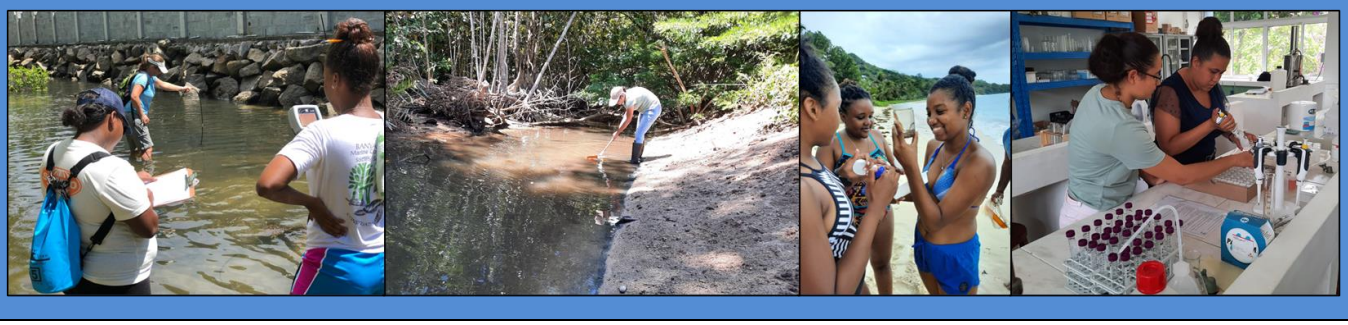
UNIVERSITY OF SEYCHELLES
Knowledge hub of the Indian Ocean

5-Day Training Course:
Aquatic Monitoring – Field Sampling & Nutrient Analyses



Introduction

The GOS-UNDP-GEF Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) within the Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment (MACCE) is implementing a GEF-funded project entitled "*A Ridge to Reef Approach for the Integrated Management of Marine, Coastal and Terrestrial Ecosystems in the Seychelles*" (R2R project).

The project objective is to undertake a comprehensive Ridge to Reef (R2R) approach that addresses the 'whole island' priorities of improved management and conservation of upland forest and agricultural ecosystems, as well as coastal and marine ecosystems in Seychelles, to produce global benefits in terms of conservation of globally significant biodiversity and the effective management of large marine ecosystems (including coastal and near-shore marine ecosystems), and to arrest and reverse ecosystem degradation.

The University of Seychelles (UniSey) through its Blue Economy Research Institute (BERI), aims to facilitate capacity development in Seychelles as well as contribute to policy development and management through research. As the only Higher Education Institute in Seychelles, the UniSey is uniquely placed to facilitate training in aspects of Environmental and Marine Sciences. To this end, UniSey BERI is responsible for the development and implementation of an aquatic monitoring programme as part of the Ridge to Reef project that spans the catchment from source to shallow nearshore coast.

Under Component 2, the UniSey BERI has formulized standard operating procedures and work instructions towards the implementation and establishment of a long-term aquatic monitoring programme.

Aim of the Training Course

To meet the requirements for water quality in Seychelles, irrespective whether for recreational, agriculture, drinking or ecological use, it is important that one monitors the quality of water to meet specific targets or standards. Developing a monitoring programme with these objectives in mind, requires that one has an understanding of some 1) basic ecological principles, 2) chemical interactions of important elements such as nitrogen and phosphorus, 3) methodologies used in the monitoring of these parameters, and 4) analyzing the data for meaningful interpretation and decision making.

This training course will address specific aspects of general aquatic monitoring programmes, with specific examples included towards the Ridge to Reef project. Training will range from theoretical lectures, to *in situ* field sampling, and laboratory analyses for nutrient analyses and macroinvertebrate processing, and is aimed at graduates and young

professionals working within the environmental sciences and consulting sectors, as well as work-based training for personnel within relevant government ministries and departments, and other parastatals.

Learning Outcomes

- To develop participants' theoretical and practical understanding of aquatic monitoring programmes.
- To familiarize participants with the R2R Aquatic Monitoring Programme and related standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- To enhance participants' understanding of aquatic monitoring methodologies and equipment
- To train participants in the use of monitoring tools and equipment, as well as the basics of nutrient analyses and chemical handling
- Deepen participants' understanding of the importance of aquatic monitoring and how it relates to land-use practices and infrastructure development such as roads, weirs or dams.

Target Audience

Environmental practitioners, compliance officers, technicians, managers and consultants working with government, NGOs or civil society involved in catchment/watershed management & restoration, and youth and students interested in water quality.

Course Delivery & Number of Participants

This course will be offered in person at the University of Seychelles' Anse Royale Campus. All current COVID regulations will be observed and participants will be expected to wear a mask at all times during the course delivery. The number of participants is restricted to **5** in order to provide targeted training and mentoring.

The course will be presented through 4 modules offered over 5 days, that will include lectures and field trips. Three different opportunities will be provided for training in August, September and October 2022.
An assessment in the form of a test will be conducted and a certificate of participation will be provided to all participants who successfully complete the course.

Course Modules	
The following modules will run from **8:30 to 16:00** daily:	
Module 1:	Introduction to aquatic monitoring & General Laboratory/Field Health and Safety
Module 2:	Monitoring Equipment & Methodologies
Module 3:	Field sampling & processing
Module 4:	Laboratory processing & analyses
Course Dates	
August	29 August – 1 September 2022
September	26 – 30 September 2022
October	24 – 28 October 2022

Participation is free!
Please contact nuette.gordon@unisey.ac.sc
for more information & to register.