

FACT SHEET

OCEAN POLICY AND STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT

AIR CENTRE

To advance international ocean governance through transatlantic cooperation, stakeholder engagement and science–policy integration. To anchor this work in key Atlantic and European frameworks, including the Belém Statement and the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA), the EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030", the European Green Deal and the European Ocean Pact.

HIGHLIGHTS



AAORIA Forum (Brussels, 2025)

Strengthen Transatlantic Cooperation

Through regional pairing, capacity building and inclusive engagement with local and regional authorities, the AIR Centre promotes knowledge exchange and equitable participation in Atlantic Ocean governance. This work contributes to SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) and strengthens the AIR Centre's role as a catalyst for ocean research, innovation and diplomacy across the Atlantic. The AIR Centre's Networking Fridays, free online webinars focused on Ocean-related topics, featuring presentations from researchers to policymakers, are a tool in promoting international cooperation.



Third United Nations Ocean Conference (Nice, 2025)

Promote Ecosystem Restoration

The AIR Centre participates in ten initiatives aligned with the EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030", focused on marine ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions: A-AAGORA, BioProtect, OCEANIDS, BioEcoOcean, OKEANO, SBEP, BlueActionAA, Isla Bonita, BlueMissionAA2030 and ICEBERG. These initiatives also contribute to wider EU goals on climate neutrality (e.g. the European Climate Law), biodiversity (e.g. the Nature Restoration Law and the Biodiversity Strategy) and sustainability (e.g. the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, the Farm to Fork Strategy and the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation), as well as to SDG 13 (Climate Action). The AIR Centre also manages cascade funding mechanisms.



Women scientists lead the way and inspire youth

Enhance Ocean Governance

To strengthen ocean governance, the AIR Centre is an observer to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) Commission and serves as the Portuguese national ocean and waters hub for the EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters", contributing to harmonised monitoring frameworks and action plans across the North-East Atlantic. This work supports SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).