**Seychelles Conservation Climate Adaptation Trust (2019)**

1. LG Large Grant

Marine Scholarship

Programme zOmGVmvp

# Applicant details

Applicant name Georgina Beresford

# Application details

Project Title

Marine Scholarship Programme

SeyCCAT Strategic Objective – as listed in the Request for Proposals

 Support new and existing marine and coastal protected areas and sustainable use zones;

 Empower the fisheries sector with robust science and knowhow to improve governance, sustainability, value and market options;

 Promote the rehabilitation of marine and coastal habitats and ecosystems that have been degraded by local and global impacts;

Name of applicant

WiseOceans Seychelles, Georgina Beresford (Funding and Project Development Manager)

Phone number of lead applicant +248 2850248

Email address of lead applicant [georgina@wiseoceans.com](mailto:georgina@wiseoceans.com)

Status of the lead applicant Non-governmental organisation,

Partner organisations (include country if not based in Seychelles) Global Vision International (GVI) Seychelles

Partner organisations or placement hosts:

Uni Sey James Michel Blue Economy Research Institute (BERI) Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA)

Seychelles Youth AIMS Hub (SYAH) Four Seasons Resort Seychelles SeyCCAT (host)

The Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change. The Ocean Project (TOP)

Project location

Locations across Mahe and Curieuse.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Duration – start and end dates | 01.01.2020-31.12.2021 |
|  |  |
| Total budget requested | 998,563.68 |
| Indicative co-financing |  |

Co-financing will be provided by WiseOceans Seychelles for provision of Marine Educators and Managers, participant training, uniform and field equipment. Co-finance total = SCR485,096.

Co-financing will be provided by GVI Seychelles in kind, through the provision of project sta" for training the scholars, dive and scientific field equipment, and boat transport and fuel for activities when scholars are on placements. Co-finance total = SCR290,000.

Co-financing support is being provided by SNPA in the form of accommodation at the GVI base, SCR34,605.

In-kind support will be provided by Four Seasons Resort Seychelles for transport and food during participant placement time with WiseOceans.

In-kind support will also be provided by UniSey Blue Economy Research Institute (BERI) in the form of assistance in programme and technical short courses, hosting of participants if applicable, and liaising with stakeholders.

Abstract

There is increasing emphasis on the Blue Economy and marine conservation sectors in Seychelles, both of which are important to the future of the Seychelles economy and environment. The Seychelles Blue Economy Roadmap (2017-2030) will connect national policies and processes with Seychelles regional and global oceans and sustainable development commitments. To connect these important national level commitments to the Seychelles public and workforce there is a need to increase capacity, interest and employment opportunities in marine sectors for young adult Seychellois.

We propose a nine month Seychelles Marine Scholarship Programme, particularly aimed at young Seychellois (18-25 years) without higher education training, to increase knowledge of the marine environment and, through skills and expertise developed in a bespoke training programme with specific deliverables, increase opportunities for employment within the marine environment sector.

Within the two-year funding timeframe we will deliver two nine-month Scholarship Programmes, hosting six participants in each Programme.

A core training programme will be delivered by project partners WiseOceans and GVI with additional partner organisations o"ering placement opportunities during specific modules of the Programme.

WiseOceans Seychelles and GVI Seychelles are well established local NGOs. Both organisations run existing education and traineeship programmes specifically aimed at young Seychelles nationals, and this proposal will build and expand upon these programmes.

This training programme will o"er in-depth practical and theoretical training aimed specifically at gaining skills needed for employment in marine conservation and Blue Economy sectors. Training activities will include international certifications such as PADI scuba diving training and EFR first aid training. Taught skills will comply to best practices, and as far as possible, link to international or national standards and methodologies. For example, coral reef survey training will follow the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network approved method, which is used at a National level by GVI, WiseOceans and SNPA.

Partnering with UniSey, a bespoke training Programme would be created to give participants both the academic and practical skills needed as requirements for entry onto the Environmental Science BSc course, opening this opportunity to successful

participants of the training Programme. Through placements we will be o"ering participants work experience in marine environment and Blue Economy organisations, as well as the opportunity to make valuable connections for future employment.

One of the key partnering organisations for this Programme will be the Seychelles Maritime Academy (SMA). Pre-programme advertising and a presentation of the Programme will be o"ered to graduating students at SMA. The Programme manager will liase to further develop opportunities between the Marine Scholarship Programme and SMA and potentially include a boat handling module delivered by SMA.

This Programme will complement existing short-term training programmes available for younger students such as the WiseOceans Blue Economy Youth Programme, a week long holiday programme for secondary school students, and SYAH's Blue Economy Internship Programme, o"ered to post-secondary students. This programme o"ers an opportunity for long- term training with key skills development for future Seychellois marine and environmental scientists and professionals.

Outcomes and Impacts

Problem Statement: The Blue Economy is a marine-based development model adopted by Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that seeks to mitigate commonly encountered challenges. There is an increasing emphasis on the Blue Economy and marine conservation sectors in Seychelles, while there remains a lack of capacity within the local workforce to fill the new employment opportunities.

Rationale: The Seychelles Blue Economy Roadmap (2017-2030) will connect national policies and processes with Seychelles regional and global oceans and sustainable development commitments. The goals of the Blue Economy Road Map are economic diversification, shared prosperity, food security and healthy oceans. To connect these important national level commitments to the Seychelles public and workforce there is a need to increase capacity, interest, expertise and employment opportunities in the marine conservation and management sectors for young adult Seychellois. At present there are limited opportunities for individuals to gain the necessary training and experience to successfully gain employment within the sector. This Programme will seek to bridge the gap, providing a diverse training opportunity built upon partnerships between di"erent organisations. The Programme will be led by WiseOceans in collaboration with GVI Seychelles and will o"er placements at organizations crosscutting sectors within the Blue Economy. Through this collaboration of multisector partners, a holistic training Programme will be designed to provide participants with a broad skill set, opening up a number of employment opportunities.

Programme Outcomes:

The outcome of this Project will be that 12 participants will have successfully completed the Marine Scholarship Programme and obtained the necessary skills and experience to prepare them for employment within the Blue Economy and environment sector.

The impact of this Programme will be to have equipped young adult Seychellois with skills and knowledge to support them in accessing career opportunities in the marine environment and Blue Economy sectors. Increasing local capacity in the Blue Economy sector and increasing access to more specialist career opportunities for young Seychellois.

This training Programme will o"er a bridge for participants to access opportunities in tertiary education. We are currently in communication with UniSey about the possibility of using this as a bridging course to the Environmental Science BSc. We also have a meeting arranged with Seychelles Qualifications Authority to discuss the possibility of future accreditation of the Programme, after the first pilot year.

Programme Objectives

Objective 1: To develop a marine science and conservation training Programme for young adults in Seychelles o"ering a comprehensive overview of theoretical and practical skills in a Seychelles context.

Objective 2: To deliver two training Programmes, each over a nine-month period with a minimum of six participants per Programme, between the ages of 18 and 25, including placements with partner organisations.

Objective 3: To build local capacity in the Blue Economy sector, by engaging and providing education and vocational opportunities to young adult Seychelles Nationals.

Objective 4: To increase access to marine and Blue Economy employment opportunities for young adult Seychellois.

The project’s objectives are well aligned with the objectives of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2020) as follows:

* 1. To make the Seychelles population aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve it;

5.3. To improve, share, transfer and apply the knowledge, science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss.

Outputs:

The major output of this Project is to produce a training Programme that empowers young adults into careers in the marine conservation and Blue Economy sector in Seychelles. Helping to create a future skilled workforce to help Seychelles meet its commitments to the Blue Economy Roadmap.

This will be achieved by providing participants with the necessary training through the activities detailed above and below. Including the specific outputs:

* Participants will receive PADI Advanced Open Water scuba diving training certification
* Participants will receive Emergency First Response first aid training and certification
* The participants will receive equipment to further their studies and career development; including snorkelling gear and resource books
* Participants will complete six months of training with GVI Seychelles and WiseOceans (including training activities listed above and below) with demonstrable, measured increase in knowledge development
* Participants will complete three months of placements with host organisations with demonstrable increase in knowledge and experience in the Blue Economy sector
* Participants will complete pre and post Programme progress surveys
* Participants will have progress development monitoring through skills completion checklists throughout the Programme completed by the Project Manager and Coordinator
* Participants will receive monthly progress and development meetings with the Project Manager or Coordinator
* Partner organisations will complete feedback surveys by the end of the Programme
* Funders and partners will receive annual project reports from the Project Manager and Coordinator
* Post Programme participant surveys will be used to monitor Programme e"ectiveness in achieving objectives of education and career development
* Participants who complete the Programme will receive a certificate of completion

Specific activities:

The objectives of the Project will be achieved by the successful completion of the following integrated activities:

* 1.1 Creation of materials and a comprehensive training schedule as part of the Marine Scholarship Programme;
* 1.2 Promotion of the Marine Scholarship Programme across a variety of media outlets;
* 1.3 Selection of 12 candidates (six each year) to participate in the Marine Scholarship Programme;
* 2.1 Provide 12 candidates with equipment and training materials necessary for participation in the Marine Scholarship Programme;
* 2.2 SCUBA diving training and PADI certifications;
* 2.3 First aid training and certification;
* 2.4 Boat handling training;
* 2.5 Marine ecology theory and practical workshops;
* 2.6 Coral reef restoration training;
* 2.7 Marine identification skills;
* 2.8 Sustainable fisheries training;
* 2.9 Tropical field skills training;
* 2.10 Underwater survey and research skills;
* 2.11 Event organisation skills;
* 2.12 Science communication and education skills;
* 2.13 Biological survey techniques course;
* 2.14 Career development and entrepreneurial skills;
* 3.1 Closing ceremony;
* 3.2 Completion of post Programme survey by 12 participants to assess career development;
* 4.1 Obtain feedback from partner organisations;
* 4.2 Project reporting by WiseOceans and GVI to partner organisations funders and public.

Expected results:

* Development of a scholarship Programme open to those candidates currently unable to access tertiary education.
* An increase in the skills and experience of the 12 participants, including internationally recognized certifications.
* An increase in the number of trained individuals pursuing careers in the Blue Economy sector.

Location:

The Marine Scholarship Programme will take place across a number of organisations, the majority of which are based on Mahé. There will be opportunities for participants to undertake training on other islands depending on the partners needs at the time.

SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICATION

On completion of this project we will have a detailed, functioning Programme with a well-developed syllabus. which could be easily replicated in the future, with available funding. This would facilitate continued training and expertise to future scientists and professionals of the Blue Economy sector, who will be the custodians of the Seychelles environment.

Knowledge sharing of the Programme will be delivered through social media, blogs and articles. Programme learning will also be available through the Programme reporting and Programme learning will be summarised in the Programme closing ceremonies each year.

Opportunity to shadow the project manager and coordinator will be o"ered to trainees and local team members within WiseOceans and GVI to further increase the capacity building element of this Programme and allow skills and knowledge transfer in project management and coordination.

The legacy of this Programme will be the participants, who can act as ‘Ambassadors’ for the Programme, assisting with future recruitment and potentially the delivery of the Programme to future participants.

Through this pilot Programme we can explore the potential to upscale the Programme in future additions. As the Programme develops (and capacity for hosting increases) we can investigate increasing the number of participants. Through this pilot Programme we can also continue to explore avenues for funding and in-kind support.

Budget

[Project Budget Informatio... (22 KiB download)](https://seyccat.awardsplatform.com/r/file/xfwDXZqp7UMuQBmL)

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ITEMISED BUDGET

[SeyCCAT-Budget-and-Financ... (65 KiB download)](https://seyccat.awardsplatform.com/r/file/VB4agRllhXOgoV1U)

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I have read the exclusion list 

Checklist

 Have you read the Application Guidelines?

 Have you read the environmental and social safeguards policy?

 Have you referred to the glossary for explanations of di"erent terms used in the proposal application form?

 Have you used the correct Template for Stage II / Large Grant proposals?

 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 a CV’s for all the key project personnel?

 Have you included a letter of support from the main partner organizations identified on the cover page?

 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 provided actual start and end dates for your project?

 If required following your Stage 1 feedback letter, have you prepared and submitted here your supplemental environmental safeguards instrument(s)?

 Have you provided your budget and used the correct template provided for large / stage II proposals?

 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 included a supporting document from the co-finance organization to stipulate the amount / support provided in terms of cash or in kind?

 Have you checked the SeyCCAT website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?

I confirm I am eligible to apply for the 

Blue Grants Fund.