

## **Batumi Action for Cleaner Air (BACA)**

### **Actions by Portugal**

**BACA commitment Title:** QUALAR 2020

**BACA Actions:** 18, 19

#### **State of implementation of the BACA commitment QUALAR 2020 in May 2021**

Portugal has concluded the BACA commitment QUALAR 2020 (corresponding to actions 18 and 19). This commitment consisted in redesigning and modernize the national air quality internet interface. These improvements were envisaged to allow a better dissemination and outreach of air quality information to the public.

A new version of the air quality website <https://qualar.apambiente.pt/> is available to the public since 2020, with a more attractive interface providing accessible information on near-real time air quality data, current and forecasted air quality indexes. It incorporates forecast data from national air quality models and additionally from the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS) enabling information about pollutants concentration forecast for the European region.

The improvements introduced in the website enable a simpler and clear way to communicate e air quality information to the public. This new website also includes a pop-up warnings to the public whenever an air pollution episode is expected to impact an air quality levels on a wider area (such as African dust outbreaks for example).

Other services were improved taking the advantage of the new technologies, such as geographic information systems and other tools enabling dynamic graphics that allow a more interactive experience for the user. Services such as downloads and statistics were also improved providing information in a more intuitive and accessible way.

Additionally, a mobile application was developed in order to reach out a high number of citizens, available in Portuguese and English in Google Play and in the App Store as **QualAr**. This new App includes warnings to the public whenever week and poor air quality indexes are foreseen.