

## Blue Azores

Turning ocean plastic waste into green products for maritime industries.

### Azores, Portugal



#### Overview

Focused on the conservation and sustainable use of natural marine resources in this Portuguese autonomous region, the Blue Azores Programme will **contribute to protecting, promoting, and valuing the natural capital of the Azores archipelago**, in close collaboration with various partners.

On February 28th, 2019, the Regional Government, the Oceano Azul Foundation, and the Waitt Institute signed a memorandum of understanding over the “Blue Azores” Programme, which will be **developed and implemented over a period of 36 months** following the signing of the memorandum.

For the duration there will be a **focus on the conservation and sustainable use of resources**, involving education, economics and fisheries management, as well as various local, regional, national and international partners. An important component is to **create new opportunities for sustainable economic development in the area**.

#### Results

- Declaring 15% of the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Azores as new marine protected areas;
- Creating and implementing management plans for new marine reserves and all existing marine protected areas;
- Developing and legally adopting a Marine Spatial Planning plan;
- Developing innovative studies and approaches contributing to the sustainable management of fisheries;
- Identifying new areas of interest for conservation, supporting scientific processes;
- Implementing a blue literacy program for schools and the community.

#### Funding sources:



#### Connect with the project



<https://www.oceanoazulfoundation.org/initiatives/blueazores/>



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