



On this May 22, International Day for Biological Diversity, the Interministerial Commission for Sea Resources (CIRM) proudly joins the global community in celebrating life on our planet, reaffirming commitments and strategic actions specifically focused on toward the marine environment.

The theme chosen by the United Nations for the year 2026, “Act locally for a global impact,” reflects, in a profound and direct manner, the work carried out by CIRM. Each scientific expedition conducted in our oceanic archipelagos, each program monitoring our waters, and every effort dedicated to the protection of the Blue Amazon constitute, in essence, local actions whose consequences transcend borders and resonate with the climate system and the preservation of biodiversity worldwide.

Brazil, a quintessential maritime nation, holds jurisdiction over approximately 5.7 million square kilometers of marine areas, a vast and strategic space that harbors one of the most exuberant and complex oceanic and coastal biodiversities in the world. It is essential to recognize that marine biological diversity is not merely a static environmental asset; it is the foundation sustaining fishing activity that feed millions of people, regulates the climate in ways that protect coastal cities from extreme events, generates essential bioactive compounds for the development of new medicines, and drives a blue economy with unlimited potential for sustainable development.

Since its establishment in 1974, CIRM has skillfully coordinated the efforts of the Brazilian State to understand, protect, and sustainably utilize its marine resources. This historic mission represents the highest expression of the 2026 theme, transforming local actions carried out in Brazilian waters and on the Antarctic continent into scientific, environmental, and geopolitical impacts of global reach. With the implementation of the Sectoral Plan for Marine Resources, the Brazilian Antarctic Program, the Continental Shelf Survey Plan, and the National Coastal Management Plan, the Commission brings together government, academia, and civil society around a common objective: to ensure that the wealth of the Blue Amazon remains vibrant and accessible for future generations. Furthermore, CIRM leads national governance based on an ecosystem approach, which considers the complex interactions between ecosystems and human activities to ensure social well-being and the maintenance of ecosystem services.

Aligned with the ambitious commitments of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and with the active participation of the CIRM Secretariat, Brazil currently protects more than 26% of its Exclusive Economic Zone through marine protected areas.

On this day, CIRM renews its commitment to the sea that belongs to us and to which we belong, acting as a vector of integration for the sustainability of the Blue Amazon, with impacts that extend across the entire planet, not limited solely to the ocean system. (<https://www.marinha.mil.br/secirm/>)