



KELP
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Greenway 
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**EcoMarine
Index**

EcoMarine Index Ranking Methodology

February 15, 2026

Purpose of EcoMarine Index¹

To advance the adoption of responsible ocean-use practices and improve the environmental performance of marine stakeholders through a structured and independent evaluation of their impact on the marine environment and their level of transparency.

Categories of Marine Stakeholders²:

1. Shipping and fishing companies,
2. Offshore oil and gas companies,
3. Coastal cities.

Project Geography (Pilot Phase)

The Caspian Sea and the Black Sea.

Core Principles of the Ranking

- The ranking is based on criteria developed through consultations with relevant stakeholders.
- The methodology is published in the public domain, and transparent access to calculation results and comparative analysis is ensured.
- Coastal cities are assessed as integrated entities, where their impact on the marine environment is reflected through aggregated data of key economic actors, while governance is evaluated based on the reported performance indicators of public authorities.
- Regular in-person and remote consultations are conducted with all relevant stakeholders to improve the ranking methodology.
- The ranking is based on data available in the public domain³.
- The assessment is conducted regularly, at least once every two years, allowing for the evaluation of trends in environmental performance.

Structure of the Ranking

The ranking consists of three sections: environmental management, environmental and marine impact, disclosure and environmental education.

¹ The project was initiated by [KELP FARMS](#) with the support of Greenway Global.

² The list of marine stakeholders included in the assessment is available on the official website of [KELP FARMS](#).

³ Data available in the public domain include non-financial reports, environmental protection reports, and documents published online on the official websites of marine stakeholders (including subsidiaries), as well as on the websites of partner and contractor organizations. Such information must include direct links to the relevant sections of the website menu, press releases, and interviews with official representatives. Publicly available information must also specify the boundaries of data disclosure.

Section 1. Environmental Management

Section 1 focuses on the key parameters of the environmental management system (environmental protection management).

It assesses the existence of a certified management system and quantitative indicators of its effectiveness. The section also evaluates specific areas of activity, including biodiversity conservation, energy efficiency, and measures to reduce pollutant emissions and discharges.

The criteria included in the assessment may be more stringent than the requirements of national environmental legislation. However, they are aligned with international best practices in the field of marine environmental protection.

Section 2. Environmental and Marine Impact

Section 2 assesses the level of negative impact on the environment and coastal ecosystems. Most of the criteria used are components of national environmental statistical reporting systems, as well as indicators recommended for disclosure in international and national standards and guidelines on non-financial reporting.

This section presents quantitative indicators that are converted into scoring scales based on average values for each criterion, disaggregated by area of activity. For comparative analysis among marine stakeholders, intensity indicators are used, calculated by dividing gross values by revenue, hydrocarbon production volumes, cargo turnover, and other relevant metrics.

Section 3. Disclosure and Environmental Education

Section 3 evaluates the readiness of marine stakeholders to disclose information on environmental impact and to develop dialogue with society. The section assesses the existence of publicly available environmental reporting and other disclosure formats (for example, an ESG DataBook), as well as the publication of environmentally significant documents in the public domain. Particular attention is given to engagement with stakeholders and educational activities on environmental issues.

For coastal cities, materials published on the websites of both the municipality and the region to which it belongs may be used, as well as materials of companies located within the city boundaries (including water supply organizations and port operators).

Calculation of Ranking Results

1. For each marine stakeholder, a color-coded level — green, yellow, or red — is assigned for each criterion. If a criterion is not relevant to a given stakeholder, no level is assigned⁴. If a criterion is relevant but the information is not available in the public domain, a red level is assigned for that criterion.

2. At the next stage, each section is ranked. Criteria assigned a red level receive a score of 0, yellow — 1, and green — 2. The arithmetic mean is calculated for each section for every marine stakeholder. The number of criteria used to calculate the average⁵ is determined by the number of color-coded positions; therefore, non-relevant criteria are excluded from this calculation.

For the criteria under Section 2, a green level is assigned if the criterion value is equal to or better than the sample average². A yellow level is assigned if the criterion value is below the sample average, and a red level is assigned if information on the given criterion is not available in the public domain.

As a result, each marine stakeholder receives a final score for the Environmental Management section, the Environmental and Marine Impact section, and the Disclosure section. Section scores range from 0 to 2. At this stage, a leader is identified for each of the three sections.

3. The final stage involves calculating the overall ranking of marine stakeholders by computing the arithmetic mean of the scores across the three sections. The resulting scores also range from 0 to 2. The assessed entities are ranked in descending order of their final scores, from highest to lowest. The ranking leader is identified as the marine stakeholder with the highest score.

⁴ Criteria identified as specific to particular subcategories of marine stakeholders (for example, MSC certification — applicable only to fishing companies) are considered non-relevant for other participants and are excluded from the calculation.

⁵ Sample average values are calculated using the indicators of marine stakeholders included in the ranking sample.

Methodology Criteria for Shipping and Fishing Companies

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
Section 1. Environmental Management (8 Criteria)		
1.1	Environmental Management System (EMS) in accordance with ISO 14001 or equivalent international standards, and quantitative performance indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – EMS is implemented within the company, and quantitative performance indicators of the EMS are disclosed. • Yellow – EMS is implemented within the company, but quantitative performance indicators of the EMS are not disclosed. • Red – EMS is not implemented within the company (or information on its implementation is not available in the public domain).
1.2	Availability of quantitative performance indicators for the energy efficiency program and their three-year trend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program are disclosed and demonstrate improvement over the past three years (for example, specific energy consumption decreases). • Yellow – Quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program are disclosed but do not demonstrate improvement over the past three years (for example, specific energy consumption increases or fluctuates without a clear positive trend). • Red – Quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program are not disclosed.
1.3	Availability of the following information in biodiversity conservation programs in the marine regions where the company operates, as well as in other public documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Amount of funding allocated to biodiversity conservation programmes 2.Existence of an approved list of indicator species in marine regions where the company operates 3.Existence of research and/or monitoring programmes for indicator species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – 4–5 items disclosed. • Yellow – 2–3 items disclosed. • Red – 0–1 item disclosed.

N°	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
	<p>4. Public disclosure of scientific research results related to biodiversity conservation</p> <p>5. Mechanisms for stakeholder engagement in discussions on biodiversity conservation programmes (including methodology, results, etc.)</p>	
1.4	Existence of measures to prevent collisions with marine animals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Specific measures to prevent collisions with marine animals are publicly disclosed (including consideration of habitat ranges and encounter probability in route planning, operational vessel monitoring, etc.) • Yellow – Limited references to measures to prevent collisions with marine animals are publicly disclosed. • Red – No publicly available information on measures to prevent collisions with marine animals.
1.5	Voluntary environmental risk insurance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Existence of a corporate system of voluntary environmental risk insurance covering all vessels. • Yellow – Voluntary environmental risk insurance for individual vessels. • Red – Absence of voluntary environmental risk insurance.
1.6	Existence of company measures to comply with the IMO decision prohibiting the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil (HFO) from July 2024. This criterion is relevant only to companies operating in the Arctic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Specific measures to comply with the IMO decision prohibiting the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil (HFO) are disclosed. • Yellow – A general commitment to comply with the IMO decision prohibiting the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil (HFO) is declared. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
1.7	Presence of company measures to implement the resolution adopted at the 77th session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (November 2021) on voluntary measures to reduce black carbon (soot) emissions. <i>This criterion is applicable only to companies operating in the Arctic.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Specific measures to implement the IMO resolution on reducing black carbon (soot) emissions are publicly disclosed. • Yellow – A general commitment to implementing the IMO resolution on reducing black carbon (soot) emissions is declared. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
1.8	Existence of MSC certification. Applicable only to fishing companies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Certification covers all company vessels and operating areas. • Yellow – Certification covers selected vessels and/or operating areas. • Red – No publicly available information on the existence of certification.
Section 2. Environmental and Marine Impact ⁶ (8 Criteria)		
2.1	Air pollutant emission intensity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.2	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity (Scope 1 + Scope 2).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at the sample average or better. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.3	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity (Scope 3).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.4	Discharges of pollutants into surface water bodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.5	Share of waste directed to recovery, treatment and recycling in the total amount of waste generated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average.

⁶ Intensity indicators are calculated relative to the total cargo transportation volume (in tonnes).

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.6	Incident and accident rate resulting in spills of oil, condensate, petroleum products and bilge water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.7	Oil, condensate and petroleum product spill intensity resulting from accidents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.8	Share of payments for exceeding environmental limits in total environmental impact charges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
Section 3. Disclosure and Environmental Education (9 Criteria)		
3.1	Existence of non-financial reporting (including environmental reporting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Non-financial reporting is prepared and published in accordance with international or national standards/guidelines (e.g., GRI, SASB, IFRS and others). • Yellow – Non-financial reporting is prepared and published without reference to international or national standards/guidelines. • Red – Non-financial reporting is not published.
3.2	External assurance of non-financial reporting (including environmental reporting).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Non-financial reporting is subject to both professional (audit) and public assurance. • Yellow – Non-financial reporting is subject to either professional (audit) or public assurance. • Red – Non-financial reporting is not subject to assurance.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
3.3	Public availability of oil spill response plans (OSRP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Oil spill response plans (OSRP) are publicly available for all vessels and routes. • Yellow – Oil spill response plans (OSRP) are publicly available for selected vessels and routes. • Red – Oil spill response plans (OSRP) are not publicly available.
3.4	Public disclosure of accidents and incidents, including information on response measures, where such events result in significant social and environmental damage and generate public concern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Comprehensive information is available in the company's public disclosures, or no major accidents occurred during the reporting period. • Yellow – Partial information is available in the company's public disclosures (e.g., relating to specific accidents only). • Red – No information is available in the company's public disclosures.
3.5	Availability of information on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints on environmental matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Contact details for submitting inquiries are publicly available, together with information (e.g., statistics and response measures) on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints. • Yellow – Contact details for submitting inquiries are publicly available. • Red – No contact details or information on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints are publicly available.
3.6	Public availability of quantitative results of environmental monitoring conducted by the operator, reflecting the condition and trends of the natural environment (e.g., in the form of an information brief or as part of a sustainability report).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Quantitative environmental monitoring results are publicly available for all vessels/projects/regions. • Yellow – Quantitative environmental monitoring results are publicly available for individual vessels/projects/regions. • Red – Quantitative environmental monitoring results are not publicly disclosed.
3.7	Structured expert engagement on environmental matters, including cooperation with competent authorities, research institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and representatives of civil society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Public disclosure of the outcomes of cooperation (e.g., results of joint research or materials from roundtable discussions). • Yellow – Publicly available references to cooperation. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
3.8	Environmental awareness and outreach activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Systematic (long-term and ongoing) environmental awareness and outreach activities for stakeholders. • Yellow – Occasional environmental awareness and outreach activities for stakeholders. • Red – No publicly available information on such activities.
3.9	Support for volunteer initiatives and other forms of charitable engagement aimed at the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – A publicly available list or program of such activities. • Yellow – Limited publicly available information on such activities. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.

Methodology Criteria for Offshore Oil and Gas Companies

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
Section 1. Environmental Management (9 Criteria)		
1.1	Environmental Management System (EMS) certified in accordance with ISO 14001 or an equivalent internationally recognized standard, and its quantitative performance indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – EMS is implemented, and quantitative performance indicators are publicly disclosed. • Yellow – EMS is implemented, but quantitative performance indicators are not publicly disclosed. • Red – EMS is not implemented, or no publicly available information on its implementation is provided.
1.2	Availability of quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program and their performance trend over a three-year period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program are publicly disclosed and demonstrate improvement over the past three years (e.g., a reduction in specific energy consumption).

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yellow – Quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program are publicly disclosed but do not demonstrate improvement over the past three years (e.g., specific energy consumption increases or shows mixed trends). • Red – Quantitative performance indicators of the energy efficiency program are not publicly disclosed.
1.3	<p>Availability of the following information in biodiversity conservation programs in the marine regions where the company operates, as well as in other public documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amount of funding allocated to biodiversity conservation programmes 2. Existence of an approved list of indicator species in marine regions where the company operates 3. Existence of research and/or monitoring programmes for indicator species 4. Public disclosure of scientific research results related to biodiversity conservation 5. Mechanisms for stakeholder engagement in discussions on biodiversity conservation programmes (including methodology, results, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – 4–5 items disclosed. • Yellow – 2–3 items disclosed. • Red – 0–1 item disclosed.
1.4	<p>Inclusion of a wildlife rescue component in company-approved oil and petroleum product spill prevention and response documents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The documents disclose specific actions and procedures for wildlife rescue during oil and petroleum product spill response operations. • Yellow – Publicly available information indicates that the company has measures in place for wildlife rescue during oil and petroleum product spill response operations. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
1.5	<p>Voluntary environmental risk insurance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – A corporate voluntary environmental risk insurance system covering all facilities within offshore projects.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yellow – Voluntary environmental risk insurance covering individual facilities within offshore projects. • Red – Absence of voluntary environmental risk insurance.
1.6	Use of electricity generated from renewable energy sources (RES), excluding hydropower plants with a capacity exceeding 50 MW. ⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The share of renewable energy sources (RES) in total energy consumption is publicly disclosed. • Yellow – The company is undertaking measures to increase the share of renewable energy sources (RES) in its energy consumption. • Red – No publicly available information on the company's use of renewable energy sources (RES).
1.7	Strategy and action plan for achieving corporate carbon neutrality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Specific measures for achieving corporate carbon neutrality are publicly disclosed. • Yellow – A general commitment to achieving corporate carbon neutrality is declared. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
1.8	Application of the Zero-Discharge Principle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The zero-discharge principle is applied to offshore projects. • Yellow – The zero-discharge principle is planned to be implemented in offshore projects. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
1.9	Use of Remote Sensing (RS) for Environmental Safety Purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Remote sensing (RS) is used for environmental purposes, and monitoring results are publicly disclosed (at least in part). • Yellow – There is publicly available information on the use of remote sensing (RS) for environmental purposes. • Red – No publicly available information on the company's use of remote sensing (RS).

⁷ Renewable energy power plants (RES) are understood to include solar and wind power plants, hydropower plants with a capacity of up to 50 MW, tidal and geothermal power plants, as well as generation facilities operating on biogas or biofuels.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
Section 2. Environmental and Marine Impact ⁸ (8 Criteria)		
2.1	Air pollutant emission intensity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.2	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity (Scope 1 + Scope 2).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at the sample average or better. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.3	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity (Scope 3).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.4	Discharges of pollutants into surface water bodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.5	Share of waste directed to recovery, treatment and recycling in the total amount of waste generated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.

⁸ Intensity indicators are calculated relative to the total cargo transportation volume (in tonnes)

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
2.6	Incident and accident rate resulting in spills of oil, condensate, petroleum products and bilge water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.7	Oil, condensate and petroleum product spill intensity resulting from accidents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.8	Share of payments for exceeding environmental limits in total environmental impact charges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
Section 3. Disclosure and Environmental Education (10 Criteria)		
3.1	Existence of non-financial reporting (including environmental reporting).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Non-financial reporting is prepared and published in accordance with international or national standards/guidelines (e.g., GRI, SASB, IFRS and others). • Yellow – Non-financial reporting is prepared and published without reference to international or national standards/guidelines. • Red – Non-financial reporting is not published.
3.2	External assurance of non-financial reporting (including environmental reporting).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Non-financial reporting is subject to both professional (audit) and public assurance. • Yellow – Non-financial reporting is subject to either professional (audit) or public assurance. • Red – Non-financial reporting is not subject to assurance.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
3.3	Public Availability of Oil Spill Contingency Plans (OSCPs) for Offshore Projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Oil Spill Contingency Plans (OSCPs) are publicly available and cover all facilities within offshore projects. • Yellow – Oil Spill Contingency Plans (OSCPs) are publicly available for individual facilities within offshore projects. • Red – Oil Spill Contingency Plans (OSCPs) are not publicly available.
3.4	Public Availability of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Documentation for Offshore Projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) materials are publicly available for both ongoing and completed (archived) public consultations. • Yellow – Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) materials are publicly available only for ongoing public consultations. • Red – Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) materials are not publicly available.
3.5	Public disclosure of information on accidents and incidents within offshore projects, as well as on measures taken to address their consequences resulting in significant socio-environmental damage and public concern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Comprehensive information is available in the company’s public disclosures, or no major accidents occurred during the reporting period. • Yellow – Partial information is available in the company’s public disclosures (e.g., relating to specific accidents only). • Red – No information is available in the company’s public disclosures.
3.6	Availability of information on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints on environmental matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Contact details for submitting inquiries are publicly available, together with information (e.g., statistics and response measures) on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints. • Yellow – Contact details for submitting inquiries are publicly available. • Red – No contact details or information on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints are publicly available.
3.7	Public availability of quantitative results of environmental monitoring conducted by the operator, reflecting the condition and trends of the natural environment (e.g., in the form of an information brief or as part of a sustainability report).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Quantitative environmental monitoring results are publicly available for all vessels/projects/regions. • Yellow – Quantitative environmental monitoring results are publicly available for individual vessels/projects/regions. • Red – Quantitative environmental monitoring results are not publicly disclosed.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
3.8	Structured expert engagement on environmental matters, including cooperation with competent authorities, research institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and representatives of civil society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Public disclosure of the outcomes of cooperation (e.g., results of joint research or materials from roundtable discussions). • Yellow – Publicly available references to cooperation. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
3.9	Environmental awareness and outreach activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Systematic (long-term and ongoing) environmental awareness and outreach activities for stakeholders. • Yellow – Occasional environmental awareness and outreach activities for stakeholders. • Red – No publicly available information on such activities.
3.10	Support for volunteer initiatives and other forms of charitable engagement aimed at the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – A publicly available list or program of such activities. • Yellow – Limited publicly available information on such activities. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.

Methodology Criteria for Coastal Cities

As part of the assessment of coastal cities, the activities of three stakeholders are evaluated: the municipality (city administration), the port operator (management company of the seaport), and the water utility (organization/company responsible for water supply and wastewater services within the city).

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
Section 1. Environmental Management (7 Criteria)		
1.1	Inclusion of Environmental Goals in the Current City Development Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Environmental goals with specific target indicators are included. • Yellow – Environmental goals or priorities are included without target indicators. • Red – No environmental goals or priorities are included, or no current development strategy is in place.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
1.2	Integration of marine and coastal ecosystem protection measures into the city's environmental programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – City programs include specific measures for the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems, with defined timelines and performance indicators. • Yellow – City programs include references to goals or objectives related to the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems. • Red – No goals or measures related to the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems are included in city programs.
1.3	Use of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources (RES) by the City, Excluding Hydropower Plants with a Capacity Exceeding 50 MW ⁹ .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The share of renewable energy sources (RES) in the city's energy mix is publicly disclosed. • Yellow – The city is undertaking measures to increase the use of renewable energy sources (RES). • Red – No publicly available information on the city's use of renewable energy sources (RES).
1.4	Existence of national or international environmental certification held by a port operator operating within the city (e.g., EcoPorts).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The port operator holds a valid national or international environmental certification. • Yellow – Publicly available information indicates plans for the port operator to obtain environmental certification. • Red – No publicly available information on either the port operator's valid environmental certification or plans to obtain such certification.
1.5	<p>Presence of Beaches in the City Awarded National or International Environmental Certifications (e.g., Blue Flag)</p> <p><i>The criterion is applicable to cities that have beaches within their administrative boundaries.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – At least one beach within the city's boundaries holds a valid national or international environmental certification. • Yellow – Publicly available information indicates plans for at least one city beach to obtain national or international environmental certification. • Red – No publicly available information on either valid environmental certification of the city's beaches or plans to obtain such certification.

⁹ Renewable energy power plants (RES) are understood to include solar and wind power plants, hydropower plants with a capacity of up to 50 MW, tidal and geothermal power plants, as well as generation facilities operating on biogas or biofuels.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
1.6	Actions by City Authorities to Prevent Marine Pollution from Household and Industrial Waste, Including Coastal Monitoring and Cleanup.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – A program of measures or a comprehensive project for monitoring and cleanup of the coastal zone is in place in the city. • Yellow – Individual (one-off) initiatives or activities for coastal zone cleanup are implemented in the city. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
1.7	Existence of a Rehabilitation Center for Marine and Semi-Aquatic Animals Affected by Oil Spills and Other Anthropogenic Impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – A rehabilitation center for affected animals operates within the city or in its immediate vicinity. • Yellow – Work is underway or plans are in place to establish a rehabilitation center for affected animals within the city or in its immediate vicinity. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.
Section 2. Environmental and Marine Impact (5 Criteria)		
2.1	Air Pollutant Emissions per Capita.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.2	Share of Untreated Discharges into the Marine Environment or Surface Water Bodies in Total Discharges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.3	Waste Generation per Capita.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
2.4	Share of Waste Recycled and Treated in Total Waste Generated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
2.5	Tourism Intensity per Capita.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The indicator is publicly disclosed, and its value is at or better than the sample average. • Yellow – The indicator is publicly disclosed, but its value is worse than the sample average. • Red – The indicator is not publicly disclosed.
Section 3. Disclosure and Environmental Education (8 Criteria)		
3.1	Disclosure of Environmental Information by the City Administration in the Form of an Annual Environmental Report or Within the Annual Administrative Report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – The city administration’s annual reports disclose environmental information, including quantitative indicators. • Yellow – The city administration’s annual reports disclose environmental information without quantitative indicators. • Red – The city administration’s annual reports do not disclose environmental information.
3.2	Publication of Non-Financial Reporting (Including Environmental Reporting) by the City’s Port Operator and Water Utility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Non-financial reporting is disclosed by both the port operator and the city’s water utility. • Yellow – Non-financial reporting is disclosed by either the port operator or the city’s water utility. • Red – Non-financial reporting is not published by either the port operator or the city’s water utility.
3.3	Public Availability of Emergency Response Plans for Incidents with Potential Environmental Damage (e.g., Oil Spill Response Plans) of the City’s Port Operator and Water Utility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Emergency response plans are publicly disclosed by both the port operator and the city’s water utility. • Yellow – Emergency response plans are publicly disclosed by either the port operator or the city’s water utility. • Red – Emergency response plans are not publicly disclosed by either the port operator or the city’s water utility.

Nº	Criterion Title	Assessment Level
3.4	Availability of information on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints on environmental matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Contact details for submitting inquiries are publicly available, together with information (e.g., statistics and response measures) on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints. • Yellow – Contact details for submitting inquiries are publicly available. • Red – No contact details or information on the handling of stakeholder inquiries and complaints are publicly available.
3.5	Timely Disclosure of Key Environmental Monitoring Indicators in the City (e.g., Air Pollutant Concentrations).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Environmental monitoring indicators are disclosed with regular and timely updates. • Yellow – Environmental monitoring indicators are disclosed only retrospectively. • Red – Environmental monitoring indicators are not disclosed.
3.6	Environmental Awareness and Outreach Activities Conducted by the City Administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Systematic (long-term and regular) environmental awareness activities are conducted to increase stakeholders' awareness of environmental issues. • Yellow – One-off environmental awareness activities are conducted for stakeholders. • Red – No publicly available information on environmental awareness activities.
3.7	Participation of the Port Operator and the City's Water Utility in Environmental Awareness and Outreach Activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Environmental awareness and outreach activities are conducted by both the port operator and the city's water utility. • Yellow – Environmental awareness and outreach activities are conducted by either the port operator or the city's water utility. • Red – Environmental awareness and outreach activities are not conducted by either the port operator or the city's water utility.
3.8	Development of Volunteer Initiatives in the City Aimed at the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – Regular volunteer activities aimed at the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems are conducted within the city. • Yellow – Publicly available information indicates occasional volunteer activities aimed at the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems. • Red – No publicly available information on this matter.

The methodology was developed by the following experts:

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Alexander Mikhailovich Pakhalov — Expert in sustainability ratings and rankings.

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