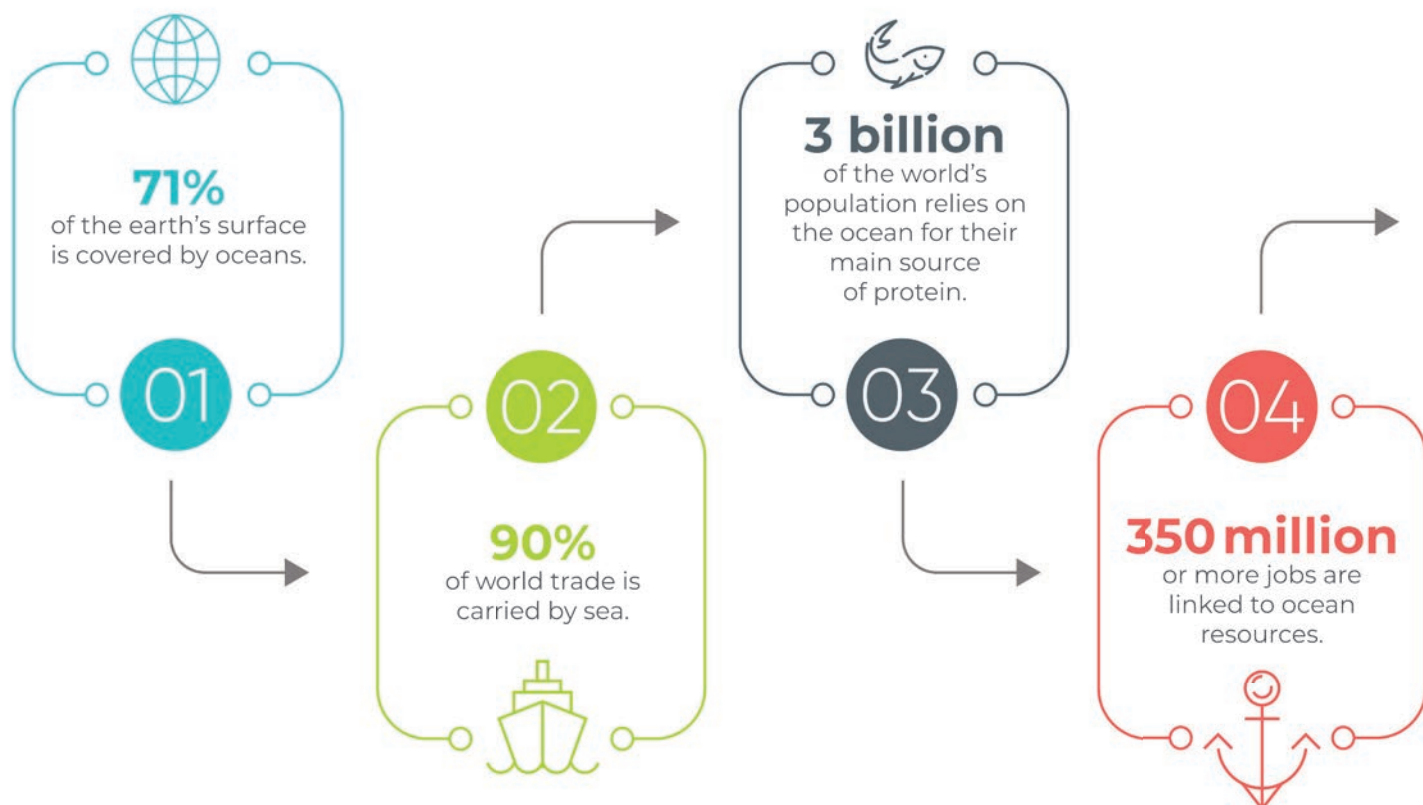


EVER THOUGHT ABOUT TAKING YOUR CAREER AMBITIONS INTO THE OCEANS?



MODDY PIKISO

AGE 25

FROM Cape Town, Western Cape

STUDYING Diploma in Marine Science (third year)

CAREER AMBITION To work as a physical oceanographer

Moddy is among the first group of recipients in 2019 of the Sindiswa Carol 'Tu' Nhlumayo Bursary launched by SAIMI to support young black women in pursuing maritime studies.

Growing up in Cape Town, Moddy says she was "that kid" on school outings to the beach who wanted to know more.

"I was captivated by the sea," she says. "I wanted to know what's out there, what's underneath, how big is it, how does it all work?"

After matriculating at Cape Town High School, Moddy took a gap year and did volunteer work to help her decide her future direction.

"I thought I would end up doing art or media, but the gap year helped me realise that I had always been good at science, I had a keen interest in it, and I had this love for the ocean. So I combined my two passions and applied for marine science," she said.

The main subjects of her diploma are marine science – studying the chemistry, physics, biology and geology of the oceans (oceanography); and marine biology, the scientific study of all marine life and its interaction with the ocean environment.

Moddy would like to explore as much of the marine sciences field as she can and would like to enrol for postgraduate studies after her diploma so that she can specialise in physical oceanography, studying the currents, tides and movements of the ocean and their relationship with climate, weather and global warming.