Veta Wade

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# profile

* Blue Economy Consultant & Outreach specialist focused on providing future generation foresight and inclusive insight into public policy and projects in the blue economy. Seeking opportunities to design and implement projects that place innovation, community well-being and climate resilience at their core.
* Key skills include: Resilience, Sustainability, Capacity Development, Leadership, Monitoring & Evaluation, Strategic Communication

# Experience

Independent Consultant - Blue Economy, Climate & Inclusiveness Montserrat

Jan 2020 – Present

Supporting the development of initiatives and approaches in the Blue Economy that ensure economic gains are balanced with long term environmental and social equity objectives, including gender and youth considerations.

* Research Assistant - Blue Economy, Future of Fish
* Sales Development, Pelagic Data Systems
* Conservation & Environmental Advisory Council (2021) - Government of Montserrat

AQUA Montserrat - Consulting Montserrat

Director 2014 – Present

* Since 2015, partnered with stakeholders to design, Montserrat’s Marine Spatial Plan
* Conducted stakeholder surveys / interviews for marine spatial planning on Montserrat.
* Using new media to show that our socio-economic challenges in SIDS can be overcome through innovative approach, to building partnerships, empowering communities and advocating for resilience.
* Created & Facilitating knowledge sharing events, such as Immersion Day 2015 (a marine awareness event including lionfish competition, kids’ educational workshops and discover snorkeling activities), workshops on Coral Reef Identification & Threats, and Hosting of Blue Planet II at own brand, sustainable seafood beach bar.
* Capable in ridge to reef approaches for climate change resilience, biodiversity, conservation, social inclusion, youth engagement, and livelihoods in Caribbean SIDS.
* Support capacity building and community mobilization to ensure successful implementation of project activities across areas of marine awareness, conservation and climate change.
* Support community-based projects that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people’s wellbeing and livelihoods.
* Managed public private partnerships to secure student training in ocean awareness and conservation with support of technical expertise from the Waitt Institute.
* Coordinated project management cycle to ensure efficient implementation of projects.
* Organized meetings, press briefings, media launches, and community events.
* Established and managed relationships with project stakeholders.
* Appeared on TV (documentary Island Diaries) and numerous radio interviews to support public education and global awareness on grassroots conservation.
* Assisting ZSL Fellow on exploring the linkages between the condition of Montastraea Faveolata and the socio-economic condition of reef stakeholders in Montserrat. Focused on research dives, data collection, stakeholder relationships and community engagement.

Fish ‘N Fins Montserrat

Founder & Coordinator 2014-Present

* Developed, coordinated and delivered training projects and programs.
* Hosted marine educational camps for 7-14 year olds, with the Government of Montserrat for 4 consecutive years and 3 years at the Holy Trinity School, Barbuda.
* Engaged with over 1000 students 7-14 years with the sea, via field trips, workshops and holiday camps.
* Exercise quality control over the development of project ideas and concepts.
* Monitor and manage activities, implementation and progress results.
* Provide financial forecasting and budget management.
* Produce monitoring and evaluation reports.
* Develop & Record lessons learned and best practices in project implementation and oversight.
* Monitoring & Evaluation of developments, achievements, challenges and shortcomings.
* Facilitated the production of promotional video to highlight work in marine awareness /educational conservation.
* Facilitating the production of video based on Fish N Fins, for use as an educational resource of study/educational guides for Grades 4-12.
* Build partnerships to secure project relevance and acceptance of deliverables.
* Featured in numerous press , including [Scientific American](https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/9-ocean-conservation-groups-you-dont-know-about-but-should/), [Hakai Magaizine](https://www.hakaimagazine.com/news/montserrat-one-womans-mission-introduce-kids-sea/) & [The Besoz Family Foundation.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=21&v=ebHaFdcaimE)

AQUA Montserrat – Eco Tours Montserrat

Director / Guide

2014- March 2020

* Merged water sports, culture and conservation into exciting educational adventure packages aimed at visitors, volunteers, and local community.
* Veta Wade Named Adventure Ambassador 2017 Montserrat by Caribbean Tourism Organisation
* Responsible for brand strategy and direction.
* Establishing strategic partnerships with companies such as The WAITT Institute & Montserrat National Trust
* Founded Montserrat’s first Kids Ocean Club, FISH 'N FINS Inc.
* Lead various community events e.g. ocean conservation workshop, lion fish hunting competition, and more
* Set up AQUA Blue, all inclusive volunteer holiday program
* Set up and operated sustainable seafood bar and restaurant for one year.
* Developed tools that encourage youth empowerment and community engagement.
* Developed, administered and led training projects and programs.
* Engaged over 50 adults and volunteers ( local & international), age 18-75 in ocean conservation and community outreach.

Division of Tourism & Culture - Government of Montserrat Montserrat

Events Coordinator ( Festivals) 2011- 2015

* Actively gathered information on each project to achieve quality event productions.
* Location scouting.
* Secured resources to help staff make decisions about event possibilities.
* Created and revised room/space layout for each event.
* Assist with negotiations for space contracts and book event space, arrange food and beverage, order supplies and audiovisual equipment, make travel arrangements, order event signs and ensure appropriate décor to meet the quality expectations of the organizations.
* Created new ideas to improve the event planning and implementation process.
* Serve as liaison with vendors on event-related matters.
* Supporting site set up, production to event wrap up.

Bottletop Montserrat

Private Events Assistant (Luxury Eco Fashion) 2009- 2011

* Visual Merchandising Co-ordination.
* Coordinating marketing tasks & projects.
* Updating & maintaining the company's website.
* Finalising, distributing and monitoring press releases.
* Maintaining contact databases.
* Setting up & managing stalls at private events at venues such as 20th Century, Theatre, Nottinghill , to fundraising evenings hosted by wealthy private investment banks such as Adam & Company, London.
* Liaising with venue hosts and event organizers
* Raising awareness of Bottletop charity and associated projects.
* Selling products to customers nationwide.

# Education

University of Nottingham Nottingham, UK

BA Management Studies 2003

MA Tropical Marine Biology University of Essex

2021

PADI Montserrat

Advanced Scuba Diver 2015

Reef Check Montserrat,

Eco Diver 2015

AIDA Antigua & Barbuda

Level 1 Freediver 2016

# BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Blue Halo Steering Committee (Marine Spatial Planning ) 2015 – Present

National Conservation & Environmental Advisory Council 2018 - 2021

(Appointed by cabinet)

# AWARDS

Montserrat Ocean Ambassador 2019

Finalist Global Ocean Awards ( Local Hero Category) 2020