



Portugal

1 Which bioeconomy-related policy strategies exist?

Although Portugal does not have a dedicated bioeconomy strategy, bioeconomy plays an important role in **“The National Ocean Strategy”** (2013–2020) and the associated action plan. The strategy is based on Portugal’s first ocean strategy of 2006.

Blue economy policies in Portugal are generally linked to higher-level EU policies, such as the “Integrated Maritime Policy” (2007), the “Europe 2020” strategy (2010), and the “Blue Growth” agenda from 2012.

2 Is the term “bioeconomy” or “biobased economy” used in the strategy documents?

Yes

No



3 Who is the author of the strategies?

In 2014, Portugal’s ocean strategy was published by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Sea. The

strategy underwent a public consultation process in which civil society has been involved.

4 What are the key goals of the strategies?

With “The National Ocean Strategy” (2014), Portugal should become one of the leading maritime nations in the world. Therefore, the strategy aims at valorizing the ocean and its related coastal areas by setting up sectoral and cross-sectoral projects.

In this respect, the strategy seeks to increase economic growth and generate employment. More specifically, Portugal’s ocean economy should contribute up to 50 percent of the GDP by 2020.

5 What are the priority areas of the strategies?

The strategy (2014) identifies five strategic elements of interventions, three of which can be considered as bioeconomy-related, i.e. aquaculture, blue biotechnology and blue energy. The strategy considers both onshore and offshore aquaculture. Shellfish farming and the promotion of productivity-enhancing technologies should both contribute to developing the aquaculture industry in Portugal. With respect to marine biotechnology, the strategy intends to foster R&D and its application in the pharmaceutical, medical and cosmetic industry.

Blue energy mainly relates to the development of algae cultures as feedstock for biofuels production.

The associated action plan strongly focuses on ocean research, exploitation and preservation. In particular, it seeks to create an enabling framework for national and international investment in all ocean economy-related sectors. It further concentrates on scientific and technological capacity development.

REFERENCES

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