

GRANT FACT SHEET



Establishing a network of marine protected areas across São Tomé and Príncipe through a co-management approach



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| Project duration | October 2018 to September 2024 |
| Country/ies | São Tomé and Príncipe |
| Lead organisation | Fauna & Flora International |
| Partners | Oikos, MARAPA, Fundação Príncipe, WildAid |
| Total project costs | € 2,589,596 |
| Blue Action Fund grant | € 1,941,308 (75%) |
| Match funding | € 648,288 (25%) |



This project will support the designation of the first Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) across the Small Island Developing State of São Tomé and Príncipe. It helps to create effective marine protection through a network of participatory fisheries management and conservation zones. São Tomé and Príncipe, which are located in the Gulf of Guinea off West Africa, are extremely biodiverse. However, both islands face challenges related to overfishing and widespread habitat degradation. Working in a consortium of four international and national NGOs, the project will contribute to enhanced local livelihoods through the promotion of sustainable fishing practises and investment into the supply chain. The project will facilitate participatory zoning of MPAs and sustainable use zones. It will also support the development of monitoring protocols and build up patrolling skills to enable fishers to control co-management areas. It will further develop local incentives to promote community support and buy in to conservation measures through enhanced marine product value and increased participation in marine resource management. Lastly, the feasibility of establishing long-term financing mechanisms to support MPA management beyond the duration of the project will be assessed.

// This project aims to establish the first fully functioning national MPAs in São Tomé and Príncipe.

KEY TARGETS

Newly created MPAs:
93 km²

Number of beneficiaries:
26,840

ACTIVITIES & AREAS OF WORK

MPA GOVERNANCE



- ▶ Creating protected areas and sustainable use zones
- ▶ Designing management plans
- ▶ Monitoring, control and enforcement
- ▶ Data collection & mapping
- ▶ Co-management approaches
- ▶ Long-term funding for MPA
- ▶ Awareness-raising & education

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS



- ▶ Creating alternative employment opportunities
- ▶ Training in livelihoods
- ▶ Post-harvest loss reduction
- ▶ Initiatives to increase value added in supply chains
- ▶ Community enterprises

SPECIES CONSERVATION/SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES



- ▶ Data collection on fisheries
- ▶ Co-management of fisheries

