

Blue Planet Fund (BPF) Programme Formulation—Restoring and enhancing critical marine habitats for coastal resilience

Name of legal entity	Country	Overall project value (US\$)	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	Small island developing states (SIDS)	\$190 million (£120,000 Phase 1)	20%	1	FCDO	The UK governments—Blue Planet Fund	26th Oct 2021-28 Feb 2022	Howell Marine Consulting IMC Worldwide

Detailed description of project

Type of services provided

The UK Government launched a £500 million Blue Planet fund (BPF) at the G7 leaders summit meeting in July 2021. The aim of the BPF is to aid developing countries in protecting their marine environment and reduce poverty. The BPF will help developing countries to tackle human-generated threats to the ocean across 4 different areas: marine pollution, climate change, sustainable seafood and biodiversity. The BPF is jointly managed by The Foreign Commonwealth And development office (FCDO) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the aim of this project was to spend 40% (190 million) of the BPF in 4 main areas those being: critical marine habitats for coastal resilience, small-scale fisheries, aquaculture and ocean management capacity building in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

In this project Sustainable Seas Ltd focused on enhancing and restoring marine habitats for coastal resilience which included mangroves, seagrass and coral reefs.

The Phase 1 project included the need for a review of all background documents to understand Blue Planet fund (BPF) strategy and objectives along with understanding The Foreign Commonwealth and Development office (FCDO) vision for the programme. This BPF then needs to build on existing background knowledge from key stakeholders in HMG to understand the landscape of policy objectives relevant for the FCDO’S relevant area of BPF.

Jonathan McCue (Sustainable Seas Ltd) was engaged as the expert on Critical Marine Habitats to help support that theme of the BPF Programme. Their work focused upon the following tasks:

- Development a Proposal of relevant interventions to achieve outcomes along with information on how interventions could be delivered efficiently and at an effective scale.
- A review of evidence in order to advise the FCDO on where they should focus the BPF, thus included geographical analysis and previous commitments made by other countries.
- Analysis of stakeholders to identify any current or planned initiatives that relate to restoration of critical marine habitats in which interventions could be delivered through.
- Identification of current gaps in donor programmes related to the restoration of critical marine habitats. That could potentially fill in order to achieve BPF’s objectives.
- Provide evidence to HMG’S and non-HMG’s stakeholders to propose how the FCDO and BPF should be delivered effectively and efficiently. Along with suggesting other what structures, government and other programming management may be required.