PROJECT SUMMARY

Ref No.: MRIC/PCS-24/BG-P01	**Title:** Developing the blue biotechnology sector in Mauritius: use of marine phytoplankton as an innovative model
Local Company: Mauricoast Ltd	
Project Leader	
Dr Devarajen Vaitilingon	Mauricoast Ltd

TECHNICAL ABSTRACT

Microalgae are one of the foods of the future, as they are a source of high-quality protein and include an array of bioactive molecules with potential to act against the modern epidemics of obesity and diabetes while decisively contributing to a sustainable world through carbon dioxide fixation and the minimization of agricultural land use. In addition, microalgae form a very important component of live feed production system in aquaculture hatcheries due to their high content in valuable biochemical products and nutrients. Recognising the value of microalgae and their potential commercial application locally, regionally and internationally, Mauricoast Ltd is looking to mass cultivate them at ambient conditions using outdoor culture systems. The company is looking to set up the first photobioreactors for marine microalgal production in Mauritius and as such contribute to the development of the blue biotechnology sector in the country.

Key Words: Phytoplankton, Blue biotechnology, Photobioreactor, Aquaculture, Nutraceuticals