

BOA VISTA (CABO VERDE):

THE EVALUATION OF MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS OF PARQUE NATURAL DO NORTE USING THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS TOOL (IMET)

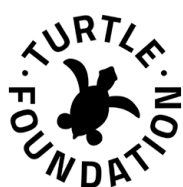
BY FUNDAÇÃO TARTARUGA



In partnership with:



Ministério da Agricultura
e Ambiente
Delegação da Boavista



Cabo Verde
Natura 2000



BIOPAMA



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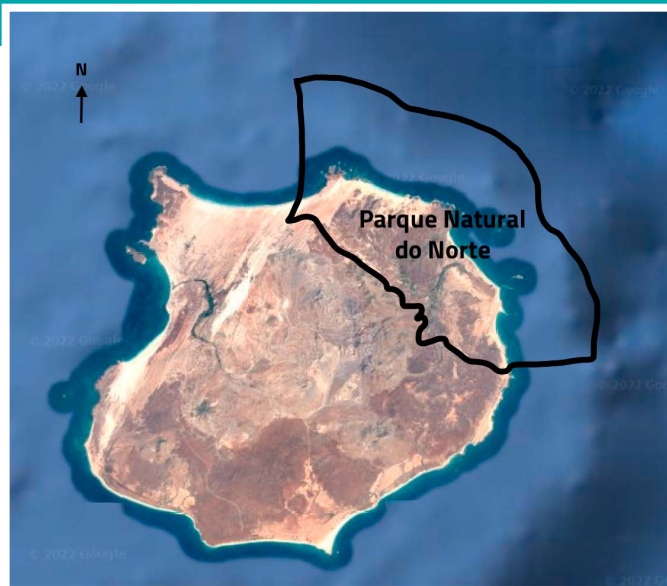
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ABOUT BIOPAMA:

The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) programme aims to improve the long-term conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, in protected areas and surrounding communities. It is an initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States financed by the European Union's 11th European Development Fund (EDF), jointly implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC). Building on the first five years of activities financed by the 10th EDF (2012-2017), BIOPAMA's second phase provides tools for data and information management, services for improving the knowledge and capacity for protected area planning and decision making, and funding opportunities for specific site-based actions.

www.biopama.org

PARQUE NATURAL DO NORTE

**NAME OF PROTECTED AREA:**

Parque Natural do Norte

WDPA ID: Non-existent

IUCN MANAGEMENT CATEGORY(IES): VI Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources

IUCN GOVERNANCE TYPE: Type A: Governance by government (at various levels)

DATE OF GAZETTING: 2003

INTERNATIONAL DESIGNATION[S]: Regional

Main values for which the protected area has been gazetted:

The justification for its declaration was to monitor the conservation of natural values (presence of turtle nesting areas, presence of avifauna of interest, mainly birds of prey and steppe birds, and geomorphological landscape features) with the socio-economic development of local populations by enhancing traditional activities.

Ecoregion(s): There is little information on ecosystems, ecosystem services, land cover, pressures and little available for species and conservation. The area is categorised as Cape Verdean Dry Forest Area. The islands are volcanic in origin and are dry and arid for the vast majority of the year except for erratic rainfall during the months of August and September. Agricultural practices are difficult to maintain due to the lack of rainfall.

PRIORITY LANDSCAPE(S): Complex of protected areas in the east of Boa Vista

SURFACE: 220.47 km²

RESPONSIBLE NATIONAL**SERVICE/AUTHORITY/CUSTODIAN:**

Direção Nacional do Ambiente (DNA)

According to Decreto-Lei nº3/2003 de 24 de Fevereiro de 2003, Parque Natural do Norte was made with the following:

VISION: Provide "special protection" to natural spaces, landscapes, monuments, and places that because of their relevance to biodiversity, their natural resources, ecological function, socio-economic, cultural, tourist, or strategic interest contribute to the conservation of nature and the development of a self-sustained country.

MISSION: A society aware of the role of challenges linked to biodiversity convinced of its responsibilities towards future generations and is determined to use resources sustainably. The preservation of natural landscapes, conservation and maintenance of natural resources and processes, conservation of species and habitats, being a source of balanced development, which reduces poverty and improves the quality of life of residents, users or adjacent protected areas.

OBJECTIVES: Create a long-term plan including control strategies and *mitigation of impacts of climate change*. Conserving, protecting and/or restoring natural elements and processes with all their geological diversity, uniqueness and beauty. *Protecting the wild state of species and ecosystem as well as the cultural element and values of local communities.*



THE ASSESSMENT

DISCLAIMER

The IMET project was a participatory process in which all participants gave opinions and provided data. Accordingly, values were assigned to various aspects of the PAs, following the questionnaires of the IMET program. The evaluation results are then automatically generated by the IMET program. The results generated are not the opinions of Fundação Tartaruga or any other participating stakeholder.

This evaluation can be used by anyone and should help Cabo Verde to be recognised on world protected areas databases, allow all stakeholders (governmental and NGOs) to apply for more funding to support the protected areas and to balance the needs of local communities with the needs of the biodiversity. It identified aspects to prioritise in the management and offers guidance on where to direct attention and resources.

DATE OF THE ASSESSMENT: 18-22nd October 2021

LOCATION: Sal Rei, Boa Vista

ORGANIZATIONS/STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED:

Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Boa Vista (MAA-BV), Municipality of Boa Vista, Protected Areas Boa Vista, Society of Tourism Development in Boa Vista and Maio (SDTIMBV), National Police, Maritime and Port Authority, Turtle Foundation, BIOS CV, Cabo Verde Natura 2000, Associação Varandinha, and BIOPAMA.



RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMPILATION OF THE ASSESSMENT:

Kathryn Yeoman - Fundação Tartaruga

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED:

Challenges in sourcing data, more time needed between the online meeting and the actual workshop (only 8 working days) to gather data and pre-fill form.

No response to invitation from governing body DNA until after evaluation.

PREVIOUS PAME ASSESSMENTS UNDERTAKEN SO FAR:

None

ASSESSMENT SPONSORED BY:

BIOPAMA



KEY SPECIES

IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

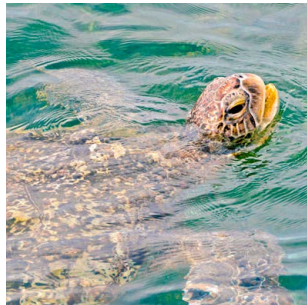
1.

Caretta caretta /
Loggerhead turtle
(Global: Vulnerable,
North-East Atlantic population:
Endangered) + potential for
tourism through turtle
watching activities.



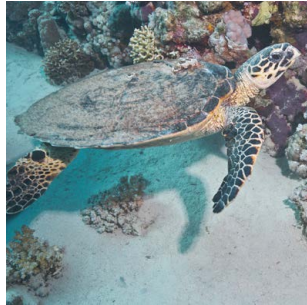
2.

Chelonia mydas /
Green turtle
(Endangered)



3.

Eretmochelys imbricata /
Hawksbill turtle
(Critically Endangered)



4.

Neophron percnopterus /
Egyptian vulture
(Endangered)



5.

Pandion haliaetus /
Osprey
(Least Concern)



6.

Phaethon aethereus /
Red-billed tropic bird
(Least Concern)



7.

Corvus ruficollis /
Brown-necked raven
(Least Concern)



8.

Phoenix atlantica / Cape Verde
Island date palm
(Endangered - Endemic)



9.

Tamarix senegalensis /
Tamarisk
(Least Concern)



10.

Prosopis juliflora /
Acacia
(Least Concern) - Invasive



KEY ASPECTS

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE SITE

- Traditional fishing
- Livestock farming and agriculture
- Ecotourism through turtle watching
- Education through NGOs
- Science and Research through NGOs
- Water supply
- Tourism and recreational activities



KEY ASPECTS AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

- Sea turtles
- Fishing
- Reptiles
- Birds
- Water
- Nurseries
- Perimeter Forest
- Seabirds
- Lagoons
- Date palm
- Marine animals (fish and cetaceans)



THREATS



THREATS TO TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE HABITATS

- Turtle nesting beaches - highly polluted, threatened by vehicle circulation and poaching.
- Rocks and mountains - free grazing unmonitored, extraction of inerts, poisoning of birds with carcasses of domestic animals, predation of bird nests by cats, rats and dogs.
- Lagoons - polluted and problems with circulation of vehicles.
- Shark and turtle nurseries - fishing, boat anchorage, pollution, coral trampling, invasive species.
- Dunes - pollution, circulation of vehicles, destruction of native plants and fulgurite.

TYPE OF THREAT

- Human-wildlife conflict:
 - o Turtle poaching (adults, eggs, meat and penis)
 - o Habitat degradation
 - o Fishing by-catch
- Droughts
- Shellfish harvesting
- Waste that entangles wildlife
- Invasive species
- Invasive diseases
- Dune erosion



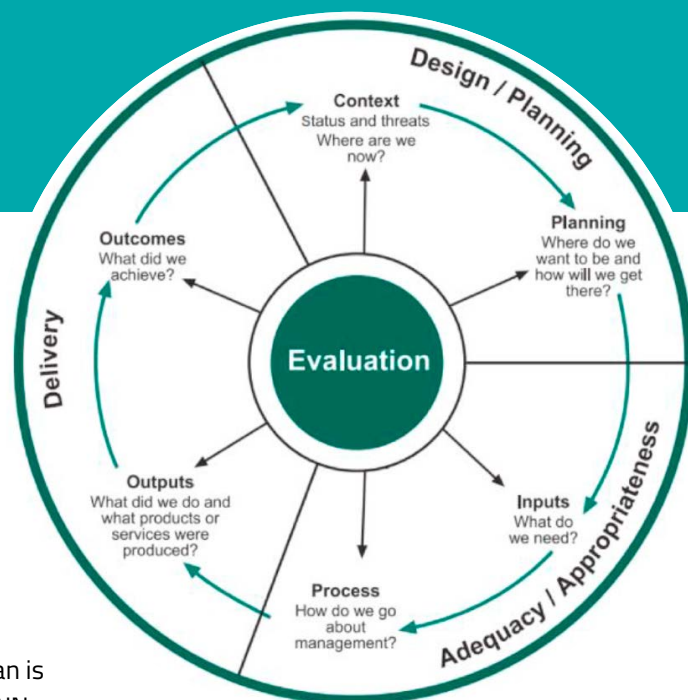
THE EVALUATION PROCESS

PLANNING

The legal policies governing the management of the PAs are sound and extensive in theory. There are many laws, plans and articles on paper, but they have not been translated into the work plan or into physical applications.

The work plan and the management plan are not aligned. This has been achieved in the technical report.

The plans are not site specific to the park. The management plan is applicable to the 7 PAs in the east of Boa Vista whereas the action plan is applicable to all 14 PAs in Boa Vista. Some objectives are irrelevant to PNN.



Planning			
Planning			
P1	Adequacy of legal and regulatory provisions	64.1	64.1 %
P2	Design and layout of the protected area	61.1	61.1 %
P3	Demarcation of the protected area	41.7	41.7 %
P4	Management plan	60.0	60.0 %
P5	Work/Action plan	60.0	60.0 %
P6	Objectives of the protected area	54.8	54.8 %
SYNTHETIC INDICATOR		56.9	56.9 %

INPUTS:

The human resources represent only 16.7% of what is actually necessary to effectively manage the reserve. This means that the essential patrols are not being performed.

Furthermore, the funding received by the government represents only 12.5% of what is suggested as necessary in the business plan. As a result the PA is lacking in terms of equipment and vehicles, training, monitoring and law enforcement.

The budget security is equally very poor at on 16.7%. This value indicates that the little that is received, it isn't secured and additional/alternative sources of funding are required.

Inputs			
Inputs			
I1	Basic information	40.4	40.4 %
I2	Staff	16.7	16.7 %
I3	Current budget	12.5	12.5 %
I4	Securing the budget	16.7	16.7 %
I5	Infrastructure, equipment and facilities	25.9	25.9 %
SYNTHETIC INDICATOR		22.4	22.4 %

THE EVALUATION PROCESS

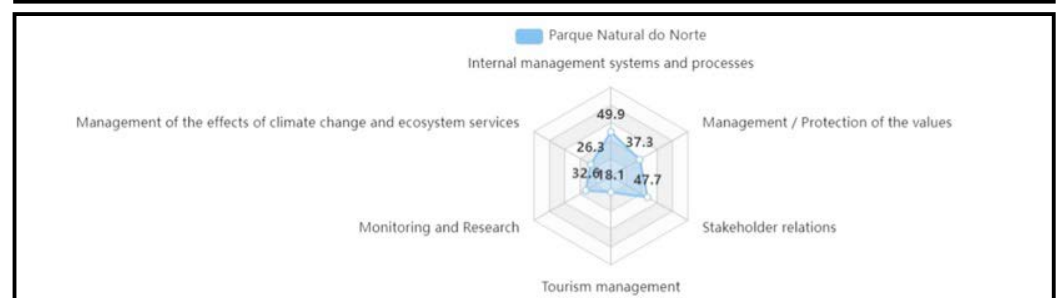
PROCESSES

In general processes were evaluated to be 39.3% effectively managed

All areas can be improved if inputs are increased.



The visual representation emphasises the significant need for tourism management followed by the management of the effects of climate change and ecosystem services.

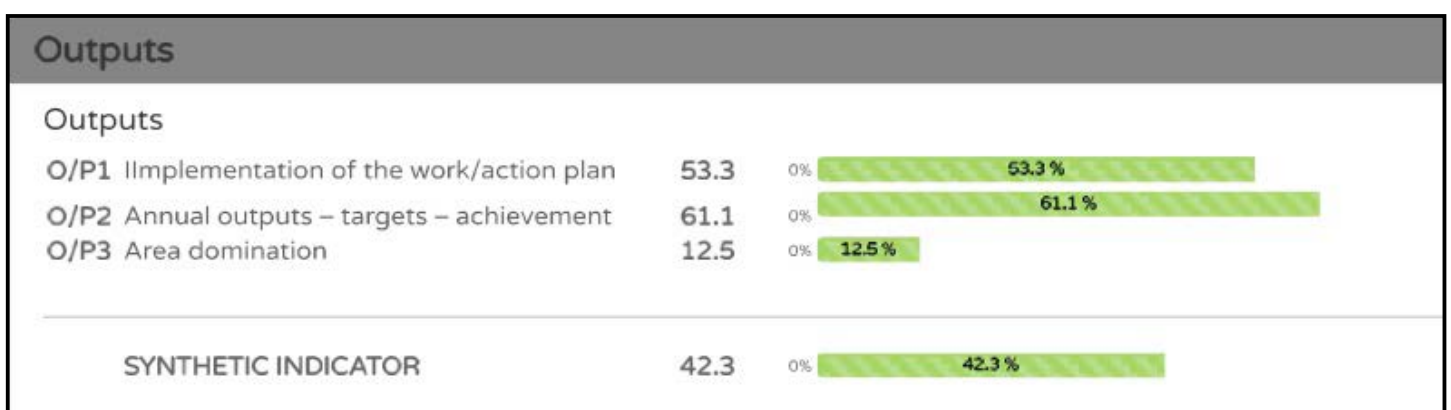


OUTPUTS

MAA-BV has five categories of activities in their work plan. They are as follows:

1. Biodiversity conservation: 8/15 implemented
2. Environmental quality: 5/8 implemented
3. Establishment of collaboration mechanisms and participatory management: 4/4 implemented
4. Information, communication and education: 1/2 implemented
5. Socio-economic improvements in the communities: 0/3 implemented

Considering the ministry received only 12.5% of the budget it requires, it has been able to perform 16/28 (57%) of the activities in the management plan. These have been widely supported by the NGOs.



THE EVALUATION PROCESS



OUTCOMES

a) *Conservation, management and valorisation of natural resources:*

- Turtle populations are increasing in Cabo Verde in general and this trend has been seen in PNN. No other species, key habitats or natural resources are being actively managed or monitored in the annual work plan.
- IMET assessment workshop highlighted the need to actually identify which natural resources are present within the reserve as this remains widely unknown.

b) *Protect the wild state of species and ecosystems marine species through the establishment of an action plan for the conservation of sea turtles;*

- The protection of sea turtles is present within the annual action plan for the reserve and is actively implemented.

c) *Rational management of natural resources, promoting sustainable development, improving the quality of life of the populations is a priority;*

- It is still widely unknown as to what natural resources are present within the reserve.
- There are plans to implement improved roads and pathways within the action plan. The implementation of an ecotourism business plan where locals are employed would improve the quality of life of populations.

d) *Order and discipline human activities to avoid the degradation of the natural, semi-natural and scenic, aesthetic and cultural values of the region, enabling the exercise of compatible activities, namely nature tourism or ecotourism;*

- Law enforcement and regulation is severely lacking and severely needed. This should be made a management priority.

e) *Increase scientific knowledge, dissemination and information on the values of the Protected Area, as well as its present and future monitoring;*

- The NGOs actively conduct monitoring of nesting loggerhead turtles and some nesting birds.
- This should be expanded to include more species and habitats in a long-term project.

f) *Establish a shared management structure that ensure the functioning of the Protected Area, the implementation of this plan, through forms of sustainable financing.*

- Creation of a co-management plan involving other stakeholders and implementation of an ecotourism business plan would be highly beneficial to the future of the protected area.



CONCLUSIONS

There is a very **good framework of policies and guidelines** on which the management plan should be implemented. All regulations and good practices are already defined.

Integration of the action plan and management plan has been completed – see full technical report.

The current action and management plans are not **site specific** and include objectives which are irrelevant to this site.

Lack of involvement at site-level and of this evaluation by governing body **DNA** causes difficulties and delays in decision-making, policy implementation and ultimately attainment of results and achieving the objectives of the PA.

The **current budget provided by the government is an estimate** as it is a proportion taken from the overall budget for all 14 PAs on the island.

The PA management team of 3 people has 14 protected areas to manage. This is beyond human capabilities. **More people need to be employed** to be able to monitor the management of the PAs effectively. This requires more funding.

There is **no consultative platform** to enable the different partners or stakeholders to discuss the PA management.

On-site **NGOs have the capacity and resources** to be able to implement many of the monitoring activities and to aid in evidence and intelligence collection to aid local law enforcement agents.

The NGOs have provided 93% of the operational funding for this PA (as of 2019) and this is **not a secured budget. Other funding sources need to be found.**

There is an obvious source of sustainable **funding through eco-tourism (turtle-watching)** but this will require strict management and constant evaluation to monitor the impacts and the economic benefit for the PA.

It is necessary to **implement scientific monitoring and a research programs** for almost all species mentioned with the exception of *Caretta caretta* which already has a well-developed program. This will increase the level of knowledge available and the reliability of the data collected.

There is **insufficient data to understand if climatic changes are occurring.** Monitoring and research needs to be implemented to understand the long-term effects.

There is a **lack of data related to identification of resources**, this could be improved by mapping ecosystem resources and services.

Lagoa de Canto has the **potential to be a candidate for a RAMSAR site.** This should be submitted to improve the conservation status of the area and its species/ecosystem services.

The park has no international status and is not affiliated with any international body, it has the potential to become a World Heritage Site. This would assist in finding and obtaining funding to improve the implementation of the management plan.

Lack of international recognition for Cabo Verde's protected areas. International databases need updating.

There is a general feeling of **loss of cultural identity** due to the immigration of people from other countries and the influence of western tourism and meeting the expectations and demands associated with this. At present there are no measures of this and so no reference data by valuing and promoting traditional and cultural activities.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of Fundação Tartaruga, I would like to thank all participants for contributing to this process.

We would like to thank BIOPAMA for funding this opportunity. We would also like to thank Câmara Municipal da Boa Vista for providing us with a meeting space in CAC to complete the workshop.

A special thank you goes to trainer Bertille Mayen for making the process enjoyable and very informative.

Kathryn Yeoman

For more details or to access the full technical report, please contact:

Kathryn Yeoman
IMET Project Coordinator
Fundação Tartaruga
Riba d'Olte, Sal Rei
Boa Vista / Cabo Verde
Office: +238 251 1965
E-mail: yeoman@turtle-foundation.org
Web: www.turtle-foundation.org

