



# MARSP

Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning

## Macaronesian Bulletin of *Maritime Spatial Planning*



### Coordinated by



### Partners



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# Editorial

## The project has begun!

MarSP project aims are to develop concrete actions for the State-Members, Portugal, and Spain, build the necessary capacities and tools to apply the Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Directive in the Macaronesian region, including mechanisms for cross-border cooperation. This project aims to propose Maritime Spatial Planning schemes in the three Outermost Regions of the Macaronesia - Azores, Ma-

deira and Canary Islands, in line with the EU Directive on MSP (2014/89/EU), according to an Ecosystem Based Approach.

MarSP, which has a total budget of €2.2 Million, 80% co-funded by the European Commission by European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, will be executed from January 2018 to December 2019. It is coordinated by the Regional Fund for Science and Technology of Regional Government of the Azores and as partners counts with the Regional Directorate of Sea Affairs of the Regional Government of the Azores; the Regional Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of the Regional Government of Madeira; the Directorate General of Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services of the Portuguese Ministry of the Sea; the Directorate-General for Maritime Policy of the Portuguese Ministry of the Sea; the Spanish Institute of Oceanography; the University of Seville; University of Cádiz; and the University of Las Palmas of Gran Canary.



GUIDE



SEA

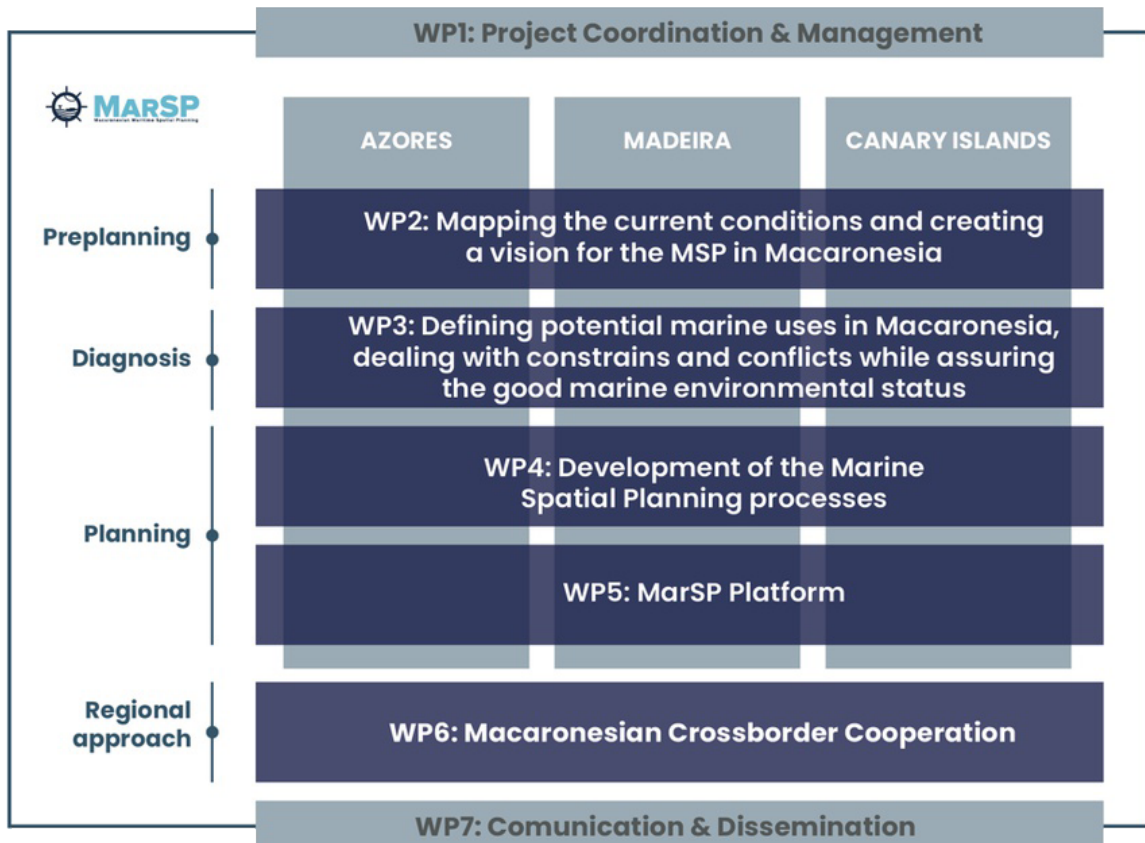


ACTIVITIES



Discover the general methodology and Working Packages of MarSP

The MarSP project is composed by 7 different working packages led by different organizations. Discover [here](#) what is the role of each of them and how they relate to achieve the objectives of the project.





# MSP News

## The Macaronesian archipelagos met to coordinate common actions, including Blue Growth.

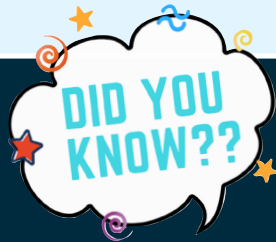


Source: 20minutos digital newspaper.

The past 1st of January took place the II Summit Meeting of the Archipelagos of the Macaronesia, that was pending since 2012, in the Portuguese island of San Miguel, Azores. In this meeting, politicians from all the archipelagos came together to discuss common interests for the Macaronesia.

Among the conclusions, some can be highlighted for their interest for the MSP processes such as: the creation of an economic cluster for the Blue Growth in the Macaronesia, an Observatory for Climate Change in the Macaronesia and the promotion of synergies with the European initiative "Clean Energy for Islands". The Summit Meeting have been programmed every two years, being the Canary Islands the next hosting place, following by Madeira and Cabo Verde.

More info: [Azores](#), [Madeira](#), [Canary Islands](#).



The marine surface of Azores and Madeira Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) represents around the 80 % of the total EEZ of Portugal; compared to the almost 24 % that represents the EEZ of Canary Islands from the total Spanish EEZ surface? ([Read more](#))

In other words: approximately only 3,5 % of the Portuguese territory is responsible for the 80 % of the country EEZ and, on the other hand, only the 1,5 % of the Spanish territory makes up the 24 % of the country EEZ? ([Read more](#))

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is spreading across the globe as a new way of achieving sustainable development of our world's seas and oceans but, what does it actually mean and how does it work?

Find it out in the following video ([click here or in the image to play](#))





# Key concepts to understand each other

According to the MSP Programme of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the UNESCO and the European Commission, the following terms can be defined as:

## Marine (or maritime) spatial planning (MSP):

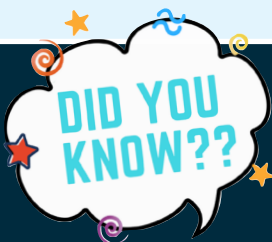
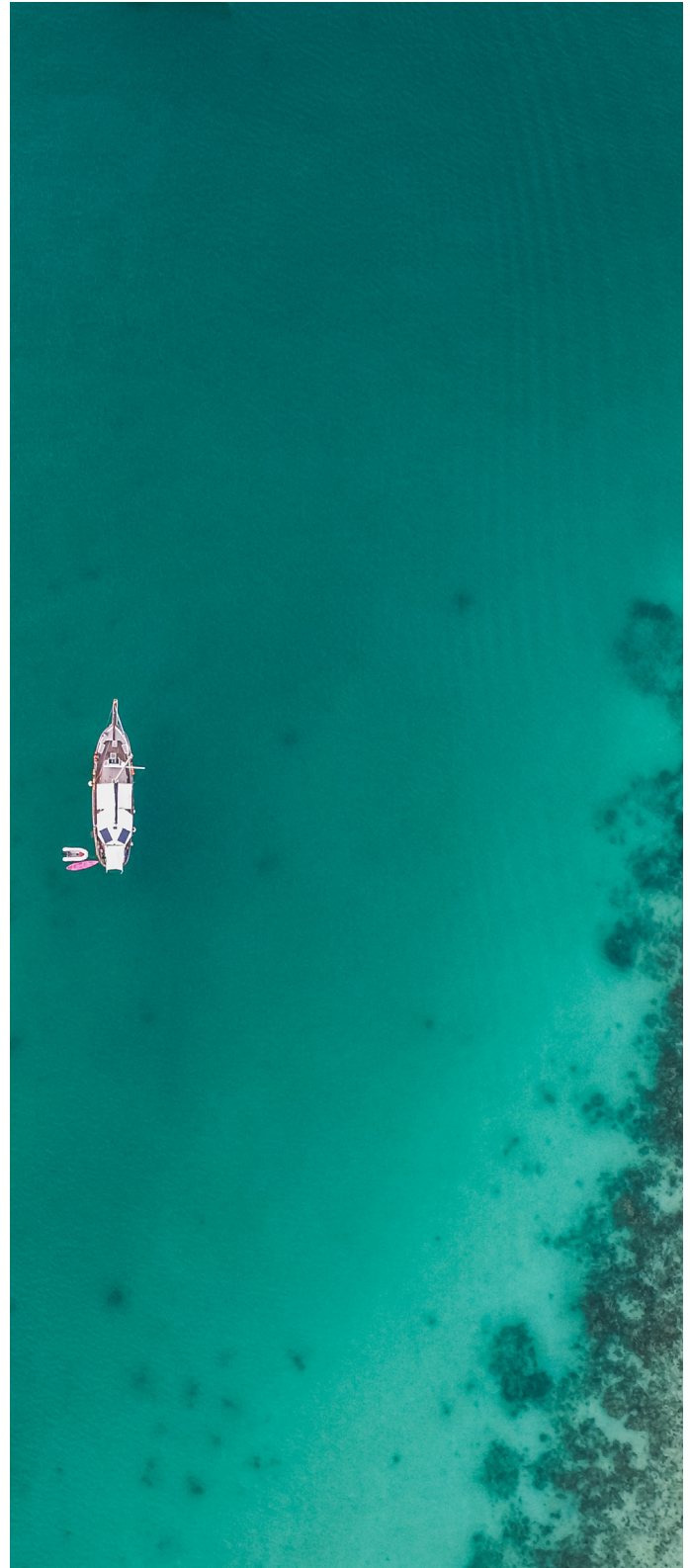
A public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives that have been specified through a political process ([Full definition](#)).

## Blue Economy:

No specific definition of the term, the “Blue Economy” exists. For some, it means the “use of the sea and its resources for sustainable economic development”; for others, it includes “any economic activity in the maritime sector, whether sustainable or not”. In the context of MSP, the goals and objectives of the plan should identify the desired outcomes—and the relative balance of economic development and marine conservation ([Full definition](#)).

## Blue Growth:

According to the European Commission, “blue growth” is a long-term strategy to support “sustainable growth” in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole. It is the maritime contribution to achieving the goals of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The strategy consists of three components: (1) develop sectors that have a high potential for sustainable jobs and growth; (2) essential components to provide knowledge, legal certainty and security in the blue economy; and (3) sea basin strategies to ensure tailor-made measures and to foster cooperation among countries ([Full definition](#)).



The European Maritime Day (EMD) was officially created on the 20 May of 2008 and is the annual meeting point for Europe’s maritime community to raise the visibility of maritime sectors and support an integrated approach to maritime affairs? ([Read more](#))

Madeira has the highest population density within the Macaronesia 317,7 hab./Km<sup>2</sup>, followed by the Canary Islands with 279,6 hab./mk<sup>2</sup> and Azores with 106,6 hab./km<sup>2</sup>? ([Read more](#))





# Key concepts to understand each other

**Interregional cooperation** is aimed at enhancing Eu regional development through transfers of know-how and exchanges of experiences between regions.

The Interregional Cooperation Programme INTERREG EUROPE forms part of the European Territorial Cooperation goal under cohesion policy for 2014-20. The programme aims to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies and contribute to economic modernization and increased competitiveness in Europe. ([Full definition](#)).

**Transnational cooperation**, encourages highly integrated partnerships impacting beyond national boundaries in a transnational cooperation area. Such partnerships span and represent different levels of government and administration, embracing both public and private-sector bodies and different policy areas.

Through these partnerships, transnational cooperation projects are able to develop, prepare and implement joint solutions to common problems and challenges inherent to a large part of their transnational cooperation area. There is a strong emphasis on the transnational working arrangements of projects and on the transnational dimension of the planned results ([Full definition](#)).

**Regional cooperation**, means cooperation and coordination of activities between the Member States and, whenever possible, third countries sharing the same marine region or subregion, for the purpose of developing and implementing marine strategies ([Directive 2008/56 / EC](#))

Although the European Commission is currently promoting cross-border and transboundary cooperation as an opportunity to improve the efficiency of planning and management of coastal and marine resources and activities, there is a lack of clear definitions for these terms in MSP. It is worth mentioning here that this terminology discussion has sense only inside the English language as in either Spanish or Portuguese languages, both terms are translated as 'transfrontier cooperation'.

However, Valentina Mabila, Policy Officer of the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission, highlighted some differences between this two terms during the 1st Workshop of the International Forum for MSP. She highlighted that whereas cross-border refers to passing, occurring, or performed across a border and can be understood as having a narrower meaning, pertaining to a single international border; transboundary refers to moving or having effect across

a boundary or boundaries and can be understood as having a wider meaning, including multiple boundaries of all kinds.

In this sense, Suárez De Vivero, J.L (2018) in his Macaronesian Atlas inside the context of the MarSP project, highlights that the fundamental aspect on which this discussion should revolve around is not just the terminology aspect but, the boundary dimension of the maritime spatial planning. According to the definition of 'marine waters' from the Directive 2014/89/EU on MSP and the Directive 2008/56 / EC on marine strategy framework, this author identifies a wide maritime jurisdictions typology that defines at the same time, through the contact between them, different types of maritime borders and cross-border spaces. It is here where 'border', 'boundary' and 'frontier' are used but not yet clearly defined. Consequently, cooperation is subject to different legal and political mechanisms.

*Cross-border or Transboundary?*





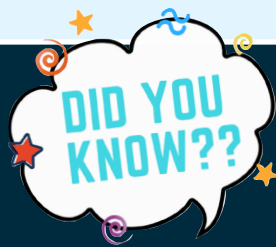
# Administration manages

## The EU's 2013-2020 Atlantic Action Plan is on revision.

The Atlantic action plan was adopted in 2013 in order to support the 'blue economy' of the EU Member States in the Atlantic Ocean area (Portugal, Spain, France, the United Kingdom and Ireland). It identified four priority areas to help generate sustainable growth in coastal regions and drive forward the blue economy while preserving the environmental and ecological stability of the Atlantic. This mid-term [review of the action plan](#) is based on an independent study and stakeholder consultation, and takes stock of progress to date in its implementation. It highlights

main achievements and weaknesses and points out potential avenues for improving the action plan in future. This could include more specific objectives and key performance indicators to assess results further down the line, and design more joint cross-border projects, with greater involvement of coastal regions.

Part of the Atlantic action plan focuses on the outermost regions, referring to the Islands far away from the European mainland, namely the Azores, Madeira the Canaries and Overseas France. These regions face challenges specific to their location. Due to their remoteness, these regions are often less developed and exhibit lower GDP per capita and higher unemployment rates. Infrastructure is often lacking and access to specialized services can be difficult. Nevertheless, they also provide unique opportunities. The distinctive environment of these regions allows for innovative projects in areas ranging from scientific initiatives and high tech research facilities in the field of renewable energies and climate science to exploring sustainable tourism and diversifying the local economy ([Read more](#)).



That since 2013, the Atlantic Action Plan has funded more than 1200 projects from which about 500 of them (around EUR 750 million), have targeted connectivity in remote areas of Scotland and supported MSP in Macaronesia? ([Read more](#))

2017 was the warmest year on record for the global ocean according to an updated ocean analysis from the Institute of Atmospheric Physics/Chinese Academy of Science? ([Read more](#))





# What initiatives are being developed?



## Three new MSP projects launched with EMFF funding.

The projects that have been funded are taking place across Europe and the Southeast Indian Ocean:

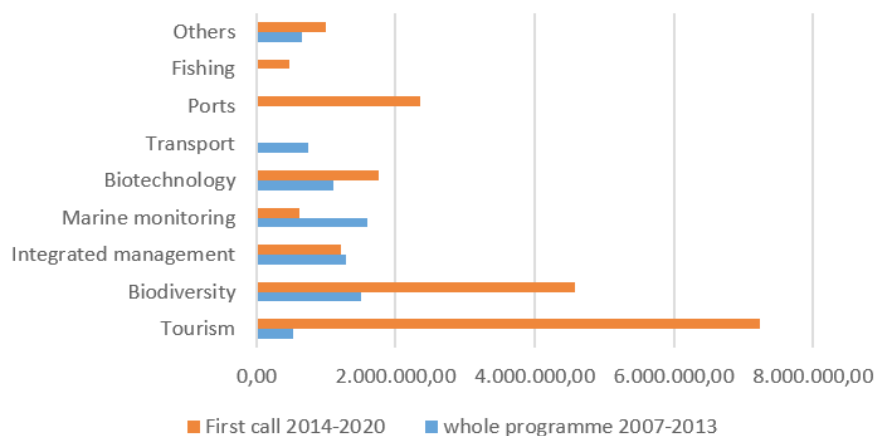
- 1 [Pan Baltic Scope](#) will build upon a previous project to continue the development of innovative tools, exchange of data and improved harmonisation and coherence of MSP approaches, expanding these to the entire Baltic Sea ([Read More](#)).
- 2 [SEANSE](#) will develop a coherent approach to Strategic Environmental Assessments with a focus on renewable energy in support of MSP implementation ([Read More](#)).
- 3 [OCEAN METTIS](#) objective is to identify key factors for economic development of the Réunion Island ([Read More](#)).
- 4 [MarSP](#) will provide management tools for the sustainable development of strategic sectors such as tourism, aquaculture or renewable energy ([Read More](#)).

## Which maritime sectors are being funded by the territorial cooperation programme in the Macaronesia?

Due to the condition of being archipelagos and outermost regions, that have determined in a similar way the cultural, social and economic development of Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands, since 2000 an especial Operational Programme of cooperation for the Macaronesia (which also includes Cabo Verde, Senegal and Mauritania) has been funded from the Territorial Co-operation Programme INTERREG as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds.

Just by comparing the first call for projects of the current 2014-2020 program to the all the three calls of the previous one (2007-2013), we can notice that the focus of the projects has shifted towards the marine environment and the Blue Growth and that they have focused particularly on the tourism sector ([Read more](#)).

INTERREG MAC Programmes comparison



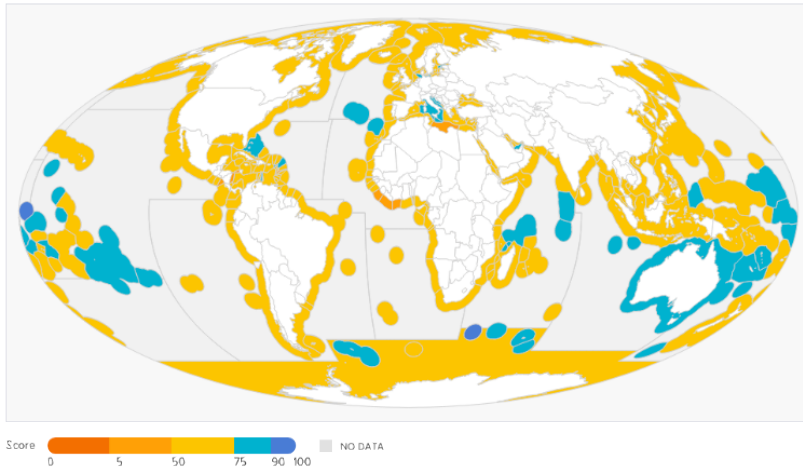
Source: our elaboration on project data from the INTERREG MAC [2014-20](#) and [2007-13](#) Co-operation Programme.



# What is being researched?

How healthy are the regional oceans of the Macaronesia?

## INDEX SCORE

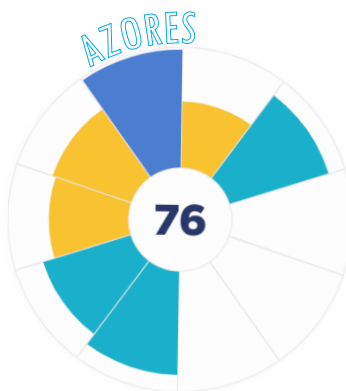


The Ocean Health Index ('OHI'), driven by Ben Halpern, Steve Katona and their team since 2008, is a scientific framework conducted by independent groups that use the Index approach to measure ocean health in their regions, countries, states, and communities.

The 2017 study assessed the marine waters for the EEZs (out to 200 nautical miles), of 221 coastal countries and territories. All scores range from 0-100 and overall scores and individual scores are directly comparable between all regions. The higher the score is; the better status has that goal or service. The 2017 Ocean Health Index global score for the EEZs is 70 out of 100, though there are differences between regional seas. See the flowers plots below for score details of each goal. More info: [OHI web page](#).

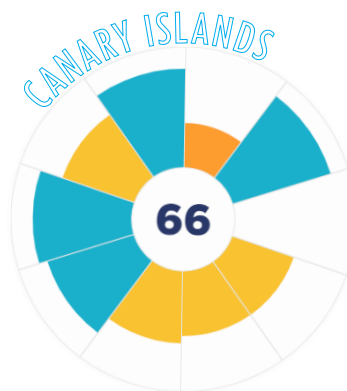


- Afonso, et al., 2018, Effects of marine protected areas on coastal fishes across the Azores archipelago, mid-North Atlantic ([Full reference](#)).
- Abramic, et al., 2018, INSPIRE: Support for and requirement of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive ([Full reference](#)).
- Delgado, et al., 2018, An Atlantic journey: The distribution and fishing pattern of the Madeira deep sea fishery ([Full reference](#)).



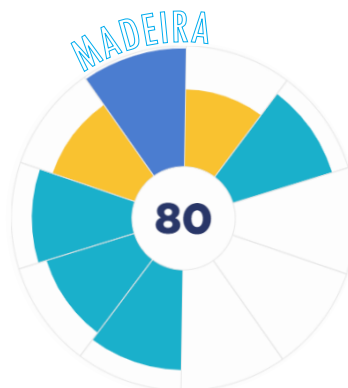
- 55 FOOD PROVISION
- 86 ARTISANAL FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- N/A NATURAL PRODUCTS
- N/A CARBON STORAGE
- N/A COASTAL PROTECTION
- 86 COASTAL LIVELIHOODS & ECONOMIES
- 76 TOURISM & RECREATION
- 66 SENSE OF PLACE
- 69 CLEAN WATERS
- 98 BIODIVERSITY

[Azores](#), with an overall score of 76 points ranked the 29th among the 221 EEZs listed in the OHI.



- 37 FOOD PROVISION
- 85 ARTISANAL FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- N/A NATURAL PRODUCTS
- 54 CARBON STORAGE
- 54 COASTAL PROTECTION
- 60 COASTAL LIVELIHOODS & ECONOMIES
- 75 TOURISM & RECREATION
- 82 SENSE OF PLACE
- 63 CLEAN WATERS
- 82 BIODIVERSITY

[Canary Islands](#), ranked the place 129 out of 221 EEZs with an overall score of 66.



- 64 FOOD PROVISION
- 86 ARTISANAL FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- N/A NATURAL PRODUCTS
- N/A CARBON STORAGE
- N/A COASTAL PROTECTION
- 83 COASTAL LIVELIHOODS & ECONOMIES
- 76 TOURISM & RECREATION
- 83 SENSE OF PLACE
- 72 CLEAN WATERS
- 98 BIODIVERSITY

[Madeira](#), with an overall OHI of 80 ranked 17 among the 221 EEZs.

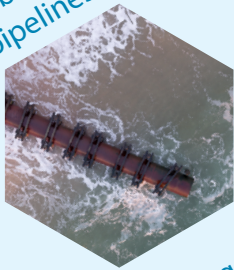


# Blue Growth in the Macaronesia

A general overview of the key maritime sectors:

The MSP for Blue Growth European study analyses nine key maritime sectors putting the focus not only on the present spatial needs of each of the sectors but also on the anticipated future developments of the industry and the interaction that exists among sectors offering a set of concrete recommendations to inform MSP processes ([Read More](#)).

Cables and pipelines



Coastal and marine tourism



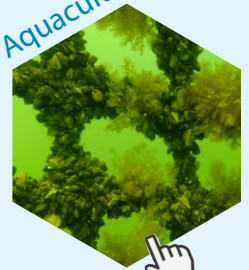
Offshore wind energy



Fishing



Aquaculture



Marine aggregates and marine mining



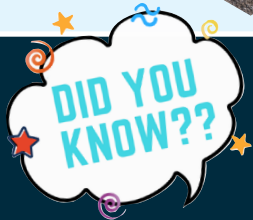
Oil and gas



Shipping and ports



Tidal and wave energy



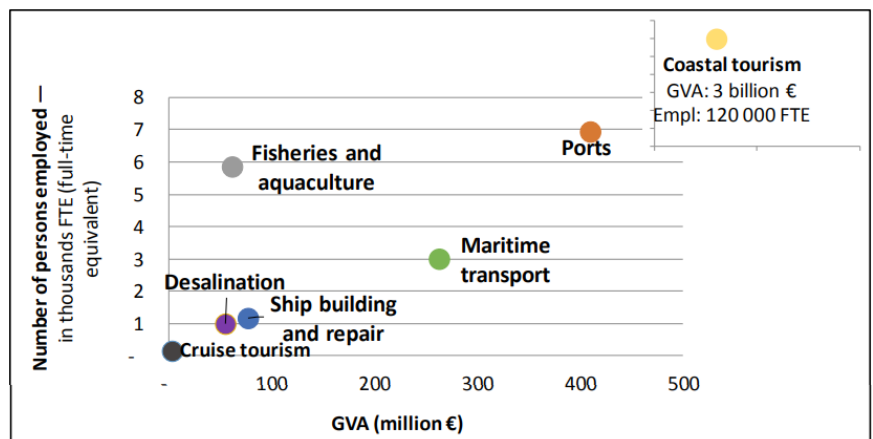
The International Seabed Authority (ISA) secretariat has released a revised draft regulation on the exploitation of mineral resources in the open seas? ([Read More](#))

The first floating nuclear power plant launched by Russia is now heading towards its final destination in the Arctic port of Pevek? ([Read More](#))

The world's first commercial floating offshore wind farm, called Hywind, started sending electricity to the grid las Oct 2017? ([Read More](#))

## A glance into the Macaronesian marine economic sectors:

According to the EU study *Realising the potential of the Outermost Regions for sustainable blue growth*, in the Macaronesian sea basin, maritime-based activities constitute the backbone of the local economies. Of these, coastal tourism, cruise tourism, shipping (maritime transport and ports) and fishing and aquaculture have been identified as playing a pivotal role and are highly developed. Two activities are at a pre-development stage and show a remarkable growth potential for the near future: both renewable energy and blue biotechnology could create important job opportunities and value added for the sea basin economy ([Read More](#)).



Source: EU Commission, 2017, *Executive summary: Realising the potential of the Outermost Regions for sustainable Blue Growth*.



# Short news and upcoming events

## The new European Atlas of the Seas has been released!

Have a look at new features, maps and more than 100 web services providing up-to-date information on marine knowledge, protected areas, fisheries and blue growth ([Read More](#)).

## A new European Fund for the maritime and fishing economy.

For the next long-term EU budget 2021-2027, the Commission is proposing €6.14 billion under a simpler and more flexible EMFF that will contribute, for the first time, to strengthening international ocean governance ([Read More](#)).

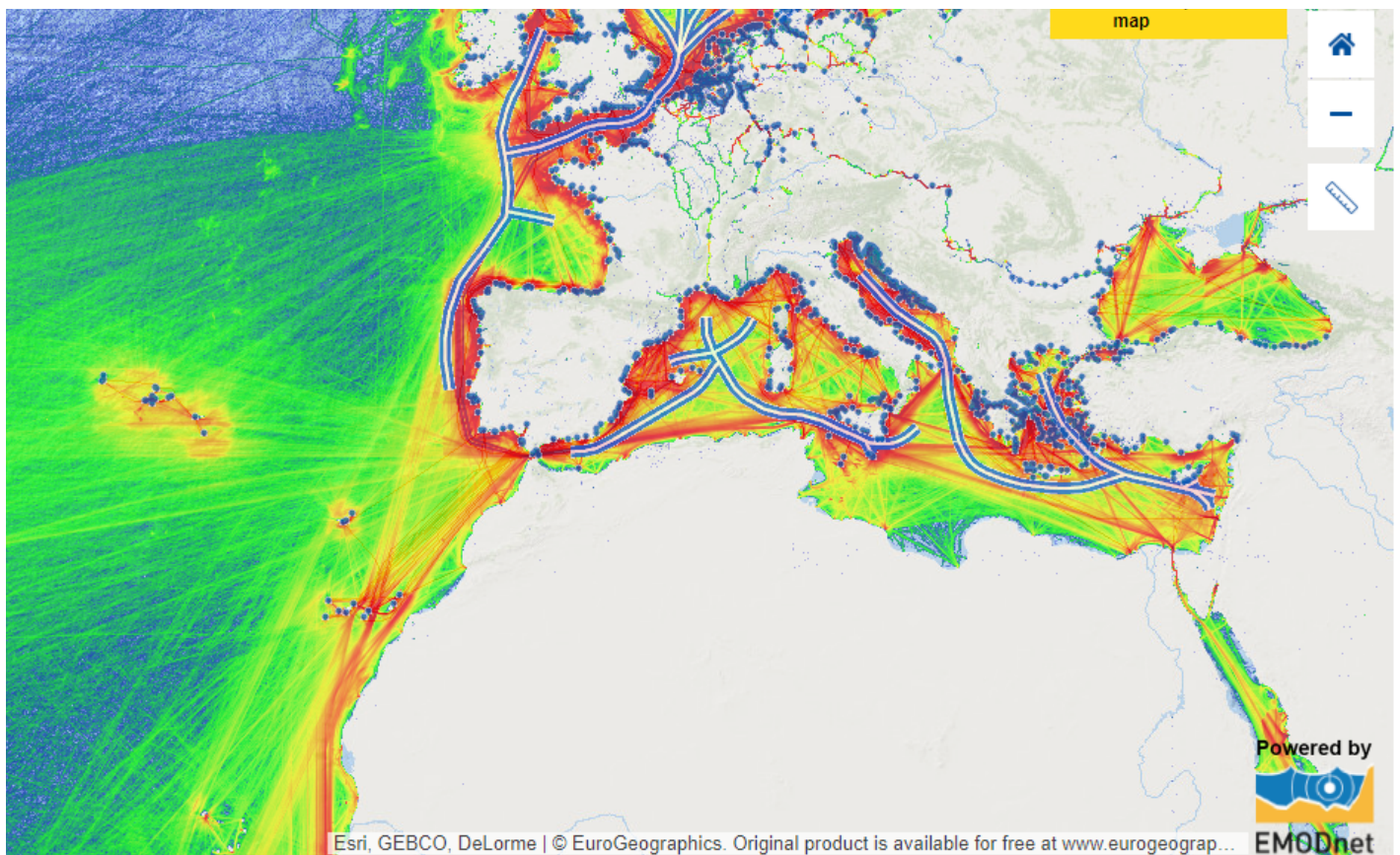


The next meeting of the International Forum on MSP organized by the IOC-UNESCO and the EU will be in autumn! ([Go to event](#)).

MSP for Islands Workshop will be held from the 10th- 14th of September in Gran Canaria, Spain ([Go to event](#)).



ESP EUROPE 2018 Regional Conference on Ecosystem services in a changing world: moving from theory to practice will be held in San Sebastián, Spain on the 15-19 of October 2018 ([Go to event](#)).



Esri, GEBCO, DeLorme | © EuroGeographics. Original product is available for free at [www.eurogeograp...](http://www.eurogeograp...)

Source: [European Atlas of the Sea](#).