

Cape Verde

An Emerging Nation



United Nations
CAPE VERDE
Delivering as one UN

“Cape Verde is a showcase of how good governance and investments in human capital can make a real development difference and put the country on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

The UN is a proud partner to Cape Verde in its efforts to improve the living conditions of its citizens, especially the most vulnerable.”

**Petra Lantz-de Bernardis,
UN Resident Coordinator for Cape Verde**

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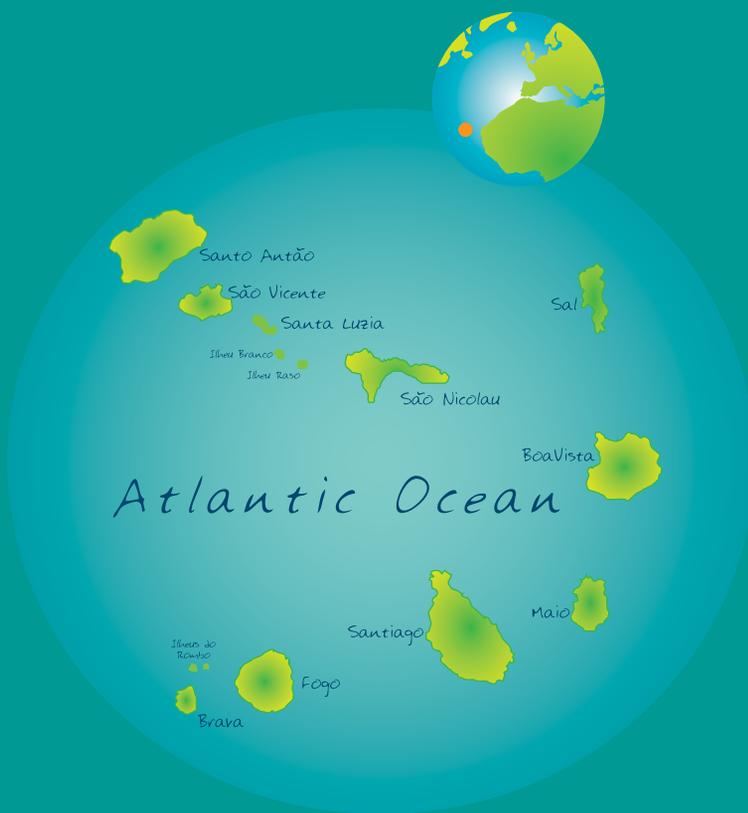
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Introduction

Cape Verde is an emerging nation with a truly transformational development agenda. Since achieving independence in 1975, it has evolved into a stable democracy, making considerable progress in terms of growth of gross domestic product (GDP) and income per capita, as well as on human development indicators. At the end of 2007, the country graduated from the UN's Least-Developed Country (LDC) Group, and in 2008 it acceded to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Cape Verde





Development progress in Cape Verde

- The portion of the population living in poverty fell from 49% in 1990 to 39% in 2000 and 26.6% in 2007.
- Between 1990 and 2007, the Human Development Index (HDI) rose by 1.08% annually, from 0.589 to 0.708, equivalent to a world ranking of 121 out of 182.
- The infant mortality rate decreased from 57.9 per thousand in 1995 to 21.7 per thousand in 2007.
- A significant reduction has been observed in maternal and general mortality rates and an increase in life expectancy at birth, which in 2008 stood at 76 years for women and 69 years for men.
- Fertility rates dropped from 7.0 in 1980 to 2.9 in 2005.
- Universal primary education has nearly been achieved.

Cape Verde MDGs 1990-2015

GOAL	TARGETS	INDICATORS	1990	1995	2000	2005	2007	2015*
MDG I Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger	TARGET I: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day	Percentage of population on one dollar (PPP) a day	49	43	39	31	26.6	24.5
	TARGET II: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	Percentage of population below minimum level of dietary consumption	22	16	16	14	13	11.5
MDG II Achieve Universal Primary Education	TARGET I: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling	Net enrolment ratio in primary education	71.5	82.1	96	95.8	91.7	98
		Literacy rate of 15-24 year olds	88.2		95		95.9	
MDG III Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women	TARGET I: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015	Literacy rates of women between 15 and 24 years old in relation to men			67.2		71.9	
		Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament				11.1	20.8	
MDG IV Reduce Child Mortality	TARGET I: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	Under-five mortality rate	56		32.6	27	25.7	18.7
		Infant mortality rate	42	57.9	26.8	24.1	21.7	14
		Proportion of one-year-old children vaccinated against measles		76.1	76.4	76.3	74.2	
MDG V: Improve Maternal Health	TARGET I: Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 deliveries)		71.1	86.3	17.3	16.2	17.3
		Proportion of births attended by skilled health professional			88.5	75.9	74.4	

Summary of Selected Targets and Indicators

GOAL	TARGETS	INDICATORS	1990	1995	2000	2005	2007	2015*
MDG VI Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases	TARGET I: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	HIV prevalence among pregnant women					0.7	
	TARGET II: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	Incidence of malaria (per 100,000 inhabitants)			28.8	13.6	3.7	
		Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 inhabitants)			60.3	51	56.7	59.8
MDG VII Ensure Environmental Sustainability	TARGET I: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources	Green house gas emissions (kg per inhabitant)		840.54			873.37	
	TARGET II: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	Proportion of the population using an improved drinking water source	42	56	70	82	89.5	
MDG VIII Develop a Global Partnership for Development	TARGET I: Formulate and implement national strategies to allow youth to find safe and productive employment	Unemployment rates for youth between 15 and 24 years old			41	31.8		
		Men			35.5	25		
		Women			47.6	40		
	TARGET II: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	Telephone lines per 100 population				51.7		
		Cellular subscribers per 100 population				54.7		
		Internet users per 100 population				14		
		Laptop users per 100 population			8.5	10.8		

* Projected



Cape Verde Vulnerabilities

Poor in natural resources and with only 10% of arable land, Cape Verde remains vulnerable. Within the 4,000 square kilometres that make up its 10 islands, Cape Verde hosts a scattered population of around 500,000, on all islands but one. Island countries suffer particular vulnerability, especially with regard to the environment and opportunities to develop.

Even though Cape Verde's poverty rates have fallen substantially over time, a quarter of the population

still lives in poverty. However, although the economy was impacted by the global economic crisis, it nevertheless registered a 1.8% real GDP growth rate in 2009.

Gender and rural/urban inequality is a concern, as is youth and child vulnerability. Other key challenges include education quality, access to health care, the environment and climate change. Because of its geographical position, security is also a concern, as the West Africa region has become a transit route for international trade in illicit drugs.

Continued high dependence on official development assistance is a challenge facing the country as it makes its transition.

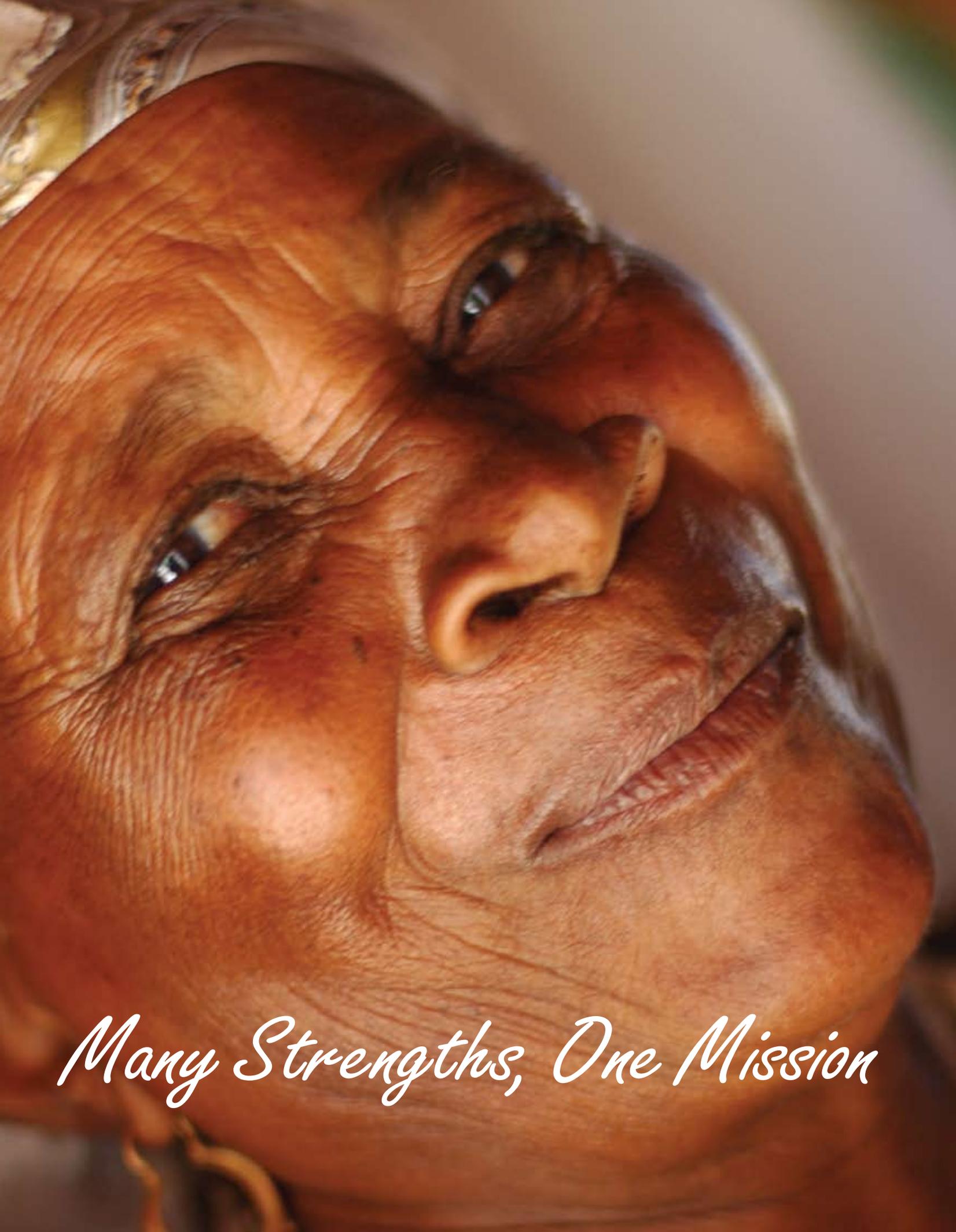
Cape Verde has aligned its national planning with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which are identified in its Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II (GPRSP-II) (2008-2011). It has reiterated its priorities since graduating from the LDC Group and acceding to the WTO, and is working in collaborative partnership with all its development partners to attain the goals outlined in its vision.

Cape Verde's Vision for the Year 2025 is of:

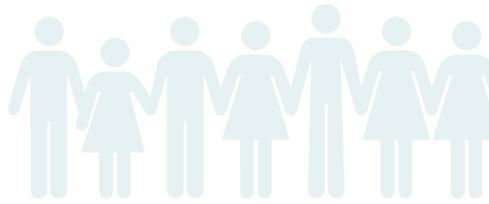
- A country that is open to the world, with a strong and dynamic productive system, based on the development of human resources, technological capacity and national culture
- A society of solidarity that enjoys peace and social justice, that is democratic, open and tolerant
- A country endowed with sustainable human development, with balanced regional development and commitment to environmental preservation and ecological awareness

Message by Prime Minister José Maria Pereira Neves to the Council of Ministers





Many Strengths, One Mission



One UN in Cape Verde

“Pursuing an inclusive One Programme ... shows in a transparent and holistic manner the work of the UN in the country and makes it easier for governments to lead and have country ownership of the strategic direction of the programme and guide the work of the United Nations.”

Outcome Statement of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Delivering as One UN in Kigali, October 2009



Delivering as One

A stronger UN for a better world

One of the UN Secretary-General's recommendations in his 2006 High-Level Panel Report on System-Wide Coherence was to pilot reform in which all UN agencies **Deliver as One**, in the attempt to become more effective, strategic and relevant. At the heart of this is the idea that each UN Country Team (UNCT) works in unity while recognizing each agency's unique contribution and diversity.

Cape Verde is one of eight countries to pilot the UN Delivering as One reform. UN assistance in Cape Verde is embodied in a multiyear planning instrument, the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which in 2008 became known as the One UN Programme. This defines the expected results of the collaboration between

Cape Verde and the UN. To align with the national planning framework, the One UN Programme, initially set for the 2006-2010 period, was extended by one year and now covers 2008-2011.

In a major breakthrough in UN reform, four UN agencies in Cape Verde – UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP – came together in 2006 as One, sharing One Representative, One Common Country Programme, One Budget, One Set of Business Practices, One Office and One Communication Plan. This initiative in Cape Verde, which remains unique, is known as the Joint Office. It resulted in, among other things, administrative cost savings of approximately 35%.

One UN and Cape Verde

UN agencies have combined their strengths to work under the country's expanded UNDAF/One UN Programme, which guides activities in a coordinated and coherent response to address national priorities most effectively towards fully attaining the MDGs by 2015.

One UN themes in Cape Verde

The One UN Programme works in collaboration with Government to improve life for Cape Verde's citizens under four themes (with appropriate sub-programmes) and one set of crosscutting issues:

- Good Governance
- Promotion of Growth and Economic Opportunities
- Environment, Energy, Disaster Prevention and Response
- Human Capital and Social Protection
- Five crosscutting issues: Gender; HIV/AIDS; Human Rights; Communication for Development; and Capacity Development



One UN Programme objective

- To maximize and make efficient use of the joint contributions of participating agencies to better support Cape Verde national policies in accelerating economic growth, promoting competitiveness, creating productive employment and fighting poverty



One Programme 2008-2011

THEME I Governance



1. Graduation and Integration into the World Economy (UNCTAD)
2. Reinforcement of Security (UNODC)
3. Consolidation of Democracy (UNDP)

THEME II Growth



4. Growth and Economic Opportunities Promotion (UNIDO)

THEME III Environment



5. Environment, Energy, Disaster Prevention and Response (UNDP)

THEME IV Human Capital and Social Protection



6. Education System Quality (UNESCO)
7. Youth Participation (UNFPA)
8. Health System Reform (WHO)
9. Child Protection and Social Protection (UNICEF)
10. Food Security and Nutrition in Schools (FAO)

* Agencies in parenthesis are lead agencies.



CROSSCUTTING THEMES

Gender | HIV/AIDS | Human Rights
Communication for Development | Capacity Development

One Programme One Budgetary Framework One UN Fund

The Governments of Spain, Luxembourg, Norway, Austria, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are current contributors to the One Fund and have in a significant way supported the implementation of the One UN Programme in Cape Verde. Other development partner countries have contributed to reform efforts through their regular financing of UN system activities.

Initiatives & Results

Major initiatives and results in the One UN reform in Cape Verde

One Programme: For the first time ever, the UN system in Cape Verde is finding itself able to provide a comprehensive overview of its collective achievements in the country.

One Budgetary Framework: This endeavour has enabled the UN to position itself better on the national stage and has allowed for greater financial transparency and mutual accountability and a more strategic focus overall by the Government and the UN, with more space for joint resource mobilization.

One UN Fund: The Government is in the driver's seat with regard to pinpointing national priorities, increasing the probability of achieving quick wins. The One Fund has enabled access to a wider range of UN mandates and expertise, brought agencies closer and increased donor financial and political support for the reform process.

One Leader and One UN Country Team: The programme is a joint initiative of the UN and the Government of Cape Verde, under the participative and inclusive leadership of the UNCT and the UN Resident Coordinator. The programme integrates six resident agencies and sixteen non-resident agencies.

One Office: The "UN House," for all agencies with staff in the country, is a powerful instrument for continuous interagency communication and coordination.

One Voice: Progress on One Voice has so far seen the elaboration of One Work Plan, One Message and One Website (www.un.cv).

One Leader One UN Country Team One Office One Voice

Agencies

Resident Agencies

1. UN Development Programme (UNDP)
2. UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)
3. UN Population Fund (UNFPA)
4. World Food Programme (WFP)
5. World Health Organization (WHO)
6. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Non-Resident Agencies (with staff in Cape Verde)

7. UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
8. UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
9. UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
10. UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
11. UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
12. UN Volunteers (UNV) represented by UNDP
13. International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Non-Resident Agencies (without staff in Cape Verde but with interventions in the country)

14. International Labour Organization (ILO)
15. International Trade Centre (ITC)
16. International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
17. UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
18. UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
19. UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
20. Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
21. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
22. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)



Government commitment:

“Requesting as One” as well as “Delivering as One”

The Government of Cape Verde has demonstrated strong leadership in the UN reform. The One UN Programme is aligned with national priorities as defined in the GPRSP-II, and Government has committed firmly to ongoing mutual review of the reform process to ensure that it remains relevant and effective.

In line with the philosophy of “Delivering as One,” the Government is making it a priority to “Request as One,” articulating and activating existing coordination mechanisms within Government to effectively facilitate and streamline cooperation between Government and the UN system.





Good Governance

“Today, we have a democratic state in Cape Verde. A state that respects the rights and freedoms of citizens. A state where institutions work and are respected. A state where there is transparency and accountability, where citizens and society effectively control political power. There have been transfers of political power – at municipal, legislative and presidential levels – under free and transparent elections. Peace and stability are a reality. Better yet: they are a factor of development.”

José Maria Pereira Neves, Prime Minister of Cape Verde



“If you are looking for a country that can show ‘best practices’ in managing and receiving trade-related assistance, Cape Verde is a very good example.”

Supachai Panitchpakdi, UNCTAD Secretary-General

The Good Governance theme aims to contribute to ensuring Cape Verde’s successful graduation from LDC status, by strengthening security and the rule of law, through citizen participation.

Cape Verde’s Government has identified the need for reform in several of its sectors, as well as the need to reinforce national efficiency in supporting the country’s exit from LDC status and its accession to the WTO.

The One UN Programme works in partnership with Government to enhance the ability of its institutions to react efficiently and effectively to the needs and voices of its citizens, in the context of the country’s recent graduation from the LDC Group and WTO accession. Practices under the Good Governance theme reinforce equality and contribute towards ensuring equity for the country’s population.

Within this, the aim is to help support and strengthen the capacity of national and decentralized institutions to:

- Facilitate a smooth transition from the LDC Group
- Promote human rights, fight transnational crime such as drug trafficking and assure the security of the country’s citizens
- Apply equality with regard to the law in all political, socioeconomic and cultural situations
- Better fulfil the expectations of citizens



The Economic Graduation and Integration in the Global Economy sub-programme supports national efforts to deal with new emerging challenges, by focusing on promoting access to new forms of finance and investment.

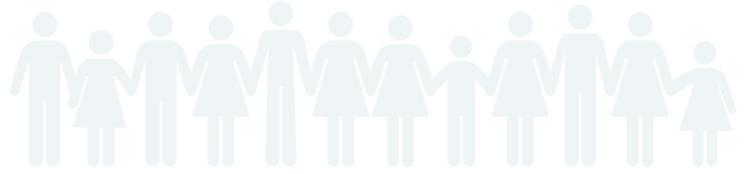


The One UN Programme is supporting the Ministry of Finance, the Central Bank and the Investment Promotion Agency in formulating policy and introducing more efficient mechanisms. With UN inputs, national infrastructure across Government has been upgraded to improve compliance with international trade rules and regulations, such as the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures and the Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement, increasing the country's economic competitiveness.

The Strengthening of Security sub-programme helps reinforce the rule of law and the fight against organized crime.

Capacities in the Judicial Police, the Ministry of Justice, the National Anti-Corruption Group, the Coordination Commission for Drug Control and Prevention Centres and the Financial Intelligence Unit have been reinforced, as well as among civil society, in the fight against transnational organized crime, drugs and human trafficking. The One UN Programme has also given support to the Cape Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity, in close collaboration with women's civil society organizations, to improve the legal framework for gender justice.



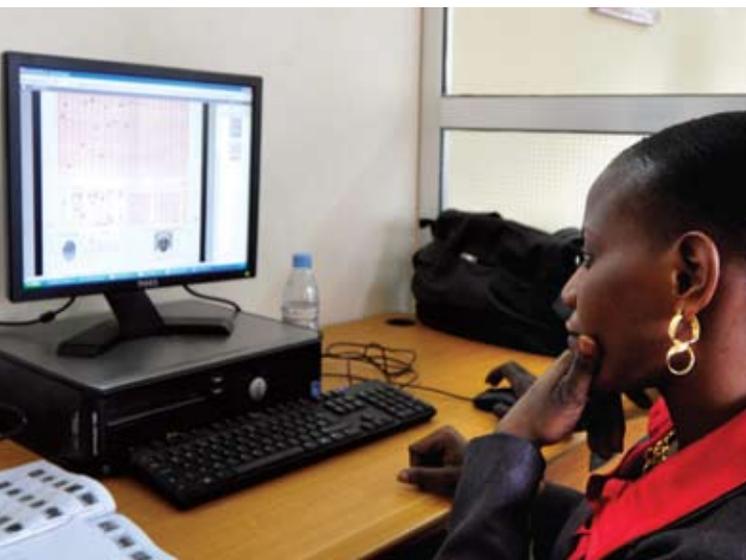


The Consolidating Democracy sub-programme promotes and reinforces decentralized planning and management and reduces disparities, taking into account Cape Verde's multiple geographical constraints. It also promotes the development of a national information society promoting access for all.

With UN contributions, the electoral system has been reinforced, especially the technical and institutional capacity of state structures and civil society to plan and organize electoral processes. The electoral registration process has been improved with a new database designed specifically for use with biometric devices. The same biometric voter registration processes will be available in the countries of the Diaspora, thus providing expatriate communities with the opportunity to exercise their right

to vote in the 2011 parliamentary and presidential elections. A public campaign on the value of voting is ongoing and organizational capacity to oversee the election process has improved, including through the use of electronic e-governance tools. These actions have strengthened the UN's position as a strategic partner of Cape Verde in promoting good governance and contributing to the consolidation of the democratic process.

One UN has also helped strengthen national institutional capacity to implement the National Plan for Equality and Gender Equity. The Ministry of Education and gender-focused NGOs have conducted a study on pregnancy in high schools, raised consciousness on equity and equality issues and supported key pieces of legislation that will allow women more rights and equity during divorce. Gender-focused NGOs are better prepared to hold decision makers to account and to advocate for gender mainstreaming in policies, analysis and recommendations.





The UN in action

Creating a participative urban profile

The UN and the Ministry of Decentralization, Housing and Territory Planning assessed the comprehensive social and economic situation of the 22 municipalities of three pilot areas – Santa Cruz, Praia and Sal. This was to become the foundation for community-based prioritization and programming interventions. Within this, initiatives such as the Forum for Participative Budgets have worked to reinforce citizen engagement in the democratic process. The Ministry has since been inspired to carry out an assessment of the remaining 19 municipalities, using UN technical support.

e-Governance

With support from the One UN Programme, among others, the Government has designed and implemented a set of modern, synchronized e-government systems. These have led to positive impacts such as increased revenue collection and increased availability of electronic products and services for citizens. Capacity has been built of national institutions responsible for the implementation of the national e-government system. For example, national authorities are better able to organize and implement elections since the introduction of a system of biometric identification. A digital information system will now be used to manage voting and census processes.



Promotion of Growth and Economic Opportunities

The Promotion of Growth and Economic Opportunities theme aims to reduce inequalities in terms of both economic opportunities and dependency on official development assistance and the Diaspora, by promoting robust economic growth and the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises, generating decent and productive employment and promoting a sustainable fight against poverty, including urban poverty.



"Cape Verde is one of only two African countries on target to reach its anti-poverty goals to raise living standards by 2015."

Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator

The fight against poverty is one of the greatest challenges facing Cape Verde. The country's double insularity – islands are scattered far from each other and from the continent – poses important constraints in this regard, such as in transportation, communications and purchase of basic economic inputs.

Poverty is higher in rural than in urban areas and affects women in particular, with unemployment the main cause.

Although Cape Verde's economy was able to maintain positive growth during the global economic crisis, the global downturn did have a significant impact on economic performance, with real GDP growth estimated to have fallen to 1.8% in 2009. Real GDP might even have contracted had the Government not adopted an ambitious fiscal stimulus plan to improve the country's economic prospects.





Continued promotion of entrepreneurial activity within Cape Verde is radically improving the lives — and livelihoods — of the country's citizens.

The Government is focusing on reducing extreme poverty and hunger and promoting growth, competitiveness and socioeconomic rights.

The One UN Programme is supporting this endeavour to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are highlighted and that they can be a part of the country's socioeconomic development. It is doing this by prioritizing actions to:

- Make the private sector more competitive through a better business environment
- Promote diverse, productive and competitive entrepreneurship
- Reinforce institutional and human capacities through professional training
- Mobilize the Diaspora

Improved business environment and world-class support services for the creation and development of enterprises and employment

With support from the UN and other development partners, the General Directorate of Statistics, the National Statistics Institute and the Institute of Employment and Vocational Training now offer vocational training that is more responsive to market needs, allowing for the promotion of business-friendly services and the creation and development of job-generating enterprises. Microfinance institutions have also been strengthened to

deliver more efficient decentralized services. The One UN Programme has contributed to reinforced links between Cape Verde and its Diaspora, enabling the transfer of competencies of highly qualified expatriate nationals and identifying migrant entrepreneurs willing to invest resources in the country's development on the basis of advice from the Agency for Enterprise Development and Innovation.

A productive, diversified and competitive environment that creates jobs

The One UN Programme has helped facilitate the dissemination of international best practices for agricultural entrepreneurship at local level and is working with the Ministry of Environment, Rural Development and Marine Resources, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders towards improving and diversifying rural production systems. This is particularly through intensive production of vegetables and fruits, water control, promotion of livestock and capacity building for farmers and breeders. The fisheries sector is also being supported, through technology enhancement and skills development of fishermen.

Special programmes for work integration for women, young people and vulnerable groups

The UN is contributing to work on the economic integration of both women and young people, particularly through capacity development in small business management. Capacity of central Government partners has been built to implement strategies promoting employment and the development of people's skills to generate business ideas. The UN has also supported the Migration and Development Working Group in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to profile the country's migration situation.

A national statistical system that corresponds to international standards and fully informs authorities

Maintaining accurate statistics that meet current national and global standards is essential for development planning and decision making. The One UN Programme has worked with the National Institute of Statistics in the implementation of the 2010 general housing and population Census, as well as a number of other statistical surveys. Labour statistics for the country have also been generated.



The UN in action

Student gardens to improve and diversify production systems

Through an initiative to develop and integrate improved agricultural zones, a 3,000 square-metre garden has been established on the island of Santo Antão. The garden is managed by local students and benefits 22 schools and more than 1,000 Cape Verde students. The participation of these students in both the growing and the selling of the garden's produce builds local knowledge, while also providing daily sustenance for the children.



West Africa Quality Programme

WAQP is a regional programme covering the 15 countries of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) plus Mauritania. It aims to increase the export competitiveness of the entire West African region by strengthening national and regional quality control systems. This will foster the harmonization of the region's response to Technical Barriers to Trade and Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary requirements. Capacity building is provided in eight main areas: trade analysis, accreditation, standardization, metrology, product testing, quality promotion, traceability and inspection.





In Cape Verde, a holistic assessment was conducted of the existing quality infrastructure, including testing and calibration facilities, regulatory bodies, standardization procedures, etc. As a next step, a legal framework for the establishment of a National Quality System was defined, as well as an action plan for its implementation. Within this, a national Quality Council and Quality Institute will coordinate all quality infrastructure-related interventions in the country.

The One UN programme in Cape Verde cooperates with WAQP. For example:

- Two one-day workshops in January 2010 on “Benefits from WTO Membership,” with 50 participants in Mindelo and 46 participants in Praia
- Two one-week trainings in July 2010, of 20 food safety inspectors and competent authorities in the Barlavento region and 24 in the Sotavento region



Environment, Energy, Disaster Prevention and Response

The Environment, Energy, Disaster Prevention and Response theme aims to reduce the country's dependency on fossil fuels as well as ecological vulnerability resulting from climate change and desertification by reinforcing environmental protection and the capacity to respond to disasters.



“By supporting innovative and effective methods for preserving the environment, we contribute to a brighter and more sustainable future for Cape Verde and its citizens.”

Petra Lantz-de Bernardis, UN Resident Coordinator for Cape Verde

Preservation of the environment is fundamental to Cape Verde’s sustainable development. The country is home to a number of rare species, but its fragile ecosystems mean that these are put under intense pressure. As a small island state, Cape Verde is especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change, while being greatly and increasingly dependent on imported oil products for energy production. It has always been strongly affected by drought and desertification.

The One UN Programme contributes to Government efforts by working on actions to:

- Ensure that national institutions apply strategic legal frameworks and mechanisms that allow for proper management of the environment and its resources
- Help the population protect and manage natural resources as a national heritage and a source of economic development
- Develop a national contingency and implementation plan to reduce risks and effects of natural disasters and catastrophes

The impacts of climate change on water resource availability are predicted to adversely affect human health, agricultural production systems and consequently food security.





Frameworks and mechanisms for monitoring and managing natural resources

The One UN Programme is supporting the General Directorate of the Environment to operationalize a system for monitoring Cape Verde's environment, to be maintained by several national institutions. National-level plans and international conventions are now being implemented, in water resources, biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, greenhouse gases, integrated coastal area management and ozone layer protection. Cleaner production methods are now being introduced to a number of industrial companies in a joint effort with several Government partners.

Preventive management of and response to disasters (drought, volcanic eruptions, serious chemical accidents, avian flu, grasshopper invasions, etc)

The One UN Programme has built the operational disaster prevention capabilities of the National Service for Civil Protection, and also provided equipment and materials for combating forest fires. In partnership with other stakeholders, a national contingency plan has been elaborated and approved by the Council of Ministers to be submitted to the National Assembly.

Community involvement in preserving and managing natural resources

- The One UN Programme is working in partnership to help local communities develop alternative economic activities that address conservation and preservation imperatives, by giving small grants to local associations and organizations for innovative proposals.



The UN in action

The Sandwatch Project

Sandwatch is a network of volunteers that includes students, teachers and other community members. These citizens seek to modify the lifestyle and habits of children, youth and adults on a community-wide basis to develop

awareness of the fragile nature of the marine and coastal environment. Sustainable prevention methods are taught to local populations. In this way, the volunteers hope to accomplish long-term environmental results.



Human Capital and Social Protection

The Human Capital and Social Protection theme aims to improve the performance of social services as well as their accessibility by the most vulnerable groups. This includes a focus on national and community institutions and civil society organizations, ensuring people's rights to effective socioeconomic inclusion.



Investments in human capital need to ensure that the population has full access to education, vocational training, health facilities and social protection programming.

Human capital is a country's most important resource. In Cape Verde, one-third of women and 17% of men are illiterate. Just over 60% of women have a primary school education, compared with almost 70% of men. Meanwhile, although the youth literacy rate has risen to 95%, the dropout rate is estimated at 20% for 12-17 year olds, and is much higher among girls (24%) than boys (15%). There are 16,328 working children in Cape Verde, or approximately 10% of children aged between 6 and 17 years. Most work for their families, and most are to be found in rural areas. About 46% of these children do not attend school.

With about 60% of the population under 25 and 42.3% of the population under 15, youth have a number of priority needs, particularly in terms of health, education, employment and participation in the decisions that affect their lives. A particular challenge lies in the youth unemployment rate, which stood at 31% for 15-24 year olds in 2008. Young women are more affected by unemployment than young men: 38.3% as compared with 25%. Another concern is the decreasing age of first sexual relations. A more positive development, however, is the increase in condom use. Among young people (aged 15-24), 68% of women and 79% of men reported having used a condom the last time they had had high-risk sex.



The Quality of the Education System sub-programme reinforces capacities to bring to reality the vision of social and economic transformation in Cape Verde.



The One UN Programme contributes towards improvements in the quality of preschool and primary education, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, including building Ministry capacity to take on the national school feeding programme. Other focal areas are: implementing an integrated approach to early childhood; strengthening capacity of teachers; promoting inclusive education for children with special needs; improving evaluation; revising the curriculum; and improved access to water and sanitation in schools. In relation to secondary education, higher education and vocational training, development frameworks have been produced, in full collaboration with students themselves.

The Youth Participation sub-programme supports young people to exercise their right to active participation in the country's development, through promotion of volunteer services and reinforcement of civil society.

Youth centres aim to promote the integral and integrated development of teenagers and youth, especially in the areas of reproductive health and economic and social integration. Youth centres are now being supported to offer sexual and reproductive health information, as well as actual services in some locations, with close coordination between the two sectors (health and youth) to ensure better integration and eliminate duplication. Access to information and communication technology (ICT) has been improved, including for isolated communities (through mobile centres). The UN also supports the social and educational rehabilitation of youth outside the education system in Santa Cruz, with the aim of contributing to a reverse in poverty in the municipality.



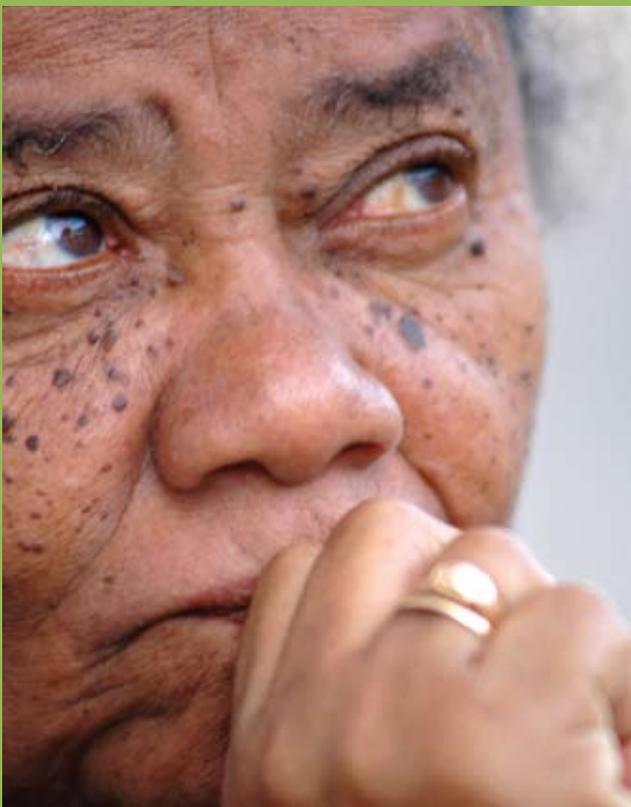
The Contribution to the Reform of the Health Sector sub-programme supports national institutions by implementing and monitoring progress in the realization of health service-related human rights. Particular attention is placed on the most vulnerable.

The One UN Programme has helped strengthen the implementing capacity of national health services, as well as assisting them to promote health and the prevention and control of transmissible and non-transmissible illnesses, including dengue fever, malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. This includes strengthening national surveillance capacity for early detection and response to illnesses with high epidemic potential and assessment of national capacities to meet the International Health Regulations.

In addition, support has been given to expanding access to quality reproductive health services, with special attention to adolescents/youth through awareness raising among

caregivers, health professionals, women and young people. The One UN Programme has also supported the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education in their efforts to overcome the nutritional problems that affect children and pregnant women.

Improvement of the Extended Immunization Programme has also been a key area of focus, as has extension to 90% of access to prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. A joint programme (TREATNET II) has been launched to improve drug addiction treatment and reduce health risks among drug addicts (particularly the risk of HIV infection). Finally, technical support has helped reinforce and integrate the country's health information system.



The One UN Programme has worked in partnership on studies on child vulnerability and child abuse and sexual exploitation, as well as collaborating with Government to strengthen the system for the full protection of children, in particular with the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity's Directorate-General for Social Solidarity. A particular focus is on vulnerable children, including orphans, victims of irregular migration and children in conflict with the law.

The UN has worked with the Directorate-General for Social Solidarity to improve social protection by preparing an action plan to implement Cape Verde's Development Strategy of Social Protection. The National Centre of Social Pensions has been strengthened to ensure successful management of the new social security and health system.



The Child and Social Protection sub-programme aims to support national and community institutions to ensure a protective environment for children and an effective and long-lasting social protection system.

The Food Security and Nutrition in Schools sub-programme is a new sub-programme added in 2010. This is aligned with the food security sector, which is a Government priority as established by the GPRSP-II.

The One UN Programme aims to contribute in the following way: to maintain and improve students' access to a diversified food basket in primary schools and kindergartens through the national school feeding programme; to identify and use opportunities for diversifying school meals with local products and for generating economic opportunities for local producers; to strengthen primary school students' knowledge and skills in nutrition, agriculture and environment through the implementation of educational school gardens; and to enhance primary school students' and teachers' knowledge and skills in nutrition through the integration of nutrition in school programmes.

The UN in action

Dengue control

UN agencies, along with other international development partners, supported national efforts to combat the country's first-ever dengue epidemic, which hit during the last quarter of 2009. The UN was able to offer strong leadership and also mentoring of Government health officials at a challenging time. The response quickly mobilized funding, equipment and technical support for use by the Government to effectively and efficiently address the problem. More specifically, the UN system:

- Promoted effective South-South cooperation from Brazil, Senegal and Thailand, which provided technical skills to local cadres in quick detection and effective monitoring, as well as in the establishment of diagnostic and virology laboratories
- Supported the Ministry of Health and the Operational Nucleus for the Information Society to create a real-time Quick Alert Information System (www.dengue.gov.cv)
- Provided technical support to draft and implement a communication campaign for community mobilization, continuously informing the population, including on measures to be taken by all to support effective control of the epidemic
- Acted quickly, releasing financial resources to assist in vector control and social mobilization
- Worked to formulate a Central Emergency Response Fund request – which was quickly approved. Additional resources were mobilized from Australia, the European Union, Luxembourg and the US
- Combined expertise in water and sanitation and anti-vector and larvae interventions. Mosquito nets were quickly made available for use in hospitals and health centres
- Supported development of a national plan for sanitation







Crosscutting issues

In the design of the One UN Programme, five crosscutting themes are considered as national priorities and as a necessary basis for all projects and programmes, advocacy, communication and monitoring and evaluation. Each theme has a lead agency, which works in close collaboration with leading national institutions such as the Cape Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity, the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship and the Committee for the Coordination to Combat HIV/AIDS.

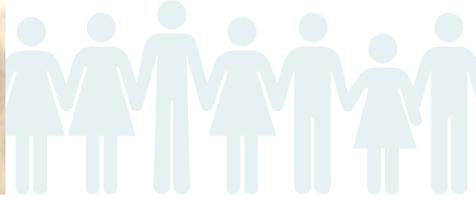


Gender equality is promoted to ensure that woman and men enjoy the same economic, social, political and civil rights as well as equal access to social services, decent employment, credit and legal protection.

The UNCT has a Gender Advisor and has adopted a participatory gender audit methodology, in a move towards a common vision of gender equality commitments and mainstreaming strategies – as well as a baseline against which to track progress. The common UN mechanism for human rights and gender – the Thematic Working Group on Human Rights and Gender – is helping to strengthen gender analysis, planning and programming within the One Programme.

A higher level of awareness on **gender** equality has been achieved, as well as closer engagement with the national **gender** machinery and women’s civil society organizations as crucial partners in voicing women’s concerns.





The collaborative work of the UN system in the fight against HIV/AIDS aims to generate universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support, particularly for the most vulnerable.

HIV/AIDS is reflected through almost all sub-programmes, across key sectors such as youth, education, health and social protection, among others. To further ensure coherent support to the national AIDS response, the Interagency Technical Working Group has evolved into the Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS, responsible for coordinating joint UN planning on HIV/AIDS.

The goal of reversing the spread of HIV infection and reducing it among women, men and children has been integrated into the One UN Programme, with particular attention given to drug addiction issues.





A human rights-based approach has been integrated into One UN programming, with special attention granted to the principles of non-discrimination, access to services, gender equality and rights of the most vulnerable.

Planning has been carried out to strengthen capacity among UN staff and national partners on the use and integration of a rights-based approach. The Thematic Working Group on Human Rights and Gender further promotes coordination and collaboration on these two crosscutting issues, allowing for capitalization on synergies.

Human rights are taken into account in order to achieve sustainable and fair development and provide each citizen with opportunities to contribute to social and economic progress.



Attempts to reach a comprehensive and coordinated communication for development strategy are necessary to implement the One UN Programme and therefore reach the Delivering as One UN goal.

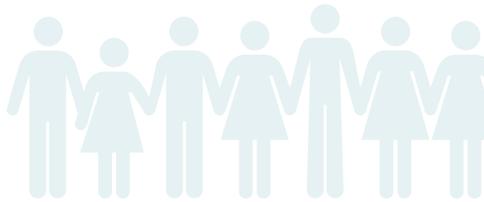
A collaborative communication strategy – **Speaking as One UN in Cape Verde** – is being designed to ensure that progress and results are visible and that the UN system and its partners can advocate more effectively for development issues such as the MDGs. A **communication for development** capacity development plan for UN agencies and national partners has been established, contributing to different programmatic areas:

- Health and nutrition (vaccination, de-worming, breastfeeding, breast cancer, response to dengue)
- Gender equality (gender-based violence, men's engagement for gender equality, girls' education)
- Children's rights
- HIV/AIDS
- Climate change
- The fight against corruption
- Alcohol and drug abuse prevention

Applied properly, ICT can contribute to the fight against illiteracy and endemic illnesses, the fight for environmental protection and the general fight against poverty.







Capacity development is at the heart of the One UN Programme, allowing more vulnerable groups of people to participate in the development of their country.

The diversity of UN agencies working in the One UN Programme in Cape Verde has considerably widened the range of mandates and expertise that can be tapped into in support of capacity development in the country, where solid capacity exists already, albeit in limited numbers.

The UN considers capacity development as a core function, fundamental to all of its operations. Through a focus on processes and mechanisms as well as outputs, capacity development encompasses issues of national ownership, policy and sustainability, as well as the creation of space for and management of dialogues, relationships and partnerships; knowledge networks; and incentives for performance and accountability.

Capacity development not only refers to human resource development but also entails and contributes towards enhanced societal and organizational transformation. Here, volunteerism also plays an important role.

Cape Verde



Contact

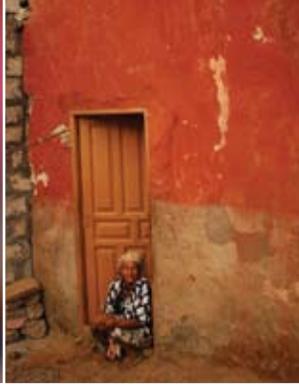
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