

9 ISLANDS FOR A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE





#### Tourism development in the Azores

Since the beginning of the 21st century, tourism in the Azores has developed consistently.

In 2015, with the **liberalization of the airspace**, the destination entered a new phase of development, having since seen significant growth that allowed tourism to be positioned as **one of the most important economic sectors in the Region**.

Since 2019, we are the **first archipelago in the world certified as a sustainable tourist destination**, a milestone in the international affirmation of the Azores.

In 2022, we **recorded the best tourist year ever**, surpassing prepandemic results, proof of resilience of Azorean tourism, which recovered at a faster pace than expected.





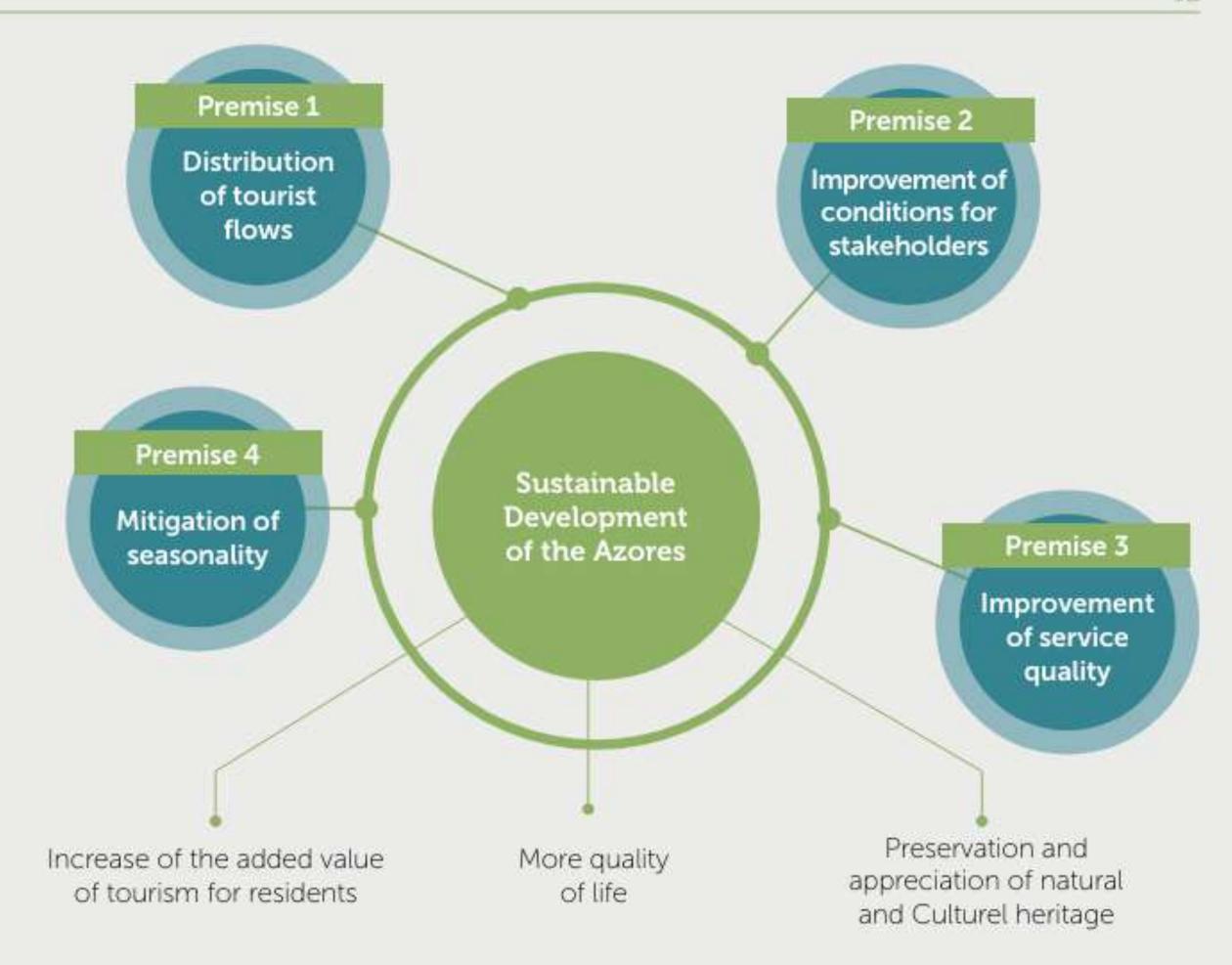


#### SUSTAINABILITY

### CENTRAL PILLAR OF DEVELOPMENT

We assume Sustainability as the central pillar of the development of the Azores, which is based on 4 premises.

Residents should always be part of the tourism development equation.



#### Better tourism? Better place first!

#### **9 Green Teams**

(19 Municipalities, Local NGO's, Local chamber of commerce, Local tourism board)

#### **Sustainability Committee**

(Regional tourism associations, Federations, Regional security, Groups, Universities, etc)

#### **Azores DMO**

#### **Public Working Groups**

(Regional Government Directorates, grouped by themes)

## Local companies and organizations

(about 250 organizations in the Sustainability Charter of the Azores)



EEN TEAMS

GT Pico





















## Azores main challenges

#### Benchmarking results

- Socioeconomic benefits
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Potable water consumption
- Energy consumption
- Waste to landfill

# Local community consultation results

#### 1. Education

- Sustainability literacy
- Change of behavior

#### 2. Tourism strategy

- Decrease seasonality
- Carrying capacity
- Cultural identity
- Qualified workforce
- Distribution of tourism flows

#### 3. Transportation and accessibilities

- Public transport offer
- Accessible tourism



Public working groups
Solutions?
Let's find them together!

SCAN ME

And know
more about
the process



Meetings with Regional directors and other relevant stakeholders



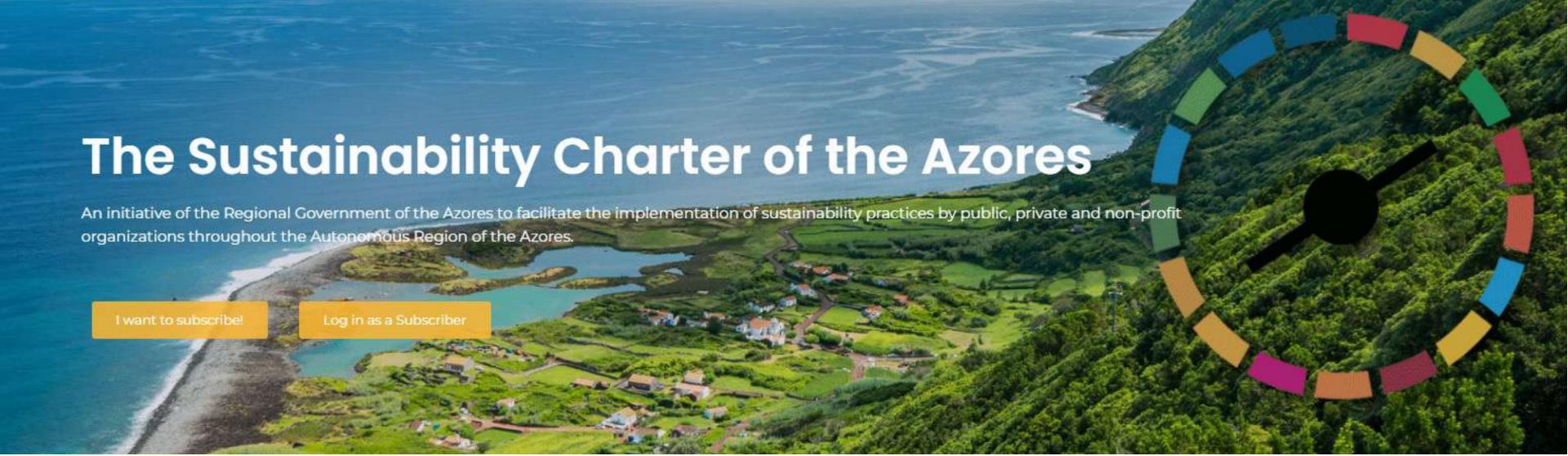


Sustainability Action Plan of the Azores collects the commitments, actions, measures and objectives that aim to mitigate the local challenges

Solutions and results

The shuttle is free for residents and has a cost of 5€ for non-residents







## The path of the

Sustainability Charter of the Azores

The current path of the Sustainability Charter of the Azores is the result of a reflection with stakeholders on the course of the initiative over 5 years. It was the result of contact with almost 300 public, private and associative entities from various sectors of activity and direct consultation with almost 100 entities.

I want to subscribe!







Hours of consultancy work carried out

### Corvo

Visão geral

Distrito

Superfície

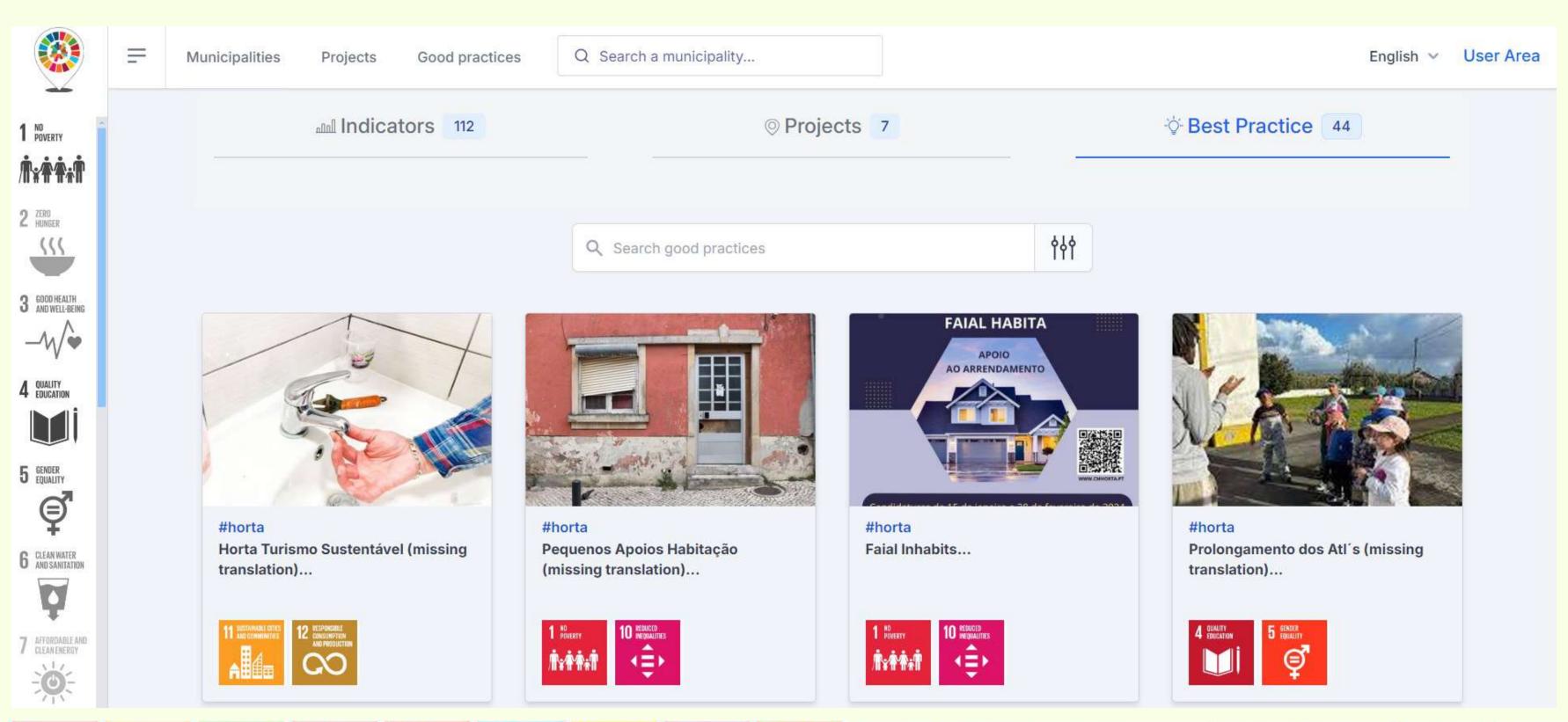
17,11 km²



0



#### HORTA MUNICIPALITY AT FAIAL ISLAND

































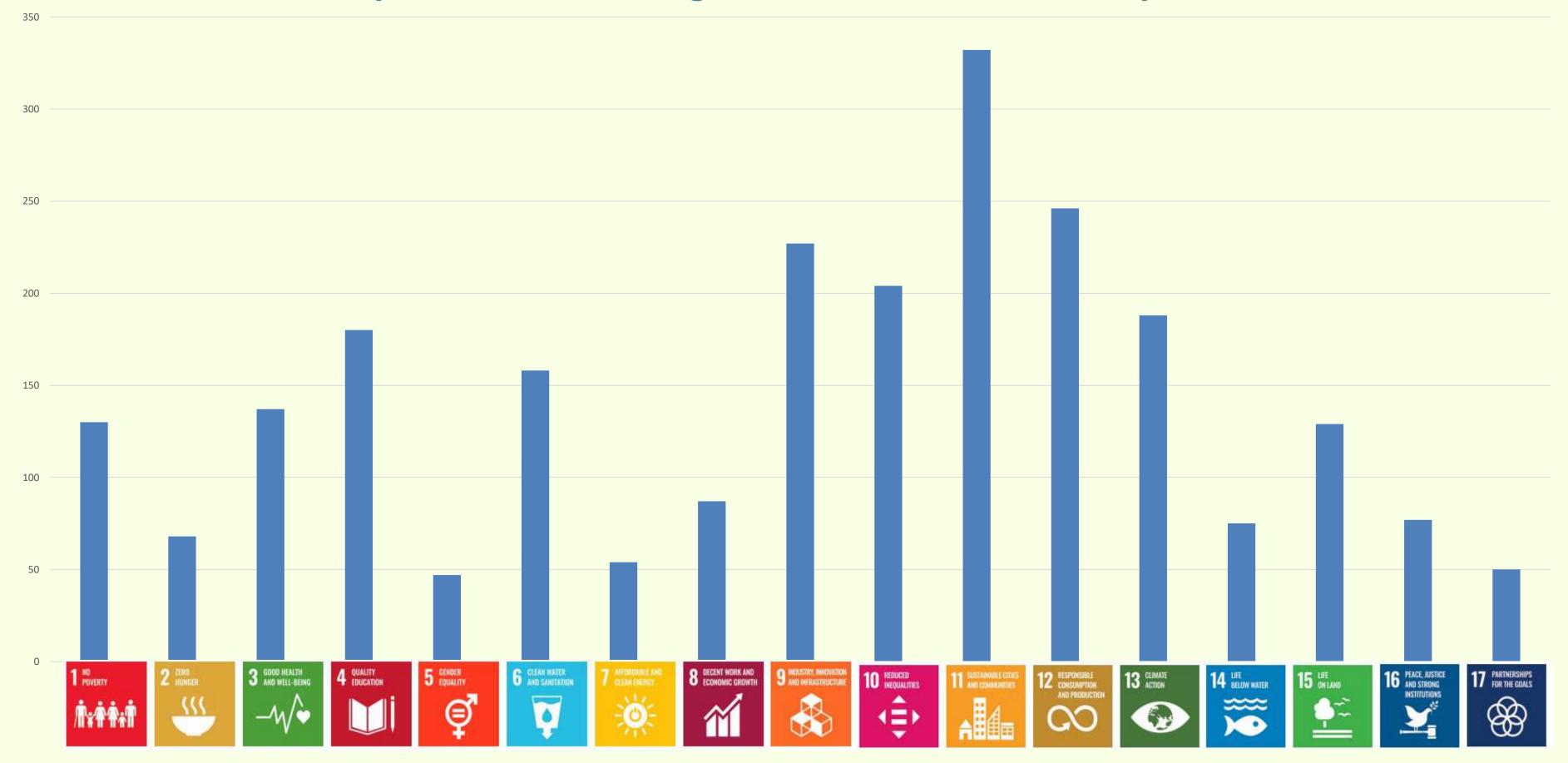








### 19 Municipalities contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals



You are also part of this strategy.

What can you do?



#### Visit the 9 islands

"Yes, I know the Azores because I visited São Miguel"

# Spend more time with us

Longer stays mean less carbon emissions, cultural exchange and education and more support to local economies

#### Visit in the low season

Year-round destination with mild and consistent temperatures all year

#### Be responsible

Immersive and respectful experiences with the local culture and natural environment

### Thank you!

### Carolina Mendonça Azores DMO Coordinator

carolina.ap.mendonca@azores.gov.pt





