Financing Opportunities for Blue Businesses

The melding of the Seychelles Debt Swap Initiative and the Seychelles Sovereign Blue Bonds proceeds is termed Blue Finance and is being used to finance the Seychelles’ transition to sustainable fisheries.

The Department of Blue Economy has the mandate to provide strategic direction and coordination of the Blue Economy implementation as part of the continued sustainable development of Seychelles. The vision is to develop a Blue Economy as a means of realising the nation’s development potential through innovation and knowledge-led approaches, being mindful of the need to conserve the integrity of the Seychelles marine environment and heritage for present and future generations.

Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy

Department of Fisheries

Department of Blue Economy

The Blue Grants Fund (BGF)
The Blue Grants Fund offers grants to impactful Seychellois-led projects that advance marine conservation, sustainable fisheries, development of new and existing MPAs, and select other blue sectors. The BGF is open for applications once a year for a 6-week window. The selection process is competitive and favours the most transformative and impactful projects. Blue Grants Fund is a non-profit facility and offers small grants (up to SCR 100,000) and medium grants (up to SCR 1 million). To learn more, please visit www.seyccat.com

The Blue Investment Fund (BIF)
Offers medium and large loans (up to US $3 million in SCR equivalent) at 4% interest rate and 15 years repayment term. The loan scheme is designed to accelerate the commercial development of the fisheries value chain and help businesses grow. The BIF is available for business that offers logistics, fish processing, science and research services, help local fish producers to access international markets. Select other sectors that support sustainable fisheries are covered too. The BIF is a commercial loan that needs to be paid back. To learn more, please visit www.dbs.sc

SeyCCAT De-risking your Business

By your Business Idea
- Feasibility study
- Business plan
- Project pilot
- Marine Spatial plan

SeyCCAT Grant $700,000 per year

The ocean is fundamental to life on Earth, covering nearly three quarters of our planet, it produces more than hold the oxygen that we breathe. Yet our oceans are moving deeper into ecological crisis. The Blue Economy shifts the focus from the status quo where oceans have been viewed as a means of free resource extraction and an unlimited sink for the disposal of waste to one where ocean services are included in decision-making and where the benefits are shared more equitably for all Seychellois.
**What is the Blue Economy?**


**Opportunities for Businesses in Seychelles**

1. **Biotechnology**
2. **Sustainable Fisheries/Aquaculture**
3. **Climate Change Resilience**
4. **Coastal and Urban Development**
5. **International/Regional Cooperation**
6. **Maritime Security**
7. **Health/Food Security/Sustainable Livelyhoods**
8. **Marine Protection/Sustainable use of Resources**
9. **Education/Research & Development**
10. **Marine Renewable Energy**
11. **Port Development/Shipping**
12. **Marine/Coastal Tourism**

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**Financing Opportunities for Blue Businesses**

- **DBS Loan 12 Million USD**
  - Interest rate 4% payback over 15 years
  - DBS maximum loan 42 million SCR (Subject to exchange rate)

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**1. Choose your Business**
What skill do you have? What are you passionate about? What is your area of expertise?

**2. Train and Inform yourself**
Do you have an excellent idea? Can your business fix a problem? What are the types of technology advancement that can boost your business production or creativity? How can you improve on the current business services? Conduct a market research, set a deadline and action on the findings. Seek advise / attend trainings.

**3. Prepare a Business Plan**
Briefly describe your business, what are your experiences in this field, define your product/service, your goals & vision, management structure, employment, market analysis, price, distribution, promotion, risk and assumptions, project description and cost, financial analysis: The cash flow; expected income and expenditure of the proposed business.

**4. Make your Business Official**
Obtain a license to operate your business: register your business name, register your business at the Seychelles Revenue Commission to obtain a Tax identification number. Setup a business bank account.

**5. Seek Funding for your Business**
Fund your business with your savings, seek support from family and friends. Educate yourself with grants and other funds available, lastly seek for a considerable loan that you can repay and sustain your business during repayment period.

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Get a copy of the ‘5 Steps to Starting your Business’ Booklet on www.esa.gov.sc/downloads

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