

GlobalSeaweedSTAR Travel Fund

Completion Report

Awardee Details

Grant reference ID	GSS/TF/064
Full name/title	Mr. Jerry Geoffrey Mang'ena
Position held	Director
Organisation	Aqua-Farms Organization



Details of Travel Activity

Name of activity	4th International School in Marine Biology
Date held	2020
Personal contribution	Oral Presentation on the work Aqua-Farms do on seaweed farming and the issue of value addition and Oral presentation on MSc work on marine-based lactic acid bacteria for fish preservation

Report on Travel Activity

The 4th International School in Marine Biology was a collaboration between the Daniel Jouvance Foundation, the Sorbonne University Foundation and the University of Namibia (UNAM), the main aim of the summer school was to address the current issues in marine biology, including Marine Biotechnology and novel approaches such as Genomics, Post-genomics and Bio-informatics and illustrations on the power of these techniques, in seaweeds, marine invertebrates and fisheries.

The Summer school was covered in a regional context of Marine biodiversity and blue bio-economy in the Southern Africa Development Countries (SADC) countries, with a focus on three modules;

Module 1 - Issues in Marine Biology: Marine bio-resources and blue biotechnology, climate change and impact on coastal ecosystems.

Module 2 - Overview of methods: Basic concepts and approaches in bioinformatics, genomics and post-genomics, genetic and metabolic engineering in marine organisms.

Module 3 - Case studies: Cultivation of seaweeds and seaweed industry, aquaculture of marine invertebrates, Integrated farming, with practicals on seaweed cultivation and case studies on Tanzania seaweed farming as well as seaweed industry in Southern Africa Development Countries

During, the School, I was able to learn and understand deep on the potential of seaweed, across regions, the challenges as well as opportunities. Among the key challenges that I got to understand best and develop an interest to work on is the issue of Ice Ice Disease in Seaweed *kappapycus*. Currently, I am on contact with XXXX from the Scottish Association for Marine Science, discussing ways into which we can collaborate in tackling the Ice Ice disease and development on biocontrols for Zanzibar, we are hoping to meet in March and discuss further on her work with other post-doc students, so as we can be able to make a together input in tackling this disease.

Beyond that, meeting young other fellow scientists from across the region who have similar interest has added a value in my desire of research and Science as well as a multidisciplinary approach in tackling issues related to blue economy, I believe in the near future we will have a fruitful collaboration opportunity, we have shared among each other our researchgate profiles and social media and also have a group mail into which we can share opportunities.

Back at home, I am planning to do a presentation to my colleagues at work as well and to students in Natural resource Management on the history of seaweed industry and what opportunities are in seaweed. the aim is to share the knowledge to 15 MSc students by March 2020.

Lastly I would like to thank the GlobalSeaweedSTAR for the support, the amount of knowledge and network created will last forever and shall be shared across.