

**REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
NATIONAL REPORT**

**Elaboration of the Third International Conference on Sustainable
Development in Small Island States in Development**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since its independence Cape Verde has been fighting against desertification and poverty and has made efforts to achieve development and economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection despite its structural vulnerabilities.

It is important to highlight the progress made in the last two decades due especially to the continuous democratization of the State and the Cape Verdean Society; the reform and modernization of central and local administration; the political and administrative decentralization; the emerging and strengthening of a organized civil society, engaged and participatory in the development process both at local and national levels. A strong and generous partnership of the international community was mobilized through political and administrative culture, which is guided by good governance, a privileged instrument for Cape Verde strengthen its resilience, regarding the aforementioned vulnerabilities and implementing a model of development that is sustainable and supportive.

The analysis of the state of implementation of Barbados and Mauritius action programmes is marked above all by a strong commitment of Cape Verde through the accession process, ratification and implementation of the main international conventions, namely those related to the environment (United Nations Convention to fight desertification, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity), poverty eradication and sustainable development.

In multiple action fronts of these programs, the performance of Cape Verde, in different degrees, is very positive with particular emphasis on the sectors of water and sanitation, environment, tourism, energy (renewable), education, health, poverty reduction, institutions and administrative capacity, new information and communication technologies and maritime economy. Being the Cluster concepts of the sea and maritime economy friendly or not, which is important to highlight is that the sea is the greatest natural resource of Cape Verde and strategic for sustainable development of the country.

However, many challenges need to be overcome in the context of the implementation of Barbados and Mauritius Action Programmes to the sustainable development of SIDS in general and of Cape Verde in particular. At SIDS's level there is an urgent need to review the criteria for graduation of these States to the status of Medium Development Countries, taking into account their particular vulnerabilities, as well as those of economic and environmental nature; in the same vein, to differentiate (in the sense of a more favourable treatment) the concept of sustainable development of SIDS in its global sense; promote a strong campaign that seeks greater commitment of the international community in financing, transfer of technology and technical assistance to SIDS in the implementation of these Action Programmes.

In the specific case of Cape Verde because of its particular vulnerabilities, it should be taken into account that the population efforts to achieve the objectives of sustainable development successfully will require double attention. It is advisable to invest deeply in education, training, information and advocacy of rural and urban communities on the principles, values and good practices of sustainable development;

Mobilize new partnerships, strengthen and diversify the cooperation with traditional Cape Verde development partners, aiming to obtain more funding and support for

the implementation of the referred Action Programmes; focus and direct education, training and qualification of human resources in the light of the real and specific needs of the development of Cape Verde; strengthen and preserve social cohesion, as well as the national unity through the establishment and implementation of public policies, inducing sustainable development, namely, eradication of poverty, social inequality and environmental protection.

ACRONIMOUS

UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
NWSC	National Water and Sewerage Corporation
ODA	Official Development Assistance
BCV	Bank of Cape Verde
CDP	Committee for Policy Development
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
COP 10	10th Conference of the United Nations Parties
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
PGRSP	Poverty Growth and Strategy Reduction
DGE	DG Environment
NDRP	National Directive for Regional Planning
RSRP	Regional Schemes for Regional Planning
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
FEATS	Fund for Education and Training Support
SFESM	Support Fund for Editing School Manuals
FICASE	Cape Verdean Foundation for Social Education
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MPO	Major Plan Options
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICASE	Cape Verdean Institute for Social Education
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
HDI	Human Development Index
INE	National Statistics Institute
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
WTO	World Trade Organization
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
UN	United Nations
PAGIRE	Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
MP	Municipal Plan
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IID	International Implementation Draft
NPBS	National Plan for Basic Sanitation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
ESV	Executive Secretary for Environment
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IBFMS	Integrated Budgetary and Financial Management System
MIS	Municipal Information System
NPS	National Planning System
NSCP	National Service of Civil Protection
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
ZDTI	Tourism Development Areas

EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ZRPT	Tourism Reserves and Protection Areas

1. Introduction

1.1. Economic and Social Context

The archipelago of Cape Verde is situated in the tropical North of Atlantic Ocean, about 450-500 km from the West African coast. Of volcanic origin it has ten Islands and five Islets, a surface of 4033 km², a length of 1020 Km of coast, an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of 734,000 km². Independent since July 5, 1975, Cape Verde has a population of 491,875 residents in the country (INE, 2010). The official language is Portuguese, being the Creole the national language. Cape Verde is a sovereign, unitary, democratic and secular republic, whose Constitution (2012) establishes the separation and interdependence of Legislative, Executive and Judicial powers. It has a National Assembly with a single Chamber composed of 72 Deputies, elected by universal suffrage.

We can say that if, on one hand, the national independence represented an opportunity for Cape Verde to put an end to the situation of underdevelopment and poverty, on the other hand, it challenged the Government and its population to a serious consideration on the problem of their economic viability, given its structural vulnerabilities. With a gross domestic product (GDP) per capita of \$190 in 1975, its economic viability has been boosted, in particular, with financial resources from abroad, namely the remittances from emigrants, the official support to the development assistance (ODA) and foreign direct investment (FDI). Between 1980 and 1985 the GDP per capita was 550 dollars, reaching \$900 in 1990.

The result of the reforms implemented from 1991 resulted in a continuing economic recovery, having the GDP grown 3.0%, 7.3%, 6.9% and 7.8%, in 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995, respectively, with special mention for 1999, the year in which there was the highest GDP growth rate in about 12% (BCV86, 2000; IMF, 2009).

From 2000 to 2009 the growth rate of GDP continued to evolve in a very positive way, reaching an annual average of 6%. However, the external debt grew at an annual average rate of 5% during the period 2000-2006, while the debt service has grown at an annual average rate of 6% during the same period (BCV, 2009, MENDES, 2010; apud CARVALHO, 2012).

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Cape Verde in 2005 was 1035 million dollars and the GDP per capita was \$2,063. In 2007, the GDP reached the amount of 1,429.5 million dollars and the GDP per capita reached \$2,893. In 2010 the GDP was 1861 million dollars and the GDP per capita was \$3,402.

Among the sectors of the economy, the Document of Growth Strategy and Poverty Reduction III (DECRP III) shows the growth of the tourism sector at an average rate of about 10% per year, becoming the most important sector of the economy, representing approximately 60% of the total exports, 20% of GDP and about 90% of the IDE in 2011.

At the macro-economic level (environment), among the international partners for the development of Cape Verde, the European contribution has been important. The country received about 218.5 million dollars in Official Development Assistance (ODA) net of all donors in 2008, with more than half of it coming from

European countries; 80% of remittances of emigrants came from residents in Europe; and 45% of the IDE came from four European countries: Spain, Portugal, United Kingdom and Italy (DECRP III, 2012).

Graduated to a country of middle income in 2008, Cape Verde has a human development index (HDI) of 0.586 (2012).

Cape Verde is facing the need to build an economy with a high level of sustainable and inclusive growth, to overcome the key constraints, structural vulnerability, external dependency, unemployment, poverty, inequality in the distribution of income, reduced opportunities of emigration and the consequent drop in remittances from emigrants.

1.2. Cape Verde main vulnerabilities

Cape Verde faced natural vulnerabilities related to its volcanic origin, its insular and archipelagic nature and its location in the Sahel's region, rainfall shortage and lack of mineral resources. In addition, its reduced territorial dimension, demographic and economic, its isolation from the African continent are characteristics that limit the real possibilities of country's development. In fact, its economic vulnerability to external shocks shall be considered just an aggravating factor and the performance measured by national income usually hides the vulnerability of the Cape-Verdean economy. Agricultural production: Cape Verde imports more than 80% of food that its population needs; only 10% of the country's surface (40,000 hectares) has agricultural vocation; the scarcity and irregularity of rains cause cyclical droughts, permanent water shortages and accentuated desertification. Therefore, food insecurity is one of the main aspects of poverty in Cape Verde, in particular in rural areas.

Exports of goods: Cape Verde exports are limited to a very small number of products, covering only about 5% of imports.

Imports: the dependency is particularly high with regard to strategic goods such as food and energy products. Imports are equivalent to 40% of GDP and food imports represent about 35% of the total imports of goods.

Environment: the reduction and the irregularity of rainfall motivate droughts that are the main cause of the phenomenon of desertification, with devastating effects on the fragile ecosystems of the country, affecting the biodiversity, vegetation, the quality of the land and agricultural production. Soils degrade with the loss of organic matter and lower water-retention capacity. With the level of ground water lowering, the soil salinity increases with the infiltration of seawater, reducing the irrigated surfaces, particularly on tracks along the swaths of the Islands' coast.

Geographical dispersion: the insularity fragmented into 10 Islands, with a very steep and rugged orography (on most Islands) has extremely heavy effects on the costs of basic infrastructure, services and essential goods. Furthermore, it decreases the connections and internal synergies and constitutes an obstacle to the movement of people and goods in the country.

Security: strategic location (halfway between the African, European and American continents), the extension of its coast and the exclusive economic zone makes Cape Verde particularly exposed to new threats, such as trafficking in drugs and people, illegal immigration and international crime. The security concerns result in high pressure on State budget.

Energy: Energy dependence (current) from the outside is about 75%. Cape Verde has to reduce or even eliminate this dependence in order to achieve its objectives

of social and economic transformation, through the development of other energy sources, such as renewable energy.

2. Methodology

The methodology for the development of National Reports on Preparation of the 3rd Conference on sustainable development in small island developing States consists of three interconnected phases: first, the basic document for the consultation of interested parties (stakeholders); Second, stakeholder consultations on issues relating to the General objectives of the Conference; third, preparation of the National Report for the regional and global preparatory process. Regarding the Report on the organization of Cape Verde participation, the methodology consisted basically in the documentary analysis of reports, studies, plans, programs and texts of different sectors of direct and indirect State administration, whose assignments are directed to the design, promotion and implementation of sustainable development programmes and projects, in multiple cross-sectorial policy areas of the Barbados Action Programme, 1994, reviewed and updated by the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in 2005.

Therefore, the document was structured and developed around the different sectors prioritized by these programmes and their principles, seeking to highlight the current state of implementation of these programmes in the country, the main constraints and challenges that Cape Verde face in that process.

3. National Report Framework

3.1. Historical context of the sustainable development within ONU

The concern of the international community with the limits of the planet's development dated the Sixties, through debates about the risks of environmental degradation, which led the UN to promote an International Conference on Environment in Stockholm in 1972¹.

In 1973, the Canadian Maurice Strong introduced the eco development concept², whose debates originated the concept of sustainable development³. In the same sense, Sachs (1993), analysing the issue of sustainable development, identifies five dimensions of sustainability of economic systems to be considered in the planning of development: social, economic, ecological, and cultural.

In 1983, after assessing the 10 years of the Stockholm Conference, the UN established the World Commission on Environment and Development, headed by Gro Harlem Brundtland. The Brundtland Report, "our common future", presented in 1987, defines sustainable development as "the one that meets the needs of the present without compromising the possibility of future generations to meet their needs". Thus, the report highlights the incompatibility between sustainable development and patterns of production and consumption, but, on the other hand, advocates reconciliation between economic growth and environmental and social issues.

¹ Available in: <<http://jus.com.br/revista/texto/5490/o-conceito-de-desenvolvimento-sustentavel-e-seu-contexto-historico#ixzz2VWmkzRYn>>. Access in: June 6, 2013.

² This theory would refer to subdeveloped regions, involving a critic to industrial society.

³ <<http://jus.com.br/revista/texto/5490/o-conceito-de-desenvolvimento-sustentavel-e-seu-contexto-historico>>. Access in: June 6, 2013.

The concept was definitely incorporated as principle during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Earth Summit of 1992, in Rio de Janeiro, in the perspective of sustainable development which seeks a balance between environmental protection and economic development, having been the basis for the formulation of the Agenda 21, which is the plan of implementation of the World Summit on sustainable development with which more than 170 countries have committed themselves.

The World Summit on sustainable development held in Johannesburg, South Africa, had as its main aim discuss the advances made by Agenda 21 and other agreements of the 1992 Summit. The following two documents were prepared by 2002 Summit: the Johannesburg Declaration of Johannesburg and the Plan of Implementation. The Declaration states that the sustainable development is built on three interdependent and mutually supportive pillars namely": economic, social and environmental.

For its part, the International Implementation Project (IIP) presents four main elements of sustainable development: society, environment, economy and culture⁴.

The Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012, held in *Rio de Janeiro*, has set the Objectives of Sustainable Development (OSD). The agreement on a process to develop the universal OSD was one of the most important political decisions of the Conference, given its centrality to help set the development agenda for the post-2012. It recommends that the sustainable development strategy has the poverty eradication as a priority objective, the reason why the review of the MDGs and works to establish the ODS should be integrated in a comprehensive framework, including priority common challenges, particularly the recognition of the existence of an essential link between environmental sustainability and poverty eradication on a global scale.

4. Sustainable Development in Small Islands Developing States

4.1. Declaration of Barbados of 1994

The Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of small Island Developing States (SIDS) is the first Conference on the theme and on the implementation of Agenda 21. On that occasion, 111 Governments adopted the Declaration and the Barbados Action Programme, whose agreements set out the principles and strategies for a development that protects the fragile environment of SIDS, which enables, with the support of the international community, meet the present needs without mortgaging the well-being of future generations.

As a result of the reduced dimension of SIDS, development and environment are closely linked and interdependent, as we find, in the recent history of mankind, situations where whole islands are no longer uninhabitable because their environments were destroyed by external⁵. Therefore, the SIDS knows that

⁴Available in: <<http://www.marouniversal.com.br/upload/RELATORIOBRUNDTLAND.pdf>>. Accessin: June 6, 2013.

⁵**Environmental refugees**, a new class of refugees not yet contemplated by the international legal system but that is relevant currently, according to the great climate change resulting from global warming. Cases like the Island of Tuvalu, flooding and erosion in Bangladesh-annually, about one million people left their homes (Indra, 2000)-the prediction that sea level could rise between 30 to 110 cm until 2100 (Suhrike 1994; Douglas 1996), the fact that sea level rise affect coastal populations from China, Bangladesh, Egypt, South Pacific Islands and Maldives Islands, urban populations in Karachi, in Pakistan and Dhaka in Bangladesh (Suhrike 1994; Douglas 1996). According to the United Nations (UN) by

ecological consequences of ill-conceived development can be catastrophic. Special attention should be given to protection of the environment and to the livelihoods of the population, which requires integrated management of resources. In accordance with the principle of right to development, SIDS should strive to meet the objectives of sustainable development, including formulating and implementing policies, strategies and programs of health and environment, the strengthening of national institutions and the mobilization of all available resources for the improvement of population's quality of life. To meet sustainable development and improvement of quality of life for all people, States should reduce and then eliminate production and consumption impractical methods and promote appropriate demographic policies⁶.

The Global Conference on SIDS Sustainable Development aims to transform the Agenda 21 specific policies, actions and measures to be implemented at national, regional and international levels to enable SIDS to achieve its sustainable development. The Conference supports the view that the survival of these small States and their success in achieving sustainable development depend on its human resource base and its cultural heritage. From this point of view, no effort should be spared so that human being is at the centre of the sustainable development process.

So, the actions in favour of SIDS development must be established in accordance with the needs and aspirations of the people and the responsibilities they have to take regarding the present and future generations. On this regard, the Action Program recommends full attention to gender equality, the role and the important contribution of women; to children, youth and indigenous populations. It further recommends the recognition of the special role played by NGOs; the importance of a partnership among the Government, intergovernmental organizations and institutions, associations and other major groups in the implementation of the Agenda 21 and the Action Program at national, sub-regional, regional and international levels.

It recalls that the biological diversity of SIDS is one of the most threatened in the world and particularly vulnerable to natural and ecological disasters; it states that SIDS is the one that contributes less to the global climate change and sea level rise, but however, they are the ones that will suffer more the effects of these phenomena. Pollution prevention, waste management and trans-boundary movements of hazardous substances are important for SIDS.

Through a regional and sub-regional cooperation, SIDS and the international community should encourage a strong functional cooperation on the promotion of sustainable development, as well as sharing data, information and techniques, strengthen the institutions and consolidate the capacities. On the other hand, the international community should cooperate with SIDS in the implementation of the Action Program, providing the necessary resources, including sufficient resources, predictable, new and additional; facilitate the transfer of ecologically rational technologies; and encourage fair commercial arrangements, as well as a favourable international economic system.

2050 there will be more than 250 million environmental refugees, a scaring number that surpasses the armed conflict and persecution of race, religion or politics. Available in:

<http://www.ambito-juridico.com.br/site/index.php?n_link=revista_artigos_leitura&artigo_id=6845>. Access in June 25, 2013.

⁶Ibid, p. 8-9.

However, one of the most remarkable notes of the assessment made to the ten years (1994-2004) of Barbados Action Programme for sustainable development of Small Island Developing States was the insufficient international cooperation, external resource allocation as well as the transfer of technology for the Programme implementation.

There was also a major problem of coordination among the different actors, namely: the regional bodies, the different United Nations agencies and other multilateral organizations that had the capacity and mandate to get involved in the implementation of the different stages of the program. Other major factor that encouraged the review was the lack of sufficient international awareness about the social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities of SIDS. Thus, the need to sustain continuously the international interest in the Action Programme for SIDS was expressed as a strong concern.

In the 10-year review of the Barbados Action Programme for SIDS Sustainable Development, the problem of human settlements, water and sanitation received special attention from international community. The Mauritius Strategy highlighted that access to drinking water, provision of sanitation and hygiene promotion are the foundations of human dignity, public health, economic and social development. The Conference further reaffirms that: i) the recognised vulnerability of SIDS continues to be a major concern and that this vulnerability will grow unless urgent measures are taken; ii) that SIDS continue to be a special case for sustainable development; iii) that good governance in each country and at international level is important for sustainable development; iv) that special attention should be given to building resilience in SIDS, including through the transfer of technology and development, capacity building and human resources development.

However, the final Declaration of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (2012), notes with concern that the outcome of the five-year review of the Mauritius Island Strategy for Implementation has concluded that the economic situation of SIDS had less progress than most other groups, even decreased in economic terms, especially with respect to poverty reduction and debt sustainability.

Another concern is the finding that, notwithstanding SIDS has evolved in areas such as gender, health, education and environment, its overall progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals has been uneven. Therefore, the final document of Rio+20 "the future we want" and the subsequent UNGA resolution on the monitoring and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy reaffirmed that the SIDS remains a special case for sustainable development taking into account its particular vulnerabilities.

However, the counterpoint to the vulnerabilities is the real capacity of resistance that is developing in SIDS, which must be recognized and nurtured by these and by the world at large.

Rio+20 recommended that the 3rd International Conference on SIDS to be held in 2014 be based on the Barbados Action Programme and the Mauritius Strategy and the recognition of the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to deal with the challenges of the sustainable development of SIDS. The post-2015 development agenda should prioritize social development and inclusion, considering inequality as an insidious enemy of resilience. Thus, the protection of the environment is important to any economic and social development, and the post-2015 agenda must include mitigation and adaptation to climate change as a pivot.

From this point of view, the preparation of the Conference represents an opportunity for the countries to reinforce ideas in the three regions of SIDS, establish their priorities and have a position related to the Conference but also regarding the preparation of the development agenda post-2015.

It is highlighted that underlying all priority areas for SIDS is the issue of governance at national and international level.

5. Analysis of the implementation of Barbados Action Program and the Mauritius Strategy in Cape Verde

5.1. Climate change and rising of sea level

Because of the majority of the population of SIDS, agricultural land and infrastructure are generally located in coastal areas; the rising of whole sea level may have major consequences on the economy and living conditions, threatening the survival. So, it is considered that the development and use of renewable energy sources and dissemination of environmentally rational technologies of high-energy efficiency play a leading role in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change.

Scientific evidence indicate that if the concentration of carbon dioxide continues to grow, the Earth's average temperature may increase, causing extreme weather effects (floods, storms, hurricanes and drought), changes in the variability of hydrological events (sea level rising, changes in rainfall regime, advance of sea over the rivers, drinking water shortages), endangering life on Earth.

The United Nations Framework Convention on climate change (UNFCCC) was adapted to response the threats of climate change. Cape Verde has ratified this Convention as well as the Kyoto Protocol.

In this context, it presented the First and Second National Communication. The Third Communication is under preparation. The National Strategy, the Action Plan; the White Paper on the Environment State; the National Adaptation Action Program; the National Capacity Self-assessment for Global Environmental Management were also established;

Cape Verde, despite not having obligations in terms of reduction of emissions of Greenhouse Gases, took over the implementation of the following commitments: i) anthropogenic emission inventory of greenhouse gases; ii) programs and activities relating to sustainable development; iii) energy conservation programs; mitigation programs, impact and vulnerability to climate change and adaptation measures; iv) promoting scientific research on climate change; v) development of technologies for emission reduction and prevention; vi) protection of sinks; vii) analyse of climate change in the social, economic and environmental policies; viii) education, training and public awareness.

In Cape Verde the use of several actions is destroying the beaches natural protection barriers causing adverse effects in the environmental balance of the coastal ecosystems, being one of the direct effect estuaries salinity, groundwater, wells and agricultural land, which caused a reduction of the production capacity in these areas.

The National Action Plan for Cape Verde's Adaptation to climate change, prepared in 2009 and whose main aim is to identify the vulnerabilities associated with climate change for the sectors of water resources, agriculture, forests, desertification, coastal area and tourism, defined some adaptation or mitigation

measures but separated from the national policy. In environmental terms, the existing legal framework is satisfactory but the majority is not regulated, which is making its implementation more difficult. It addresses in a very shy way the theme of climate change, namely: i) the Decree-law that regulates the forestry activities; ii) the Decree-law that regulates the national system for air protection; iii) the Decree-law that establishes the major requirements on the elimination of urban solid waste, industrial and others; iv) the Decree-law that develops the foundations of environmental policy; v) the Decree-law that establishes the Industrial Status; vi) the Decree-law that defines the Designated National Authority for MDL.

Opportunity: the great gap in national scientific knowledge about climate change should encourage the establishment of partnerships with the universities of Cape Verde and other research institutions. Cape Verde is located downstream of the Sahara Desert (whose dust are important natural fertilizers of the oceans) and also in the zone of influence of deep-water outcrops on the coasts of Mauritania and finally the scientific reference that the latitudes of Cape Verde are regions of concentration of marine biodiversity in North Atlantic during the last glaciations. These phenomena could promote an international framework of scientific partnership aiming the improvement of knowledge on climate change in Cape Verde and in the regions under direct or indirect influence of the Atlantic Ocean.

With regard to challenges, a slow process of awareness prevails on climate change; the concepts of vulnerability and adaptation are not sufficiently internalized by related institutions, not even by the technicians; there are, at the national level, little information about the evolution of sea level.

The following actions are prioritized to solve these gaps: (i) preparation of documentation on climate change, thematic brochures, production of documentaries (movies), radio programs; ii) training and or retraining of technical staff at central, municipal and civil society organizations; iii) information and awareness campaigns aimed to a wide range of actors: policy makers, parliamentarians, local elected officials, technical staff, students of different levels of education, private operators, NGOs, community associations, farmers, fishers and the general public; iv) conferences, meetings for debates, with the participation of experts on climate change; v) vulnerability assessments on climate change in Cape Verde.

On the other hand, it was appreciated the implementation of training sessions and awareness actions for farmers and livestock breeders in several islands and municipalities of the country, by the National Institute of meteorology and Geophysics (INMG), since 2009, within the framework of the regional project METAGRI, funded by Spain's State Agency for meteorology (AEMET), through the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

Moreover, it is important to emphasize from the early years of national independence, the implementation of structural programmes and projects related to the protection and conservation of soils and waters and afforestation, which are strong measures of adaptation and mitigation of the impacts of climate change in Cape Verde.

5.2. Natural and ecological disasters

SIDS are under extremely devastating natural disasters, namely cyclones, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. In some islands there are also storm tides, landslips, extended droughts and massive floods.

In Cape Verde the floods are a source of risk and can significantly increase with climate change. The rugged relief, shallow soils and sparse vegetal cover allow the formation of fast water currents when torrential rains occur. The volcanic nature of the soil does not contribute to recharge of groundwater, having low infiltration coefficient, estimated to be between 13 and 17%. Furthermore, the fact that there isn't enough capacity to capture and store rainwater, during the rainy season there is an important loss of arable land and surface water. Recent studies carried out in the context of Japanese Cooperation concluded that the loss by drainage on the island of Santiago is higher than the loss by evaporation, which carries negative consequences in terms of erosion and flood risk.

There are especially two types of risks: i) natural disasters by volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, landslides, forest fires, heavy rains, floods, cyclones, storms, droughts and tsunamis; ii) disasters of social origin or technological, caused by industrial risks, urban and forest fires, road, sea and air accidents, risks related to deterioration of infrastructures, transport of dangerous materials, avian influenza and risks related to health.

Among the several types of natural and technological hazards, the most relevant are: seismic, marine pollution by hydrocarbons, coastal erosion, forest fires, drought and desertification, floods and dangerous substances.

The main objectives in the context of natural risks are related to reducing vulnerability and increasing the capacity of response, in terms of effectiveness of the means of alert and civil protection.

So, it was established in 1991 the National Civil Protection Service, which made the essential risk assessment and defined the implementation of preventive measures as well as the cartography of risks to urban, municipal and national scale, having drawn up a National Contingency Plan for Natural Disaster Reduction. For risk prevention, this service carried out in the last five years several strategic studies, namely: Special Plan for the Flooding of the City of Praia, Special Plan for Forest Fires, Volcanic Eruptions Plan, Plan for National Contingency for Disaster Reduction, 17 Municipal Emergency Plans and the Book of Significant Risks.

5. 3. Waste Management

Limited surfaces and weakness of resources available for safe burial of waste, the population growth and the increase in imports of dangerous and polluting substances combine to make pollution prevention and the management of wastes a crucial issue for SIDS. So it is urgent to pay special and appropriate attention to potential sources to both land and marine pollution.

The programs of successive Governments have emphasized, in their respective programs, the major environmental issues. The Government Program of the VII Legislature included the preservation of the environment as one of the seven strategic objectives, having elected the problem of solid waste as one of the top priorities and fundamental for the development of tourism, as the main sector of the national economy.

However, solid wastes have become one of the most worrying problems for environmental protection since its production and accumulation have reached levels above the capacity for collection, treatment and disposal services and responsible entities. There are no incinerations, composting or waste sorting facilities and wastes recovery practices are almost inexistent.

According to the data of the National Institute of Statistics (2010), 56.5% of the population places their solid wastes in containers; 15.6% uses the prerogative of garbage cars; about 16% of the population put its solid waste around the House and or in nature.

Waste management is performed in a decentralized manner. Municipalities are responsible for collection, transportation and final destination. The other types of waste are their producers who should be responsible for collection, transportation and final destination, in compliance with the legislation in force.

According to the National Waste Management Plan⁷ prepared in 2003, with the demographic projection of INE, in 2012 the production was 0,8kg/hab./day, for a population of 543,641 inhabitants and a coverage rate of collection of 84%. The estimated production of waste, in 2012, was 132,555 tons for a population of 456,658 inhabitants, with a growth rate of 3.5%.

One of the major challenges for the environmental sector is the non-existence of a database or even specific and updated information on the production of waste in urban centres of the country. In 2013, there is still any possibility to have an exact idea of the production of waste, its composition and existing types in each municipality. The data presented in official documents are based on estimates.

The National Basic Sanitation Plan aims above all to give a new direction to sanitation, particularly in the institutional framework and in the improvement of existing basic sanitation facilities. In the new frame proposed by PNSB, the General Direction of Environment will assume all responsibilities for sanitation, including: i) the certification and license issue of operation of wastewater treatment plants and infrastructures of RSU treatment; ii) supervision of the operation licenses compliance for operation of waste-water treatment plants and infrastructures of MSW treatment; iii) technical support to the management of water and sewage facilities; iv) definition of sanitation policies; v) promoting entrepreneurial activity in the management, wastewater treatment and solid waste. It is intended that the problem of solid waste be considered from the perspective of its energy recovery, recycling or reuse, reversing this strategy in favour of environmental protection.

5.4. Coastal and marine resources

The sustainable development of SIDS depends largely on its coastal and marine resources; this is because its small surface makes them essentially coastal entities. Population and economic development, being subsistence activities or commercial activities are concentrated in the coastal strip. The sustainable development of SIDS depends largely on its coastal and marine resources; this is because its small surface makes them essentially coastal entities. Population and economic development, being subsistence activities or commercial activities are concentrated in the coastal strip. So, its strong dependence on coastal and marine resources highlights the need for an appropriate and effective management. Therefore, the development and management of programs to explore the coastal and marine resources in an ecological and sustainable way at an economical level are the main challenges that SIDS must face, since the absence of an integrated approach of the management of coastal and marine areas limits the effectiveness of past and present management measures. Cape Verde has got a coastline with

⁷Cf. White Paper on the Environmental State in Cape Verde (2013), which presents approximate values, although different.

a total length of about 1,020 miles with urban and industrial areas, areas of intensive tourism and natural areas, rural and fishing. The Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) has an area of about 734,000 km². However, few specific coastal studies were developed for the Islands and there is little information about the animal and plant biodiversity, geomorphology and geology of the Islands. In the same vein, there are no studies on the vulnerability of Islands related to the rising of sea levels as a result of climate change.

Although most of the population and of economic activities are concentrated in the coastal area (around 90%), it is unknown the population per unit length of shoreline (PLC), important parameter to define the potential effects caused by the rising of sea levels. In this context, a survey was conducted of the most vulnerable coastal areas (hot spots) at national level and is being carried out a project of coastal adaptation to climate change on the Island of May.

Aware of these deficiencies the Government is committed to provide the country with a coastal and sea plan, which is being developed to safeguard natural resources and values and an integrated management regime, including the Public Maritime Dominion. Having the coastal areas enormous potential although with extremely fragile ecosystems, they require special attention in terms of spatial planning so that their uses to promote development don't cause excessive pressure situations, as well as environmental and ecological degradation.

It is important to note that the Transformation Agenda of Cape Verde includes creating, structuring and organization of an agglomeration of sea-based activities, based on the fact that the ocean is the only resource that exists in abundance in the country. Having into account the strategic location of the country, the aim is to transform the Ocean into a competitive advantage and use it for the development of certain number of economic activities.

Maritime Cluster is an agglomeration of different activities, which includes: (i) registration and clearance of vessels; (ii) transshipment of containers; (iii) transshipments of fish; (iv) fisheries; and (v) bunkering (supply of fuel). This cluster has gained importance in the economic fabric because fisheries represent currently the most important base of marketable goods for country export. Bunkering is achieving continuous growth over the past decade despite the petroleum products are more expensive in Cape Verde, when compared with closest competitors (e.g. Las Palmas). The ports of Cape Verde have also achieved substantial growth in traffic.

However, in terms of productivity, the ports of Cape Verde are at a disadvantage against direct competitors and many other ports in sub-Saharan Africa. For example, the retention time for a container is of 15 days in Cape Verde when compared to 7 days in Dakar. The retention rate in Cape Verde is among the highest of the major ports in Sub-Saharan Africa. The low productivity affects all sub-sectors of the maritime economy cluster.

Another common challenge faced by several sub-clusters of the maritime economy is the weak institutional environment that is considered fragmented and weak, including policies and regulatory capacity. There are too many stakeholders with unclear roles, resulting in duplication and excessive bureaucracy, as well as institutions that are not able to coordinate and articulate a vision to formulate an effective strategy and draw an action plan to develop the cluster.

Other institutional challenges faced by the cluster of maritime economy are: (i) lack of coordination and permanent articulation of public policies linked to cluster; (ii) inadequacy of the dynamic processes promoters of productivity (communication,

organizational culture, management of business, performance evaluation); iii) inadequate funding mechanism of public institutions; iv) excessive centralization of competencies and administrative powers in central administration; v) weak emphasis by public administration on business perspective (and focused on formatted procedures); vi) weak rapprochement among public administration, customers and owners of business; vii) lack of training, adjustment and inspection of the diving activity at national level. In addition, there are significant weaknesses with regard to crews, fleet, repairing, shipbuilding and goods.

Therefore, the strategic agenda for building up a cluster of maritime economy, competitive and thereby creating national wealth, requires some time, taking into account the skills and resources required, such as the need for a private sector able to make significant investments in infrastructure on a scale not yet undertaken in Cape Verde. That is why this agenda for the sector includes three areas: i) reforms of development of institutional capacity; ii) investment in development of infrastructures and equipment; iii) human resources development.

5.5. Drinking water Resources

Freshwater resources are vitally important to satisfy the basic needs; an insufficient protection of its quality and its supply can be a major barrier to sustainable development. In these countries, numerous health risks are linked to the poor quality of the water and its insufficiency.

Due to its small dimensions and its special geological topographic and climate conditions, many SIDS have serious difficulties regarding the quality and quantity of freshwater resources.

Cape Verde has been suffering with continuous threat of drought, with the lack of rainfall in some periods, as well as its irregularity in others. The increase in population, urban development, irrigation needs, tourism and industry, combined with drought in recent years, has provided drought impact that tends to widen over time. Water acts as a resource that conditions the economic development as well as the social well being of Cape Verde.

At political and institutional level, reference documents define the strategic guidelines of the water resources sector and show the important work already done such as: Strategy Paper for Growth and Poverty Reduction II (DECRP II); Major Planning Options (MPO); Government Program for the VII legislature; National Program for Food Security; National Vision on Water, Life and the Environment in 2025 Horizon; Leading Program for the Upgrading Water Resources; National Program to Combat Desertification; National Program for the Environment (PANA II); Forestry Action Plan; Livestock Master Plan; Horticulture Development Plan; Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (PAGIRE).

1. Developments and Implementation of a National Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management;
2. Boosting investment, public and private, in promoting entrepreneurial culture and the establishment of public and private partnerships aiming the resource mobilization for investment in modern systems of production, management and distribution of water;
3. In the scope of Strategy of Growth and Reduction of Poverty (DECRP II), the Government's action focused on the following axes:

Enlargement of the infrastructure network of water collection and storage, including the construction of new dams and large reservoirs, in the context of enhancement and watershed planning;

4. Strengthening and modernization of infrastructure of potable water distribution, wastewater collection and promotion of domiciliary water as well as sewage connections in urban and rural environments;

5. Enhancing the use of renewable energies for water mobilization and production;

6. Improvement of quality and control of water for public supply and wastewater treated by creating treatment and control units at national and local levels as well as development of legislation, applicable regulations and standards;

7. Consolidation of legislative, institutional and sectorial regulation reforms.

Regarding sanitation the action of the Government is directed towards the basic infrastructure and the implementation of procedures and practices that ensure the improvement of living conditions and the promotion of a healthy environment. It has the following as strategy:

1. Enlargement and modernization of sewerage infrastructures, in particular in the areas of effluent collection and treatment, of solid waste collection and its recycling.

2. Establishment of new partnerships for the establishment of modern units of treatment and waste management, in particular in urban centres, aiming greater efficiency in the collection and accommodation system or treatment of solid waste at national and local levels.

3. Develop and facilitate the access of populations to water and sanitation services through the strengthening and modernization of infrastructure of potable water distribution, wastewater collection and promotion of household connections to water and sewage.

4. Encouraging investments in modern systems of treatment and wastewater recycling, in the context of integrated water resources management and increased water availability.

Whereas the economic growth and poverty reduction are issues of great importance to Cape Verde, the second financing program compact of the Millennium Challenge Compact (MCC) was renewed, which maintains a programme of support for the Government, with the main aim of ensuring sustainability, efficiency and effectiveness to the water and sanitation sector; it is important to pay a special attention to social issues and gender. The second MCC compact has two major focus: i) Property Rights and Land Management Project (Property Rights and Territorial Management) and ii) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project-WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene). The project WASH proposes to support Cape Verde in the achievement of the long-term goals for the water sector, comprising three fields of action: i) institutional reform and national regulatory; ii) operators capacity building; and iii) improvement and development of infrastructure.

Thus, the National Water and Sanitation Agency (ANAS) was created as institutional leader for the water and sanitation sector, which has assumed the role of INGRH and other ministries regarding the sector. It also must license, supervise and assist operators who use the water resource, those who discharge the wastewater and its waste. In this context, ANAS is also responsible for the implementation of the Master Plan of water and sanitation.

Despite Cape Verde has its Water Resources Master Plan (1994-2005), in response to the commitment made in the context of the Johannesburg Summit on

Sustainable Development; it elaborated in 2008 its Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (PAGIRH), within the scope of the "Holland Initiative".

According to the National Institute of Statistics, the country achieved the Millennium Development Goals concerning water supply since 2007, although it still registers some regional imbalances at regional and local levels. According to the data of 2010 Sense, approximately 92% of Cape-Verdean families get water for domestic use through a secure source of supply, (public network, fountains or pump trucks).

Fresh water in Cape Verde has several origins: underground, superficial and in coastal regions of difficult access to point of groundwater and so desalination of seawater has been used for the supply of the main urban centres (Praia, Mindelo, Sal and Boa Vista).

Surface water resources were estimated at 181 million m³ per year and are poorly explored because of lack of effective storage devices. However, the country already has three dams, sited in Poilao, Salineiro and Faveta, on the Island of Santiago, while other three are under construction.

The wastewater removal has been made through septic tanks and by connecting homes to the public network of sewers, having as final destination the wastewater treatment plants (WWTP).

The Government has the responsibility to establish the policy of sanitation and infrastructure. From this perspective, it was defined as target, for the Horizon of 2015, to reduce to 50% the percentage of the population without access to sanitation within the scope of the 7o Millennium Development Goal, having as starting point 24% of population with access to sanitation, registered in 1990.

According to the data of the National Institute of Statistics (2010), 46.7% of the population have septic tanks and 19.4% are connected to the sewage network, making a total of 66% at the national level, with appropriate wastewater disposal.

Regarding rainwater drainage in Cape Verde, we can say that it doesn't exist, because drainage channels and sinks were not included in the initial phase of the construction process of the lines of communication in General.

5.6. Land resources

The small size of most SIDS, added to their different types of property regime (of land), soil, topography and climatic variations, limit the available surfaces for urbanization, agriculture, extractive industries, forestry, tourism and other infrastructure and originates an intense competition between the different possible uses of the soil. Most aspects of environmental management in SIDS depends directly on the management and use of space or are directly influenced by these, which, in turn, are closely linked to the management and protection of coastal areas of these States. To meet human needs in a sustainable way we must choose between competing demands for the use of land resources, elaborate and adopt more effective means to take advantage of these natural resources.

According to the White Paper on the State of the Environment in Cape Verde (2013, p. 18) lands are "the terrestrial bio-productive system which includes soil, plants, other living organisms and ecological and hydrological phenomena that originate within this system".

The lands in Cape Verde are under a high human pressure due to reduced territorial dimension, the scarcity of deep soils, water reserves and biodiversity.

Most of the Islands' land surface consists of rocky outcrops, steep slopes, rock fields and dune corridors of low productivity agriculture land, forestry and livestock. The uncultivated land, the rocky outcrops represent more than 50% of the surface of the archipelago and about 35% of the surface of the Islands can be valued in pasture land or forests or areas of protection of biodiversity and landscape resources.

Spatial planning is an essential support for sustainable development. This sector had substantial progress in recent years, of which we can highlight the development of the National Directive Spatial Planning (DNOT), a tool which gives practical guidance on the following subjects: i) hazard assessment on installation of human settlements and economic activities; ii) introduction of climate and energy criteria in urban development; iii) development of measures in the fields of management and planning of the coastline; iv) strengthening of protection and rescue; v) development of awareness actions, environmental education and spatial planning.

Another important gain of the spatial planning sector is the development and implementation of Regional Schemes of Spatial Planning for Santo Antao, Santiago, Fogo and Sao Nicolau Islands. Regional Schemes of Spatial Planning for Sao Vicente, Sal, Boavista and May Islands are under development.

EROT's need is determined by: i) investments in several areas of central administration, ii) the need to reserve spaces and land acquisition programming for transport structuring infrastructures, supply, sanitation, industry, education, health, sports, culture and others; iii) safeguarding of natural resources and environmental values, easements and restrictions of public utility.

With the same objective it is being finalised the drafts of Municipal and Director Plans (PDM), important tools so that the municipalities could implement a sustainable development of their respective territories.

In recent years the country has made a major reform in the area of spatial planning and urbanism, having approved important diplomas in this field: law of soils, law of expropriation, basic law of spatial planning and urban planning, national regulation of spatial planning, legal regime of urban rehabilitation, legal regime of building, status of cities and a set of other diplomas in the housing sector. The legal regime on urban development is under approval.

The National Observatory of Housing and Urban Development is under development. It will be able to implement a statistical centre to aggregate data and information on urban areas.

Studies on the Cartography of Risks, the Diagnosis and Definition of the Urban Profiles across the country, in collaboration with the United Nations (UN Habitat) will allow a better knowledge of our urban weaknesses and best responses to identified problems and challenges.

The Program Home for all is an integrated set of policy measures, programs and actions aiming to reduce the housing deficit and intends to establish a continuous and sustained dynamic of housing construction through the use of low-cost technologies and environmental impact on profitability and on sustainability, using technologies of economic construction and environmentally friendly.

The National Program for Urban Development and Empowerment of Cities aims to ensure greater safety and environmental and social sustainability of cities in close coordination with the urban competitiveness.

The Government has invested in several awareness raising and training of the several stakeholders involved in the processes of spatial planning and urban

development. Thus, under the National Programme for Urban Development and Empowerment of Cities is underway a sub-program of territorial and urban citizenship.

5.7. Energy resources

SIDS has a great dependency on imports of petroleum products, mainly for transport and electricity production. The participation of energy in imports is often higher than the 12%. These countries are also heavily dependent on local biofuels for food preparation and drying of crops. The large-scale commercial use of renewable energy resources continues to face several constraints, namely at the level of technical development, investment costs and the availability of skills and local management capacity. The use of renewable sources of energy, in a large commercial base, by the small Island Developing States depends on commercial development and production of appropriate technologies.

The Energy Sector in Cape Verde is characterized mainly by the consumption of energy resources derived from petroleum (gasoline, diesel, jet A1, butane gas and lubricants), biomass (firewood) and the use of renewable energy in electricity generation. The electrical energy is mainly produced from thermal power stations (70% of total) based diesel and fuel oil and the most consumed fuel in domestic activities is diesel, which represents about 41% of total fossil fuels.

In order to reduce the high dependence on imported fuels, Cape Verde set the goal to cover, until 2011, 25% of its needs using renewable energies and 50% until 2020.

To achieve the rate of 50% in renewable energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels, the Government decided to launch an ambitious action programme based on five main axes: a) prepare the infrastructure; b) ensure funding and engage the private sector; c) implementing the projects; d) maximize efficiency d) launch the renewable energy cluster.

In addition, the Government reserved Wind Power Development Zones (ZDE). Until 2020, the Action Plan foresees the installation of more than 140 MW of renewable energies through an investment plan over than 300 million euros. This plan will allow the creation of more than 800 direct and indirect jobs and achieve, in 2020, 20% power generation costs lower than those of today. It will be also saved about 4,080 billion CVE in imports, equivalent to about 75 million litres of fuel oil or diesel fuel and the reduction of emissions by 225,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions. Thus, Cape Verde takes the ambition to, by 2020, be in the "Top 10" of the countries with the highest rate of penetration of renewable energies.

5.8. Tourist resources

Tourism has contributed very much to the development of SIDS and, as it is one of the rare opportunities for its development, it will continue to play a very important role in its future growth. It is essential that the development of tourism be carefully planned, mainly regarding the use of compatible land, water resource management, coastal zone management and the establishment of parks and protected areas. Tourism, like all forms of coastal zone development, must be carefully integrated with the development plans, taking into account the cultural and environmental constraints that exist and the possibilities offered to SIDS.

An appropriate development of tourism is undoubtedly one of the premises for achieving a sustainable development as intended. Thus, Cape Verde developed, over the years, a certain number of initiatives for the planning of interventions in the tourism sector. In addition to the establishment of Integral tourism development zones and Closed and Tourist Protection Zones, through Legislative Decree N. 293, in 2010, the Government implemented the Strategic Plan for Tourism, as a means of guiding the actions of several stakeholders in the system. The Legislative Decree No. 293 from February 1st, 1993 establishes that the use and occupation of the soil of the ZDTI shall be made according to the respective tourist spatial plans, in addition to establishing the type of management and administration as well as the restrictions in the ZDTI.

In 2010, the National Assembly approved the law n° 75VII2010 which establishes the legal regime of declaration and functioning of Special Tourist Zones (ZDTI and RPT). The said law establishes special tourist areas as being areas identified that have special aptitude and vocation for tourism, supported in their endogenous potentials or with significant potential for future tourism development and as such declared the Full Tourism Development Zones): areas that have special aptitude and tourist vocation; b) Closed and Tourist Protection Zones, which are: i) contiguous areas to an Integral Tourism Development Zone and endowed with natural and landscape high value, and whose preservation is necessary to ensure the competitiveness of the national tourist product, in the short and medium term, and ii) other areas having natural and landscape value, should be kept closed for subsequent declaration as Integral Tourism Development Zone.

In line with the Government's vision for tourism in Cape Verde, it was developed the Strategic Plan for Cape Verde Tourism that defines four basic principles for the development of a tourism which will be sustainable: i) and with high added value, with the involvement of local communities in the productive process and in its benefits; ii) that maximize the multiplier effects in terms of income generation, employment and social inclusion; iii) that will increase the level of competitiveness of Cape Verde, through the good quality of services provided; iv) promoting Cape Verde in international market as a diverse and quality place.

The same plan establishes the following objectives: i) guide the growth and development of tourism in a sustainable way, increasing the responsibility of companies linked to the sector; ii) develop infrastructure able to increase the level of competitiveness of Cape Verde as international tourist destination; iii) expand the capacity of the tourist sector to generate employment, income and social inclusion; iv) ensure greater internalization of the production chain of tourism and, consequently, increase the multiplier effects of this sector in the economy; v) create an institutional structure able to coordinate and implement a national tourism policy.

The plan also proposes to perform until 2013, the following specific objectives: i) achieve an annual flow 500,000 tourists; ii) increase the direct employment generated by tourism in the order of 60%; iii) increase the participation of tourism in GDP, increasing internalization and democratization of tourism revenue; iv) increase in a substantial way the benefits of tourism for the population.

In addition, the Tourism Strategic Plan establishes a set of programs to be developed and aims to: (i) increase the supply and reliability in the supply of water and energy; ii) improve the sanitation system; iii) reduce the cost of water and energy; iv) increase the percentage of renewable energy use in the tourism sector;

v) increase water recycling in the tourist sector; vi) improve energy efficiency in the country.

5.9. Biodiversity

SIDS is known because of the diversity of its species and its endemics. However, because of its small size, isolation and fragility of island ecosystems, its biological diversity is one of the most endangered in the world. Marine and coastal resources are among the biological resources in environmental, economic and cultural background, are the ones that have a higher value for the Islands Inhabitants. There are some international and regional conventions related to the conservation and rational use of biological resources, which should provide a useful legal framework for SIDS sustainable development.

At the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, Cape Verde has committed to integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in its national policy and adopt economic and social measures for its incentive.

Ratified in 1995, the Convention on biological diversity has three main objectives: i) conservation of biological diversity; ii) sustainable use of components of biological diversity; iii) fair and equitable sharing of the benefits caused from the utilization of genetic resources. Since its ratification, it was developed and submitted the following to the CBD Secretariat: i) Strategy and National Action Plan on Biodiversity (1999); ii) four reports on the State of biodiversity in Cape Verde, respectively in 1999, 2002, 2007 and 2009.

In recent years several actions were carried out aiming to reduce the pressure on the species, through the development, adoption and implementation of several plans of management and conservation of protected areas and species, namely: i) Implementation of the Management Plan of the Protected Area of Serra Malagueta; ii) implementation of the management plan of the protected area of Monte Gordo; iii) implementation of the Management Plan of the Protected Area of Fogo Island; iv) Management Plan of the Protected Area of Santa Luzia and Islanders (already developed); v) the Regulations and the Management Plan of Santa Luzia are in the process of being approved; vi) implementation of the Consolidation Project of the protected areas of Cape Verde; vii) Management Plan for Seabirds (awaiting approval); viii) Turtle Management Plan, under implementation; ix) the management plans for the protected areas of Santo Antao, São Vicente, Sal, Boavista are under development; x) Boa Vista Wetlands Management Plan; xi) Management Plan of Fishery Resources, under implementation.

In this framework and based on the National Action Plan of Biodiversity (1999), was established a network of 47 protected areas, corresponding to 15% of the country's surface, being 72.156 acres of land and landscape and 13.460 hectares of seascape.

In 2005, Cape Verde has designated three sites as Wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention⁸: i) Curral Velho and ii) Lagoa de Rabil on the island of Boavista, iii) Lagoa de Pedra Badejo in the Municipality of Santa Cruz, Santiago Island.

From 2004 to 2008 were implemented the following: i) project of "Integrated and Participatory Management of Ecosystems in Protected Areas and Surroundings,

⁸Ramsar is the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance establishing a framework for National action and International cooperation for conservation and wise use for wetlands and its resources.

Phase I"; ii) Coastal and Marine Conservation project; iii) project "Protection of Natural Resources of the Fogo Island", from 2004 to 2010.

Spanish cooperation supported the development of Management Plans for 8 protected areas of Maio Island. The country will have 24 management plans of protected areas including the one of Maio.

Challenges and prospects: despite its fundamental importance, the biodiversity of Cape Verde is being threatened by a variety of anthropogenic pressures: i) pollution in coastal and marine ecosystems, resulting from the development of tourism; ii) free pasturing; iii) invasive plant species; iv) soil degradation; v) climate change.

In the context of the Declaration 2011-2020 as the United Nations Decade to Biological Diversity, Cape Verde adopted a new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, adopted at the COP10 of CDB⁹, aiming a higher integration of environmental education in the school curricula and in the education system in general. The development of other Conservation Plans, for protected species like corals and marine mammals, the updating of the red list of endangered species, the preparation of the National Plan for Environmental Education, the adoption of more environmental laws aiming the protection of biodiversity, the development of a Communication Strategy for Protected Areas, the development of the Shoreline Management Plan and the creation of Biosphere Reserves are some of the tools, strategies and policies to be implemented by Cape Verde in order to meet the goals established by the Convention and contribute to the maintenance, balance, sustainable development of biological resources of the country.

5.10. National institutions and administrative capacities

To meet the priority objectives of the management of environmental resources, whose implementation is essential to the sustainable development of SIDS, the institutions and the national administrative arrangements take more and more into account the interdependence of the activities to be carried out on a limited territory. The integration of environmental considerations into the decision-making process at national level is seen as the most important measure that SIDS should take to ensure the analysis of these problems and make the future development be based on the principle of sustainability. This calls for the adoption of interdisciplinary approaches of planning and decision-making as well as measures to encourage the public participation in this process.

In this sense, good governance is a basic need for any transformation to occur. It should congregate all sectorial programmes targeted to improve cross-sectional and its quality, based on good practices that facilitate the appropriation of poverty reduction policies.

The Public Administration reform agenda includes, within the framework of the National Planning System (NPS), the adoption of the results-based budget, in a context of strategic planning, that prospect guide the public expenses in a result-based management logic.

In another prospective, the rationalization of the structures of the State seeks synergies and earnings through the merger and creation of different Central Administration entities; investment in culture of excellence at work and in the

⁹10^a United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP 10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity Biológica (CDB), held in October 18, 2010, city of Nagoya, Japan.

productivity, with a focus on the needs of customers and users, citizens and companies.

The program "Improve to Compete" and the agenda for the Reform of the State shall adopt measures that aim the improvement of the business environment and the provision of services, namely: i) reform and strengthening the regulatory system, whose objective is to upgrade the quality and efficiency of economic and technical supervision in several sectors of Cape Verde economy; ii) reform in Public Investment System, which aims the implementation of improved practices for evaluation and selection of public investment projects.

At the level of the National Statistical System the key priority is to provide all economic actors in a regular basis with information that are need to evaluate the socio-economic context.

Regarding spatial planning, it is proposed to continue the normative regulation and application of the rules developed, namely, the Directive of National Spatial Planning to improve the cadastral system, reinforcement of legal security in real estate transactions and establishment of a transparent and articulated system of territorial management among all stakeholders involved.

According to the decentralization and the strengthening of the municipality, the aim is to identify the best effectiveness for implementing public policies, mobilization of human resources, financial and technology to leverage local development.

Regarding new communications technologies, Cape Verde proposes to continue its emphasis on electronic governance agenda and the information society to develop a service centre of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the country.

In terms of internal security the following programs for the prevention and repression of crime, are developed: the seizure of illegal weapons, combating youth delinquency and increased ability to combat the phenomena of organized crime, especially urban oriented and more violent.

On national defence, the on-going reform emphasizes equip the Armed Forces, provide them the possibility to patrol and monitoring the Exclusive Economic Zone and mitigation of risks associated with flows and illicit trafficking.

In environmental governance, one of the biggest challenges is the articulation and implementation of the second edition of the National Action Plan for Environment between the Central Administration and the Municipalities. The axe also envisages the endogenous capacity building for research and development in key areas of the agenda for competitiveness. It is highlighted the research on fishing that aims to obtain a better knowledge and provide more rational and sustainable use of marine resources as well as the improvement of services of meteorology and geophysics to improve modelling, climate prediction and mitigation of risks linked to natural disasters.

The promotion of gender equality and equity - the Cape Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity is the score point for the implementation of crosscutting policies and activities. It is intended that the Institute continue to invest on an ambitious agenda to achieve qualitative changes of behaviours and attitudes towards the role of women in socio-economic plan. The issue focused the competitiveness, since the challenges of the increase of productivity and economic growth only can be overcome through the fulfilment of women's potential contribution in their capacity building and development of human capital in the country.

5.11. Regional institutions and technical cooperation

Taking into account the SIDS limited human resources and the small size of these States, it is important to share the available resources within the framework of regional cooperation and regional institutions. The regional bodies should coordinate the support provided to regional projects, which is desirable to avoid duplication and ensure the complementarity of assistance.

At regional level Cape Verde has a Regional Centre for renewable energy and energy efficiency of ECOWAS (CERECEC), whose aim is to promote research in the area of renewable energy in Cape Verde and in ECOWAS Member-States.

At international level there is the establishment of the International Centre for Climate Research and applications (CIICLAA) for the Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) and Africa. This Centre's mission is to encourage basic and applied research in the field of Global Change, in particular those related to climate change, its impacts and risks. This incentive should be in a coordinated manner, ensuring the transfer of knowledge and technologies, advanced training and the definition of local capacities, pillars of free and independent societies.

Cape Verde has the Atmospheric Observatory, a project developed by the National Institute of meteorology and Geophysics of Cape Verde in partnership with the University of York, Harlington, UK: Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry, Jena, Germany, Troposphere Research Institute of Leibniz. The program also has the support of the World Meteorological Organization. This station aims to supervise and monitor the atmosphere in tropical Atlantic region as well as provide information for interaction study between the atmosphere and the ocean.

5.12. Transports and communication

Transport and communication systems are an important link between SIDS and the outside world, between and within these different States and they are a strategic resource to guarantee sustainable development. The distance and isolation causes high transport costs, which are constraints to the development.

Cape Verde invested a substantial amount of resources over the last decade in airport infrastructures. Currently the country has four international airports and three domestic airports and is one of the few countries in sub-Saharan Africa that has got the Category 1 from the aviation authorities of the United States of America. The country also has an important air space, which explores through the provision of navigation services to airlines.

The Government proposes to restructure the administration of the sector with a concrete action plan for the development of inter-island transportation, which is in its final stages. The plan proposes a comprehensive structural and regulatory reform and aims to: (i) reduce bureaucracy and the burden of the transport sector; ii) promote the quality of service; iii) improve the protection service to the customers. These improvements also seek streamline the programme among the different means of transport, boost an increase in demand and in the number of frequencies.

Have a transport system that ensures internal and external accessibility levels is a necessary condition to achieve a model of economic specialization in services,

namely in tourism and ensure social and territorial cohesion within a framework of sustainable development.

In this perspective, the air-business cluster plays an important role in facilitating the diversification of the economy and the development of the transformation agenda. Such as the creative economy, the air-business sector is closely to tourism although it is also linked to other clusters. The growth of tourism over the past decade has facilitated the rapid development of the aviation sector. As we know, it is only possible to develop a globally competitive tourism sector when the country has a good air transport system that offers reliable and quality services.

The transport sector in Cape Verde made substantial gains. However, there is still much to be done to ensure that the transport system works to reduce asymmetries, facilitate the territorial integration as well as the movement of goods and people. The need for improvements in governance and regulation is also urgent. Technical and economic regulations are weak. There is a lack of coordination regarding the interoperability and a lack of coordination of schedules between the air and maritime transport. The management and performance of Cape-Verdean ports also need improvement. The providers of maritime transport are too small and have little capacity and poor management. Most of companies of maritime and air transport faces a precarious financial situation. There is a need to invest in capacity building and in real efforts to restructure and reorganize the sector to ensure the emergence of operators better prepared.

Notwithstanding the above-mentioned strengths, Cape Verde needs to have other advantages. Major challenges need to be overcome, including the restructuring of Cape Verde Air Transport Company (TACV), reforms in the sector and building a base of human capital duly qualified.

So, the long-term goal for the air-business cluster is to transform Cape Verde in a hub (Centre) for air transport, passengers and freight. Other associated services will include handling, aircraft maintenance, catering and training to companies that operate via Cape Verde and also provide services to companies from the archipelago.

To meet the vision and highlighted, the air-business will be developed on three pillars: i) attractive and competitive business environment; ii) training of qualified human resources; iii) private initiative as the real driving force of air-business.

5.13. Science and technology

However, SIDS needs research and development institutions as well as scientists so that it can work in a sustainable manner. Whereas some Islanders get their livelihood through traditional knowledge and its applications, their ability to integrate traditional and modern knowledge, obtain endogenous environmentally friendly technologies would represent an important progress towards sustainable development, namely in areas such as agriculture, processing of agricultural products, civil construction, communications and marine science.

In Cape Verde, information and communication technologies (ICT) have been an important element of the country's transformation agenda. It supports the necessary reforms to enhance the implementation of clusters and it is one of them. The sector is one of the pillars of good governance and Cape Verde gained worldwide recognition in ICT as a result of successful implementation of electronic governance. In fact, ICT has had a strong inductive effect on entrepreneurship and enterprise development.

Within the framework of the implementation of the ICT agenda it was published in 2005 the strategic plan for the information society (PESI), aiming the development of the information society in Cape Verde, through a strategic agenda based on nine pillars: i) accessibility for all; ii) a governance closer to its citizens; iii) new economic opportunities; iv) increase the quality of life; v) empower to innovate; vi) a stimulating context; vii) leadership in action; viii) invest to grow; ix) measure to develop.

In addition, PESI was deployed in action plans and initiatives, among which are: i) the Action Plan for Electronic Governance (PAGE); ii) KONEKTA-Internet and knowledge access plan; and iii) *Mundu Novu* - plan for education. The results of the governance program have been impressive given that electronic governance instruments have been developed internally. It is important to note the integrated system of budgetary and financial management for Government (SIGOF), as well as the local administration management system (SIM).

The use of ICT in Cape Verde, as an instrument to facilitate the implementation of the reform agenda, has had a fundamental role in improving the business environment. The development of *Casa do Cidadao* provides different services such as business records in one day, the mobile Government to provide services in rural areas and access to information, which have facilitated the quality of public services for citizens and companies contributing to the State's closeness to population.

Another sector where ICT are well integrated is education through the program *Mundu Novu*. Here are some outcomes of the program: i) 18 schools and training centres with good internet access; ii) 11 schools connected to the network of the State; iii) network of Wimax antennas installed throughout the country; iv) classroom kit in 433 rooms of 29 pilot schools, representing 94% of the total of classrooms; v) ICT discipline included in the curriculum; vi) Cape Verde universities teach courses related to new information technologies; vii) students at the University of Cape Verde have access to digital libraries; viii) Integrated School Management System (SIGE) designed and implemented only in the two pilot schools; ix) Integrated Management and Monitoring System of Students (SIGAE) implemented.

It is important to note that the development of the ICT cluster will depend on the initiative and dynamism of companies in developing solutions that can be used locally and exported. The number of companies in the sector has doubled from 2005 to 2012 and some are developing applications for both the domestic market and for export. Access to Internet has grown exponentially in Cape Verde, with the introduction of ADSL broadband and wireless 3G services. The growth between 2007 and 2011 was from 8% to 30%. The high increase of Internet penetration was supported by 35 digital open spaces of the program Konekta. The increased competition in the telecommunications sector also contributed to the reduction of prices and increase in funding.

However, there are still some significant barriers such as the high cost of telecommunications. Through a Benchmark study¹⁰ conducted in 15 countries it was concluded that the high cost of telecommunications in the average income of

¹⁰*Benchmarking* is the systematic method to identify the best processes, innovative ideas and more effective operational procedures that lead a higher performance (BOGAN; ENGLISH, 1994). Available in: <<http://www.administradores.com.br/artigos/administracao-e-negocios/o-que-e-benchmarking/48104/>>.

Access in: July 5, 2013.

each Cape Verdean is 3 times higher than that of the population of Seychelles, 8 times higher than that of the Portuguese and 18 times higher than the Americans. On the other hand, there are few skilled workers in the sector and currently the challenge is whether the private sector has the capacity to compete in a sustainable manner, once the innovation in the sector has been introduced mainly by the government agency NOSI.

There are opportunities for Cape Verde in the global ICT market and the cluster. Even in its embryonic phase in terms of commercial activity it will be a key element in the economic transformation of Cape Verde. The private sector will play an important role but it will need to be strengthening so that it can have the service support in order to ensure competitiveness in the global market.

In the long term, Cape Verde will have to promote the penetration of ICT in the society, by encouraging the purchase of equipment and Internet service subscription and reducing telecommunications costs that prevent accelerated development of ICT access and use through the following measures:

1. Hire international data traffic services to other providers of that service;
2. Review of the current regulatory and legal frameworks, by imposing detailed conditions to ensure the supply of wholesale price in order to create conditions for a more demanding competitive environment;
3. Support the offer of technical courses and specific training programs on ICT sector, introduce ICT at all levels of schooling and perform professional certification exams (e.g. Microsoft). The support may take the form of public policies of promotion and scholarship;
4. Create conditions for the development of a culture of innovation that assists entrepreneurs in the formulation and development of ideas and projects in the ICT sector;
5. Negotiate with the major international companies in the sector so that they can start their business in Cape Verde.

Regarding specific measures in short and medium term to facilitate the development of the ICT Cluster, we can highlight the following: i) development of a managing body of ICT business, ii) build a technological park, iii) perform a legislative review in relevant areas to the ICT sector, iv) empower human resources properly to the sector v) encourage the establishment of appropriate financial instruments to support investment, vi) create a national network of incubators.

5.14. Development of human resources

Sustainable development is motivated first and foremost by the concern for human beings and it is necessary to prioritize projects to improve the quality of life in SIDS. Due to the small size and vulnerability of this group, a special attention should be given to issues concerning demography, education, training and health so that human resources development can be effective.

Within this framework, Cape Verde has redoubled efforts to overcome its vulnerabilities and needs of development, investing in the development of its human resources, with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable section of the population, particularly young people and women. In the last decade the priority of the Government focused mainly on the development of education and health infrastructure, as well as in the strengthening of literacy activities in the poorest areas.

Currently the country has developed secondary education institutions in all municipalities, several technical and professional training centres and one public University. The health system also has developed regional hospitals and health centres in most municipalities.

Despite the positive evolution in many indicators of development, in terms of human capital, quality and equity of education and health services require additional efforts. In this context, DECRP III embodies developments in the policy priorities, by assuming the change in improving the quality of provision of services rather than infrastructure development.

It is recognized that education is essential to poverty reduction and several empirical studies show that the probability of being poor increases in inverse proportion to the level of education. Thus, improving the quality of education plays a key role in DECRP III, with a crosscutting impact on all clusters of competitiveness. To this end, this document prioritizes the final programs of improving the quality of basic and secondary education as well as the development programmes of technical and vocational education and strengthening the pre-school education.

One of the aims is to create conditions for the compulsory education of twelve years and for the widening of nurseries and kindergartens throughout the national territory to ensure the improvement of the quality of education from pre-school to higher education, implementing quality control throughout the system.

Conscious that manpower improvement is a condition to stimulate the attraction of companies and streamlining the job market, the Government has adopted a policy of progressive empowerment of human resources from a young and dynamic population.

It is recommended a strong and decisive bet on qualifying education, extension and diversification of supply of new areas of technical professional education (agribusinesses, maritime economy, environment, health, renewable energy and tourism) and of vocational training, as well as the adequacy and adaptation of most secondary general schools, which offer training in professional technical education areas in order to adapt the training profile of the country to the real needs of the labour market.

Vocational training will be addressed in order to prioritize the training of technicians in the areas of Hotel industry and agriculture, agribusinesses and maritime economy, in convergence with the areas of competitiveness identified in the economy. Training for entrepreneurship and innovation will also be an important field in view of the importance of the development of new business for the continuous revitalization of the competitiveness of the country's business.

The programs in the area of social school are important vectors on education policy, since their aim is to create conditions so that all population sections regardless of socio-economic condition could attend the educational system.

It is important to point out that the strengthening of special education program foresees that most educational institutions in more counties can accommodate students with special educational needs.

Despite the prioritization of final aspects of improving the quality of education, construction and rehabilitation of schools, especially in secondary education remain. Additional investments will be made in the capacity building of infrastructures of higher education related to research and development and improvement of the Park of primary schools.

In health there is a gradual reduction of communicable diseases versus a growing trend of non-communicable diseases. The main priorities for this sector are focused on promoting maternal and child health, integrated surveillance of diseases with the potential endemic and in combating non-communicable diseases. These guidelines should be supported by the structure of the health system and the development of human resources. Promoting equity in access to health services to citizens is also a key pillar in the Government's policy options.

Another priority is the allocation of resources to the development and capacity building of primary care health network (centres and health centres), both in terms of infrastructures and capacity building of human resources. Safe and effective access improvement is very important for medicinal products through the development of the pharmaceutical sector.

The main challenges are: I) improve the quality of services provided to citizens; ii) empowerment of health professionals; iii) establishment of conditions to train doctors in the country; IV) promote financial sustainability of the national health system so that it can be effective.

In short, the process of health reform in Cape Verde aims the materialization of the major goals of the sector, namely: I) promote greater equity in (decentralized) health care provision; ii) strengthen the functional content of the healthcare institutions; iii) increasing technical quality assurance of health care; iv) improving access to health services in terms of humanization of care and customer satisfaction; v) improvement of the performance of national service and management of health resources; vi) strength decentralization in stations and hygiene facilities, as well as greater differentiation of the central level of provision and management.

Regarding the promotion of sports, it is important to note that there are construction and rehabilitation programs of sports infrastructures (mainly in schools) and training of sports agents as well as organisation of sporting competitions of different levels and modalities. There is also the aim to facilitate population access to sports in order to mobilize youth to an active and healthy citizenship.

The field of culture and art includes the implementation of Culture Strategic Plan (developed in 2011), which intends to stimulate all sectors linked to creation (artistic or intellectual), as well as the products and services of enjoyment and culture spread (museums, cultural tourism, historical heritage, show rooms, etc.). The promotion of creative economies gains the upper hand within the competitiveness as it can promote substantial gains for tourism strengthening.

Regarding social protection it is important to highlight the Cape Verdean Institute for Child and Adolescent Program (ICCA), key agency on protection of rights of child and adolescents who are in danger. Given the young demographic structure of Cape Verde, it is necessary to have a safety net that can support situations of economic survival in this section of the population.

5.15. Status graduation of least developed country

The adoption of resolutions by the Economic and Social Council and General Assembly on the smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries is welcome and need to be fully implemented. The two States that the General Assembly has decided to graduate recently from the list of least developed countries, as well as all current potential candidates to be

graduated from this status are Small Island Developing States. So, it is important that the development and implementation of smooth national transition strategies formulated with development partners take into account the specific vulnerabilities of the graduated States and ensure that this graduation does not disturb their development plans, programmes and projects to achieve sustainable development.

Cape Verde was considered eligible to leave the Group of least developed countries for the first time in 1997 but in 2000 the decision was postponed due to its high economic vulnerability and its strong dependence on aid and remittances from emigrants. However, in 2004¹¹ the decision was finally taken by the General Assembly, following the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy (CPD), during 2003 triennial review. Despite, Cape Verde had satisfied at least two of the three graduation criteria: the level of income per capita and human development index. The third criterion is still unfulfilled because the archipelago maintains an economic vulnerability that is above average. In 2008 Cape Verde was graduated to the category of medium development country and begins a period of smooth transition that ends in 2013 after a period of extensions.

However, the Government intends to present to the United Nations a proposal for revision of the graduation criteria, based on the deep economic vulnerability of the country, even without having any guarantee if its arguments will be taken into consideration. At the very least, it is expected that the transition period could be extended again for a few more years.

5.16. Trade: globalization and trade liberalization

Most SIDS, as a result of its smallness and persistent structural disadvantages and vulnerabilities, faces particular difficulties in integrating the global economy. Trade liberalization and globalization present opportunities and challenges to SIDS, including in terms of erosion in trade preferences. The potential benefits of trade liberalization and globalization can be better achieved if their limitations and specific vulnerabilities are addressed at all levels.

In July 23, 2008, Cape Verde was accepted as the 153rd member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). It was the first African country and second as PMA to accede to the WTO, through negotiation.

Among the commitments (most urgent) agreed are: Commercial Law, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Customs Code and Copyright Law.

After the official accession, it is necessary to enter a transition period, whose duration depends on the stage of the country development. For Cape Verde, it was established a 10-year period to the financial equilibrium, i.e. from 2008 to 2018.

The Action Plan after the accession to WTO includes the required transformation and adaptation of existing legislation in the country in certain areas of activity, in order to meet the needs of the WTO, such as: i) the publication of legislation on arbitration and mediation; ii) revision of the legislation on internal and external trade; iii) adoption of the Harmonized System nomenclature; iv) publication of the Industrial Property Code; v) establishment of enquiry points and notification; vi) revision of Decree-Law No. 6389 of September 14.

¹¹ Seychelles and Maldivas together with Cape Verde were included in the list of Lesss Advanvced Countries (PMA).

Furthermore, since it is a gradual process, there are still in the portfolio actions for the commercial and economic adjustment, such as:

- 1-Promote a healthy and efficient functioning of the market through the establishment of a normative framework on internal external trade.
- 2-Promote the monitoring of trade and competition;
- 3-Promote the organisation of the commercial sector through the modernization of enterprises, strengthening their external competitiveness and diversification of markets supplies
- 4-Promote strategic partnerships and the development of trade;
- 5-Promote the supply and protecting consumers ' interests;
- 6-Promote, in partnership with business associations, WTO, bilateral partners, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the strengthening of technical and institutional capacities to benefit trade sector;
- 7-Develop and implement specific training programmes in addition to the training courses taught by the WTO and other international organisations
- 8-Issue foreign trade online bonds; create a database of trade and a diploma that allows the implementation of the National Quality System.

Main challenges from accessing membership:

1. Adequacy, update and regulation of the regulatory framework in accordance with international standards;
2. National technicians capacity building aiming to achieve effective participation in trade negotiations;
3. Deepen economic reforms to develop a more competitive economy with clear competitive advantages in key areas;
4. Improve economy productivity, liberalize the market progressively, implement reform in the customs sector and make efforts so that companies could increase their productivity;
5. Implement a comprehensive fiscal reform, which allows replacing the loss of customs revenue by other sources of tax collection;
6. Development of structured offers, distinctive and innovative, aligned with quality proposals for the Cape Verdean tourism
7. Restructuring of public administration through regulations aiming the simplification of administrative procedures, namely fees, requirements and demands of business processes;
8. Country capacity building, in order to reduce its dependence on foreign aid, linked to a modern and efficient public administration and a strong private sector intervention.

5.17. Sustainable capacity development and education for sustainable development

SIDS continues to need support to face major challenges in the development of capacities in policy and strategy formulation and implementation, through a more integrated approach, involving civil society and the private sector

So that SIDS can maintain its education efforts the international community's contribution is important to prioritize: i) support for all ministries of education; ii) promotion of universal primary education and gender equality, with emphasis on illiteracy reduction; iii) promotion of technical and vocational education; iv) strengthening of arrangements for distance learning; v) integration of sustainable

development and environmental education in education systems; vi) basic infrastructure, curriculum development, teacher training in an integrated gender perspective; vii) programs for people with special needs; viii) training and teaching of the principles and practices of good governance; ix) protection of human rights. Education in Cape Verde has been and continues to be a key factor of development. Thus, successive Governments have assumed that the main strategic resource of Cape Verde is its human resources.

The Education System of Basic Law organizes and structure the Education System in three subsystems: i) pre-school education, ii) school education and extra-curricular education) iii. School education comprises primary, secondary, middle and higher education.

The main actions carried out within the framework of the subsequent reforms of the education system include the structural transformation of the system, the production of new study plans, programs and learning materials, the enlargement and improvement of the school network, the implementation of a new strategy in the field of adult education and the consolidation and enlargement of the social educative support system. Following these reforms, big changes have occurred in the education system in response to the demand for education by the population.

At institutional level, it is important to note that the compulsory education was introduced to six years and expansion of basic education to eight years.

Pre-school education is established for children from 3 to 5 years old. Its attendance is optional and it is developed through private institutions, public or religious community initiatives being reserved to the Ministry of Education the pedagogical coordination and the establishment of the general rules of functioning. In the school year 2010/2011 22,610 children were enrolled in pre-school education with parity between sexes. It is important to note that childhood professionals are all female.

Universal Basic Education is compulsory and lasts for six years and can be taught in public and private schools, in a single cycle, divided into three sequential phases, two years each and thought by a single teacher.

In 2010/2011, Cape Verde had 69,115 students enrolled in the integrated basic education (EBI).

The country is on track to meet the Millennium Development Goals in the area of education, more specifically the Objective 2, which establishes until 2015 «achieve the universal basic education», as well as the Objective 3: promote gender equality and the empowerment of women».

Secondary education lasts for 6 years and is organized into three sequential cycles.

In terms of gender, from the 7th grade there is a reversal in the proportionality between boys and girls. In 12th grade, for every 100 students, only 44 are male. The high school featured in the academic year of 2010/11, 62,222 students enrolled, of which 53.8% were female and 58.7% were male.

Higher education includes University and polytechnic education, aiming to ensure the scientific, cultural and technical preparation for professional and cultural activities.

In 1992, the higher education was in installation phase, and the majority of the courses were studied abroad and were funded mainly by the Treasurer and the National Development Fund. However, in 2010/2011 higher educations started with 9 universities/superior institutions, being eight private and one public.

According to data from the INE (2010), higher education has grown exponentially in the last decade, in the order of 209%.

But, analysing the data in the perspective of gender equality, it is noted that the percentage of women with media/superior qualification increased from 42% to 50.9% and, in absolute terms, the number of women qualified with media/superior education increased 273% in relation to the INE data from (2000). Regarding men the increase was of 162%. It appears in almost all levels of education, the trend of female dominance, including at the level of school performance.

The extra-curricular sub-system has as its action field the adult basic education, including literacy activities, post-literacy and vocational and coordinating academic training, vocational training and community development activities.

In the academic year 2010/2011 were enrolled 3281 people, from which 50.4% were female. The rate of illiteracy of adults over 18 years old that in 1992 was 52% reduced to 17.5% in the range of 15 or more years old in 2010. However, the enrolment rate is different between men (88.5%) and women (77.3%).

Regarding the institutional framework, the School Social Action Institute (ICASE), the Supporting Fund for Education and Training (FAEF) Supporting Fund to editing Textbooks (FAEME). The tasks of these bodies were absorbed by the Cape Verdean Foundation of Social and School Action (FICASE), whose mission is the development of actions to encourage compulsory and free basic education, the frequency of the most needy students, school success and continuity of studies.

FICASE is fulfilling its mission through the implementation of the following programs: I) school canteens: 90,000 children benefit from pre-school and basic school; ii) scholarships and study grants; iii) school transportation; iv) student residence; v) school health with priority areas: health education, special needs education, prevention of health problems, healthy school environment; vi) school supplies; vii) school fees; viii) sponsorship: benefited 23,600 needy students in 2003. The program was only formalized in 2008.

5.18. Sustainable production and consumption

In response to the call of the Johannesburg Implementation Plan (for the development of a 10-year framework of progress in support of regional and national initiatives on sustainable production and consumption), SIDS, counting on the support of the international community, are committed to: i) Consider all the initiatives related to sustainable production and consumption, in the economic, social and environmental dimensions; ii) adopt appropriate and consistent measures to facilitate this implementation; iii) assess the need for programmes on sustainable consumption and production strategies, based on national priorities and best practices.

In the Government Programme, the sustainable development advocated implies an economic and social policy which respects the environment, focused on prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources and respect for safeguarding the interests of future generations, based on following assumptions: (i) the protection and integrated management of natural essential resources to economic development, (ii) the fight against poverty; iii) adequacy of modes of production and consumption.

However, geographic and demographic conditions affect the pattern of the country's economy development. The small size of the domestic market, with the resulting inability to take advantage of economies of scale; the dispersion of

resources at different levels, including the networks of infrastructures and equipment; economic and environmental costs associated with the transport of persons and goods; determine the definition of an economic development model that is efficient, socially fair, which respect and preserve the environmental values to ensure the sustainable development of the country.

5.19. National and regional environmental Capacity

In accordance with the Mauritius Strategy, SIDS needs to establish more actions with the international community support, to: i) formulate and implement national strategies for sustainable development as agreed in the Johannesburg Implementation Plan; ii) incorporate guiding principles of sustainable development in the national poverty reduction strategy and in sectorial policies and strategies; iii) develop targets and indicators for sustainable development, which could be incorporated into the national data collection and reporting systems, in order to meet the requirements of the internationally agreed development goals, including those provided in the Millennium Declaration and other relevant global and regional goals.

The vision of Cape Verde development foresees an open country to the world, endowed with a strong and dynamic production system, based on the empowerment of its human capital, technological capacity and in its culture; a society of solidarity with peace and social justice, democratic, open and tolerant; a country endowed with a sustainable human development and regionally balanced and with an environmental and aesthetic sense, based on an ecological consciousness developed. To this end, it is proposed the construction of a society aware of the role and the challenges of the environment for a sustainable economic and social development, aware of its responsibilities regarding future generations and determined to use natural resources in a sustainable way.

In this perspective, the successive Governments have shown great concern and determination to preserve ecosystems and the framework of institutions responsible for environmental management. These concerns are included in several documents: i) Constitution of the Republic (2012); ii) Great Options of Plan 2001-2005; iii) Adherence to International Conventions on the environment.

The Law No. 86IV93 that defines the Foundations of Environmental Policy created the Executive Secretariat for the Environment (SEPA) in 1995. In 1994, the First National Action Plan for the environment, with a horizon of ten years (1994-2004) was developed. Although it was not formally approved or widely reported PANA I highlighted some awareness about environmental concerns. Subsequently several national plans have been developed. In 2002, SEPA was extinct and was created the General Direction of Environment (DGA).

At the end of 2001 it was started the development of the second National Action Plan for the environment (PANA II), which is the guiding framework for interventions in this sector, absorbing and incorporating the development guidelines adopted in the Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg. This plan deals with environmental policies across the Board, involving all users of the environment in the process, namely: the public and private sectors and civil society.

The general aim is provide a strategic direction to guide the rational use of natural resources and the sustainable management of economic activities and: i) intends

to define the main policy guidelines for the management of natural resources; ii) identify opportunities for environmental and development priorities; iii) identify interventions that facilitate the effective and efficient use of natural resources; iv) define the institutional structures and the necessary mechanisms for intersectoral coordination; v) promote the integration of environmental concerns into socio-economic development plans; vi) promote the improvement of the population living conditions.

5.20. Health

Health is a determining factor of sustainable development, identified through the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. The strengthening and the development of cooperation and the sharing of experiences between SIDS in health are essential and should be a priority. The major concern in SIDS is the increase of number of health problems such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, drug-resistant strains, dengue fever and severe acute respiratory syndrome, West Nile virus, avian flu, nutritional disorders, diabetes, other new and emerging diseases and their impact on sustainable development.

In the sub region of West Africa, Cape Verde is among the countries with better indicators of health status of the population, thanks to a persevering effort undertaken since independence, with the establishment of infrastructures, training, organization of services, availability of resources and judicious legislation that supports the institutionalisation of the health system.

The country has, since its independence, and mainly in the last decade, a very positive evolution of basic health indicators, with a decrease in overall mortality in almost 30% in the last 10 years.

Important and structuring investments in the health sector specially those related to the expansion of infrastructure, acquisition of equipment and training of human resources, have improved greatly the national diagnostic capacity.

Currently, the health status of the Cape Verdean population is characterized by a gradual decrease of communicable diseases and an increasing trend of non-communicable diseases.

The health sector developed in the last decade a set of strategic planning and management instruments, among which are the following: i) Cape Verde Health Charter (1999); ii) Strategic Plan for the Fight against Tuberculosis (2004); iii) Strategic Plan for Human Resources Development for Health 2005-2014; iv) National Health Policy (2007) and v) National Health Development Plan 2008-2011.

In terms of infrastructure, the public sector had in 2010 2 central hospitals, 3 regional hospitals, 30 health centres, 5 centre of reproductive health, 34 health posts and 113 basic health unities.

The evolution of health care delivered by the private sector is quite significant, in the period under review. Cape Verde has a legal basis (Basic Law of Health 62/III/89) that recognizes the private and cooperative activities in different fields of healthcare.

In 1990, the average life expectancy at birth was estimated at 63.5 years being 62.4 years for men and 64.7 for women. According to the data from the INE

(2010), the figures are higher and rose to 72.7 years being 76.4 for women and 68.7 for men.

Child mortality dropped to 24.1 ‰ in 2005 and stabilized at 20.1 ‰, in 2009, corresponding to a reduction of more than a half. To achieve the target of the MDGs (4th MDG) this indicator should go down to 14 ‰.

The maternal mortality rate in the last 10 years, reached its lowest value: 8.1 ‰ in 2002. The goal is reducing by three quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) the rate of mortality aiming to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

Within the scope of sixth MDGs, combat VIH/SIDA, malaria and other diseases, the country undertook the following goals: i) stop by 2015, the spread of VIH/SIDA and begin to reverse the present trend; ii) have controlled malaria and other diseases by 2015 and have begun to reverse the present trend.

In the early 1990, sero-prevalence levels, related to HIV were considered relatively low. However, the incidence of cases of HIV infection has been rising. The detection rate of 6.2% per hundred thousand inhabitants in 1995 fell to 17% per one hundred thousand in 2000 and reached 83.6% per hundred thousand in 2010 (223 new cases reported in women, against 176 in men).

Nevertheless the prevalence rate of the VIH/SIDA continues to be low, 0.8 (1.1 in men and 0.4 in women) and the wide knowledge about the forms of transmission and means of prevention, there is a high incidence of risk behaviour, which shows the need for promotion of prevention, especially among the groups considered of high risk (young people, pregnant women, the addicted, prisoners and sex workers).

Regarding Tuberculosis in the past 10 years, its incidence has remained steady, covering around 60 new cases per hundred thousand inhabitants, while remaining as a public health problem. The mortality from tuberculosis during this period has remained around 3 deaths per hundred thousand inhabitants. The success rate in the treatment of new cases of tuberculosis was 72% in 2008.

Malaria in Cape Verde is unstable and has a seasonal stream, sporadic, low-endemic incidence, quite variable from year to year, responsible for a fluctuation of morbidity with cyclical peaks, much depending on rainfall.

5.21. Knowledge management and information for decision-making

SIDS recognize that there are new opportunities afforded by the new and rapid developments in information and communication technologies (ICT), to overcome the isolation and remoteness limitations and build resilience. These new opportunities include areas such as e-commerce, improved early warning, tele-medicine and distance learning. The actions required in SIDS with the support of knowledge and information are: (i) identification and location of troubleshooting in data and the characterization of information related to economic, social, environmental and cultural heritage areas; ii) developing databases, vulnerability indexes, geographic information systems and other information systems; iii) establishment of national and regional information and data centres, including collection, quality control and use of meta-data, data analysis, accessibility and sharing of data and information.

The National Statistical System led by the National Institute of Statistics aims to align National Statistical Agenda with the DECRP III, through capacity building of official statistics-producing bodies to provide, on a regular and timely, essential information on the socio-economic context of the country to all public counterparts,

private, private and civil society counterparts for decision-making. This information will also allow the monitoring of the own DECRP III effect and impact indicators.

5.22. Culture

Small island developing States recognize the importance of persons cultural identity and its importance for the promotion of sustainable development, recognizing so the need to develop cultural industries and initiatives that offer special economic opportunities for national and regional development. Cultural industries and initiatives are seen as an area in which SIDS has comparative advantages, as they have the potential to diversify its economy and build its resilience as they adjust to changes in the global economy.

Cape Verde is well known for its music but this is not the only element of its culture. Poetry, dance, religious celebrations, arts, theatre and carnival are examples of Cape Verdean culture. However, the major challenge is that the national cultural activity failed to produce its own economic sector to contribute effectively to growth and reducing poverty in Cape Verde. In many countries culture has become a crucial element of GDP, providing employment and livelihood to millions of people. In the case of Cape Verde, the music mainly benefits other countries; the work of the great musical stars and many cultural products of the country are produced and managed abroad and then reimported. According to the DECRP III creative economies across all sectors involving artistic or intellectual creation, as well as products and services related to fruition and dissemination. In addition, the artistic sector (music, audio-visual, performing arts, performing, visual arts) include: telecommunications and broadcasting, publishing (books and media), crafts and folk art, festivals and pilgrimages, material and immaterial heritage (forms of use and diffusion), leisure software, design, fashion, architecture, gastronomy and propaganda.

The impact of these sectors in the national economy will happen if they are optimized in a cluster strategy, i.e. as a system to network operating independent units, integrating and maximizing the functions and capabilities of the individual units, rather than just exploiting them.

To enhance tourism and contribute to the GDP the construction of creative economy will face numerous challenges, which include: i) inadequate integration of culture in the economic, social and technological policies; ii) inadequate laws and regulations; iii) weak institutional capacity of articulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, strategies, programmes and projects; iv) weak capacity of public and private sector funding; v) excessive dependence on government from cultural agents and creative workers; vi) the sector of creative economies lacks organization; vii) lack of national associations of professionals in different cultural areas; viii) absence of a strong business-class managers, producers, technicians, agents or cultural managers; ix) seasonality in the production of handicrafts and insufficient supply to the tourism demands; x) lack of training institutions, promotion, export and distribution; xi) lack of technical capacity at municipal and local level.

The different sectors of creative economies besides being isolated face overlapping problems in social interventions within the neighbourhoods as well as

between the municipalities and the central government related to the establishment of a development-oriented cultural policy.

The long-term vision is to build a cluster of creative economy - a future cultural industry - that is globally competitive and a critical component of the national economy. Its agenda proposes strategic actions under the rules, professional and specialized training, certification, promotion, planning, organization, management, etc.

In short and medium-term the Government will implement projects in the following areas: (i) bank of culture; ii) creative neighbourhood and houses of culture; iii) National Network of Handicraft Distribution (INCOME); iv) National Network of Rooms (RNSALAS); v) museums (one museum for each municipality); vi) culture export (export bureau); vii) institutional reform (new organic); viii) systems of libraries and archives; ix) orchestra and national ballet; x) national system of artistic education; xi) patrimony classifications.

5.23. Implementation

SIDS and the international community recognize that the continuing implementation of the programme of action, Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the internationally agreed development goals, including those of the Millennium Declaration reinforce each other. This will require a more concentrated effort and substantially more comprehensive from these actors and the recognition that each country has the primary responsibility for its own development, whose policies and strategies cannot be underestimated, taking into account, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, according to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

Good governance is essential for sustainable development. Sensible economic policies, solid democratic institutions, which meet people's needs and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Freedom, peace and security; domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies, and an overall commitment to fair and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing.

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