BEST 2.0 Update
2015 Calls for Proposals results

Medium Grants

Small Grants
Small Grant Call 2015

N° of Concept Notes Submitted

Number of Full Proposals Submitted
## Small Grant Call 2015

Total amount awarded for BEST 2.0 Small Grants 2015 = **€ 599,300.94**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South Atlantic</th>
<th>Indian Ocean</th>
<th>Polar/Sub/polar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project title</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grant amount (€)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Project title</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Restoration and Improved Biosecurity on Nightingale Island</td>
<td>98,749.72</td>
<td>Dynamique et Conservation de l'Île Tromelin (DyCIT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails and interpretation improvements in the Peaks National Park, St Helena</td>
<td>99,531.20</td>
<td>« REPT’ILE » REPtiles Terrestres des Îles Eparses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration of Peak Dale’s St Helena gumwood forest</td>
<td>49,987.14</td>
<td>BIOT Environmental Interpretation and Education Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing a site-based conservation approach for sei whales <em>Balaenoptera borealis</em> at Berkeley Sound, Falkland Islands</td>
<td>97,064.74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total amount granted (€) = 345,332.80</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total amount granted (€) = 233,691.64</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Indian Ocean
Indian Ocean

N° of Full Proposals per territory

- BIOT: 1
- Scattered Islands: 2
Indian Ocean

Number of BEST 2.0 granted projects targeting each Indian Ocean territory (2015 SG call)
Selected Projects in the Indian Ocean region

- Make a wordle or word cloud

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New Projects in the Indian Ocean Region

(Small Grants)
Project: **Dynamic and Conservation of the Island of Tromelin (DyCIT)**

**Aim of the project:**
To study the evolution of a tropical island after an ecological restoration action. The project will focus on increasing knowledge of the island’s seabirds and vegetation, and how these have evolved and will also study the introduced mouse population to understand its impact and the possibilities for eradication. Monitoring these biological indicators will inform future management actions.

**Location:** Tromelin, Scattered Islands

**Project lead:** University of La Réunion

**Partner:** CBN-CPIE Mascarin
Project: « REPT’ILE » REPtiles Terrestres des Iles Eparses

Aim of the project:
To contribute to improving the conservation of the terrestrial herpetofauna of the Scattered islands by improving knowledge of the populations size, distribution and taxonomy of terrestrial reptiles on the Glorioso Islands in order to assess their conservation status and vulnerability.

Location: Scattered Islands

Project lead: Nature Ocean Indien

© Mickaël Sanchez & Jean-Michel Probst
Aim of the project:
To transform the attitudes of visitors and personnel to the British Indian Ocean Territory by raising awareness and understanding of the significance of its biodiversity and promoting more sustainable use of its environment by encouraging non-extractive amenity use. This will be achieved through the production of informative publications, signboards and an audio-visual presentation, and the development of a forest boardwalk and a snorkel trail on Diego Garcia and signed trails in the northern atoll islands.
Polar/Subpolar
Note:
5 of the Concept Notes were ineligible according to the eligibility criteria defined in the Operational Manual and set out in the Guidelines for Applicants and therefore did not proceed to a full proposal. All due to the eligibility of the applicants – EU member State organisations.
N° of Full Proposals targeting each territory

- Greenland
- BAT
- SGSSI
- St-Pierre en Miquelon
- TAAF
Polar/Subpolar

Number of BEST 2.0 granted projects targeting each Polar/Subpolar territory (2015 SG call)
Selected Projects in the polar region

• Polar and sub-polar

© Judith Brown
New Project in the Sub-Polar Region

(Small Grants)
Project: Détermination des zones d’alimentation utilisées par la communauté d’oiseaux marins se reproduisant sur l’île du Grand Colombier, Archipel de Saint Pierre & Miquelon étude des macareux moines, Fratercula arctica et des Océanites cul-blanc Leucorhoa leucorhoa par suivi GPS

Location: St Pierre et Miquelon (Grand Colombier)

Project lead: Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage (ONCFS)

Aim of the project:
ONCFS have conducted studies to estimate the size of seabird populations on Grand Colombier and to delimit the marine areas they use. This project will widen this work by identifying sea journeys made by Storm-Petrels and Atlantic Puffins. The results will be made available to inform future decisions regarding the use and management of the marine environment around Grand Colombier.
South Atlantic

- Ascension Island
- Saint Helena
- Tristan da Cunha
- Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
- South Georgia
Note:
2 of the Concept Notes were ineligible according to the eligibility criteria. 1 organisation was not registered; 1 was registered in the USA. One applicant who was invited to submit a full proposal decided it no longer had the staff capacity to manage the project due to other commitments and therefore did not submit a Full Proposal.
N° of Full Proposals targeting each territory

- Ascension
- St Helena
- Tristan da Cuhna
- Falkland Islands
Territories targeted by SG awarded projects – South Atlantic

Number of BEST 2.0 granted projects targeting each South Atlantic territory (2015 SG call)

- Ascension
- Falkland Islands
- St Helena
- Tristan da Cunha
- TOTAL

Legend:
- multi-territory
- single territory
New Projects in the South Atlantic Region

(Small Grants)
Project: Forest Restoration and Improved Biosecurity on Nightingale Island

Aim of the project:
To secure the future of the Wilkins’ bunting through the restoration of *Phylica* woodland habitat on Nightingale Island. It will also develop and adopt a biosecurity protocol to prevent the spread of invasive species to the island. Measures to better understand the demography and ecology of the Wilkins’ Bunting will be used to inform future management actions.

Location: Tristan da Cunha (Nightingale Island)

Project lead: Conservation Department, Government of Tristan da Cunha
Project: **Trails and interpretation improvements in the Peaks National Park, St Helena**

**Aim of the project:**
To provide safe access and improved recreational opportunities to the Peaks National Park in a way that minimises disturbance to the fragile cloud forest habitat and its species by improving the trail facilities. It will also provide an educational experience for park users through the development and installation of interpretive signage.

**Location:** St Helena

**Project lead:** Environmental Management Division, Government of St Helena

**Partner:** St Helena Tourism
Project: **Restoration of Peak Dale’s St Helena Gumwood Forest**

**Aim of the project:**
The Gumwood tree is an important habitat for numerous endemic species of flora and fauna, however, it is critically endangered due to invasive species. The project aims to halt the decline of the last gumwood forest on the island through the development of a best practice technique for gumwood forest restoration and the development of local capacity in restoration.

**Location:** St Helena (Peak Dale)

**Project lead:** St Helena Nature Conservation Group
Project: Developing a site-based conservation approach for Sei whales *Balaenoptera borealis* at Berkeley Sound, Falkland Islands

**Location:** Falkland Islands

**Project lead:** Falkland Conservation

**Aim of the project:**
To assess the potential impact of increased commercial marine activity on "Endangered" Sei whales at an already busy shipping harbour at the Falkland Islands, and to advise decision makers on measures that promote sustainable management through best practice and marine spatial planning.
Medium Grant Call 2015

Nº of Proposals per region

Caribbean

Pacific
## Medium Grant Call 2015

Total amount awarded for BEST 2.0 Medium Grants 2015 = € 2,992,300.80

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caribbean</th>
<th>Grant amount (€)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Securing pockets of paradise in the Caribbean; embedding capacity for invasive alien species management in UKOT based organisations</td>
<td>398,540.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Park Aruba</td>
<td>297,984.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration of Ecosystem Services and Coral reef Quality (RESCQ)</td>
<td>333,467.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving the sea turtles of Anguilla: combining community action with scientific evidence to drive legislative change</td>
<td>394,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total amount granted (€)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,424,969.10</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pacific</th>
<th>Grant amount (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity of oceanic pelagic ecosystems for a better conservation and management of outstanding natural areas (BIOPELAGOS)</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Biodiversity Blue Belt</td>
<td>399,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protéger et restaurer la forêt sèche du littoral de Nouvelle-Calédonie</td>
<td>377,434.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sauver de l’extinction les deux oiseaux les plus menacés de Polynésie française</td>
<td>390,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total amount granted (€)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,567,331.70</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Caribbean
Nº of Proposals targeting each territory
Caribbean Territories targeted by MG awarded projects

Number of BEST 2.0 granted projects targeting each Caribbean territory (2015 MG call)
New Projects in the Caribbean Region

(Medium Grants)
To build the capacity of local and national partners in the territories to enable them to address the problem of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) through:

- Training of local staff in IAS management and implementing IAS management activities on-the-ground at 9 sites within 4 Key Biodiversity Areas
- Increasing public awareness of the importance of IAS management
- Promoting regional cooperation and knowledge sharing between the territories
- Developing recommendations and protocols to be embedded into national IAS strategies

**Project:** Securing pockets of paradise in the Caribbean

Embedding capacity for invasive alien species (IAS) management in UKOT based organisations

**Location:** British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands

**Project lead:** Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

**Partners:** NPTVI, NTCI, Montserrat DoE, MNT, National Trust TCI

**Aim of the project:**

To build the capacity of local and national partners in the territories to enable them to address the problem of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) through:

- Training of local staff in IAS management and implementing IAS management activities on-the-ground at 9 sites within 4 Key Biodiversity Areas
- Increasing public awareness of the importance of IAS management
- Promoting regional cooperation and knowledge sharing between the territories
- Developing recommendations and protocols to be embedded into national IAS strategies
Project: **Restoration of Ecosystem Services and Coral reef Quality (RESCQ)**

**Aim of the project:**
To restore *Acropora palmata* (Elkhorn) and *A. cervicornis* (Staghorn) reef zones in each territory through the:
- Establishment of a coral nursery in each territory
- Restoration of one site in each territory
- Development of a practical manual for coral restoration
- Development of management plans and protocols for the nurseries and transplant sites

**Location:** Sint Maarten, St. Eustatius, Saba, Turks and Caicos

**Project lead:** IMARES Wageningen UR

**Partners:** SCF, STENAPA, NFSXM, TCRF

© R. Renoux
Aim of the project:
To protect part of the Aruba’s valuable marine habitat through the establishment of a marine park. This involves:

- Putting in place the necessary legislation for the marine park
- Developing and adopting a management plan
- Establishing a management organisation
- Developing, prioritising and selecting 4 restoration and climate resilience project plans that can be implemented within the new marine park
Project: **Saving the sea turtles of Anguilla**
Combining community action with scientific evidence to drive legislative change

**Aim of the project:**
To contribute to the conservation of sea turtles by increasing knowledge of their ecology and biology, and engaging stakeholders and decision makers in policy development and implementation.

- Collect vital data about sea turtles necessary to inform actions for their management and conservation on and around Anguilla
- Training of local staff on the biology and conservation of sea turtles
- Run a public awareness campaign

**Location:** Anguilla

**Project lead:** Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources

**Partners:** ANT, University of Roehampton
Pacific
N° of Proposals targeting each OCT

- French Polynesia
- New Caledonia
- Pitcairn
- Wallis and Futuna
Pacific Territories targeted by MG awarded projects

Number of BEST 2.0 granted projects targeting each Pacific territory (2015 MG call)

- New Caledonia: 3 projects
  - Multi-territory: 2
  - Single-territory: 1
- Wallis and Futuna: 2 projects
  - Multi-territory: 1
  - Single-territory: 1
- French Polynesia: 2 projects
  - Multi-territory: 1
  - Single-territory: 1
- Pitcairn: 1 project
  - Multi-territory: 1
  - Single-territory: 0
- TOTAL: 9 projects
Can you make a wordle or word cloud on the basis of the combined summary of the projects?
New Projects in the Pacific Region

(Medium Grants)

Pacific: 4 Projects
**Aim of the project:**

To promote the protection and management of marine and coastal ecosystems and biodiversity of the Pacific OCTs through:

- Development of locally appropriate methodologies for the management of large and small Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)
- Elaboration of technical and methodological guidelines on the surveillance and monitoring of MPAs
- Development of good practices in ecotourism, including on the use and management of coastal and submarine educational trails.
- Transfer of best practices between the four OCTs and other Pacific Island Countries
Project: **BIOPELAGOS**

Biodiversity of oceanic pelagic ecosystems for a better conservation and management of outstanding natural areas

**Location:** New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna

**Project lead:** Secretariat of the Pacific Community

**Partner:** IRD

**Aim of the project:**
To increase the capacity of the two territories to make informed decisions on the conservation and management of their oceanic biodiversity and ecosystems by:

- Acquiring new knowledge on oceanic ecosystem conservation and management measures
- Building capacity in the understanding and use of biodiversity data to inform management
- Providing scientific advice to support informed decision making in relation to existing or developing marine protected areas (MPAs)
Project: **Saving the two most threatened birds of French Polynesia from extinction**

**Location:** French Polynesia (*Tahiti and Fatu Hiva*)

**Project lead:** Association Manu Société d'Ornithologie de Polynésie

**Aim of the project:**

To contribute to the essential and urgent steps needed to save the Fatu Hiva Monarch from extinction and continue efforts to increase the numbers of the Tahiti Monarch through:

- Monitoring and control of threats such as rodent and cat populations
- Identification of the required medium-term conservation actions and the development of Species Action Plans
- Raising awareness of the need to conserve monarchs on Tahiti and Fatu Hiva

© Carole Martinez
Aim of the project:

CEN and its partners will protect and restore part of the largest dry forest of the coast of New Caledonia through:

• Protection of a large area of dry forest from damage from grazing
• Development and testing of best practices for forest restoration techniques
• Raising awareness of the need to protect and restore the threatened dry forest ecosystem.

Location: New Caledonia

Project lead: Conservatoire d’espaces naturels de Nouvelle-Calédonie (CEN)
 BEST 2.0

2016 Calls for Proposals

Deadline for Small Grant Concept Notes was **23rd April 2016**

Concept Notes Received

**Caribbean = 27**

**Pacific = 57**

The large response is further evidence of the needs on the ground as well as the relevance and usefulness of the tailored approach enabling local actors to submit projects.

**Important future dates**

- **Deadline for Medium Grant proposals (South Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Polar/Sub-polar regions)**
- **Assessment of Proposals**
- **Assessment of Proposals**
- **Indicative deadline for Small Grant full proposals (Caribbean and Pacific regions)**
- **Finalise Grant Agreements with projects selected by the European Commission**
- **Finalise Grant Agreements with projects selected by the European Commission**
- **3rd BEST 2.0 Steering Committee meeting**
- **Granted projects commence from 1st Jan 2017**