



Água de Lastro Brasil

ABOUT ÁGUA DE LASTRO BRASIL

“*Água de Lastro Brasil*” is a Non Governmental Organization (NGO), nonprofit, private law, in Sao Paulo (SP), Brazil.

Its main objective is to propose ways of working through research and procedures that inhibit the contamination of the Brazilian coast by non-native species. The organization is part of a worldwide movement involved in the search for marine quality and coastal environment and as a consequence, human life that depends on natural resources.

Mission

Promote sustainability of the marine environment in Brazil, supporting and developing actions with the various sectors of society, in search of awareness and implementation of operational procedures to ensure the preservation of Brazil’s aquatic native species.

Members

We are a group of professors and researchers of the Department of Naval and Ocean Engineering of the Polytechnic School at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, worried with the consequences of bioinvasion through ballast water in Brazil and the world, which decided to establish and founded the NGO *Água de Lastro Brasil* with the objective to effectively contribute to minimize the effects of Bioinvasion in Brazil.

Activities

The *Água de Lastro Brasil* was founded with a proposal to contribute to one of the great challenges of Brazil, with its great range and a large coastal area, which is a likely recipient of natural exotic species. This is an issue that unfortunately in Brazil is still restricted to small groups of researchers or professionals in the field. It’s rare to listen to comments on this issue in midia.

There are fourteen (14) axes of action at *Água de Lastro Brasil*:

1. Studies of alternatives for treatment of ballast water;
2. Studies of environmental management for ports;
3. Study of risk of invasion of exotic species in Brazilian waters;
4. Develop projects including the alternatives for ship treatment on board;
5. Perform inspection and assessment of water quality contained in the tanks of ships;

6. Studies to evaluate the impact of dredging;
7. Port logistics studies contemplating the physical infrastructure of the terminals;
8. Identification of alien species in ballast tanks;
9. Assessing the impact of fouling on the hulls of ships;
10. Simulation studies of port operations to support decisions both in transport and in environmental management;
11. Deliver courses in environmental management, engineering, port and environmental impact;
12. Develop educational seminars with the port community;
13. Projects about on-shore unit of treatment for ballast water;
14. Give advice for the overall transport and environmental segment.

As one of the first activities of the NGO, we are developing a booklet on water ballast to be freely distributed to government agencies, schools and all community, firstly here in Brazil, and then we aim to make other versions of the booklet, in English and Spanish, and broadcast it in other countries.

Partners

We seek for volunteers, business partners, other NGOs, universities, and other donations to reach our goals and contribute to our projects.

Through our site www.aguadelastrobrasil.org.br (still only in Portuguese) anyone can have access to know how to participate in our meetings, in our projects, how to give donations, how to become a member and it's also possible to download various publications and news related to the issue of ballast water and learn more about our NGO.

Clipping

We send all contacts of *Água de Lastro Brasil* a monthly e-mail with our clippings and soon we'll have our quarterly newsletter.

Our Contact

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