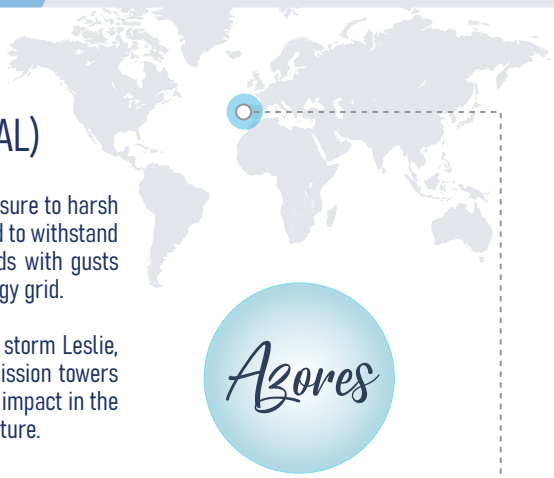
CLIMATE FACTSHEET

SOCLIMPACT

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 776661.



CLIMATE AND CLIMATE RELATED RISKS IN AZORES (PORTUGAL)

The Azores islands have an autonomous adaptive capacity that was driven by centuries of exposure to harsh conditions presented by the North Atlantic sea. All aspects of life and infrastructure are designed to withstand stresses that are not applicable to mainland. For instance, storm Hercules brought high winds with gusts reaching 213 km/h on the Flores island in February 2014, resulting in some damages to the energy grid.

The same event would most likely cause havoc in Portuguese mainland, as it was the case of storm Leslie, where wind gusts of 176 km/h were recorded but where 200 high and medium voltage transmission towers were downed. Therefore, not neglecting existing vulnerabilities, the same events may have less impact in the Azores Islands than expected, especially when comparing with Portuguese main land infrastructure.

Also there are significant differences regarding systems' resilience inside the region and in different Island. For example, the occidental island can resist to extreme wind that would be problematic in the central islands.

CURRENT CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS (Source: GFDRR ThinkHazard!)

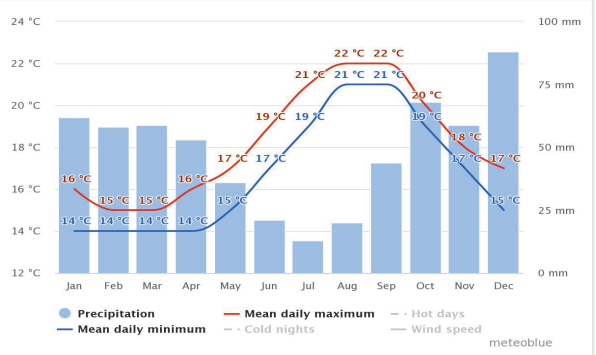
- Coastal flood High
- Cyclone High

SIGNIFICANT CLIMATE EVENTS (Source: Report 7.1: Conceptual Framework)

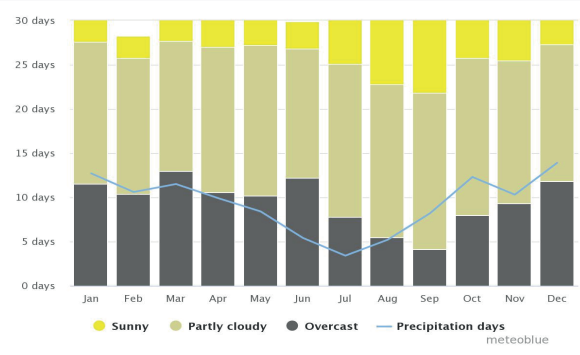
- Floods (2009, 2018, 2019)
- Storms (2012, 2018)
- Landslide (2010, 2012, 2013)

CLIMATE CHARACTERISTICS (37.74°N 25.67°W, 10m asl)

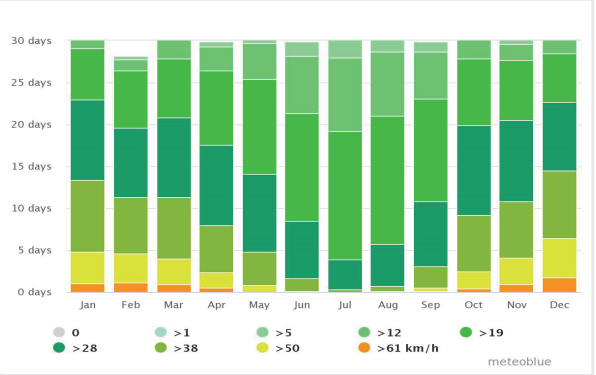
Average temperature and precipitation



Cloudy, sunny and precipitation



Wind speed



Wind rose