)
- Examine climate change impacts on oceans and coastal livelihoods
- Develop sustainable business models and ESG integration
- Build policy, research, and consultancy competencies

Workshop Structure & Content

Day 1: Foundations of Blue Economy

Sessions:

- Introduction to Blue Economy & Sustainability
- Global frameworks (SDGs, Paris Agreement)
- Ocean governance & international law

Activity:

- Group discussion: “Economic Growth vs Ocean Conservation”

Day 2: Ecosystems, Climate Change & Livelihoods

Sessions:

- Marine ecosystems & biodiversity
- Climate change and ocean health (acidification, sea-level rise)
- Coastal community resilience

Case Study:

- Sundarbans ecosystem (India-Bangladesh)

Day 3: Blue Economy Sectors & Innovations

Sessions:

- Sustainable fisheries & aquaculture
- Marine renewable energy (offshore wind, tidal)
- Eco-tourism models
- Marine biotechnology

Activity:

- Sector-wise business model canvas

Day 4: ESG, Policy & Governance

Sessions:

- ESG integration in Blue Economy
- Policy frameworks in India
- Governance challenges (overfishing, pollution)

Tools Introduced:

- ESG scoring dashboards
- Sustainability audit frameworks

Case Study:

- Indian coastal industrial zones

Day 5: Innovation, Start-ups & Action Planning**Sessions:**

- Blue Start-ups & Entrepreneurship
- Financing Blue Economy (green bonds, impact investment)
- Digital tools (AI, GIS in marine planning)

Key Takeaway /Assignment

- Group project presentation:
“Design a Sustainable Blue Economy Model”

Training Methodology

Expert Lectures

Case Studies

Group Discussions

Simulation Exercises

Field Visit (**optional:** coastal ecosystem/port)

Hands-on Tools (ESG dashboards, sustainability metrics)

Assessment & Certification

- Group Assignments
- Group Project Evaluation
- In-house Interaction / Participation Score

Certification:

“Certified Professional in Blue Economy & Sustainability”

Expected Learning Outcomes

Participants will be able to:

- Design Blue Economy policies and interventions

- Develop sustainable coastal business models
- Conduct ESG-based sustainability audits
- Initiate research and consultancy projects

Target Participants:

- Faculty & Researchers
- Corporate Professionals
- Policymakers
- NGO/Development Sector
- PG/PhD Students

Mode- Physical / In-person

Resource Persons from - Industry, Academia, R&D, Consultancy Firms

Timeline

Duration- 14th Dec. to 18th Dec 2026

Registration Deadline- 12th Dec.2026

Registration Fees- Rs.5000/- per person

Venue- IIT Kharagpur

Mode- Physical / In-person

Accommodation- IIT Kharagpur Campus Guest House

Budget –Tentative

1. Resource Person/s- 15 Lacs
2. Transport / Travel Expenses- 5 Lacs
3. Hospitality & Contingency- 5 Lacs

Total Expenses- 25 Lacs

Coordinator- Dr. Atasi Mohanty (Asso.Prof.) ,Rekhi Centre of Excellence, IIT Kharagpur

Co –Coordinator- Dr. Pritha Dutta (Asst.Prof.), Rekhi Centre of Excellence, IIT Kharagpur