

TRAVEL GRANT for
BLUE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SUMMER TRAINING 2023
OFFERED BY THE SEA AS A GOOD CAUSE – VLIZ PHILANTHROPY

*Call open to PhD students working in the Global South
and active at a marine institute that VLIZ has a cooperation agreement with*



GHENT UNIVERSITY AND PARTNERS

**BLUE SCIENCE
&
TECHNOLOGY
SUMMER
TRAINING**

Join this immersive experience and explore cutting-edge technologies and advancements in the blue economy.

3 - 14 July 2023
Ghent & Ostend, Belgium

Are you passionate about the sea and oceans, and looking for an opportunity to explore marine and maritime science and technology?
Then join our Blue Science and Technology Summer Training!

The Sea as a Good Cause

VLIZ - [Flanders Marine Institute](#) - has become, over the last 20 years, a knowledge institution indispensable to the marine research landscape. What started as an institute focusing on science support, has evolved into a national and international point of contact for marine research. VLIZ initiates and carries out multidisciplinary research and supports marine experts by providing research infrastructure, data, information and knowledge. VLIZ supports the blue economy and reaches out to a broad public. VLIZ further broadens its marine horizons and aims at becoming a world player in the field of marine and coastal research.

Since 2013 VLIZ is formally recognised as a philanthropic institution under the name [The Sea as a Good Cause](#), the only charity in Flanders that focuses on marine research. The Sea as a Good Cause raises funds to support scientists, engineers and students to come up with creative solutions for current problems, to develop innovative techniques and to support sustainable use of our seas and ocean. The VLIZ philanthropy projects generate worldwide new scientific knowledge in support of a sustainable future for the Ocean. Any form of support means a step forward for our scientific knowledge.

Travel grant

Within the framework of [international collaborations](#) between VLIZ and scientific institutes in the 'global south', VLIZ awards travel grants. With these grants, promising students and young or early career researchers in marine sciences can, during a short stay, exchange knowledge and gain practical experience in the labs of several marine research groups or attend, in Flanders, an international conference or a summer school in line with their expertise. The travel grants 'Global South' aim to enhance the so-called 'north-south' and 'south-south' cooperation, to support international mobility and exchanges.

For 2023 The Sea as a Good Cause awards **one travel grant** to a promising student in marine sciences affiliated to the following Marine Research Institutes:

- [Instituto de Fomento Pesquero](#) (IFOP) – HQ Valparaiso, Chile
- [Invemar](#) – Santa Marta, Colombia
- [Centro de Investigaciones de Biología Marina](#) (CIBIMA-FC-UASD) - Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- [Dirección General Intereses Marítimos](#) (DIGEIM) & [Escuela Superior Politecnica del Litoral](#) (ESPOL) – Ecuador
- [Instituto del Mar del Peru \(IMARPE\)](#) - Lima, Peru
- [Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute \(KMFRI\)](#) – Mombasa, Kenya

The students should be enrolled in an MSc or PhD program in marine science and be younger than 35. With these travel grants, we wish to inspire and enable students to exchange experience and gain expertise by participating in the [Blue Science & Technology Summer Training](#) organized by Ghent University from 3 – 14 July 2023 in Flanders.

Blue Science & Technology Summer Training 2023

Sustainable use of ocean resources, referred to as Blue Economy, has to deal with several societal challenges, such as food security, human health and climate change. Coastal areas worldwide are among the most densely populated, but most vulnerable to the impacts of human- and climate-induced changes. Innovative inter- and multidisciplinary solutions are required to mitigate these urgent social challenges while simultaneously providing crucial ecosystem services that (in)directly affect people (e.g. storing carbon, controlling floods, stabilising shorelines, provision of clean air and water, food, fuel, medicines).

The BLUES&T Seasonal School will tackle these major (global) societal challenges from an inter- and multidisciplinary perspective. They combine academic lectures from top researchers from different (inter-) national knowledge institutions active in the several Blue Economy domains, with seminars provided by European and national policy-makers as well as private companies with an established value in their sector, and practical experience. As such, BlueS&T participants gain first hand insight in the process of designing, launching and running offshore businesses by leading experts in the field. Providing both academic as well as a range of soft, transferable skills.

For the detailed outline, objectives, modules and the practical information about the Blue S&T Summer Training: read [Blue Science & Technology Summer Training](#).

Launch of the call	25 May 2023
Submission deadline	7 June 2023
Selection	The selection will be made 9 June 2023, by the VLIZ Scientific Committee and Ghent University.
Required documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - application form (download the form here) - cv of the PhD student - letter of consent of the supervisor affiliated to the student's university or university college (free format) - a copy of your master's degree <u>or</u> prove of your doctoral grant

Budget

The overall budget available for the travel grant is 4.000 EUR and is funded by The Sea as a Good Cause. The fund of maximum 4.000 EUR is used to allow the young marine scientist to participate in the Blue Science & Technology Summer Training 2023. The travel grant includes the travel cost for the flight (lowest fare, economy class), accommodation and subscription fee for the summer school. Bookings of flight, participation fee for the summer school, and accommodation are taken care of by the organizing secretariat of the summer school.

Eligibility and selection criteria

- Master or PhD student in engineering, bio-engineering, geography, or marine biology with, at the time of application younger than 35 and less than 6 years of research experience at predoc level (i.e. since starting PhD research) working coming from one of the marine institutes mentioned above.
- Consent of the university (college) supervisor.
- Selection will be made based on the motivation letter.

Terms & Conditions

- The grant will be awarded to the successful applicant personally.
- The student hands in a one page report about his/her participation at the summer school. In the report the added value of the summer training for the students own research is mentioned. In the report the student informs on how his/her expertise can be linked with the expertise in Flanders, are there any opportunities for future cooperation?
- The student hands in 6 high resolution pictures reflecting the atmosphere at the summer school, including 3 pictures with the student him/herself on it.
- All documents are sent to filantropie@vliz.be by 31st of July 2023 the latest.
- This input will be used for communications about the travel grants awarded by The Sea as a Good Cause.

How to submit an application?

Applicants can apply for the grant by sending **following documents** to filantropie@vliz.be:

- application form
- cv of the PhD student
- letter of consent of the supervisor affiliated to the student's university or university college (free format)
- a copy of your master's degree or prove of your doctoral grant.

Subject of the e-mail: 'Motivation letter - travel grant - Blue S&T 2023'

Submission deadline: No later than 7 June 2023

Where to turn for more information?

Institute

Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)
InnovOcean Campus
Jacobsenstraat 1
8400 Oostende
Belgium

Contact person

Karen Rappé
E karen.rappe@vliz.be
T +32 (0)59 33 61 33
M +32 (0)498 72 60 23