

Aerial Google Map View of Janela do Inferno Trail



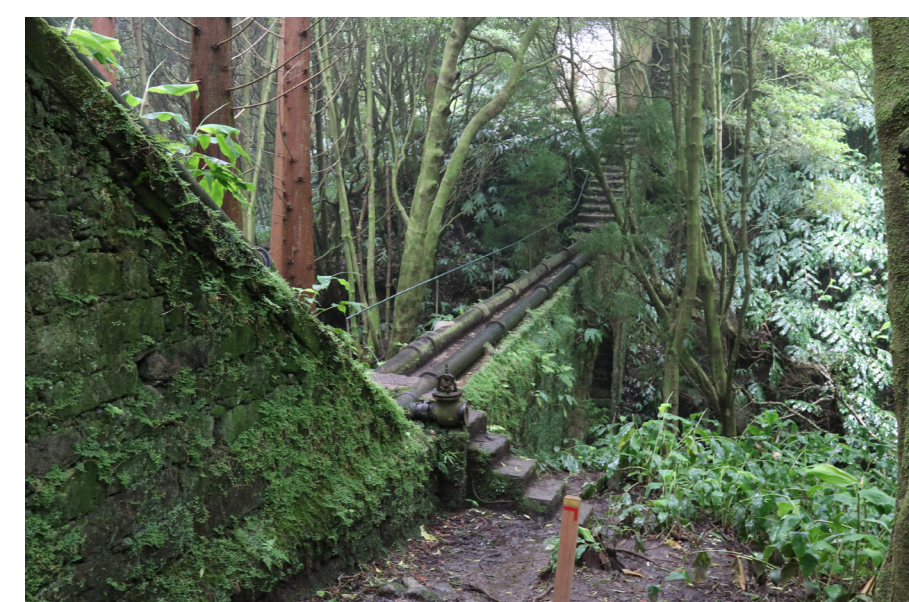
Poster of Janela do Inferno trail activity on 21 May



Localization in São Miguel, map of trails



Lagoa - natural pools. <https://www.guiadacidade.pt/pt/poi-piscinas-municipais-da-lagoa-rosario-18526>



Janela do Inferno Trails, photo by Eduardo Marques



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Community social characterization

The municipality of Lagoa is located on the south coast of the island of São Miguel the largest and most populous of the nine islands of the Azores. The municipality of Lagoa has 14.442 inhabitants and has a global area of 45,6 km², and five parishes: Nossa Senhora do Rosário, Santa Cruz, Água de Pau, Cabouco and Ribeira Chã.

Motivation of the pilot

Lagoa is a small city that aims to establish a more sustainable development for a positive symbiosis of contrasts: between a past and a future, the sea and the land, the traditional and the modern that Lagoa is lived and felt. Nature is an important value in this process.

Existing NBS applications and initiatives

Trails are an important asset in Lagoa. They are a NBS with a positive impact in wellness, health and economic development. Regional or local trails need to be adapted to include other possibilities to use. For that it is necessary a to evaluate risk, disaster management, rescue, etc.

Leverage resources for NBS

Good - look at <https://trails.visitazores.com/en/trails-azores/s%C3%A3o-miguel> - <https://lagoa-azores.pt/menu/descobrir-visitar/fazer/rotas-e-trilhos>

Environmental Challenges

Lagoa is looking for a sustainable development that respects nature and places. With the increasing number of tourists and citizens doing trails into nature there is a need to evaluate the risks, in different dimensions (geological, biological, rescue, etc). Natural preservation should anticipate risks for damage to some natural landscapes and research the possibilities to use nature (trails) and the nature conservation (environmental burden).

Social Challenges

Regional Program for Mental Health in the Azores in public consultation and the development of Municipal Health Plan with the integration of NBS.

Economic Challenges

Trails are an important economic activity in Lagoa, due to its connection with the tourism industry. The idea is to associate Lagoa with the concept of Azores as one of the best places in the world for health and wellbeing sustainable tourism.

Governance in the pilot case

University of Açores in Cooperation with Lagoa Municipality. The environmental organisations, tourism companies that offer trails from the Island will be involved.

Local governance profile

Collaborative governance between university, municipality, local environmental organisations, tourism enterprises and schools.

Target group

Families, adults, youth and clients of social welfare org.

Small scale NBS testing

Improve the security of trails to make them more friendly for families, more sustainable and more inclusive. Lagoa has several trails that can be used to create a case study.

Challenges raised during the preparatory meetings

- > Because there are a need of participatory governance on different dimensions (eg. Participatory Budget);
- > Because Lagoa is Developing it's Municipal Health Plan with the integration of NBS;
- > Because there are a need to develop green space management, nature protection, agriculture and forestry sectors as care providers and their possible linkages with healthcare, social and educational sectors.
- > Because there are a need to incorporate the rights of nature (Pachamama) in municipal regulations and procedures: the nature/biodiversity existing in trails need to be protected and not exploited.
- > Because there are a need to validated scientifically solutions.

Who owns the land?

Public

Related projects to create synergies

Lagoa Municipal Health Plan
Inside out project - <https://www.insideoutproject.net/en/>
Photovoice

Possible local partners, associations, initiatives and champions to be engaged

Lagoa Municipality
Kai