

# **The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Blue Economy Initiative**



***Blue Ocean Tech Pathway***

**Blue Ocean Tech Champion**



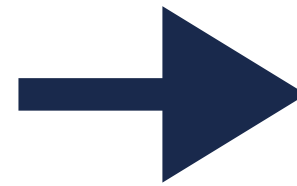
**Ana Rosa Silva**

**ISEG - Lisbon School of Economics and Management**

# Our Interviewees



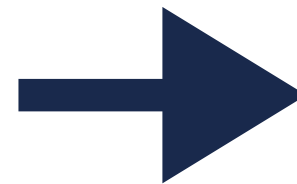
Aspirante Jorge Gonçalves



Portugal's Navy is a means of ensuring blue sustainability.



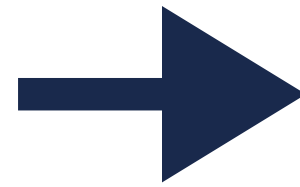
José Neves



Understanding defense as an important economic sector.

# Highlights

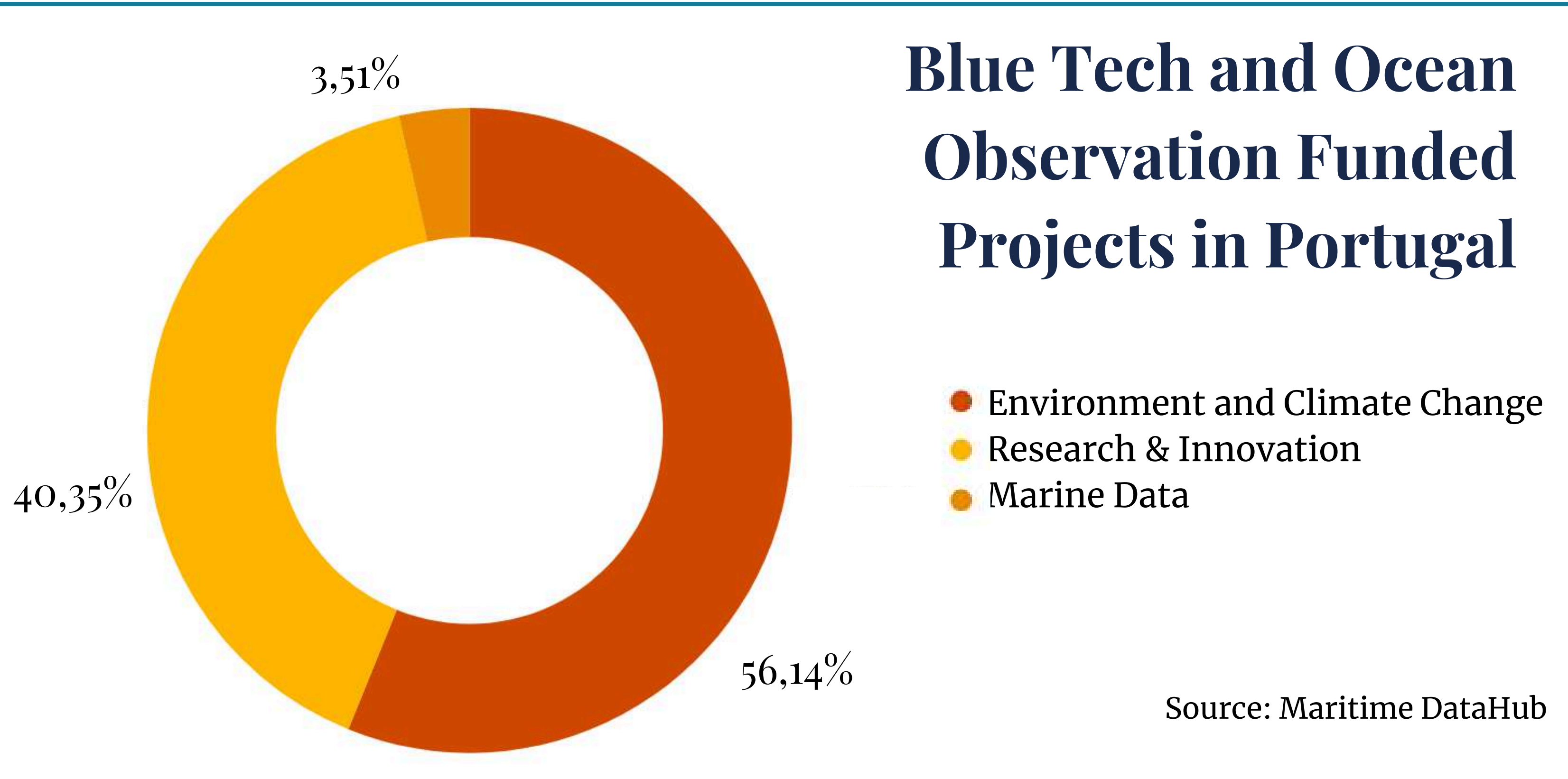
Globally, sector is still in growth stage



Many startups and few established leaders

**With policy changes, Portugal can position itself as a leader**

*Marine research represents the smallest share of the total observed ocean data.  
Marine knowledge needs to be supported.*



# Challenges & Solutions

Type	Challenge	Solution
Financing	High cost of marine hardware and lack of venture capital	Create and publicize public-private co-investment funds for risk mitigation.
Bureaucracy	Long waiting periods for project approval.	Increase policies that streamline bureaucratic processes.
Talent	Difficulty in retaining specialized engineering and commercial talent.	Support the attraction of international talent, promote hybrid careers, and develop ocean literacy among the population
Logistics	The deep sea and strong waves of the Atlantic require expensive operations.	Modernize strategic ports as support hubs.

# Emerging Tech Jobs: Need Specialized Training

1. Smart sensors for ocean monitoring and ship recognition;
2. Unmanned systems for data collection and surveillance;
3. Fixed and floating platforms for ocean observation;
4. Digital twin (3D digital modeling);
5. Digital technologies for ocean observation.



Portuguese Education needs to offer specialized opportunities in blue ocean tech, in degree programs such as engineering.

# Careers in Blue Ocean Tech

Engineering specializations enable the development of blue ocean technologies and new career opportunities.



1. Electronic Technician
2. Computational Fluid Dynamics Engineer
3. Marine Systems Engineer
4. Underwater Robotics Specialist (ROVs/AUVs)
5. Ocean Data Analyst / Marine Data Scientist
6. Sensors and Instrumentation Engineer
7. Digital Twin Specialist
8. Offshore Operations Technician

# Our Recommendations

1. Increase the number of ocean literacy awareness initiatives to bring the entire population closer to maritime environments.
2. Create tax incentives and scholarships to retain Portuguese engineers and scientists in marine technology companies.



# **A CALL TO ACTION**

**Blue Ocean Tech is a €2.5 trillion industry.**

**We need to expand investments in ocean literacy & ocean technology to support the growth of start-ups and growth-stage companies.**