



Supporting Small Island Developing States: Scholarship Program to strengthen capacity in the water sector

Prof. Maria D. Kennedy, PhD



Launch of SIDS project



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands

In **August 2015**, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands** and **UNESCO-IHE** Institute for Water Education jointly launched a **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** to "Strengthen the capacity of Small Island Developing States' in the water sector.



About UNESCO-IHE

UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education is the **largest international graduate water education facility in the world** and is based in Delft, the Netherlands.

The Institute confers fully **accredited MSc degrees**, and **PhD degrees**.

Since 1957 the Institute has provided graduate education to more than **14,500 water professionals** from over **160 countries** from the developing world.





Aim of the Scholarship Program

The scholarship program aims to **strengthen the capacity** of professionals and decision makers in order to **improve water management** in small island developing states (SIDS), to better address **future challenges** such as coping with the effects of climate change.

The beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the project are water professionals who are responsible for key decision making processes in the governments of [SIDS](#).

The fellowship covers the cost of tuition fees, accommodation, and travel.



For me #WaterIs...

... “One of the most essential things in life since not everyone in the interior area of Suriname has full access to (drinking)water. Water is however a special need in everyday life!”

Kathleen Gersie, Suriname



Non ODA SIDS countries

Sint Maarten

Bahamas

Aruba

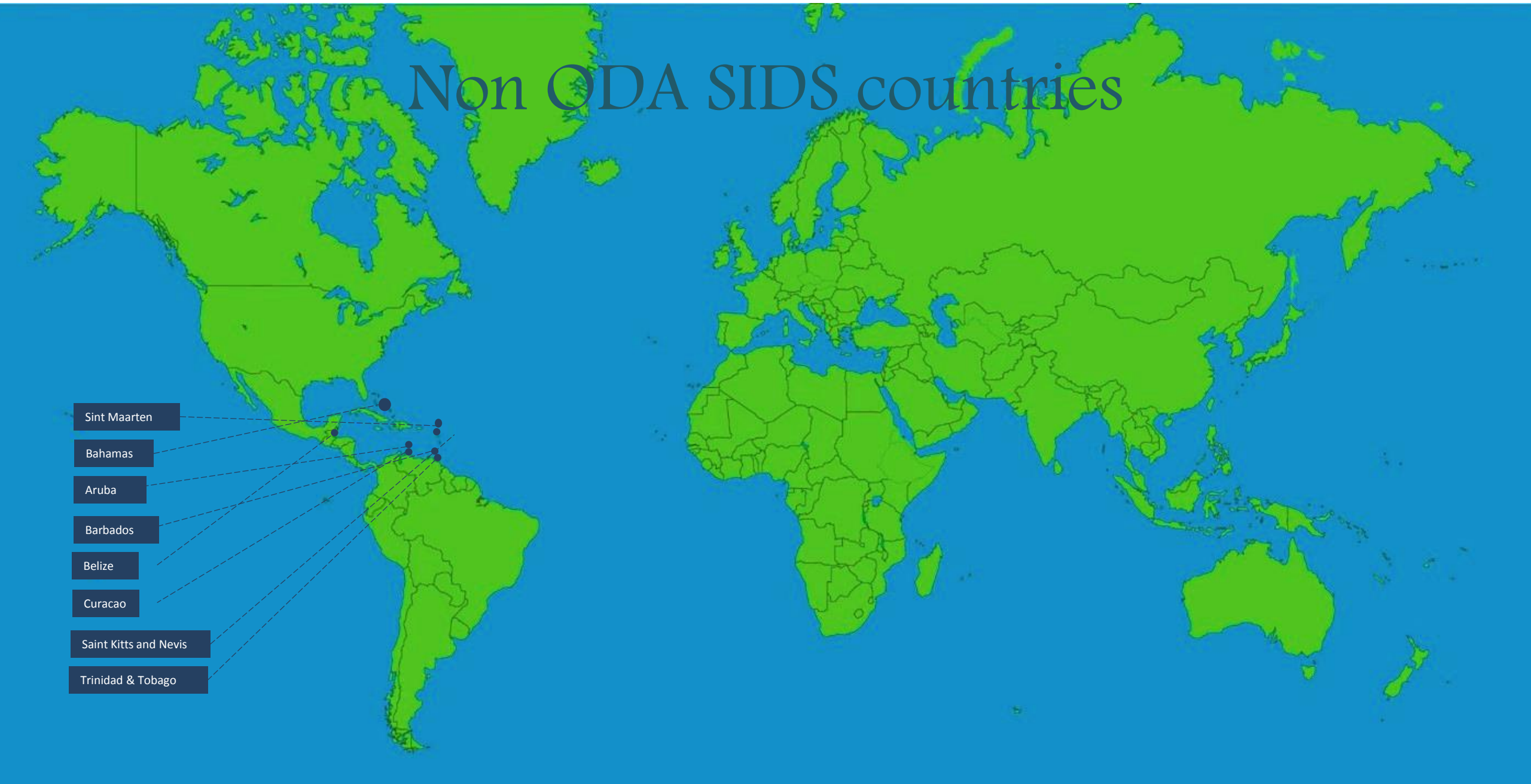
Barbados

Belize

Curacao

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Trinidad & Tobago



ODA SIDS countries



The Scholarship Program

SHORT TERM TRAINING:

Graduate *courses with duration of 3 weeks:*

- ✓ 55 scholarships for SIDS

LONG TERM TRAINING :

MSc degree programs with a *duration of 18 months:*

- ✓ 23 scholarships for SIDS



Admission criteria

A **Bachelor degree** in a field related to the programme.

In principle, candidates should have a minimum of three years of **practical or research experience** since graduation.

All applications are, however, considered on their individual merits.

The **English language** requirements for UNESCO-IHE's educational programmes.

UNESCO-IHE's selection criteria

Academic Qualifications

Gender (females will be prioritised)

Equal distribution among countries and regions

Employer's statement

Developing state of SIDS-country (low Income countries will be prioritised)

When a final list of prospective participants is available, UNESCO-IHE will assign fellowships as equally as possible between the different eligible SIDS.

Results achieved to date?

Since January 2016, 38 professionals from 19 different SIDS have completed short courses at UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education

SIDS	No. of professionals that completed short courses
The AIMS	7
Comoros	1
Maldives	2
Mauritius	3
Seychelles	1
The Caribbean	25
Antigua and Barbuda	2
Belize	1
Cuba	3
Dominican Republic	2
Grenada	2
Guyana	3
Jamaica	4
Saint Lucia	4
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2
Suriname	2
The Pacific	6
Federated States of Micronesia	1
Fiji	1
Papua New Guinea	1
Timor-Leste	2
Vanuatu	1
Grand Total	38

Since October 2015, **5 professionals** are enrolled in MSc degree programs at UNESCO-IHE

SIDS	Number of MSc candidates
The Pacific	
Fiji	1
Samoa	1
The Caribbean	
Guyana	3
Total	5

SIDS still to be targeted...

ODA - SIDS countries
The AIMS
Guinea Bissau
Sao Tome and Principe
The Caribbean
Dominica
Haiti
Montserrat
The Pacific
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Cook Islands
Nauru
Niue
Solomon Islands
Palau
Tonga
Tuvalu

Non-ODA SIDS countries
The Caribbean
Sint Maarten
Bahams
Aruba
Barbados
Belize
Curacao
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Trinidad & Tobago

We need you to apply.....

The deadline for the 2016 MSc Programmes is **1 July 2016**

There are **three deadlines** for the 2016 and 2017 **Short Courses**:

- a. **15 June 2016** for Short Courses starting between 5 September and 31 October 2016
- b. **12 October 2016** for Short Courses starting between 16 January and 24 March 2017
- c. **3 January 2017** for Short Courses starting between 3 April and 21 July 2017

We need you to apply.....

<https://www.unesco-ihe.org/sids-fellowships>

Email: info@unesco-ihe.org

Mission of UNESCO-IHE

The mission of UNESCO-IHE is to contribute to the **education and training of water professionals**, increasing of **knowledge** through research and **strengthening the capacity** of organizations, knowledge centres and institutions.

The core focus of UNESCO-IHE is on projects, organisations and institutes within the water, environment and infrastructure sectors of both **developing countries** and **countries in transition**.

The need for capacity building of water professionals in SIDS

The Report of the United Nations Conference of Sustainable Development reiterated the importance of the Development of Small Island Developing States, as set out in the Barbados Programme of Action, for the overall achievement of the Rio +20 Agenda.

In SIDS, management of natural resources, particularly water, is a key issue: the quality and quantity needs to be preserved for the people, the environment and for the economic prosperity of SIDS, that often relies on tourism for their survival.

The Rio +20 Agenda acknowledges the importance of SIDS for future sustainable development, as set out in the Development of Small Island Developing States -Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.