

### Barbados Blue Economy - Institutional Capacity Building Program

Name of legal entity	Country	Overall project value (EUR)	Proportion carried out by candidate (%)	No of staff provided	Name of client	Origin of funding	Dates (start/end)	Name of partners if any
Sustainable Seas Ltd	Barbados	25,000	100%	1	EQO-NIXUS	IDB	Aug 2020 to Feb 2021	Howell Marine Con-

#### Detailed description of project

Barbados is faced with traditional challenges related to its limited economic diversification, fiscal fragility and susceptibility to the impacts of climate change, such as hurricanes, sea level rise and increased temperatures. The pervasive nature of a lingering recession demanded that the government is more strategic in its programs and policies. Recent times have seen the emergence of new and more potent threats related to climate change and the ferocity of its consequences, including the influx of sargassum seaweed on many of the islands' beaches. This has reinforced the need to think blue. In response to this and other related challenges, the Prime Minister announced the creation of a Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy (MMABE). Despite its small land space, Barbados's maritime space is over 400 times bigger, covering 183,436 km<sup>2</sup> representing an opportunity that could and should be utilized in a sustainable way to advance the economic interest of the country, while at the same time protect the environment. Despite that certain aspects of the blue economy for example tourism activities, fishing and seaport services, have traditionally been part of Barbados's socio-economic landscape, the blue economy as an economic sector remains underdeveloped, fragmented and unexplored.

The overall objective of this project is to help design an institutional capacity building program for the MMABE to improve its coordination capacities, implementation capacity of a blue economy policy, action plan and roadmap/long term strategy, and its ability to support blue growth in Barbados. This consultancy will also produce a "Blue Academic Program" for professional development and the creation of new skills needed in support of a Blue Economy in Barbados.

#### Type of services provided

Jonathan McCue (on behalf of SSL) was Technical institutional specialist to deliver the following activities related to the project.

Carry out an institutional capacity and gap analysis, which considers the Ministry's staffing (including identification of university/professional degrees, experience and qualifications), organizational structure, inter-agency connectivity, technological and technical capabilities and determine the main areas of strength and weakness.

This analysis included a chapter on recommendations to close the identified gaps and may inform key documents for the Ministry's staffing and institutional organization, such as a Public Service Qualifications Order<sup>3</sup>. This activity included at least 1, workshop to present preliminary results and gather feedback.