

Announcing Hire of Manager for Blue Halo Curaçao

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Washington, D.C. (Waitt Institute)

WASHINGTON, D.C. The [Blue Halo Initiative](#) is excited to welcome Gisette Seferina to its ranks as the Waitt Institute expands its work partnering with Caribbean governments to envision, create, and implement sustainable ocean policies.

Gisette joins the team as Site Manager for [Blue Halo Curaçao](#), and has been contracted to work closely with local stakeholders as she manages the project. “We are thrilled to have found someone so highly qualified to fill this position as Blue Halo Site Manager,” says [Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson](#), award winning marine biologist and executive director of the [Waitt Institute](#). Gisette brings to the team her experience in policy, legal affairs, scientific techniques, food security, and communications.

Gisette will spend the next months listening to the community and documenting citizen’s ideas and concerns as part of the Blue Halo Initiative’s highly participatory ocean policy process. The Initiative launched in February, has been in a planning and development phase for the last few months, and scientific research and community engagement are now beginning.

“The island of Curacao stands to benefit greatly from this Initiative. I look forward to working with all the stakeholders to facilitate well-balanced usage of the ocean, one of Curaçao’s most valuable resources,” Gisette said.

“Gisette’s outspokenness, public speaking ability and the fact that she is a well-respected person in the community will be of critical importance dealing with the most difficult ocean stakeholders in Curaçao,” Ing. Faisal Dilrosun, F.A. said.

The project will enable locals to improve the health and productivity of their reefs and fisheries through careful management that supports coastal livelihoods.

“Gisette is no stranger to the legislative arena. Her appointment to this project will expedite the process of building consensus while balancing the diverging interests involving the coast area,” said Drs. Glenn Sulvaran, independent senator to the Curaçao Parliament.

The Blue Halo Initiative is focused on developing and implementing science-based, community-driven coastal policies and practices. It is led by the Waitt Institute, a non-profit organization based in Washington D.C. Its goal: empowering communities to use the ocean without using it up.

For more information or to set up interviews, contact:

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Additional information and resources:

Waitt Institute: <http://www.WaittInstitute.org>

Blue Halo Curaçao: <http://www.Curacao.WaittInstitute.org>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WaittInstitute>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/waittinstitute/>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/waittinstitute>

YouTube: <http://youtube.com/waittinstitute>

Tumblr: <http://waittinstitute.tumblr.com/>

Waitt Institute: The Waitt Institute endeavors to ensure ecologically, economically, and culturally sustainable use of ocean resources. The Institute partners with governments committed to developing and implementing comprehensive, science-based, community-driven solutions for sustainable ocean management. Our goal is to benefit coastal communities while restoring fish populations and habitats. Our approach is to engage stakeholders, provide the tools needed to design locally appropriate policies, facilitate the policymaking process, and build capacity for effective implementation and long-term success.

Blue Halo Initiative: The Blue Halo Initiative is a collaboration between the Waitt Institute and partner governments to envision, create, and implement comprehensive sustainable ocean policies. “Blue Halo” describes the encircling waters of an island where ocean resources are managed for sustainability, profitability, and enjoyment.