

Project title

Building capacity towards financial and operational sustainability of the network of protected areas in Maio Island.

Status en cours

Structure Maio Island

Pays Cabo Verde

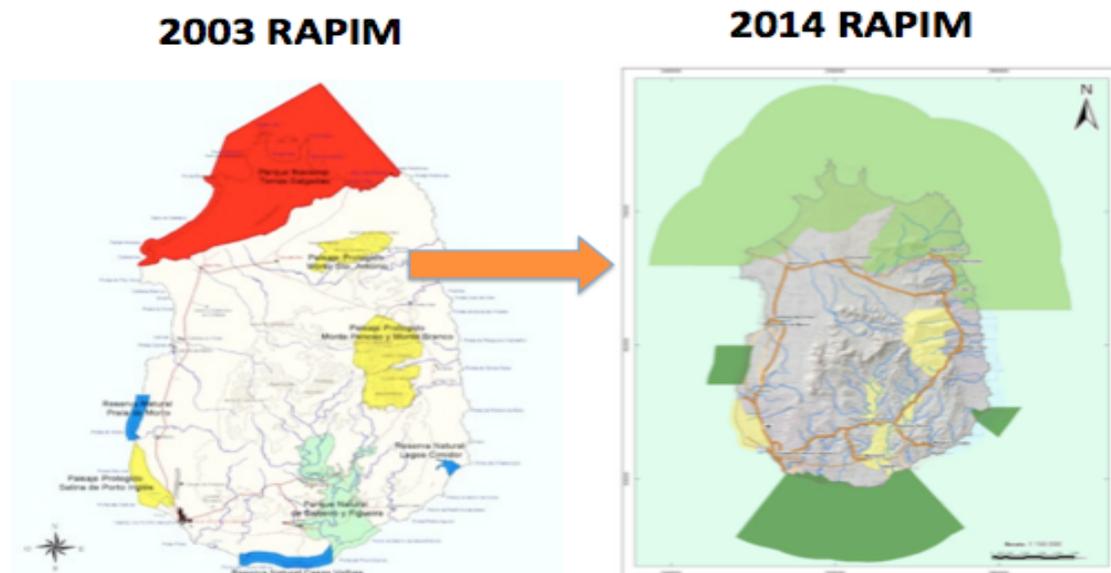
Project justification mentioning the specific MPA conservation objective that is targeted by the project

For more than 10 years protected areas in Maio were just 'paper parks'. In 2013 the DNA alongside local partners lead the participatory process to expand area under protection by 270%. The marine part was increased by 580% comprising 28km² and 25% of MPAs in the country. Maio MPAs include critical habitats for commercial fish species, sharks, endemic invertebrates, and numerous marine megafauna.

One of the first steps to ensure the success of the RAPIM is to develop effective financing strategies for the operation of protected areas. The second is to inform all users of the existence and boundaries of the network of protected areas.

Casas Velhas Marine Reserve with the 2 strict protection zones (IUCN category Ia) is at the doorstep of the capital city of the island and is the most exposed to human activities and potential negative impacts. The reserve is one of the main fishing grounds of local artisanal fishers, sports fishers and other local and international recreational users.

The proposed project is of critical importance to make these first steps to make the protected area effective for the benefit of biodiversity and people. 37% of the required budget has been already secured but the success will not be possible without remaining 67%.



Field of activity identified by the RAMPAO to which the project is attached

- Support for MPA management
- Develop Business Plan
- Communication, education and environmental awareness

Main project objective

To support the implementation of the priority actions of the management plan of the RAPIM 2015-2020

Brief description of the planned activities	<p>Participatory development of the Business Plan for the implementation of the management plan of RAPIM 2015-2020. RAPIM co-management team will take a lead in drafting the plan which will be presented at the 3-day local community and national stakeholder meeting in September 2015 for their input and consultation. Locally applicable incentives will be discussed to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of the Marketing Plan to enable financial sustainability and operation of the RAPIM. The co-management team will take a lead with the draft plan to be presented for consultation at the 3 day local community and national stakeholder meeting in September 2015. Business/marketing consultant will be employed to support development of effective strategies and identify potential markets to promote RAPIM nationally and internationally. - Develop and install information boards at the entrance to the marine reserve to provide critical information about the zonation and compliance of the public use of the marine reserve especially in the strict protection zones (IUCN category Ia). Local community members and island visitors will be invited to participate in the opening of the "gate" to the Casa Velhas Marine Reserve. - Build and install markers/signage for the coastal part of the Casas Velhas Marine Reserve. Local carpenter will be employed to produce the markers.
Main expected results	<p>Business and marketing plan for the network of protected areas in Maio developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal boundaries of the Casa Velhas Marine Reserve installed • Panels at the entrance to the Casas Velhas installed and information on the zonation, marine biodiversity, guidelines for compliance communicated.
Targets and/or beneficiaries of the project (ecological targets or beneficiaries / groups of individuals)	<p>Ecological beneficiaries: sharks, rays, breeding and nursing grounds of threatened, endemic and commercial fish species, sea turtles, whales and dolphin, coral communities, overharvested marine resources such as endemic spiny lobster.</p> <p>Target user groups: artisanal fishers from Maio and other islands, semi-industrial fishers from other islands, national and international tourists, local community members using marine and coastal</p>

	resources in Maio; illegal fishers; Beneficiaries: range of civil society groups benefiting from the pristine habitats and natural resources such as fish, lobsters provided by the protected areas as a result of user compliance to MPA guidelines.
Project duration (the length should not exceed 8 months)	June- December 2015
Location	Maio Island, Cape Verde