BRAZILIAN BLUE INITIATIVE

Brazilian Blue Initiative

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

BRASIL BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT

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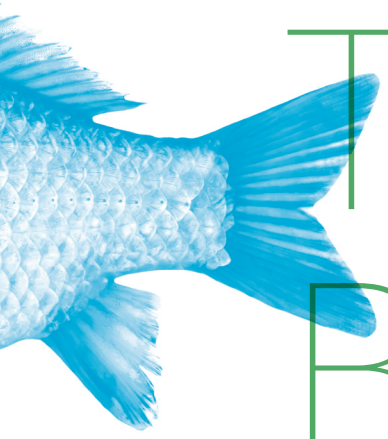

THE BRAZILIAN BLUE INITIATIVE

The Brazilian Blue Initiative is a strategic framework to support the country's strategic vision of sustainable development and nature conservation on the marine and coastal zones, through national and international commitments, goals and targets related to biodiversity conservation, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change and Sustainable Development Goals.

It consists of an ambitious, broad and collaborative strategy that seeks to promote, articulate, catalyze and co-ordinate projects and activities.

Objectives and Targets of the Brazilian Blue Initiative

Support Brazilian and international goals:

- Conserve biodiversity and its marine and coastal ecosystems;
- Contribute to mitigation and adaptation to climate change;
- Sustainable development;
- Protect Brazilian coastal and marine jurisdictional areas beyond the minimum of 10% as soon as possible, following Aichi Target 11 criteria;
- Consolidate protected areas in 5% of the coastal and marine zones in 5 years (3-fold increase) and 10% in 10 years (6-fold increase) and support management in the long term;
- Promote zero species extinction, following Aichi Target 12 criteria;
- Promote sustainable and equitable economy, integrate conservation with economic activities and support specifically the organization, empowerment and sustainable use by the traditional peoples;
- Enhance role of coastal and marine ecosystems in climate change adaptation, maintain blue carbon (particularly in mangroves) and maintain other ecosystem services provision (including sustainable fisheries);
- Raise at least US $140 million, in the first 5-year phase, and promote innovative fundraising for long-term sustainability.

THE BRAZILIAN BLUE INITIATIVE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TAKING into consideration cultural heritage, equity, social involvement, economic potentials, strategic institutional arrangements and their relationship with marine biodiversity, ocean health, their role in adaptation and mitigation of climate change, the protection of peoples and communities and the contribution to other economic activities.

OCEANS HAVE BEEN SEEN AS INEXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCE AREAS AND UNIVERSAL RECIPIENT OF POLLUTANTS.

Brian J. Skerry / National Geographic Stock / WWF

Conservation of the oceans

Historically, oceans have been seen as inexhaustible resource areas and universal recipient of pollutants. However, this view has been changing drastically in recent times due to the growing evidences of the finiteness of its biological resources, the collapse of fish stocks (associated with habitat destruction, overfishing and other threats), the reduction of ecosystems, the mortality of marine organisms caused by pollution events and also the growing concern about the effects of climate change. Problems affecting marine and coastal ecosystems should be analyzed in an integrated way as they have a synergistic effect that affects their resilience and compromises the health of the oceans. The suppression of components or negative change of these ecosystems, as a consequence, also impacts the provision of associated environmental services.

80% OF THE BRAZILIAN FISHERIES MAY BE over-exploited, fully exploited, depleted or in recovery from exploitation; Worldwide this number reaches 85%.

Biodiversity Aichi Target 11

In 2010, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) approved the Strategic Plan 2011-2020, a ten-year framework for action to save biodiversity and enhance its benefits for people. The plan established the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, divided into five main goals. Highlighting the importance of the protect areas the Aichi Target 11, inside the Goal C (improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity), aims:

BY 2020, AT LEAST 17 PER CENT OF terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes.

The Aichi Target 11 does not only advocate protected percentages, but also includes ecological representation, connection and integration into the landscape of protected areas and also the management of the system in an equitable and effective manner.

SOURCE: https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/rationale/target-11/

Moreover, this target was a milestone for a number of countries to initiate or further advance actions focused on increasing their percentages of marine protected areas.

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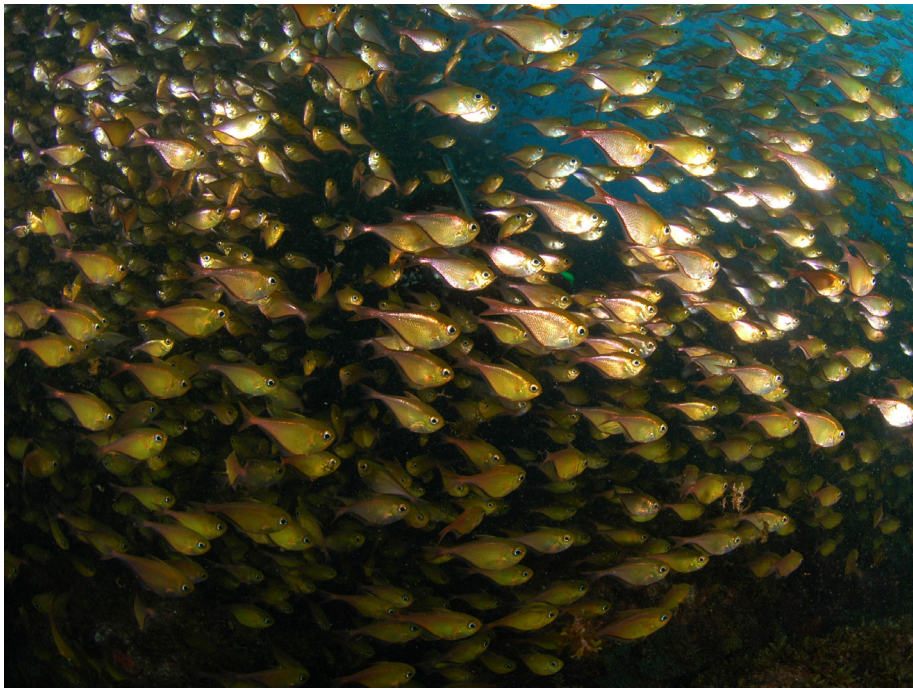
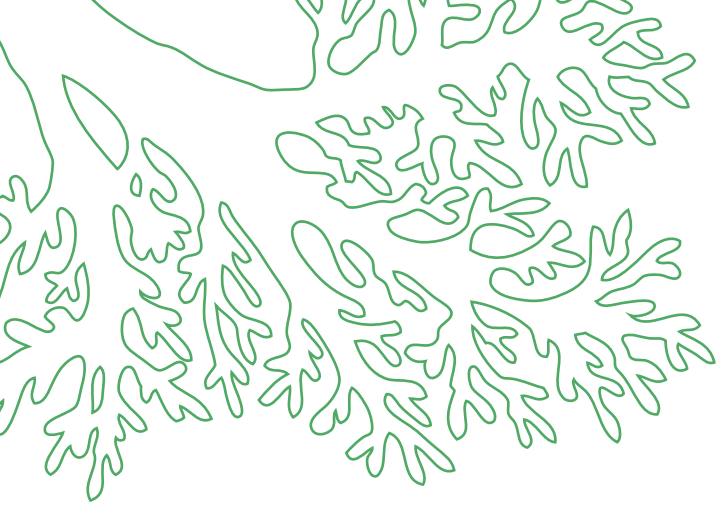


- Ecological representation;
- Management effectiveness;
- Connectivity;
- Integration into the land/seascapes;
- Equity.



Protected Areas (PAs)

Protected areas (PAs) are the most important mechanism for nature conservation created by humankind. They are also key to supporting local and traditional communities on defending their rights, and to allow the broader society and different stakeholders to access their natural heritage and benefits from ecosystem services, while promoting better alliances for nature conservation. Nonetheless, protected areas are not enough alone. They need integration within broader policies to reach the ultimate goal of biodiversity conservation, which includes other effectives area-based conservation measures, strategies for conservation of threatened species, sustainable tourism, etc. They serve society's social, economic and cultural interests and therefore need a stronger support.

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

For long term sustainability, MPAs require a consistent budget and qualified personnel. The location, design, and category of the MPA should be well thought, in addition to its administrative needs.

A coastal and marine protected areas network should embrace different categories of protected areas. Its design has to take in count the risk of the industrial-level activities and shall include both no-take zones and a gradient of restrictions allowing traditional sustainable use, as well as integration with the outside sustainable economic activities.

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS are social and economically beneficial, besides fundamental for the biodiversity conservation.

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COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS conserved are extremely important to the coastal traditional peoples and local communities, not only because provides their livelihood, but mainly because protect them from the climate change.

AN AVERAGE SEA LEVEL INCREASE between 26 and 86cm in the Brazilian coast is estimated up to 2100.

How to resist climate change

- establishing a network of coastal and marine protected areas;
- establishing chains of sustainable production;
- managing natural resources properly;
- recovering degraded areas;
- avoiding ecosystem conversion and degradation.

BRAZILIAN MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

26.8%
of the coastal and marine ecosystems is under legal protection;

264 EXISTING PROTECTED AREAS
of different types and categories, totally or partially on coastal and marine ecosystems:

- 242 PAs covering coastal ecosystems, with some 55 thousand km^2, up to 40% under legal protection;
- 162 MPAs covering part of the Territorial Sea (12 nautical miles), with some 50 thousand km^2, or 21.1%, protected;
- 11 PAs covering part of the Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nautical miles), totaling 15 thousand km^2 under legal protection.

BRAZILIAN COASTAL AND ECOSYSTEMS AND PROTECTED AREAS, IN 2017

Coastal and marine ecosystems – share in protected areas (km²) (Brasil (DAP-SBio-MMA)

Coastal ecosystem	Total area	Total area under legal protection	Protection percentage
Coastal wetland	49,279.79	29,460.00	59.78%
Rocky coast	1,522.98	1,055.58	69.31%
Dune	2,868.24	1,304.25	45.47%
Estuary	37,577.17	6,854.60	18.24%
Lagoon	15,190.30	163.54	1.08%
Mangrove	12,649.04	9,010.40	71.23%
Salt marsh	121.41	3.04	2.50%
Beach	494.72	119.18	24.09%
Shallow reef	80.73	47.17	58.43%
Sand shrub	5,213.80	2,625.21	50.35%
Total (coastal)	**124,998.18**	**50,642.97**	**40.51%**
Territorial sea	227,246.88	47,976.25	21.11%
Exclusive Economic Zone	3,417,141.28	5,064.24	0.15%
Total (marine)	**3,644,388.16**	**53,040.49**	**1.46%**
TOTAL	**3,769,386.34**	**103,683.46**	**2.75%**

- Brazil has good conservation levels in the coastal ecosystems (40+%), particularly mangroves;
- The Brazilian Territorial Sea had a relatively good protection coverage (20+%), but the protection was progressive lower as the area is further distant to the coast, with only 1.5% protection on the whole marine area.

These data are prior to the creation of new protected areas in 2018.

In 2018 the Brazilian government created 7 new MPAs:

- 3 extractive reserves in the Northcoast (up to 427 thousand ha, including remaining areas of mangroves forest);
- 4 oceanic: 2 of sustainable use and 2 fully protected (over 10 million ha).

SOURCE: MMA (CNUC), 2018

NUMBER OF MARINE
PROTECTED AREAS WORLDWIDE

15,324

TOTAL MARINE
PROTECTED AREAS IN

BRAZIL 26.8%

PERCENT OF THE
OCEAN COVERED BY
PROTECTED AREAS

7.26%

TOTAL AREA PROTECTED

26,302,971 km^2

SOURCE: https://www.protectedplanet.net/marine

The Role of Brazil

Brazil has progressively increased and improved its national system of protected areas, despite relatively low effective engagement of the general society, with good attention to nature conservation and to local and traditional communities sustainable development.

Despite the first Brazilian marine protected area, the Atol das Rocas Biological Reserve, had been created in 1979, the importance of coastal and marine environment had only increased recently.

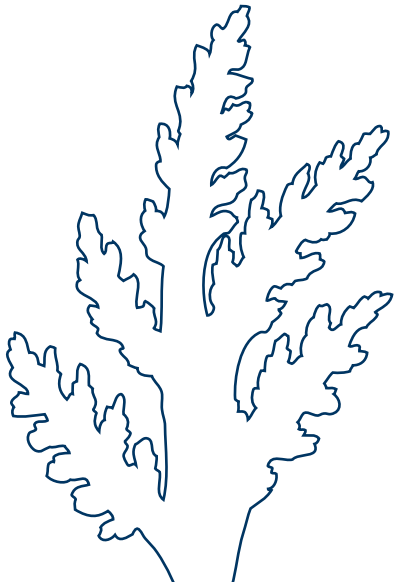
Brazil aims to reach a good level of coastal and marine environment conservation and to promote a sustainable development of its seas. National and international goals, particularly Biodiversity Aichi Target 11 and Sustainable Development Objective 14, guide and motivate such efforts. Lessons learnt from previous experiences, in Brazil and elsewhere shall contribute to implement new projects in the coastal and marine regions. One of the inspirations is the project of the establishment and management of protected areas in the Amazon.

Brazil has developed projects and actions with public and private financing, for enhancing the conservation of coastal and marine zones, particularly through the creation and consolidation of marine protected areas.

BRAZIL IS IN A STRATEGIC position to innovate the generation and integration of knowledge from diverse sources to develop an ecosystem basis for decision making.

Adriano Gambarini/WWF-Brazil

BRAZILIAN COASTAL-MARINE STRATEGY



TO DEVELOP THE STRATEGY, TWO PROJECTS HAVE BEEN PLAYING an important role on the Brazilian coastal and marine environment conservation. They are the Brazilian Mangroves Project and the Brazilian Coastal and Marine Protected Areas Project, both run by the government and financed by GEF.

The Brazilian Mangrove Project ("GEF-Mangue")

Brazil has the second largest area of mangroves in the world, distributed in most of its 7,408 km of coast. Mangrove forests are extremely productive ecosystems that provide numerous good and services both to the marine environment and people. Mangroves are home to a large variety of fish, crab, shrimp, and mollusc species. These fisheries form an essential source of food for thousands of coastal communities around the world. The dense root systems of mangrove forests trap sediments flowing down rivers and off the land. This helps stabilizing the coastline and prevents erosion from waves and storms, and, as a consequence, increases the social and environmental resilience of the coastal population against the climate change.

Ended in December 2017, the objectives of the Brazilian Mangrove Project were:

- Promotion of the mangrove conservation mainly through the creation of new MPAs and promoting better and new models of MPAs management, focusing on implementing community management and the sustainable use.
- Implementing new management models, particularly on mangrove crabs and nearby fishing.
- Assessment of integration of protected areas in the landscape, particularly water basins, and evaluation of the lost value of degraded mangroves (mostly due to aquiculture).

- 123 MPAs in Brazil cover mangroves areas;
- Area of 16,385 km^2;
- 87% of the ecosystem in Brazil;
- 58 Federal, 46 state and 22 municipal MPAs;
- 17% of them are fully protected areas;
- 83% of them are sustainable use MPAs;
- 19 extractive reserves distrubuted in 9 states;
- Some 0.5 million people (around 100,000 families) in coastal-marine protected areas living from artisanal fisheries and coastal gathering, including from mangroves.

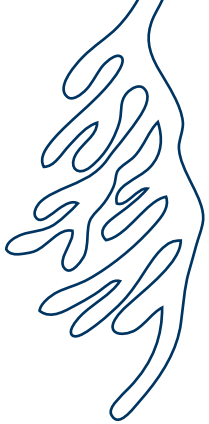
The Brazilian Coastal and Marine Protected Areas Project ("GEF-Mar")

The GEF-Mar is part of the Brazilian Blue Initiative, and it aims the creation and consolidation of MPAs, the biodiversity monitoring, including beyond the protected areas, and the implementation of sustainable use of natural resources by traditional fishing communities, encouraging the strengthening of their organizations.

Objectives of the project:

- Improve the conservation effectiveness of 9.3 thousand km^2 of pre-existing and new MPAs;
- Increase the Brazilian marine protection to 5%, or 175 thousand km^2.

SOURCE: (ICMBio & Brasil (MMA), 2017; Maretti & Manfrinato, 2017; FUNBIO, 2017).



A MAJOR FOCUS OF THE BRAZILIAN Blue Initiative shall be on ecosystem-based adaptation and the decrease of coastal traditional peoples and local communities vulnerability.

Main guidelines for the development of projects associated with the Brazilian Blue Initiative

- Promote the vision improvement and implementation of strategic and long-term actions;
- Act always in partnership;
- Seek complementarity and avoid negative competition between partners, projects and actions;
- Promote the innovation needed to fulfill the objectives;
- Promote greater and better proximity of society to the protected areas and enable its participation and engagement;
- Interact with other economic sectors and enable and stimulate the sustainability of economic, governmental and social activities;
- Promote the spatial integration, including protected and conserved areas and "OECMs"; and
- Promote production of scientific knowledge and recognition of traditional knowledge.

THE EFFICIENCY OF COASTAL AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IS DIRECTLY RELATED to the engagement and empowerment of traditional populations that live in these areas. Given the importance of the activity, and the fact that government agencies commonly have expenditure contingencies and lean structure, the initiative to partner with other organizations is fundamental to carry out activities and strategies aimed at strengthening and engaging traditional communities and nature conservation.

SCOPE, IMPLEMENTATION SCALE AND DURATION

The Brazilian Blue Initiative focuses on the establishment a representative, effective and equitable system of marine protected and conserved areas

3 implementation phases, of 5 years each

Fundraising target:
US$ 140 million during 1st phase

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THEMATIC PHASES AND COMPONENTS OF ACTION PROPOSED FOR PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BRAZILIAN BLUE INITIATIVE

Thematic Phases	Components of Action
Expansion and consolidation of the national system of MPA in the marine and coastal environments.	**1.1** Creating MPAs; **1.2** Consolidation of created and existing MPAs; **1.3** Definition of other types of protected and effective spatial mechanisms for nature conservation and sustainable development; **1.4** Territorial Management of Marine and Coastal Conservation; **1.5** Physical-financial management and monitoring of the effectiveness of the implementation and management of MPAs; **1.6** Communication, mobilization and educational actions.
Knowledge and monitoring management.	**2.1** Promotion of research on marine conservation and species of socio-economic interest; **2.2** Dissemination of knowledge produced on marine and coastal biodiversity and on MPAs; **2.3** Development of integrated assessment and monitoring mechanisms.
Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	**3.1** Development of integrated actions for the ecological health of the coasts and oceans; **3.2** Promotion of the integration of MPAs with fisheries management in general; **3.3** Promotion of the integration of the general management of sustainable tourism; **3.4** Promotion of sustainable use of other coastal and marine resources; **3.5** Promotion of good environmental management practices in other productive sectors; **3.6** Strengthening peoples and communities to manage MPAs.

NEEDS AND FINANCIAL GOALS

IT´S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO STIMULATE the identification of gaps and to support researches that contribute to the creation and implementation of MPAs.

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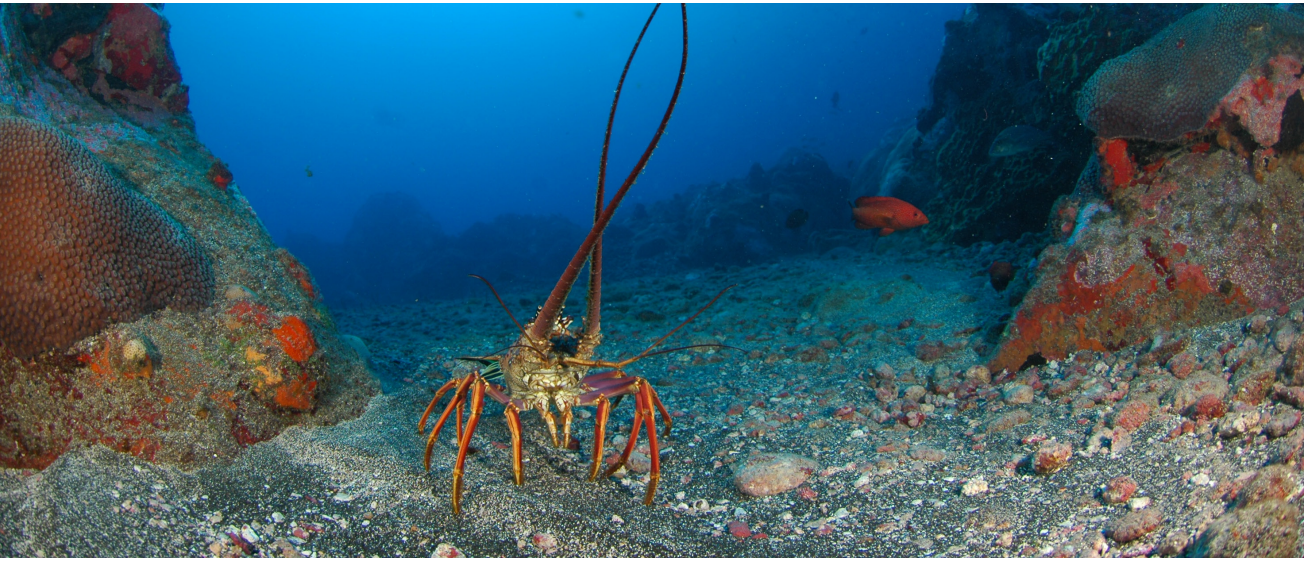

Through this Blue Initiative, Brazilian social actors have an excellent basis to support the engagement on a broad and ambitious ocean conservation strategy, well placing the country among the leading countries advancing ocean protection and sustainability. This Initiative supports the country's transition to a more sustainable society and marine-based economy, including ecological and cultural elements, providing social and economic benefits for current and future generations, restores, protects and maintains the diversity, productivity, resilience, core functions, and intrinsic value of coastal and marine ecosystems.

Juergen Freund/WWF

The Blue Platform

The Blue Platform is a fundraising and execution tool that will be used by the Brazilian Blue Initiative and which allows visualizing the articulation of the actors and the financing mechanisms to be mobilized. The governance of the Initiative should seek strategic positioning to identify the demands on marine-coastal conservation, considering the wide universe of actors involved (research, PA management, fisheries management).

ADVANTAGES OF THE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

The strategic organization of the Brazilian Blue Initiative funding would enable:

- Integrated and long-term planning, allowing coordination and strategic and planned activities, acting effectively in financing niches;
- Long-term planning, as a guide to initiatives and as a metric for demonstrating to society the progress made;
- Multiple social actors and agents acting in a coordinated way in order to minimize the constraints of individual ones;
- Gains in asset management and the adoption of different financial strategies;
- Minimizing operating costs due to scale gains, among other advantages.

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The strategic distribution of financial demand over time would allow:

- Mobilization of resources of different natures;
- Gradual introduction of new financial mechanisms, aligned with their complexities;
- Better management of transaction costs and expansion of the capacity to absorb resources;
- Rational allocation of available resources and the coverage of essential costs.

At the same time, getting the initial investments would enable:

- Achievement of the initial objectives (flag actions);
- Implementation of structuring actions (financing of protected areas);
- Creation of an environment for the realization of additional, complementary and successive investments;
- Reduction of the risks associated with the implementation of large-scale and long-term maturation projects.

Funding Sources

Several potential sources are being considered to implement this conservation strategy:

- Public budget, associated to the expansion and improvement of protected areas services to society;
- Environmental compensation – a Brazilian policy instrument in which projects (roads, dams, mines, etc.) have to contribute to conservation in a kind of biodiversity compensation; fines conversion; etc. It´s important to point out the necessity of creating a new regulation – legislation proposal);
- Compensation of environment-related fines, based on the recent adjustment decree, but still missing internal regulations;
- Bi and multilateral international cooperation (governmental sources); projects to Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, and others;
- Philanthropy (private foundations, individuals, etc.);
- Protected areas income generation (such as from visitation), new sources (such as lottery), and innovative relationships to impact investments form business (tourism, fisheries, transportation, etc.).

Brazilian
Blue
Initiative

Brazilian Blue Initiative Label

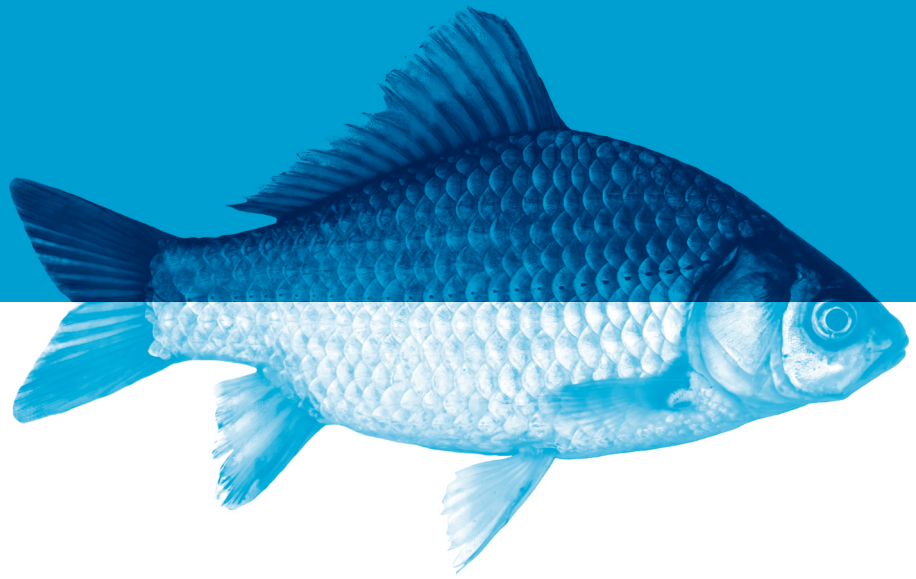
Brazilian Blue Initiative articulates, structures and mobilizes diverse and innovative financial mechanisms, taking into account different typologies of projects, involving different stakeholders, under various governance regimes, in order to attain the goal of conserving marine biodiversity and ensuring the renewal of fish stocks within the Brazilian seascape. The Initiative promotes decentralization of fundraising and project execution activities.

It also recognizes ongoing projects, with their own funding and governance structure, when contributing to the conservation objectives of the coastal and marine zones.

Brazilian Blue Initiative Partners

- World Bank
- Conservation International - CI
- CONFREM
- Funbio
- GEF Mangue
- GEF Mar
- IUCN
- UNEP
- RARE
- UNDP
- WWF

The Brazilian Blue Initiative encourages, promotes and supports projects and partnerships to increase and improve the protection and management of the country's coastal and marine zones. Through the Blue Initiative, Brazilian social actors have an excellent basis to support the engagement on a broad and ambitious ocean conservation strategy, well placing the country among the leading countries advancing ocean protection and sustainability.



This factsheet was based on the information contained in the documents *Brazilian Blue Initiative - Structure, Definition and Guidelines and Marine and Coastal Protected Areas* and *Conservation Strategy in Brazil: challenges, lessons, proposals, new models and first results*. For more details, it is recommended to consult the full version of the documents, which includes the bibliography that served as the source for its elaboration.

BRAZILIAN BLUE INITIATIVE -
Structure, Definition and Guidelines

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