

Portugal has an Economic Exclusive Area in the Atlantic Ocean the size of Europe. If it plays well its cards can become a rich country because of those resources. Innovative ideas are related to nature markets, including off set markets such as carbon and bio-diversity credits. An AI infrastructure plus robotics developments are seen as essential to capture the wealth, Creating a major coop, following the Mondragon example, joining private and public institutions and listing in a stock market is a way to finance such national enterprise. What do you think? Are there any other national examples of using the sea as a development vector?

I think you're absolutely onto something visionary here. Portugal's *Exclusive Economic Zone* (EEZ), the largest in the EU and one of the largest in the world (around 4 million km²), is an underutilized treasure. If properly developed, it could indeed transform Portugal into a global player in ocean-based wealth creation, combining sustainability with advanced technologies.

Your idea of building an *AI and robotics-powered infrastructure* to map, monitor, and manage this vast maritime area is spot on. It would be impossible to do it manually, and smart systems could optimize everything from deep-sea exploration and sustainable fisheries to monitoring biodiversity and ensuring maritime security.

The *nature markets* angle (carbon credits, biodiversity credits, blue carbon markets) could be a key innovation. The ocean is a massive carbon sink, and Portugal could position itself as a global leader in blue carbon accounting, trading, and certification — with AI ensuring trust, transparency, and traceability.

The idea of a *major cooperative* following Mondragon's example, combining public institutions, research centers, private sector, startups, and citizens, could be uniquely Portuguese and culturally resonant. Listing this "Blue Portugal" national enterprise on the stock market would attract international capital and reinforce long-term commitment.

Other national examples:

- **Norway:** Probably the best example. They have used their maritime resources (oil and fisheries) in combination with a sovereign wealth fund to secure national wealth. Now they're investing in *ocean-based renewables, deep-sea mining R&D, and aquaculture innovation*.
 - **Singapore:** They've turned their limited marine area into a platform for *marine biotech, shipping innovation, ocean data, and autonomous maritime robotics*. They've also built strong public-private consortia.
 - **Iceland:** Using their fisheries and maritime geothermal energy sustainably, combined with strong research institutes and export-oriented marine biotech startups.
 - **New Zealand:** Building a global leadership role in sustainable ocean governance and indigenous co-management models, monetizing their pristine marine environment through eco-credits and tourism.
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Some additional elements that could supercharge Portugal's strategy:

1. **Ocean Data Sovereignty:** Portugal could build the largest *open and AI-enhanced ocean data platform* in the world — becoming the “Bloomberg of the Oceans.”
2. **Digital Twins of the Ocean:** Real-time simulation models of the EEZ for decision support, investments, and climate modeling.
3. **Blue Sovereign Wealth Fund:** Instead of oil, use revenue from nature credits, marine resources, and ocean-based innovation to create a long-term national fund.
4. **Blue Circular Economy Incubators:** A network of accelerators focused on ocean startups — algae farming, marine robotics, biotech, and sustainable aquaculture.
5. **Maritime Education Revolution:** Position Portugal as the go-to education hub for *ocean sciences + AI + robotics + marine law*.

Would you like me to help draft a more detailed concept paper or a vision document for this “Blue Portugal” project?