MARINE SABRES

International, Regional, European and National Legislation in The Azores Demonstration Area, Portugal

INTERNATIONAL LAW / COMMITMENTS
INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY BODIES
CLIMATE CHANGE
EC Laws retained in domestic legislation
Target / Status to be met
Enabling / Primary Legislation
Legislative protection afforded

Recycling, analysis, inspection and implementation
Policy and targets
Bylaws; Orders; Regulations; Gear and catch restrictions; Strong Penalties
High ecological relevance VMEs (gardens and deep-water coral reefs)
Licences, Consents and Authorisations
Regional Legislative Decree 29/2023/A
Island Sustainable Energy Action Plan 2012
Regulation on Deep Sea Fishing Licenses
NEAFC Regulated Area Regulation (CE) 734/2008
NEAFC Regulated Area Decree-Law 73/2020
Law on SEA N 17/2014
Water quality & pollution; Licences, Consents and Authorisations; H1 Method
Strategic Plan for Urban Waste
Decree on Fishing Licences
Catch Bivalve Shellfish, Seaweed sp - Portaria n.º 57/2018
Decree-Law on Renewable Energy n.84/2022
Regulation to protect Marine Biological Resources
Commercial fishery Regional Legislative Decree 11/2020/A and aquaculture - Regional Legislative Decree 22/2011/A
Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)
Decree-Law on SEA N 38/2015a ret 139/2015
Environmental management and protection, land use planning, licence of activity
Mineral resources; inert extraction
Regional Water Management Plan 2022-2027 Regional Legislative Decree no. 8/2023/A
National Waste Management Plan 2030
National Renewable Energy Action Plan
National Strategic Plan for EFF
Strategic Environmental Assessments to include transboundary effects
Decree-Law on EIA No 152-B/2017, Azores
Regulatory Decree on EIA
Regional Legislative Decree no. 31/2012/A
Sustainable fisheries & safeguarding the marine environment
NAFO Conv
UN FAO
Licences, consents and authorisations
National Water Plan (2016)
Water Act (2005)
Decree-Law on Waste Management
Renewables targets
Flood Risk & Hazard Maps; Legally regulated coastal zone
Pollution Prevention & Control Regs
Renewable Energy Dir
CFP
Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICAAT)
Flood Risk Management Plan Regional Legislative Decree No 20/2016/A
Regional Legislative Decree no. 6/2005/A Regional decree about Nitrate pollution
Environmental Standards
COP26
ICES CONV.
North-East Atlantic Fisheries (NEAFC)
Marine projects subject to Environmental Impact Assessment
SEA
Establishes the rules for the use of water resources Ordinance no. 67/2007
Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regs, Decree, Ordinance (1997)
Waste FD
PARIS AGREEMENT
KYOTO PROTOCOL
Committee on Fisheries for the East Central Atlantic (CECAF)
EIA
ESPOO CONV.
Flood Risk Assessment
Decree-Law on uses of water resources Decree-Law no. 226-A/2007
Licensing; Planning; Surveillance; Supply; Demand; Infrastructure Management
Regional Legislative Decree 29/2023/A
Nitrate Vulnerable Zones
Industrial Emissions Dir.
UN FRAMEWORK CONV. ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)
UN FISH STOCK AGREEMENT
FRMD
Water Framework Decree-Law no. 77/2006
Law on Water Law no. 58/2005 & Law no. 12/2018
Licences, consents, authorisations
Sensitive area
Nitrates Dir
LONDON CONVENTION & PROTOCOL
G7 SUMMIT
UNCLOS
OSPAR Convention
WFD
Good Chemical Status & Good Ecological Status
National Ocean Strategy 2021-2030
Decree-Law No 143/2015
Programme of measures; Qualitative descriptors; Ecosystem-based management approach; MPAs.
Bathing Water Regs Decree-Law no. 113/2012 + Regional Legislative Decree no. 16/2011/A
UWWTD
MSFD
Good Environmental Status
Bathing beaches
Bathing Waters Dir
UNEP
EU Integrated Maritime Policy
MSP Dir
Marine spatial planning
Law on Maritime Areas Planning & Management Law no. 17/2014
Regional Network of Protected Areas - Azores Regional Legislative Decree no 15/2007/A
OEMA; MPAs, Azores Marine Park; Natural Islands Parks; Marine planning; Interdepartmental Commission for Azores Sea Affairs (CIAMA)
Blue Flag beaches
IMO
UN CONV. on BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD)
COP9
GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK
Azores Action Plan 2019-2027
Marine Park - Regional Legislative Decree no. 13/2016/A / 28/2011/A
No oil and gas production in the Azores
Oil and Gas Production and Decommissioning
RESOLUTION A.982(24) - PSSAs
Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs)
Graciosa, Ridge South of the Azores, Atlantis-Meteor Seamount Complex, North Azores Plateau - CBD/COP/DEC/15/25 19 December 2022
Multiple types of structures (i.e., hydrothermal vent field, Mid-Atlantic Ridge North of the Azores, seamounts), distinct in terms of biology and geology. Key area for breeding population of vulnerable and endemic species and hotspots of marine life and enhanced productivity, Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems
Decree-Law no. 147/2008 - Liability for environmental damage
Decree-Law No. 31/2006 National Petroleum System
MARPOL 73/78
BALLAST WATER CONV.
UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
UN DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE
UN DECADE OF ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION
COP15
BERN CONV.
BONN CONV.
Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA)
Various EU Regs to control shipping & pollution from ships
INT. CONV. ON SALVAGE
AICHI Targets
RAMSAR CONV.
Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)
Luso Hydrothermal Vent, Condor Seamount, Canal Faial-Pico, Graciosa, Santa Maria
None designated
EU Strategy on Invasive Alien Sp.
UNESCO Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage
UNESCO World Heritage Sites
Wild Birds Dir
Habitats & Species Dir
Special fishing closures to protect natural values – with partial or total fishing prohibition; several were later included in the Azores MPA Network
PSSA has areas to be avoided, routing measures and has imposed a mandatory ship reporting system which applies to all oil tankers over 600 gross tonnage.
Safer shipping navigation, pollution control and operation
Reg. 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien (non-native) Species
UNECE AARHUS CONV.
CITES
EU Biodiversity Strategy
Favourable Conservation Status
National Strategy for the Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity 2030 (ENCNB 2030). Resolution No. 55/2018
Shipping Law Decree-Law no. 7/2006
Decree-Law on Salvage
Public Access to Env. Info Dir
Council of Europe Conventions on archaeology & landscape
Regs to control CITES fauna & flora
Natura 2000 sites (SAC/SCI/SPA)
Portugal Strategy 2030. Resolution No 98/2020
Harbour works, licences, orders, conservation, duties on ports
Prevention, management & control of harmful aquatic organisms & alien species
Access to information, public participation & justice
Marine archaeology
World Heritage Sites (WHS)
Endangered species protection
Halt loss of biodiversity
Management plans, monitoring, assessments, habitat regulations; Habitats and species protection; Azores network of protected areas; Surveillance and public information; Non-indigenous species; Detention and trading of protected species
Decree-Law 64/2005 on Wreck Removal
Nature Conservation and Biodiversity- Regional Legislative Decree no. 15/2012/A - Natura 2000 Sector Plan Regional Legislative Decree no. 20/2006/A
Loading and discharging ballast water from ships
Invasive Alien Species Regs
Law on Heritage Protection (Law 107/2001)
Law on Archaeological Works
Azores Whale Heritage Sites; Landscape of Pico Island; Central Zone of the Town of Angra do Heroismo
Decree-Law no. 211/2009 Regional Legislative Decree No. 15/2012/A
Network of Cetaceans in the Azores (RACA) - 1999
Regional Legislative Decree No. 15/2012/A
Law on Environmental Information
Law on Underwater Cultural Heritage Decree-Law 164/97
Decree-Law on Wreck Removal
Action Plan for enforcement for the illegal trade of CITES species & the EU action plan against wildlife trafficking
Cetacean Stranding Network of the Azores Resolution No 72/2006
Strict restrictions apply to 'species of Union concern'
Public access to environmental information for decision-making. Public bodies more accountable
Protection of marine archaeology
Archaeological Heritage Regional Legislative Decree no. 6/2018/A
Certification programme established by the World Cetacean Alliance. Pico and Terceira for Landscape and views
Licences, Consents, Authorisations and Enforcement
Monitoring; Protection; Enforcement

MarinePlan

Adapted from McAteer et al (2023). Originally adapted from Elliott et al., 2022 and updated from Boyes & Elliott, 2014