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الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

André Ribeiro

Head of International Relations and Cooperation Unit
Directorate-General for Maritime Policy



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***Annual reporting by Ministerial priority:
Progress on the Roadmap for the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial
Declaration on SBE – Portugal***

Major updates on progress at national level on the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on SBE

- Launching of the ***Offshore Renewable Energy Allocation Plan (PAER)***, in the first quarter of 2025.
- Creation of the ***Technological Free Zone (ZLT) for ocean-based or ocean-located renewable energy off the coast of Viana do Castelo***, in the first quarter of 2025.
- Launching of the ***Portos 5+ - National Strategy for Commercial Ports of the Mainland 2025-2030***, in the 2nd semester of 2025.



Initiatives at national (and sub-national) level within the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on SBE

Ministerial Declaration Priorities	Initiatives at national/sub-national level	
Food from sea: fisheries and aquaculture	• Strategic Plan for Aquaculture 2021-2030 • Ocean Acification Action Plan [ongoing – launched at UNOC3]	NATIONAL OCEAN STRATEGY 2021-2030
Sustainable, climate-neutral and zero-pollution transport and ports	• Portos 5+ - National Strategy for Commercial Ports of the Mainland 2025-2030 • National Energy and Climate Plan 2030 (PNEC 2030) [updated November 2024]	
Coastal and Maritime Tourism	• Tourism Strategy 2027 • National Action Plan on Marine Litter 2024–2028 (PALM2028) • Ocean Acification Action Plan [ongoing]	
Marine Renewable Energies	• Offshore Renewable Energy Allocation Plan (PAER) • Technological Free Zone (ZLT) for ocean-based or ocean-located renewable energy off the coast of Viana do Castelo • National Energy and Climate Plan 2030 (PNEC 2030) [updated November 2024]	
Interactions between marine litter and the blue economy	• National Action Plan on Marine Litter 2024–2028 (PALM2028) • Ocean Acification Action Plan [ongoing]	
Maritime safety and security of blue economy activities	• Maritime Control Centre (CMAR) • Allocation Plan for the Management of Dredged Material at the Sea (PAID) • Portos 5+ - National Strategy for Commercial Ports of the Mainland 2025-2030	
Marine research and innovation, skills, careers and employment	• Blue Economy Observatory • SEAMInd - Integrated System of Indicators [Ongoing] • The Portuguese Blue Economy Cluster Forum Oceano • Ocean Acification Action Plan [ongoing] • Ocean Account for Marine Ecosystems/Deep Sea Marine Protected Areas (in development – launched at UNOC3)	
Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management	• Adoption of Directive 2014/89/EU on MSP with transposition into national law (Azores Autonomous region ongoing) • Offshore Renewable Energy Allocation Plan (PAER) • Technological Free Zone (ZLT) for ocean-based or ocean-located renewable energy off the coast of Viana do Castelo • Allocation Plan for the Management of Dredged Material at the Sea (PAID)	



Projects at national (and sub-national) level within the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on SBE

Ministerial Declaration Priorities	Projects at national/sub-national level
Food from sea: fisheries and aquaculture	• EEA Grants 2014-2021 - Blue Growth Programme 24 projects approved Investment = 17,9 MEUR; Grant = 12,5MEUR • Blue Hubs of Olhão, Peniche and Aveiro
Sustainable, climate-neutral and zero-pollution transport and ports	• PT Recovery and Resilience Plan 50MEUR of the PRR are envisaged to be channelled to support the decarbonization of the Maritime Transportation sector. • Roteiro Naval Carbono Zero RNCZ will define a clear decarbonization trajectory and specific targets for the 2025-2050 period, regarding the Naval Construction, Repair and Maintenance sector.
Coastal and Maritime Tourism	• Nautical Stations of Portugal 45 in total A Nautical Station is a nautical tourism supply network, organized from the integrated valorisation of the nautical resources present in a territory, which includes the supply of accommodation, catering, nautical activities and other relevant activities and services.
Marine Renewable Energies	• CorPower C4 Wave Energy device, under development at 4km offshore in northern PT. • WindFloat Atlantic Offshore Wind Energy This project is the first semi-submersible wind farm in the world, installed in northern Portugal, in 2020, with 25 megawatts (MW).
Interactions between marine litter and the blue economy	• Azores EcoBlue Aims to use and develop new and innovative raw materials, transforming the marine litter resulting from this activity, which is currently little or not valued in this Region, into a “supplier” market of excellence. • Fisheries for a Sea Without Litter
Maritime safety and security of blue economy activities	• Atlantic Defense Operations Center and Naval Platform Total project amount: 147,5 MEUR
Marine research and innovation, skills, careers and employment	• Inovamar Agenda Blue Bioeconomy Pact This Pact grew out of an application to mobilising agendas for business innovation, envisaged in the Recovery and Resilience Plan, with an investment of 133MEUR, in 2025. The consortium is made up of 83 Portuguese organisations, of which 53 are businesses of various sizes and in different sectors. • New equipment for the Research Vessel Mário Ruivo Acquisition and Fitting of a Dynamic Positioning Vessel Equipped with Marine Surveying Equipment • Training Simulator at Escola Superior Náutica Infante D. Henrique Aims to acquire a set of state-of-the-art marine simulators and improve training in maritime education and training of Human Resources. • Blue School Hub Part of the Hub Azul network, which aims to create and foster a genuine network of infrastructure and skills for the blue economy. • EEA Grants 2014-2021 - Blue Growth Programme Research - 8 projects approved Investment = 9,7 MEUR; Grant = 9,4MEUR Education and Training - 21 projects approved Investment = 5,7 MEUR; Grant = 5,2MEUR
Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management	• Programme PT02 - Integrated Marine and Coastal Waters Management It focus exclusively on marine and coastal areas, and has the main objective to achieve good environmental status of marine and coastal waters in Europe, according to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

Open questions

1 – Related to the priority on Governance and the future of sea basin strategies in the Mediterranean region: **Is there any overarching blue economy strategy in your country? Or any process initiated leading to the elaboration of such a strategy?**

Yes. The National Ocean Strategy, adopted in 2021 and which will run until 2030, with 10 Strategic Goals. The Strategy has also an Action Plan to accomplish said Strategic Goals, with a total of 185 measures, built on feedback and direct involvement of a diverse group of stakeholders.
<https://www.dgpm.mm.gov.pt/enm-21-30>

2 – Related to the priority on Sustainable investments in the blue economy: **is there any national funding/financing scheme related to the blue economy (or any of its sectors) promoted by your country? If yes, please specify.**

Yes. Fundo Azul (Blue Fund) and Fundo Ambiental (Environmental Fund).

3 - **What are the main challenges, issues or bottlenecks for the implementation of the SBE Ministerial Declaration in your country?**

Although there are available national and communitary solutions when it comes to financial mechanisms, the growing need of investing in blue sectors, caused by global emerging challenges as food sustainability and shortage of other resources on land, jointly with the growing interest of society in new, sustainable options, underlines the pressure to have bigger and more accessible funding solutions. Lack of funding means less capacity-building, which slows and compromises the building of blue economies as a whole.