



MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

ATLANTIC INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE



AIR CENTRE

ATLANTIC INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE

Approved by the Board of Directors
on February 20, 2025



Miguel Miranda
(Executive Director)



Paulo Gadelha
(President of the Board of Directors)

1. AIR Centre 2024 in a nutshell	6
2. The AIR Centre network in the Atlantic	10
3. Strategic and Operational Objectives	11
4. The AIR Centre activities in 2024	14
4.1 Organization	
4.1.1 Conclusion of the preparatory phase	14
4.1.2 Financial management	14
4.1.3 Human Resources management	15
4.1.4 Project management	15
4.1.5 Installation of the secretariat	16
4.1.6 Terceira Data Centre	16
4.1.7 Promoting the network	18
4.1.8 Improving outreach and impact on social media	18
4.2 Ocean global and regional agendas	
4.2.1 All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance	19
4.2.2 Restore our ocean and waters	21
4.2.3 Replicating best practices in the AIR Centre network	22
4.2.4 Cooperation with Ocean Science Decade and UNCTAD	23
4.2.5 Partnership for Atlantic Cooperation	24
4.2.6 Marine Biodiversity Observation Network	24
4.2.7 Promoting innovation at regional agendas	26
4.2.8 Promoting dialogue and networking	29
4.3 Satellite Ocean Observation	
4.3.1 Cooperation with the European Space Agency	30
4.3.2 Copernicus user uptake	30
4.3.3 EO very high-resolution downstream services	32
4.4 Towards the Atlantic Digital Twin	
4.4.1 Ocean modelling in cooperation with Mercator	35
4.4.2 Contribution to DTO layers	35
4.5 Sharing knowledge and means	
4.5.1 Cooperation between research vessel operators	36

4.5.2 Access to autonomous vehicles and marine sensors	36
4.6 Mobility	
4.6.1 AIR Centre exchange awards	38
4.6.2 Fulbright Awards	38
4.7 Towards a science based cooperative network	39
5. Financial Statements 2024	42
5.1 Accounting reference for the preparation of financial statements	42
5.2 Main account policies	42
5.3 Annex to accounts	44
5.4 Annex to the financial statements	47
5.4 Information required by Legal Diplomas	53
6. Acronyms	54
7. Annexes	
Annex 1. General Assembly Members	60
Annex 2. Board of Directors Members	61
Annex 3. Team at December 31, 2024	62
Annex 4. Projects in 2024	64
Annex 5. Publications 2024	68
Annex 6. Future prospects events	70
Annex 7. Auditor's report	71

1. AIR Centre 2024 in a nutshell

The AIR Centre Workplan for 2024 established six Operational Objectives (OO): (OO1) Conclusion of the preparatory phase for AIR Centre, (OO2) Reorganization of the secretariat and the administration, (OO3) Stabilization of the regional nodes and increase the impact on social media, (OO4) Relevant participation on global and regional agendas for the Ocean, (OO5) Development of regional programs with impact on the Atlantic communities, and (OO6) Increase of human mobility and equipment share between associates. Advances were made in all these directions.

The preparatory phase of the association can be considered completed and will formally close with the approval of new statutes. New members are arriving to the organization, its international role is recognized, and the AIR Centre is perceived as a real contributor to the strength the action of the members. This would not be possible without the support we received from all the associates, and the interaction with the national representative organizations, but a mention must be made towards the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, that chairs the General Assembly, and to all members of the Board of Directors. Their insight was fundamental for the progress of the AIR Centre.

The secretariat and the administration are now reorganized, so that all infrastructure and projects are running smoothly, projects reporting was done efficiently and in-time, and the internal distribution of administrative burden is now protecting the real objective of the organization and its staff: to design, co-develop and disseminate research based products that can make a difference on the Atlantic communities and strengthen our associates, in the three main areas of action: ocean, space and climate. This was possible due to the effort of our energetic administrative team split between the headquarters in Terceira and the secretariat in Lisbon.

The cooperation between the AIR Centre central team and the associates showed a significant advancement. Even if there is still a place for improvement, also because the number of members is increasing, bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation is already a fact, needs and skills are already shared, and the “AIR Centre community” is building up in a sustainable way. Examples are the cooperation with Cabo Verde and Angola in scope of their research vessels and stock assessment plans as well as with Nigeria, Brazil and South Africa in scope of the user uptake of Copernicus data.

The presence on social media is progressing fast but, more important than that, the reorganization of our team into several thematic programs (Data Science, Cloud Infrastructure, and Development Program; Space Systems and Applications Program, Biodiversity and Blue Economy Program and Ocean Policy and Stakeholders Engagement Program), with the appointment of thematic programs’ coordinators and a unified leadership, contributed to a better understanding of the role of the AIR Centre towards its associates. Programs like the Data Science or the Space Systems and Applications are paving the way for highly innovative approaches, and programs like the Biodiversity and Blue Economy, that have been the focus of 2024, are needed to increase the public awareness on the need of more intense cooperation in the Atlantic. The sharing of knowledge and effective

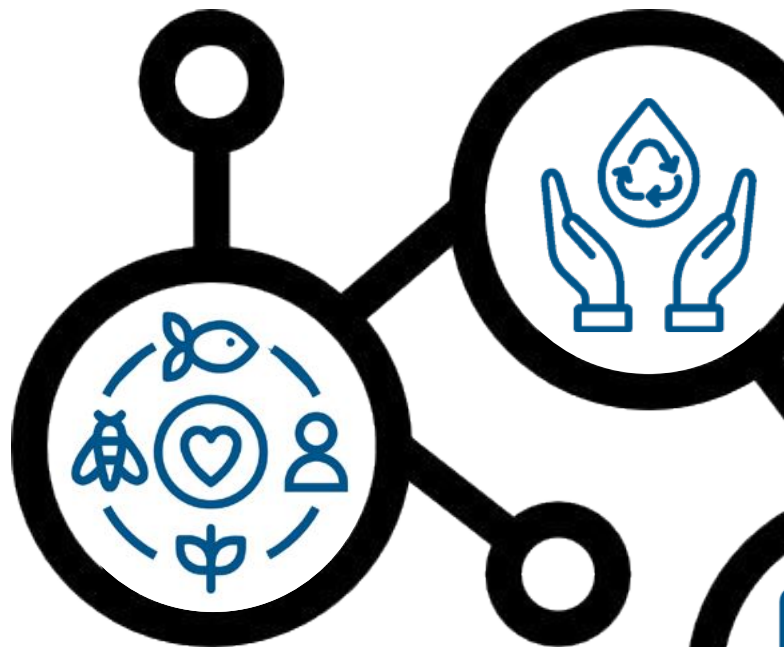
practices among Atlantic stakeholders strongly supports functional Ocean Policies either at national, regional or international level.

The cooperation between the AIR Centre and global agendas like the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA), Marine Biodiversity Observation Network (MBON), the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development or the Partnership for Atlantic Cooperation, are a cornerstone of the organization since the early days. In 2024 we incorporated or led projects related with Ocean policy and with use of Earth Observation technologies supporting global and regional agendas. To be able to keep with leading edge initiatives, we also develop close cooperation with top level United State of America's universities in the fields of Data Science and Space Applications, and we consider the label of ESALab network as a commitment for innovation and implementation of operational satellite-based services that can be openly used by citizens or economic operators.

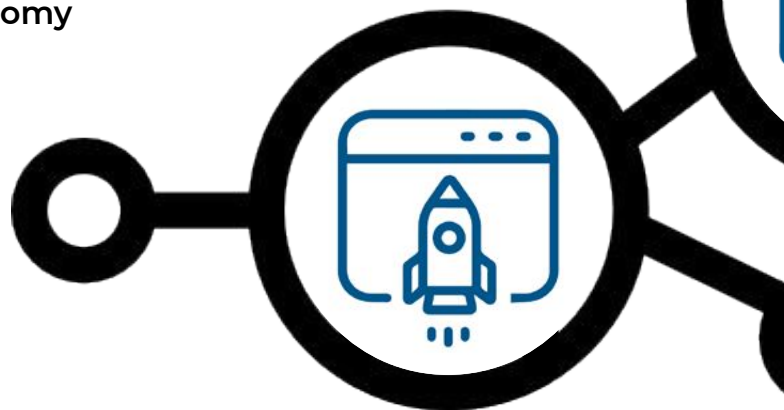
Global policies cannot be separated from regional programs that have direct impact on communities. The AIR Centre has the advantage of having the Azores as a natural laboratory where innovative products and services can be tested before their global dissemination, and where the cooperation with research units is easy and fruitful. In other cases, like oceanographic modelling, there are highly competitive teams and representative test sites as Guanabara Bay or in Madeira. 2024 set the tone for the future, where initiatives should cluster in areas where local skills are high and some organizations, like Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (FIOCRUZ), have the means and the skills to support new programs that will widen the scope of the organization.

None of the above objectives was possible without further mobility between members and their multiple involvement. One good example is the implementation of the Atlantic Cloud in 2024, a transatlantic computation network created, developed and operated by the AIR Centre associates. Our core must be a group of decision-makers and researchers, from Atlantic border countries, committed to work together and to share their views and their ambitions. Able to understand the need to combine research and operation in every area of activity of the association, and to promote the cooperation with the best research groups in the world, as key for our common future.

Ocean Policy and
Stakeholders' Engagement

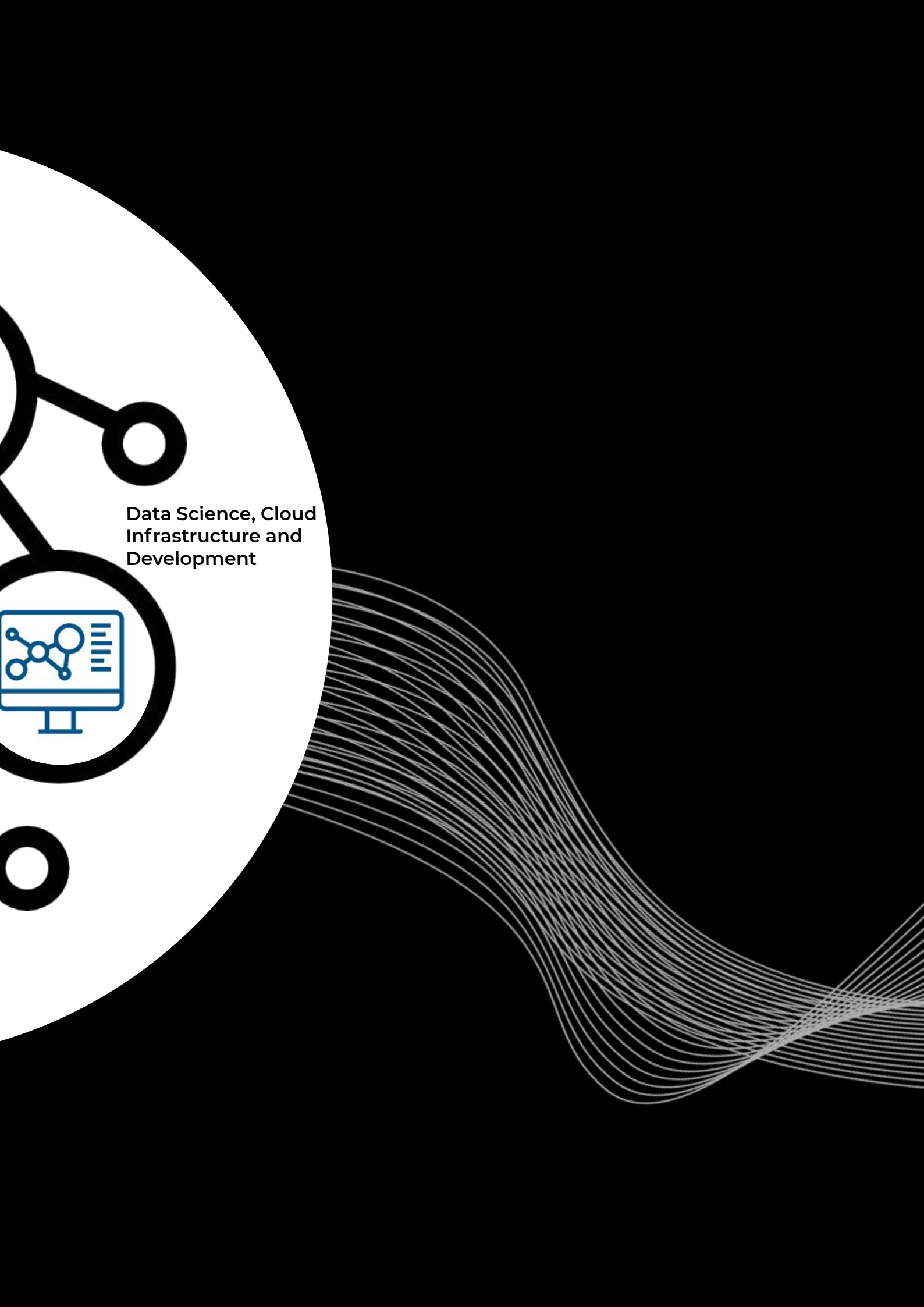


Biodiversity and
Blue Economy



Space Systems and
Applications

AIR Centre's Thematic Programs



Data Science, Cloud
Infrastructure and
Development

2. The AIR Centre Network in the Atlantic

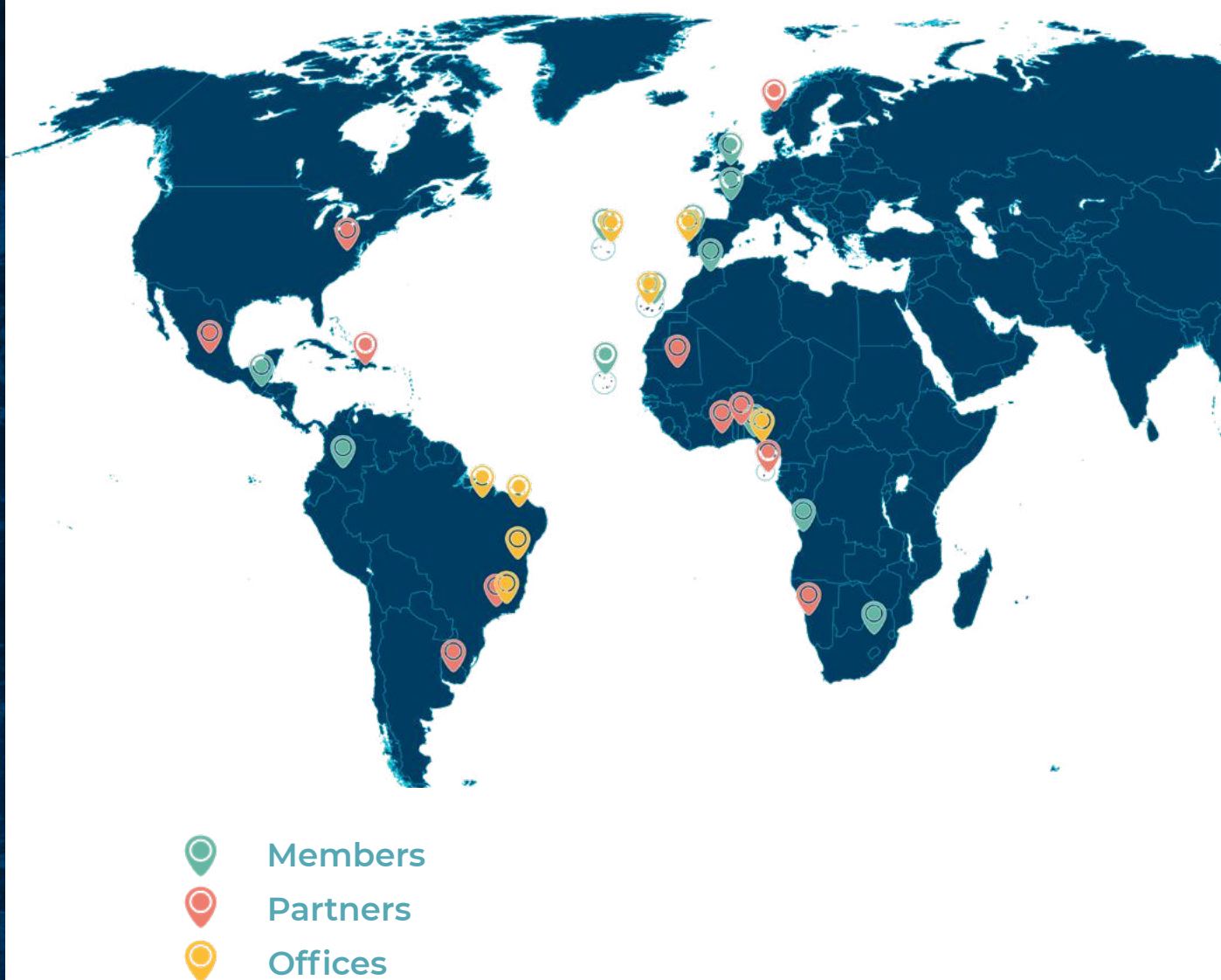


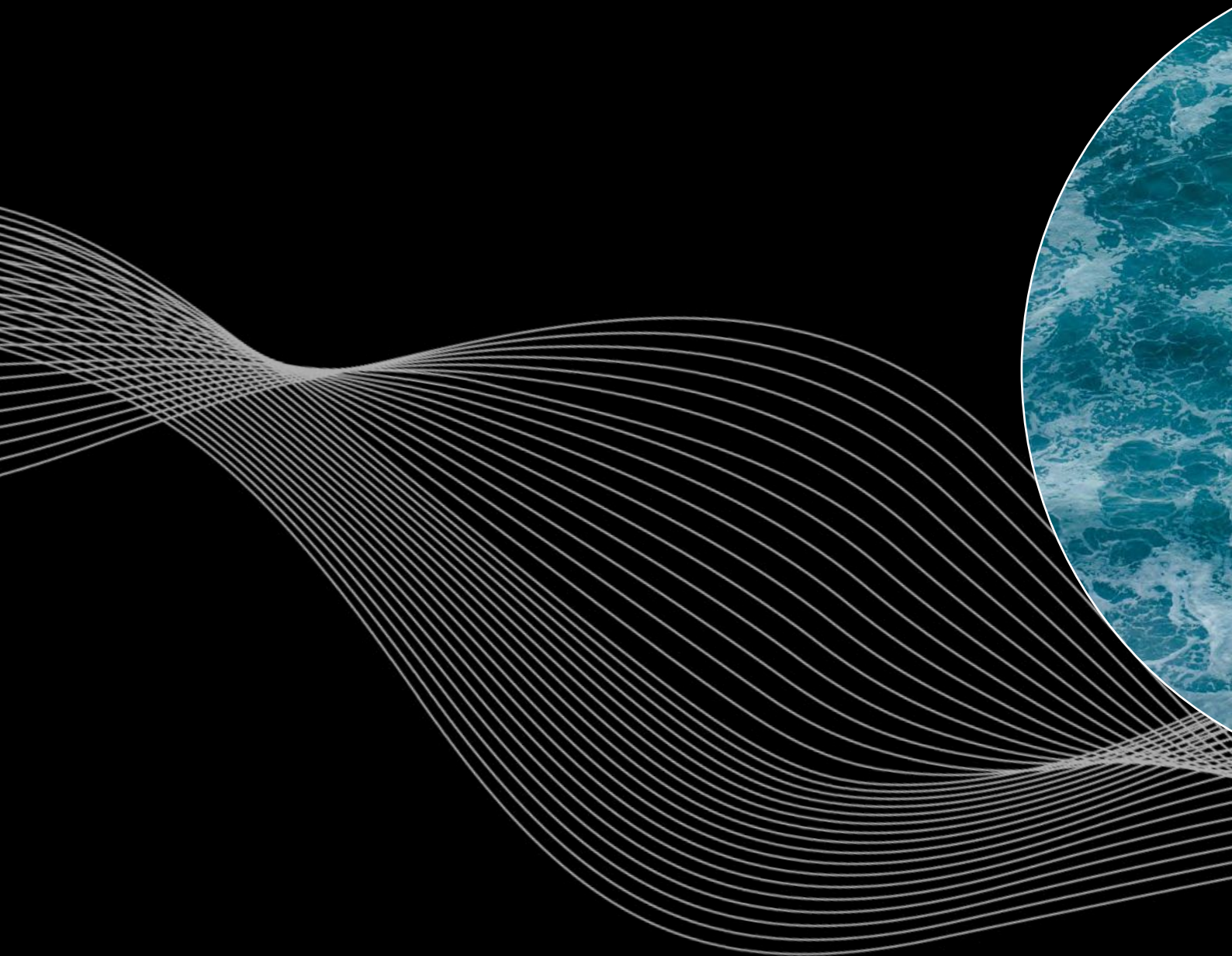
Figure 1. Map of the AIR Centre network.

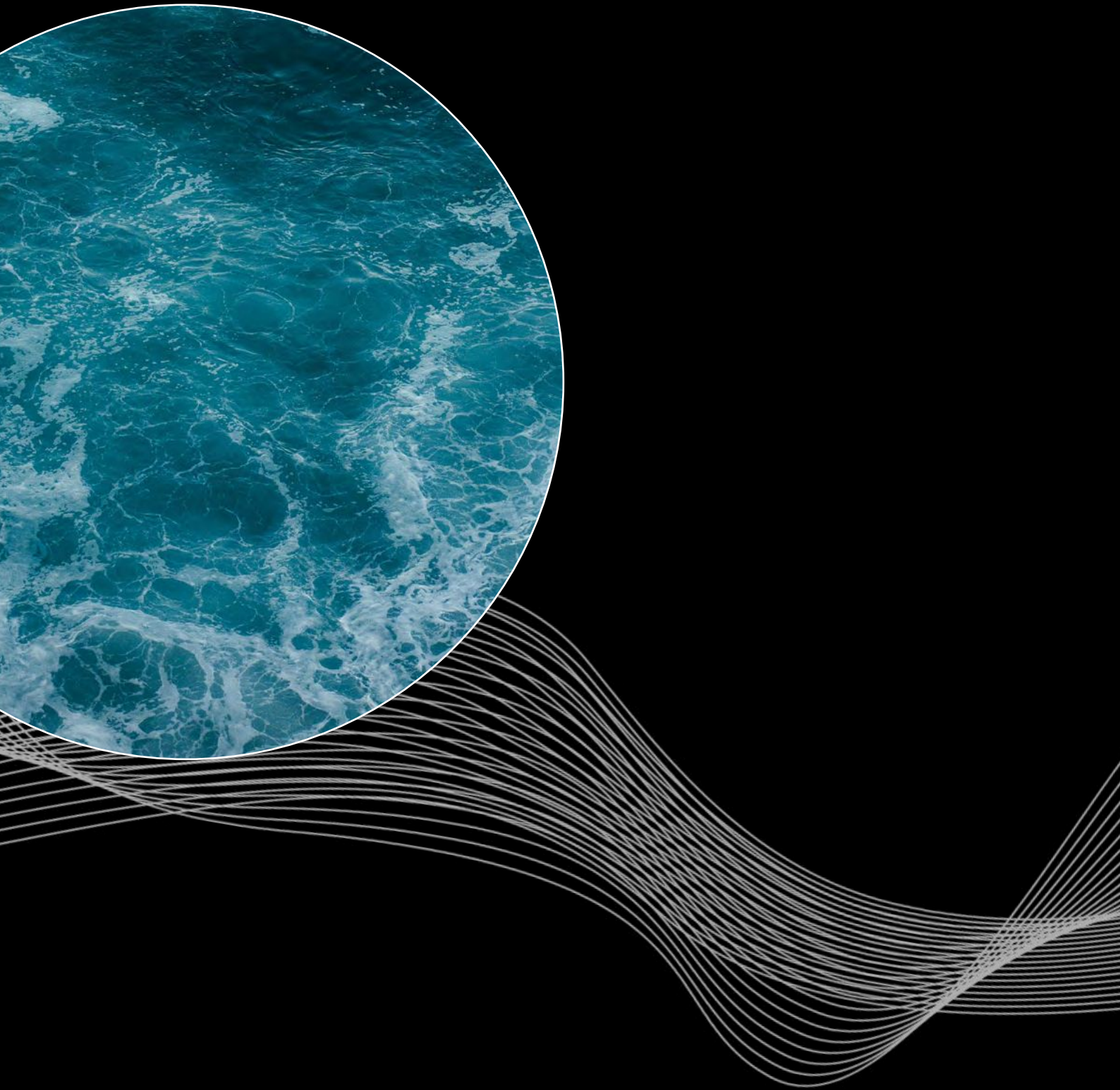
3. Strategic and Operational Objectives

The strategic objective of the AD AIR Centre is to strengthen its role in the Atlantic basin as a long-term platform for collaboration and structured dialogue, capable of providing a set of research and operational services based on the share of resources. The operational objectives (OO) of AD AIR Centre, defined for the year 2024, were the following:

- OO1:** Conclusion of the preparatory phase for AIR Centre
- OO2:** Reorganization of the Secretariat and the Administration
- OO3:** Stabilization of the regional nodes and increase the impact on social media
- OO4:** Relevant participation on global and regional agendas for the Ocean
- OO5:** Development of regional programs with impact on the Atlantic communities
- OO6:** Increase of human mobility and equipment share between associates

These objectives give priority to increasing cooperation between the associates, the pursuit of scientific excellence, and the growing involvement of communities and economic agents. In the following sections we list all actions planned for 2024, their relationship with the OOs, and the activities developed during the period.





4. The AIR Centre activities in 2024

4.1 Organization

4.1.1 Conclusion of the preparatory phase

[2024_01] New statutes for the AIR Centre will be prepared and approved. All nodes will be reviewed based on standard procedures [OO1, OO3].

A proposal for the AIR Centre new Statutes prepared by the Executive Director was drafted and revised by the AIR Centre legal advisor. Most changes are incremental and deal mainly with the end of the preparatory phase and the update of the organisation name to only “Atlantic International Research Centre”. Some updates on the roles of the General Assembly are also under discussion. The new Statutes will be discussed and approved by the members during 2025.

[2024_02] Regular meetings between POC (Points of Contact) will be organized to follow-up the different initiatives of the work program [OO1, OO3].

In-person meetings were held with South Africa, Namibia, Brazil (São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), Carlos Chagas Filho Foundation for Research Support in the State of Rio de Janeiro (FAPERJ), FIOCRUZ, Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ), Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ)), Colombia, Cabo Verde, Angola and Nigeria. Cooperation of the associates in the different programs is increasing continuously, with an important role from Brazil, Cabo Verde, Angola and Nigeria. Cooperation with Senegal, Benin and Mexico also developed, aiming at their integration as new members, and informal points of contact are already established.

4.1.2 Financial management

[2024_03] The budget of the Secretariat and the Azores node will reach approximately 2 740 000 €, with 45% coming from the Portuguese Agencies [OO2].

In 2024 the AIR Centre received as Operating Subsidies a total of 2.025.465,17€, of which 48% coming from Portuguese entities, including Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and the Regional Government of the Azores (GRA). The remaining Operating Subsidies are divided as follows: 21% from Portuguese competitive funds and 31% from European Union competitive funds. The total amount of Operating Subsidies is lower than initially budget related to a decrease in the subsidies from Portuguese entities once the efforts of the staff needed to be concentrated on the reorganisation of the institution and in the funded projects implementation.

[2024_04] The implementation of in-kind contributions from all partners will be started to provide an adequate image of the whole association [OO2].

The implementation of in-kind contributions is related with the approval and implementation of the AIR Centre new Statutes. The new statutes will be discussed and approved among the AIR Centre members in 2025.

4.1.3 Human Resources management

[2024_05] The size at the Secretariat and the HQ will be slightly increased, with the reinforcement of technical and scientific skills aligned with the priorities of the work program [OO2].

During 2024, the AIR Centre opened 8 job opportunities for full time positions, of which 4 people started working at the AIR Centre until the end of 2024 and 3 will start in early 2025. Although the increase in the recruitment processes in 2024, the size of the Secretariat and the headquarter (HQ) is the same in 2023 and 2024 (21 staff members). There is a reorganization with the needed increase in the administrative area. Technical staff related with the main programmes of the association are located on the Azores. There is also an increase in the cooperation with the universities, by the support of AIR Centre to the development of BSc, MSc and PhD programmes.

[2024_06] Implementation of in-kind human resources contributions from all partners will be started [OO2, OO3].

The implementation of in-kind human resources contributions is related with the approval and implementation of the AIR Centre new Statutes. The new statutes will be discussed and approved among the AIR Centre members in 2025.

4.1.4 Project management

[2024_07] The contribution of outsourcing for administrative management will be increased, aiming at better-supporting project leaders with monthly reports, support to cost claiming and optimization of the use of external funding to increase investment and cooperation between associates [OO2, OO3].

Several public procurements have been prepared and launched, according to the decisions made by the Board of Directors and the General Assembly, to ensure full transparency on the selection of suppliers. Supported by a service contract focusing on the financial management of projects and support to human resources management, during 2024 more than 40 project reports were submitted by the AIR Centre, reducing the administrative burden to project managers. Monthly reports are still not in place once the reports to some funding schemes are being quite demanding, and several projects

reached its end with internal audits from the funding schemes. The AIR Centre hired at the end of 2024 a Financial Officer to coordinate the activities between the service provider and project managers. In addition to the above service contract, the AIR Centre holds currently other three multiannual service contracts supporting administrative activities: lawyer services (January 2025 - December 2027); accountability services (January 2024 - December 2026) and travel agency services (December 2024-November 2028).

4.1.5 Instalation of the secretariat

[2024_08] The installation of the Secretariat at new premises in Av. Gama Pinto will be completed, following an agreement with the University of Lisbon [OO2].

The AIR Centre signed at the end of March 2024, a contract with the University of Lisbon to lend office space at the Av. Gama Pinto, N°2, Lisbon. The Secretariat moved to its new premises in April 2024.

[2024_09] All the administrative staff will be installed as well as the Executive Board and supporting infrastructure [OO2].

Currently, the AIR Centre Secretariat holds a meeting room, and 8 offices for the 12 staff members at the secretariat in Lisbon. The premises also accommodate the staff members at the HQ in Terceira when they visit the Lisbon office. The AIR Centre can also access the building auditorium, and other meeting rooms and has access to the bar.

4.1.6 Terceira Data Centre

[2024_10] The in-house computation solution which will be pursued by completing the initial stage of development of the data centre at Terceira Island. We will acquire processing capacity to support the daily work of our scientific and development teams and some external collaborators from strategic institutions [OO2, OO3, OO4].

Two public procurement processes were opened in 2024 supporting the Data Centre activities. One for the acquisition of two new servers for the AIR Centre Data Centre in Terceira Island. The new servers are being installed and will increase the processing capacity of the Data Centre supporting the Centre daily work as well as the Atlantic Cloud co-founded by the AIR Centre in 2024. Another procedure was made for the acquisition of technical assistance services for the servers, network and IT security maintenance at the AIR Centre Data Centre in Terceira Island.



Figure 2 AIR Centre Data Centre in Terceira Island.

4.1.7 Promoting the network

[2024_11] All AIR Centre members will be invited to establish a node and clearly define the activities they can provide to the AIR Centre community [OO3].

During 2024, contacts were made with all AIR Centre members. Activities foreseen as well as priorities for future cooperation were analysed. The draft strategic plan, including the new statutes were also discussed. This fruitful exchange of points of view led to the fine-tuning of the strategic documents, in a very consensual way.

[2024_12] All current nodes will be invited to be represented in the General Assembly of the association through the designation of representatives (and alternates) and to clearly define the activities they can provide to the AIR Centre community [OO3].

The implementation of this activity is related with the approval and implementation of the AIR Centre new Statutes. The Statutes will be discussed among the AIR Centre members in 2025 and therefore the AIR Centre postponed this activity for 2025.

[2024_13] Regular meetings will be organized between the AIR Centre secretariat and nodes to discuss, prepare, and assess strategic decisions [OO3, OO4, OO5, OO6].

The Secretariat of the AIR Centre had meetings with all members. The frequency of meetings has been conditioned by (greater or lesser) participation in projects in which AIR Centre members are actively being integrated since 2024. Work is being very intensive with Cabo Verde, Angola, Brazil, Nigeria and South Africa.

[2024_14] Regular activity reports by the nodes to the AIR Centre secretariat will be promoted where it is indicated how they are contributing to the AIR Centre plan [OO3, OO4, OO5, OO6].

This activity is conditioned by the approval of the AIR Centre's new statutes, in particular due to the possible in-kind contribution.

4.1.6 Improving outreach and impact on social media

[2024_15] The AIR Centre webpage will be restructured; the production of social media content will be reorganized and the exchange of information between the associates will be promoted [OO3].

During 2024, the AIR Centre started restructuring its communications strategy, spanning website, social media, and newsletter platforms. The efforts focused on energizing its social media presence by increasing the frequency and reach of news, calls, and event promotions—not only from its own network but also from

current and potential partners. Additionally, the newsletter was redesigned with a new structure, and a monthly release schedule was established. The new website strategy, started to be developed in close collaboration with the Board of Directors, will strengthen the organization's digital presence while reflecting its core values and mission. The redesigned platform, set to launch in 2025, will ensure a more engaging and user-focused experience that aligns with our strategic objectives.

[2024_16] Science publishers will be contacted to start the edition of an annual volume centred on the environmental status of the Atlantic, with the participation of the academic community [OO3].

This activity was postponed to 2025.

[2024_17] If of interest to the associates, support the co-organization of a large Atlantic event will be provided. Whenever possible this should also allow the organization of parallel meetings where the associates gather and discuss common topics [OO3].

The AIR Centre, in partnership with GRA, co-organized and supported the communications of the first edition of the Atlantic Aquaculture Forum, held in the Azores. In 2024, the Centre expanded its communications support to include other AIR Centre events including JuliaEO2024 and several co-funded project initiatives such as ASTRAL, LABPLAS, OCEANIDS, MBON, SBEP, OKEANO, BlueMarkets, FPCUPs, NextOcean, NewSpace, Azores EcoBlue, BioEcoOcean, CliN-BluFeed, among others.

4.2 Ocean global and regional agendas

4.2.1 All-Atlantic Ocean Research and innovation Alliance

[2024_18] The AIR Centre will continue strengthening the All-Atlantic community through its participation in AAORIA related activities, including AAORIA projects, AA-MARINET and through the outcomes of the "TOWARDS THE ATLANTIC DIGITAL TWIN", "SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND MEANS" and "MOBILITY" activities detailed below [OO4].

The All-Atlantic project ASTRAL ended successfully in September 2024. The AIR Centre's major goal was to create the Atlantic Aquaculture Network (currently with 394 users from 183 organisations covering 45 different countries), coordinate several tasks including capacity building activities (372 certifications were awarded), women empowerment and gender mainstreaming activities in aquaculture (reaching 323 women from Nigeria) and ocean literacy activities (reaching over 1.600 students).

Other activities organised by the AIR Centre in 2024, in the frame of ASTRAL, include (a) the United Nations (UN) Ocean Decade Conference Side Event “An Ocean of Food: Science and Solutions for Ocean-Climate-Food Challenges” in Barcelona, Spain (11 April 2024) and (b) the Atlantic Aquaculture International Conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa (9-13 September 2024). This conference was an in-person event jointly organised with the 15th conference of the Aquaculture Association of Southern Africa, which reached 157 registered participants, from 18 countries. The experience and network built within the ASTRAL project have served to consolidate the transition scenario to the “Atlantic Aquaculture Forum” a fully AIR Centre branded event, which started with its 1st edition in 2024 and is expected to be consolidated as one of the most relevant events of the AIR Centres on aquaculture in the Atlantic area.



Figure 3. ASTRAL technical visit to Kelp production facilities in Saldanha Bay during the Atlantic Aquaculture International Conference (AAIC24) organised by the AIR Centre in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

The AIR Centre is part of the OKEANO project which supports the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA). Within the project the AIR Centre organised or co-organised:

- a) two sessions to promote AAORIA alignment with key international and multilateral programmes & initiatives at the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona,
- b) two sessions within the VIII Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) Workshop to promote the Alliance and the All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network (AA-BSN),
- c) discussions began in the summer of 2024 to organise a series of online sessions (All-Atlantic connect) in collaboration with Oceans 20/G20 for early 2025.

In scope of its support to AAORIA, the AIR Centre sponsored two Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) to participate in the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Forum in Ottawa, Canada in October 2024. On November 22nd, the AIR Centre attended the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) where it organised a Session focused on Monitoring the Ocean Climate with Space and Data Science. The presence at COP29 was very important to strengthen the cooperation with associates, particularly from Brazil and Angola that also contributed to the session.

The AIR Centre continues strengthening the All-Atlantic community through “Sharing knowledge and means” via co-leading the All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network ([AA-MARINET](#)) Joint Pilot Action.



Figure 4. AIR Centre's participation at COP 29, Baku, Azerbaijan.

4.2.2 Restore our ocean and waters

[2024_19] The AIR Centre will continue its support to the implementation of the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters” through its participation in Mission related projects and through the outcomes of the “TOWARDS THE ATLANTIC DIGITAL TWIN” and “MOBILITY” activities detailed below [004].

Through BlueMissionAA and A-AAGORA, the AIR Centre has led and participated in several actions in support to the implementation of the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters”:

- a) launched the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Awards during the 2nd Annual Forum of the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030” on March 5, 2024, in collaboration with MPA Europe;
- b) Participated in major ocean-related events such as European Maritime Days, European Ocean Days, EU Mission Ocean and Waters Annual Forum, 8th OBPS workshop, All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Forum, among others;
- c) participated in several Mission Ocean project meetings and events: UNITE! Widening event (March 2024), POLARIN Kick-Off meeting (April 2024), AQUARIUS Kick-Off meeting (April 2024) and NETTAG+ Kick-Off meeting (May 2024).

4.2.3 Replicating best practices in AIR Centre's network

[2024_20] The AIR Centre will actively look for funding opportunities contributing to the implementation of the EU Green Deal aligned with its associates' priorities [004].

During the year of 2024, the AIR Centre prepared submitted several proposals to different funding opportunities, namely to Horizon Europe Programme, PO Azores Programme, Interreg MAC as well as to procurement tenders. Whenever feasible, AIR Centre members were involved, as well as other Atlantic countries such as Benin and Senegal.

[2024_21] Outcomes and best practices from the participation in EU funded projects with a potential to be replicated at an Atlantic scale will be collected and will serve as the basis for potential new joint activities with its AIR Centre associates [004, 005, 006].

The following outcomes from EU funded projects have potential to be replicated at an Atlantic scale:

- a) [ASTRAL legacy booklet](#): compilation of all the results of the project;
- b) [Aquaculture production manuals](#): focussed on different aquaculture systems of Atlantic countries: Ireland, Scotland, South Africa, Brazil and Argentina;
- c) [Technology Solutions for Aquaculture](#): Specific solutions to make aquaculture more efficient and sustainable;
- d) [WaveLinks](#): a platform that maps the research and innovation landscape of the Mission Ocean, fosters collaborations between projects and reinforces links between academia, industry and society. This exciting new platform has been developed by partners from BlueMissionAA, PREP4BLUE, and BlueMissionBANOS. The main objective of WaveLinks is to ensure that valuable insights and discoveries from EU funded research are findable and have a chance to become catalysts for innovation and progress.

In addition, work is being conducted with Cabo Verde and Angola concerning the use of Copernicus data to support the national organizations. A company was contracted to design the interface. The AIR Centre team will develop the informational infrastructure.

4.2.4 Cooperation with Ocean Science Decade and UNCTAD

[2024_22] The AIR Centre will contact the National Decade Committees in its country members to assess the interest of promoting a joint Atlantic initiative promoted by the National Decade Committees in cooperation with the AIR Centre [004, 005, 006].

The AIR Centre is part of the Portuguese Decade Committee Stakeholder Forum. Discussions began with the Portuguese Decade Committee in the summer of 2024 to organise a series of online sessions ("All-Atlantic connect", within the OKEANO project) in collaboration with Portuguese Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO). The AIR Centre is also working with the Portuguese Decade Committee to arrange a meeting with the National Decade Committees.

[2024_23] In the framework of the cooperation with UNCTAD, cooperation will be made between EOLAB, LAMCE and DSI to upgrade skills in Earth Observation [004, 005, 006].

In 2024, the AIR Centre and the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) have organised four training events in programming for Earth Observation. The presential events in Portugal (JuliaEO2024, 8-12 January, Angra do Heroísmo, Azores), Brazil (3-5 April) and South Africa (6-8 August, Pretoria) were complemented by one remote event (20 November). The presential events were co-organised with local institutions from AIR Centre members, namely Laboratório de Métodos Computacionais em Engenharia (LAMCE) in Rio de Janeiro and the South Africa National Space Agency (SANSa). The events were fully booked, having received more participants than the limit of forty people, and were made available online with the participation of over 100 individuals. Both institutions requested that the AIR Centre promote similar activities in 2025. Synergies were created across events and the use of similar tools and methods is a powerful unifying factor for tackling problems together across the Atlantic partners.

4.2.5 Partnership for Atlantic Cooperation

The AIR Centre also participated in the Ocean Observations & Modelling Workshop, held in August 2024 in Washington DC and co-organised by AAORIA and the Partnership for Atlantic Cooperation. The cooperation with the United States of America initiative that now joins 42 members around the Atlantic Basin can have continuation in the forthcoming years, developing the AIR Centre agenda.



Figura 5. AIR Centre's Participation in the Ocean Observations & Modelling Workshop, Washington DC, USA.

4.2.6 Marine Biodiversity Observation Network

[2024_24] The MBON secretariat will collaborate with partner organizations to support marine biodiversity data flow, by i) providing training on Darwin Core for taxonomy information, ii) training the communities involved in the separate Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) and different observing methods (omics, acoustic, imaging, etc.), and encouraging data flow/data mobilization in a standardized manner [004].

In 2024, the AIR Centre signed a new 3-year agreement with the Marine Biodiversity Observation Network (MBON) to ensure the Secretariat in its HQ in Terceira. During 2024, the MBON secretariat worked closely with partner organizations to support

marine biodiversity data flow. In the scope of the BioEcoOcean EU Horizon project and the Atlantic Whale Deal Interreg Atlantic Area project the MBON secretariat is engaged in Data Alignment Practices as well as in fostering the development and implementation of Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs). A partnership between the World Maritime University, the MBON secretariat and the AIR Centre was established to develop a university curriculum for ocean biodiversity observation and data management. The MBON secretariat is also sitting at different Working Groups focused on the use of different ocean observing methods and has been developing prototype data services that support the management of marine areas. The encouragement of data mobilization is a continuous task performed routinely at every meeting and workshop held by the MBON.

[2024_25] The MBON secretariat will continue and expand training and capacity building in-person initiatives (e.g., marine biological data mobilization workshops), promote projects that involve the University of the Azores, foster synergies and capacity exchange, and reinforce added value for the Region and the whole AD AIR Centre community [OO4].

The MBON secretariat is promoting the exchange of knowledge, and best practices, grow capacity, as well as to foster the connection and expansion of the marine biodiversity community through its webinar series, the Marine Biodiversity Networking Fridays, which by series 20 counted 68 panellists, 3386 registrations, 1447 unique views, 1968 total users, 4647 YouTube views and 145 countries. Fulfilling the same goals, the MBON secretariat has organized several in person capacity building activities at different workshops and conferences (UN Ocean Decade Conference, 2024 United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP16), VIII Ocean Best Practices System Workshop, among others). Additional synergies are being fostered through the UN Ocean Decade Marine Life 2030 programme, led by the MBON jointly with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in which the MBON serves as the community of practice to facilitate the establishment of a globally coordinated system that delivers knowledge of ocean life to those who need it, promoting human well-being, sustainable development, and ocean conservation. The MBON Secretariat has supported the France-funded BioEOS project (Using Imagery to Track Coastal Biodiversity Changes from Space). This involvement included participation in stakeholder engagement activities, such as attending both in-person and remotely a workshop held simultaneously at two locations, as well as assisting in the development of a questionnaire. Regionally, the MBON Secretariat is collaborating with the University of the Azores in a Local Stakeholder Working Group for the Macaronesia Demonstration Site of the Horizon Europe Blue Connect Project (support the development of events, surveys, and interviews). The MBON Secretariat also co-developed a proposal for the Azores 2030 programme, led by the University of the Azores focusing on innovative and inclusive ways to experience Azorean biodiversity. The results of this initiative are yet to be released.



Figure 6. AIR Centre's Participation in the Challenge 2 Session at the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference, Barcelona, Spain.

4.2.7 Promoting innovation at regional agendas

[2024_26] The development of a new prototype service under CUSTODIAN, aiming at 1) providing fishermen with a tracking service of their fishing gear to re assets (reducing maritime pollution) and information on the market value of the current capture. 2) providing LOTAÇOR with early notice of harbour destination and load. DRMP-Açores will receive global reports of fishing efforts [OO5, OO6].

The CUSTODIAN project ended successfully in April 2024. It developed the hardware and digital platform for a new prototype fishermen service. A large order is necessary to produce devices to market in the Atlantic. Upon use, regional governments will have access to data with an unprecedented degree of detail and accuracy, empowering evidence-base decision making. Utilising the system provides fishermen with increased revenue for the same catch, and improved safety. The system is possible due to its ability to cater for different regions guaranteeing lower operational expenses which are shared among users from the adoptive communities. The AIR Centre played a crucial role, not only on the design of the solution but also on the interface with the fishermen community. A patent will be submitted.

[2024_27] A new prototype platform developed under VINHAS DA TERCEIRA, in cooperation with Smart Farm Colab to support decision-making. Other initiatives are also foreseen concerning dairy products (UNICOL) and animal thermal stress [OO5, OO6].

In the framework of a contract with the Municipality of Angra do Heroísmo, the VINTER project, our team developed statistical analysis and disease models, identifying health trends of vineyards in 4 locations on Biscoitos parish. A dashboard was developed for data visualization, including a mildew primary infection risk model and a powdery mildew risk model, for each of the vineyards. This achievement was a fundamental tool to support the managers of vineyards with decision-making, in a preventative rather than responsive manner, optimizing resources and costs, and maximizing the wine production. This type of application showed that it can be applied in other regions where wine is produced, and currently the extension of the prototype platform to other areas of Terceira is being evaluated by the Municipality of Angra do Heroísmo and at the end of 2024 a territorial extension of this project to other islands in the Azores was proposed and is being evaluated, specifically in the islands of Pico and Santa Maria.

In 2024, after the development of the *Pithomyces Chartarum* warning system (project SAPc) made in cooperation with a large and representative farmer association (UNICOL) we started the consideration of additional parameters supposed to have strong influence on the sporulation of *P. Chartarum* and considered a machine learning approach. The system will be expanded to regions affected by the same fungus such as Brazil. The system reflects a collective effort from farmers and other stakeholders such as veterinarians which generated widespread recognition of issues faced by the sector and the solution developed. In addition to the two above expected activities, in 2024 the AIR Centre started to provide technical services using remote sensing (satellite) to detect and characterize the distribution of the invasive algae *Rugulopteryx okamurae* in “beachcasts” in the Azores Archipelago, working together with the University of Azores regarding this data collection. This is an initiative of Direção Regional do Ordenamento do Território e dos Recursos Hídricos and it contributes to OO5. The technical services provided by the AIR Centre will allow the detection of *R. okamurae* in São Miguel beaches using Copernicus Sentinel-2 optical satellite imagery and the identification of the areas that are most vulnerable to its impacts. This service of the AIR Centre has the potential of being adapted and applied in other Atlantic communities and addressing ecological challenges caused by invasive marine species, enabling early detection and monitoring, while aligning with global conservation goals.



4.2.8 Promoting dialogue and networking

[2024_28] Networking Fridays will be maintained, covering not only the AIR Centre community but also relevant research and social players of the Atlantic. These initiatives will be articulated with similar events associated with the ongoing projects [003, 004].

Since its inception, in April 2020, the AIR Centre holds 105 Networking Friday sessions, 16168 registrations from 145 countries, 413 speakers, 8033 unique views, total users of 12163 and 22703 YouTube views.

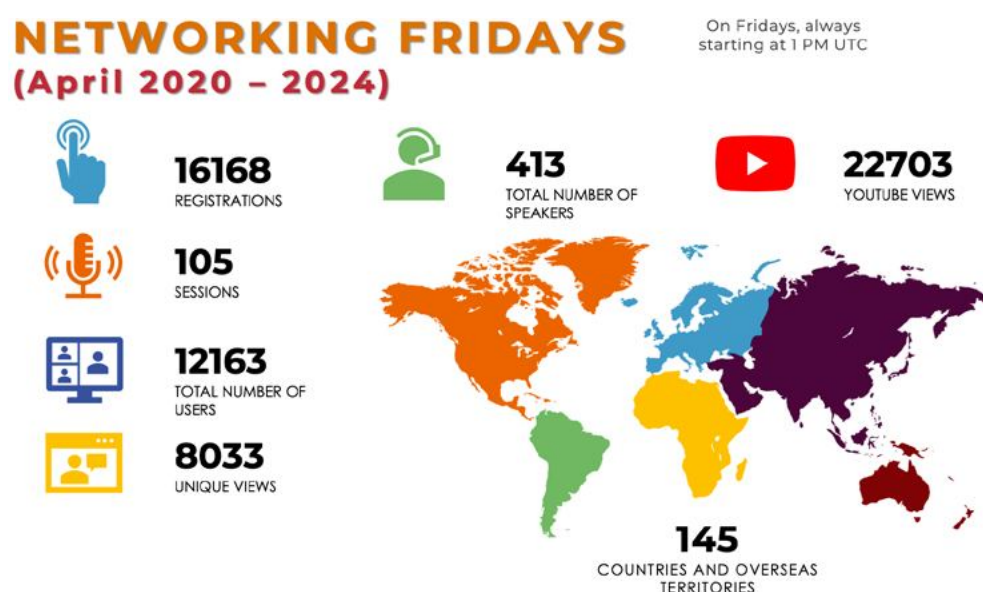


Figure 7. Networking Friday statistics from 2020 to 2024.

4.3 Satellite Ocean Observation

4.3.1 Cooperation with the European Space Agency

[2024_29] Within GD-AID we will assess geo-information needs of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank related to their marine environment and Blue Economy operations, both currently and in the future. A central repository using the Rheticus® platform will be utilized to access and explore results and provide customized products to use [OO4].

The project GD-AID ended successfully during 2024. AIR Centre contributions materialized in the continued coordination of the interactions with the World Bank and Asian Development Bank teams and the engagement of national stakeholders, and supporting an overall and synergic view of the interactions with all the parties to guarantee an organic and common approach.

[2024_30] Within EOatSEE, we will also support bringing EO experimental products closer to meaningful societal applications in support of knowledge-based decision-making in several use cases applications related to improved predictive capacity of hydro-climatic induced extreme sea level events and related coastal hazards [OO4].

The EOatSEE project ended successfully in 2024. AIR Centre activities focused on the leadership of WP1200, Scientific Requirements Workshop, WP7100, Scientific Roadmap Workshop (successfully conducted in May 2024) and WP8000, Promotion, Outreach and Coordination, including task as the maintenance of the website and social media accounts and launching of the project Newsletter, providing an overall support to the uptake and dissemination of the new EO solutions benchmarked within the project related to coastal resilience in face of a changing climate.

4.3.2 Copernicus user uptake

[2024_31] We will continue with the following actions: Copernicus Uptake in Portuguese Higher Education (Universities and Polytechnical Institutes); Copernicus uptake for the maritime sector; Coastal coordination of user needs and methodologies; Copernicus User uptake in Africa; Copernicus for Sustainable Fisheries Management Nigeria [OO4].

The Framework Partnership Agreement on Copernicus User Uptake (FPCUP) projects are running as foreseen. A highlight of 2024 is the FPCUP action 2020-2-2 (Copernicus for sustainable fisheries Management Nigeria) that ended in September 2024 with a two-day in person Workshop on “Satellite Earth observation for sustainable fisheries & aquaculture: Enhancing Copernicus uptake for maritime sectors in Nigeria” held on 11th and 12th of September 2024, in Abuja, Nigeria with the support of National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) from Nigeria. A total of 70 people from the 5 geopolitical regions of Nigeria attended and participated in each day of the Workshop, mainly from research within the thematic areas, public administration, and data-gathering institutes. This event optimised activities with FPCUP action 2021-2-42 that pursues “to promote the use of Copernicus data across the maritime sector, focusing on Ports and Harbors, Aquaculture and Fisheries” and FPCUP action 2021-2-39 - Copernicus User uptake in Africa that pursues “training of trainers”, by promoting synergies, collaboration between stakeholders and increasing rate costs-benefits.



Copernicus User uptake in Africa that pursues “training of trainers”, by promoting synergies, collaboration between stakeholders and increasing rate costs-benefits.

[2024_32] Within the scope of project **Harnessing Space Technological Applications in Sustainable Urban Development**, which will be delivered by the AIR Centre with the UNCTAD, there are international training events which include the promotion of Copernicus data uptake [OO4].

In scope of the **Harnessing Space Technological Applications in Sustainable Urban Development** project, the AIR Centre and UNCTAD organised four training events in programming for Earth Observation: Portugal - JuliaEO2024 (8-12 January, Angra do Heroismo, Azores); Brazil (3-5 April), South Africa (6-8 August) and online (20 November). These training events are detailed in section 4.2.4 above under activity [2024_23]

4.3.3 EO very high-resolution downstream services

[2024_33] Following the development of the tasks planned for the Azores node, funded by the Portuguese Recovery and Resilience Plan, VHR services will be available. This shall include business models and requirements, end user engagement, user interface design, demonstration preparation, among many other tasks [OO4, OO5].

A prototype on the fusion between High Resolution (HR) and Very High Resolution (VHR) shows very promising results. This can lead to a large improvement on the use of free HR imagery trained by AI with VHR (not free) data sets for ghost ships and marine litter. Most of this work was developed under the NewSpace project and will support the demonstrations that will be made during 2025 for several stakeholders' communities



Figure 8. Organization of the Satellite Earth Observation for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Workshop in Abuja, Nigeria.



Figure 9. Organization of the JuliaEO2024 Workshop, Angra do Heroísmo, Azores, Portugal.

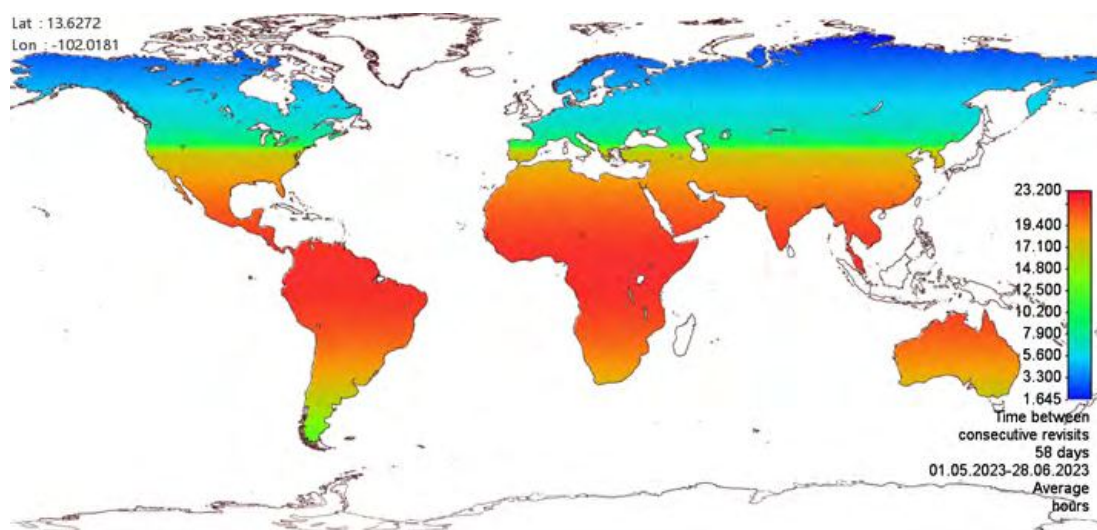


Figure 10. Orbital configurations for satellite constellations.

[2024_34] Priority will be given to the cooperation with the Azores University, open to cooperation with other nodes of the association, to support dedicated programs aligned with the regional priorities. As an example, the use of VHR shall be applied to tracking of cetaceans in blue corridors as additional data for mapping collision risk with vessels [004, 005].

The cooperation with the Azores University is axed on a chair on data science funded by AIR Centre. A call was launched by the University and the final decision will be made during 2025. The cooperation with OKEANOS is also progressing on several axes with an emphasis on MBON, the cooperation on the fish stock assessment with Angola and Cabo Verde and on the Aquaculture Forum. The cooperation with the Escola do Mar also progressed particularly in the framework of RedBEAM project, where technological testing platforms will be developed focusing on autonomous maritime vessels, aquaculture and off-shore energy.

4.4 Towards the Atlantic Digital Twin

4.4.1 Ocean Modelling in cooperation with Mercator

[2024_35] A dynamic downscale of NEMO covering the area of the Azores (in cooperation with the Azores University) will be developed and operated [OO4].

The software supporting the dynamic downscale of NEMO covering the area of the Azores is already installed at Rio de Janeiro, taking advantage of the development of the [Atlantic Cloud](#) in 2024. The Atlantic Cloud is a transatlantic computation network created, developed and operated by the AIR Centre associates. The Cloud counts with data storage, HPC (high-performance computing) and web servers and it increases the efficiency and effectiveness of scientific collaboration across the Atlantic. This infrastructure will provide reliable and efficient computing resources to support transatlantic collaborative work, including environmental monitoring and disaster response. By leveraging the power of cloud computing, the Atlantic Cloud aims to enhance the region's resilience and ability to adapt to the big challenges, such as climate change.

[2024_36] A similar product for one of the regional nodes, to be defined in a later stage, will be developed and operated. This initiative will also increase the dissemination of other COPERNICUS products regionally tailored [OO4].

Following the cooperation with INIPM/Angola, a mock-up of a smartphone application to disseminate Copernicus products was designed but its full development will only take place during 2025. This app will have the potential to be re-used by several organizations of the AIR Centre network with minor effort.

4.4.2 Contribution to DTO layers

[2024_37] We will develop and operate two pilot prototype “service engines”, focused on two main topics: (i) marine heatwaves, in cooperation with CoLAB +Atlântico, and (ii) marine debris, gaining from the experience developed during the LABPLAS project. The regional focus will be one of the regional nodes, to be defined in a later stage [OO3, OO4].

A project funded by MERCATOR started in 2024, led by +Atlântico. BlueMarkets, the acronym for “Blue Market user engagement and products uptake” aims at developing downstream services by an increased perception from stakeholders.

[2024_38] A significant effort shall be placed on identifying opportunities for the prototyped service engines, beyond the use cases identified by +Atlántico [OO3, OO4].

The development of demonstrators of new space-based engines started under the project NewSpace where there is intense cooperation between the AIR Centre and +Atlantico. After the analysis that was conducted by our team we are focused on two main services: (a) internal ocean waves and (b) collision between vessels and cetaceans. The proofs of concept were developed, and their demonstration is scheduled for May 2025.

4.5 Sharing of knowledge and means

4.5.1 Cooperation between research vessel operators

[2024_39] The cooperation between vessel operators will be fostered with a focus on AIR Centre associates, in view of sharing experience, coordinate operations in case a common initiative can be developed and cooperate with AAORIA [OO4, OO5, OO6].

The AIR Centre attended the 35th Annual International Research Ship Operators and made a presentation entitled “AIR Centre partners RV’s including new constructions” sharing the fleet of research vessels of the AIR Centre members within the research vessels (RV) international community. AIR Centre also gave support to the re-entry into operation of RV Islândia owned by the Instituto do Mar (IMAR, Cabo Verde), and technical assistance (e.g., crew management) to RV Baía Farta owned by the National Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research (INIPM, Angola).

4.5.2 Access to autonomous vehicles and marine sensors

[2024_40] The instruments or sensors available at the different associates will be identified, a first approach of the needs in what concerns ocean observation will be established and an operational workflow including the availability and costs of insurance will be defined [OO4, OO5, OO6].

Following the needs assessment made by Cabo Verde and Angola, a preliminary assessment of means available was made covering the Portuguese research community, particularly the University of Algarve and INESC TEC, and focused on the availability of surface multiparametric buoys and water quality sensors. This topic needs further effort in the coming years.



Figure 11. Research Vessel Islândia, IMAR, Cabo Verde



4.6 Mobility

4.6.1 AIR Centre exchange awards

[2024_41] An internal “twining” program fostering the design of projects between two or more AIR Centre nodes will be established [OO4, OO5, OO6].

Several proposals to funding programs were submitted, always incorporating several AIR Centre associates. Even in the case where they were unsuccessful, the work developed between the different partners contributed to a better understanding of needs, to the strengthening of the technical teams, and to reinforce the cooperation, based on the means available at AIR Centre or other initiatives where a part of the associates also cooperated.

4.6.2 Fulbright Awards

[2024_42] The Fulbright program will be reorganized, and focused on the priorities of the association, to strengthen our capacities. Fellowships for the nodes of AIR Centre will also be considered [OO6].

Following the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding establishing a partnership between the Fulbright Commission and the AIR Centre – Atlantic International Research Centre, it was launched in 2024 the 2025/2026 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award for the Ocean, Climate and Space / AIR Centre (deadline for applications was September 16, 2024). The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award for the Ocean, Climate and Space / AIR Centre supports the development of the mission-oriented approach of the Atlantic International Research Centre (AIR Centre), with focus on innovation in multi-national collaborative networks and creative approaches to the transatlantic cooperation to improve the understanding of the ocean and coastal systems as a whole, in the context of: Earth observation from deep ocean to near space, Ocean observation and modelling, Healthy and clean oceans, Marine resources and biodiversity, Digital twin of the ocean, Marine robotics and applications, and Mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

4.7 Towards a science based cooperative network

All the activities described above are organized along the objective defined for the workplan for 2024. Nevertheless, the AIR Centre suffered major changes during this year with the definition of a set of programs that frame the cooperation between the associates.

One important point concerns the decoupling between the different programs that are coordinated by the association (Ocean Policy and Stakeholders' Engagement Program, Data Science, Cloud Infrastructure, and Development Program, Space Systems and Applications Program, Biodiversity and Blue Economy Program) and the projects, perceived as funding opportunities for the development of those programmes.







5. Financial Statements in 2024

5.1 Accounting Reference for the preparation of financial statements

The financial statements were prepared according to the Sistema de Normalização Contabilística, approved by the Decree-Law 36-A/2011, of March 9th, and changed by the Decree-Law 98/2015, transposing the EU Directive 2013/34/EU of June 26th, 2013.

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with the NCRF-ESNL norms, assuming continuity of the activities.

5.2 Main account policies

The main accounting policies applied to the current financial statements are:

- The tangible assets are valued according to cost, minus the accrued depreciations and impairment losses.
- The tangible assets where the cost is unknown are valued at just value, the value by which they are insured or by which they were written on the books.
- The depreciations are computed by the straight-line method.
- AD AIR Centre recognizes subsidies whenever there is a sufficient assurance that they will be received and that the entity will comply with the requirements.
- The transfers/subsidies that are related to current expenses and the depreciation of assets are deferred on the balance sheet, under the caption Deferrals, and registered as income of the period (caption Operational subsidies), proportionately to the incurred costs and the depreciation and amortization costs of assets during the project's lifetime, independently of the date of the transfer of the subsidy.
- The transfers/subsidies that are related to tangible and intangible assets are initially recognized under Equity, being afterwards recognized on the profit and loss statement (caption Allocation of subsidies for investments), on a systematic and rational basis during the timeframe necessary to balance them with their related costs. In the case where the subsidy is related to non-depreciable assets, it is kept under Equity, except in the case where its value is required to compensate for some impairment losses.
- The financial assets and liabilities are recognized in the balance sheet when the entity is aware of its contractual obligations. A financial asset is any asset in cash or a contractual right to receive cash. A financial liability is any liability that consists in a contractual obligation to deliver cash. The financial assets and liabilities are value at their cost minus impairment losses, namely:
 - Clients, suppliers, accounts receivable, accounts payable or bank loans, including those in a foreign currency;
 - Loan contracts.
- The financial instruments traded in the market are valued at just value, and

Handwritten signature and initials in blue ink, located in the top right corner of the page.

their fluctuations are recognized as part of the net results of the period.

- AD AIR Centre registers its income and expenses in accordance with the expense recognition principle, by which expenses and income are recognized when they are obtained or incurred, independently of the moment of the payment or receipt, being included on the financial statements of their respective periods.
- The management used value judgement when applying the accounting policies that had a major impact in the quantities recognized on these financial statements.
- The financial statements were prepared under the assumption that the activities of this entity will continue the next fiscal year, and according to its books. The assumption is based on the current knowledge of past and present activities of the entity, in the evolution of its business and its strategy for the future. The management does not foresee, in a short or mid-term timeframe, any change that is able to alter the validity of its assumptions. Therefore, there are not expectable significant changes on the registered quantities of its assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

5.3 Annex to Accounts

Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre - AD AIR CENTRE
BALANÇO INDIVIDUAL EM 31 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2024 | BALANCE SHEET FOR THE PERIOD ENDED ON THE 31ST OF DECEMBER, 2024

valores em euros | figures in euro

RUBRICAS CAPTIONS	Notas Notes	2024	2023
ACTIVO ASSETS			
Activo não corrente Non current assets			
Activos fixos tangíveis Tangible assets	1	427,202.39	407,961.04
Investimentos financeiros Financial investments	2	15,737.96	15,902.39
		442,940.35	423,863.43
Activo corrente Current assets			
Créditos a receber Credits receivable	3	25,160.32	51,354.46
Estado e outros entes públicos State and other public entities	9	27,715.62	-
Diferimentos Deferrals	4	37,025.00	40,802.93
Outros activos correntes Other current assets	5	13,453.96	4,598.19
Caixa e depósitos bancários Cash and bank deposits	6	2,121,677.84	1,246,784.78
		2,225,032.74	1,343,540.36
Total do Activo Total assets		2,667,973.09	1,767,403.79
FUNDOS PATRIMONIAIS E PASSIVO EQUITY FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
Fundos Patrimoniais Equity funds			
Resultados transitados Retained earnings	7	149,125.01	133,221.71
Ajustamentos / outras variações nos fundos patrimoniais Other equity changes	7	427,461.06	407,961.75
Resultado líquido do período Net income for the period	7	81,357.42	15,903.30
Total dos Fundos Patrimoniais Total Equity funds		657,943.49	557,086.76
Passivo Liabilities			
Passivo corrente Current liabilities			
Fornecedores Suppliers	8	197,131.89	41,097.50
Estado e outros entes públicos State and other public entities	9	40,358.67	41,692.83
Financiamentos obtidos Loans	10	1,748.75	1,674.66
Diferimentos Deferrals	4	1,587,976.19	943,181.85
Outros passivos financeiros Other financial liabilities	11	182,814.10	182,670.19
		2,010,029.60	1,210,317.03
Total do passivo Total liabilities		2,010,029.60	1,210,317.03
Total dos fundos patrimoniais e do passivo Total equity funds and liabilities		2,667,973.09	1,767,403.79

Contabilista Certificado | Certified Accountant

Director Executivo | Chief Executive Officer

Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre - AD AIR CENTRE
DEMONSTRAÇÃO INDIVIDUAL DOS RESULTADOS POR NATUREZAS | PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
PERÍODO FINDO EM 31 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2024 | PERIOD THAT ENDED ON THE 31ST OF DECEMBER, 2024

valores em euros | figures in euro

RENDIMENTOS E GASTOS INCOME AND EXPENSES	Notas Notes	2024	2023
Vendas e serviços prestados Sales and services provided	12	64,465.60	112,134.65
Subsídios, doações e legados à exploração Operating subsidies	13	2,025,465.17	1,803,910.29
Fornecimentos e serviços externos Supplies and external services	14	660,140.34	604,417.59
Gastos com o pessoal Staff costs	15	1,336,657.67	1,297,002.75
Outros rendimentos Other income	16	155,244.52	162,378.31
Outros gastos Other expenses	17	11,684.66	3,398.04
Resultado antes de depreciações, gastos de financiamento e impostos Net income before depreciations, interest and taxes		236,692.62	173,604.87
Gastos / reversões de depreciação e amortização Expenses / reversals of depreciation and amortization	1, 18	155,335.20	157,701.57
Resultado operacional (antes de gastos de financiamento e impostos) Operational net income (before interest and taxes)		81,357.42	15,903.30
Juros e rendimentos similares obtidos Financing income		-	-
Juros e gastos similares suportados Financing costs		-	-
Resultado antes de impostos Net income before taxes		81,357.42	15,903.30
Imposto sobre o rendimento do período Corporate taxes		-	-
Resultado líquido do período Net income after taxes		81,357.42	15,903.30

Contabilista Certificado | Certified Accountant

Director Executivo | Chief Executive Officer

Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre - AD AIR CENTRE
DEMONSTRAÇÃO INDIVIDUAL DAS ALTERAÇÕES NOS FUNDOS PATRIMONIAIS NO PERÍODO DE 2023

valores em euros | figures in euro

DESCRIÇÃO DESCRIPTION	Notas Notes	Resultados transitados Retained earnings	Ajustamentos/outras variações nos fundos patrimoniais Equity funds adjustments	Resultado líquido do período Net income for the period	Total dos fundos patrimoniais Total Equity Funds
POSIÇÃO NO INÍCIO DO PERÍODO 2023 STARTING POSITION IN 2023	7	48,460.24	547,459.21	84,761.47	680,680.92
ALTERAÇÕES NO PERÍODO CHANGES IN THE PERIOD					
Outras alterações reconhecidas nos fundos patrimoniais Other changes in equity funds		84,761.47	-	84,761.47	-
		84,761.47	-	84,761.47	-
RESULTADO LÍQUIDO DO PERÍODO NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	7			15,903.30	15,903.30
RESULTADO INTEGRAL COMPREHENSIVE EARNINGS				68,858.17	
OPERAÇÕES COM INSTITUIDORES NO PERÍODO TRANSACTIONS WITH FOUNDERS IN THE PERIOD					
Subsídios, doações e legados Subsidies		-	139,497.46	-	139,497.46
		-	139,497.46	-	139,497.46
POSIÇÃO NO FIM DO PERÍODO 2023 FINAL POSITION IN 2023	7	133,221.71	407,961.75	15,903.30	557,086.76

DEMONSTRAÇÃO INDIVIDUAL DAS ALTERAÇÕES NOS FUNDOS PATRIMONIAIS NO PERÍODO DE 2024

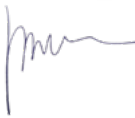
valores em euros | figures in euro

DESCRIÇÃO DESCRIPTION	Notas Notes	Resultados transitados Retained earnings	Ajustamentos/outras variações nos fundos patrimoniais Equity funds adjustments	Resultado líquido do período Net income for the period	Total dos fundos patrimoniais Total Equity Funds
POSIÇÃO NO INÍCIO DO PERÍODO 2024 STARTING POSITION IN 2024	7	133,221.71	407,961.75	15,903.30	557,086.76
ALTERAÇÕES NO PERÍODO CHANGES IN THE PERIOD					
Outras alterações reconhecidas nos fundos patrimoniais Other changes in equity funds		15,903.30	-	15,903.30	-
		15,903.30	-	15,903.30	-
RESULTADO LÍQUIDO DO PERÍODO NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	7			81,357.42	81,357.42
RESULTADO INTEGRAL COMPREHENSIVE EARNINGS				65,454.12	
OPERAÇÕES COM INSTITUIDORES NO PERÍODO TRANSACTIONS WITH FOUNDERS IN THE PERIOD					
Subsídios, doações e legados Subsidies		-	19,499.31	-	19,499.31
		-	19,499.31	-	19,499.31
POSIÇÃO NO FIM DO PERÍODO 2024 FINAL POSITION IN 2024	7	149,125.01	427,461.06	81,357.42	657,943.49

Contabilista Certificado | Certified Accountant



Director Executivo | Chief Executive Officer



Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre - AD AIR CENTRE
DEMONSTRAÇÃO INDIVIDUAL DE FLUXOS DE CAIXA | CASH FLOW STATEMENT
PERÍODO FINDO EM 31 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2024 | PERIOD ENDED ON THE 31ST OF DECEMBER, 2024

figures in euros | valores em euros

RUBRICAS CAPTIONS	Notas Notes	2024	2023
Fluxos de caixa das actividades operacionais Operating activities			
Recebimentos de clientes e utentes Receipts from trade debtors		110,292.00	81,455.28
Pagamentos a fornecedores Payment to trade creditors		- 688,525.43	- 737,551.70
Pagamentos ao pessoal Payments to staff		- 787,050.71	- 923,938.44
Caixa gerada pelas operações Cash flow generated by operations		- 1,365,284.14	- 1,580,034.86
Pagamento/recebimento do imposto sobre o rendimento Income tax receipts/payments		-	-
Outros recebimentos/pagamentos Other receipts/payments		- 545,109.55	- 357,816.42
Fluxos de caixa das actividades operacionais Cash flows from operating activities		- 1,910,393.69	- 1,937,851.28
Fluxos de caixa das actividades de investimento Investing activities			
Recebimentos provenientes de: Receipts related to:			
Activos fixos tangíveis		933.32	-
Investimentos financeiros Financial investments		-	4,445.37
Pagamentos respeitantes a: Payments related to:			
Activos fixos tangíveis Tangible assets		- 46,565.17	- 19,968.68
Investimentos financeiros Financial investments		-	2,534.50
Fluxos de caixa das actividades de investimento Cash flows from investing activities		- 45,631.85	- 18,057.81
Fluxos de caixa das actividades de financiamento			
Recebimentos provenientes de: Receipts related to:			
Outras operações de financiamento Other financing operations		2,832,321.59	3,110,135.63
Pagamentos respeitantes a: Payments related to:			
Outras operações de financiamento Other financing operations		- 1,402.99	- 2,082,863.86
Fluxos de caixa das actividades de financiamento Cash flows from financing activities		- 2,830,918.60	- 1,027,271.77
Variação de caixa e seus equivalentes Changes in cash and cash equivalents			
Efeito das diferenças de câmbio Effect of exchange differences		874,893.06	- 928,637.32
Caixa e seus equivalentes no início do período Starting Cash and cash equivalents	6	1,246,784.78	2,175,422.10
Caixa e seus equivalentes no fim do período Final Cash and cash equivalents	6	2,121,677.84	1,246,784.78

Contabilista Certificado | Certified Accountant



Director Executivo | Chief Executive Officer



5.4 Annex to Financial Statements

Note 1. Tangible Assets

valores em euros | figures in euro

ACTIVOS FIXOS TANGÍVEIS TANGIBLE ASSETS	2024	2023
Equipamento básico Basic equipment		
Activo bruto: saldo inicial Initial balance	663,006.58	644,802.47
Activo bruto: aquisições Acquisitions	172,561.42	13,432.58
Activo bruto: transferências de investimentos em curso Transfers	-	4,771.53
Depreciações: saldo inicial Starting depreciations	258,567.49	107,253.66
Depreciações do exercício Depreciations for the period	153,158.81	151,313.83
Saldo final - Equipamento básico Final balance - Basic equipment	423,841.70	404,439.09
Equipamento administrativo Administrative equipment		
Activo bruto: saldo inicial Initial balance	52,182.03	52,182.03
Activo bruto: aquisições Acquisitions	2,015.13	-
Depreciações: saldo inicial Starting depreciations	48,660.08	42,272.34
Depreciações do exercício Depreciations for the period	2,176.39	6,387.74
Saldo final - Equipamento administrativo Final balance - Administrative equipment	3,360.69	3,521.95
Total líquido de Activos fixos tangíveis Net total for Tangible assets	427,202.39	407,961.04
Depreciações do exercício Depreciations for the period	155,335.20	157,701.57

valores em euros | figures in euro

INVESTIMENTOS EM CURSO ASSETS UNDER CONSTRUCTION	2024	2023
Activos tangíveis em curso Tangible assets under construction		
Activo bruto: saldo inicial Initial balance	-	-
Activo bruto: aquisições Acquisitions	-	4,771.53
Activo bruto: transferências Transfers	-	4,771.53
Saldo final - Activos tangíveis em curso Final balance - Tangible assets under construction	-	-
Total de Investimentos em curso Total for Assets under construction	-	-

Note 2. Financial Investments

valores em euros | figures in euro

INVESTIMENTOS FINANCEIROS FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS	2024	2023
Participações de capital: Geosat Financial participations: Geosat	100.00	100.00
Fundo de Garantia de Compensação do Trabalho Work compensation fund	15,637.96	15,802.39
Total de Investimentos financeiros Total for Financial investments	15,737.96	15,902.39

The entity holds a share of 100,00 euros in the capital of the company Geosat, acquired in 2021.

Note 3. Credits receivable

valores em euros | figures in euro

CRÉDITOS A RECEBER CREDITS RECEIVABLE	2024	2023
Cientes gerais Clients	25,160.32	51,354.46
Total de Créditos a receber Total for Credits receivable	25,160.32	51,354.46

Note 4. Deferrals

DIFERIMENTOS DEFERRALS		valores em euros figures in euro	
		2024	2023
Activo Assets			
Gastos a reconhecer: Seguros Deferred expenses: Insurance		17,253.00	16,593.04
Gastos a reconhecer: Medicina no trabalho Deferred expenses: Medicine at work		968.00	976.80
Gastos a reconhecer: Serviços informáticos Deferred expenses: IT Services		12,029.00	9,529.80
Gastos a reconhecer: Formação Deferred expenses: Training		-	955.90
Gastos a reconhecer: Deslocações e estadas Deferred expenses: Travel and accommodation		4,731.00	12,747.39
Outros gastos a reconhecer Other deferred expenses		2,044.00	-
Total de Diferimentos - Activo Total for Deferrals - Assets		37,025.00	40,802.93
Passivo Liabilities			
Outros rendimentos a reconhecer Other deferred income		1,587,976.19	943,181.85
Total de Diferimentos - Passivo Total for Deferrals - Liabilities		1,587,976.19	943,181.85

Note 5. Other current assets and liabilities

OUTROS ACTIVOS E PASSIVOS CORRENTES OTHER CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		valores em euros figures in euro	
		2024	2023
Activo Assets			
Adiantamentos a fornecedores Advance payments to suppliers		4,605.09	4,598.19
Outros devedores Other debtors		8,848.87	-
Total de Outros activos correntes Total for Other current assets and liabilities		13,453.96	4,598.19

Note 6. Cash and bank deposits

CAIXA E DEPÓSITOS BANCÁRIOS CASH AND BANK DEPOSITS		valores em euros figures in euro	
		2024	2023
Depósitos bancários Bank deposits			
Saldo inicial Starting balance		1,246,784.78	2,175,422.10
Débitos Debits		3,456,206.60	3,223,024.28
Créditos Credits		2,581,313.54	4,151,661.60
Saldo final - Depósitos bancários Final balance - Bank deposits		2,121,677.84	1,246,784.78
Total de Caixa e depósitos bancários Total for Cash and bank deposits		2,121,677.84	1,246,784.78

Note 7. Equity funds

FUNDOS PATRIMONIAIS EQUITY FUNDS		valores em euros figures in euro	
		2024	2023
Resultados transitados Retained earnings			
Ajustamentos nos fundos patrimoniais Other equity changes		149,125.01	133,221.71
Resultado líquido do período Net income for the period		427,461.06	407,961.75
Total de Fundos Patrimoniais Total for Equity funds		657,943.49	557,086.76

The retained earnings heading includes the accumulated net results from previous periods, including the application of last year's result, in the amount of 15 903,30 euros, totalling 149 125,01 euros on 31-12-2024.

The adjustments to equity heading includes subsidies associated with assets, which are transferred on a systematic basis to the Other income heading (allocation of investment subsidies), as the depreciation/amortization of the investment to which they relate is recorded.



Note 8. Suppliers

valores em euros | figures in euro

FORNECEDORES SUPPLIERS	2024	2023
Fornecedores gerais: Mercado nacional Suppliers: Internal market	185,367.47	35,856.09
Fornecedores gerais: Mercado intracomunitário Suppliers: EU market	-	-
Fornecedores gerais: Mercado externo Suppliers: External market	11,764.42	5,241.41
Total de Fornecedores Total for Suppliers	197,131.89	41,097.50

Note 9. State and other public entities

valores em euros | figures in euro

ESTADO E OUTROS ENTES PÚBLICOS STATE AND OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES	2024	2023
Activo Assets		
Imposto sobre o valor acrescentado Value-added tax	27,715.62	-
Total de Estado e outros entes públicos - Activo Total for State and other public entities - Assets	27,715.62	-
Passivo Liabilities		
Retenção na fonte de imposto sobre o rendimento Withholding of personal income tax	11,543.00	12,615.52
Imposto sobre o valor acrescentado Value-added tax	7,785.83	7,836.19
Contribuições para a Segurança Social Social security	20,844.60	21,241.12
Outros Others	185.24	-
Total de Estado e outros entes públicos - Passivo Total for State and other public entities - Liabilities	40,358.67	41,692.83

Note 10. Loans

valores em euros | figures in euro

FINANCIAMENTOS OBTIDOS LOANS	2024	2023
Corrente Current		
Cartão de crédito Credit card	1,748.75	1,674.66
Total de Financiamentos obtidos - Corrente Total for Loans - Current	1,748.75	1,674.66

Note 11. Other financial liabilities

valores em euros | figures in euro

OUTROS PASSIVOS FINANCEIROS OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES	2024	2023
Credores por acréscimo de gastos: Remunerações (Vencimento+Encargos) Accruals: Salaries and Social Security	157,055.00	156,848.72
Credores por acréscimo de gastos: Comunicação Accruals: Communications	1,563.00	1,218.13
Credores por acréscimo de gastos: Auditoria Accruals: Audit	5,736.00	5,750.00
Credores por acréscimo de gastos: Rendas Accruals: Rent	1,218.00	1,218.00
Credores por acréscimo de gastos: Tecnologias Informáticas Accruals: IT services	558.00	324.40
Outros credores por acréscimo de gastos Other accruals	60.00	783.59
Credores diversos Other creditors	16,624.10	16,527.35
Total de Outros passivos financeiros Total for other financial liabilities	182,814.10	182,670.19



Note 12. Sales and services provided

valores em euros figures in euro		
VENDAS E SERVIÇOS PRESTADOS SALES AND SERVICES PROVIDED		
	2024	2023
(1104) MarBioME (EC)	662.11	59,360.00
(1303) ARI-ESA POSTS A3	1,915.35	41.16
(1304) ARI - ESA ENERGY A2	-	-
(1305) PORT XXI ESA	-	784.32
(1308) ATON	-	2,233.60
(1311) EOatSEE (ESA)	12,796.17	19,345.48
(1312) GDA Marine (ESA)	39,045.50	32,886.54
(1314) Space 4 Atlantic	-	2,516.45
(2001) UNICOL - Sistema Alerta UNICOL	11,280.00	-
(2003) COP-BlueMarkets	2,244.00	-
Total de Vendas e serviços prestados Total for Sales and services provided	64,465.60	112,134.65

valores em euros figures in euro		
IMPUTAÇÃO DE SUBSÍDIOS PARA INVESTIMENTO ALLOCATION OF SUBSIDIES FOR INVESTMENT		
	2024	2023
(1001) FCT (geral)	139,522.82	22,729.86
(1002) ESALAB (geral)	-	122,922.99
(1101) MBON (PO Açores)	2,963.76	4,629.27
(1107) MBON (Geral)	286.08	-
(1203) LABPLAS (H2020)	230.53	-
(1205) BlueMission (H2020)	91.08	-
(1211) OKEANO (Horizon Europe)	970.79	-
(1401) MAGAL (PO Açores)	2,445.00	2,445.00
(1403) DRS	3,531.60	3,531.60
(1502) Atlantic Whale Deal	848.66	-
(1601) Rede LoRaWAN	1,358.28	1,358.28
(1802) New Space Portugal (PRR)	2,455.18	84.57
(2101) Contrato-programa Açores 2024-2027	373.46	-
Total de Imputação de subsídios para investimento Total for Allocation of subsidies for investment	155,077.24	157,701.57

Note 13. Operating subsidies

valores em euros | figures in euro

SUBSÍDIOS, DOAÇÕES E LEGADOS À EXPLORAÇÃO OPERATING SUBSIDIES	2024	2023
(1001) FCT (geral)	843,367.72	594,196.74
(1002) ESALAB (geral)	-	155,536.54
(1003) CE2COAST (FCT)	2,202.38	11,026.76
(1005) EUREKA (FCT)	-	147.60
(1006) CIn-BlueFeed (FCT)	8,575.03	-
(1101) MBON (PO Açores)	16.79	135,232.66
(1103) RAEGE2020 (FCT)	-	78,332.47
(1105) Workshop Julia	329.46	21,479.45
(1106) Workshop Julia '24	18,398.77	8,630.58
(1107) MBON (Geral)	1,588.84	-
(1108) Workshop JuliaEO 25	616.92	-
(1201) ASTRAL (H2020)	92,928.87	45,762.76
(1202) MISSION ATLANTIC (H2020)	10,310.32	11,685.16
(1203) LABPLAS (H2020)	64,019.87	71,474.83
(1204) NEXTOCEAN	20,025.97	40,915.03
(1205) BlueMission (H2020)	149,133.62	121,826.57
(1206) SBEP (H2020)	10,815.48	18,639.81
(1207) A-Agora (Horizon)	45,916.67	59,760.48
(1208) OCEANIDS (Horizon Europe)	18,684.93	-
(1209) ICEBERG (Horizon Europe)	22,110.47	-
(1210) BioEcoOcean (Horizon Europe)	39,215.20	-
(1211) OKEANO (Horizon Europe)	70,546.31	-
(1212) BIOPROTECT (Horizon Europe)	13,378.95	-
(1301) HYPERS	99.72	-
(1302) FPACUP (ESA) Act. 2019-1-26 Portuguese users coordination and training Pt2	-	36,831.86
(1306) FPACUP (ESA) Act. 2020-3-05 Atlantic Ocean Interactions	149.70	11,240.82
(1307) FPACUP (ESA) Act. 2020-3-02 Business Innovation in Portugal	-	1,167.71
(1309) FPACUP (ESA) Act. 2020-2-02 Sustainable Fisheries Management	64,383.18	9,453.64
(1313) ECOBLUE	1,481.17	15,018.74
(1315) FPCUP 2021-1-7: Cupernicus uptake in Portuguese HE	2,465.44	4,144.31
(1316) FPCUP 2021-2-39: Cupernicus user uptake in Africa	4,083.64	8,072.85
(1317) FPCUP 2021-2-42: Cupernicus uptake maritime sector	6,016.72	14,107.92
(1318) FPCUP 2021-2-47: Coastal coord. of user needs	2,650.20	4,404.66
(1401) MAGAL (PO Açores)	-	3,306.46
(1402) INTAIRSECT (PO Açores)	-	36,969.67
(1404) K2D (PO Açores)	-	27,612.41
(1405) AEROS (PO Açores)	113.12	16,167.27
(1406) SAP (PO Açores) Sistema Alerta Pithomyces	42.37	47,016.26
(1407) COAST (FRCT)	5,787.46	-
(1501) E5DES (INTERREG)	1,023.36	18,546.05
(1502) Atlantic Whale Deal	25,747.21	-
(1601) Rede LoRaWAN	2,109.40	-
(1602) Vinhas da Terceira	11,316.71	7,451.49
(1701) Custodian	22,877.19	55,321.44
(1801) Food4Sustainability (PRR)	23,793.98	2,725.46
(1802) New Space Portugal (PRR)	304,368.84	109,703.83
(1803) PBDH - Portugal Blue Digital Hub (PRR)	16,977.35	-
(2101) Contrato-programa Açores 2024-2027	102,048.22	-
Total de Subsídios, doações e legados à exploração Total for Operating subsidies	2,025,465.17	1,803,910.29




Note 14. Supplies and external services

valores em euros | figures in euro

FORNECIMENTOS E SERVIÇOS EXTERNOS SUPPLIES AND EXTERNAL SERVICES	2024	2023
Subcontractos Subcontracts	-	35,000.00
Serviços de consultoria e IT Consulting services and IT	98,471.88	140,747.74
Serviços administrativos, financeiros, jurídicos e de auditoria Administrative, accounting, financial, audit and tax services	103,200.95	103,535.10
Publicidade e propaganda Advertising services	2,012.22	16,167.50
Honorários Professional fees	4,170.00	5,365.00
Materiais Tools	4,213.84	2,041.92
Energia e outros fluidos Energy and other fluids	4,180.67	4,546.12
Deslocações e estadas Travel and accommodation	239,387.98	160,690.83
Comunicação Communications	20,527.94	18,125.77
Conferências, seminários e outros eventos Conferences and other events	2,474.16	1,574.64
Rendas e alugueres Rents and leasing	73,233.35	19,410.55
Outros serviços Other services	108,267.35	97,212.42
Total de Fornecimentos e serviços externos Total for Supplies and external services	660,140.34	604,417.59

Note 15. Staff costs

valores em euros | figures in euro

GASTOS COM O PESSOAL STAFF COSTS	2024	2023
Remunerações do pessoal Staff salaries	1,049,961.87	971,514.16
Prémios Bonuses	-	61,224.00
Indemnizações Severance	16,671.34	605.86
Encargos sobre remunerações do pessoal Social security: staff	226,450.00	223,826.05
Seguro de acidentes de trabalho e de saúde Insurance	28,499.45	27,125.44
Outros gastos com o pessoal Other staff costs	15,075.01	12,707.24
Total de Gastos com o pessoal Total for Staff costs	1,336,657.67	1,297,002.75

Note 16. Other income

valores em euros | figures in euro

OUTROS RENDIMENTOS OTHER INCOME	2024	2023
Rendimentos suplementares Additional income	-	4,421.74
Correcções relativas a períodos anteriores Corrections from previous periods	167.28	-
Imputação de subsídios para investimentos Allocation of subsidies for investment	155,077.24	157,701.57
Outros não especificados Other non-specified income	-	255.00
Total de Outros rendimentos Total for Other income	155,244.52	162,378.31

Note 17. Other expenses

valores em euros | figures in euro

OUTROS GASTOS OTHER EXPENSES	2024	2023
Impostos indirectos e taxas Indirect taxes and other fees	1,778.20	2,102.71
Correcções relativas a períodos anteriores Corrections from previous periods	911.51	1,037.48
Donativos Donations	5,000.00	-
Quotizações Membership fees	3,640.44	-
Perdas em investimentos financeiros Losses in financial investments	164.43	-
Diferenças de câmbios desfavoráveis Exchange differences	-	20.51
Multas e penalidades Fines and penalties	75.00	21.00
Despesas não devidamente documentadas Expenditure not properly documented	115.07	214.13
Outros não especificados Other expenses	0.01	2.21
Total de Outros gastos Total for Other expenses	11,684.66	3,398.04

Note 18. Depreciation and amortization costs

valores em euros | figures in euro

GASTOS DE DEPRECIAÇÃO E DE AMORTIZAÇÃO DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION COSTS	2024	2023
Activos fixos tangíveis: Equipamento básico Basic equipment	153,158.81	151,313.83
Activos fixos tangíveis: Equipamento administrativo Administrative equipment	2,176.39	6,387.74
Total de Gastos de depreciação e de amortização Total for Depreciation and amortization expenses	155,335.20	157,701.57



5.4 Information required by Legal Diplomas

In accordance with the article 21st, number 1 of the Decree-Law 411/91, of October 17th, AD AIR Centre confirms that it does not have any outstanding payments due towards Social Security and the Tax Authorities.

The net income for the 2024 period is 81 357,42 euros and will be transferred to the caption Retained earnings.

The auditing firm is Martins Pereira, João Careca e Associados SRC, Lda. which will earn, in 2025, for its fees of services rendered in 2024, the amount of 4 950 euros plus VAT.

Acronyms

A-AAGORA, Blueprint for Atlantic-Arctic Agora on cross-sectoral cooperation for restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and increased climate resilience through transformative innovation. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

AA-MARINET, All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network, joint activity contributing to the implementation of the Belém Statement and AAORIA. JPA is funded under AANChOR CSA, a Horizon 2020 funded project.

AAORIA, All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance. Initiative following the political Declaration, signed on July 2022 in Washington DC.

AQUARIUS, Aqua Research Infrastructure Services for the health and protection of our unique, oceans, seas and freshwater ecosystems, Horizon Europe Funded Project.

ARDITI, Agência Regional para o Desenvolvimento da Investigação, Tecnologia e Inovação, Madeira, Portugal.

ASTRAL, All Atlantic Ocean Sustainable, Profitable and Resilient Aquaculture. Horizon 2020 Funded Project.

Atlantic Whale Deal, Mitigating Ship Strikes and Enhancing Carbon Sequestration in the Atlantic. Interreg Atlantic Area Funded Project.

AZORES EcoBlue, development of products and technologies already available on the market or the development of new ones, using marine waste as a raw material. EEA Grants Funded Project.

BioEcoOcean, Co-Creating Transformative Pathways to Biological and Ecosystem Ocean Observations. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

BioEOS, Using Imagery to Track Coastal Biodiversity Changes from Space. France-funded project.

BlueMarkets, Blue Market user engagement and products uptake. MERCATOR Funded Project.

BlueMissionAA, building a Coordination Hub to Support the Mission Implementation in the Atlantic and Arctic Basin. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

BlueMissionBANOS, supporting the Mission Ocean Lighthouse in the Baltic and North Sea basins. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

CliN-BluFeed, A low-CO2 smart autonomous multiplatform system to monitor and forecast Calanus finmarchicus stock - a new sustainable climate-neutral blue fish feed (funded by a SBEP Call). FCT Funded Project.

CMEMS, Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service.

COAST, Conservation of marine ecosystems around Santo Antão, Cabo Verde: implications for policy and society. FRCT Funded Project.

COP16, 2024 United Nations Conference of Parties, Biodiversity.

COP29, 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference.

COPERNICUS, Earth observation component of the European Union's Space programme.

COPPE/UFRJ, Alberto Luiz Coimbra Institute for Graduate Studies and Research in Engineering, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

Custodian, Sensory Network Platform for Sustainable Fishing. EEA Grants Funded Project.

DRMP-Açores, Direção Regional de Políticas Marítimas, Governamental Body, Azores, Portugal.

DSI, Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa.

E5DES, Investigação e inovação em direção à excelência em eficiência tecnológica, uso de energias renováveis, tecnologias emergentes e economia circular na dessalinização, InterReg Funded Project.

ECOPs, Early Career Ocean Professionals.

EO, Earth Observation.

EOatSEE, Earth Observation Advanced Science Tools for Sea Level Extreme Events. ESA Funded Project.

EOV, Essential Ocean Variable.

ESALAB, The ESA_LAB network is an initiative which enables partnerships between ESA and Universities in the Engineering and Business domains

EU, European Union.

FAPERJ, Carlos Chagas Filho Foundation for Research Support in the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

FAPESP, São Paulo Research Foundation, Brazil.

FCT, Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal.

FIOCRUZ, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz.

FPCUP, Framework Partnership Agreement on Copernicus User Uptake.

FRCT, Fundo Regional da Ciência e Tecnologia, Governamental Body, Azores, Portugal.

GD-AID, Agile EO Information Development. ESA Funded Project.

GRA, Regional Government of the Azores, Portugal.

Horizonte 2020, European research and innovation funding programme, started in 2016.

Horizon Europe, European research and innovation funding programme, started in 2021.

HPC, high-performance computing.

HQ, Headquarters.

HR, High Resolution.

ICEBERG, Innovative Community Engagement for Building Effective Resilience and Arctic Ocean Pollution-Control Governance in the Context of Climate Change. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

ICES, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea.

IMAR, Instituto do Mar, Cabo Verde.

INIPM, National Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research, Angola.

INTERREG, European Programme for Regional Cooperation.

Interreg MAC, Interreg VI-D Madeira-Azores-Canary Islands (MAC) Cooperation Programme.

IOC/UNESCO, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

JuliaEO2024, Global Workshop on Earth Observation with Julia held in Terceira.

LABPLAS, Land-Based Solutions for Plastics in the Sea. Horizon 2020 Funded Project.

LAMCE, Laboratório de Métodos Computacionais em Engenharia, Brazil.

LOTAÇOR, Serviço de Lotas dos Açores, SA, Azores, Portugal.

MBON, Marine Biodiversity Observation Network.

MERCATOR, International Organization for Ocean Modelling.

Mission Atlantic, Towards the Sustainable Development of the Atlantic Ocean: Mapping and Assessing the present and future status of Atlantic marine ecosystems under the influence of climate change and exploitation. Horizon 2020 Funded Project.

NASRDA, National Space Research and Development Agency, Nigeria.

NEMO, Nucleus for European Modelling of the Ocean. Global model operated by MERCATOR.

NETTAG+, Preventing, avoiding and mitigating environmental impacts of fishing gears and associated marine litter. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

NewSpace, New Space Portugal. Portuguese Recuperation and Resilience Plan Funded Project.

NextOcean, Next Generation of Fishing and Aquaculture Services. Horizon 2020 Funded Project.

NOAA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States of America.

OCEANIDS, User-driven applications and tools for Climate-Informed Maritime Spatial Planning and integrated seascape management, towards a resilient & inclusive Blue Economy. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

OKEANO, Supporting the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance and Declaration. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

OO, Operational Objectives.

PLOCAN, Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands, Spain.

POC, Points of Contact.

POLARIN, Polar Research Infrastructure Network. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

PREP4BLUE, Preparing the Research & Innovation Core for Mission Ocean, Seas & Waters. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

RedBEAM, Rede de bancos de ensaio do Atlântico Central: validação de novas

tecnologias oceânicas desde o conceito até ao mercado. Interreg MAC Funded Project.

RV, Research Vessels.

SANSA, South Africa National Space Agency, South Africa.

SAPc, Early Warning of Pithomyces chartarum spore. PO Azores Funded Project.

SBEP, Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, is a European Partnership. Horizon Europe Funded Project.

UERJ, State University of Rio de Janeiro.

UFRJ, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

UNCTAD, United Nations Conference for Trade and Development.

UNICOL, Union of 23 cooperatives, of which 22 are from Terceira Island and one from Graciosa Island.

UNITE!, University Network for Innovation Technology and Engineering.

VINTER, Vinhas da Terceira, Angra do Heroísmo Funded Project.

VHR, Very High Resolution.

WaveLinks, Platform that maps the research and innovation landscape of the Mission Ocean.



Annex 1 - General Assembly Members

Country	Organization	Delegate/Sub-delegate
Angola	National Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research (INIPM)	Filomena Vaz Velho
Brazil	Governo do Estado da Bahia - Secretaria do Meio do Ambiente (SEMA BA)	Eduardo Mendonça Sodré Martins André Maurício Rebouças Ferraro
Cape Verde	Instituto do Mar (IMAR)	Albertino Martins Yara Fernandes
Colombia	Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación (Minciencias)	Marcos Oliveira
France	Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique	Philippe Monbet Isabel Benezeth
Guatemala	Secretaría Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (Senytec)	Ana Orantes Andrea Fabiola Flores Pineda
Morocco	Université Abdelmalek Essaadi (UAE)	Bouchta El Moumni
Nigeria	National Space Research and Development Agency (NASDRA)	Bolarinwa Balogun Halilu Shaba
Peru	National Council for Science, Technology and Technological Innovation of Peru – CONCYTEC	Tania Sarith Peña Baca Raquel Mercedes Sotomayor Parían
Portugal	Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)	Madalena Alves Ana Quartin
	Regional Government of the Azores (GRA)	António Felix Rodrigues Emiliana Silva
	Regional Government of Madeira (GRM)	TBD
São Tomé and Príncipe	Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of São Tomé and Príncipe	Virginia Carvalho de Almeida Godinho
		Agostinho Vaz de Sousa
South Africa	Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)	Tumisang Modiloe
		Stewart Bernard
Spain	Plataforma Oceánica de Canarias (PLOCAN)	Joaquin Brito
		Josefina Loustau
United Kingdom	Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSTI)	James Loveder
		Chris Matthews

Annex 2 - Board of Directors Members

Name	Position	Country
Paulo Gadelha	President of the AD AIR Centre Board of Directors	Brazil
Flávio Tiago	Member of the AD AIR Centre Board of Directors	Portugal
Miguel Miranda	Executive Director	Portugal
Salvador Landeros Ayala	Member of the AD AIR Centre Board of Directors	Mexico
Selby Modiba	Member of the AD AIR Centre Board of Directors	South Africa

Annex 3 - Team at December 31 2024

Executive Direction



Miguel Miranda
Executive Director



Mafalda Carapuço
Deputy Executive
Director



Sofia Cordeiro
Deputy Executive
Director

Ocean Policy And Stakeholders' Engagement Program



Valerie de Liedekerke
Program Coordinator
and Project Manager



Catarina Duarte
Project Manager



Tânia Li Chen
Researcher

Data Science, Cloud Infrastructure, and Development Program



João Pinelo
Program Coordinator and
Researcher



Adriana Ferreira
Researcher



Íuri Diogo
Intern



João Gonçalves
Development Engineer

Space Systems and Applications Program



André Valente
Program Coordinator and
Researcher



Andrea Giusti
Development Engineer



Joaquim Melo
Development Engineer



Marina Ávila
Development Engineer

Biodiversity and Blue Economy Program



Natalia Ospina-Alvarez
Program Coordinator and
Researcher



Adriano Lima
Researcher and MBON
Scientific Programmer



Joana Soares
Researcher and MBON
Executive Secretary

Technical and Administrative Staff



Alexandra Frazão
Executive Secretary



Gabriel Costa
Administrative
Assistant



Letícia Leão
Financial Officer



Mariana Moreira
Public Procurement
Officer



Patrícia Cuan
Communication Officer

Annex 4 - Projects in 2024

Projects funded by Horizon Europe, European Commission

BLUEMISSION AA

BlueMissionAA: Building a Coordination Hub to Support the Mission Implementation in the Atlantic and Arctic Basin



A-AAgora: Blueprint for Atlantic-Arctic Agora on cross-sectoral cooperation for restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and increased climate resilience through transformative innovation

OCEANIDS

OCEANIDS: User-driven applications and tools for Climate-Informed Maritime Spatial Planning and integrated seascape management, towards a resilient & inclusive Blue Economy



SBEP: Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership



BioEcoOcean: Co-Creating Transformative Pathways to Biological and Ecosystem Ocean Observations

ICEBERG

ICEBERG: Innovative Community Engagement for Building Effective Resilience and Arctic Ocean Pollution-Control Governance in the Context of Climate Change

OKEANO Supporting the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance

OKEANO: Supporting the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance and Declaration



BioProtect: Advancing area-based management tools to accelerate the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity across the European sea basins

Projects funded by H2020, European Commission



ASTRAL: All Atlantic Ocean Sustainable, Profitable and Resilient Aquaculture



Mission Atlantic: Towards the Sustainable Development of the Atlantic Ocean: Mapping and Assessing the present and future status of Atlantic marine ecosystems under the influence of climate change and exploitation



LABPLAS: Land-Based Solutions for Plastics in the Sea



NextOcean: Next Generation of Fishing and Aquaculture Services

Projects funded by the Framework Partnership Agreement on Copernicus User Uptake, European Commission

FPCUP2021-1-7: Copernicus Uptake in Portuguese Higher Education

FPCUP2021-2-39: Copernicus User Uptake in Africa

FPCUP2021-2-42: Copernicus Uptake for the Maritime Sector



FPCUP2021-2-47: Coastal Coordination of User Needs and Methodologies

FPCUP2019-01-26: Portuguese Users Coordination and Training - Part II

FPCUP2020-2-2: Copernicus for Sustainable Fisheries Management Nigeria

FPCUP2020-3-2: Copernicus Events for Business Innovation in Portugal

FPCUP2020-2-2: Copernicus for Sustainable Fisheries Management Nigeria

Projects funded by the European Space Agency



EOatSee: Earth Observations advanced tools for Sea level extreme events

GDA Marine: Agile EO Information Development: Marine Environment and Blue Economy

Projects funded by MERCATOR

BlueMarkets: Blue Market user engagement and products uptake

Projects funded by the Portuguese Recovery and Resilience Plan



NewSpace: New Space Portugal



SFT-EDIH: Smart Sustainable Farms Foods and Trade European Digital Innovation Hub



PBHD: Portugal Blue Digital Innovation Hub

Projects funded by the Interreg Atlantic Area



Atlantic Whale Deal: Mitigating Ship Strikes and Enhancing Carbon Sequestration in the Atlantic

Projects funded by the Interreg Mac

Red BEAM: Red Bancos de Ensayo del Atlántico Medio: validando nuevas tecnologías oceánicas desde el concepto hasta el mercado

Projects funded by EEA Grants



Custodian

Custodian: A Tracking System for more Sustainable Fishing

Azores EcoBlue

Azores EcoBlue: Development of Products and Technologies using Marine Waste

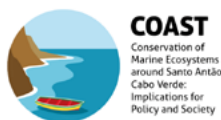
Projects funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal



CE2COAST: Downscaling Climate and Ocean Change to Services: Thresholds and Opportunities

CLiN-BluFeed: A low-CO2 smart autonomous multiplatform system to monitor and forecast Calanus finmarchicus stock - a new sustainable climate-neutral blue fish feed (funded a SBEP Call)

Projects funded by the Regional Fund for Science and Technology, Azores, Portugal



COAST: Conservation of Marine Ecosystems around Santo Antão, Cabo Verde (funded under the BiodivRestore Joint COFUND Call launched by BiodivERSA and JPI Water)

Projects funded by the Câmara Municipal de Angra do Heroísmo

VINTER: Vinhas da Terceira

Annex 5 - Publications 2024

2024

Rauntenbach, S.A.; Sousa, C.M.; **Carapuço, M.** and Relvas, P. (2024). High-resolution observations of the ocean upper layer south of Cape St. Vincent, the western northern margin of the Gulf of Cádiz Volume 16, issue 10, ESSD, 16, 4641–4654, 2024. doi: [10.5194/essd-16-4641-2024](https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-16-4641-2024)

Ospina-Alvarez, N., Carvalho, C. and E. Ravagnan (2024). ASTRAL Atlantic Aquaculture Network: Fostering International Cooperation in the Atlantic Area. Proceedings of AQUA 2024. 26-30 August 2024. Copenhagen (Denmark). p. 738. Zenodo. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.13375691](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13375691)

Ravagnan, E, **Ospina-Alvarez, N.**, O'Donohoe, P., Pias, M, Guterres, B, Sanchez, I, Checa, D, Lauvset, S, Goris, N, Carvajal, J, Maire, L, and Carvalho, C. (2024). A Collaborative Ecosystem for Sustainable Integrated Aquaculture. Proceedings of AQUA 2024. 26-30 August 2024. Copenhagen (Denmark). p. 816. Zenodo doi: [10.5281/zenodo.13378211](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13378211)

Flick, H. M., Iachetti, C.M., Waniko, S., **Ospina-Alvarez, N.**, O'Donohoe, P., Carvalho, C. and E. Ravagnan (2024). Educational material development to promote Integrated Aquaculture in the frame of ASTRAL Project. Proceedings of AQUA 2024. 26-30 August 2024. Copenhagen (Denmark). p. 472. Zenodo doi: [10.5281/zenodo.13375786](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13375786)

Ospina-Alvarez, N., Li-Chen, T., Waniko, S., and E. Ravagnan (2024). Women in Aquaculture. From plans to actions: The journey of the ASTRAL Project. Proceedings of the 15th AASA Conference / AAIC24. 9-13 September 2024. Stellenbosch (South Africa). p. 87. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.13753068](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13753068)

Bograd, S.J., Anderson, L.C., Canonico, G., Chiba, S., Di Lorenzon, E., Enterline, C., Gorecki, E., Griffis, R., Kleisner, K.M., Lachance, H., Leinen, M., Mills, K.E., Muller-Karger, F., Roskar, G., Schmidt, J., Seary, R., Seeyave, S., Hwai, T.S., **Soares, J.**, Tigchelaar, M. (2024). Advancing the climate-biodiversity-fisheries nexus in the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. ICES Journal of Marine Science, 0: 1-7. doi: [10.1093/icesjms/fsae111](https://doi.org/10.1093/icesjms/fsae111)

Lumbierres, M., Abecasis, D., Alcaraz-Segura, D., Alison, J., Álvarez-Presas, M., Anderle, M., Avci, F., Bajocco, S., Baldo, M., Beja, P., Bergamini, A., Bergamini, C., Blanco-Aguilar, J.A., Boada, J., Bonn, A., Borges, P., Borja, A., Breeze, T., Brotons, L., C. **Lima, A.**, **Soares, J.**, (...) Kissling, W.D. (2024). EuropaBON EBV Workflow templates. Zenodo. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.10971094](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10971094)

Lhoumeau S., **Pinelo J.**, Borges P.A.V. (preprint article) Artificial Intelligence for Biodiversity: Exploring the Potential of Recurrent Neural Networks in Forecasting Arthropod Dynamics Based on Time Series. 29 pages. Available at SRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4855619> / doi: [10.2139/ssrn.4855619](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4855619)

Muller-Karger, F.E., Tan, A.S.H., Allcock, L., Appeltans, W., Baron Aguilar, C., Blanco, A., Bograd, S.J., Buttigieg, P., Costello, M.J., Darnaude, A., Dupuis, B., Evaux, L.M., Friedman, K., Goodwin, K., Jungbluth, S., Leinen, M., Levin, L., Mahapatra, P., Martone, R., Mtwana Nordlund, L., Ndah, A.B., Pante, E., Pearlman, J., Pelletier, D., Pendleton, L., Relano, V., Rogers, A.D., San Diego McGlone, M.L., Seeyave, S., Sequeira, A., **Soares, J.**, Stiasny, M., Taylor, S. & Vavia, A. (2024). Ocean Decade Vision 2030 White Papers – Challenge 2: Protect and Restore Ecosystems and Biodiversity. Paris, UNESCO-IOC. (The Ocean Decade Series, 51.2). doi: [10.25607/y60m-4329](https://doi.org/10.25607/y60m-4329)

Silva, P., Pimentel, D. (2024) Tecnologias de Observação da Terra como Instrumentos Legais. In “Informação geoespacial na administração pública: fundamentos, desafios e oportunidades de aplicação” edited by Alexandra Aragão; Ana Celeste Carvalho. 321-336. Portugal: INA Editora. Published

Heitor, M., e Cunha, M. P., Clegg, S., **Sirage, E.**, & Oliveira, P. (2024). Beyond new space: Changing organizational forms, collaborative innovation and public and semi-public domains. Space Policy, 101609. doi: [10.1016/j.spacepol.2023.101609](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spacepol.2023.101609)

Drago, T., Taborda, R., Silveira, T., Freitas, C., Cascalho, J., Oliveira, P., ... & **Carapuço, M.** (2024). EDUCOAST Summer Course: a Real-World Immersive Educational Experience (No. EGU24-13146). Copernicus Meetings. doi: [10.5194/egusphere-w-13146](https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-w-13146)

Tsekhmistrenko, M., Ferreira, A., & **Miranda, M.** (2024). UPFLOW body wave tomography of the whole mantle column beneath the Azores-Madeira-Canaries region (No. EGU24-8563). Copernicus Meetings. doi: [10.5194/egusphere-egu24-8563](https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-egu24-8563)

Corela, C., Saoulis, A., Tsekhmistrenko, M., Loureiro, A., **Miranda, M.**, & Ferreira, A. (2024). Decoding Ocean Depths: Machine Learning Insights into Tidal Dynamics with UPFLOW's OBS Data (No. EGU24-19546). Copernicus Meetings. doi: [10.5194/egusphere-egu24-19546](https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-egu24-19546)

Castaño-Ortiz, J. M., Gil-Solsona, R., **Ospina-Álvarez, N.**, Alcaraz-Hernández, J. D., Farré, M., León, V. M., ... & Rodríguez-Mozaz, S. (2024). Fate of pharmaceuticals in the Ebro River Delta region: The combined evaluation of water, sediment, plastic litter, and biomonitoring. Science of The Total Environment, 906, 167467. doi: [10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.167467](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.167467)

Guerra, A., Azevedo, A., Amorim, F., **Soares, J.**, et al, 2024. Using a food web model to predict the effects of Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) accidental spills on deep-sea hydrothermal vents from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge (MAR) region. Marine Pollution Bulletin 199: 115974 doi: [10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115974](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115974)

Ávila, M.; **Pinelo, J.**; Casas, E.; Capinha, C.; Pabst, R.; **Szczesniak, I.**; Domingues, E.; Pinto, C.; Santos, V.; Gil, A.; et al. Assessing the Presence of *Pithomyces chartarum* in Pastureland Using IoT Sensors and Remote Sensing: The Case Study of Terceira Island (Azores, Portugal). Sensors 2024, 24, 4485. doi: [mdpi.com/1424-8220/24/14/4485](https://doi.org/10.3390/s24044485)

Annex 6 - Future Prospects Events

To ensure continuity of the Atlantic International Research Centre after 2023 a new framework for funding was negotiated with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education for the period of 2024 and 2028. These negotiations culminated with “Resolução do Conselho de Ministros” n° 199/2023, of December 27, that allows Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I. P. to assume multi-annual responsibilities and to carry out the basic expenses for the operation of the Association between 2024 and 2028. In accordance with “Resolução do Conselho de Ministros” n° 199/2023, of December 27, between 2024 and 2028, the Atlantic International Research Centre will receive an annual funding up to 1 750 000,00 EUR for a maximum of 8 750 000,00 EUR.

The Regional Government of the Azores approved a “Resolução do Conselho do Governo” n.º 164/2024 of November 4 authorizing the signing of a programme contract between the Autonomous Region of the Azores and AD AIR Centre - Associação para o desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre, with a duration of four years, from 2024 to 2027, for a maximum amount of 400 000,00 € (four hundred thousand euros), to be processed in the amount of 100 000,00 € (four hundred thousand euros) per year, to support the management, coordination and realisation of its activities. The programme contract was signed on 11 November 2024 and will be retroactively implemented since January 1st 2024. The yearly payments occur following the delivery of a technical and financial report with the activities performed and related expenses.

In-kind and in-cash commitments from other Associated Member Countries is also being equated and discussions will take place in scope of the new AIR Centre statutes negotiation in 2025.

Annex 7 - Auditor's report



STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT

(Free translation from a report originally issued in Portuguese language. In case of doubt the Portuguese version will always prevail)

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **AD AIR CENTRE – Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre (the Entity)**, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31st december 2024 (showing a total of 2.667.973 euros and a total net equity of 657.943 euros, including a net profit of 81.357 euros), the income statement by nature for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Accounting Standard for Non Profit Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and further technical and ethical standards and guidelines as issued by Ordem dos Revisores Oficiais de Contas (the Portuguese Institute of Statutory Auditors). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section below. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the law and we have fulfilled other ethical requirements in accordance with the Ordem dos Revisores Oficiais de Contas code of ethics.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of management body for the financial statements

Management is responsible for:

- the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the Accounting Standard for Non Profit Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System;
- the preparation of the management report in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;
- designing and maintaining an appropriate internal control system to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;



Martins Pereira
João Careca & Associados
Sociedade de Revisores Oficiais de Contas

- the adoption of accounting policies and principles appropriate in the circumstances; and
- assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, and disclosing, as applicable, the matters that may cast significant doubt about the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern;



Martins Pereira
João Careca & Associados
Sociedade de Revisores Oficiais de Contas

- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, in accordance with the Accounting Standard for Small Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System;
- communicate with those charged with governance, including the supervisory body, regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibility also includes the verification that the information contained in the management report is consistent with the financial statements.

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

On the management report

In compliance with the applicable legal requirements, in our opinion the management report was prepared in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory requirements in force and the information contained therein is consistent with the audited financial statements and, taking into consideration the knowledge and appreciation about the Entity, we have not identified any material misstatements.

Lisboa, 26 february 2025

Martins Pereira, João Careca & Associados, SROC, Lda.

Registered at OROC under n.º 68 and CMVM under n.º 20161404

Represented by:

João António de Carvalho Careca - ROC n.º 849

Registered at CMVM under n.º 20160473



Headquarters: TERINOV – Parque de Ciência e Tecnologia da Ilha Terceira - Canada de Belém s/n,
Terra Chã, 9700-702 Angra do Heroísmo | Tel.(+351) 295 249 419
Secretariat: Av. Prof. Gama Pinto, 2, 1649-003 Lisbon, Portugal | Tel. (+351) 210 493 583

