City profile
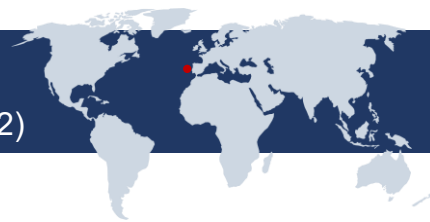
OECD
Cities and Regions for a Blue Economy

The blue economy in Matosinhos, Portugal
Source: OECD Global Survey on Localising the Blue Economy (2022)

FACTS AND FIGURES

Fact box

- **Population**: 172 000 [1]
- **GDP**: EUR 400 million [2]
- **Area**: 62 km² [3]

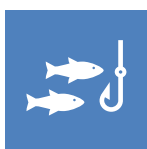### Drivers for the blue economy

Adapt to climate change

International cooperation (funding)

International initiatives

Blue economy sectors

Matosinhos, a European port city on the Atlantic Ocean flanked by the Leça River, is home to most blue economy sectors below, except water-based renewable energy and shipbuilding and repair. The Port of Matosinhos contributes to 11% of the North region's total GDP and employment. With a total of 17 companies and a turnover of EUR 15.5 million in 2021, the full-time equivalent (FTE) number of employees in the fisheries sector grew by almost 40% compared to 2019.

| Seafood | Water-based renewable energy | Shipping | Port activities | Shipbuilding and repair | Water passenger transport and related services | Water-related tourism | Blue bioeconomy, biotechnology and research and education |

BLUE ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

The main environmental impacts of blue economy sectors in Matosinhos are related to air and soil pollution, pollution from plastics and waste generation.

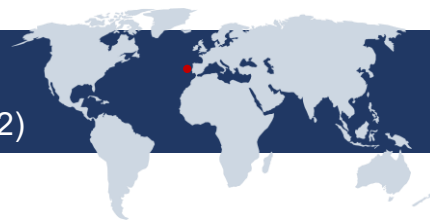## Top 3 climate threats to the blue economy in Matosinhos

Sea level rise

Flood

Coastal erosion

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[1] [3] Portdata (2021), www.pordata.pt/municipios (accessed 13 March 2023)

[2] Matosinhos City Councy (n.d.), www.cm-matosinhos.pt/ (accessed 13 March 2023)

The blue economy in Matosinhos, Portugal
Source: OECD Global Survey on Localising the Blue Economy (2022)
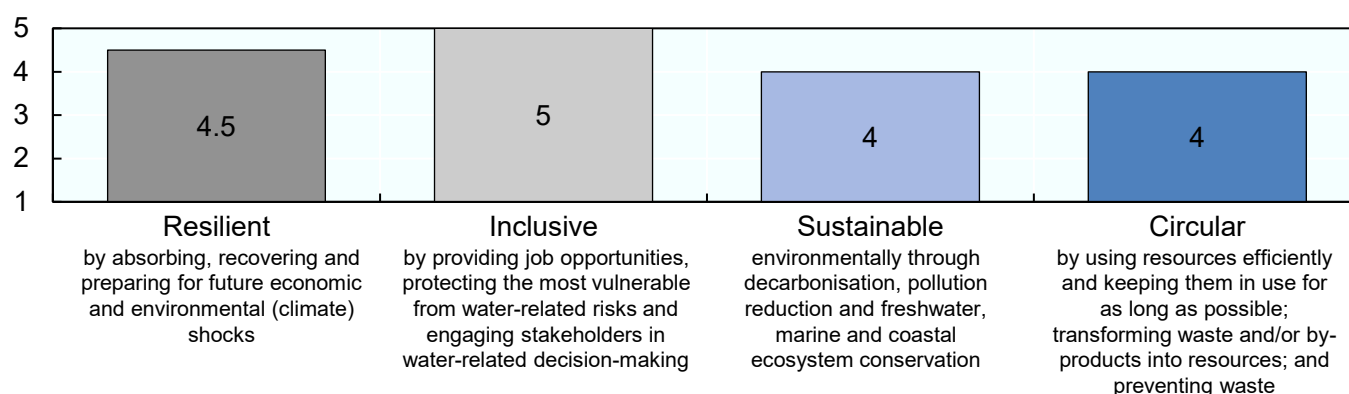
GOVERNANCE OF THE BLUE ECONOMY

As part the URBACT network (European programme for learning and exchanging experiences on sustainable urban development), the BluAct competition supports innovative blue business projects by providing advisory services to the 10 selected projects in the first phase, before awarding funding to the three winning projects. With the support of the city, the Centre of Marine and Environmental Research is developing the BIOREM project to tackle maritime pollution from spills of oil and marine fuels.

💰 Dedicated budget for the blue economy

THE RISC-PROOF BLUE ECONOMY (*)

Resilient	Inclusive	Sustainable	Circular
4.5	5	4	4
by absorbing, recovering and preparing for future economic and environmental (climate) shocks	by providing job opportunities, protecting the most vulnerable from water-related risks and engaging stakeholders in water-related decision-making	environmentally through decarbonisation, pollution reduction and freshwater, marine and coastal ecosystem conservation	by using resources efficiently and keeping them in use for as long as possible; transforming waste and/or by-products into resources; and preventing waste

(*) Survey respondents were invited to define their level of agreement (with 5 "Agree" and 1 "Disagree") for statements for each of the RISC dimensions (from question 2.1.1 to 2.1.4 of the OECD Global Survey on Localising the Blue Economy (2022).

TOP CHALLENGES

- Technological challenges
- Lack of engagement with the private sector and civil society
- Inadequate technical and human capacities of civil servants
- Lack of financial resources

FUTURE PRIORITIES

- Set up a formal initiative or strategy
- Promote material efficiency and circularity
- Adapt and enhance the resilience to climate change
- Preserve and enhance local culture and traditions
- Foster collaboration
- Create new jobs and business opportunities
- Protect the most vulnerable
- Improve data collection