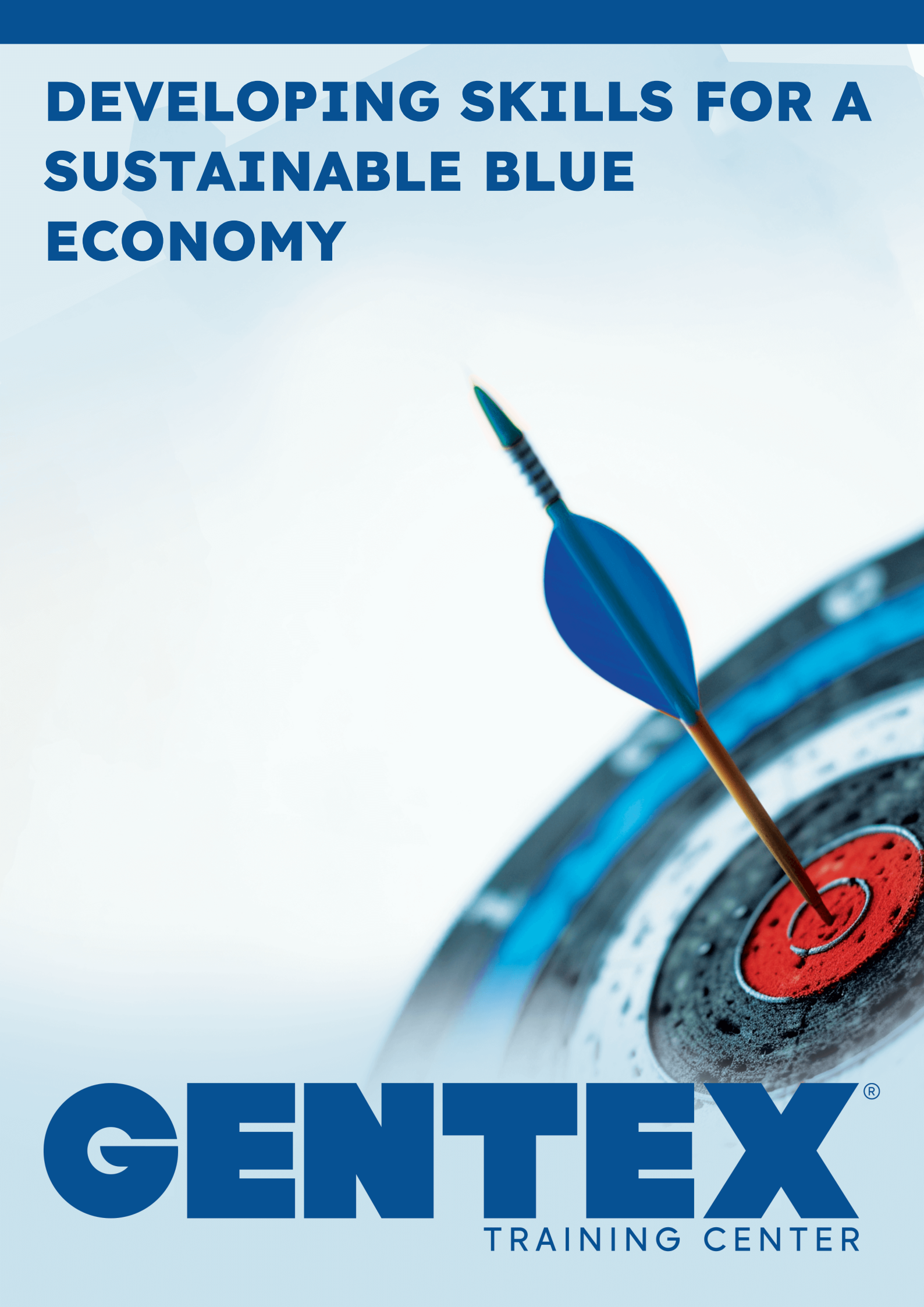
DEVELOPING SKILLS FOR A SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY



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Introduction

The blue economy covers everything the ocean supports: fisheries and aquaculture, shipping and ports, offshore energy, coastal tourism, marine biotechnology, and the communities that live from them. Growth in these sectors creates jobs, but it also pressures habitats, fish stocks, water quality, and coastal livelihoods. This Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy Training Course gives marine, environmental, and policy professionals a working method for building that economy responsibly. Participants learn blue economy sectors and value chains, marine spatial planning, ecosystem and resource assessment, sustainable financing, circular marine practice, and how to measure social and environmental outcomes. Furthermore, the course connects policy and investment choices to practical delivery.

Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy Course Objectives

- Map blue economy sectors, value chains, and their economic contribution.
- Apply marine spatial planning (MSP) principles to competing sea uses.
- Assess marine ecosystem health, biodiversity, and resource status.
- Apply sustainable fisheries and aquaculture management principles.
- Evaluate environmental impacts through EIA and SEA processes.
- Identify blue financing sources: blue bonds, blended finance, and grants.
- Design circular marine practices for waste, plastics, and by-products.
- Apply UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 targets to programmes.
- Build stakeholder engagement and coastal community inclusion plans.
- Measure blue economy performance with social, environmental, and economic indicators.

Course Methodology

- Facilitated sessions built on real coastal plans, sector data, and project documents.

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- Case workshops on overfishing, port expansion conflicts, and habitat loss.
- Marine spatial planning exercises using zoning maps and use conflicts.
- Impact assessment exercises applying EIA and SEA screening logic.
- Group exercise on a sustainable blue economy programme with financing options.

Who Should Take This Course

- Marine and coastal environment officers.
- Fisheries, aquaculture, and ports authority staff.
- Environmental impact assessment and permitting professionals.
- Blue economy policy advisers and planners.
- Development finance and sustainability officers.
- NGO and community development professionals in coastal areas.

Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy Course Outlines

Day 1: Blue Economy Sectors and Value Chains

- Defining the blue economy and its boundaries.
- Core sectors: fisheries, aquaculture, shipping, ports, offshore energy, and tourism.
- Emerging sectors: marine biotechnology, blue carbon, and ocean data.
- Value chain mapping for marine products and services.
- Employment and community dependence on marine resources.
- Ocean governance framework: UNCLOS and regional bodies.
- Growth scenarios and their environmental implications.

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Day 2: Marine Spatial Planning and Ecosystem Assessment

- Marine spatial planning purpose, process, and legal basis.
- Mapping sea uses: fishing grounds, shipping lanes, energy sites, and conservation areas.
- Conflict analysis and trade-off decisions between uses.
- Marine ecosystem assessment: biodiversity, habitats, and water quality.
- Fish stock assessment basics and reference points.
- Marine protected areas and management effectiveness.
- Monitoring programmes and indicator selection.

Day 3: Sustainable Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Coastal Livelihoods

- Sustainable fisheries management instruments and quotas.
- Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing controls.
- Aquaculture siting, feed, disease control, and certification.
- Coastal community engagement and co-management.
- Alternative livelihoods and transition support programmes.
- Certification schemes: MSC, ASC, and traceability systems.
- Social safeguards and benefit sharing in marine projects.

Day 4: Impact Assessment, Financing, and Circular Marine Practice

- Environmental impact assessment screening, scoping, and review.

- Strategic environmental assessment for marine plans and policies.
- Cumulative impact assessment for multiple sea uses.
- Blue financing instruments: blue bonds, debt-for-nature swaps, blended finance.
- ESG criteria and conditions applied to marine investments.
- Circular marine practice: plastic waste, ghost gear, and by-product use.
- Port reception facilities and marine litter prevention.

Day 5: Measurement, Partnerships, and Programme Delivery

- SDG 14 targets and indicators applied to national programmes.
- Social, environmental, and economic indicator sets for blue economy projects.
- Data sources: ocean observation, catch records, and remote sensing.
- Partnership models: government, industry, science, and communities.
- Governance, transparency, and accountability arrangements.
- Reporting to investors, regulators, and the public.
- Building a sustainable blue economy skills and delivery roadmap.

Conclusion

By successfully completing the Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy Training Course, participants will have acquired a solid working knowledge of blue economy sectors and value chains, marine spatial planning, ecosystem and resource assessment, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture practice, impact assessment, blue financing, and outcome measurement. They will leave able to design marine programmes that create economic value without exhausting the resource base, and to report their results with credible indicators. Gentex Training Center delivers this programme with marine and environmental practitioners who work in coastal and ocean sectors.

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FAQs for the Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy course

Q1 What is the "Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy" course about?

It is a five-day programme on building economic activity from the ocean without damaging it. It covers blue economy sectors and value chains, marine spatial planning, ecosystem and stock assessment, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, impact assessment, blue financing, and outcome measurement.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy" course?

Participants design marine projects that balance growth with ecosystem limits, resolve conflicts between sea uses before they become disputes, and access blue financing with credible ESG conditions. They also gain measurement frameworks that report outcomes to investors and regulators.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy" course?

You will gain blue economy sector and value chain analysis, marine spatial planning and ecosystem assessment, sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and impact assessment application, and blue financing, circular marine practice, and outcome measurement.

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Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy" course?

The course works with the UNCLOS ocean governance framework, marine spatial planning processes and zoning maps, conflict and trade-off analysis, biodiversity and habitat assessment methods, fish stock assessment and reference points, marine protected area management effectiveness, MSC and ASC certification schemes with traceability systems, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing controls, environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment procedures, cumulative impact assessment, blue bonds, debt-for-nature swaps and blended finance instruments, ESG criteria, ghost gear and marine litter prevention practice, port reception facilities requirements, and SDG 14 targets with social, environmental and economic indicators.

Q5 How is the "Developing Skills for a Sustainable Blue Economy" course applied in real-world practice?

Teams apply it when preparing a coastal marine spatial plan, screening a port expansion for environmental impact, designing a fisheries co-management arrangement, structuring a blue bond proposal, planning waste and ghost gear recovery, and reporting blue economy results against SDG 14 indicators.