

# MINI 30x30

A STUDENTS' WAVE FOR THE OCEAN

## Participation Regulation

### COORDINATION



### PARTNERS



## **REGULATION**

### **Mini 30x30 Challenge – A students' wave for the ocean**

#### **Article 1 – General information**

The “Mini 30x30 Challenge – A students’ wave for the ocean” is a global mobilisation of students urging UN Member States to strongly commit to ocean protection and achieve the global target of protecting 30% of the ocean by 2030.

Through the engagement of teachers and schools, young changemakers have the opportunity to learn, discuss, and act on the need to implement Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and to make their voice heard in crucial decision-making forums such as the 3<sup>rd</sup> United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3).

Following the massive mobilisation of students worldwide, their collective voice will be reflected in an open letter to the United Nations, to be delivered at UNOC3, enclosing a global and unified message on the 30 x 30 target.

#### **Article 2 – Organizer and promoter entities**

The initiative “Mini 30x30 Challenge – A students’ wave for the ocean” is coordinated by Oceanário de Lisboa and the Oceano Azul Foundation, the organizations responsible for implementing the “Educating a Blue Generation Programme”. The challenge involves a partnership with the Directorate General for Education (DGE) of the Portuguese Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, including its “Estudo Autónomo” Programme, the Blue School Portugal of the Directorate General for Maritime Policy (DGPM) of the Portuguese Ministry of Economy, the Ciência Viva - National Agency for Scientific and Technological Culture, the Portuguese Ocean Decade Committee, the Lisbon Zoo, the Blue Azores Programme, the Network of European Blue Schools, and the Blue Schools Global Network (IOC-UNESCO).

The initiative has also the collaboration of several promoter entities and networks for its dissemination, such as the Aires Marines Educativas, the EU4Ocean, the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, the Irish School Sustainability Network, the Monitoramento Mirim Costeiro, the Ocean Conservation Trust, and the Portuguese Network of UNESCO Associated Schools.

### Article 3 – Objectives

This initiative aims to:

- a) Empower the young generation to advocate for bold ocean-related decisions and their participation in democratic processes.
- b) Raise students' awareness about MPAs as a key pillar for ocean conservation and its role in mitigating climate change.
- c) Promote the development of active citizenship, critical thinking, and awareness of environmental and ocean issues among students.
- d) Present a unified global students' message at UNOC3 to demonstrate the willingness and potential of young changemakers for effective ocean action.
- e) Amplify the collective voice, concerns, and opinions of students on the future of the ocean and the planet.

### Article 4 – Eligibility and Participants

This initiative is aimed at all students, regardless of their country of residence or nationality, from pre-school to secondary school (aged 4–18).

Students under the age of 12 years old are recommended to participate with the supervision of a teacher.

### Article 5 – Resources and Support

Students and teachers will have access to educational resources they can use in their classrooms to deepen their knowledge of MPAs and to facilitate the participation in the initiative, including:

- | Brochure about the initiative;
- | PowerPoint presentation;
- | Support guide for the presentation;
- | Suggestions for MPA-related classroom activities;



- | Participation certificate;
- | Draft of the open letter to the United Nations.

All the educational resources, along with more information about the initiative, will be available at the official website of the initiative, [www.students4ocean.com](http://www.students4ocean.com).

For questions or concerns, please use the contact section available on the website.

Webinars will be held shortly after launching the initiative to clarify doubts and motivate the involvement of students and teachers from different countries.

### **Article 6 – Participation Process**

Students, with the support of their teachers, are encouraged to use the resources provided to engage with the topic. A selection of MPA-related activities is also available to facilitate learning and discussion about the importance of MPAs. The open letter to the United Nations must also be read before starting the voting process.

An online form is accessible on the initiative website. All votes and responses must be submitted through this form.

Students may participate individually or as a class, with all submissions due by the **end of April**.

#### **Class Participation**

If **participating as a class**, teachers are encouraged to use the resources provided to ensure students can make informed decisions about the content of the open letter and the benefits of MPAs to achieve the 30 x 30 global target of protecting 30% of the ocean by 2030.

Students must:

1. Vote on the three most important MPAs benefits from the provided list of eight.
2. Decide whether to endorse the open letter to the United Nations.
3. Take a group photo with the participation certificate.

After completing the voting process, teachers must submit their class responses, along with the group photo, through the online form available on the website.

The form requires the following information:

- a) Teachers' identification and contact details;
- b) School and class identification;
- c) Number of votes in favour, against, and abstentions on the content of the open letter to the United Nations;
- d) The total number of votes for each of the eight identified MPAs benefits (each student selects only three);
- e) Submission of the group photo of participating students (when the necessary authorizations are ensured).

### Individual Participation

For **individual participation**, students should first explore the topic using the educational resources, read the open letter to the United Nations and reflect on the benefits of MPAs. They must then fill the online form, submitting their individual response.

The form requires the following information:

- a) Student's identification and contact;
- b) School and class identification of the class and school;
- c) Indication of their vote in favour, against, or abstention on the content of the open letter to the United Nations;
- d) Selection of the three most important MPAs benefits from the provided list of eight.

## Article 7 – Validation

Incomplete, inaccurate, or incorrectly completed entry forms may result in the disqualification of the submission. Participants are responsible for ensuring all required information is correctly provided by the submission deadline.

The coordinating team reserves the right to verify the authenticity of the submitted data and materials, including the accuracy of the votes and data provided, and the legitimacy of participation. Any attempt at fraudulent participation, such as duplicate submissions or misrepresentation of information, may result in disqualification.

## Article 8 – Data Protection and Privacy

During participation in the initiative, participants' personal data will be collected and stored, namely: name, email address, country, school, grade, age, and group image (the latter, only when consent is secured).

The personal data collected will be processed in compliance with personal data protection legislation, namely Law no. 58/2019, of August 8, Law no. 41/2004, of August 18, as well as Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, 2016 on the protection of natural persons concerning to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (GDPR), and other legislation that may be applicable.

Participation in the Initiative presupposes knowledge and acceptance of the following:

- | Participants accept that the provision and processing of data is necessary for managing and communicating the Initiative and, therefore, authorize its processing by Oceanário de Lisboa. The provision of personal data is optional, but only entries containing all the data referred to in this regulation (except images) will be considered. The data will be collected and processed by Oceanário exclusively under its responsibility as data controller;
- | Oceanário guarantees the security and confidentiality of the processing of personal data, guaranteeing participants the possibility of access, rectification, limitation of processing, opposition, portability or deletion of their personal data, by sending an email to [dataprivacy@oceanario.pt](mailto:dataprivacy@oceanario.pt);

- | As part of the management and implementation of the initiative, Oceanário will grant access to Participants' personal data to technology service providers, as subcontractors, with whom Oceanário data processing agreements, ensuring that these providers process their data following the legislation in force, as well as to other entities participating in the organization and management of this initiative. In addition, if the Participants have given their consent, Oceanário will transfer their personal data to analyse the results by country or to share images to publicize the initiative.
- | Oceanário undertakes to subcontract (when necessary) entities that present sufficient guarantees of the execution of the appropriate technical and organizational measures, to ensure the protection of participants' rights;
- | Oceanário also informs that it can lodge a complaint with the competent authority, the Portuguese National Data Protection Commission, if participants believe that their rights have been violated;
- | Personal data will only be kept for as long as is necessary for the purposes for which the data was collected and processed.

## Article 9 – Results and Recognition

The data collected through the participation forms will be analysed with the support of the organizer and promoter partner entities. This analysis aims to assess the perspectives and priorities of students regarding the protection of the ocean and the establishment of MPAs.

The following organizations will contribute to the assessment:

- Directorate-General for Education (DGE) of the Portuguese Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation
- Escola Azul Program / Directorate-General for Maritime Policy (DGPM)
- Estudo Autónomo
- Ciência Viva
- Portuguese Ocean Decade Committee
- Lisbon Zoo



- Oceano Azul Foundation
- Oceanário de Lisboa (coordination)
- Blue Schools Global Network
- European Blue Schools Network

The results will be incorporated into the open letter to the United Nations, ensuring that students' voices are effectively represented at UNOC3. The letter will be compiled based on the collective input of all participants and will be formally presented to UN representatives during the conference.

Additionally, a 30x30 pixelated graphic will be created, where each pixel represents a submitted group photo. This visual piece, along with other possible productions, will symbolize the unity and collective action of students worldwide in advocating for ocean protection. The artwork may be displayed during UNOC3 and in other relevant events, exhibitions, or digital platforms to further amplify the students' message.

The massive involvement of students, teachers and schools in ocean protection will be widely recognized, communicated, and featured in the channels of each partner, media and events where ocean literacy is addressed.

Events will be organised to celebrate the global participation of all students and to share the results achieved by all.

## **Article 10 - Communication and Updates**

All official communications regarding the initiative will be sent to the email address provided by participants in the online participation form. The coordinating team is not responsible for any missed information due to incorrect or inactive email addresses provided at the time of registration.

Major milestones, progress updates, and highlights of global participation will be published on the official website of the initiative and shared through the social media channels and newsletters of the organizer and promoter entities. Participants are encouraged to follow the official digital channels to stay informed about the initiative's evolution and upcoming events.



### Article 11 – Timeline

- | **March 05<sup>th</sup> to the end of April, 2025:** Engagement with the topic and submission of responses through the form.
- | **May, 2025:** Analysis of responses, communication of results, and finalization of the open letter to the United Nations.
- | **May, 2025:** events can be organised to communicate results and involve participants, either in person or online (dates to be announced).
- | **June 09<sup>th</sup> to June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** Delivery of the open letter to the United Nations during UNOC3.

### Article 12 – Acceptance of terms

Participation in the "Mini 30x30 – A students' wave for the ocean" initiative implies full acceptance of this regulation by the participants.

The organizing team reserves the right to make changes to the regulation, if necessary, and commits to communicating any changes to participants clearly and promptly.

This regulation comes into effect on the date of its publication and will remain valid until the conclusion of the initiative.

For questions or concerns, please use the contact section available at [www.students4ocean.com](http://www.students4ocean.com).