



*Innovative financing for Blue Carbon activities in Seychelles*



SEYCHELLES' CONSERVATION  
AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION  
TRUST

**SeyCCAT**

**MS MARIE-MAY JEREMIE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
SEYCCAT**

**COP27 SIDE EVENT  
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# SeyCCAT is...

- ... independently registered, legally established under its own Act (2015).
- ... governed by a public-private Board of Directors, Finance & Grants committees.
- ... structured for grants (loans and investments).
- ... a vehicle to sustainably flow funds to support our five strategic objectives.
- ... managing Blue Funds comprised of Debt Restructuring proceeds, and will co-manage a proportion of the proceeds of the Blue Bond.
- ... disbursing approximately US\$700,000 per annum
- ... exploring other mechanisms to grow our assets and to support conservation, sustainable fisheries, climate adaptation and blue economy initiatives.

*"Investing in Seychelles' blue future"*



# Blue Carbon in International & Domestic Policy-Making



The Seychelles NDC has an Ocean chapter will include ocean both in the **mitigation and adaptation** sections



30% Marine Protected Areas (400, 000 km<sup>2</sup>) as a means for adaptation.



30% of blue carbon habitats are protected as part of the MSP.



Recognition of Blue Carbon in Seychelles' Wetlands Policy.



Mapping of seagrass meadows and mangroves and assigning blue carbon value intent to ensure their management and conservation.



## So how did we do it?

### 1. Supported Government through a Pew Charitable Trust funded project

- Collaboration with Oxford University
- Coastal wetlands and Climate Change Project 2020-June 2022 (Seagrass Blue carbon)

### 2. Approach

#### Phase I

Science- seagrass mapping

Creole words for Seagrass and its 5 life forms have been approved + updated

Creole dictionary

2seagrass identification trainings have been held with key government institutions

Seagrass Community Outreach videos

Project case studies (social/community engagement, policy and science)

Seagrass Conservation Pool

GIS training





# Where are we now?

## Phase II of the Project:

1. Socializing the seagrass validated map
2. Implementation strategy for the NDC coastal wetland commitments
3. Revenue generating possibilities of seagrass



# Innovative Financing Mechanisms for Blue Carbon

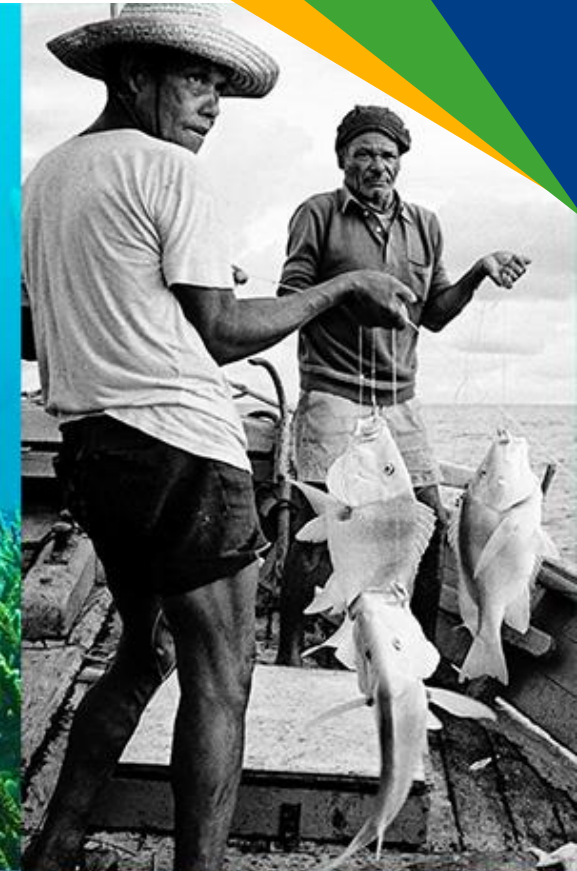
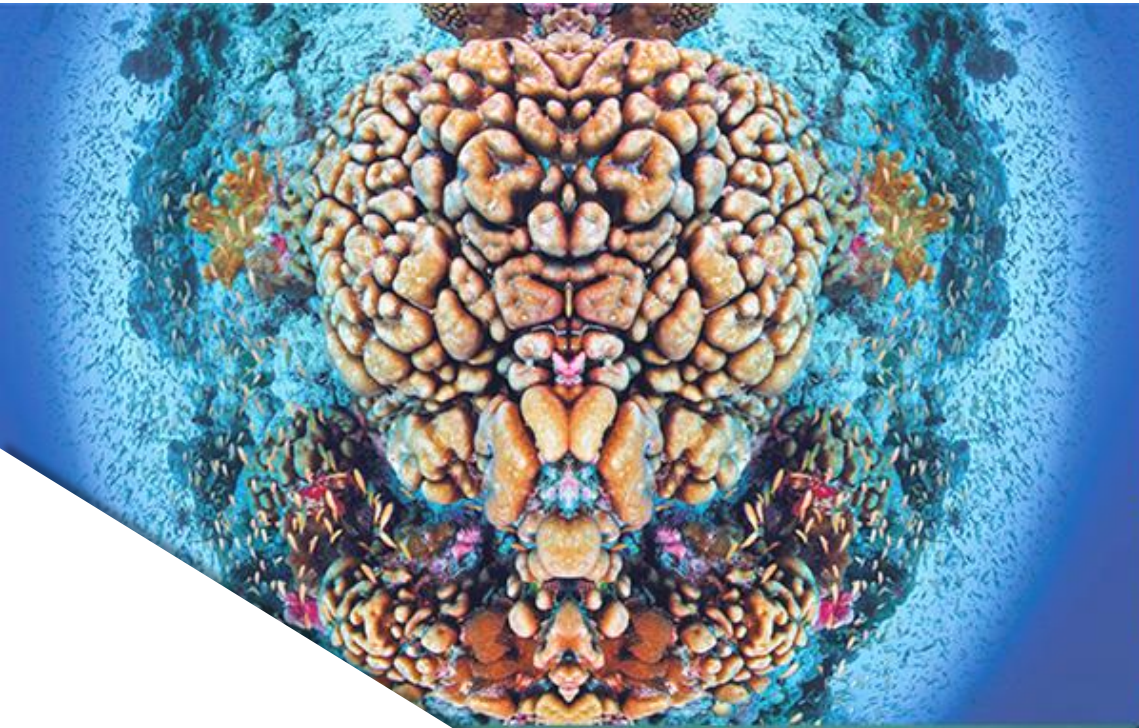
- Seychelles is currently exploring financing mechanisms to support the implementation and protection of seagrass and mangrove ecosystems, including:
  - Multilateral and bilateral funds
  - Insurance products
  - Debt-for-nature swaps
  - Private investment
  - Blue carbon credits and bonds
  - Other innovative conservation financing mechanisms
- Simultaneously, SeyCCAT is exploring non-market approaches to realise Blue Carbon financing opportunities



# Foreseeable Needs in Improving the Management of Seagrass

- More Science and Research
- More awareness raising , education and sensitisation
- Necessity to chart consecutive steps to build a seagrass-based blue carbon value chain





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Contact  
[ceo@seyccat.org](mailto:ceo@seyccat.org)

**Thank you**