

The blue economy in Quillota, Chile

Source: OECD Global Survey on Localising the Blue Economy (2022)



FACTS AND FIGURES

Fact box

- **Population:** 100 196 [1]
- **GDP:** N/A
- **Area:** 302 km² [1]

Drivers for the blue economy



Conserve biodiversity



Reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Foster local culture and identity

Blue economy sectors

Quillota, a South American inland city in Chile by the Aconcagua River, is home to the water-related tourism and blue bioeconomy, biotechnology and research and education blue economy sectors.



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 Quillota relate to biodiversity loss, water, air and land pollution, depletion of freshwater and natural resources, pollution from plastics, disturbance of natural habitats and wildlife and waste generation.

Top 3 climate threats to the blue economy in Quillota



Water stress



Drought



Soil degradation or soil erosion

[1] Biblioteca del Congreso Nacional de Chile (2023) available at: https://www.bcn.cl/siit/reportescomunales/comunas_v.html?anno=2023&idcom=5501

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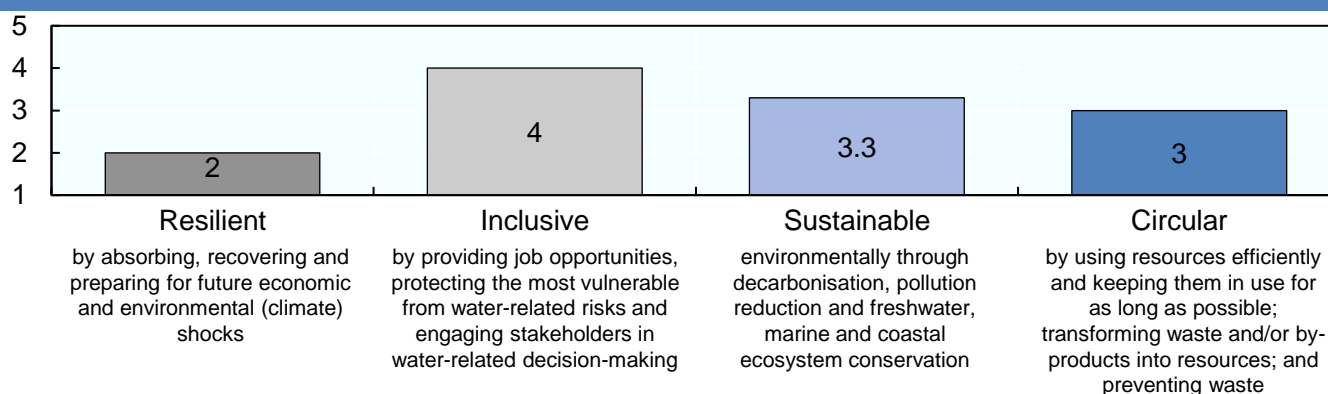
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GOVERNANCE OF THE BLUE ECONOMY

Since the [declaration](#) in 2022 of the Mayaca wetland as an urban wetland, in the framework of the national [Urban Wetlands Law 21.202](#), the Environment Department of the Municipality of Quillota has worked on planning and managing different strategies for the protection, conservation and restoration of this ecosystem. The first step was the dissemination of the Wetland Management Plan for the Municipality of Quillota. The Plan was presented to local administrative bodies, academia, socio-environmental organisations, departments and offices. The second step was to officially form the Quillota Extended Wetlands Roundtable in 2023 with the actors of the first phase, with the aim of managing municipality's wetland ecosystems.

THE RISC-PROOF BLUE ECONOMY



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 political will
- Lack of planning and decision-making at the adequate scale
- Insufficient link between marine and freshwater policies
- Lack of co-ordination between government departments
- Lack of co-ordination between levels of government
- Lack of engagement with private sector and civil society
- Inadequate technical and human capacities of civil servants
- Insufficient data collection and information sharing
- Lack of financial resources
- Financial risks for businesses
- Regulatory barriers
- Cultural barriers

FUTURE PRIORITIES

- Set up a formal strategy
- Foster decarbonisation
- Promote material efficiency and circularity
- Enhance resilience to climate change
- Tackle pollution of water bodies
- Boost technology use and uptake
- Foster a science-policy dialogue
- Preserve local culture and traditions linked to aquatic ecosystems
- Foster collaboration between blue economy sectors and others
- Improve the regulatory environment
- Create new jobs and business opportunities
- Protect the most vulnerable from negative impacts
- Channel public and private funds towards the blue economy
- Improve data collection on the blue econ