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Umberto working at sea

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I completed an internship as a marine scientist at Benthic Solutions Limited. I decided to use the opportunity of a PINES internship as a way to make the company know me and my expertise with the hope of an eventual permanent position. I performed both lab- and field-based operations for the collection and the analysis of samples and data. I was involved in three fieldwork campaigns (two in Scotland and one in Senegal) where I learned how to take and preserve correctly seabed and seawater samples using an array of different means (ROV, grabs, cores). I was also trained to process the data in order to obtain relevant data to be used for the final reports. I was also involved in the planning, mobilisation and demobilisation of the equipment for several of these campaigns.

The internship was really useful for me because it gave me the opportunity to work with the seabed, given that I have worked only in the water column in my previous career. It also worked as an effective introduction to the mind-set and the know-how of commercial science as opposed to my previous experiences in academic science. The internship has showed me that I can work in this environment and has proved to the company that I have the skills needed to work with them. This has led to the offer of a permanent position in the company.

