



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

CABO VERDE AND FAO

PARTNERING FOR RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Cabo Verde and FAO have partnered since 1976, when early interventions were focused on emergency agricultural assistance. Since then, there has been a shift towards longer-term development interventions, with a greater concentration on food and nutrition security, agricultural productivity and value chain development and food safety. Over the past two years, FAO has supported more than 40 diverse projects, including emergency assistance.

A hunger-free country

Under the country's Food Security and Nutrition Strategy, FAO has assisted the Government in the creation of mechanisms to secure adequate access to food and improved nutrition for the population, with particular attention given to the most disadvantaged. Support has been provided to the drafting of a Law on the Human Right to Adequate Food, which was passed by Parliament. Together with other UN agencies, the Organization has also participated in a joint food and nutrition security programme for schools, which led to the National Law on Food and School Health.

Key national processes and policies supported by FAO in Cabo Verde include:

- Formulation of the National Law of the Human Right to Adequate Food.
- Development of the National Agricultural Investment Programme for implementation of the ECOWAS and NEPAD Common Agricultural Policy.
- Elaboration and implementation of the National Census of Agriculture, presented in 2017, and the Strategic Plan for the Development of Agrarian and Rural Statistics (2015-2021).
- Development of the Strategic Plan for the National System of Agricultural Research (2017-2024).
- Establishment of the National Blue Economy Investment Plan (PNIEB) and the Programme for the Promotion of the Blue Economy (PROMEB).

Matching FAO's expertise to Cabo Verde's development priorities

FAO's assistance to Cabo Verde is shaped by the **2018-2022 Country Programming Framework (CPF)** which is centred on the following medium-term priority areas:

- ➔ **Strengthening the governance of food and nutrition security**, ensuring that the most vulnerable groups benefit from protection and social inclusion policies.
- ➔ **Increasing working population's income** through transformation and growth in key economic sectors, including the Green and Blue Economies.
- ➔ **Developing and implementing integrated and innovative approaches for sustainable and participatory natural resource management.**

Jointly developed with the Government and other partners, the CPF reflects the key priorities of the major national development policies, including the **Government's legislative programme for 2016-2021**. FAO has also contributed to the formulation of the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2018-2022).

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Support to CPLP

FAO works with the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), including Cabo Verde, in its efforts to achieve a hunger-free community. The Organization's

"We have already done much in favour of food and nutrition security in the CPLP arena. The resources deployed by FAO have been important [...] for combating the effects of drought in Cabo Verde".

FAO Director-General

operational strategy in CPLP countries has sought to strengthen governance mechanisms for food and nutrition security, by improving coordination and providing technical support for updated regulatory policies. It has supported family farming and aquaculture as pillars of food and promoted nutritional education through school feeding.

Agricultural and forestry sustainability

FAO's technical assistance to Cabo Verde aims to ensure the sustainability of agriculture and forestry as a means to reduce the country's dependence on imported resources. With this in mind, a project encouraging urban and peri-urban agriculture has been implemented to improve food and nutrition security, reduce poverty, create jobs, especially for young people, and contribute to economic growth.

Likewise, an urban and peri-urban forest project was carried out to improve the quality of life of the communities through the creation and self-management of green spaces, and the strengthened institutional capacities for planning and managing these areas. At present, FAO is supporting the Cabo Verde Government in strengthening the adaptation and resilience capacity of the forestry sector through a project co-financed by the European Union.

Targeting viticulture and coffee value chains

At the request of the Government, FAO has developed studies on viticulture and coffee value chains, and the market for the agricultural products that derive from them, with the aim of analysing the potential for these products to help grow the country's economy.

FAO is currently working on a joint programme with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and UN-Women to advance the implementation of recommendations for value chain development in Cabo Verde.

Fostering blue growth

In October 2015, the Government adopted the Blue Growth Charter. Aiming to support sustainable growth in the maritime sector, the Charter targets fishing and aquaculture, seafood value chains, marine and coastal tourism, scientific research, and responsible management of coastal areas and maritime transportation. In support of this initiative, Cabo Verde is currently conducting a "Blue Growth Diagnostic", to improve implementation of programmes and policies related to the four pillars of food security. Technically assisted by FAO, the project also seeks to strengthen the National Strategy for Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction by effectively integrating Blue Growth related concepts and creating an enabling environment.

Building resilient agricultural systems

Climate change and sporadic rains in Cabo Verde have a negative impact on farmers' incomes and their access to food. FAO supports the Government in its implementation of the Emergency Programme for the Mitigation of Drought and the Poor Agricultural Year (PEMSMAA), through the provision of technical assistance in the rescue component of livestock to assist farmers affected by the 2017 drought. Over 120 000 people, covering 16 000 families, directly benefit from emergency health care projects, through ectoparasite control, strengthening of national capacities in risk and disaster management in drought scenarios, and strengthening communication on risks and disasters.

Similarly, in the aftermath of the eruption of the Fogo volcano, FAO is implementing the Emergency Relief Project for the island with the aim of contributing to the improvement of the living conditions of displaced populations through the mobilization of water and diversification of sources of income.

FAO is also supporting Cabo Verde in the establishment of an Integrated Pest Management System to combat the corn-caterpillar that affects all islands in the country.



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