



Report on the method application, support and use of capacities within the ORs and OCTs

Deliverable n° D.2.4

May 2023

Citation: MOVE-ON project (2023), European Commission Directorate General Environment Grant Agreement no. 07.027735/2019/808239/SUB/ENV.D2. Deliverable D.2.4 - Report on the method application, support and use of capacities within the ORs and OCT

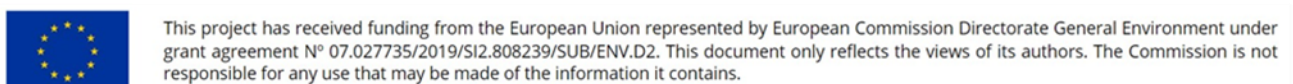
Coordinated by:



Partners:



Supported by:



Project Acronym	MOVE-ON
Project Title	From case studies to anchor projects - setting the ground to advance MAES in Europe's overseas.
Grant Agreement n°	07.027735/2019/808239/SUB/ENV.D2
Start of the project	May 2020
Duration	36 months
Project coordinator	Regional Fund for Science and Technology, Regional Government of the Azores (Portugal)
Website	www.moveon-project.eu

Deliverable title	Report on the method application, support and use of capacities within the ORs and OCT
Deliverable n°	D.2.4
Activity title	Activity 2 – Method development and implementation support
Task title	Task 2.4 – Knowledge sharing and capacity building for ecosystem condition and ecosystem services methods
Task Leader(s)	UniTrento
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Due date of deliverable	30/04/2023
Actual submission date	24/05/2023
Dissemination Level:	Public

Version	Status	Date	Author(s)
1.0	Draft	27/04/2023	UniTrento
1.2	Revision	05/05/2023	Parelho, C. (FRCT), Pelembe, T. (SAERI), Montero-Hidalgo, M. (URJC)

Summary

This report explains the approach to undertake MOVE-ON Task 2.4 on *knowledge sharing and capacity building for ecosystem condition and ecosystem services methods*. This Task was mainly based on the identification of knowledge needs and gaps for the implementation of the MOVE-ON Anchor Projects (AP) in French Guiana, Macaronesia, Reunion Island and South Atlantic. After these needs were identified, a set of capacity building initiatives were proposed for each region, including the organisation of specific training sessions and webinars to discuss methods applicability and dissemination of the AP results with the broader audience.

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List of abbreviations

CICES	Common International Classification of Ecosystem Services
ES	Ecosystem Service
ESMERALDA	Enhancing ecoSystem sERvices mApping for policy and Decision mAking
EU	European Union
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MAES	Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services
MOVE	Mapping and Assessing the State of Ecosystems and their Services in the Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories: Establishing links and pooling resources
MOVE-ON	Mapping and Assessing the State of Ecosystems and their Services in the Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories: From Case Studies to Anchor Projects - Setting the ground to advance MAES in Europe's overseas
OCT	Overseas Countries and Territories
OR	Outermost Region
AP	Anchor Project

1. Introduction

Action 5 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030 urged member states to Map and Assess the state of Ecosystems and their Services (MAES) in their national territory. The concepts of biodiversity, ecosystems and ecosystem service (ES) remain central in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, which presents even more ambitious targets. Europe's Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) have an exceptionally high biodiversity value, encompassing diverse ecosystems, often at a very small scale, that provide multiple and relevant ES from local to global scale.

The MOVE-ON project structure (Figure 1) aims to advance MAES methodology implementation in European ORs and OCTs.

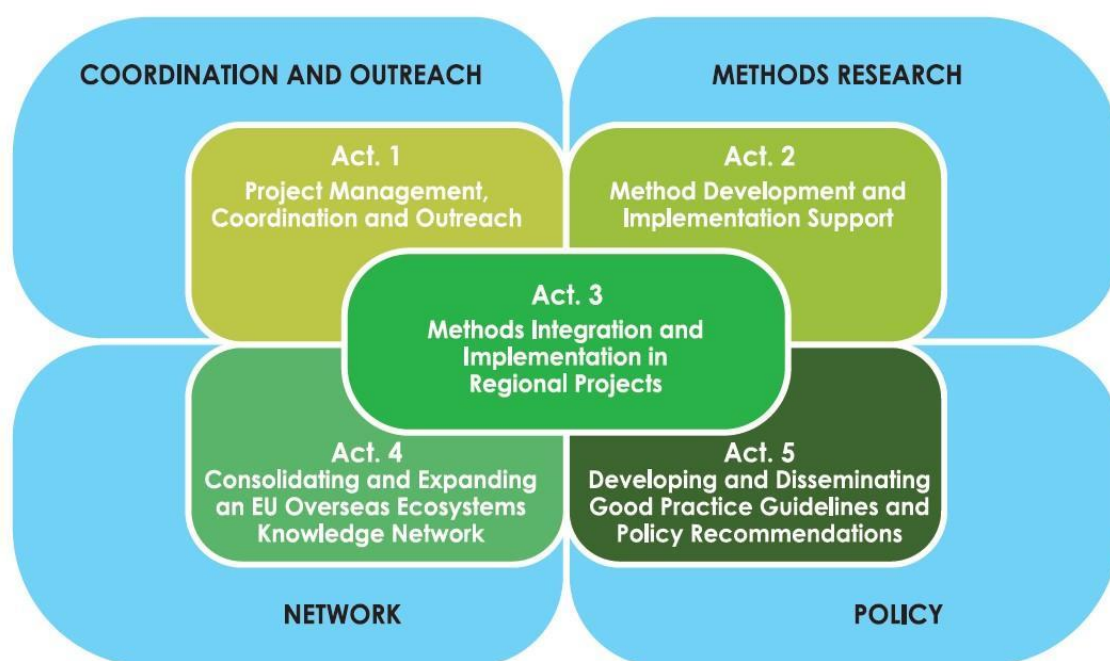


Figure 1 Overview of the MOVE-ON project structure

The project also intends to create and strengthen the scientific and technical MAES community in those territories by tackling the bottom-up approach initiated during the pilot project MOVE while demonstrating the benefits of ecosystem condition and services assessments to support decision-making. Hence, the core of the project activities relies on producing good practices, guidance and policy

recommendations tailored to overseas specificities, needs and pooling resources by also involving and empowering local actors.

In summary, the MOVE-ON project complements and expands the activities of MOVE while strengthening links and capitalising on the ongoing work to implement the MAES methodology in different regions underpinned by four Anchor Projects (AP) in French Guiana, Macaronesia, Reunion Island and South Atlantic (Figure 2).



Figure 2 The MOVE-ON Anchor Projects (Source: MOVE-ON, 2020)

2. Summary of Activity 2 and Task 2.4

The general objective of Activity 2 is to identify, develop and support the implementation of suitable methods relevant to the MAES advances in Europe ORs and OCTs by considering the AP needs. Specific objectives were further defined within the Tasks that entail this Activity as described in the following bullet points:

- Task 2.1: Method development and assessment of marine coastal ecosystem reference condition in EU Overseas territories. Task leaders: NBE / UOP / IRD.

- Task 2.2: Identification of mapping and assessment methods for ecosystem services in overseas territories. Task leader: LUH & URJC.
- Task 2.3: Develop a methods explorer for ecosystems conditions and ecosystem services that will be most applicable for OR & OCT regions. Task leaders: LUH and URJC.
- Task 2.4: Knowledge sharing and capacity building for ecosystem condition and ecosystem services methods. Task leader: UniTrento.

Hence, the key objective of Task 2.4 is to ensure that the proposed MAES methods can be successfully implemented and applied in the four AP. To this aim, each AP team (involved in implementing Tasks 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5) was supported in selecting and using the most appropriate MAES methods and tools. Specific knowledge needs related to diverse MAES methods emerging from Task 2.2 were identified for the different AP and used to propose and develop knowledge-sharing and capacity-building initiatives. These initiatives were tailored to the AP specific demands and state of advancements.

The activities developed as part of Task 2.4 include:

- Development of “knowledge packages”- i.e., tailored collections of scientific papers, case study reports, guidelines, and other relevant material to support APs' teams in applying the different MAES methods.
- Organisation of training webinars or seminars guided by MAES method and tools experts to present their usage and discuss their applicability in the different AP.
- Organization of public webinars to disseminate the activities conducted in the AP and their most relevant results, both within and outside the project network.

2.1. Methodology & Implementation

The methodology applied to achieve the results of Task 2.4 is summarised in Figure 3 and listed below:

1. **Capacity building and training sessions** - the proposal for capacity building and training sessions came directly from Task 2.2, which relied on distributing a questionnaire based on the operational framework from Burkhard et al. (2018). This activity aimed to understand the AP's needs, requirements, and each region's background information (e.g., data availability from geoportals, repositories, publications, etc.).
2. **Individual Anchor Project Advice Meeting** - After validating the methodological proposals with the leaders of Task 2.2 and 3.1, each AP was framed within an *Individual Anchor Project Advice Meeting (IAPAM)*, where the methodological proposals were discussed, and specific knowledge needs were identified based on detailed recommendations. UniTrento supported these meetings for the AP of South Atlantic and French Guiana, mainly by illustrating how diverse MAES methodologies could be incorporated into urban spatial planning to drive scientific-based public decision-making.
3. **Individual follow-ups with AP leaders** - were employed after the IAPAMs to refine the knowledge gaps and needs and delineate a course of action.
4. **Training activities and workshops** - with experts from within and outside the project, these trainings were implemented based on the knowledge gaps and needs identified in the IAPAMs and the follow-up meetings. UniTrento was responsible for coordinating and organising the sessions (e.g., contacting AP leaders, technical experts and setting up the training calendar) and providing an online platform for developing these events. Moreover, UniTrento was also responsible for contents production and management (registration form and electronic invitation), storing of participants' information, and moderation of the online seminar sessions, which included activities such as welcoming participants, presenting main speakers, and managing the Q&A session at the end of each presentation.
5. **Knowledge packages** – after the training, each AP received knowledge packages as a collection of documents targeted at the identified knowledge needs.
6. **Webinars** – in November 2023, one dissemination webinar was held to increase the information exchange between the different regional case

studies, MOVE-ON partners, stakeholders in each AP, and the broader audience¹.

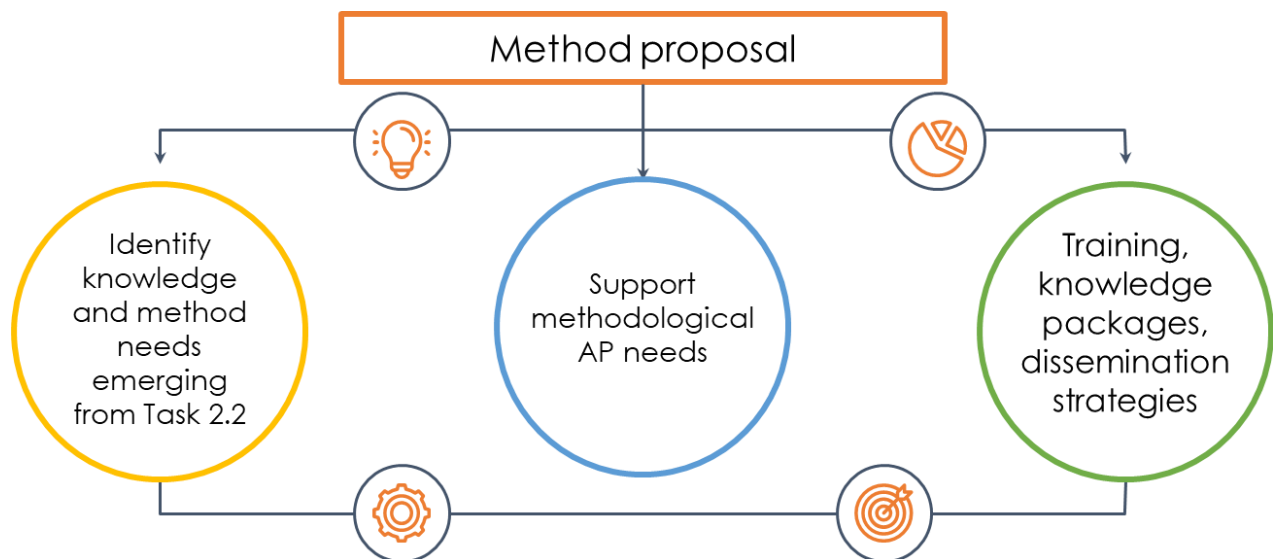


Figure 3 Methodology to implement Task 2.4.

3. Summary of actions: training and dissemination webinars

A total of two MOVE-ON training webinars, one on-site seminar, one dissemination webinar, and one individual support meeting were conducted as part of the activities of Task 2.4 (Table 1), each focusing on the different knowledge gaps and needs identified for the APs. Two of these events were uploaded to the official YouTube channel of the MOVE-ON project². A detailed summary of these activities is provided in the following sections.

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fde6owJuyzM&t=2208s>

² <https://www.youtube.com/@move-onproject4287>

Table 1 Summary of activities developed under Task 2.4

Title	Main partners involved	Target Audience	Date	Location	Number of attendees	Recording views ³
Training webinar on Participatory GIS and Participatory Scenario Planning	UniTrento, FRCT, NEXA, URJC, LUH	Reunion Island stakeholders, MOVE-ON consortium members	20/09/2021	Online	20	None – event not recorded
Individual support meeting: South Atlantic	SAERI, UniTrento	South Atlantic AP leaders and team	14/10/2021	Online	3	None – event not recorded
SeaSketch Training webinar	UniTrento, FRCT, ABAS, URJC, LUH	Macaronesia stakeholders, MOVE-ON consortium, broader audience	30/03/2022	Online	43	26
MOVE-ON webinar series: South Atlantic	UniTrento, SAERI, FRCT	MOVE-ON consortium South Atlantic stakeholders, broader audience	17/11/2022	Online	36 (six at St. Helena, five at the SAERI office on the Falkland Islands, and 25 through Zoom).	35
Supporting seminar at NEXA's BioCorridor forum	NEXA, UniTrento	Reunion Island stakeholders,	30/01/2023	Saint-Pierre, Reunion Island	15	None – event not recorded

³ Via YouTube as of the end of April 2023

3.1. Reunion Island Anchor Project

3.1.1. Training webinar on Participatory GIS and Participatory Scenario Planning

The MOVE-ON training webinars launched on the 20th of September 2021 with a three-hour training tailored to the needs of Reunion Island AP. The webinar's goal was to show and demonstrate the applicability of two ES methodologies for mapping and assessing ES: participatory GIS (PGIS) and Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP). After discussions with the AP leaders, it was decided that this webinar would be reserved exclusively for Reunion Island stakeholders and MOVE-ON consortium members. The webinar was held in English, but support in French was provided if requested.

The webinar was led by experts from UniTrento with previous knowledge of the suggested methods. The main structure of the training consisted of three presentations (Figure 4):

- Initial presentation dedicated to explaining the method and the use of PGIS for ES assessment, further highlighting its social relevance for allowing a wide range of stakeholders to bring necessary knowledge about ES within the laws, culture, politics and history of communities and stakeholders in which it will be applied.
- Case study presentation on PGIS application in the project NaturAlbania, in which the central focus was the assessment of cultural ES in selected Albanian Waterscapes.
- Final presentation on the methodology and use of PSP for ecosystem services management, the main principles and steps that characterise the approach, and the potential methods that can be used to carry out each stage based on the application in several case studies.

Training webinar for La Réunion Anchor Project

11:10 - 11:30 Brief overview of PGIS for ecosystem services mapping (Jarumi)

11:30-12:00 Tailoring PGIS: The NaturAlbania case study (Marta)

12:00 - 12:15 Q&A

12:15-12:30 Break 

12:30 – 13:00 Participatory Scenario Planning for ecosystem services management (Susana)

13:00 - 14:00 Q&A and open discussion



Jarumi Kato
University of Trento



Marta Crivellaro
University of Trento



Susana Orta Ortiz
University of Trento



This project has received funding from the European Union represented by European Commission Directorate - General Environment, under grant agreement N° 07.027735/2019/808239/SUB/ENV.D2

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1

Figure 4 Structure of the training webinar for the Reunion Island Anchor Project

The last part of the webinar was dedicated to discussions and answering attendees' questions (Figure 5).

This training webinar was followed online by 20 stakeholders from Reunion Island belonging to diverse institutions, including the Forest Ecology research group, the National Park of La Reunion, the National Forest Office, the Regional Water Office and representatives from both the Biodiversity and Planning Departments.

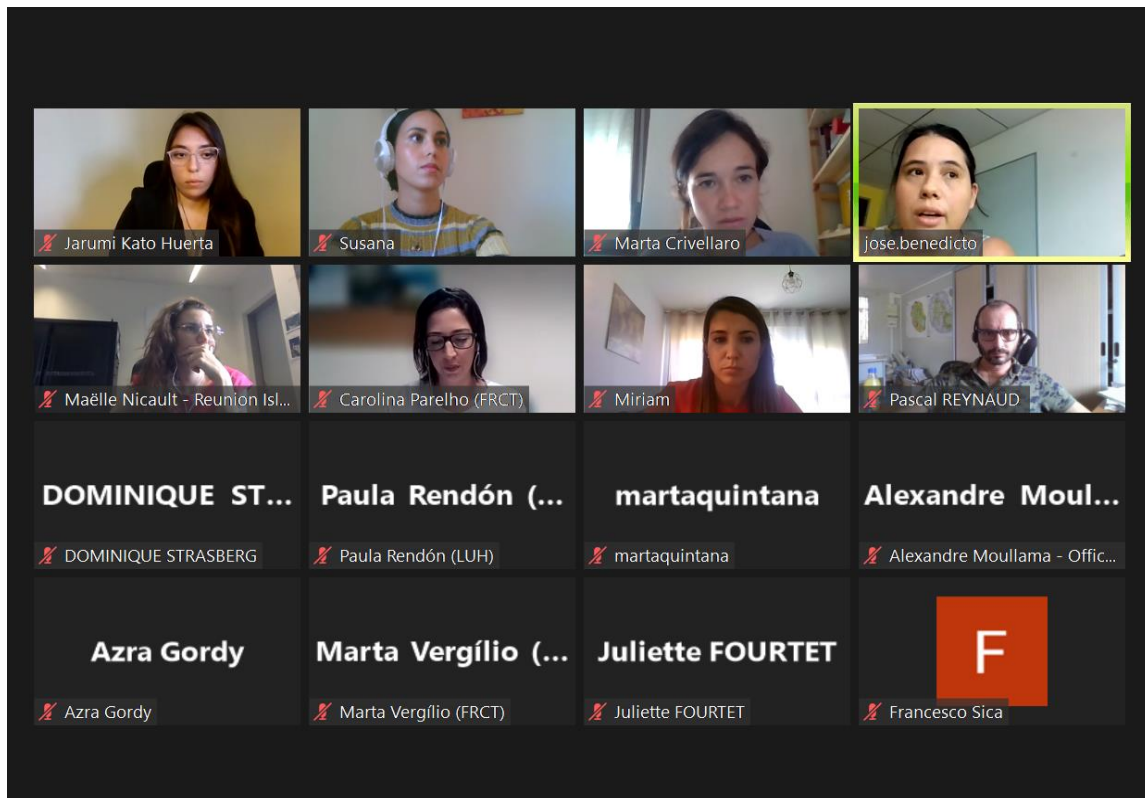


Figure 5 Training webinar for the Reunion Island Anchor Project – open discussion session.

3.1.2. Supporting seminar at the BioCorridor Forum

Within the activities of Reunion Island AP (Task 3.4), a Bio-Corridor Forum was organised from January 27 to February 8 of 2023 and involved a series of events focused on ES mapping and assessment. The forum aimed to compile a list of ES within the territory's 18 designated habitats. Regional scoring was primarily done to finish and confirm the mapping of the AP site and to further consider the establishment of a territorial capacity matrix in the long run.

As pre-requested by the AP leaders, a seminar on Reunion Island entitled "*Methods and tools for mapping ecosystem services. What is an ecosystem map? Which methods to use? What are the uses of reunion projects?*" was held on January 30, 2023, and was led by Dr Francesco Sica as MAES expert from UniTrento (Figure 6). The seminar took place at Saint-Pierre, and its target audience included professionals in remote sensing, project managers, planners, researchers, and students.

The seminar's objectives were two folded: the first was to present the general characteristics of the MAES process, and the second was to illustrate how MAES could be incorporated into urban planning by using the example of a case study from the city of Trento.



Figure 6 Seminar of MAES application in Trento during the BioCorridor Forum of Reunion Island Anchor Project

The initial presentation focused on the concept of ES, their various classification schemes, and the phases of the MAES framework, with particular emphasis on Step 4 of mapping and assessment. This was followed by an explanation of the three main approaches to ES mapping using biophysical, social, and economic methods, mainly by considering the significant results achieved in the ES MERALDA project. Finally, this introductory presentation focused on the MAES Explorer toolbox for providing concrete examples that would make it easier to map and account for the many economic sectors that make up Reunion Island economy, mainly agriculture, tourism, land-use planning, building and material industries, the agri-food sector and blue economy.

The second part of the presentation focused on illustrating a case study in Trento and demonstrating how the MAES framework was applied in municipal requalification initiatives. In 2017, the Municipality of Trento started drafting a new urban plan for the city that lasted approximately three years (2017-2020). This provided an opportunity to collaborate with local authorities and apply ES insights to the planning process by modifying, enhancing, and coordinating various initiatives.

All the attendees joined a discussion panel at the end of the presentation. Specifically, urban planners and designers sought clarity on the participatory procedures associated with mapping ES and how participation might impact this process. On the other hand, university professors mainly intervened to know more about the information and technological tools used to assess ES on a local and regional scale. Concerning the specific case study of Trento, questions related to how tangible were the effects of using the MAES framework in the city's planning and development processes, as well as how this has contributed to the creation of an urban plan based on the information from the mapping and the assessment of urban ES.

3.2. Macaronesia Anchor Project

3.2.1. SeaSketch training webinar

Within the activities dedicated to the Macaronesia AP implementation, and as directly requested by the AP leaders (FRCT & ABAS), an online capacity-building and training webinar session on the use of the SeaSketch platform for participatory and collaborative mapping and assessment of marine ecosystems services, was held online on March 30th, 2022.

This training was initially targeted at Macaronesia marine habitat experts. Still, it was later transformed into an online public event to increase the AP's impact and the public's involvement by raising awareness of the impacts of ES studies (Geneletti et al., 2020). The main objectives of this training webinar were: 1) to demonstrate the SeaSketch online tool's capacity and use for MAES application within and outside the MOVE-ON Project, and 2) to enable and increase the stakeholder's participation rate in the MOVE-ON SeaSketch survey for the volunteered collection of Geographic Information of marine habitats and ES in the Macaronesia AP.

The two-hour training was divided into diverse sections (Figure 7) and was led by a different representative from within and outside the MOVE-ON project.

Azores Time	
14:00-14:05	Welcome to participants (University of Trento)
14:05-14:15	Presentation of the MOVE-ON project (MOVE-ON Coordination)
14:15-14:25	Introducing the Anchor Project of Macaronesia (Atlantic Biodiversity and Sustainability Association)
14:25-14:55	Use and application of the SeaSketch software (Will McClintock; University of California Santa Barbara)
14:55-15:00	BREAK ☕
15:00-15:20	SeaSketch for Marine Spatial Planning: case study presentation (Will McClintock; University of California Santa Barbara)
15:20-15:30	The Blue Azores Program: conservation and sustainable use of natural marine resources in the Azores (Maria João Cruz, Blue Azores Program)
15:30-15:45	SeaSketch surveys to enable the collection of volunteered Geographic Information in Macaronesia (Atlantic Biodiversity and Sustainability Association)
15:45-15:55	Q&A session (moderated by the University of Trento)
15:55-16:00	Conclusions and next steps

Figure 7 Prepared agenda for the MOVE-ON SeaSketch training webinar

- All the training sections dedicated to the use and applicability of the SeaSketch software were led by Will McClintock from the University of California Santa Barbara as Director of the platform and specialist in Marine Spatial Planning, Participatory GIS and Collaborative Geodesign (Figure 8).
- The presentation on the Blue Azores Programme was led by project manager Maria João Cruz and aimed at demonstrating the use of the software for stakeholder engagement and interaction, mainly for visualising areas of conservation interest. The use of SeaSketch as a platform where participants could integrate their opinions and concerns was also highlighted (Figure 9).
- The training was complemented by a presentation on the objectives and advances of the AP led by Francisco Otero Ferrer as AP leader (Figure 10) and an introduction to the MOVE-ON Project by Carolina Parelho from the Regional Fund for Science and Technology (FRCT), from the Regional Government of the Azores (Figure 11). The webinar was concluded with a public Q&A session moderated by UniTrento.

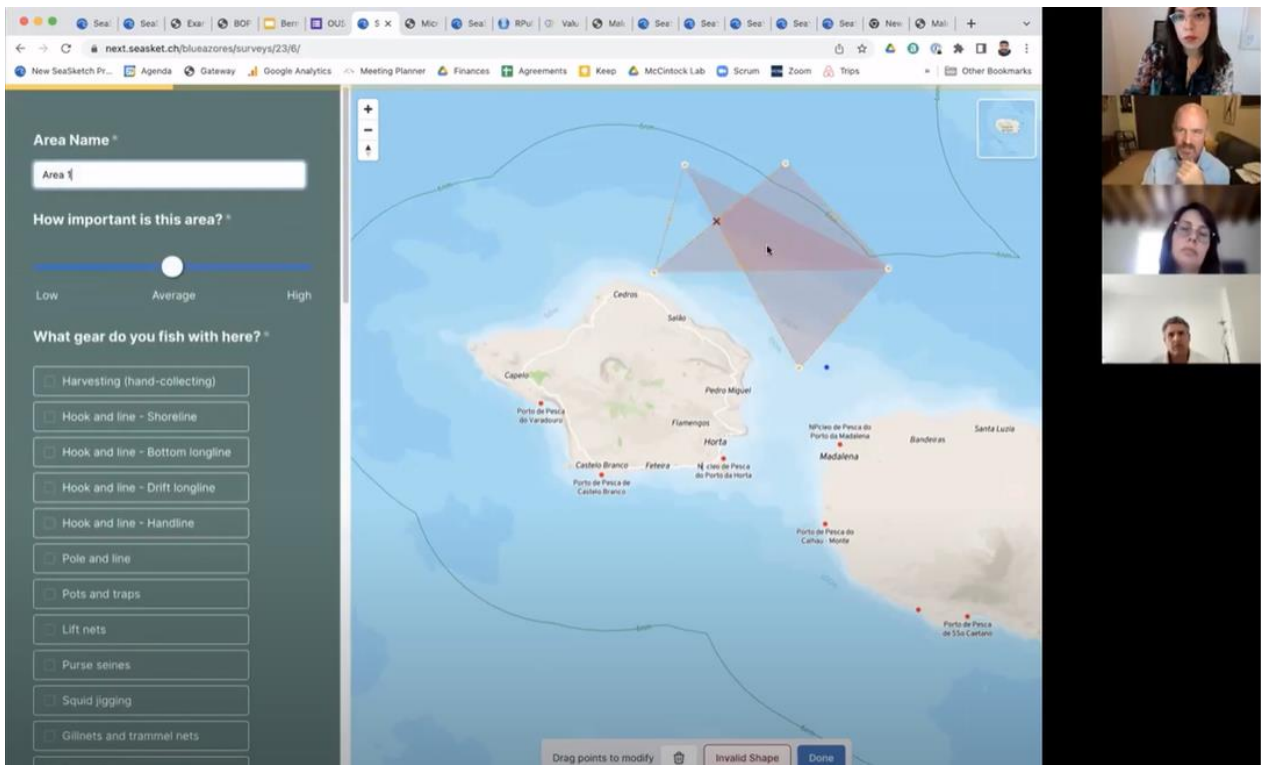


Figure 8 Will McClintock presenting the applicability of the SeaSketch software



Figure 9 Maria João Cruz presenting the Blue Azores Programme

MOVE ON

Macaronesia Anchor Project:
SeaSketch surveys to enable the collection of volunteered Geographic Information in the Macaronesia

Partner Leaders: ABAS & FRCT
Francisco Otero-Ferrer, Ricardo Haroun (ABAS) / Carolina Parelho (FRCT)

Contributors: URJC, UNITN, eventually all marine-related partnersz

SEASKETCH TRAINING WS
March 2022

Coordinated by: GOVERNO DOS AÇORES, FRCT

Partners: University of the Azores, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Nova, UR UNIVERSITÉ DE LA RÉUNION, UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH, WWF, URD, UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO, NOVA BLUE

This project has received funding from the European Union represented

Figure 10 Francisco Otero-Ferrer presents the SeaSketch survey to collect relevant information for the AP of Macaronesia.

The objective

MOVE ON

1. Provide tangible contributions from EU Overseas to the EU MAES initiative, with direct involvement of decision-makers;
2. Test the integration of MAES methodologies in specific territories, to demonstrate the benefits of combining the assessment of ecosystem conditions and services for decision making;
3. Produce good practice guidelines and policy recommendations tailored for specific regions or issues;
4. Create and strengthen a scientific and technical MAES community in EU Overseas, aiming to set up an Ecosystems Knowledge Network, to support regional policy in the EU Overseas

This project has received funding from the European Union represented

Figure 11 Carolina Parelho presents the objectives of the MOVE-ON project

The training was attended by more than 40 participants from diverse institutions within and outside the Macaronesia region, including CIBIO (Portugal), IOC-UNESCO, the University of the Azores, and CSIC (Spain), among others. A participation certificate was provided to all the trainees. Furthermore, the webinar was recorded and disseminated through the MOVE-ON YouTube channel⁴.

3.3. South Atlantic Anchor Project

3.3.1. Individual support meetings

Due to the advanced progress of the South Atlantic AP, it was decided that support for this specific project would be made on-demand and depending on the requirements of the AP leaders (SAERI). As such, one individual support meeting was requested and took place on October 14 of 2021 between partners from UniTrento and SAERI. The main objective of this meeting was to discuss different approaches for ES clustering and hotspot identification based on the previous experience of UniTrento with this topic.

The main presentation was led by MAES expert Davide Geneletti and focused on a case study from the city of Trento in which ES hotspots were identified as areas that provide exceptionally high levels of a given service (e.g., green spaces effective for regulating microclimate) irrespective of the relative area coverage. Moreover, other methods for identifying ES hotspots were discussed by analysing examples undertaken for forest and agricultural ES assessments.

3.3.2. South Atlantic MOVE-ON dissemination webinar

This stand-alone MOVE-ON dissemination webinar took place on November 17 of, 2022, with the presentation of the South Atlantic AP. The objective of this dissemination strategy, which followed the success of the MOVE webinar series, was to stimulate and increase the information exchange between the different AP, the MOVE-ON consortium partners, and the public interested in the methods and results developed in the other AP regions.

The proposed structure for each webinar was divided into four sections:

⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Aq3eWmpxwU&t=475s>

- A general introduction to the MOVE-ON project, including its objectives and overall structure.
- Main AP presentation to share knowledge and insights from the MAES process in the different AP, including through exploring topics such as project motivation, relevant policy and scientific questions, stakeholder engagement, preliminary or complete assessment results, and expected impacts.
- Question and answer section to stimulate public participation.
- Concluding remarks

To attract regional stakeholders and a wider audience, diverse dissemination materials were prepared:

- Google Form registration form: The purpose of the online Google Form document was to provide a replicable registration platform for each webinar in which interested participants could sign up. A data protection statement was included in the registration form according to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.
- MOVE-ON webinar invitation (Figure 12): Personalized invitation with information on the webinar content to be used as promotional material. The webinar invitation was also published in a local newspaper in St. Helena⁵.
- Electronic invitation: This invitation was emailed to promote the event, encourage participation, and provide the necessary information (day, time, registration deadline, speakers) for each session.

The dissemination of these materials was a shared task between UniTrento and the FRCT, who were mainly in charge of dissemination through social media channels such as LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, and the MOVE-ON webpage. Partners were also encouraged to promote these webinars through their preferred electronic channels.

⁵ <http://www.independent.sh/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/St-Helena-Independent-20221111.pdf>



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MOVE-ON webinar series South Atlantic Anchor Project

This Anchor Project, undertaken in **St. Helena**, focused on trialing different approaches to provide an answer on how to bridge the gap between evidence and decision-making.

From policy scanning to in-in country technical skill building, from one-to-one mentoring to National government presentations, project staff implemented a series of innovative ideas. This **webinar** will tell the story of this project implementation, its outcomes, and will give us an understanding of what insights were gained.

SPEAKERS: **Tara Pelembe** - Deputy Director Innovation - South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute
Devlin Yon, GIS Manager of the St. Helena Government

WHEN AND WHERE: Thursday November 17 at **13:00 pm (AZORES TIME)**

FOR FREE REGISTRATION PLEASE GO TO:

<https://forms.gle/bB2HRTFghQExpwaA7>

Registration DEADLINE: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 15

Figure 12 Example of the MOVE-ON webinar invitation for the South Atlantic Anchor Project

The South Atlantic AP webinar was a hybrid online and on-site event led by Tara Pelembe - Deputy Director of Innovation - of the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI), and Devlin Yon, GIS Manager of the St. Helena Government. An introductory presentation led by the FRCT was also included to give a background on the aims of the MOVE-ON project (Figure 13).


The main objective of the webinar was to present the relevant results of this AP undertaken in St. Helena, which mainly focused on testing different approaches for bridging the gap between evidence and decision-making. The AP leads

demonstrated how scientific information and spatial evidence created a better science-policy interface using diverse methods, including policy scanning, in-country technical skill building, one-to-one mentoring, and National government presentations. Moreover, translating results into decision-maker language was highlighted as a way of removing barriers to the uptake of ES-related evidence.

Systems

"Find the Lightbulb moments or Lightbulb maps"

- Understand where the country sits within the MAES implementation framework.
- Policy screening
- Translate results into decision-makers language
- Deliver what the decision-makers request (with relevant caveats).
- Articulate a process for evidence use for decision-making
- Remove barriers to use and availability of evidence
- Provide a platform for sharing technical expertise.



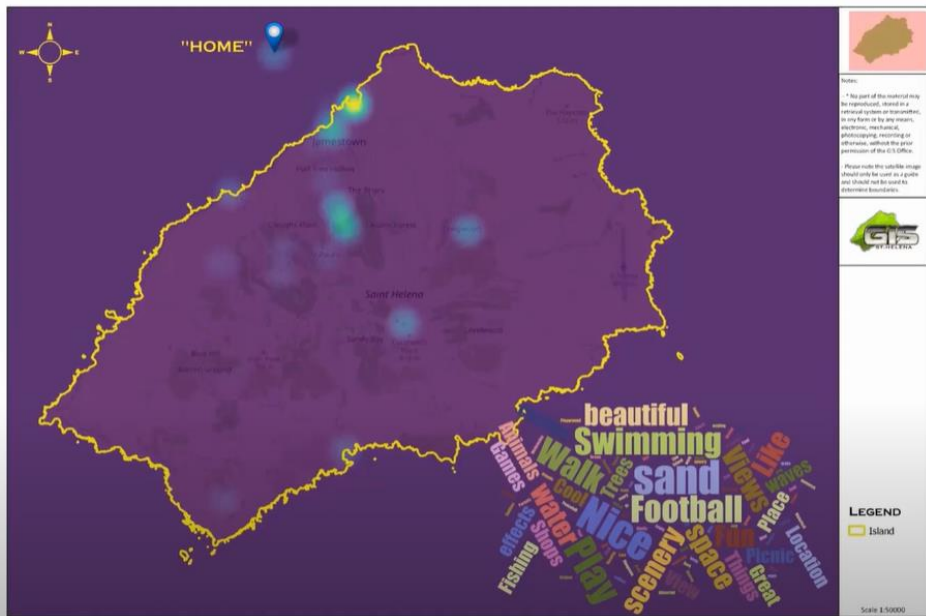
Jarumi Kato Huerta

Neuza Vertentes- FRCT

Tara Pelembe (SAER)

Carolina Pareho

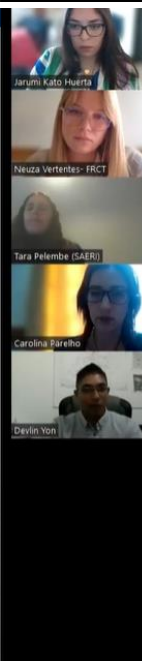
Devlin Yon



"HOME"

Saint Helena

Scale 1:50000



Jarumi Kato Huerta

Neuza Vertentes- FRCT

Tara Pelembe (SAER)

Carolina Pareho

Devlin Yon

Figure 13 Stills from the MOVE-ON dissemination webinar of the South Atlantic Anchor Project showing presentations by Tara Pelembe and Devlin Yon

Regarding attendance, six people followed the webinar at the National Trust Office locally at St. Helena, five at the SAERI office on the Falkland Islands, and 25 through the Zoom platform dedicated to the event. This webinar was mainly attended by international participants and stakeholders from St. Helena, including those belonging to the local government and the St. Helena National Trust. Regarding representation from institutions outside the project's region, participants mentioned affiliations such as the Joint Nature Conservation Committee of the UK, the National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography of Bulgaria, and WWF France, among others. This webinar was recorded and disseminated through the MOVE-ON YouTube channel.

Conclusions

With the growing importance and application of the MAES method in OCTs and ORs, there is also an increased demand for trained practitioners who can demonstrate the applicability and use of such methods. Through applying Task 2.4, the MOVE-ON project addressed this need by providing training events that communicated the fundamental background of MAES knowledge but also introduced some advanced and expert-level topics. This approach was accompanied by a set of diverse materials, enabling both onsite and distance training. In this context, this deliverable presents all MOVE-ON training and dissemination materials produced for each AP. We have described the preparation process and the steps to conduct each event. Furthermore, we have discussed the uptake in terms of participation, geographic spread, and the post-webinar take-up of the slides and recorded video stream. For future avenues, it is important to discuss how initiatives and projects could adjust their capacity-building initiatives by considering the results presented here. All the MOVE-ON recording webinars will continue to be available online as these strategies are one of the main resources used for preparing on-site training and self-training initiatives related to MAES methods usage.

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