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# CABO VERDE: COUNTRY GENDER PROFILE

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## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS *(Portuguese in italics)*

<b>ADEI</b>	<i>Agência para o Desenvolvimento Empresarial e Inovação</i>
<b>ANAS</b>	<i>Agência Nacional de Água e Saneamento</i>
<b>AOSIS</b>	Alliance of Small Island States
<b>ARE</b>	<i>Agência de Regulação Económica</i>
<b>CSP</b>	Country Strategy Paper
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>CESP</b>	<i>Cursos de Estudos Superiores Profissionalizantes</i>
<b>CPLP</b>	<i>Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa</i>
<b>DCRP</b>	<i>Documento d'Estratégia de Crescimento e de Redução da Pobreza</i>
<b>DNA</b>	<i>Direcção Nacional do Ambiente</i>
<b>ECA</b>	<i>Estatuto da Criança e do Adolescente</i>
<b>ESGAS</b>	<i>Estratégia Social e de Género para o Sector da Água e Saneamento em Cabo Verde</i>
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FDI</b>	Foreign Direct Investment
<b>GAISG</b>	<i>Gabinete Ambiental e de Integração Social e de Género</i>
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>IIAG</b>	Ibrahim Index of African Governments
<b>ICIEG</b>	<i>Instituto Cabo-verdiano para a Igualdade do Género</i>
<b>INDP</b>	<i>Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento das Pescas</i>
<b>INE</b>	<i>Instituto Nacional d'Estatística</i>
<b>INGT</b>	<i>Instituto Nacional de Gestão do Território</i>
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration (United Nations)
<b>Lei VBG</b>	<i>Lei Especial sobre Violência Baseada no Género</i>
<b>MCA</b>	Millennium Challenge Account
<b>MDGs</b>	Millennium Development Goals
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MPD</b>	<i>Movimento para a Democracia</i>
<b>ODA</b>	Overseas Development Assistance
<b>PAICV</b>	<i>Partido Africano da Independência de Cabo Verde</i>
<b>PALOP</b>	<i>Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa (Angola, Cabo Verde, Guiné-Bissau, Moçambique, São Tomé and Príncipe; joined by Equatorial Guinea in 2011)</i>
<b>PAPTAGT</b>	<i>Plano De Ação para a Transversalização da Abordagem De Género No Turismo</i>
<b>PEDS</b>	<i>Plano Estratégico para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável (Cabo Verde Government Plan in preparation as of June 2017)</i>
<b>PNIG</b>	<i>Plano Nacional de Igualdade de Género / Gender Action Plan</i>
<b>PNVBG</b>	<i>Plano Nacional de Combate à Violência Baseada no Género</i>
<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing State
<b>UCID</b>	<i>União Independente e Democrática</i>
<b>UE</b>	<i>União Europeia</i>
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund

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## Preface and Acknowledgments

In July 2016, the Cabo Verde Minister of Finance requested assistance from the African Development Bank (AfDB) for the development of a Country Gender Profile in the context of the Country Strategy Paper (2014-2018) Mid Term Review. The AfDB approached UN Women, its long-time partner with staff in Cabo Verde, for collaboration on the project. The Gender Profile is intended as a guide for the AfDB and UN Women in their support for Government efforts to advance gender equality and inclusive development in Cabo Verde, and as a contribution to the gender equality dialogue of the Government, donor partners, and civil society.

The team to develop the Gender Profile was composed of Koffi Marc Kouakou, Principal Statistician-Economist on Gender and Task Manager of the project on the African Development Bank side; Mamadou Bobo Diallo, Macroeconomics Specialist, and Task Manager of the project on UN Women side; UN Women Cabo Verde Program Coordinator Vanilde Furtado, Program Officer Claudia Rodrigues, and Communications Officer Ekvity Dos Santos; and a gender economist consultant, Kathleen Barnett, Ph.D. The team received support and guidance of Adalbert Nshimyumuremyi, Chief Country Economist, and Basil Jones, Gender Programme & Policy Coordinator of AfDB.

In addition to the Minister of Finance Dr. Olavo Correia, a key government partner for the mission was the Minister of Education and of Family and Social Inclusion Dr. Maritza Rosabal. An advisory group composed of representatives from all the relevant ministries and agencies was

especially helpful throughout the mission. Thanks also to the Minister of the Economy and Employment Dr. José Gonçalves and many other Government officials, donor partners, representatives of civil society organizations and individual women who shared their knowledge and advice on gender issues, program needs, and policy priorities.

The mission team interviewed as many stakeholders and collected as much information as possible although not all important sources or issues could be included given constraints of time and resources, and the report highlights areas for further work. Some anticipated Government reports and data were not yet available at the time of writing, including the new Government Plan (*PEDS*) and new gender-disaggregated data from a recent agriculture survey by the National Institute of Statistics (*INE*), and these could be important subjects for future gender analysis. Corrections of errors of fact, omissions, or mistaken interpretations are welcome.

The report was prepared by the mission team. We especially acknowledge the contributions of the chief writer Kathleen Barnett and the helpful comments on an initial Issue Paper from AfDB reviewers, Ms. Nathalie Gisabo Gahunga, Chief Gender Officer, Ms. Mónica Lomeña-Gelis, Principal Evaluation Officer, and Ms. Egidia Rukundo, Senior Gender Specialist.

The financial support from the Government of Switzerland through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is gratefully acknowledged.

## Map of Cabo Verde

The Republic of Cabo Verde is composed of 10 islands (nine inhabited) located in the Atlantic Ocean approximately 450 km from Senegal on the west coast of Africa. As shown in the map below, the islands are grouped into the *Barlaventos* (windward northern group): Santo Antão, São Vicente, Santa Luzia (unoccupied),

São Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista; and the *Sotaventos* (leeward southern group): Maio, Santiago (São Tiago), Fogo, Brava. Principal cities of Praia and Tarrafal are on Santiago, and Mindelo, the country's main port, is on São Vicente. The principal tourism islands are Sal and Boa Vista.





## Cabo Verde Gender Profile: Quick Facts

**Population:** 525 000; 50% women/men <sup>a)</sup>

**Population shares on 3 most populous islands:** Santiago 60%; São Vicente 15%; Santo Antão 11% <sup>b)</sup>

**População urbana/rural:** 64%/36% <sup>c)</sup>

**Poverty rate:** 24,2% <sup>d)</sup>

**Households headed by women:** 46% <sup>e)</sup>

**Poverty rate of households, female/male head:** 33%/21% <sup>e)</sup>

**Female share of labor force:** 40% <sup>c)</sup>

**Share of women/men engaged in agricultural work:** 40%/20% <sup>c)</sup>

**Primary school completion rate girls/total:** 97,2%/97,1% <sup>c)</sup>

**Secondary school enrollment rate girls/boys:** 98,3%/87,7% <sup>c)</sup>

**Literacy adult women/men:** 84,7%/92,5% <sup>f)</sup>

**Life expectancy at birth women/men:** 80/72 <sup>g)</sup>

**Contraceptive Prevalence Rate:** 63,1% <sup>f)</sup>

**Fertility rate:** 2,3 <sup>h)</sup>

**Maternal Mortality Rate:** 47 per 100 000 live births <sup>d)</sup>

**Infant Mortality Rate:** 15,3 per 1 000 live births <sup>d)</sup>

**HIV/AIDS prevalence women/men aged 15-24:** 0,4% <sup>i)</sup>

**Human Development Index value and ranking:** 0,65; 122<sup>o</sup> out of 188 countries <sup>c)</sup>

### Year of Statistic; Source

<sup>a)</sup> 2015; INE 2017

<sup>b)</sup> 2007; INE

<sup>c)</sup> 2016; AfDB Africa Statistics 2017

<sup>d)</sup> 2015; INE 2017

<sup>e)</sup> 2015; INE & ICIEG, *Homens e Mulheres em Cabo Verde*;

<sup>f)</sup> 2015, AfDB Africa Statistics 2017

<sup>g)</sup> 2017; INE 2017

<sup>h)</sup> 2014; INE 2017

<sup>i)</sup> 2005; INE 2017

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of Cabo Verde, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and UN Women are committed to advancing gender equality in Cabo Verde as a fundamental right for Cabo Verdean women, as well as a requirement for the country's economic and social development.

Cabo Verde governments since independence just 42 years ago have made human development a consistent priority. With support of international donors and a vibrant and committed civil society, the country has improved social and economic conditions including significant advances in women's rights and gender equality.

Many gender equality targets have been met, principally in education and health, and excellent national policy studies have analyzed specific gaps and recommended solutions. UN Women in Cabo Verde has provided support for studies and technical assistance on a wide range of gender issues of concern to government leaders and gender equality advocates, including: unpaid care of household members; gender in the tourism sector; reproductive health needs and rights of young women and girls including pregnant students; women's access to water and sanitation; property rights, social protection; gender training for government agencies and elected officials including in gender-based budgeting; and especially the 2011 Law against Gender-Based Violence (*Lei VBG*) with its provisions for violence protection and services, punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators, and public awareness of both women and men.

However, gender roles in Cabo Verde continue to deny women full equality, limit their access to and benefit from resources, and restrict their ability to fully contribute to sustainable and equitable growth. Many health, education and legal issues remain, including for those women and girls facing specific challenges of rural isolation, physical handicaps, or sexual abuse, but the key issues that lock the majority of women in poverty and low productivity are their lack of:

- **Time** – The burden of primary responsibilities for household and dependent care, and the lack of access to water, sanitation and transport are

key factors limiting women's time for productive labor;

- **Land** – Lack of formal title to land limits access to credit and to the ability to build assets;
- **Financing** – Lack of access to funds inhibits growth and productivity of business efforts; the demand for micro-credit is greater than the supply available, and commercial borrowing costs are too high;
- **knowledge** – Lack of knowledge on options for stable and productive income-producing activities and lack of on-going services and networking structures to build skills, increase production and access markets.

These constraints on women's productive labor and income, contrasted with the impressive gains realized in health and social areas, suggest that the key to the next great progress on gender equality in Cabo Verde, as well as to poverty reduction and economic growth, is women's economic empowerment.

Action to advance women's economic empowerment will be most effective if coordinated rather than undertaken through separate projects. Thus, the key recommendation for the Government, and for support from UN Women and the African Development Bank, is the creation of a flagship program for women's economic empowerment in Cabo Verde.

A Cabo Verde program on women's economic empowerment can follow the successful model of the country's campaign against gender-based violence to engage all sectors of society and international partners in a multi-faceted, multi-year effort to improve economic participation and productivity of girls and women. The proposed flagship program could also provide a focus for innovative funding mechanisms, with assistance from UN Women and the AfDB as well as other donor partners, to ensure that gender equality is not sacrificed to public finance constraints.

Priorities for the new program should be focused, achievable and measurable. Eight suggested priorities are the following:

- **Support the Government in its gender**

**commitments** in the Program for the 9th Legislature and the PNIG, **especially the commitment for social provision of care services** to free women to engage in productive work, **and support the finalization and implementation of the Parity Law;**

- **Support women in agriculture and small businesses in rural and urban areas with ongoing technical assistance and financing** to improve access to markets and to create and strengthen business plans for economic growth;
- **Create a participatory process to define policies and programs for transition from informal to formal work** to ensure that the needs and expectations of women in the informal sector are addressed and they benefit economically from the transition;
- **Strengthen the capacity of the gender machinery ICIEG, and the INE to collect, analyze and interpret gender-disaggregated statistics and qualitative studies for the tourism, agriculture and fishing sectors;**
- Provide **technical assistance and training**

**within government ministries and agencies for the integration of gender analysis** and the use of sex-disaggregated data in policy and program planning, budgeting and management;

- **Create programs to facilitate the link between schools and jobs;** change gender-biased employment expectations of parents, teachers and students; and ensure youth reproductive health services as the basis for economic productivity;
- Use public communications to **raise public awareness of the need for women's equal economic and political participation** in order for the country to attain inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Cabo Verde has achieved impressive gender equality benchmarks thus far, through the commitment of successive government administrations working with an engaged civil society. It has created a strong base for a “leap forward” for greater equality in economic and political life, which could provide a boost to economic growth as women’s entrepreneurial and productive abilities are more fully utilized.





# 1

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## COUNTRY CONTEXT AND PURPOSE OF THE GENDER PROFILE

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## 1.1. COUNTRY CONTEXT

The Republic of Cabo Verde has made remarkable improvements in social and economic conditions and in advancing gender equality since its independence from Portugal in 1975, but it now faces serious challenges for further progress, including macroeconomic constraints, lack of job growth, global political and economic uncertainties, and climate risks. To achieve social and economic security for all citizens while fulfilling its commitment to women's equality, the government and its aid partners recognize the importance of equal participation of women in all spheres of national life - social, economic and political.

By 2007, 32 years after independence, Cabo Verde was able to move from the United Nations list of least developed countries to the status of a lower-middle income country because of improvements in basic social and demographic indicators. The country's poverty rate has continued to fall steadily and data from the National Institute for Statistics (INE) show a poverty rate in 2015 of 24.2% compared to 37% in 2001, although the rates for women and in rural areas remain higher. GDP per capita in 2015 was US \$ 3,830 and Cabo Verde met all of its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with just two exceptions: the female/male primary school enrollment ratio of 0.92 (2012 data) was just slightly lower than the target of 0.96, and the percentage of women in parliament was 20.8% compared to the target of 30%.

The country accomplished this progress despite daunting conditions: it is an archipelago of volcanic islands dependent on seasonal rains and prone to drought, without agricultural land or natural resources, and requiring imports for even basic needs. Among the socio-political factors credited with Cabo Verde's success are its early and consistent investment in human development, the creation of strong and stable government institutions and processes, and the unity of the population which shared the independence victory just 42 years ago, has a strong pride in its unique culture including its music (*morna*) made famous worldwide by Cesária Évora, is without religious or ethnic differences,<sup>1</sup> and speaks common languages of Portuguese and Cabo Verdean creole.

A critical factor, also, was strong international donor support primarily from European countries which had supported its liberation struggle from Portugal, and later from the European Union (UE) as well as from Portugal itself whose government had changed in 1974 after an army revolt against the continuation of the African colonial wars. Today Cabo Verde enjoys a reputation for prudence and integrity in its use of donor funds, and ranks third in governance performance among 52 African states on the most recent Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG).

Another important form of economic support has been remittances from the large diaspora community abroad of those who emigrated in search of work<sup>2</sup> and now slightly outnumber the domestic population. Almost every Cabo Verde household has relatives abroad, and diaspora remittances are a source of income for many households as well as for the government.

Cabo Verde was initially a single-party state under the party which had led the independence movement (PAIGC/ later PAICV) which took a strong hand in improving social conditions and in leading the economy through state-owned enterprises and initiatives. By 1985, attempts at economic diversification and support for the private sector had begun, and in 1990 changes to the Constitution allowed democratic multi-party elections. Successive governments have put a greater emphasis on the private sector and began the privatization of state-owned businesses, which has brought an increase in foreign direct investment (FDI), principally from the Euro zone and primarily concentrated in the tourism industry.

With few resources, the country's economy takes advantage of its Atlantic location just 1 ½ hrs. by plane to Senegal, 4 hrs. to Portugal, and 6 hrs. to Brazil, and is centered on tourism, services, trade and transport. From 2000 to 2007, tourism grew from 7% of GDP to nearly 20%, pushing the GDP growth rate to 15.2%. However, the global financial crisis of 2008 caused a sharp reduction in tourism and GDP growth contracted to -1.3% in 2009.

Counter-cyclical spending to offset the effects of the crisis increased government debt levels, with public debt reaching 125.8 percent of GDP by end-2015, although the

<sup>1</sup> The population is primarily Roman Catholic and of mixed African-European descent.

<sup>2</sup> The Cabo Verde diaspora is located principally in Portugal, the U.S., France, Italy, and the Netherlands, with a small presence in other countries of Europe and Africa.

IMF estimated that debt service remained manageable due to the high concessionality of external debt (IMF, 2016, p.4). By 2016 GDP growth had recovered to 3%, but with a much lower forecast than in the earlier boom years<sup>3</sup>, and there is pressure from international financial institutions to reduce public expenditures to control the public debt. The new government elected in March 2016 has faced these macroeconomic challenges with a commitment to further strengthening of the private sector, especially in the tourism sector as a driver of economic growth, and further downsizing of the role of the state, while also emphasizing commitments to social well-being, poverty reduction and gender equality.

Cabo Verde is a multi-party parliamentary democracy and in 2016 it ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> of 167 countries on The Economist Democracy Index, the highest ranking of any African country except Mauritius which is ranked 18<sup>th</sup>. The most recent elections of March 2016 resulted in the victory of the *Movimento para a Democracia (MPD)* over the *Partido Africano da Independência de Cabo Verde (PAICV)*<sup>4</sup> for the first time in 15 years. The Prime Minister is Ulisses Correia e Silva. The current government continues the commitment of its predecessors to investments in human capital and economic infrastructure, as well as gender equality, and to sound macroeconomic management – including stable monetary policy and strategies to adapt to changes in the global economy.<sup>5</sup>

Government priorities as described in the Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature (*Programa do Governo para a IX Legislatura*) include a detailed section on gender issues and needs.<sup>6</sup> The government is currently developing a new National Plan for 2017-21, the *PEDS (Plano Estratégico para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável/Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development)*. The methodology draft document for the *PEDS* outlines three pillars for sustainable development: Sovereignty, Economy and Society.<sup>7</sup>

In both the Government Program and the draft *PEDS*, the Government sets ambitious growth goals for the tourism sector as the driver of the country's overall economic growth, with expectation that it can stimulate growth in local sectors of agriculture, fishing, light export industries, and arts&culture<sup>8</sup>, with benefits for small

businesses and employment, and income protection for households against poverty and external risks.

## 1.2. PURPOSE OF THE GENDER PROFILE

The purpose of the Cabo Verde Gender Profile is to guide UN Women and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in assisting the Government to integrate and mainstream gender issues so as to maximize efforts for both gender equality and poverty reduction. Key gender issues raised by the Gender Profile and aligned with the country's National Plan for Gender Equality (*Plano Nacional de Igualdade de Género, PNIG*) will be used as a reference by both UN Women and the African Development Bank in their Cabo Verde projects and program design.

A preliminary report provided information for the UN Women West African Regional retreat in May 2017 and for the African Development Bank Mid Term Review (MTR) of the 2014-18 Country Strategy Paper (CSP) in June 2017, and the final Gender Profile will inform the Bank's next CSP for Cabo Verde. The report will also serve to provide gender analysis and recommendations for the Government of Cabo Verde, and guidance for other development partners and civil society organizations.

## 1.3. METHODOLOGY FOR THE GENDER PROFILE

The methodology for the Gender Profile was the following: an extensive desk review of reports, documents and data from the Government of Cabo Verde, civil society, UN Women, the African Development Bank and other international organizations; preparation of a background Issue Paper based on the desk review; a mission to Cabo Verde to undertake interviews, meetings, and focus groups with government officials, civil society and women's groups, and a consultative workshop for presentation and discussion of preliminary findings; and the preparation of this report incorporating comments from the UN Women-African Development Bank Gender Profile team and independent reviewers.

<sup>3</sup> AfDB-World Bank

<sup>4</sup> The PAICV candidate was Janira Hoppfer Almada, the first woman to lead a political party in Cabo Verde.

<sup>5</sup> African Development Bank, Nov. 2012, "Cape Verde – A Success Story."

<sup>6</sup> República de Cabo Verde, 2016, *Programa do Governo para a IX Legislatura 2016-2021*, p.79-82.

<sup>7</sup> Ministério das Finanças, DNP/GMF, 2016, *Metodologia de Formulação do Plano Estratégico de Desenvolvimento Sustentável (PEDS) de Cabo Verde – 2017/2021*, Setembro.

<sup>8</sup> República de Cabo Verde, *Programa do Governo*, op.cit., p.41

## **1.4. STRUCTURE OF THE GENDER PROFILE FOR CABO VERDE**

The structure of this report is the following. Section 1 provides the country context and purpose and Section 2 summarizes relevant policy, institutional and legal frameworks. Section 3 is the heart of the report and reviews the status of gender equality in Cabo Verde by

key issues and by the four economic development areas most critical to the Government's growth goals: tourism, agriculture, infrastructure and fishing. Section 4 discusses the current work in Cabo Verde of UN Women and the AfDB as well as other key development partners; and Section 5 presents recommendations and conclusions.





## 2

# POLICY, INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

The Cabo Verde government through its policy, institutional and legal frameworks has significantly advanced women's rights and opportunities as equal citizens. The current government, elected in March 2016, is committed to furthering this progress.

The sub-sections below discuss the following: 2.1 - the policy mechanisms for achieving gender equality, specifically the structure of the government and the leadership of its executive, legislative and judicial branches; 2.2 - the institutional framework for gender equality which is the government's "gender machinery," the UN term for the departments or divisions of government which lead and manage gender-related policies; 2.3 - the legal framework for women's rights, including the constitution, relevant legislation, and provisions for implementation and enforcement of legal rights.

## 2.1. POLICY ENVIRONMENT

Under its constitution, Cabo Verde's government "defines, leads, and executes the general internal and external policy of the country."<sup>9</sup> The head of government is Prime Minister Ulisses Correia e Silva, whose party the *Movimento para a Democracia (MPD)* won the majority of seats in the National Assembly in March 2016 over the *Partido Africano da Independência de Cabo Verde (PAICV)* for the first time in 15 years. Including the Prime Minister, the Cabinet has 12 ministers, three of whom are women.<sup>10</sup> The head of state is the country's President Jorge Carlos de Almeida Fonseca (*MPD*), re-elected in 2016 for a second five-year term.

The unicameral National Assembly has 72 members elected by popular vote every five years. The majority party *MPD* holds 40 seats (50%), the *PAICV* 29 seats (40%) and the Cabo Verdean *União Independente e Democrática (UCID)* 3 seats (4%). The President of the National Assembly is Jorge Pedro Maurício dos Santos (*MPD*). Of candidates for deputy in the March 2016 elections, almost one-third were women (173 of 551) and women

secured 23.6% of the seats (17 of 72)<sup>11</sup>, placing Cabo Verde in 17th position in the Index of Women in National Parliaments<sup>12</sup>. The 23.6% share of seats is far short of the goal of 40% set by the Cabo Verde Network of Women Parliamentarians (*Rede de Mulheres Parlamentares, RMP*)<sup>13</sup> and also short of the Millennium Development Goal of 30%.

Cabo Verde's Judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislature. The judicial system consists of a Supreme Court of Justice with members appointed by the President, the National Assembly, and the Board of the Judiciary; and regional courts. Separate courts hear civil, constitutional, and criminal cases, with appeal to the Supreme Court. Public prosecutors are appointed by the Ministry of Justice. Judges are appointed by the Supreme Court on the basis of nominations by the Supreme Council of Magistrates. The national Human Rights Commission defends the human and civil rights of the population. (The share of women in the judicial system is found in the Appendix.) Cabo Verde has relatively high levels of transparency and relatively low levels of corruption compared to other African nations.

The Government's policy priorities are outlined in the Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature (*Programa do Governo para a IX Legislatura*) of 2016. Gender issues represent two of eleven commitments for the next decade and the Government Program in addressing social inclusion focuses on the causes of gender inequality. The draft for the forthcoming new national plan called the *PEDS (Plano Estratégico para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável)*, continues the commitment of prior national plans<sup>14</sup> to the priority of gender equality which is included as one of four goals under the Society pillar.<sup>15</sup>

The country has its third gender plan, the *Plano Nacional de Igualdade de Género (PNIG) 2015-2018*. The *PNIG* lists eight strategic areas: health; sexual and reproductive rights; gender-based violence; education and job training; economic autonomy; household labor; political participation and decision-making; and gender integration in public policy. There is also a second

<sup>9</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Cabo Verde 1992, as amended to 2010, English translation by UN Women, 2016.

<sup>10</sup> Ministra da Justiça e Trabalho Dra. Janine Lélis; Ministra da Educação e Ministra da Família e Inclusão Social Dra. Maritza Rosabal Peña; Ministra das Infraestruturas, Ordenamento do Território e Habitação Dra. Eunice Silva

<sup>11</sup> Angop, "Cabo Verde/Eleições: Cento e 73 candidatos a deputados são mulheres," 14 March 2016

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>;

<sup>13</sup> Interview with Graça Sanches, Presidente 2013-16 da *Rede de Mulheres Parlamentares (RMP)*.

<sup>14</sup> The prior national plan was the Third Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper GPRSP-III/*Documento d'Estratégia de Crescimento e de Redução da Pobreza 2012-16 (DCRP) III*

<sup>15</sup> Ministério das Finanças DNP/GMF, 2016, *Metodologia de Formulação do Plano Estratégico de Desenvolvimento Sustentável (PEDS) de Cabo Verde - 2017/2021*, Setembro.

national plan against Gender-Based Violence, the *Plano Nacional de Combate à Violência Baseada no Género 2015-18*, (PNVBG). The PNVBG focuses on education and social communication efforts to increase awareness on the part of both women and men, as well as support for victims, and it includes specific measures to implement and enforce the country's Law on Gender Based Violence (*Lei de VBG*).

Cabo Verde is a signatory to human rights and gender-related regional and international conventions and protocols, whose provisions are automatically incorporated into national law according to the Constitution. The country recognizes provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Cairo Action Plan, and the Beijing Action Plan, along with the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as important targets for women's equality.

## 2.2. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

In 1995, the Beijing Platform for Action called on countries to establish institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, and specifically "national machineries... as the central policy-coordinating unit inside government... to support government-wide mainstreaming of a gender-equality perspective in all policy areas".

In Cabo Verde, the lead governmental organization for gender issues is the *Instituto Cabo-verdiano para a Igualdade e Equidade do Género* (ICIEG) which was established in 1994 (then the Institute for the Status of Women). ICIEG is responsible for advancing government policies for equal rights for women and for women's full participation in all spheres of national life. There is also a coordinating function for gender issues within the National Agency for Water & Sanitation through the *Gabinete Ambiental e de Integração Social e de Género* (GAISG).

Over many years, ICIEG has been the lead government agency in advancing legislation and policies for women's rights. Most recently it played the coordinating role for the multi-faceted effort for the landmark law against gender-based violence, the *Lei VBG* (see below in Sec.2.3).

In 2012 ICIEG discussed with the National Statistics Institute (*Instituto Nacional d'Estatística, INE*), the creation of a virtual platform for all gender data, an *Observatório de Género* which the Government launched in December 2016. (<http://ine.cv/ObservatorioGenero/>). The Cabo Verde *Observatório* is a model for collaboration of a national statistics office with the national gender machinery, and highlights the potential for sex-disaggregated data to aid in government administration and planning for inclusive and equitable development.

## 2.3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Cabo Verde's Constitution, enacted in 1980 five years after independence, recognized "the equality of all citizens before the law, without distinction as to social origin or economic situation, race, sex, religion, political or ideological convictions, and social conditions, and assures the full exercise by all citizens of fundamental liberties." (Art.1.2)

The Constitution has been amended and updated several times, most recently in 2010. Changes in 1992 established a multi-party parliamentary system of government and provided a broad range of democratic guarantees. The Constitution specifically prohibits discrimination based on sex, and Article 7 mandates that government must remove obstacles to equal opportunity – whether economic, social, cultural and political, especially those that discriminate against women in the family or in society. Article 47 prohibits words or behavior that advocate discrimination against women; Article 54 endorses equal participation of women and men in political life; and Article 81 establishes the basis for the recent law that criminalizes domestic violence, the *Lei VBG*.

Cabo Verde was one of the first countries to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, which it signed in December 1980. Cabo Verde is also a signatory to other international protocols on women's rights, including those on prevention, suppression and punishment of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and its laws impose a 2-8 year prison sentence on anyone caught practicing, aiding or abetting prostitution. An Act of 1986 stipulated that, within defined circumstances, the voluntary interruption of pregnancy was no longer a punishable offence.

Other gender-relevant laws are the *Código da Família* (1997), the *Código do Trabalho*, the *Código Eleitoral* (1999), and the *Estatuto da Criança e do Adolescente (ECA)* of 2013. The labor law, the *Código do Trabalho*, as of 2007 authorizes 60 days of maternity leave.

In 2011, civil society activists and government advocates in both the executive and legislative branches, and

supported by UN Women Cabo Verde and other international development organizations, won an important legal milestone with passage of the Law on Gender-based Violence (*Lei Especial sobre Violência Baseada no Género, "Lei GBV"*), after a sustained campaign which included public awareness education by radio and television.



# 3

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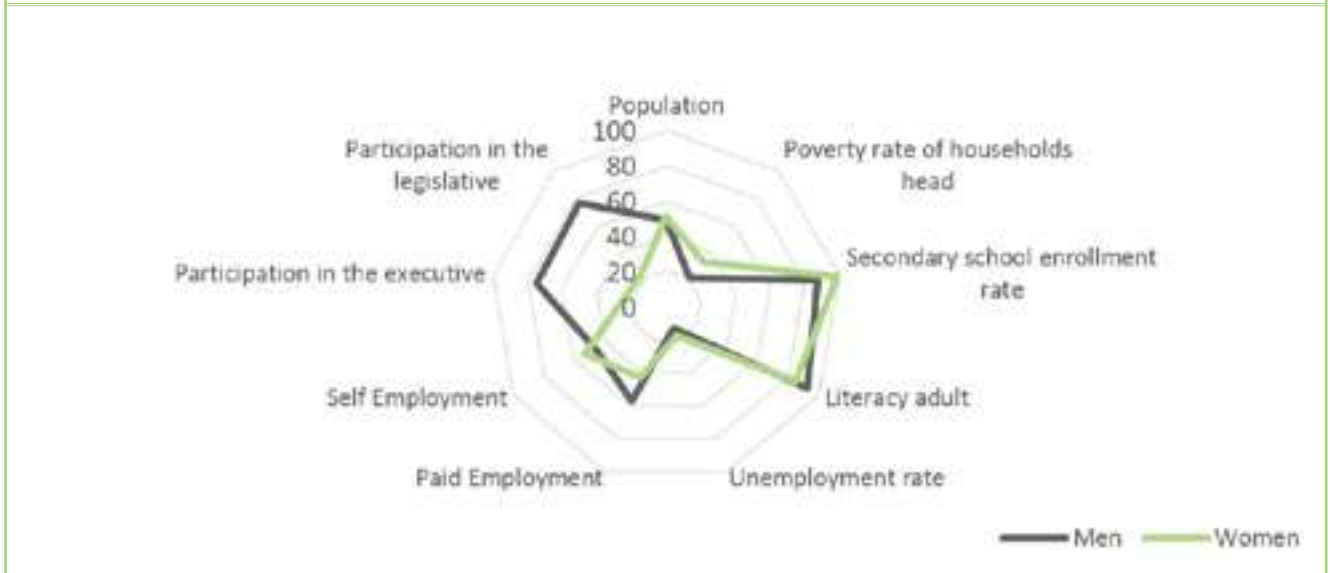
## THE STATE OF GENDER EQUALITY IN CABO VERDE

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Cabo Verde ranks very high among the best countries for gender equality on the Gender Gap Index of the World Economic Forum and the Gender Equality Index of the AfDB: it is 5<sup>th</sup> among low-middle income countries, 6<sup>th</sup> in sub-Saharan Africa, and 36<sup>th</sup> among 144 countries

worldwide. However, its high position is primarily due to rankings in three of the four areas of the index: education, health and political representation. In the fourth area, economic participation and opportunity, Cabo Verde ranks poorly – it is in 115<sup>th</sup> place in this category.

**Figure 1 - Gender Gap in Cabo Verde** (Source: African Development Bank)



The sections below provide an overview of progress and gaps in gender equality from the perspective of: 3.1 Systemic Country Issues; 3.2 Gender & Poverty; 3.3 Gender & Human Capital; 3.4 Gender & the Economy; 3.5 Gender & Climate Change.

### 3.1. SYSTEMIC COUNTRY ISSUES

Systemic issues are those that affect both women and men and can lay the basis for greater equality or greater risks, depending on how they are addressed. These include: 3.1.1. Island Geography; 3.1.2 Demographic Change; 3.1.3 Emigration/Immigration Patterns; 3.1.4. Women-headed Households; 3.1.5. Employment/Unemployment; 3.1.6. Unpaid Work/the Care Economy; 3.1.7. Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

#### 3.1.1. Island Geography

Cabo Verde’s island geography (see Map p.ii) is a

determining factor for the country’s advancement, posing daunting challenges for inclusive development and gender equality for the nation as a whole, as well as on each island.

For over 500 years, the focus of Cabo Verde as a Portuguese colony was external: initially as way-station and trading center for shipments of African slaves, and after abolition of the slave trade as a stopping point for transatlantic sea traffic and an outpost for Portuguese management of its other African colonies. At independence in 1975 there was minimal inter-island infrastructure or economic exchange.

Inter-island transport constraints and distances<sup>16</sup> continue to hamper internal integration even as the country seeks integration into the global economy. Although each island has some agricultural, fishing and artisanal products, there is no unified domestic market. Production of food is insufficient even for national needs and most food is imported. The tourist islands of Sal and Boa Vista find it easier to secure quantity, quality and consistency of supplies by importing goods from the Canary Islands or Lisbon than from other islands.

<sup>16</sup> The distance between the capital Praia, on Santiago, and the second most important city, Mindelo, on São Vicente is approximately 200 km, and the same distance separates Praia from the tourist island of Sal.

The Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature proposes a new decentralization effort (*regionalização*) to make each inhabited island an administrative region, starting with a pilot project on the island of São Vicente. The aim is to increase local decision-making and civic participation and stem internal migration from other islands to Santiago<sup>17</sup> and the capital city of Praia, while reducing the size of the central government.<sup>18</sup> There are potential benefits for women from island decentralization of public administration if participation in decision-making is facilitated and services are more tailored to local needs. However, there are also potential risks if local administrative capacity is weak and funds are insufficient to support services. Gender considerations in decentralization planning will be important.

### 3.1.2. Demographic Change

Cabo Verde's population is evenly distributed between men and women with two notable age-group exceptions: among those over 60, there are more women, possibly due to prior emigration of men and/or greater longevity of women; and among those aged 20-39, there are more men, possibly due to emigration of women in this age group for schooling, domestic labor or other work abroad, and possibly due to recent increases in male immigration primarily from other Lusophone countries. Since 2000, the average number of children per woman has declined from 4.0 to 2.3 in 2014, possibly associated with improved access to education and family planning services.<sup>19</sup>

The proportion of Cabo Verdeans living in rural areas has declined consistently since the mid-20th century. By the early 2000's, the majority of the population was urban and concentrated particularly in the cities of Praia (Santiago island) and Mindelo (São Vicente island). However, more than one-third of the population remains rural (36%), living in isolated households in remote areas or in small villages and coastal towns of the nine inhabited islands.<sup>20</sup>

The country is currently experiencing its "youth bulge",

the period when higher fertility rates in the past have created a large current cohort of prime working age. This cohort could provide a "demographic dividend" of increased GDP if employment were available. However, new data for 2016 from the National Statistics Institute (INE) show the lack of jobs: the unemployment rate for the age cohort 15-24 is 41%, which means that almost half of youth who are in the labor market seeking work do not find jobs. Aside from the waste of human capital, with few jobs available there is increased risk of crime, prostitution and drugs.

The Cabo Verde government and civil society are increasingly concerned about public security and safety. Insecurity affects men as well as women but due to gender-biased norms of power, girls and women experience the greatest vulnerability. In a recent survey of perceptions of personal insecurity and risk, men had almost equal concerns as women about being a victim of a crime (33% of men, 36% of women) and of personal insecurity at work (13% of men, 15% of women;) but women also expressed concern about walking alone at night (59%); being alone at home at night (44%); and being on public transit (38%).<sup>21</sup> Insecurity is also a threat to the country's growth engine of tourism, since a key attraction for tourists has been the country's culture of peacefulness and hospitality (*morabeza*) and its low crime rate.

### 3.1.3. Emigration/Immigration Patterns

Cabo Verde historically had one of the highest country rates of emigration<sup>22</sup>, contributing to a low net rate of population growth, a high rate of female-headed households, and high dependency on remittances. However, since 2010, emigration rates have declined and in recent years, Cabo Verde has experienced net immigration for the first time.

Emigration for men has fallen as demand in Europe and the U.S. for unskilled male labor has declined. For women, emigration has increased, from 54% in 2010 to 59% in 2014,<sup>23</sup> as demand for domestic workers and nannies in

<sup>17</sup> An estimated 60% of the national population live on Santiago.

<sup>18</sup> <http://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/cape-verde-population/>

<sup>19</sup> INE and ICIEG, 2015, *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde - Factos e Números 2015*.

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/place/Cabo-Verde>

<sup>21</sup> *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde, op.cit.*

<sup>22</sup> The diaspora population is estimated to be larger than the population at home. Approximately two-thirds of Cabo Verde's tertiary-educated population lives abroad, according to World Bank estimates.

<sup>23</sup> *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde, op.cit.*

Italy, Portugal, and Spain has increased.<sup>24</sup>

Immigrants are primarily from other Lusophone countries<sup>25</sup>, approximately 40% female and 60% male, and primarily in the age range of 25-44. This new net immigration can add to productivity and GDP but may also increase unemployment, and changes in poverty and gender statistics will need to be interpreted with care.

### 3.1.4. Women-headed Households

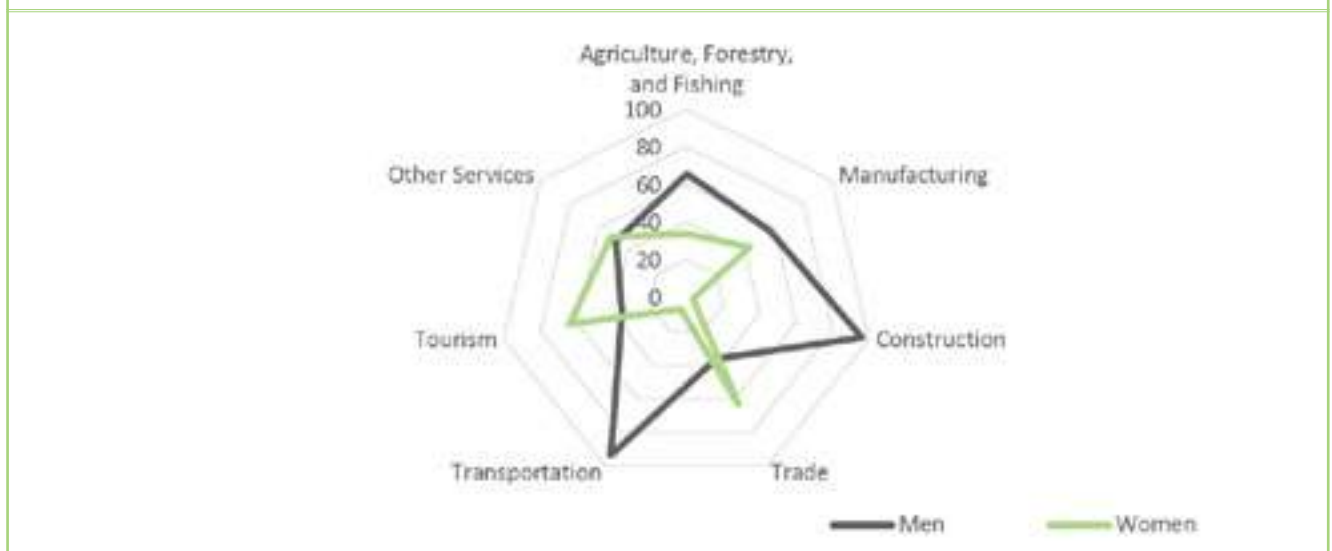
In Cabo Verde there has historically been a high share of households headed by women due to factors including the impact of slavery and colonization on family structure, the persistence of patriarchal attitudes and culture, and high rates of male emigration for jobs abroad. Female-headed households are now approaching the majority of Cabo Verdean households: 48% of households were headed by women in 2015 compared to 40% in 2000.<sup>26</sup> Poverty among female-headed households is high. (See Section 3.2 below, Gender & Poverty).

### 3.1.5. Employment/Unemployment

Cabo Verde faces a key challenge due to the lack of employment opportunities, including for women with secondary education or more. Overall, the rate of job creation has been lower than the growth of the economically active population. The National Institute for Statistics (INE) has recently released new labor statistics for 2016 from its *Inquérito Multi-Objectivo Contínuo 2016 – Estatísticas do Emprego e Mercado do Trabalho*, which is a rich source of information that merits a separate detailed gender analysis. Relevant INE 2016 gender data are summarized here, along with earlier data from the 2015 report *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde – Factos e Números*, produced by INE and ICIEG.

The 2015 study found that the labor market is highly gender segregated, with men found primarily in military, agricultural and manual jobs, and women in sales and services. Paid labor is 56% male and 44% female.

**Figure 2 - Employment by Sector/industry and Sex** (Source: African Development Bank)



<sup>24</sup> <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/cape-verde-towards-end-emigration>

<sup>25</sup> Lusophone immigrants to Cabo Verde are primarily from Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé, Angola and Portugal.

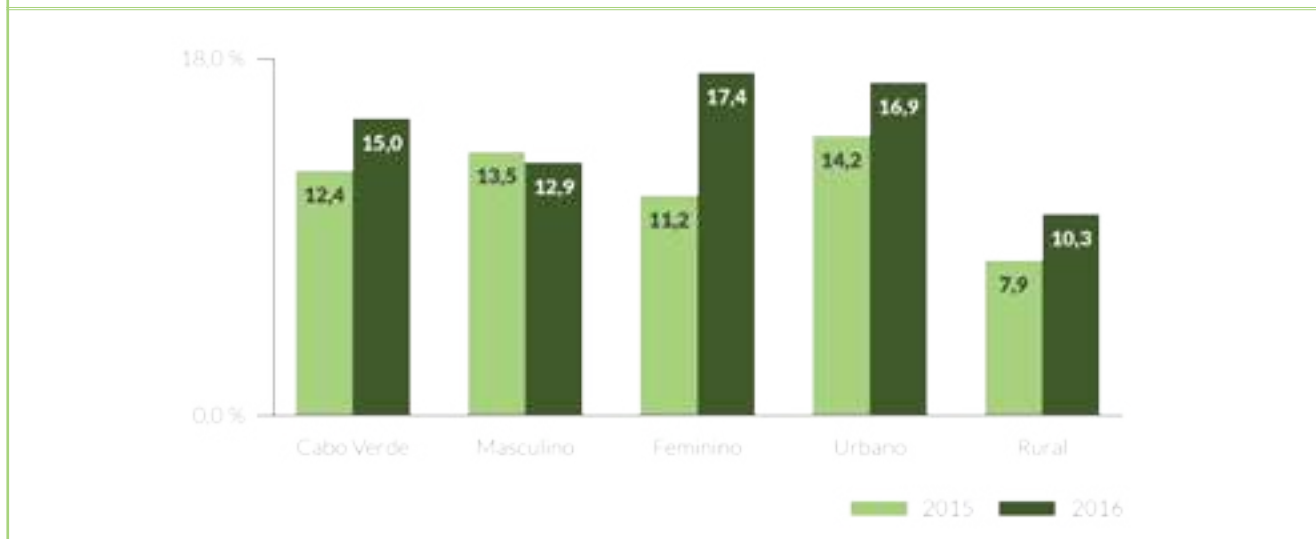
<sup>26</sup> *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde, op.cit.*



The newly released *INE 2016 data (Inquérito Multi-Objectivo Contínuo 2016 - Estatísticas do Emprego Mercado do Trabalho)* show that the national unemployment rate increased to 15% in 2016 from 12.4% in 2015. As shown

in Figure 3 below, the national increase is entirely due to the dramatic increase in women's unemployment which rose from 11.2% in 2015 to 17.4% in 2016, while male unemployment rate fell from 15% to 12.9%.

**Figure 3 - Unemployment 2015-16 by Sex and Region** (Source: INE, 2017)

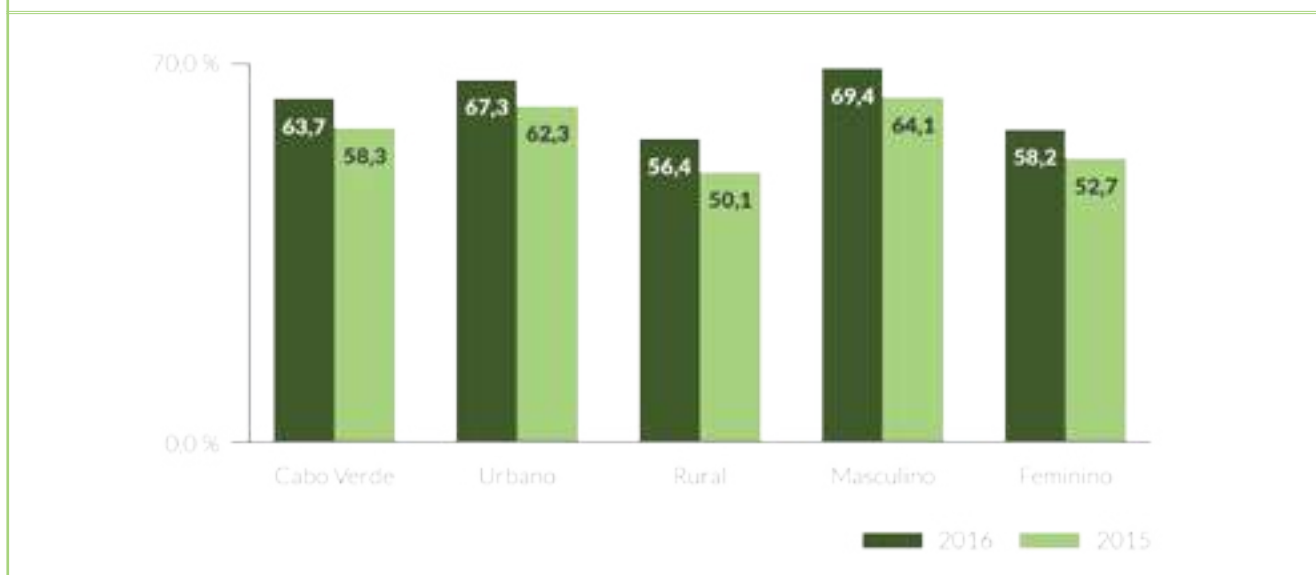


As Figure 3 also shows, the increase in women's unemployment occurred in both urban and rural areas. These statistics are of great concern for gender equality, poverty reduction and economic growth, and merit further analysis.

Regarding participation rates, Figure 4 below shows that

in 2016 58.2% of women of working age (15 or older) were working or looking for work (*ativos*), an increase in labor force participation from 52.7% in 2015. However, women's participation rates remain lower than the equivalent figures for men which were 69.4% in 2016 and 64.1% in 2015.

**Figure 4 - Labor Market Participation Rate 2015-16 by Sex and Region** (Source: INE, 2017)



With 58.2% of women of working age “*ativo*” in the labor market (formal or informal; the *INE* survey includes both), the remaining 42% of women of working age are not working or looking for work, a share which has created some policy concerns both for gender equality and for economic growth. However, when the data are examined by age, the majority of women non-ativos are among the youngest cohort ages 15-19, who are likely to still be in school, or the next oldest cohort ages 20-24 who are most likely to have young children at home. (*INE, Inquérito Multi-objectivo Contínuo 2016*, Table 2)

Government and civil society have proposed various ways to improve women’s labor force participation including increased support for care tasks normally borne by women (see Section 3.1.6 below on unpaid work/the care economy). The *INE* participation data disaggregated by sex and age suggest that this would be an effective approach to encouraging women’s productive work, assuming that there is also investment in job-creation and/or small business support. The Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature also includes a proposal to create a program of internships linking the education system and the private sector.

### 3.1.6. Unpaid Work: The Care Economy

Around the world as well as in Cabo Verde, women’s time for productive labor and political participation is limited by the hours spent in gender-biased unpaid care work. According to UN Women, “care refers to the provision of personal face-to-face services to others for their physical and emotional needs, complemented by daily domestic tasks of cooking, cleaning, gathering water and fuel, laundry. This unpaid work is not counted as economic activity in labor-force surveys, nor incorporated in calculations of gross domestic product (GDP), but it has enormous economic value without which... the economy would grind to a halt.” In Cabo Verde, women spend 62 hours per week on unpaid care work compared to 38 hours for men. (See *INE* data, Annex 1).

The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) 2014 report for Cabo Verde urged better integration of care services into social policies and reframing of these services as a societal responsibility, and the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development calls for governments to

“recognize and value unpaid care work and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and family as nationally appropriate.” (Goal 5.4).

These recommendations have been strongly promoted in Cabo Verde by gender equality supporters within and outside government, and the Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature states that a government priority is to “put the care of dependents at the center of public policies of social inclusion and support for families” (Sec.2), measures which would significantly aid women in greater market and political engagement.

### 3.1.7. Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

A key systemic issue which has been strongly addressed by the Government of Cabo Verde and civil society, with support from international aid partners including UN Women, is Gender-Based Violence (GBV). A major achievement was passage of the Law on Gender-Based Violence (*Lei Especial sobre Violência Baseada no Género*, effective March 2011). The *Lei VBG* imposes criminal penalties for all Gender-Based Violence - physical, psychological, and sexual. It also includes provisions against sexual harassment and a program for male offenders to prevent recurrence. The *ICIEG*, which coordinates the government’s gender efforts, also initiated a gender and violence awareness campaign through a “White Ribbon” project involving men’s support of women’s rights, and recent strategies to support LGBT rights. Despite progress on fighting GBV, there are concerns that additional resources are needed to speed action on complaints, and ease judicial backlogs.

According to the report *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde 2015*, since the implementation of the *Lei VBG*, the number of judicial complaints and actions has increased, with 7,000 cases pending in 2013-14 compared to 1,671 in 2010-11. The data available show that there is a low resolution rate, with cases carrying over from one year to the next, and the share of resolved cases in 2013-14 was only 10%. There is a need for more detailed data and analysis of resolution rates by types to identify policy solutions. Island differences in reporting of GBV also merit further research.

## 3.2. GENDER AND POVERTY

The national poverty rate has declined steadily from 37% in 2001, to 27% in 2007, and to 24.2% in 2015. The target for 2016 was 20% (data not yet available). The new Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature sets a target to reduce relative poverty to a single digit and to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty.

While overall poverty has declined, the *INE-ICIEG* report *Mulheres e Homens* found that between 2001 and 2007 the poverty gender gap widened. In 2007 33% of households headed by women were poor compared to 21% of households headed by men - a gender gap of 12 percentage points compared to a six percentage point difference in 2001. The greatest poverty gender gap is in rural areas where approximately one-third of women live.

Women are also less likely to have paid employment than men and tend to enter the labor market later, and they have greater income vulnerability from informal, low paid, and insecure work. Since almost half (48%) of Cabo Verdean households are headed by women, women's income vulnerability has a negative impact on children's health and education, and in perpetuating inter-generational poverty.

Inter-island and urban-rural differences in poverty and social development are significant, especially for women and merit further attention. Over 80% of Cabo Verde's 2016 estimated population of 530 000 is located on just three of its ten islands: Santiago with 60%, and São Vicente and Santo Antão with 15% and 11% respectively (2007). The islands which are the center of the tourism sector have very low populations: Sal with 3.4% and Boa Vista with 1%.

Thirty-six percent of women live in rural areas, where poverty is worse. There is poor soil for growing food in these areas, and many areas are without electrification or running water so the time required for household and family care is greater, lessening the time available for income-producing activities as well as the return from such efforts.

## 3.3. GENDER AND HUMAN CAPITAL

Gender aspects of human capital in Cabo Verde are discussed below by: education; reproductive health;

skills development & training; and voice & participation.

### 3.3.1. Education

Adult literacy is 85% for women and 93% for men, with a larger gender discrepancy in rural areas where the literacy rate is only 74% for women compared to 87% for men. Among those aged 15-24 there is gender parity even in rural areas and the literacy rate is 98% overall. For school enrollment, there are slightly higher rates for boys at primary levels and higher rates for girls in secondary and tertiary education. Among teachers, women are less represented in secondary schooling than at the primary level, and in higher education the number of male professors is almost double that of female professors. Mission interviews also indicated that in many schools, both female and male teachers continue to convey to children old gender stereotypes of appropriate academic and employment areas for girls compared to boys.

Building on the country's tremendous progress in extending education to both girls and boys, the challenge now is to improve the quality of education and the expectations conveyed by teachers and school curricula of gender roles. Of special importance is the need to make schooling relevant to the job market and the country's future economic growth, and to integrate women as teachers and managers throughout the education system.

### 3.3.2. Reproductive Health

Maternal mortality rates have fallen steadily each year from a rate of 256 per 100 000 live births in 1990 to 47 in 2014 (*INE, 2017*), with credit given by the International Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group to Cabo Verde's strong investment in women's health services. Regarding data on contraception, Demographic and Reproductive Health Survey data from 2005 showed contraceptive use at 61.3%. New cases of HIV infection are low but they are higher for women than for men, and there was an increase for women from 2012 to 2013. 81 percent of new HIV cases in the age group 15-34 are women. Reproductive health services and improvement in sanitary conditions are also credited with the decline in infant mortality from 21.3 per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 15.3 in 2015 (*INE, 2017*), with the most dramatic decline in deaths of girl children.

### 3.3.3. Skills Development & Training

Cabo Verde offers professional training mainly through Professional Training Centers from the Institute for Professional Training and Employment (IEFP), *Cursos de Estudos Superiores Profissionalizantes (CESP)* from UNI-CV and through the Tourism and Hotels School (EHTCV). According to data on student registration, women in these courses primarily chose fields such as tourism, business, and public sector (73%), while only one-third (35%) enroll in technical-scientific training. The Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature proposes encouragement of entrepreneurship as part of a program “Work for Yourself,” linked to African and international networks of best practices. It will be important to ensure the participation of girls and women in these initiatives, and the collection of gender-disaggregated data for analysis of the distribution of benefits.

### 3.3.4. Voice & Participation

In political positions, women are better represented at the national level of government – executive (25%), and legislative (24%)<sup>27</sup> - than at the local level where men dominate as presidents and members of city councils. Among the 22 municipalities (*concelhos*), there is just one woman president of a municipal assembly and one woman president of a municipal council.<sup>28</sup> However, in non-elected local leadership positions such as heads of community associations there are more women than men, indicating the presence of gender-based bias against women in elected positions. Women are also visible and influential in senior management positions of government ministries and agencies and in the media, but they are less represented in the private sector. The proposed Parity Law (*Lei de Paridade*), drafted with collaboration of government and civil society and technical assistance from UN Women, will strongly contribute to greater opportunity for voice and participation by women.

## 3.4. GENDER AND THE ECONOMY

This section begins with an overview of women’s

economic empowerment and proceeds with a discussion of gender issues in Agriculture, Tourism, Infrastructure, and Fishing. Each section flags gender issues for attention, including where additional sector-specific gender analysis could inform future project design.

### 3.4.1. Overview of Women’s Economic Empowerment

As noted previously, the AfDB Gender Equality Index and the World Economic Forum Gender Gap Index ranks Cabo Verde very low in the category of economic participation and opportunity: it is in 31<sup>st</sup> place of 52 countries for the first index, and in 115<sup>th</sup> place of 144 countries for the second index in this category.

Among employed women, close to one-quarter work in retail, 13% are domestic workers in private homes, and 8% work in agriculture where jobs are marked by an informal market without contracts. As in many developing countries, the informal sector is large, possibly as high as 59%, with women as the majority. With support from donor partners such as the ILO, the Government is in the process of analyzing the informal sector as well as social security mechanisms in order to elaborate a national strategy for 2017-20 encouraging the transition of informal to formal employment which will be especially important for women, the *Estratégia Nacional de Transição da Economia Informal à Formal, 2017- 2020*.

According to UN Women, “women’s situation in entrepreneurship is incipient, linked to informal trade, with limited access to modern production technology and entrepreneurial competencies, as well as financial services.” UN Women also finds that “the normative and policy context for the promotion of the private sector does not address gender issues and institutional gender awareness and capacities are insufficient.”<sup>29</sup>

Women lead approximately 35% of Cabo Verde businesses, but only 18% of companies that have formal accounting. Among the ten islands, the lowest shares of female-led businesses are in Maio (27%), Fogo (26%) and Brava (23%).<sup>30</sup>

<sup>27</sup> 2016 statistics from INE, 2017 (see Annex 1)

<sup>28</sup> *Homens e Mulheres em Cabo Verde 2015, op.cit.*

<sup>29</sup> UN Women website Cabo Verde

<sup>30</sup> *Homens e Mulheres em Cabo Verde 2015, op.cit.*

As discussed in the prior section on employment (Sec. 3.1.5), 2016 data recently released by the *INE* show a much higher unemployment rate for women than for men: 17.4% for women compared to 12.9% for men. According to the *INE-ICIEG* 2015 report *Mulheres e Homens*, among younger cohorts, unemployment for women can be twice as high as for men. The sub-group with the highest unemployment rate is women in rural areas whose average unemployment rate reaches 57.9%, and in some islands as high as 80.1%.

An important statistic for further investigation is that women with education at the secondary level or above have higher unemployment rates than women with only primary schooling, possibly indicating gender bias in the skilled labor market and/or the gendered exploitation of women in low-level work. This market condition could have a negative impact on incentives for parents to keep girls in school, and could also increase pressure for educated women to emigrate in search of appropriate work, with a resulting “brain drain” of educated women.

Underemployment is an additional problem that disproportionately affects women. Characterized as working less than 40 hours but being willing to work more, underemployment affects as much as 30.1% of the population as a whole and 33.9% of women. For women in rural areas the underemployment rate is 48.2%.<sup>31</sup>

### 3.4.2. Gender and Agriculture

Agriculture accounts for just 7.4% of Cabo Verde’s GDP<sup>32</sup> due to the country’s harsh conditions which make crop output small and irregular, and hamper economies of scale. There are pockets of arable land in coastal areas and fertile valleys and in rural areas where over one-third of women live, agriculture is especially important for household subsistence. Currently an estimated 50% of the population is engaged in agricultural work for market trade and household consumption,<sup>33</sup> with the gender shares for 2016 estimated at 40% of women and 20% of men.<sup>34</sup> The poverty rate for agricultural workers is 44%, almost double the national figure. The Government regards support for agriculture as essential for

household consumption, poverty alleviation, sustainable development and protection against external shocks. The Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature and the draft *PEDS* seek to stimulate growth in the agriculture sector by increasing its links to the tourism sector. Gender perspectives will be essential in new agricultural policies, including technical support and training for women to create sustainable small businesses from their agricultural activities and to assess the potential for complementary joint businesses, with strategies geared to the tourism sector.

### 3.4.3. Gender and Tourism

Tourism is the primary driver of economic growth in Cabo Verde and a key government target for investment to create jobs. The potential is great: Cabo Verde tourism offers clean and beautiful beaches and ocean; water sports and fishing; the country’s famous music, hospitality and low crime rate relative to other countries of Africa; and biodiversity and uniqueness of each island, all of which have contributed to an increase in tourism especially from Europe.

However, benefits from the sector are seasonal and highly concentrated on the low-population islands of Sal and Boa Vista (3.4% and 1%, respectively) where hotels and restaurants are concentrated. An International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2014 report<sup>35</sup> found that the poverty rate for households linked to the tourism sector was less than half the national average, but tourism benefited just 7% of the population overall. Moreover, the tourism impact can be unstable since tourism is seasonal and is vulnerable to global financial conditions. According to the IMF, the sector is poorly linked to local development and the rural poor do not benefit from opportunities generated.

The Cabo Verde Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (*ICIEG*) with support from UN Women - Cabo Verde produced an Action Plan for Integration of a Gender Approach to Tourism 2016-18, *PAPTAGT (Plano de Ação para a Transversalização da Abordagem de Género no Turismo 2016-18)*. The *PAPTAGT* report includes an overview of gender issues in the sector and entry points and opportunities to ensure gender integration,

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> OECD and WTO, 2011, *Aid-for-Trade: Case Study Cape Verde*

<sup>33</sup> *Mulheres e Homens em Cabo Verde, op.cit.*

<sup>34</sup> African Development Bank, *Africa Statistics 2017*

<sup>35</sup> International Monetary Fund, Joint Staff Advisory Note, 2014

including recommendations and an indicative budget for interventions in the period 2016-18. The Government is in the process of developing a new National Strategic Plan for the Tourism Sector (*Plano Estratégico Nacional para o Turismo*) which will have a specific emphasis on private sector development,<sup>36</sup> and ICIEG and UN Women are working to ensure incorporation of the PAPTAGT recommendations.

Additional quantitative and qualitative data are needed on women's employment in the sector, the impact on households of the seasonality of tourism service jobs, and the potential links of the tourism industry to women's agricultural and artisanal work, in order to increase the benefits to women and minimize the risks from tourism as an engine of growth.

Sectoral data are also needed to address the following important issues raised by Marrone (2016): "The increased number of tourists and tourism-related construction in the country has also brought important sustainability and environmental challenges: they constitute a threat to the fragile natural habitats while increasing the demand on already sparse natural resources through the consumption of water and energy and the increase in solid and liquid waste. Increase in tourism has also been associated with emerging social challenges related to drug issues, prostitution, criminality, and housing, especially in the tourist islands of Sal and Boa Vista and the capital Praia." The Government's new Strategic Plan for the sector can include the collection of sex-disaggregated data and establishment of indicators related to gender, as well as future studies and reports with donor and/or tourism sector support.

#### 3.4.4. Gender and Infrastructure

According to the African Development Bank (AfDB), "the geographical fragmentation of the country imposes special challenges... A more equitable development between islands and between rural/urban areas is key for inclusive growth in the country." Infrastructure investments in transportation, energy, and water and sanitation are essential supports for gender equality since they relieve the gender-biased burdens of unpaid care work borne

primarily by girls and women and provide time-savings and improved mobility for productive work. Expanded and accessible infrastructure, especially of water, sanitation and transport, is a key need for the almost ½ of Cabo Verde women who are poor, and especially those in rural areas, to decrease the time required for unpaid care work, provide support for income-producing efforts in agriculture and small businesses, and free women and girls to pursue paid employment opportunities as available.

The Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature outlines an ambitious plan for infrastructure development (p.54-55). Gender-integration in infrastructure planning and operations can ensure that women can participate in decision-making about, as well as benefits from, these investments.

#### 3.4.5. Gender and the Fishing Sector

As an island state in the Atlantic Ocean with minimal resources, fishing is a critical source of household sustenance and internal trade, although it is not competitive with global commercial fishing and contributes just 0.7% of GDP in 2011.<sup>37</sup> Fishing is primarily artisanal in nature, producing fresh catch for sale in public markets and to restaurants and hotels. The sector produces little income for the country or its workers, with a sectoral poverty rate of 35%. It is highly segregated by sex, with men working on fishing boats and women selling the catch in markets or as ambulatory vendors. The Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature seeks to promote internal production in the fishing sector. Efforts should include quantitative or qualitative gender surveys of women's roles and needs in the fishing sector to ensure that women benefit as well as men from sectoral investments.

### 3.5. GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Due to its lack of ground water and natural resources, Cabo Verde has historically been extremely vulnerable to climate change.<sup>38</sup> It is located in the dry Sahel climate

<sup>36</sup> República de Cabo Verde, Programa do Governo, *op.cit.*, Sec.3.2.10, p.39

<sup>37</sup> Rosabal, *Coerência Das Políticas Para O Desenvolvimento No Âmbito Das Pescas*, 2013.

<sup>38</sup> During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, severe droughts caused the death of nearly half the population and prompted large-scale emigration.

band and dependent on a rainy season which has grown shorter and more irregular in recent years, resulting in lower annual precipitation. It currently derives most of its water from desalinization.

Like many other small island states, Cabo Verde also suffers from environmental degradation, including soil erosion and sea water contamination of scarce fresh ground water sources. Temperatures have increased on average by 6 degrees Celsius from the 1960s with projections for an even hotter future. The sea level is expected to rise between 0.13 and 1.4 meters by the end of the century,<sup>39</sup> with risks for many of Cabo Verde's coastal communities.

The Government of Cabo Verde has long understood its climate change risks and has been very proactive in addressing them. It was the first Portuguese-speaking African country (*PALOP*) to ratify the Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1995, and the first to create a Designated National Authority. In 2007 it produced a National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) which led to a National Climate Change

Adaptation Policy. Its most important renewable energy project, Cabeólica, is based on four wind farms on Santiago, Sal, Boa Vista, and São Vicente islands which generate approximately 20% of the total electricity.<sup>40</sup>

The country has also been collaborating actively with international partners. It is a member of the UN Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), which represents members' concerns about the effects of global warming on small island developing states (SIDS). It is a member of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energies (ECREEE) which is based in Cabo Verde, and could conceivably create a niche for itself as a headquarters for other international institutions for climate change collaboration and research. The International Climate Research Centre for Africa and CPLC Countries (CIICLAA) is expected to be based in Praia. The degree to which women are integrated into international venues on climate change, as policy and technical experts, and the involvement of women at local levels in planning for natural and environmental disasters merit further analysis.

<sup>39</sup> African Development Bank, 2012b, p.42.

<sup>40</sup> Solar energy is not feasible due to the high salt content of moisture and the lack of fresh-water to clean panels.







# 4

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**UN WOMEN, THE AfDB AND  
OTHER PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERS IN CABO VERDE**

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## 4.1. UN WOMEN

UN Women in Cabo Verde works to support government priorities on women's rights and opportunities, as outlined in the country's Gender Action Plan (PNIG) 2015-18 and the Government Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature (*Programa do Governo para a IX Legislatura*). It is currently assisting in the integration of gender into the new national plan under development for 2017-21, the PEDS (*Programa Estratégica de Desenvolvimento Sustentável/ Strategic Program for Sustainable Development*), and the preparation of the Gender Profile for Cabo Verde jointly with the African Development Bank, among other projects.

UN Women - Cabo Verde has also contributed to the elaboration and production of the following important government plans and policies: the National Gender Equality Plan (PNIG) 2015-2018; the National Plan to Fight Gender-based Violence (GBV); the Action Plan for Gender Integration in the Tourism Sector 2016-18 (*Plano de Ação para a Transversalização da Abordagem de Género no Turismo*); and the creation of a National Care System. It has also helped to strengthen the capacity of public sector officials and municipalities on gender responsive planning and budgeting, and to enhance national capacity on gender statistics and data for policy decisions. It has also been involved in the creation of the White Ribbon Association to engage men in support for women's rights, new masculinities and against gender based violence, and a campaign for LGBT rights and protection from gender-based violence.

UN Women's overall goals focus on: economic empowerment of women especially women entrepreneurs and rural women; prevention and services for violence against women & girls; and women's increased leadership and voice. The UN Women Cabo Verde office has played a key role for many years in helping the Cabo Verde government to design and implement policies for gender equality, while advancing the overall mission of UN Women. The small office is highly respected as a leader on gender issues in Cabo Verde among government, civil society, women's groups, and international donor/ partners, and it is positioned to play a key role in the next phase of advancing gender equality in Cabo Verde. (See Section 6, Recommendations).

## 4.2. AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AfDB)

The African Development Bank Country Strategy Paper (CSP) 2014-18 for Cabo Verde considers the country's gender disparities to be one of its three key challenges in addition to island geography and vulnerability to climate change. The CSP defined the Bank's strategy objective for the period as: "to support the Government in its efforts towards laying the foundations for a more inclusive and green growth." At the time of this report, the AfDB is completing its Mid-term Review (MTR) of the CSP with the new government elected in 2016.

The two key CSP areas for lending and non-lending support to the Government are in infrastructure development and improved governance and budget support, in line with the Bank's two pillars: (i) Enhancing and Diversifying Infrastructure for Sustainable Development; and (ii) Strengthening Economic Governance in the Public and Private Sector; and its "High Five" priorities which were established to step up the pace of growth: Light up and power Africa; Feed Africa; Industrialise Africa; Integrate Africa, and Improve the quality of life for the people of Africa. In the area of good governance, the AfDB provides budget support, support for the preparation of the new Government Plan (PEDS), and the preparation of the Gender Profile for Cabo Verde with partner UN Women. The AfDB has also developed checklists (2009) to guide the integration of gender in governance as well as infrastructure. Following a meeting in May 2017 of African Development Bank member state Finance Ministers, the AfDB announced a new financing for Cabo Verde of 25 million euros per year for agriculture and city infrastructure. It will be important to establish gender indicators for the new work. This and other recommendations for the African Development Bank's support to Cabo Verde are contained in Annex 3.

## 4.3. OTHER DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Among the many other development partners providing gender-related support to the Government of Cabo Verde are the various UN agencies, the European Union and its members, the Millennium Challenge Account, and the World Bank. Highlights of the relevant work of these partners are summarized in Annex 4.



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**POTENTIAL FOR ACTION AND  
PRIORITY AREAS**

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A strong base for gender equality has been established in social areas of health and education and the path-breaking *Lei VBG* has introduced major improvements in gender-based violence prevention, services and public attitudes. However, equality in economic and political life lag behind. The pending Parity Law will address political representation among other areas, so the remaining gender policy priority is equality of economic opportunity. Current barriers which lock women in poverty and low productivity are their lack of:

- **Time** – The burden of primary responsibilities for dependent care, and the lack of access to water, sanitation and transport are key factors limiting women’s time for productive labor.
- **Land** – Lack of formal title to land limits access to credit and to the ability to build assets.
- **Financing** – Lack of access to funds inhibits growth and productivity of business efforts; the demand for micro-credit is greater than the

supply available, and commercial borrowing costs are too high.

- **Knowledge** – Lack of knowledge on options for stable and productive income-producing activities and lack of on-going services and networking structures to build skills, increase production and access markets.

With a strong base of prior accomplishments and continued strong commitment to gender equality by skilled and experienced leaders in Government and civil society, Cabo Verde has the potential for a new “leap forward” for gender equality through a priority focus on women’s economic empowerment, complemented by provision of training and support at technical levels of Government ministries and agencies on the use of gender analysis and gender-disaggregated data for policy planning and budgeting, as well as for program design, implementation, and evaluation.



# 6

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

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Actions to address these barriers will be most effective if they are viewed as part of a single unifying program for women's economic empowerment. Thus, **the key recommendation for the Government, and for support from UN Women and the African Development Bank, is the creation of a flagship program for women's economic empowerment in Cabo Verde.** A Cabo Verde program on women's economic empowerment can follow the successful model of the country's combat against gender-based violence, and engage all sectors of society and international partners in a multi-faceted, multi-year effort to improve economic participation and productivity of girls and women, while seeking innovative financing measures for activities.

Eight suggested priorities for the new program for women's economic empowerment are the following:

1. **Support the Government in its gender commitments** in the Program for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislature and the PNIG, **especially the commitment for social provision of care services and support the finalization and implementation of the Parity Law;**
2. **Support women in agriculture and small businesses in rural and urban areas with ongoing technical assistance and financing** to improve access to markets and to create and strengthen business plans for economic growth;
3. **Create a participatory process to define policies and programs for transition from informal to formal work** to ensure that the needs and expectations of women in the informal sector are addressed and they benefit economically from the transition;
4. **Strengthen the capacity of the gender machinery ICIEG, and the INE to collect, analyze and interpret gender-disaggregated statistics and qualitative studies for the tourism, agriculture and fishing sectors;**
5. Provide **technical assistance and training within government ministries and agencies for the integration of gender analysis** and the use of sex-disaggregated data in policy and program planning, budgeting and management;
6. **Create programs to facilitate the link between schools and jobs;** change gender-biased employment expectations of parents, teachers and students; and ensure youth reproductive health services as the basis for economic productivity;
7. Use public communications to **raise public awareness of the need for women's equal economic and political participation** in order for the country to attain inclusive and sustainable economic growth.



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CONCLUSIONS

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UN Women and the AfDB are committed to supporting the Government of Cabo Verde in its efforts to advance women's opportunities and rights and achieve inclusive growth. This Country Gender Profile provides an overview of gender issues in Cabo Verde based on extensive review of documents and reports and a field mission by the two partners 8-19 May 2017 to work

with government and stakeholders. A principal finding is that although there has been great progress on gender equality in education and health, there is a wide gender gap in economic opportunity and employment. A principal recommendation is the creation of a flagship program on women's economic empowerment as a key to gender equality as well as sustainable economic growth.



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## ANNEXES

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## Annex 1 - Cabo Verde Gender Data Tables

Source: National Statistics Institute (INE), June 2017

**Table 1: Core Data Profile**

Indicator	Data (early period)				Data (most recent period)				Indicative Source
	Female	Year	Male	Year	Female	Year	Male	Year	
<b>HUMAN ASSETS: CAPABILITY</b>									
<b>Health</b>									
Life Expectancy at Birth	56,1	1970	1970	1970	80,2	2017	72,2	2017	(1)
Crude Birth Rate (per 1 000 people)	(2011) 20,49				(2015) 20,34				(1)
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1 000 live births)	(2002) 21,3				(2015) 15,3				MS (1)
Under 5 mortality rate (%)	(2002) 25,1				(2015) 17,5				MS (1)
Total Fertility Rate (births per woman)	2,9	2005	...	...	2,34	2014	...	...	(1)
Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100 000 live births)	33,0	2003	...	...	47,0	2015	...	...	(1)
<b>Education</b>									
Young adult illiteracy rate (15-24 years old)	3,1	2010	2,6	2010	1,7	2014	2,6	2014	(1)
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>									
Adult HIV Prevalence (% of age group 15 - 49)	0,4	2005	...	...	...	...	...	...	(4) (5)
<b>ECONOMIC ASSETS: OPPORTUNITY</b>									
<b>Labor Force Participation</b>									
Adult economic activity rate (15 years and over)	56,6	2012	69,0	2012	58,2	2016	69,4	2016	(3)
<b>Gender Intensity of Production</b>									
Informal Sector employment (% female - male)	52,5	2009	...	...	58,8	2015	...	...	
<b>PHYSICAL ASSETS: SECURITY</b>									
Access to improved drinking water source (%)	90,2 (2010)				91,0 (2016)				(1)
Access to improved drinking water source (%) Rural	76,7 (2010)				74,5 (2016)				INE
Access to improved drinking water source (%) Urban	98,6 (2010)				99,1 (2016)				INE
Access to improved sanitation (%) **	63,6 (2010)				80,3 (2016)				(1)
Access to improved sanitation (%) Rural **	43,8 (2010)				64,9 (2016)				
Access to improved sanitation (%) Urban **	76,0 (2010)				87,9 (2016)				INE
Total Time Allocation (hours/day)	62:00	2012	38:10	...	...	...	...	...	(6)
<b>SOCIAL ASSETS: EMPOWERMENT</b>									
Representation in Parliament, 2003 (%)	11,1	2003	...	...	23,6	2016	76,4	2016	(4)
Representation in Cabinet and State Ministers (%)	23,1	2003	...	...	25,0	2016	...	2016	(4)
Household Headship (%)	47,6	2010	52,0	2010	45,7	2016	54,3	2016	(2)
Household Headship, Rural (%)	50,1	2010	49,6	2010	46,7	2016	53,3	2016	(2)
Household Headship, Urban (%)	46,3	2010	53,3	2010	45,3	2016	54,7	2016	(2)

Sources:

(1) Demographic and Health Survey; (2) National Household Survey; (3) NLFS – National Labour Force Survey; (4) FFG – Facts and Figures on Gender; (5) AIDS Indicator Survey; (6) Patterns of Time Use in Cabo Verde; (7) Authors.

**Table 2: Key Population Indicators, 1995-2015**

Indicator	1995	2005	2015
Total population (million)	...	465 236	524 833
Male population (million)	...	227 793	262 501
Female population (Million)	...	237 442	262 331
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	...	95,9	100,1
Population Density (#/km <sup>2</sup> )	...	...	130,13

Source: INE, *Projeções Demográficas da População 2010-2030*

**Table 3: Labor Force Data for Cabo Verde**

Employment Category	Male	Female	Ratio F/M
<b>By Sector/Industry</b>	%	%	M=100; F=
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	65,9	34,1	...
Manufacturing	57,0	43,0	...
Construction	96,4	3,6	...
Trade	36,5	63,5	...
Transportation ( <b>e armazenagem</b> )	93,2	6,8	...
Tourism ( <b>alojamento e restauração</b> )	35,6	64,4	...
Other Services	48,5	51,5	...
<b>By Type of Occupation</b>			
Chief Executives, Senior Officials, etc.	56,0	43,3	0,8
Professionals	44,0	56,0	1,3
Technicians and Associate Professionals	71,0	29,0	0,4
Service Workers	37,2	62,8	1,7
Agriculture and Fisheries Workers	84,3	15,7	0,2
Craft and Related Workers	82,1	17,9	0,2
Plant and Machine Operators	92,8	7,2	0,1
Elementary Occupations	47,4	52,6	1,1
<b>By Employment Status*</b>			
Paid Employment	56,9	43,1	0,8
Self Employment	46,8	53,2	1,1
Employers and Own Account Workers	70,8	29,2	0,4
Contributing Family Workers	55,8	44,2	0,8

Source: INE

## Annex 2 – Meetings & Contacts, Gender Profile Mission 8-19 May 2017

INSTITUTION	MEETINGS	CONTACT
Ministry of Finance	Minister Olavo Correia Focal Point - Mirza Brito Sectorial Advisers	Mirza.Brito@mf.gov.cv
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Network of Women Parliamentarians (RMP)	National Deputy – Anilda Tavares	
INGO/NGO/PRIVATE SECTOR		
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## Annex 3 – Gender Profile Recommendations for the African Development Bank in Cabo Verde

The African Development Bank's support to the Cabo Verde Government for gender equality efforts is based in the Bank's Gender Strategy 2014-18: Investing in Gender Equality for Africa's Transformation.

Two of the three pillars for the strategy are: **Pillar 2: Economic empowerment**, and **Pillar 3: Knowledge management and capacity building**. The AfDB integrates its gender equality commitments under its "High Five" priorities: Light up and power Africa; Feed Africa; Industrialise Africa; Integrate Africa; and Improve the quality of life for the people of Africa; through its core operational priorities of infrastructure development, regional integration, private sector development, governance and accountability, and skills and technology; and its two cross-cutting areas of fragile states and agriculture.

Pillar 2 of the AfDB Gender Strategy, **Economic Empowerment**, involves: Increasing women's access to and control over financial resources and services, leveraging infrastructure for gender equality, advocating for affirmative action in favor of women and women-owned businesses, increasing the productivity of women farmers and facilitating their inclusion in the market, and providing women with skills training in science and technology.

Through Pillar 3 of the AfDB Gender Strategy, **Knowledge management and capacity building**, the Bank will: provide resources and technical assistance for knowledge management for gender equality, improve its own gender results reporting, build the capacity of its staff to promote gender equality in operations, support RMCs in building their capacity to promote and mainstream gender equality in policies and programmes, and produce better sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics.

In light of the AfDB principles and framework for its assistance to member states, and the Cabo Verde Gender Profile review of gender needs and priorities, the following are suggested areas for AfDB support to advance gender equality in Cabo Verde:

### Lending Support

- » Provide lending support to infrastructure areas

requested by the Government, especially those for water, sanitation, and transport in poor and rural areas - all of which can ease women's time burdens with both care and productive work, and fall under the first two of the AfDB "High Five" priorities: Feed Africa.

- » Provide financial support to improve resources and capacity for gender analysis and studies by the National Statistics Institute (*INE*), and to expand gender data and information available to all ministries and civil society on the virtual platform *Observatório de Género*, under the fifth "High Five" priority: Improve the quality of life for the people of Africa.

### Non-lending Support

- » Work with relevant Government agencies and AfDB Cabo Verde project staff to perform gender impact assessments for all AfDB projects (pre- and post-), establish gender indicators for monitoring, and summarize gender lessons learned.
- » Work with the *INE* to provide technical assistance and/or training to all government agencies on how to collect, monitor, analyze and utilize sex-disaggregated data for both policy and management purposes.
- » Provide opportunities for staff of the *INE*, *ICIEG*, and *Observatório* to share with other AfDB member states their experience of collaboration between the national statistics office and the national gender machinery, and their use of sex-disaggregated data for inclusive and equitable development planning.
- » Provide technical assistance to the *ICIEG* and the Ministry of Finance Office of Resource Mobilization, working with partner UN Women Cabo Verde, to produce background studies and/or proposals to identify special funding mechanisms to support the recommended Government program on women's economic empowerment.



## Annex 4 – Selected International Donor Partners in Cabo Verde

### United Nations

In addition to UN Women Cabo Verde, many other UN agencies provide gender-related services in Cabo Verde. The International Labor Organization (ILO) and the UN Development Program (UNDP) are partners in the Government Program for Assistance to a National Strategy for Job Creation in Cabo Verde, *PAENCE/ CV (Programa de Apoio à Estratégia Nacional de Criação de Emprego em Cabo Verde)* led by the Ministry of the Economy and financed by Luxemburg foreign aid LuxDev, Cooperação Luxemburguesa. Under that program, the ILO has been studying the country's social security system, and has launched a study to elaborate a national plan for the transition from informal to formal sector work (*Estratégia nacional de transição da economia informal à formal, 2017- 2020*). The UN International Organization of Migration (IOM) in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provides support for returning emigrants. Another IOM project aims to promote legal mobility between Cabo Verde and the EU by enhancing cooperation on migration and development issues while combating irregular migration. Collaboration with IOM on collection and analysis of data on women emigrants could be of interest if time and resources are available.

### European Union (EU)

In March 2017 the European Union released its new Gender Strategy for Cabo Verde,<sup>41</sup> which contains a thorough review of gender-related issues, reports, and data sources. The EU report has provided valuable inputs for this Issue Paper, as well as suggestions for other data sources and information to be sought during the Mission. EU projects in Cabo Verde include support

to emigrants to EU countries and for returning emigrants to Cabo Verde, and a new project connecting Cabo Verde and the Canary Islands for sustainable tourism, called SOSTURMAC, focused on the islands of Santiago, Fogo e Santo Antão. A principal EU member in Cabo Verde is Luxemburg which has provided important support to the government and civil society through its aid agency LuxDev, especially in the area of training for employment and employability and education support.

### Millennium Challenge Account (MCA)

The Millennium Challenge Account for Cabo Verde financed a gender strategy for water & sanitation 2015-2020 which was released in July 2015.<sup>42</sup> The document, "*Estratégia Social e de Género para o Sector da Água e Saneamento em Cabo Verde 2015-2010*" (ESGAS) outlines five key areas: physical access to services; economic access; power; social control and responsibility; and institutionalizing social and gender considerations in service. The document provides a possible model for gender analyses in other sectors, and the MCA is an important partner for integration of gender in infrastructure projects. The MCA collaborates closely with UN Women in Cabo Verde and the two organizations formalized this relationship through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2014.

### World Bank (as of April 2017)

The World Bank has four active projects in Cabo Verde in the areas of: tourism development; solar energy systems; transport sector reform and electricity recovery and reform. Collaboration and coordination on gender aspects of work and lessons learned will be encouraged by the Gender Profile team.

<sup>41</sup> "Análise de Género e Plano de Ação de Género (GAP 2016-2020) no âmbito da cooperação UE - Cabo Verde". Autora: Clara Mendes de Barros, 2017.

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.mca.cv/index.php/pt/news/246-estrategia-social-e-de-genero-para-o-sector-da-agua-e-saneamento-apresentada-na-cidade-de-praia>



