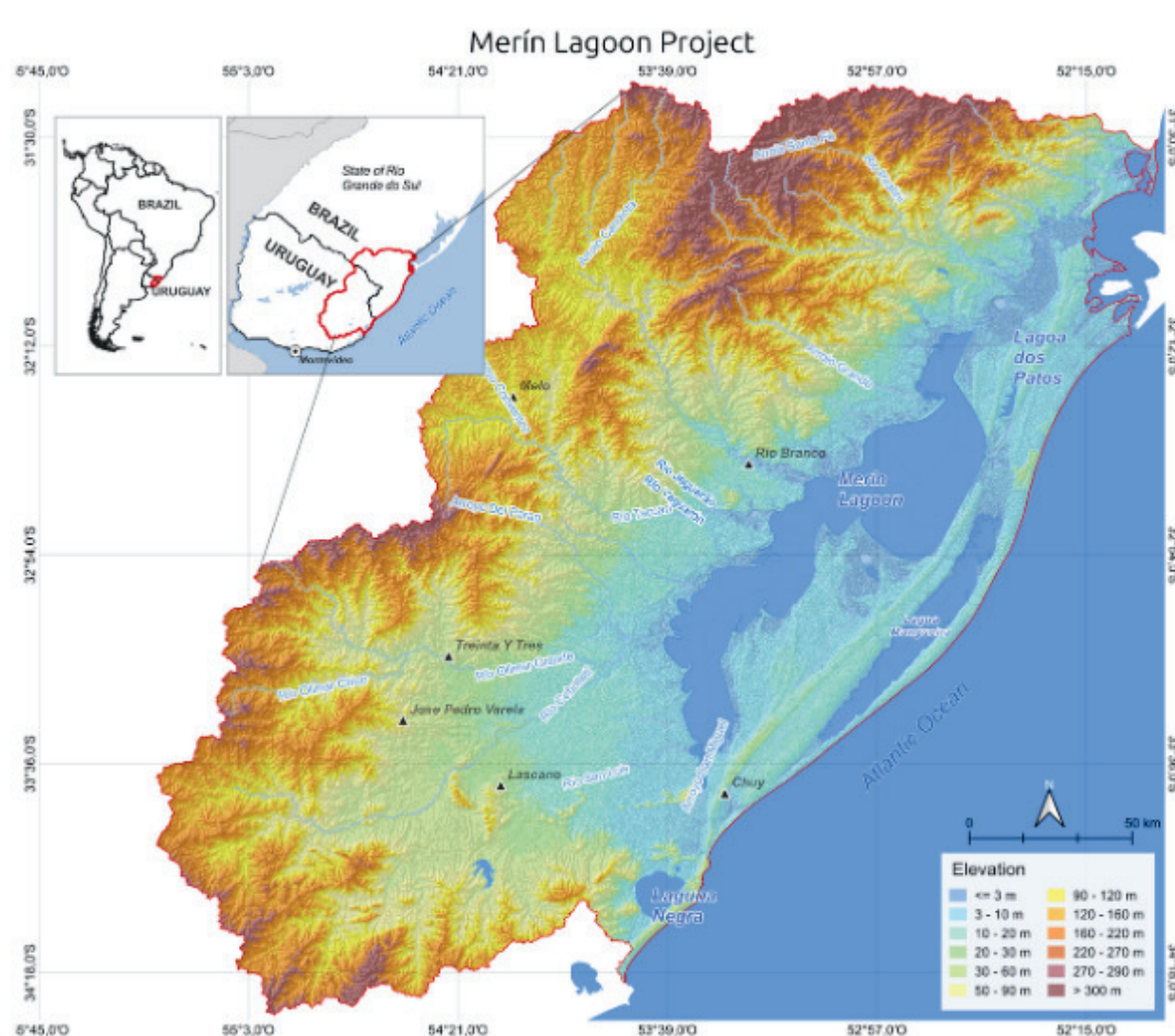


FROM SHARED KNOWLEDGE TO SHARED PRIORITIES

Identifying and Ranking Transboundary Issues Through a Participatory AHP-Fuzzy Approach in the Merín Lagoon Basin (Brazil-Uruguay)

How can evidence and diverse stakeholder perspectives be translated into shared priorities for transboundary action?

The Merin Lagoon Binational Basin



61,086 km²



Brazil = 46%
Uruguay = 54%

A shared basin
connecting inland
waters, coastal
lagoons, communities
and institutions across
Brazil and Uruguay.

Stakeholder Engagement in Prioritization

Workshops, binational dialogue and public review informed priority setting



- A 4 NATIONAL WORKSHOPS** (212 participants)
Social valuation of subthemes; issue identification and prioritization; inputs on criteria and weights.
- B 1 BINATIONAL CONSOLIDATION WORKSHOP** (132 participants)
Joint review of prioritized problems and causal chains; shared transboundary interpretation; SAP recommendations and leverage points.
- C 2 PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS - 1 PER COUNTRY** (+ 120 participants)
Validated findings; gathered feedback; informed final TDA adjustments.

Defining Transboundary Priorities

EVIDENCE + SHARED KNOWLEDGE

- Technical data
- Stakeholder perspectives
- Expert review

THEMES & SUBTHEMES

Participatory valuation
+
Simplified Analytic Hierarchy
Process (AHP) weighting

CURRENT CONDITION

How critical is the current condition?

FUZZY 0-1

0 = favourable | 1 = critical

LOW MEDIUM MED-HIGH HIGH

STATE INDEX

TRANSBOUNDARY RELEVANCE

How strongly does this issue require coordinated binational action?

29% Transboundary 18% Severity 10% Territory
20% Governance 15% Population 8% Trend

AHP WEIGHTING + FUZZY 0-1 SCORING

TRANSBOUNDARY PRIORITY INDEX - TPI
TPI = Subtheme Score x [1 + 0.3 x State Index]

LOW Monitor MEDIUM Medium-term HIGH Priority plan VERY HIGH Joint action

VERY-HIGH Priorities Spanning Environmental and Governance Domains

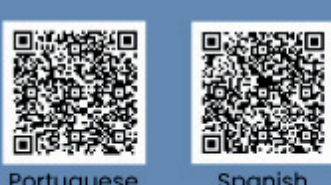
- ! Water quality pressures
- ! Natural cover & land-use planning
- ! Fisheries regulation
- ! Intensifying droughts & rising temperatures
- ! Integrated monitoring, interoperability & data transparency

Key Lessons for Other TDA-SAP processes

- Use a shared framework, adapted to context.
- Let participation shape the diagnosis.
- Keep weighting, scoring and state assessment explicit.
- Use the index to inform, not replace, decisions.

From diagnosis to shared priorities through evidence, participation and transboundary relevance.

Scan to access the
Merín Lagoon
TDA documents



Merín Lagoon Project

Binational and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Merín Lagoon Basin and Coastal Lagoons

GEF Project ID: 10550

Project Coordination Unit

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website