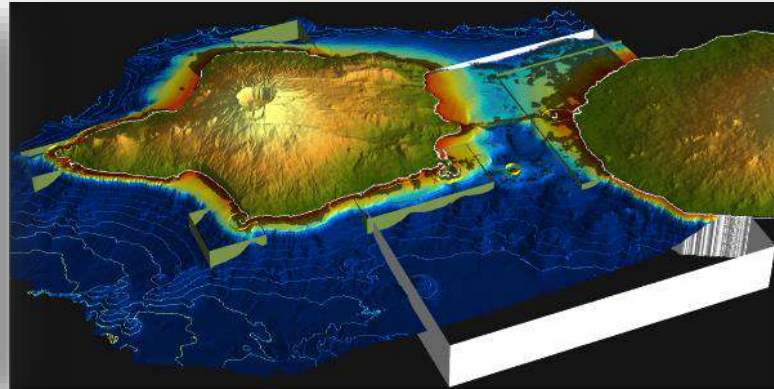


Marine Protected Areas in the Azores: a case study



The Economic Benefits of Marine Protected Areas
06.03.2019, 16:00 – 18:00
European Parliament Brussels, ASP 5G1



Filipe Mora Porteiro
Regional Directorate of Sea Affairs
Secretary of Sea, Science and Technology
Regional Government of the Azores



Azores Marine Conservation Policy

Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Natura 2000 (Bird & Habitat Directives)

Water Framework Directive

OSPAR

Azores legal framework for conservation and biodiversity protection



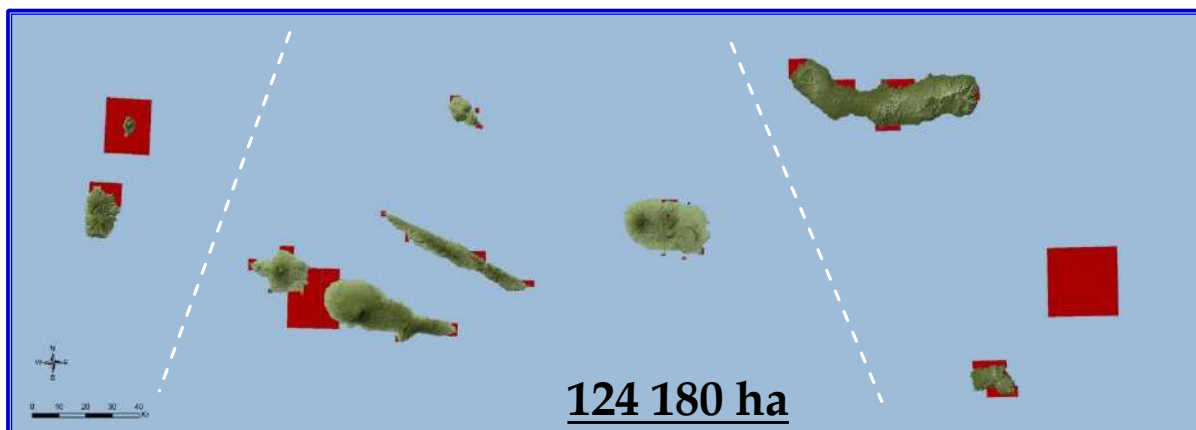
ODS 14 | Target: 14.5: 10% MPA



Directive 2008/56/EC - MSFD

The Azores Marine Protected Areas Network

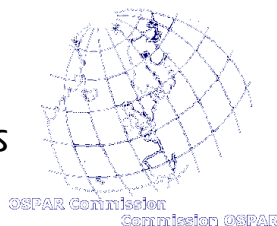
Territorial Sea: 9 Natural Island Parks



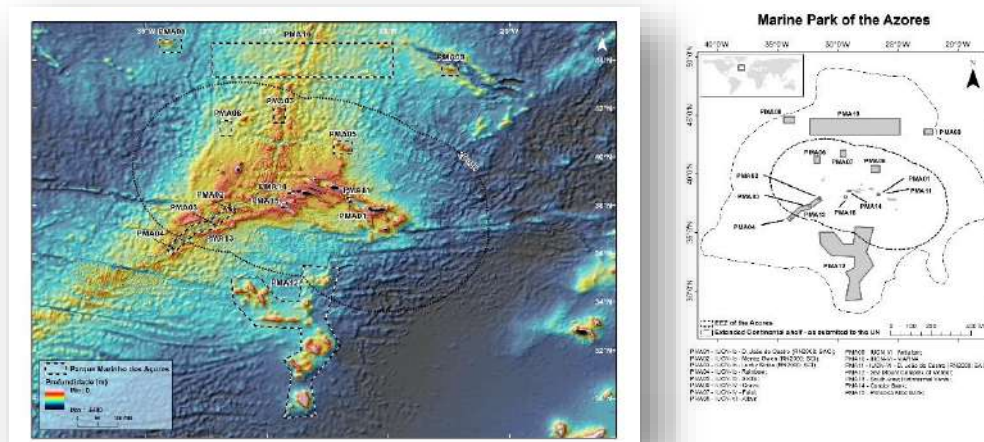
5 natural reserves (IUCN I); 29 areas for resource management (IUCN VI); 1 area for habitats and species management

3 OSPAR MPA : Islands Natural Parks

7 OSPAR MPA Marine Park of the Azores



EEZ and ECS - Marine Park of the Azores



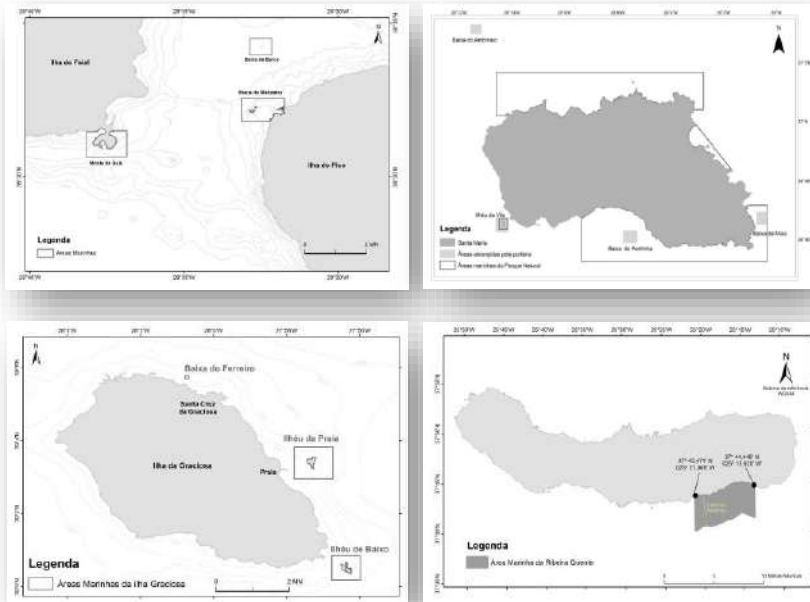
5 natural reserves (IUCN I); 4 areas for resource management (IUCN VI); 6 area for habitats and species management



19 SIC marine + 15 ZPE

Fisheries Spatial Protection Measures (SPM)

Fisheries restriction areas



Santa Maria, Faial, Pico, Graciosa; São Miguel

Coastal harvest management areas

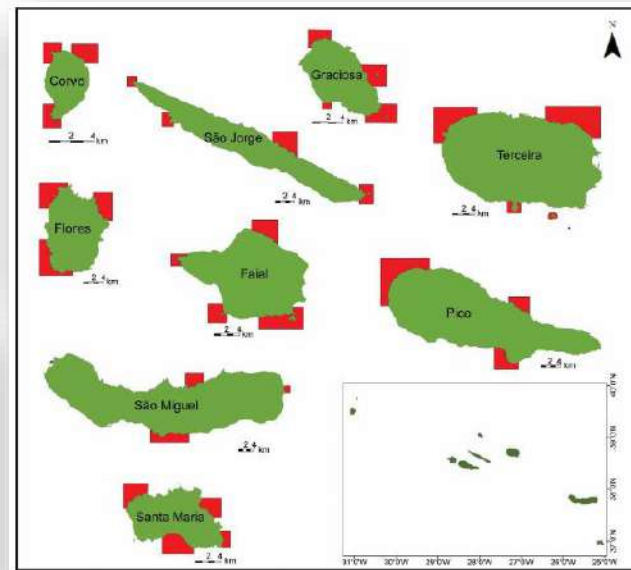
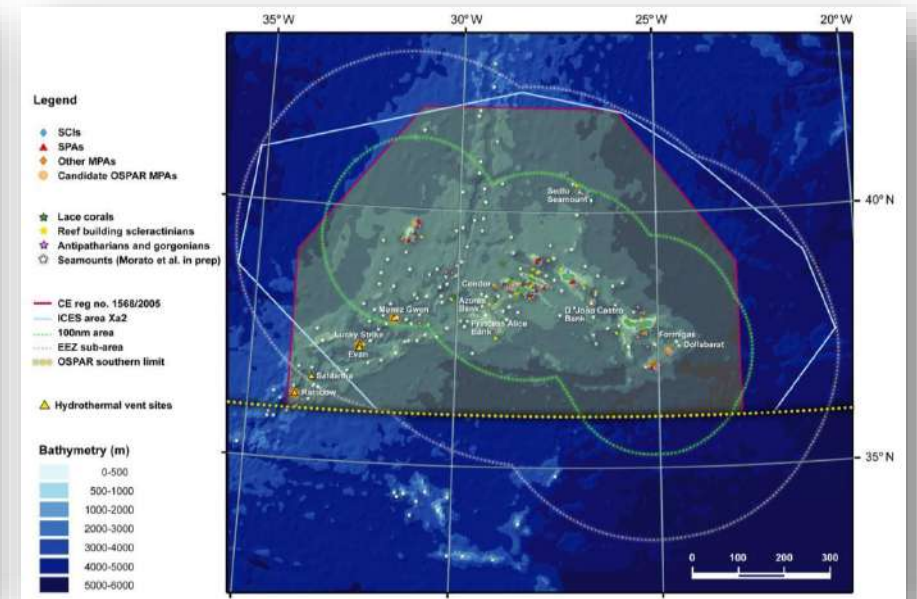


Figura 2.6: Áreas de Reserva para a Gestão de Capturas nos Açores.

Bottom trawl ban area



EC Regulation No. 1568/2005

Consensus between fishermen, maritime touristic operators, local and regional authorities, NGO

De facto refuges: Archeological Underwater Parks; Bathing Zones

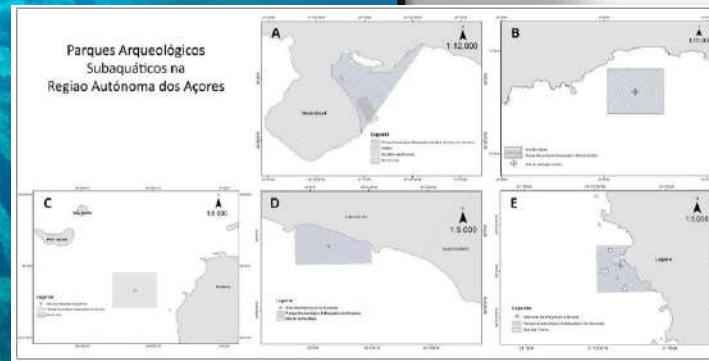


Figura 2.5: Parques Arqueológicos: A) Baía de Angra, Terceira, B) Ponta da Moura, São Miguel, C) Ponta da Moura, Pico, D) Ponta da Moura, Santa Maria, e) Ponta da Moura, Flores.



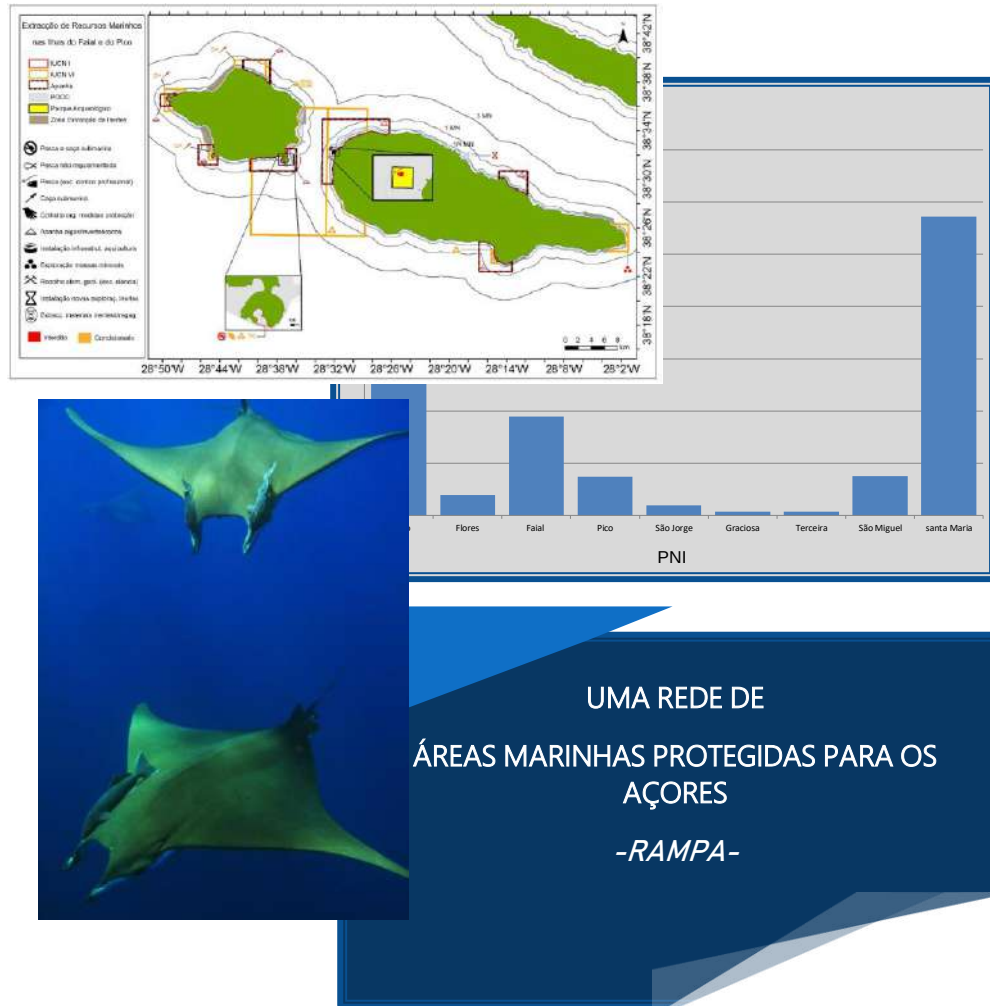
Bathing zones



- Identification, characterization e classification;
- Monitoring and verification of water quality;
- Surveillance and security;
- Support infrastrucutres improvement
- Blue Flag; Praias acessíveis; etc.

Autarquias; Autoridade Marítima Nacional

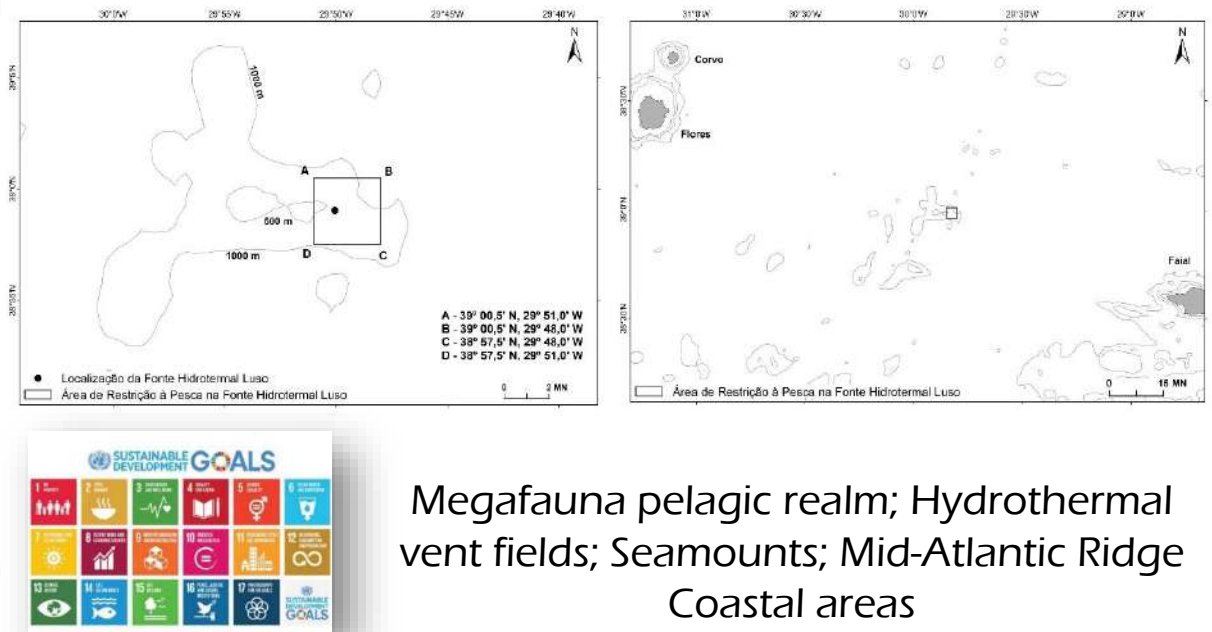
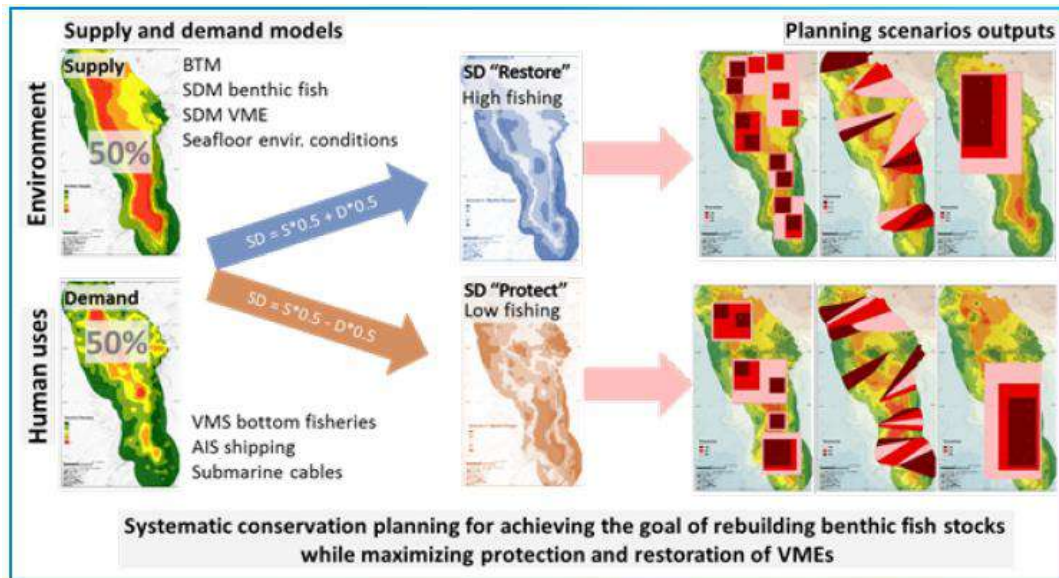
An X-Ray of Azores MPA Network: problems identified



- Complexity and overlap of legal frameworks (spatial): biodiversity and conservation; fisheries; spatial planning; archaeological heritage; EU legal instruments; etc..
- Inconsistencies among Islands Natural Park;
- Lack of clarification of regulations;
- No effective management plans;
- Insufficient monitoring programs (e.g. socio-economics activities);
- Lack of robust studies on benefits (conservation; socio-economic; ecosystems services);
- Need stronger involvement of stakeholders;
- Need surveillance and enforcement.

Azores MPA network: work in progress

Classified 15 % of the EEZ as well managed MPA by 2020



MPA Azores: Territorial Sea: 5,3 %; EEZ: 3,7 %; ECS: 6,9 %

Azores MPA network: work in progress

Promote a multi-purpose MPA network to conservation of biodiversity and sustainable management of fisheries and other human activities

- Review the **legal framework**;
- Designation of **new MPA**;
- Development of **management plans**;
- Implementation of **management mechanisms**;
- Involvement of **stakeholders**;
- Improve **monitoring programs** (biodiversity, commercial resources, socio-economics)
- **Communication** of processes and measures;
- Improve **surveillance** effort (AMN, GNR, IRP).



Projects : PEAMA (BALA); Mystic Seas I, II; PLASMAR; etc.

Classified 15 % of the EEZ as well managed MPA by 2020

BLUE AZORES

1. **BLUE NATURAL CAPITAL**
(EXPEDITION 2018; VALUATION OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES; CO-MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES; WORKSHOPS MARINE CONSERVATION; PILOT PROGRAM FOR BLUE BIOTECHNOLOGY);
2. **OCEAN LITERACY ACTIONS** (PILOT FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN; PILOT FOR FISHERS);
3. **BLUE NETWORK ACTIONS**
(CAMPAIGN FOR OCEAN CONSERVATION AND ADVOCACY)



LIFE Integrated Project Environment (nature conservation)

LIFE-IP AZORES NATURA (LIFE 17 IPE/PT010): Active protection and integrated management of Natura 2000 in the Azores (terrestrial and marine)



- Filling knowledge gaps;
- Improve installed capacity (human, material, financial resources);
- Implementation PAF - Natura 2000 network of protected areas);
- Improve conservation status of habitat and species protected under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives;
- Raise local awareness of conservation value of Natura 2000;
- Economic potential of sustainable development.

9 years - €19 M (€ 5 M marine) - €22.4 M complementary funding (EMMF; H2020 Intereg, Portuguese national funds and the private sector).



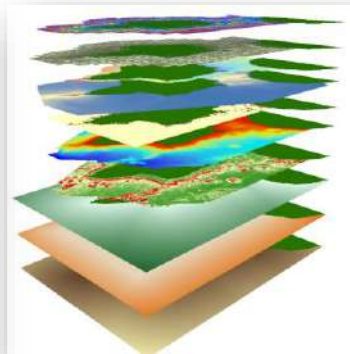
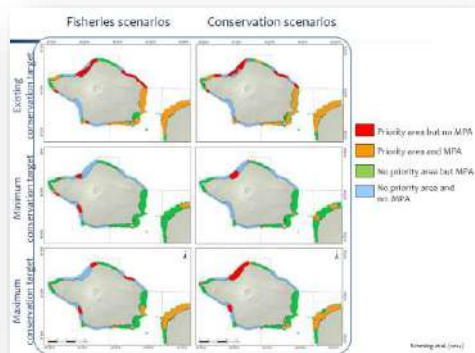
Scientific data, knowledge and monitoring for conservation

Environment + marine resources + human uses
Ecosystem-based management



Marine Science and Technology

Biodiversity; Biology and ecology; mapping; spatial distribution; population dynamics and modeling; genetic of populations; Interaction with human activities; fisheries; ecotoxicology; conservation; robotics; economy; sociology; etc.



New knowledge (adaptive management).



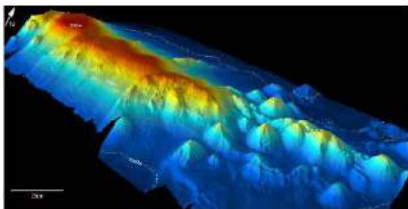
Maritime Spatial Planning



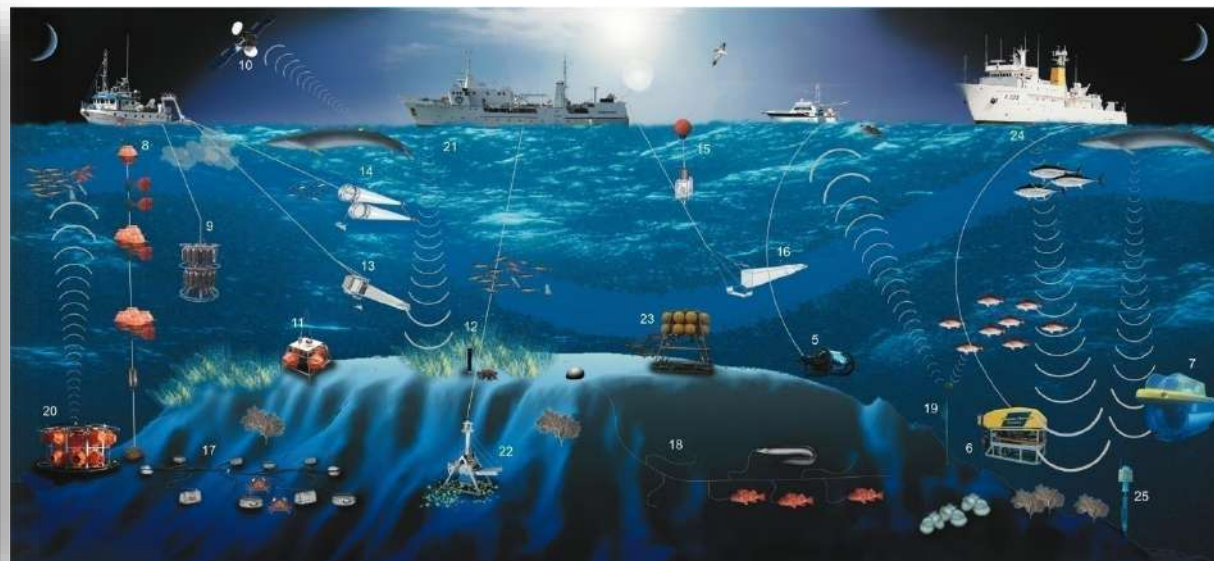
- Promoting sustainable blue development
- Promoting effective occupation of maritime territory;
- Mitigation of uses and conflicts;
- Involvement of stakeholders;
- Ensure environmental and socio-economic sustainability of marine and maritime activities.



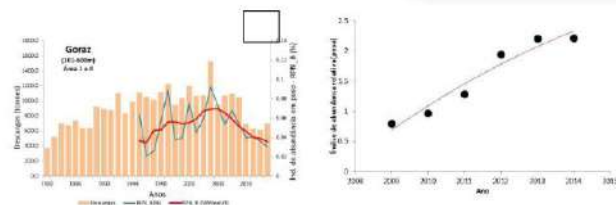
Azores marine Geographic Information System - Geoportal



Condor Bank: scientific research; conservation of VME; restoration of fisheries resources



Varição dos índices de abundância (CPUE-B)



Fishermen, researchers, maritime touristic operators, NGO, administration



Remote surveillance of selected MPA

Real time video cameras:

- Ilhéus das Formigas;
- Santa Maria –Baixa da Maia;
Baixa da Pedrinha;
- Graciosa –Carapacho;



Increased compliance – no transgressions detected

Benefits for Maritime Tourism

CERTIFICADO
AÇORES
PELA NATUREZA



+ 50.000 clients/year; 60 M€ / year (direte e indiret)

Observação de cetáceos e de vida marinha;

Mergulho: costeiro; oceânico; arqueológico; media.

Passeios Turísticos;

Pesca recreativa; etc.

Mergulho com tubarões

Observação de aves marinhas

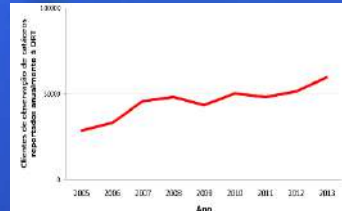
latismo

Observação de cetáceos

Cultura baleeira

Mergulho costeiro

Big Game Fishing



REEF



Direção Regional da Turismo

Nuno Sá
wildlife photography



Obrigado



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Direção Regional dos Assuntos do Mar
Secretaria Regional do Mar, Ciência e Tecnologia