



The Oceanário de Lisboa new building: 'Edifício do Mar'

By: João Falcato

Institution: Oceanário de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

In 2007, it was decided to expand Oceanário de Lisboa. Three main objectives of the Oceanário's new building 'Edifício do Mar' were to: reinforce Oceanário's ability to fulfill its mission; ensure Oceanário's economic sustainability; and improve visitors' comfort and satisfaction. The new building was inaugurated in April 2011, in the middle of a big economic crisis in Portugal.

'Edifício do Mar' includes a new entrance, ticket office, public assistance office and restaurant. A temporary exhibit room allows us to address different themes every 30 months. An amphitheatre was included where new educational models can be implemented. Oceanário de Lisboa's economic sustainability has improved. As the Aquarium is ISO14001 and EMAS certified, the construction of an energy efficient building was mandatory. The new building obtained an A-rating in the energy certification process. This presentation describes the new areas of Oceanário and their functions, the ticket pricing strategy, and an analysis of results obtained.