

**CONCEPT NOTE**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Read the following before designing your concept**

All proposals submitted to the fund must have as their main purpose the conservation and/or management of marine and coastal biodiversity and/or ecosystem based adaptation to climate change in the Seychelles.

Refer to the Call for Proposals to see the priorities for funding in the current round of SeyCCAT grants. Do not submit a proposal that falls outside of these identified priorities.

Do not include activities or costs that are defined as ineligible by SeyCCAT.

Proposals must be compliant with Environmental and Social Safeguards applied by SeyCCAT. Please pay particular attention to the Exclusions List.

Refer to the SeyCCAT website for information on the above: [www.seyccat.org](http://www.seyccat.org)

In the event of specific questions, contact the SeyCCAT Secretariat.

**In preparing your concept**

Be clear and concise.

Follow the guidelines and instructions (major points) described below.

The concept should be provided in Font Times New Roman size 11 characters, single spacing.

The concept should not exceed five pages in length (excluding budget and annex).

**SeyCCAT Project Concept Note**

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| **Small-medium grant** | **✓** |
| **Large grant** |  |

*(tick)*

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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| **Project Title** | *Seaweeds: A Hidden Resource – a Recycling Project* |
| **SeyCCAT Strategic Objective – *as listed in the Request for Proposals*** | *Strategic Objective #5: Demonstrate innovation in the Blue Economy – for example in sustainable businesses in post-harvest fisheries sector, sustainable tourism, renewable energy, environmental services, ocean waste management* |
| **Name, contact details and status of lead applicant organisation / individual** | *Women in Action and Solidarity Organisation (WASO). Contact person: Rosemary Elizabeth, Chairperson. Telephone: 2781560. Email:* *seyrosie@gmail.com* |
| **Partner organizations (include country if not based in Seychelles)** | *Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (MEECC), the Landscape and Waste Management Agency (LWMA), and the Ministry of Family Affairs (MoFA)* |
| **Project location** | *It is expected that the projection locations will change depending on the availability of seaweeds for collection. For the moment, the project plans to collect seaweeds from the following locations:*1. *Anse Boileau*
 |
| **Duration – start and end dates** | *10 months. Start date: Monday 04th November 2019 to Friday 05th June 2020* |
| **Total budget requested** | *SR100, 000* |
| **Indicative co-financing** | *Co-financing: WASO will provide some in-kind co-financing through its network of members for transport, communications, refreshments for a value of SR10, 000. MEECC and MFA will provide technical guidance for a value of SR15, 000, covering their personnel’s and facilitators’ fees, transport and technical assistance.* |

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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| **Abstract (500 words max)** | *The project is designed to address two issues: the littering of the beaches with seaweed and the provision of compost for home gardens. WASO and other NGOs such as GEMPlus with their project in Perseverance Primary School have developed home gardening projects. There is now a demand for good compost for these gardens. Whilst home organic waste is be used, it is not sufficient. In the meantime, the beaches around Mahé are literally covered with seaweed that is swept up in the mornings by the beach cleaning crews and thrown away. There is scope to use seaweed as a component for composting.**The project beneficiaries will be the vulnerable and disadvantaged women and girls that WASO works with in its business incubator at Providence. These persons will have the opportunity for engaging in an income generating activity that is profitable, meaningful and fulfilling for them, especially as they will be independent operators.**This project has no funding from any other donor. However, it links well with the home gardening projects done by WASO and other NGOs, as well as the recycling project funded by Mangroves For the Future. This one is concerned with the recycling of plastic, wood, metal and paper to make ornamental objects for home decor.*  |
| **Outcome and impacts** | *With this project, there will be less seaweed drifts on the beaches around Mahé, especially the east coast. There will be less waste thrown into the landfill as the seaweed swept up are disposed of in communal bins. There will be a greater choice of compost available to households with home gardens. There will be a more circular and sustainable approach to environment protection and livelihoods in Seychelles. The project involves mostly disadvantaged women and girls and will help to alleviate poverty and socioeconomic precariousness in Seychelles. The beaches, being cleaner, will provide a more agreeable environment for the Seychellois and visitors to enjoy. In the end, the project has the possibility of improving the quality of life for the women and girls collecting and composting seaweed, the Seychellois and tourists alike who use the beaches for leisure activities and the tourism establishment owners and employees who can have an enhanced product to market and sell.* |
| **Objective/s** | *To reduce by an estimated 15% the amount of seaweed on the beaches on Mahé, especially the east coast (Anse Aux Pins, Au Cap and Anse Royale). (WASO does not expect that it will be able to collect all the seaweeds accumulated in the three selected locations. However, to ensure that there is precision in the amount of seaweeds collected, the collectors will be weighing their daily collections and this will provide an indication of the quantity/proportion being used by the project. For te moment, 15% remains an educated guess, an estimation.)**To produce at least 150kg of high quality compost for sale to home gardeners.**To increase the income of disadvantaged and vulnerable women and girls engaged in this activity by at least 70%, from minimum wage to earnings of up to SR12, 000 monthly.* |
| **Outputs** | *7 to 11 disadvantaged and vulnerable (unemployed, in most cases) women and girls will be trained to collect and use seaweed as compost.**Medium-scaled composting business with a production of 500kg/month of seaweed-based compost will be created by WASO.**7 to 11 women and girls who were unemployed or earning minimum wage will increase their monthly income through the sale of their seaweed-based compost.* |
| **Activities** | *The project does build on others focused on home gardens, such as CLISSA for the whole of Mahé, Praslin and La Digue, and the MFF one at Perseverance 1 and 2. It also builds on the WASO MFF-funded recycling project which used plastic, drift wood, paper and metal, collected mostly from the beaches. WASO already conducts business start-up training at least twice a year for women wishing to start a small home-based business – this is an opportunity to go beyond tailoring, catering, flower arrangements and to venture into something new with great potential for business development.**There will be three phases.**Phase 1: Training of the women and girls by MEEC, MFA (in-class and practical sessions on sites to select and collect seaweed, climate change and its impact, the meaning and significance of the Blue Economy, the role of women in the Blue Economy, composting processes, pitfalls an precautions, storage, marketing and sale, post-sale services)**Phase 2: Collection and composting of seaweed (selection of collection site, selection of composting sites, the women and girls go out and collect the seaweeds to begin their composting and to start their business under the guidance of WASO, technical guidance from the MEECC & MFA for quality assurance).**There will be three main methods used for composting.*1. *Allow the seaweed to become dry and broken up. These can be sprinkled on the soil itself and are ideal for home gardens.*
2. *Soak the seaweeds in large containers, such as barrels, containing preferably harvested rainwater for a minimum of 3 weeks and use the resultant water as fertilizer. Since, there is a need to avoid continually harvesting seaweeds, they will be placed in porous bags in the containers so that they could be used at least three times. The remaining seaweeds can be applied directly on the soil.*
3. *Soaked seaweeds (after a minimum of three to four weeks) are mixed with soil and is composted as other organic materials.*

*Phase 3: Marketing and sale of compost (WASO is on its own to manage the activity – visibility such as advertising, site visits by other interested parties and NGOs, operations management, distribution, sale and after-sale services, monitoring and evaluation of the project to adjust as needed, closure and final report.)* |
| **Schedule** |

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| **Activities** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **June** |
| *Planning meetings* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Training sessions* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Operational phase* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Marketing & sales* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Monitoring & evaluation* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Closure & final report* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **Sustainability and replication** | *The project is sustainable as the expected collection of seaweed from the beaches of the east coast of Mahé is not expected to reach more than 15% of what is already there. Therefore, there will likely always be a ready supply of seaweed for collection and composting. It also the potential to be scaled up and / or replicated by not only other NGOs, but also fishers in times when the catch is low and they tend to be more idle than usual. They could either form a group to engage in this activity or they can collect seaweed for pay for groups which are already doing this business. It is also expected that the women and girls will leave the auspices of WASO in a year or two to form their own cooperative or company. They can even diversify to undertake other forms of income generating environment clean-ups, such as collecting drift wood for home décor.* *There may be challenges, such as the women and girls recruited still prefer indoor socioeconomic activities, e.g., sewing, baking and home decorations with paper and wood. They may see this project as “dirty work” and not yet see the economic benefits of developing such a business. WASO will need to hold sessions with them and lobby to persuade them that this activity could fundamentally change their life. WASO will also engage the officials from MEEC and MFA to include in their training sessions some information about the economic value of seaweed-based composting. Most of the women and girls do not have a car or a pickup truck. This will be one of the main challenges for the transport of the seaweeds from the beaches to the sites for composting.* |
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**ANNEXES**

1. Please also submit a separate document that provides a summary of your project teams’ experience. It should include an annotated list of similar projects implemented and CV’s for the main project team members.

**The application must not exceed five (5) pages, not including the budget, checklist and Annex.**

**Concept Note – Checklist for submission**

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|   | **Check** |
| Have you **read the SeyCCAT Application Guidelines**? |  |
| Have you **read the** **environmental and social safeguards policy**? |  |
| Have you **referred to the glossary** for explanations of different terms used in the proposal application form? |  |
| Have you used the correct **Template for Concept Note Applications**? |  |
| Have you checked the **deadline time and date** for the submission of the project? |  |
| Have you indicated the correct **SeyCCAT strategic objective** for this call? |  |
| Have you included **CV’s for all the key project personnel**? |   |
| Have you provided **actual start and end dates** for your project (and checked they synchronize with when SeyCCAT would make grant monies available)?  |   |
| Have you **checked the Guidelines on Generic Impacts and Risks of Activities** to assess if an Environmental Impact Assessment needs to be carried out or supplemental environmental safeguards instruments prepared? |  |
| Have you provided your **budget and used the correct template provided for concept notes**? |   |
| Have you checked that your **budget is complete**, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application? |   |
| If you are supported by co-finance - have you included the **value of, and supporting organization for the co-finance, and indicated if it is cash or in kind?** |  |
| Have you **checked the SeyCCAT website** immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates? |  |

**Once you have answered *Yes* to the questions above, please submit the application in Word format, not later than 5PM (Seychelles time) on to the due date advertised in the request for proposals to:**

**info@seyccat.org using the title of the project (or first few words) as the subject of your email. You do not need to send a hard copy. Please note, you can submit any time before the due date, you do not have to submit on that date itself.**

If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (e.g. whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). You are not required to send a hard copy.