

Support for Implementation of The Virgin Islands’ Blue Economy Road Map

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	British Virgin Islands (BVI)	US\$20,000	100%	1	UNDP Barbados	UNDP	1.9.2023 to 21.12.2023	N/A

Detailed description of project

The Government of the Virgin Islands (GoVI) has signalled a strong interest in a sustainable BE being an integral part of its approach to strengthen the Territory’s economic fundamentals and expand the possibilities for growth and development. The protection of the ocean (and its ecosystem services) and the sustainable use of its resources for improving livelihoods, providing employment opportunities, and promoting economic growth are endorsed strategic priorities of the GoVI. Consequently, with technical assistance from the UNDP, the Strategic Blue Economy Roadmap (2020-2025) was created in 2019 and approved by Cabinet in December 2022. The Roadmap, serves as a means of harmonizing the Virgin Islands’ approach to marine planning and governance and provides an overarching framework to manage the marine space and associated resources and activities.

The overall objective of this consultancy is to build on recommendations presented in the Strategic Blue Economy Roadmap leading to updated priorities and actions to support the development of sustainable national BE programmes, investment plans and opportunities for innovative financing solutions. In short, the objective is to operationalize The Virgin Islands’ Blue Economy Road Map with an actionable plan, including initiatives that can be implemented in short order but contribute to the overall attainment of BE goals.

The work was also required to identify potential areas that the UNDP can provide additional support in advancing the BE in the Virgin Islands such as new and innovative financial models for development, programme design, cost benefit analysis etc.

Type of services provided

The objective of this project was to carry out and review of the existing Blue Economy Roadmap, offering updates as required . This was achieved by completing the following tasks.

- Task 1 - Review of current Blue Economy Roadmap - ensure that the endorsed Blue Economy Roadmap reflects current Government priorities, signposts new opportunities and reflects implementation status in the wake of its publication, the consultant shall review its recommendations including suggested actions and tasks, and the model for implementation.
- Task 2 - Develop Implementation Plan - create a new Implementation Plan to guide effectiveness, efficiency and accountability in implementation of the Roadmap and will outline the steps, activities, and resources required to achieve project goals and objectives.
- Task 3 – Develop a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework - create a new M&E which is essential for promoting accountability, transparency, evidence-based decision making, and programme efficiency and effectiveness. It helps ensure that resources are used efficiently, goals are aligned, and stakeholders are informed, ultimately leading to better outcomes and greater impact.
- Task 4 - Identification of additional areas of support for the UNDP