

## GlobalSeaweedSTAR Travel Fund

### Completion Report

#### Awardee Details

Grant reference ID	GSS/TF/066
Full name/title	Valeli Joseph Bugota
Position held	Student
Organisation	Institute of Marine Sciences (University of Dar es Salaam) and Aqua-Farms Organization



#### Details of Travel Activity

Name of activity	4 <sup>th</sup> Daniel Jouvance - SU International School in Marine Biology
Date held	January 26 <sup>th</sup> to February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2020
Personal contribution	Oral Presentation

#### Report on Travel Activity

The purpose of my travel was to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> International School in Marine Biology which was held from January 26<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at Sam Nujoma Campus, University of Namibia, Henties Bay, Namibia. The summer school was especially designed for Masters and PhD students from the Southern African region, particularly those working in the marine sector. The main aim was to address the current issues in marine biology, including Marine Biotechnology and novel approaches such as Genomics, Post genomics and Bioinformatics, and illustrations on the power of these techniques, in seaweeds, marine invertebrates and fisheries. The program

contained lectures and presentations by well-known international experts in marine sciences. The topics covered: -

- Issues in Marine Biology: Marine bio-resources and blue biotechnology, climate change and impact on coastal ecosystems.
- Overview of methods: Basic concepts and approaches in bioinformatics, genomics and post-genomics, genetic and metabolic engineering in marine organisms
- Case studies: Cultivation of seaweeds and seaweed industry, aquaculture of marine invertebrates, Integrated farming and fisheries. More importantly, there was a case study of seaweed farming in Tanzania.

We had a great time on field trips along the coast of Walvis Bay, which enabled students to learn practically. Furthermore, there was an organised oral session in which students presented their research ideas and findings and received constructive feedback. I had the opportunity to present my research, **"Characterization of *Streptococcus* and *Pseudomonas* species associated with disease infection in cultured Nile tilapia in Tanzania."**

The summer school was very interesting and informative, where we learned about how molecular techniques can be used in the management and conservation of marine life, as well as farming of seaweed and marine invertebrate. The quality of the presentations by lecturers, researchers, and students taught me a lot about presentation skills. The program provided an opportunity for researchers to network and initiate research collaborations. Moreover, the summer had a particularly large impact on our careers as early-career scientists and researchers in Africa's marine sector.

***"It was fantastic to meet so many people from different parts around the world. It was a great learning opportunity that was both enjoyable and very useful to my career".***