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BSc. Biology, BSc. Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Biology, PhD. Candidate Ecology

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**Universidade de São Tomé e Príncipe (UPSTP)**

**Instituto Gulberkian de Ciências (IGC)**

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**EDUCATION/ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

**2014 – 2018** PhD Candidate at the Graduate Program Science for Development (PGCD), a program under coordination of the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC), targeted to Portuguese-speaking students from African countries and East Timor. The first eight months have been spent taking classes with Portuguese and Brazilian professors at Cabo Verde and the last 40 months are being set at the Graduate Program in Ecology of the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brasil.  
(<http://pages.igc.gulbenkian.pt/pgcd/en/about/pgcd>, [pgcd@igc.pt](mailto:pgcd@igc.pt)).

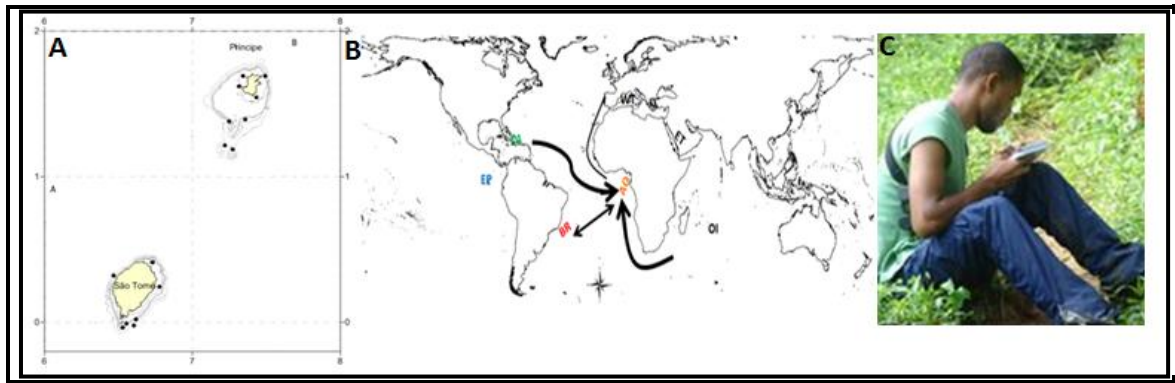
**2008 – 2012** B.Sc in Biology, Instituto Superior Politécnico de São Tomé e Príncipe.

**2001 – 2006** B.Sc in Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Biology, Instituto Superior Politécnico de São Tomé e Príncipe

**CURRENT WORK**

I am a PhD candidate at the Graduate Program Science for Development (PGCD) and the Graduate Program in Ecology of the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil. My main research topics are community ecology, biogeography/evolution and conservation, with focus on ecological and evolutionary aspects of the reef fish assemblage from the center of world: São Tomé e Príncipe Islands.

I intend to test the hypothesis that reef fish assemblages of São Tomé and Príncipe have been influenced by different factors at different time scales: 1) on evolutionary scale, dispersal from the Brazilian, the Caribbean, the Macaronesia and the Indian biogeographic regions seems to play a major role in explaining diversity patterns with lower effects of speciation (Figure-1B); 2) on ecological scale, environmental factors such as depth, structural complexity, benthic community and hydrodynamics exposure should be the most important for explaining reef fish diversity (Figure-1B); 3) whereas at a more recent time scale (decades to years) fishing pressure due to a growing human population should influence especially fish biomass and the mean size of large species.



*Figure 1- A – Islands of São Tomé and Príncipe, B – The big challenge is to look for phylogenetic records of sister species of reef fish from the Gulf of Guinea in order to understand how colonization processes (from Caribbean, South America, and Indo-Pacific regions) determined local fauna of STP islands. C – This is me analyzing field data.*

## FIELD EXPERIENCE/POSITIONS

- 2013 – 2014** Member of the Editorial Commission of the ISP magazine
- 2010 – 2014** Assistant Biology lecturer at the Department of Natural Sciences and Biology, Instituto Superior Politécnico de São Tomé e Príncipe (ISP) that is currently the Universidade de São Tomé e Príncipe.
- 2010 – 2014** Co-supervisor of research projects in Ornithology for Biology undergrad students at the Instituto Superior Politécnico de São Tomé e Príncipe (ISP)
- 2007 – 2014** Fieldwork coordinator of the Associação de Biólogos de São Tomé e Príncipe (ABS)
- 2005 – 2014** Mathematics teacher at the Centro Politécnico de São Tomé e Príncipe

## PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

After concluding my PhD, I shall be integrated as a lecturer at the Universidade de São Tomé e Príncipe where I intend to create a laboratory focused on investigating and conserving the marine biodiversity of the Gulf of Guinea. One of my PhD program aims is to provide high quality formation of Portuguese-speaking researchers in developing countries to foster future scientific research and diminish inequalities. I intend on achieving these experience, knowledge and political influence sufficient to conduct serious research, helping to form human resources and to conserve my country's reefs and fish stocks.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Maia, H. A., Gascoigne, A. R., Deus, D. & Lima, R., 2014.** Notes on the breeding ecology and conservation of the Critically Endangered Dwarf Olive Ibis *Bostrychia bocagei*. Bull ABC, 21(Breeding ecology and conservation of Dwarf Olive Ibis), pp. 202-205.

**Maia, H. A., & Camunha A., 2009.** The occurrence of São Tomé Short-tail *Amaurocichla bocagei* and Newton's Fiscal *Lanius newtoni* in the montane forests of São Tomé. Bull ABC 4-091117.

**Rodriguês, A. & Maia, H. A.,** Censo de *Bostrychia bocagei*, *Lanius newtoni* e *Neospiza concolor* em Monte Marmo/Ribeira Peixe/Emolve. ISP em revista. Janeiro de 2010, serie numero 1.

**Maia, H. A.,** Distribuição e ecologia de *Bostrychia bocagei* em Monte Carmo. Thesis for B.Sc. Biology, Instituto Superior Politecnico de São Tomé e Príncipe. 2011.

## PUBLICATIONS ONLINE

<http://www.wildlifeextra.com/go/news/dwarf-olive-ibis.html#>

## FIELD EXPERIENCE

I have been sampling marine environments and bird fauna mainly in Atlantic region (Figure 2).

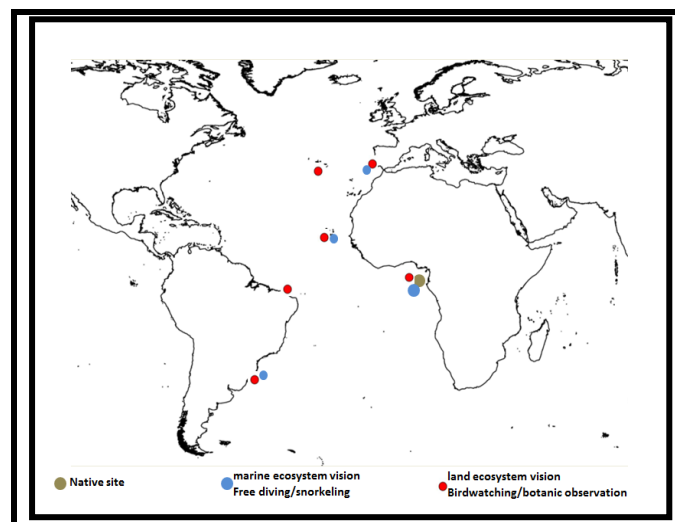


Figure 2- Map of the West Atlantic indicating my botanical sampling, birdwatching and diving/snorkeling experiences.