

Capacity Building to Advance the Blue Economy Development in Belize

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	Belize	30,000	100%	1	NLAI	IADB	Aug 2023 to March 2024	N/A

Detailed description of project

Belize has recognized the need and potential of developing a sustainable Blue Economy and has started the process with the establishment of the Ministry of the Blue Economy and Civil Aviation (MBECA) in 2020. With support from the IADB, the technical cooperation BL-T1145 aims at supporting Belize to strengthen the policy and institutional framework for the development of the Blue Economy. In parallel, another regional TC is being developed with Belize as a beneficiary to increase capacity to attract private sector investment into the Blue Economy to generate employment, growth, economic diversification, and achievement of SDG targets. Through close coordination with the MBECA and the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (BELTRAIDE), the planned results of that operation will complement the planned results of this TC.

The overall objective of this consultancy is to strengthen the capacity among stakeholders in Belize to advance the Blue Economy by (i) developing an institutional strengthening action plan that incorporates gender considerations, (ii) by developing a MRV and partnership--creation at the national and regional scales; and (iii) measuring the Blue Economy-related industries' contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The consultancy aims to implement a high-quality institutional capacity assessment, including identifying the main gaps and opportunities to foster gender inclusion. It assumes the creation of international partnerships to foster knowledge/experiences exchange in the Blue Economy. Finally, it is expected that Blue Economy MRV skills and tools are improved.

Type of services provided

SSL were employed to help produce the final consultancy reports. A participatory and consultative approach was adopted throughout. The services undertaken included the following:

1. Institutional capacity assessment of MBECA that will also include the Department of Fisheries, Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute (CZMAI) and the Blue Economy Unit.
2. Development of an institutional capacity development plan that include recommendations together with a program of short-term interventions.
3. Involvement in capacity building efforts including workshops, online training modules, expert interventions etc. to improve the competence of MBECA staff in policy development & program management.
4. Support to establish peer to peer partnerships with government agencies from other leading small island developing states that are involved in the development of the Blue Economy.
5. Develop and implement a Monitor Report and Verification (MRV) for the Blue Economy.