

Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning

"REPORT ON THE STAKEHOLDER'S WORKSHOPS HELD IN AZORES"

MarSP Deliverable:

D.4.7. Report Stakeholder's Workshops in Azores to validate/discuss results

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Summary

This report corresponds to the Deliverable 4.7. "Report on the stakeholder's workshop that will be held in Azores to validate/discuss results", integrated in Work Package 4 "Development of the Marine Spatial Planning", of the project "Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning" (MarSP).

This document presents the main results obtained through the participatory process that was carried on during the MarSP project in the Azores Archipelagic Region. It integrates contributions from the three workshops entitled "Workshop of Involvement of Stakeholders in the Process of Maritime Spatial Planning in the Azores", held on May 2018, April 2019 and October 2019.

It synthesises the results of discussion and expectation of different stakeholders regarding the Azores Region through the Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning.

Sumário

O presente relatório corresponde ao Deliverable 4.7. "Report on the stakeholder's workshop that will be held in Azores to validate/discuss results", integrado no Work Package 4 "Development of the Marine Spatial Planning", do projeto "*Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning*" (MarSP).

Este documento apresenta os principais resultados obtidos através do processo participativo que decorreu ao longo do Projeto MarSP na Região Autónoma dos Açores. O relatório integra as contribuições resultantes dos três "Workshops de Envolvimento de Interessados no processo de Ordenamento do Espaço Marítimo dos Açores" (OEM), cada um desenvolvido simultaneamente nas três ilhas de São Miguel, Terceira e Faial, em maio de 2018 e maio e outubro de 2019.

O relatório sintetiza os resultados das discussões e expectativas dos diferentes atores e partes interessadas referentes ao futuro do mar dos Açores na perspetiva do Processo de Ordenamento do Espaço Marítimo da Macaronésia, sendo, desta forma, uma fonte importante de informação, aquando da implementação, monitorização e avaliação do OEM nos Açores.



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List of abbreviations

C Conflict

DRAM Regional Directorate for Sea Affairs (Direção Regional do Ambiente)

EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

EU European Union
G1 Discussion Group 1
G2 Discussion Group 2
G2 Discussion Group 3

GES Good Environmental Status

ICOGAR International Conference Ocean Governance in Archipelagic Regions

IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature

LNG Liquefied Natural Gas

MarSP Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning

MPAs Marine Protected Areas MSP Maritime Spatial Planning

N Negative NM Nautical Miles

OEMA Maritime Spatial Planning of the Azores (Ordenamento do Espaço Marítimo

dos Açores)

P Positive

POOC Coastal Zone Spatial Plan (Plano de Ordenamento da Orla Costeira)

S Synergy

SDG Sustainable Development Goals

SWOT Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

WWTP Wastewater Treatment Plants

WS Workshop



Introduction

The Project "Macaronesian Maritime Spatial Planning" (MarSP) aims to establish specific actions for European Member States – Portugal and Spain, to develop their capacity and tools in order to apply on the Macaronesia region according to the directive 2014/89/UE of the European Parliament and Council from the 23 July, 2014, establishing the framework for Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) integrating cross border cooperation mechanisms.

Other European Regions have started their MSP processes, most of them in continental Europe. The specific context of the Macaronesia region, due to its isolation and oceanic features, constrain the development of tailored methodologies to the insular and maritime territory. As so, this project will propose management tools and approaches to MSP on the three outermost regions of the archipelagos of Azores, Madeira and Canary, according to the Directive 2014/89/UE. The development of a working methodology for MSP at the Macaronesia level will facilitate the exchange of experiences and knowledge.

Therefore, MarSP seeks to reinforce the Macaronesia position at the global context considering the economic potential of the extensive maritime area under EU countries jurisdiction, including the growing demands of different Blue Economy Sectors and potential/unknown threats to marine ecosystems (as is the case of deep sea mining). The project aims to reinforce cross border cooperation between the two countries and to develop a geo spatial platform guided by the principles of the INSPIRE Directive promoting data sharing between Member States.

Stakeholders' engagement workshops

The MarSP project presented an opportunity to promote the Azores Maritime Spatial Planning (Ordenamento do Espaço Marítimo dos Açores - OEMA), which develops as a transparent and inclusive process, with the stakeholders' involvement and active participation. In this sense, all stakeholders were invited to participate in the participatory process that was carried out along with MarSP project. The three workshops for the involvement of stakeholders have resulted in:

- The definition of vision, goals, and future scenarios for the Azores Maritime Spatial Planning;
- Trend analyses of the evolution of the different activities and maritime sectors, as well
 as of the pressures, conflicts and synergies among the different activities, land-sea
 interactions, and environment impacts; and
- Validation of spatial distribution of each identified maritime sector and the legal constraints over the Azores maritime space, as well as listing of sectorial good practices, that may contribute to support the development of the MSP process in the Azores.

The detailed reports of these workshops are available to access in the MarSP webpage (http://www.marsp.eu/results).

Workshops' structure

Three participatory workshops were organized along the two years of MarSP project in the Azores. The period and the thematic of each workshop were planned to fit in the current stage of the project. Therefore, allowing the consultation and more importantly the integration of



the stakeholder's participation into the planning process.

Considering the geographical barrier imposed by the dispersion of the islands in the Archipelago and the need to maximize the stakeholder participation, the coordination organized the structure, staff and material to deliver the same workshop simultaneously in three different Azores Islands: São Miguel, Faial and Terceira. Apart from the 3rd Workshop in Faial that was integrated in the International Conference "Ocean Governance in Archipelagic Regions" (ICOGAR), held between the 7th and the 10th October 2019, all the other workshops were organized as main events in different locations, as shown in Table I.

	São Miguel	Faial	Terceira
1 st Workshop (17/05/201 8)	Parque de Ciência e Tecnologia Nonagon (Lagoa)	Sociedade Amor da Pátria (Horta)	Centro Cultural e de Congressos (Angra do Heroísmo)
2 nd Workshop (14/04/201 9)	Parque de Ciência e Tecnologia Nonagon (Lagoa)	Casa Manuel de Arriaga (Horta)	Centro Cultural e de Congressos (Angra do Heroísmo)
3 rd Workshop (09/10/201 9)	Casa Manuel de Arriaga (Ponta Delgada)	Sociedade Amor da Pátria - (ICOGAR) (Horta)	Centro Cultural e de Congressos (Angra do Heroísmo)

Table I: Workshop date and location

Different dynamics were developed based in the different outcomes that the coordination expected to reach. The participants were organized in homogeneous or heterogeneous groups, according to each dynamic objectives, to stimulate an active participation and broad contribution during the workshops. Each group had at least one moderator to assist the participants throughout the activity, as well as to take notes to be used to compose the individual workshop reports. Moreover, the head of each session, assigned by the MarSP coordination team, supported the progress of the workshop.

Regarding the dynamics, their instructions were previously recorded and presented through videoconference simultaneously in the three workshops to assure they were delivered equally in the three islands, therefore allowing a more robust comparative analysis and integration of the results.

The 1st Workshop, that took place on March 17th, 2018, had as main objectives i) validate a vision for the Azores; ii) discuss and identify "supporting conditions" for MSP implementation in Azores; iii) identify gaps; iv) identify potential areas for marine activities and areas with conflicts of use; and v) discuss and list potential goals for Azores Region.

The 2nd Workshop, that took place on April 12th 2019, had as main objectives i) proposal and discussion about different scenarios for OEMA; ii) validation of sectorial SWOT analyse; iii) validation of sectorial trends and pressures according of changing factors.

And last and 3rd Workshop, that took place on October 9th, 2019, had as main objectives i) validation of conditions and restriction cartography; ii) validation of current sectorial cartography; iii) validation of potential sectorial cartography; and iv) discussion of sectorial good practices.



Results

The present chapter will provide an overview of the participants profile over the course of the workshops. Afterward, each workshop is described in terms of their dynamics, presenting the main results achieved. In the end, the results of the stakeholder participation's evaluation is provided with the most positive and critical aspects.

Participation

The entire MarSP participatory process resulting from the Workshop in Azores Archipelago engaged 167 stakeholders from nine islands and different maritime sectors. Figure 1 shows how was the participation in each workshop per island. The 2nd and 3rd Workshop had more participants involved, both with 78 stakeholders, than the 1st Workshop, which had 58 participants. This increase of almost 35% can be a reflect of one or more following factors:

- The awareness of the stakeholders regarding the MarSP project and the MSP process of the Azores;
- Stakeholders' reliability on the MarSP project;
- Better dissemination of the Workshops.

Figure 1 also shows that in the 3rd Workshop, the number of participants in Faial Island was higher than in the other islands (Terceira and São Miguel), changing the pattern seen in the first two workshops, where São Miguel was the island that hosted more participants. This shift is linked to the fact that the 3rd Workshop in Faial was integrated into the International Conference "Ocean Governance in Archipelagic Regions", gathering different stakeholders, but mainly researches that usually are based in another island. The total number of stakeholders differs from the total number of participants, as some stakeholders participated in more than one workshop.

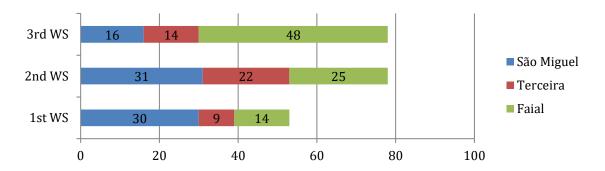


Figure 1: Number of participants in the Workshop

Regarding the participation by the maritime sector, Figure 2 shows that five sectors were more presently active during the process: Environment, Research, Fisheries, Tourism, and Transversal. The tourism sector was the only one that was among the three most represented sectors in all workshops. This shows the importance and engagement of the sector for the region. Fisheries and research also demonstrated high representativeness. They were twice among the sectors with more participants, thus demonstrating their importance for the region. The substantial increase observed in participants from the research sector in the 3rd Workshop



is again due to the integration of the workshop into the International Conference Ocean Governance in Archipelagic Regions.

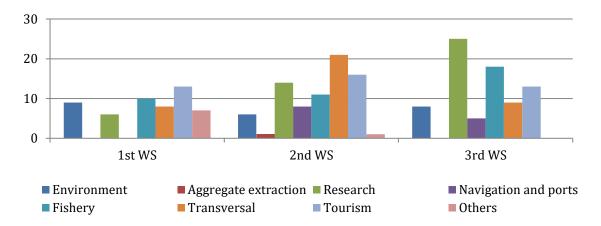


Figure 2: Participants in each Workshop per maritime sector

The stakeholders participating in the process were part of different types of organizations: private companies, education and/or research, associations, or administration bodies. This discretization is shown in Figure 3. The plot depicts that despite the presence of some disparities, the sectors in general had a very balanced number of participants.

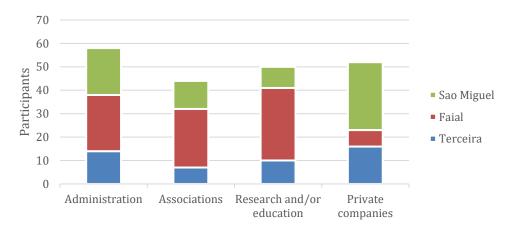


Figure 3: Participants by organization sector

In the next section it will be succinctly presented the main points resulted from the three workshops divided by their dynamic. To access all the contributions provided during the participatory process, the main report of each workshop should is available in the official MarSP webpage: http://www.marsp.eu/.

Dynamics of 1st Workshop

Dynamic I: Vision Validation

The first dynamic carried out in the MarSP participatory process is the Vision validation and resulted in one of the most important outcomes, once it is the basis to guide the objectives, actions and how to monitor and evaluate the future implementation of the MSP in the



Macaronesian Region, and in particular the Azores. The process of validation was divided in three steps, as shown in Figure 4, in which the first discussion promoted with the groups of each island resulted in nine visions.

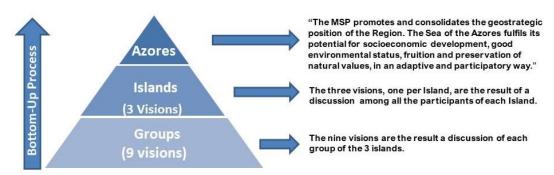


Figure 4: Validation process for setting the vision for the Azores

The Table II presents the results achieved by each island in the process of building the vision for the Azores. Afterward, the moderator aimed to combine the vision of all islands to reflect the main concerns and objectives of the stakeholders in one single vision, which was validated by the participants.

São Miguel **Terceira Faial** The **Maritime Spatial** Sustainable The Maritime Spatial Planning and Planning (MSP) harmonic (MSP) maximizes the potential for consolidates the management of the adaptive management geostrategic position of the sustainable development goals resources investing Region. The Sea of the in between the economic, environmental Azores fulfils its potential education. cultural and environmental where socioeconomic there is respect and space for all development, users and efficient regulation and good environmental implementation. status, fruition and preservation of natural values for the future generations, in an adaptive and participatory way.

Table II: Vision building process

Azores Vision

The Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) promotes and consolidates the geostrategic position of the Region. The Sea of the Azores fulfils its potential for socioeconomic development, good environmental status, fruition and preservation of natural values, in an adaptive and participatory way.

Dynamic II: Supporting conditions

The Dynamic II consisted in the identification of supporting conditions regarding implementation of a maritime spatial planning that is already in place in Azores region. The conditions listed were later divided in seven categories as follows: Geographic features, Governance/Management, Resource (knowledge, human, infrastructure, nature), Values, Window of opportunity (Momentum), Ocean Literacy/Capacity Building and Others, as shown



in Table III.

Table III: List of Supporting Conditions

Geographic Features

- Geographic location
- Buffer zone due to geographic isolation and own dynamic

Governance/Management

- Existence of a concentration of wills, namely political will and the need to manage the extensive Azores' maritime space
- Clear and transversal political will/governance
- Effective monitoring and surveillance
- It is important to clearly define the duties and obligations of all stakeholders into the decision making and management
- Dissemination and application of scientific knowledge in the decision making process
- Political understanding (regional, national, European and local) in relation to MSP

Resource (knowledge, human, infrastructure, natural)

- Infrastructure, although it can be improved
- Physical/human/natural resources
- Vast scientific knowledge. The main problems are already identified and solutions have been presented
- Funds
- Knowledge and data collection & processing, besides gathering information on extractive and non-extractive and spatial uses
- Existence of associations and representatives of the actors

Values

- The affective connection of Azores population with the sea and the general understanding and connection with the sea
- The participation and involvement of stakeholders
- People are recognized for their work and culturally, values are upheld and recognized
- Active civic participation
- Infrastructures (ports) and natural resources

Window of opportunity (Momentum)

- The existence of a small distance between the various sectors and actors facilitates
 consensus and understanding among them, and the fact that Azores is still in a
 phase of profit from sea without much installation of uses, in this sense, it is a good
 phase to start the process
- Political context of global interest, with definite (imposition) goals

Ocean Literacy/ Capacity Building/Communication

- Much more information will be needed at all levels and transmitted to the community for people to have an informed opinion to enable them to intervene in the decision making process
- Since education is mostly public, it facilitates the use of these means for inclusion in environmental education teaching
- Presence of observatories (dissemination), research centres and university centres
- Information technologies (internet) and access to knowledge (scientific, expert and empirical)



Other

• The existence of a small distance between the various sectors and actors facilitates consensus and understanding among them

Dynamic III: Gaps identification

The suggestion listed by the participants regarding the main gaps that can be a barrier for a maritime spatial plan implementation in the Azores region is divided into six subtopics: Geographic features, Governance/management, Resources, Values, Communication, and Ocean literacy/capacity building, shown in Table IV.

It is possible to see that, from the stakeholder point of view, most of the barriers are related to issues about governance and management.

Table IV: Gaps Identification

Geographic Features

• Geographic dispersion (multiplication and interests conflicts)

Governance/Management

- Lack of coordination and collaboration between institutions with jurisdiction in the matter
- Effective legislation and accountability through enforcement instruments
- Lack of strategy/governance
- Lack of inspection
- Excessive politicization of decisions with prejudice to actions in the medium / long term, with no implementation of the solutions already identified
- Lack of liability due to non-compliance
- Complex and poorly articulated legislation
- Short term policies due to election cycles
- Lack of enforcement and control oversight and lack of means
- Planning instruments that already exist (legal framework)

Resource (knowledge, human, infrastructure, natural)

• Absence of a particular technical body that can develop, manage, implement and monitor the plan

Values

• Valorisation of the product "Azores Sea" (natural resources and tourism)

Communication

- Inadequate communication strategy regarding natural heritage
- Mean of communication and dissemination inefficient

Ocean Literacy/ Capacity Building

- Lack of knowledge by the media, opinion makers and the general population about some concepts intrinsic to the jurisdiction of space and the scope of action of the various entities
- Lack of youth and adult training and education (information, training and education)
- Widespread illiteracy on ocean issues



• Lack of specific knowledge

Other

- Conflict resolution and promotion of ah harmonious/balanced relationship between the different actors. (e.g. uses and environment)
- Have a public system, but not you it to implement environmental education
- Communication/coordination between different sectors. Gap in the Maritime operator tour, because there is no association and representativeness in meeting to express their position

Dynamic IV: Identification of potential areas and identification of conflict areas

This dynamic promoted, through a spatial-oriented approach, a discussion regarding potential and conflict areas that can contribute either positively or negatively to the vision established. However, different from the outcomes of the 3rd Workshop (seen in the next sections), the contributions provided were not georeferenced and help only to have a generalized overview of the Azores Region. Table V presents the potentialities and conflicts listed by the participants.

Table V: Potential areas for synergies and conflicts

Synergies (all within 12 NM)

Central Group

- Research, conservation, tourism and development nautical activities
- Near Terceira and Graciosa: inert extraction, touristic-maritime activities and diving
- In the North of Faial and southeast of Pico: aquaculture, sports, leisure fishing

Oriental Group

 North and south coast of São Miguel: investments in infrastructure to support fishing sector, diving (e.g. Caloura) and cultural activities, and aquaculture

Occidental Group

Potential area to develop whale watching and scuba-diving

Conflicts

Central Group

- Within the 12 NM: Near Terceira and Graciosa islands: whale watching and transportation; not fair competition among maritime-touristic operators
- In the EEZ near the seamounts: different interests involved
- Coastal Zone were identified as a conflict are between tourism (whale watching) and maritime transportation
- Within the 12 NM: In the north of Faial island and in the southeast of Pico island, conflicts between recreational fishing, commercial fishing and touristic activities

Oriental Group

 Majority in the south São Miguel Island were identified conflicts between maritime activities, environment and lack of monitoring and surveillance

Occidental Group (within 12 NM)

- Extractive activities and pollution
- Corvo Island zone coast: extractive activities and conservation areas



Dynamic V: Definition of Goals for Azores

This dynamic aimed to define goals for Azores MSP, based in a methodology developed by Caña Varona et *al.* (2018). The goals were divided in the following four thematic categories: environmental, social, economical and political. In each thematic category, specific objectives were established as well as strategic objectives.

During the dynamic, the participants reviewed the objectives list elaborated, where they had the opportunity to make changes or exclude objectives in the list or create new ones. Table VI shows the objectives that were modified by the stakeholders divided into the 4 thematic categories; social, environmental, political and economic.

Table VI: Goals for Azores

Environmental Goals

Preserve and manage the marine environment in a sustainable manner, conserving its cultural and natural values, in special relevant ecosystems for the local biodiversity such as seamounts and hydrothermal vents

Ensure the Good Environmental Status of the marine waters by 2030

Minimize environmental impact and prevents risk associated with human activities on the sea

Conserve vulnerable marine species, in special those who are threated and have a low reproduction rate

Social Goals

Promote and diversify the maritime jobs and reinforce qualification and education

Preserver and promote the maritime cultural heritage and the underwater cultural heritage Increment the scientific knowledge and the productivity, developing the capacity of research, besides the transfer of maritime technology to support the decision-making process

Promote subjects related to the sea and foster the dialogue to support the decision-making process

Map the uses and maritime activities and element in the maritime environment, promoting the dissemination of geospatial data in a easy-to-access and use platform

Engage students at school with subjects related to the sea

Economic Goals

Foster the Blue Growth sectors and sustainable uses and activities at sea

Ease the innovation, competitively and diversification of the maritime sectors, including an assessment for wind energy and aquaculture



Promote the coexistence of activities and multiple uses at sea, as well fostering the collaboration between companies and organization through the creation of a maritime cluster

Promote accessibility, connectivity and cooperation among ports and reinforce the infrastructure, equipment, services that support the maritime activities, such as tourism

Ensure the sustainable exploitation of non-metallic mineral resources

Political Goals

Reinforce the geopolitical autonomy of the Azores on its maritime space

Reinforce the coordination, cooperation and dialogue between blue economy sectors and entities

Prevent and minimize conflicts between activities and uses

Ensure funds for monitoring programs, research, and the economy sectors

Simplify, accelerate, an increase transparency in the procedures for licensing the maritime uses and activities

Additionally, complementary strategic goals were set for each of the four categories and were equally validated by the participants. The results are shown in Table VII.

Table VII: Other strategic targets for Azores

Environmental Goals

Ensure adaptation and response to ocean acidification and climate change by increasing resilience of marine ecosystem

By 2030 significantly prevent and reduce marine pollution by 20%, particularly from land-based activities, including marine litter, nutrient pollution and noise pollution (Commentary by participants: readjust time horizon and quantify marine pollution reduction)

By 2020 reduce illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, destructive fishing practices and other adverse impacts on fish stocks

Improve and/or increase the protection areas of nesting seabirds

Create an environmental database (parameters) to support decision-making, respond to environmental objectives and, with the results of data processing, effectively monitor and evaluate Maritime Spatial Planning

Economic Goals

Ensure the sustainability of fisheries by increasing the value of fishery products (e.g. create added value to fishery products)

Ensure the sustainability of fisheries through effective management

Value the potential of the Azores in capturing sport fishing (trophies)



Political Goals

Simplify, accelerate, an increase transparency in the procedures for licensing the maritime uses and activities

Dynamic VI: Voting in Maritime Uses

This dynamic aimed to identify the most relevant maritime uses in the Archipelago of Azores through the participants' opinion. The participants were asked which were the activities – from a list previously developed by the MarSP project – that in their opinion should either be promoted, maintained or restricted.

Figure 5 shows the result of the dynamic, where green means activities that should be promoted in the future, yellow represents activities that should be maintained, and in red are the activities that should be restricted in the future.

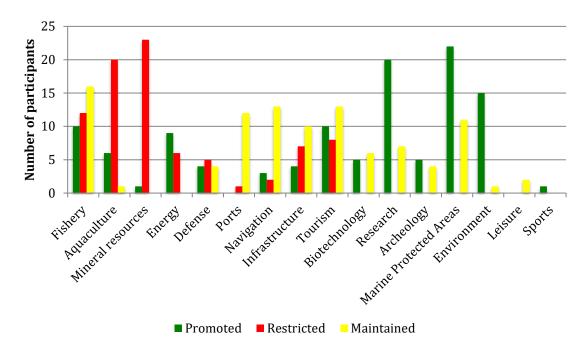


Figure 5: Number of participants for each sector

In one hand, activities as science and investigation, marine protected areas and environment stand out in the chart as activities that should be promoted in the future. On the other hand, activities such as aquaculture and mineral resources are majorly not well seen by the stakeholders.

Dynamics of 2nd Workshop

Dynamic I: Discussion on the scenarios for MSP in the Azores

The second workshop with stakeholders started with a dynamic to establish the scenario that will orientate the socio, economic and environmental goals in the MSP process in the Azores. The dynamic counted with three pre-established scenarios based on the results of the first



workshop. Then, the stakeholders proceeded to i) vote the preferable scenario; ii) suggest modifications; iii) analyse the suggestions proposed.

The voting phase (i) elected the "Blue Development" as the preferred scenario for the participants at the islands of São Miguel and Terceira, and "Blue Growth" for participants at Faial Island. The plot shown in Figure 6 shows the results for the preferable scenarios.

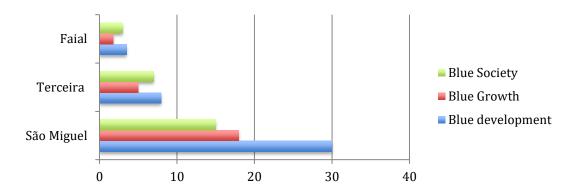


Figure 6: Preferable scenario

The second stage of the dynamic invited the participants to vote on the six most agreed statements and on the three least agreed statements, for each storyline and scenario. The result is shown in Figures 7, 8, 9, which are respectively organized in three groups: G1 (fisheries, aquaculture and non-metallic mineral resources), G2 (scientific research, marine biotechnology, environmental conservation and MPA), and G3 (ports and marinas, shipping and maritime transport, underwater cultural heritage, coastal and maritime tourism).

In São Miguel Island, despite the scenario chosen in Phase I being "Blue Development", the statements with the most positive votes belong to the storyline of "Blue Growth" scenario. In Terceira and Faial Islands, the results were more balanced.

Lastly, the participants discussed and analysed the scenario, identifying which statements were consistent and feasible, as opposed to inconsistent and not feasible. In addition, they were given the chance to identify conditions and/or restrictions associated to the consistency or feasibility of the statements. The statements that resulted in the most positive votes, after excluding the negatives ones, were:

- The school system includes subjects related the oceans and the sea of the Azores [1.4];
- Existence of a regional strategy for Blue Growth based on the sustainable development of the maritime uses and activities [2.1];
- Existence of integrated and effective systems for surveillance and monitoring of the uses and activities on sea [2.8];
- Improvement of the quality of life and the standard of living of the professionals in the



maritime sectors [3.4].

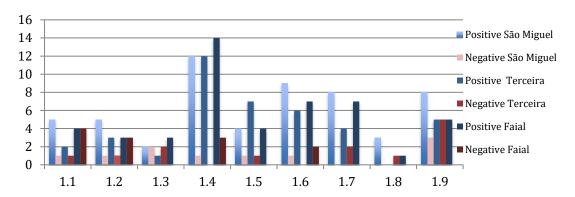


Figure 7: Preferable scenario - Group I

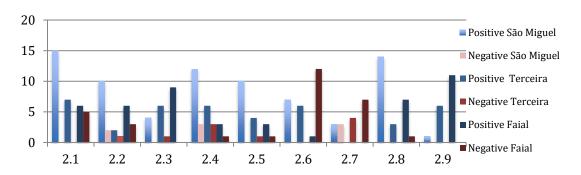


Figure 8: Preferable scenario – Group II

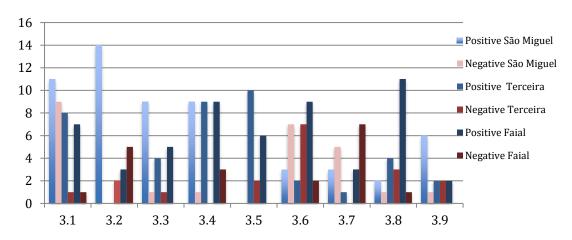


Figure 9: Preferable scenario - Group III

Dynamic II: SWOT Analysis Validation

Dynamic II intended to validate the SWOT analysis resulting from sectorial interviews. Participants were asked to confirm if they were in agreement or disagreement with the



strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats presented. The moderator in each discussion table took additional comments.

For some maritime sectors, participants disagreed or suggested changes to some topics. The SWOT analysis with less topics presented (e.g. aquaculture, mineral resources and navigation and maritime transports) were completed by participants.

In the end, all suggestion made by participants were integrated with the analysis made previously by the specialists, and after a thorough analysis, the most important aspects for each sector were highlighted. The next sections present the most relevant strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

1) Strengths

Strengths in this context represent the characteristics of each sector that give it advantage over other maritime sectors or activities, as shown in Table VIII.

Table VIII: Strengths identified for all maritime sectors

Sector	Strengths
Fishery	Artisanal aspect of fisheriesPotentially sustainableSelective fishing
Aquaculture	 Know-how developed Pristine waters with high environmental quality (e.g. absence of industrial pollutants) The image of modernism associated with the Azores
Ports and marinas	Strategic geographical location (on the routes to America, Africa and Asia)Network of ports and infrastructure in every island
Tourism	Marine biodiversityHistory of the Azores and local cultureSafety offered to the tourists
Research	 Diversity of the environment and resources in a relatively small scale Experience in research and knowledge/information available in different fields Pristine marine environment with minimum human impact
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Marine biodiversity attracts researchers worldwide Integration of economic, social and environmental information Public opinion favourable to promote research on the sea
Environment	- Scientific and historical potential - Ecotourism potential

2) Weakness

The weaknesses identified by the stakeholders represent the disadvantages currently presented in each maritime sector, as shown in Table IX.

Table IX: Weakness identified for all maritime sectors

Sector	Weakness
Fishery	- Shipping of the fish
_	- Activity oriented to quantity rather than quality
	- Lack of inspection by authorities
	- Lack of maturity of unions and associations



	- Lack of education
	- Need of reviewing the legislation for fishing licenses
Aquaculture	- Coastal conditions often not favourable to the practice
	- Limitations for shipping the commercialized fish
Ports and marinas	- Maintenance of equipment, infrastructure and human resources
	associated with ports in nine islands
	- Seasonality of meteorological and oceanographical conditions in the
	operation
	- Obsolete infrastructure
	- Low economy of scale
Navigation	 Proximity between the executive power and the population and trend of autonomy in the regional government
	- Operation is conditioned by thee weather
	- High maintenance costs due to the adverse climatic conditions
	- Pressure on the urban use of port areas
	- Exponential growth of tourism
	- Need of investment in equipment in the short term
Tourism	- Lack of human resources
	- Low quality of services and offer
	- Difficulties of transportation/accessibility for being an outermost
	region
	- Impact on nature
	- Low cooperation between competent authorities
	- Seasonality
Research	- Lack of equipment
	- Research funded by external bodies/sources
	- Difficulty of publish scientific results for the local community
Underwater	- Seasonality
Cultural Heritage	- High cost/benefit of mobility in the Azores
	- It has not been included in the program of development of coastal
	infrastructure
Environment	- Difficulties for implement management, monitoring, and fiscalization
	plans
	- Lack of information about the MPAs for tourists and the local
	population
	- Lack of regulamentation in some already regulated areas
	- Not enough areas classified as IUCN I category (no-take zone)

3) Opportunities

Opportunities are elements present in the environment, external to the maritime sector, which might affect positively a specific sector, as shown in Table X.

Table X: Opportunities identified for all maritime sectors

Sector	Opportunities
Fishery	Increase fishing efficiencyQuantify biomass resourcesIncrease awareness for the consumption of fish
Ports and marinas	 Implementation of infrastructures that allow refuelling of ships with non-conventional fuel (e.g. LNG – Liquefied Natural Gas) New cruise ships destinations Integration with the transatlantic route of container ships



	- Dry docking of small vessels
Tourism	- Diversity of destinations
	- Increasing trend of ecotourism
	- Potential for nautical tourism
	 Promote the island as a sustainable destination that respects the natural resources
Research	- Biodiversity is an asset for researchers worldwide
	 Integration between social, economic and environmental data/information
	- Positive public perception on doing research that ease the investment in new projects
Underwater	- It can foster research and tourism as well
Cultural Heritage	- Developments in underwater archaeology research
	 Creation of a network of a centre of shared management among all stakeholders
Environment	- Unify economic development and habitats conservation
	- Creation of an effective network of MPAs through a participatory
	process
	- Make the Azores a reference in conservation
	- Promote more sustainable practices in the fishery sector
	- International agreements to establish MPAs

4) Threats

Threats are external characteristics that could endanger the integrity and profitability of a maritime sector, as shown in Table XI.

Table XI: Threats identified for all maritime sectors

Sector	Threats
Fishery	 Decrease of fishing quotas Uncertainty in the stock's abundance (changes in the hydrographical/oceanographic conditions and climate change) Complicated legislation for professional fishing Sport fishing is not monitored European Union demand for modernizing the fleet Existing monopolies (e.g. Lotaçor) Non-selective methods of fishing Uncertain economic growth at a national and international level
Aquaculture	 Discontinuity of the island territory Limitations for exporting the product Non-favourable physical conditions in the coast
Ports and marinas	 Proximity between the executive power and the population and excessive trend for the autonomy of the regional government Operation is conditioned by weather conditions Infrastructure is heavily impacted by the rough weather conditions Urban pressure exerted on the port area Tourism growth and decrease of the quality offered Need for investments in infrastructure and equipment
Tourism	Competition with other destinationsCurrent political strategyMass tourismPrice competition



	Lack of ocean literacyIndustrial fishing is unregulatedRedistribution of carrying capacity in the islands
Research	 Development and strategic policies aimed at the short-term perspective Lack of mechanisms of financing and limited budget The administrative processes demanded of researchers curb the developments of new research projects
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Ports and exploration of non-metallic resources in areas that have not been evaluated yet Difficulties of planning the fishery sector Obtaining resources to monitor and manage the sea of the Azores
Environment	 Invasive species Pollutants and ocean acidification Commercial fishing and overexploitation of resources Lack of finance resources to implement management actions Increase of economic pressures to develop extractive activities on the sea Activities that threat the good environmental status and the external image of the Azores

Dynamic III: Validation of Maritime Sector's Trends and Pressures in face of the Drivers of Change

The main goal of Dynamic III was to validate the results on the trends of each maritime sector and the pressures resulting from identified drivers of change, obtained through sectorial interviews. The data resulting from the development of dynamic III was analysed and integrated into other MarSP project deliverables, namely in the report of current uses (Deliverable 2.5 of the project) that includes a section of sectorial characterization with the SWOT analysis for each one of the sectors.

Table XII: Climate change and pressures by sector

	Climate change	
	Increasing trend	
Sector	Pressure	
Fishery	- Changes in the climate, such as currents, water temperature, sea level rise, will impact the marine life and size of fish stocks	
Aquaculture	- Sea level rise, rise of water temperature, catastrophic events can affect the productivity of the sector	
Navigation	- The opening of the artic passage for longer seasons might alter the traffic intensity of the international routes of shipping, decreasing the number of vessels in the sea of the Azores	
Ports and Marinas	 Adaptation of infrastructure to the new demands and adaptation to climate change and extreme weather conditions Increase of the cost and frequency of maintenance 	
Tourism	- The environmental conditions presented to the tourist might change or stop existing as they exist now	
Research	 Increased levels of uncertainty in scientific models developed in different areas Increased uncertainty regarding the study of climate change itself due to the cumulative effects of climate change Need for long term monitoring and data (species and temperatures) 	



	 Need to resize / adapt infrastructures to support monitoring / data transmission Changes in research priorities for studies of the effects of climate change Destruction or transition of ecosystems as objects of research studies Difficulty in organizing and implementing field work campaigns due to greater climate instability Possibility of funding bias
	- Introduction of exotic species that may or may not have a character
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Changes in natural cycles (e.g. sea currents, water temperature, sea level rise, seawater acidification) may restrict/hinder access to underwater traces and lead to the destruction/damage of archaeological remains/shipwrecks
Environment	 Changes in natural physical and ecological cycles (e.g. marine currents, water temperature, seasons, ocean acidification, sea level rise) that bring about general changes in ecosystems Increased frequency of extreme events that could damage ecosystems (mainly in coastal areas) Change of routes / mobility of species Changes in species / habitat distribution Changes in primary productivity Changes in forage areas (bird feeding areas during migration) Alterations in nesting colonies (e.g. garajaus)

Table XIII: Conservation and pressures by sector

	Conservation
	Increase in the number and coverage of MPAs
Sector	Pressure
Fishery	- After the expansion of the MPAs, there could be an increase in the overall biomass in favour of the fishery sector. In the other hand, they might affect the zones for fishing and limit the access to the stocks
Aquaculture	- Reduce the number of available areas for aquaculture
Aggregate Extraction	 Environmental requirements for the most environmentally impactful sectors may continue to rise Legislation in this area at different levels will continue to be fundamental in these extraction processes Increasing and greater control of MPAs can displace or reduce exploitation of marine resources in these areas, including in nearby places
Navigation	 Environmental requirements for the most environmentally impactful sectors may continue to rise. International conventions such as MARPOL (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships) will continue to be fundamental in licensing processes Increasing and better control of MPAs can shift or reduce navigation in these areas Risk of need to change routes
Ports and Marinas	 Possible limitations to port activities due to greater restrictions in the proximity of ports and marinas Risk of need to change established shipping routes, which may result in decreased demand for certain ports
Tourism	 Environmental requirements for the coastal and maritime tourism sector may continue to increase as this sector has an impact on the environment Less availability of current areas or areas with more restrictions for tourism
Research	- Increased demand for human resources and monitoring capabilities



	- Limiting access to resources and areas, especially for biotechnology
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Identification of new areas with underwater cultural heritage may lead to the creation of new conservation areas, so new legislation and regulation will be needed Creation / delimitation of buffer bands around classified areas Integrate underwater cultural heritage management into the management of MPAs wherever possible, which can lead to governance conflicts and overlapping competencies
Environment	 The increase in the number of MPAs will demand a bigger effort of management, monitoring, and surveillance External pressure on defining the most suitable areas for preservation based on economic factors

Table XIV: Demographic changes and pressures by sector

	Demographic changes
Decrease in	the population in opposition to increase in the number of tourists
Sector	Pressure
Fishery	 There may be greater demand for the marine living resource, the increase of tourists, and less demand from the population is guaranteed
Aquaculture	 Increased demand for food resources Increased pressure of urban structures on the environment (e.g. increased sanitation structures)
Aggregate Extraction	 The stabilization of the number of residents in the region along with the increase in tourist visits could mean stability in investment in public works that depend on inert extraction, which could translate into a slight increase
Navigation	 While the number of permanent residents in the region is stabilizing/declining, which may mean stable demand for goods arriving by sea, the number of tourists continues to increase, which not only could lead to higher freight traffic, as an increase in intraregional, leisure and cruise passenger traffic
Ports and Marinas	 Decrease in the number of installations for shipbuilding Abandonment of infrastructure due to declining demand for smaller ports on islands with greater risk of desertification Need to provide facilities for ship repair Need to develop facilities to support the growing cruise tourism market Need to create space to accommodate recreational boating Overcrowding, which makes the pleasant use of space difficult Increased maintenance costs through increased space utilization
Tourism	 Pressure on the resource (e.g. cetaceans for cetacean sighting activity), which requires a more effective compromise between the socio-economic component of the activity and the need to mitigate environmental impacts Need for more onshore infrastructure to support different maritime tourism activities as a consequence of the growing tourism market Improvement of existing services and infrastructure (e.g. marinas) Increased effluent from Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) resulting in decreased seawater quality in areas near outfalls in large settlements
Research	 Changes in priorities and availability of funding sources for science and biotechnology Increased pressure of cetacean observation activity, hindering research studies and changing the normal behaviour of animals Increased pressure on resources generally



	 The recruitment base of the education system and, subsequently, the scientific system will be reduced Risk of loss of access to study areas, because cetacean observation vessels take precedence over research vessels (if there are many seafarers, research no longer has access) Possible environmental degradation of research and biotechnology study objects
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Need ground support infrastructure (e.g. platforms, kiosk, interpretive centre) Greater regulation of the sector Shared management of the sector Interdiction to areas classified as heritage
Environment	 Increased levels of disturbance in species and habitats Increased pollution (noise, marine litter, air, etc.) Higher consumption of marine resources (food, biotechnology, cosmetics, medicine, fuels, energy, mineral resources) Indirect pressure by increasing carbon footprint

Table XV: Blue Growth and pressures by sector

	Blue Growth
Increasing	g investment in the sectors targeted by the Blue Growth strategy
Sector	Pressure
Fishery	 The funds may direct the financing for blue growth sectors, instead of investment in fishery sector
Aquaculture	 More uses on sea will increase the competition for space with aquaculture and the environment
Navigation	- Shipping and maritime transport, although it is a constantly growing world sector, is not considered one of the key sectors for blue growth strategies. Given the island context, maritime passenger and freight transport plays a key role in favour of the development of the Region. However, blue growth favours other sectors that may shift or reduce navigation in their areas of use.
Ports and Marinas	- Ports might need to adapt to the new economic activities
Tourism	 Direct funding also to other blue growth sectors, besides tourism Sustainable growth (investment control)
Research	 Changes in policy priorities assigned to the various research and monitoring lines and consequent provision of funding sources Increased pressure on ecosystems due to the extraction of mineral resources, namely deep sea mining Misuse of funding from fundamental research areas to applied research areas Increased pressure from the economic sectors on the environment and scientific activity Intensification of decision factors (lobbies)
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Increased knowledge: i) about the areas where the archaeological remains / shipwrecks are located; ii) on the archaeological remains / wrecks themselves, in order to value the sector and for a better and more sustainable promotion of it



	 Need for more effective and sustainable management of the sector in the maritime space Increased surveillance of maritime space to protect heritage
Environment	 Increase / diversification of exploitation of marine resources Increased levels of disturbance with increasing maritime space used Risk of changing philosophies to explore the sea to its fullest Impacts on marine biodiversity, e.g. mining and inert extraction, but not yet known Increased conflicts with biodiversity (e.g. birds feeding on aquaculture product)

Table XVI: Innovation, Research and Technology and pressures by sector

	Innovation, Research, and Technology
	Increasing trend
Sector	Pressure
Fishery	 Need for more scientific studies on the behaviour, abundance and distribution of captured species for better and more effective regulation and efficient stock recovery Need to investigate behaviours and attitudes associated with natural resource exploration activities, and impacts of maritime activities on these resources
Aquaculture	 Sector modernization and possible increase in production Possibility of exploitation of new resources in general or increased exploitation of currently exploited resources that may eventually affect aquaculture (e.g. water quality, cost of production)
Aggregate Extraction	 Technological advances will mean greater and better access to marine mineral resources, especially those at the deepest, including resources that are currently inaccessible, with risks of environmental contamination Scientific research on the other hand will lead to advances in knowledge about the distribution of mineral resources and exploration and exploitation technologies and their impacts on the marine environment. All this may also lead to a reduction of impacts on the environment (pollution, contaminants, etc.) and in relation to other maritime activities
Navigation	 Technological and scientific innovation could allow a larger capacity and size of cargo ships (ever larger container ships) and passengers, which could mean a reduction in traffic intensity It may also lead to a reduction in environmental impacts (pollution, fauna, etc.) in this sector and other maritime activities
Ports and Marinas	- Need to supply new specifications, such as the fuelling of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)
Tourism	 The need for more scientific studies on the behaviour of species observed when carrying out the different activities for better and more effective regulation More impact studies and solutions proposals Increase in brand and recapture studies of fishing-tourism practitioners Combining research with public knowledge and decision support Need for studies to identify load capacity levels
Underwater Cultural Heritage	 Need for more technical-scientific studies of the sector for more effective regulation



	 Need for exploration and investigation of submerged archaeological remains using new techniques (e.g. mapping surveys)
Environment	 Increasing the level and capacity for scientific exploitation of new habitats and species Need for further integration of research and decentralization of certain areas Increased knowledge may not be best applied, with possible impacts on ecosystems

Dynamic IV: Interaction Matrixes Validation

The fourth dynamic aimed to validate the matrixes of interaction among the sector built based on the results of the previous workshops. In this analysis, a scale of interaction between -3 and 3 was set, in which negative values point towards conflict and positive values for synergies, whilst higher values represent a higher intensity in the relation and lower values a less intense interaction.

1) Sector-Sector

The matrix between sectors analysis the presence of conflicts and synergies between the same sectors, as shown in Figure 10. The synergies are widely found in four sectors i) Ports; ii) Tourism; iii) Research; and iv) Conservation. Conflicts are found at i) Ports; ii) Tourism; and iii) Conservation.

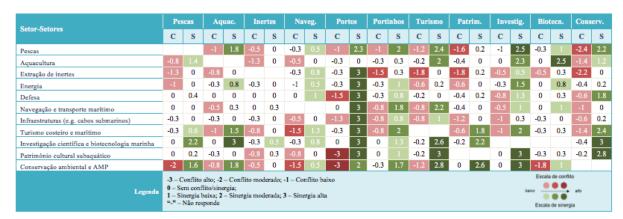


Figure 10: Sector-Sector Analysis

2) Land-Sea Interaction

The matrix of interactions evaluates the conflicts and synergies between sectors in the context of each coastal use and activities within the 30m bathymetric line, according to Coastal Zone Management practices, as shown in Figure 11. In this analysis, the synergy are mainly found at i) Ports; ii) Tourism; iii) Research. On the other side, conflicts are generally found at i)



Tourism; ii) Conservation; iii) Aggregate Extraction.



Figure 11: Land-Sea Interaction

3) Sector-Environment

The third analysis concerns the positive and negative aspects of each sector in the context of the Good Environmental Status, required by EU member states according to the by the European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), as shown in Figure 12. According to the stakeholders, the main sectors that may contribute to achieve a Good Environmental Status are: i) Research; ii) Biotechnology; iii) Conservation iv) Underwater Cultural Heritage. Meanwhile, the most negative sectors are i) Fisheries; ii) Aquaculture; iii) Shipping; iv) Ports; and v) Tourism.



Figure 12: Sector-Environment

Dynamics of 3rd Workshop

Dynamic I: Cartography Validation (Restrictions and conditions)

The Workshop's first Dynamic aimed to discuss and validate the legal constraints and



conditions that each of the main maritime sectors are subject to. To drive the exercise, the stakeholders had maps with the collected information as well as and three questions to guide them:

- i) Which are the constraints and/or conditions missing?
- ii) If information regarding an identified condition is incomplete, how would you complete it?
- iii) Which are the sources of information/data available to map and corroborate the missing information?

In general, the participants mentioned that there were some difficulties to read the maps due to the overlapping of information. Nevertheless, it was possible to gather contributions over the entire Archipelago, mainly for the following islands: Pico, São Jorge, Faial, Corvo, Flores e São Miguel.

To organize the contributions from the stakeholders and guide future material the inputs of the participants were classified under the following subcategories: Information to ratify and clarify; Missing Information; Suggestions and Comments; Conflicts; Solutions and Synergies.

Dynamic II: Cartography Validation (Current situation)

The Workshop's second Dynamic aimed to discuss and validate the actual scenario of each sector of each Working Group. To drive the exercise, the stakeholders had maps built with information collected in workshops and interviews with local sectorial representatives. In addition, the participants had the following main questions to guide them through the exercise:

- i) Are there uses/activities missing?
- ii) Is the current situation well represented on the map?

In general, there was a variety of contributions provided by the participants. The inputs range from activities and uses that were missing to conflicts that happen between different uses/activities in the region. There were also contributions regarding sources of information that could be integrated into the MarSP project.

These results will be further analysed and consolidated in the final reports and maps of the MarSP project.

Dynamic III: Cartography Validation (Potential situation)

The main goal of Dynamic III was to validate and discuss the potential of each sector for each Work Group. The maps used in this activity are a compilation of data of official sources and information collected in interviews with local representatives. During the dynamic, there were three questions to guide the participants through, are they:

- i) Are there uses/activities missing?
- ii) Is the current potential situation well represented on the maps?
- iii) Might will happen spatial conflicts between uses/activities?

There was a range of contributions for different Working Groups by the participants. However, in general, the most mentioned activities/uses were areas with exceptional value for conservation, tourism and nautical sports.

The data resulting from the development of Dynamic III were analysed and integrated into the final reports and maps of the MarSP project.

Dynamic IV: Good Practices

The main goal of Dynamic IV was to identify the participation perceptions regarding the good practices for each of the sectors named in Azores region.

The instructions for the dynamic guided the discussions among the participants along with two main questions:

i) Which are the good practices that either exist or should be implemented in Azores



for each one of the sector?

ii) Which are the currently practices in place in Azores that should be maintained and be considered as good practices and which ones should be suspended?

The following outcomes are an integrated result from the three islands. The contributions made by the stakeholders are categorized in the Figure 13 by Island where the workshop occurred and working group, in which G1 represents contributions for the sectors of fisheries, aquaculture and non-metallic mineral resources; G2 is scientific research and marine biotechnology and environmental conservation and MPA; and G3 are contributions for ports and marinas, shipping and maritime transport, underwater cultural heritage and coastal and maritime tourism. The contributions were also sorted by what maritime sector they were directed to, as shown in Figure 14.

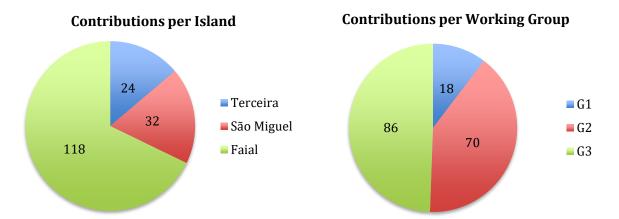


Figure 13: Contributions categorization

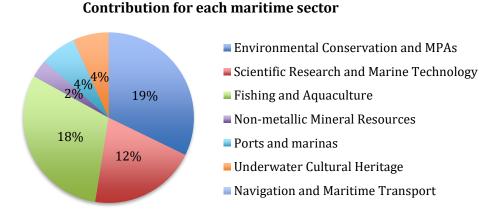


Figure 14: Contribution for each maritime sector

The participation of the stakeholders resulted in several recommendations for the decision-making, including:

- Apply the principles of Ecosystem-Base Management to ensure that social, ecological and economical aspects are duly respected when analysing the Ecosystem Services of the Azores;
- Perform an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for each sector in order to



- safeguard marine life and biodiversity, in special for potential new areas and new activities that have been prioritized by the Blue Growth policy, as well as sensitive habitats and species, in special cetaceans, bird colonies, and seamounts;
- Implement the use of indicators for sustainability and environmental impact for the licensing of new areas, creating means to subsidize the decision-making process, in partnership with the scientific community to obtain the best science-based knowledge;
- Work in proximity with the academia and research centres to increase the collection of
 data on the ecological features of the sea and the socio-economical aspects of the uses
 and activities, at the same time, establish a set of best practices to ensure that research
 is streamlined with the most correct and efficient procedures;
- Improve the communication between policy-makers and stakeholders, policy-makers and the public in general, and between researchers and stakeholders, in a medium and language that is accessible and understandable, that may consist of relevant news, legal implications, management reports, among other subjects related to the maritime spatial planning;
- Promote awareness and education among stakeholders, local communities, and students, to better understand the impact and consequences of their actions (ocean literacy), as well as the relevance of their participation in safeguarding the sea;
- Allow the involvement of other segments of the society and local community into the planning process, involving whenever possible the local community;
- Recognize and value the companies, organizations, and institutions that take positive
 actions to promote a more sustainable use of the sea through awards and certifications,
 besides encouraging social responsibility;
- Ensure transparency and clear communication in the process of licensing for uses and activities on the sea. In addition, it is important to clarify competences at a local, regional, and national level whilst promoting a wider understanding of the legislation in force for each sector;
- Ensure the sustainable use of the sea and a Good Environmental Status, particularly in the context of the extractive uses, balancing sustainability and blue economy;
- Create an effective network of Marine Protected Areas that best safeguard the natural resources without jeopardizing the local economy, following one of the targets of the SDG14;
- Address climate change and the expected impacts into the planning process, including mitigation measures that could be adopted to align the Azores with the global and European guidelines;
- Promote the blue economy in the Azores, analysing the potential development of aquaculture, coastal tourism, and renewable energy; aligned with strategies to foster innovation, competitiveness and diversify the economic activities on sea.
- Stimulate the maintenance of traditional uses in the Azores, specially in the fishery sectors, to preserve local values and traditions, in particular the activities that have a lower impact in the environment, instead of activities that may overload the carriage capacity of the local infrastructure, such the increasing number of cruise ships in the ports of the Azores;
- Promote synergies and multi-uses between the sectors to integrate the uses on sea and maximize their potentialities, solving the conflicts and promoting a harmonious relation among the agents;
- Ensure that a monitoring program is implemented to continuously evaluate the planning process and the management actions taken in terms of indicators and criteria;
- Establish clear and concise action for short, medium and long term with goals that can



- be measured and tracked, applying in this context the concept of Adaptive Management;
- Put into effect a surveillance program to avoid illegal, unregulated and undeclared activities by means of preventive and in-loco inspections, that could be assisted by a platform developed to allow stakeholders to report irregularities and contribute to the surveillance of the maritime space;
- Develop a protocol of biosecurity in the ports of the Azores in order to prevent invasive species to proliferate and endanger the local marine life;
- Prospect the seabed in ports searching for valuable underwater cultural heritage as historical artefacts and ancient shipwrecks worth being preserved;
- Ensure the continuous improvement of the MSP geographic information system and the geoportal associated (SIGMAR), including mapping the legal framework for each maritime sector, especially for fisheries.

Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, and Dissemination

During the Work Package 2 of the MarSP project, there was an effort to try to have a robust and consistent stakeholders' engagement process from the perspective of the organization. With the goal of obtaining feedback and improving the understanding of how the participatory process occurred through the lens of the stakeholders and of improving future public participation initiatives, MarSP coordination developed a questionnaire for the stakeholders to evaluate their involvement.

The survey was prepared in both official languages of the Macaronesian region - Portuguese and Spanish - and was sent to all stakeholders from the three archipelagos that have participated (at least once) in the MarSP project, through an online query platform. It was elaborated based on Quesada et al. (2019). However, it was possible to apply only the second phase of their methodology (positive and negative consequences of a MSP participatory process), since the phase I (identifying stakeholders and methods to promote participation) needs to be carried out in the beginning of the participatory process.

Beyond several questions regarding the overall feedback of stakeholders participation, this survey (Annex I) also includes one question that was used to construct a Word Cloud, material used during MarSP Final Conference hold in Ponta Delgado on 6th December 2019.

Results and discussion

In terms of stakeholder participation in the questionnaires, the Azores got 72 answers, Madeira, 3 and Canaries, 18. The layout of the forms that were prepared for each Archipelago (Madeira, Azores and Canaries) can be seen in the Annex II. Madeira has few answers because its participatory process, due to the phase they are in its plan, was sectorial. Moreover, in the case of Azores, beyond the workshops there were also stakeholders that were involved through interviews. To make easier the visualization and comparison, the results are shown in percentage and in figures combining data concerning the three archipelagos. In the end, a general evaluation integrating all the answers allows an overall evaluation of the entire process.

Overall Assessment

1) Which sector do you represent?

Figure 15 shows the percentage of the sector that respondents are representing. Tourism was the sector with most representativeness in the assessment process in Azores and Madeira, in Canaries it was research. In addition, there were a significant number of respondents in the



Macaronesian Region who did not feel represented with the sectors listed chosen, in this situation, the option "Other". The sector/function named by those participants are the following: moderator, public administration, security, territorial planning, NGO, infrastructure and MarSP partner.

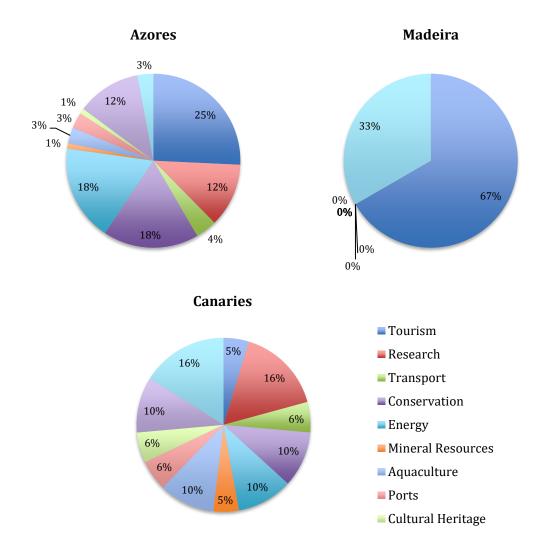


Figure 15: Percentage of sector representation in the survey in each archipelago

2) Which Workshop did you participate in? (WS1, WS2 and WS3)? Figure 16 shows how was the participation of those who answered the survey. It is important to highlight that 5.6% and 16.7% who answered "None" from Canaries and Azores,



respectively, participated only in the interview applied in these archipelagos.

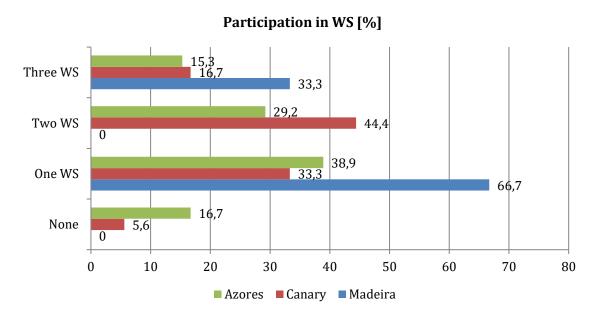


Figure 16: Percentage of participants' attendance

3) Did you participate in the individual sectorial interview? Sectorial interviews were prepared to increase the participation and the knowledge gathering from the stakeholders. The information collected with them integrated not only Workshop II and III but also sectorial Briefings for each sector that Azores has developed. Figure 17 shows the result.

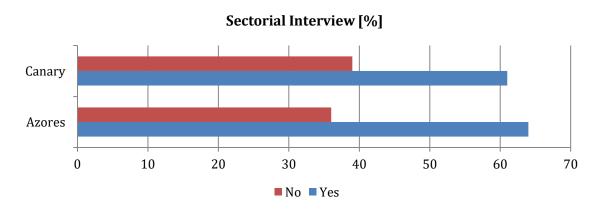


Figure 17: Percentage of participation in the sectorial interview

Stakeholder Engagement Assessment

1) Did the participatory process increase your understanding/perception about MSP? Figure 18 presents how was the knowledge acquired regarding MSP after having participated in the engagement process. Most of the respondents answered the process increased their



understanding about MSP, ranking 4 and over.

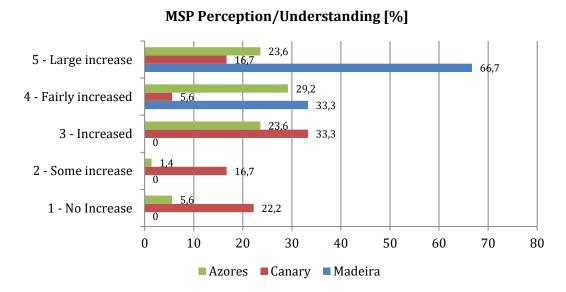


Figure 18: Increase in the understanding of MSP

2) Do you think the pool of engaged stakeholders/representatives reflects well the diversity of actors in the region?

The diversity of stakeholders is an important factor in the process, mainly when it is in the initial phase. The three archipelagos scored higher in rank 4 and 5, however, Canaries also have 33.3% of the answer ranking 2, indicating a point that could be worked better in future processes, as shown in Figure 19.

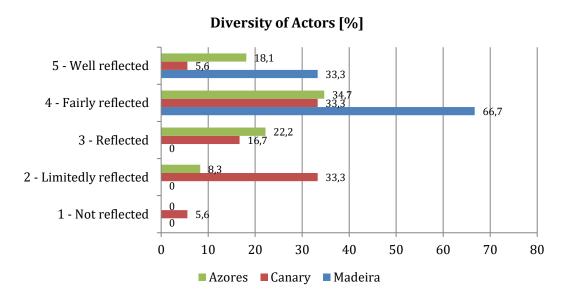


Figure 19: Satisfaction with the diversity of stakeholders

3) Do you think the participatory process ensured power balance among stakeholders? Regarding the power balance among the stakeholders during the participatory process, most



of the feedbacks are ranked in 3 and above, as shown in Figure 20.

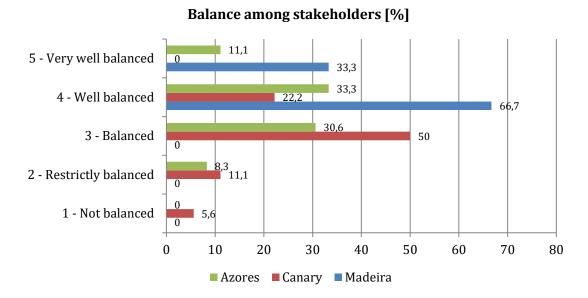


Figure 20: Power balance among stakeholders perception

4) Have powerful stakeholders, economically and politically, influenced the participatory process at the expense of less significative participants?

The majority of answers are ranked 3 and above, as shown in Figure 20, showing there is a space for improvement or clarification together with the participants regarding perception about the political and economic power.

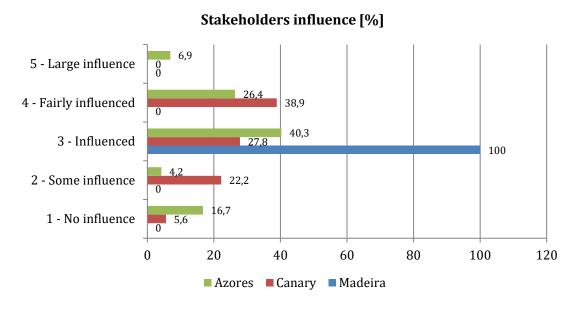


Figure 21: Perception of powerful stakeholders influence

5) How was the collaboration among stakeholders? In Figure 22, it is possible to see a more homogeneous distribution among the rank above 3,



with the majority of the answers in the rank 4. It shows that the collaboration among the stakeholders was successful. The proposed dynamics and activities allowed a proper interaction and sharing among the participants.

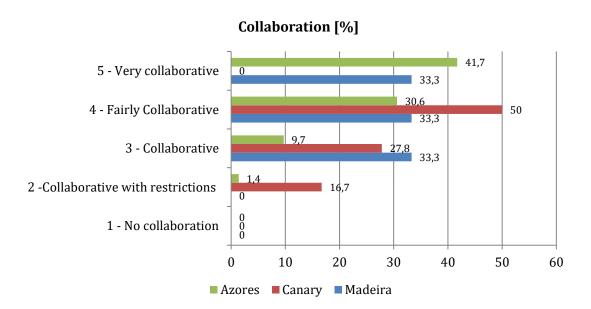


Figure 22: Collaboration among stakeholders

6) What was your perception of the methods of engagement? Figure 23 shows that more than 60% of respondents consider that the method applied in the process of stakeholders engagement was successful, ranking 4 and above.

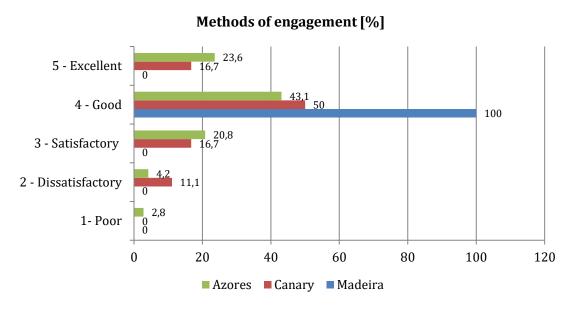


Figure 23: Perception of the methods of engagement

7) What is your willingness to keep engaging in the MSP process? Considered one of the most important question for the process, the willingness to keep



engaging in the MSP process from the participants was very high. At least 66.6% of the respondents chose the rank 4 and above, as shown in Figure 25. This result shows that the engagement process carried in the MarSP project is in the right track, involving the participants and raising awareness of the importance to keep getting involved.

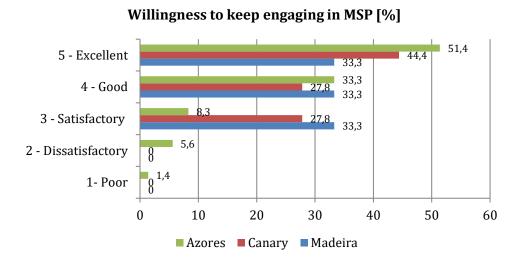


Figure 24: Willingness to keep engaging in the MSP process

8) Do you consider that your contributions have been integrated into the MarSP project results throughout the process?

This question might have been applied a little early in the process, once the results of all workshops and interviews had not been made public yet. It can explain why many of the respondents chose not answers this question and the homogeneity of responses on the rank scale, shown in Figure 25. However, such information can be used as base of comparison for future assessment of the participatory process.

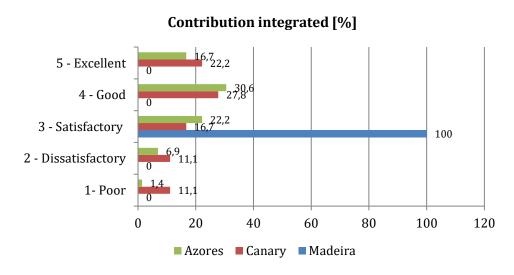


Figure 25: Integration of the contributions into MarSP

9) In your opinion, how was the information accessibility about MSP during the MarSP project



(e.g., supporting documents, meeting reports)?

Regarding the information accessibility, there is a homogeneous distribution among the scale rank, as seen in Figure 26. It can be either the result of two possibilities or both of them combined:

- i) The participants are not so aware or a not following the information channels as Facebook, Twitter, webpage and the Geoportals and platforms that are connected to the project
- ii) There is a need of better information/knowledge transfer within the local community, for example mailing lists, workshops, conferences, etc.

However, it is important to highlight that at the time the respondents answered this survey, the Open Final Conference promoted by MarSP Coordination had not yet happened.

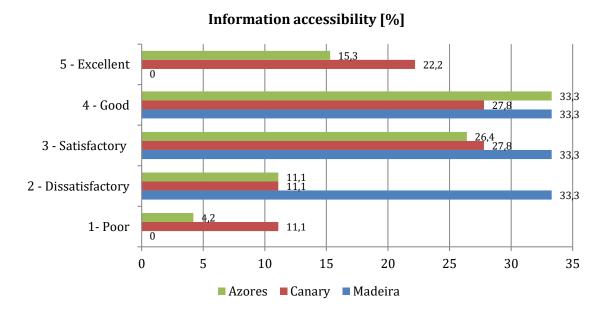


Figure 26: Information accessibility assessment

10) Did the participatory process (joining engagement activities) improved your relationship with other stakeholders after?

The results show a more homogeneous distribution along the rank scale between 2 and 4 distribution, as seen in Figure 27. Improve the relationship between the stakeholders is a step forward in a process such as MSP, that aims to reach a harmonious balance among all the



users of the sea through negotiation, information sharing and open discussion.

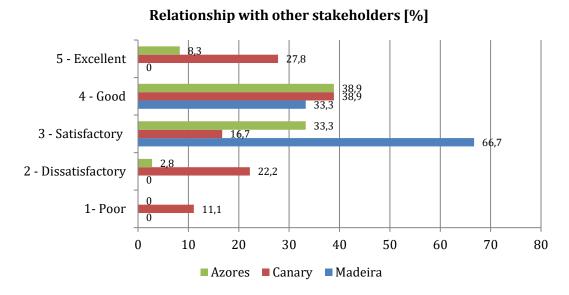


Figure 27: Improvement of the relationship with other stakeholders

General Assessment

To have an overall overview of the evaluation, it was prepared an integrated chart with all the answers, adapting, when needed, using a scale where 1 corresponds to Dissatisfied and 5 to Excellent. Figure 28 shows that most of the answers are ranking 4 and above. These positive results represent all the efforts that have being done throughout these two years, however, it is possible to identify what can be improved in future processes, and the aspects that can be considered as good examples of public engagement.

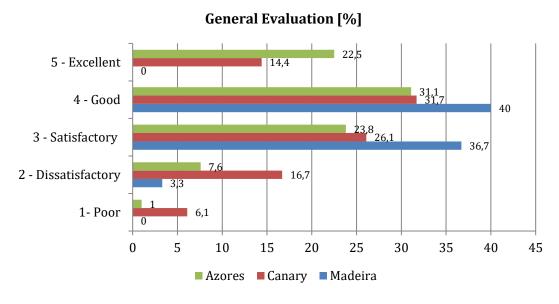


Figure 28: Evaluation of the engagement process

11) Considering the process you went through (or you have been engaged in), when you think



about MSP, what are the two words that firstly come to you mind?

Each participant was asked to write the first two words that came to his/her mind when thinking about MSP. The result of this query was used to integrate an activity that took place in the MarSP Final Conference on 6th December 2019 in Ponta Delgada, Azores. Figure 29 represents the word cloud built with the results. At the Final Conference, it was compared with other two word clouds that were built, one in the 1st Stakeholder Engagement Workshop and the other in the European Maritime Day.



Figure 29: Word Cloud built with words provided in the survey

12) Share with us your experience.

In the survey, it was given the opportunity for the respondents to express themselves by sharing their personal experience. Tables XVII, XVIII, and XIX summarize the results, written in both the respondents own language and the translation in English.

Table XVII: Comments by the participants in the Azores

AZC	RES
Original (Portuguese)	Translation
Insuficiente	Insufficient
A minha participação foi bastante reduzida, mas pareceu-me que o processo de identificação de usos e conflitos foi muito útil, mas pode ter pecado pelo reduzido número de pescadores profissionais e lúdicos envolvidos	My participation was quite reduced, but looked like that the identification process of uses and conflicts was really useful, but have might failed by the reduced number of professional and recreational fishermen involved.
Apenas participei no 3º workshop e gostaria de ter visto uma maior diversificação e representação de todos os setores interessados no Ordenamento do Espaço Marítimo. Achei que um dos setores com maior interesse neste projeto (pescas) estava ausente, pelo menos no 3º workshop.	I just participated in the 3 rd Workshop and I would like to have seen a lager diversification and representation of all the interested sectors in the Maritime Spatial Planning. In my opinion, one of the sectors with most interest in this project (fishing) was missing, at least in the 3 rd Workshop.
Genericamente boa	Generically good.
Foi bom escutar diferentes pontos de vista, tendo todos eles em consideração o recurso fantástico que é o mar.	It weas good listen different points of view, having all of them take in account the amazing resource that is the sea.



Enquanto responsável pela gestão de áreas marinhas integradas em parque natural, há alguns anos que tenho-me disponibilizado para responder a um conjunto diverso de inquéritos sobre matérias relacionadas como ordenamento do espaço marinho, no âmbito de teses, dos OEMA, etc., pois entendo que é, efetivamente, fulcral e estratégico para a RAA, apostar na preservação dos ecossistemas marinhos e respetivos serviços ecossistémicos. A maioria das pessoas contactadas a quem foi pedida colaboração, quando o faziam, não compreendiam o porquê de certas ações,	As responsible for the management of the marine integrated areas into natural parks, for some year I have been available to answer to diverse set of surveys about the matter of maritime spatial planning, under the scope of thesis project, Azores MSP, etc, because I understand that it is crucial and strategic to RAA, invest in the preservation of marine ecosystem and its respective ecosystem services. Most of the people contacted who were asked to cooperate when they did, did not understand why certain actions, when there is no feedback
quando não há feedbacks baseados nos resultados destas.	based on their results.
Foi muito bom, conhecer outros projetos, áreas de trabalho e perceber o que bom têm, as dificuldades e preocupações por que passam	It was very good, getting to know other projects, areas of work and understanding what they have, the difficulties and concerns that they go through.
Falta uma visão de conjunto. falta uma política para os Açores. falta ambição e coragem	An overall view is missing. A policy for the Azores is lacking. lack ambition and courage
O tempo dado para reflexão em cada exercício, no 3º workshop, poderia ter sido maior, permitindo uma melhor compreensão e adequação das respostas dadas.	The time given for reflection in each exercise in the 3 rd workshop could have been longer, allowing a better understanding and adequacy of the answers given.
Fácil! Todos os participantes estavam conscientes do imperativo da tomada de decisões.	Easy! All participants were aware of the imperative of decision-making.
Decompose a constant little de	
Recuperacao e sustentabilidade	Recovery and sustainability
Foi uma experiência muito boa compartilhar idéias com pessoas de outros setores para encontrar um ponto comum entre os diferentes interesses. No entanto, acredito que, para o próximo, os grupos devam ter mais representação no mundo da política e das empresas privadas	Recovery and sustainability It was a very good experience to share ideas with people from other sectors to find common ground between different interests. However, I believe that in the future, groups should have more representation in the politics sector and private companies.
Foi uma experiência muito boa compartilhar idéias com pessoas de outros setores para encontrar um ponto comum entre os diferentes interesses. No entanto, acredito que, para o próximo, os grupos devam ter mais representação no mundo da política e das	It was a very good experience to share ideas with people from other sectors to find common ground between different interests. However, I believe that in the future, groups should have more representation in the politics sector and
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(ordenamento do território terrestre - OTT) seja bastante menos intensa que a generalidades das outras atividades participantes (pesca, ambiente, navegação, investigação, etc.), foi interessante e útil a participação porque pude constatar métodos de planeamento (designadamente envolvimento dos interessados e obtenção de informação) no OEM que, com as devidas adaptações, são transponíveis para o OTT, e julgo que a prática de atuação no OTT também me possibilitou dar contributos para o processo de OEM, por exemplo, procurando encontrar análises multidisciplinares e/ou cruzadas dos assuntos discutidos.	Spatial Planning - OTT) is much less intense than most other participating activities (fishing, environment, navigation, research, etc.), it was interesting and useful my participation. This because I could see planning methods (such as stakeholder engagement and information gathering) in the OEM that, with appropriate adaptations, are transposable to OTT, and I think the practice of OTT practice has also enabled me to contribute to the OEM process, for example, seeking to find multidisciplinary and / or cross-sectional analyzes of the issues discussed.
É uma honra poder participar ativamente na gestão sustentável das nossas lindas ilhas. Muito obrigado!	It is an honour to be able to actively participate in the sustainable management of our beautiful islands. Thank you!
Ganhei conhecimentos dos setores intervenientes no projeto.	I gained knowledge of the sectors involved in the project.
Interessante e dinâmica.	Interesting and dynamic.
Continuamos a falar de tudo e a por pouco em prática.	We continue to talk about everything and little
Rica	in practice. Rich.
Foi muito interessante ver o ordenamento do	
espaço marítimo de diversas perpectivas.	It was very interesting to see the maritime spatial planning from different perspectives.
Considero que a participação nos workshops foi	I believe that attending workshops has been a
uma enorme mais valia não só para o trabalho	tremendous asset not only for the field work I
de terreno que desenvolvo (diagnóstico de conflitos no setor da pesca), mas principalmente	develop (diagnosis of conflicts in the fisheries sector), but especially with regard to the
no que respeita o contexto de investigação	broader theoretical research context of
teorética mais alargado da investigação sobre	governance research and the success of public
governança e sucesso das políticas públicas pro-	policy pro-conservation.
conservação.	
Muito interessante e útil para gestão e	Very interesting and useful for management and
integração dos usos e tradições, com a	integration of uses and traditions, with
modernização e com novas utilizações por parte	modernization and new uses by developing
de sectores em desenvolvimento.	sectors.
You need to also produce documents in English and have support at your meetings.	
Experiência muito boa.	Very good experience.
Positiva, globalmente, mas temendo não ter	Positive overall, but fearing it will have no
consequência devido aos calendários políticos	consequence because political calendars are
serem basicamente incompatíveis com projectos	incompatible with solid and consistent medium /
sólidos e coerentes de médio/longo prazo.	long-term projects.
O nosso envolvimento é muito importante, muitas vezes pelo testemunho da realidade das	Our involvement is very important, often by witnessing to the reality of fishing communities
comunidades piscatórias, bem como da nossa	as well as our proximity to fishing communities
proximidade com as comunidades piscatórias em	in particular with regard to environmental
especial no que diz respeito à educação	education and marine resource management.
ambiental e gestão de recursos marinhos.	
A cooperação e a imensa vontade de alterar o atual rumo de desenvolvimento, de tipo predatório, são, sem dúvida, os elementos	The cooperation and the strong desire to change the current predatory course of development are undoubtedly the common elements to all the
comuns a todas as áreas envolvidas.	areas involved.



Seria importante haver formação aos colaboradores sobre a metodologia aplicada, o seu porquê e objectivos pretendidos. Atendendo a que, surgem sempre casos de integração de novos elementos em etapas diferentes do processo, que eventualmente necessitam de esclarecimento sobre objectivos e metodologias aplicadas.	It would be important to train employees on the applied methodology, its why and intended objectives. Given that, there are always cases of integration of new elements in different stages of the process, which eventually need clarification on objectives and applied methodologies.
Foi uma boa experiência sobretudo pela noção da quantidade de variáveis no Espaço Marítimo	It was a good experience especially for the notion of the amount of variables in the Maritime Space.
Experiência positiva com excelente ambiente e cooperação. Bom esforço e empenho por parte das autoridades envolvidas. Fica a expectativa de ver os resultados.	Positive experience with excellent atmosphere and cooperation. Good effort and commitment from the authorities involved. Look forward to seeing the results.

Table XVIII: Comments made by the participants in the Madeira

Mac	leira
Original (Portuguese)	Translation
Ajudou a ter uma visão mais realista de todos os atores e da sua intervenção.	It helped to a have a more realistic vision of all actors and their intervention.

Table XIX: Comments by the participants in the Canaries

Cana	aries
Original (Spanish and English)	Translation
Me ha ayudado a profundizar mis conocimientos	It is helped me go increase my knowledge about
sobre la OEM y a conocer este fenómeno desde	MSP and to learn about it from a richer and
una perspectiva más rica y multilateral.	multilateral perspective.
Muy positiva	Very positive.
es lo mismo que todos	It is like others.
La experiencia ha sido positiva. Intensa dada la escasez de tiempo por lo que no creo que se esté preparado para plantear una propuesta de zonificación marina ajustada a la realidad de los usos actuales, cuanto menos los del futuro. Como trabajo recopilatorio previo está muy bien.	The experience has been positive. Intense given the shortage of time so I do not think that it is prepared to propose a marine zoning adjusted to the reality of current uses, even less those of the future. As previous compilation work, it is very good.
Me ha ayudado a conseguir contactos muy interesantes en otros sectores.	It has helped me to get very interesting contacts in other sectors.
Muy satisfactoria, una pena no haber estado desde el inicio	Really satisfactory, it is a shame that I have not been participating from the beginning.
My feeling was that the maritime stakeholders representativeness was better in the Azores, that Madeira did not pay enough attention to the participatory process due to their advance state of their MSP Plan and that in the Canary Islands the focus was too much in the academia lacking from more representation in other important sectors like coastal/maritime tourism, ports or safety and surveillance. Despite the above, in general I think it was a great and enlightening MSP participatory process where all	



the possible efforts where done in order to promote stakeholders' participation. Congratulations!	
Requiere más conocimiento de la gestión real del territorio desde las AAPP	It requires more knowledge of the real management of the territory from the Public Administrations.
No pude participar lo que deseaba	I could not participate in what I wanted.
Positiva	Positive

Final considerations

It is important to highlight that the process of assessment of stakeholder involvement was applied in few MSP processes, being this survey an attempt to consider the opinion of the participants in the followings processes that might take place in the Macaronesian Region. Although Quesada-Silva et al. (2019) states that the Stakeholder Participation Assessment Framework (SPAF) was designed to be implemented by a neutral evaluator, integrating all the components behind the process (coordination, methodology, reason, etc.) in an evaluation divided in two phases, the feedback coming from the participants also provided valuable information from MarSP engagement process that can help to improve future participatory processes.

The survey that was built on the queries of the 2nd phase of SPAF has shown where are the strengths of the MarSP participatory process and where more efforts for the improvement of methodologies should be applied. The results also can be used as the baseline of the participatory process that has been carried in the three Archipelagos.

Moreover, the fact that the survey was based in a framework that might be applied to other MSP processes around the world, it also may help provide data for future comparison and assessment of the participatory process worldwide as a whole.

References

Quesada-Silva, M., Iglesias-Campos, A., Turra, A., & Suárez-de Vivero, J. L. (2019). Stakeholder Participation Assessment Framework (SPAF): A theory-based strategy to plan and evaluate marine spatial planning participatory processes. Marine Policy, 108, 103619.



ANNEX I

Stakeholder Engagement, Communication, and Dissemination

After two years of the project, MarSP is arriving to its ends, and you, as a stakeholder, have had a fundamental role in this initial process in the Maraconesian region. Taking into account that the MSP is a continuous process, we would like to hear and learn from you how was the participatory process that you have been involved in. Your feedback will help us to keep improving and doing better in future activities. We would like to invite you to answer a quick (5 minutes) questionnaire. We are most grateful for all your valuable contributes!

General Questions

	I.	Which sector do you represent?
		$\hfill\Box$ Fishery $\hfill\Box$ Aquaculture $\hfill\Box$ Sea mining (non-metallic) $\hfill\Box$ Research and marine
biot	ech	nnology
		$\hfill\Box$ Conservation and Marine Protected Areas $\hfill\Box$ Ports and Marinas $\hfill\Box$ Maritime Shipping
		\square Cultural and underwater heritage \square Tourism \square Other:
	II.	Which Workshop did you participate? (WS 1, WS 2 and WS3)? \square WS 1; \square WS 2; \square WS 3; \square All; \square WS 1 and 2; \square WS 1 and 3; \square WS 2 and 3
	III.	Did you participate in the individual sectorial interview? $\square \ \ YES; \ \square \ \ NO$
Sta	ke	holder Engagement Assessment
	1.	Did the participatory process increase your understanding/perception about MSP? No increase \Box 1 \Box 2 \Box 3 \Box 4 \Box 5 Great increase
	2.	Do you think the pool of engaged stakeholders/representatives reflect well the diversity of actors in the region? No representativeness \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 Very well represented
	3.	Do you think the participatory process ensure power balance among stakeholders? No balance \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 Very well balanced
	4.	Did powerful (economic and political) stakeholders influence the participatory process? No influence \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 A lot of influence



5.	How was the collaboration among stakeholders?
	No collaboration \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 Very collaborative
6.	What was your perception of the methods of engagement?
	Very bad □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 Very good
7.	What is your willingness to keep engaging in the MSP process?
	Very low willingness \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 Very high willingness
8.	What is your perception about your involvement in defining and shaping the drivers of the MSP process?
	Very low involvement \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 Very high involvement
9.	In your opinion, how was the information accessibility about MSP during the MarSP project (e.g., supporting documents, meeting reports)?
	No accessibility \Box 1 \Box 2 \Box 3 \Box 4 \Box 5 Great accessibility
10.	Did the participatory process (joining engagement activities) increase your relationship with other stakeholders after?
	No increase \square 1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 Great increase
11.	Considering the process you went through (or you have been engaged), when you think about MSP, what are the two words that firstly come to you mind?
12.	General comments:



ANNEX II

