



Terms of Reference:

W1.4 Construction of an inclusive nation and integration of the Diaspora in Cabo Verde's transformation

Cabo Verde has been making significant progress with regard to the transformation agenda. The Country is becoming a modern society with a strong physical and social infrastructure. Democracy continues to be strengthened. Freedoms are increasingly consolidated, as is the Rule of Law.

However, success is not guaranteed and there are still significant challenges. We must have the humility to recognize that there is still a long way to go to ensure that all Cabo Verdean families have the standard of living they legitimately aspire to. There are new challenges that will require more work, more dedication, more commitment and, particularly, more spirit of unity and social inclusion, so that, together, we can face the challenges.

At the social-demographic level, we have the challenge of maintaining and strengthening social cohesion, in a context of pressures resulting from various factors, such as the still high youth unemployment level, changes in family organization models, inequality between consumption and the production base, Cabo Verde's increasing openness to the world, among others.

Cabo Verde is a global Nation because it consists of communities in the archipelago (in the strict sense of the national territory) and in the Diaspora (in a broad sense of the countries hosting our emigrants). Given the historical, cultural, symbolic, economic and political dimension it occupies, we have the challenge of ensuring the unity, cohesion and dynamics of the Cabo Verdean Nation, taking great care of the emigration agenda.

The State also has the challenge of providing the conditions for the Cabo Verdean society to develop in a harmonious, balanced, safe and cohesive manner, with personal growth opportunities for all.

The strength of the democratic rule of law is in society's adherence to its essential principles and values, which are, among others, the right of each individual to fulfill his/her duties and contribute to a society with tolerance, low conflict levels, peace and concord.

In a dynamic context of marked social transformations, parents and citizens also have the challenge and responsibility to convey to children the moral and ethical values necessary for social peace and harmony.

The Nation also has the challenge of ensuring the preservation and enhancement of the cultural manifestations that identify us as a nation and as a people. This challenge requires all Cabo Verdeans, and the sovereign bodies in

particular, to view culture as a vital element for education and personal growth, collective identification, social peace, and also a potential pillar of economic growth.

The complexity and cross-cutting nature of youth problems require a profound and ongoing dialogue with/among young people, families and communities, civil society and public authorities, with the aim of finding mechanisms suitable for their progressive resolution.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are essential to ensuring equal rights and dignity for all in Cabo Verde. Investing in women is no longer just a matter of human rights; rather, it relates also to economic development and sustainability, poverty reduction and long-term prosperity for all.

The plenary session will undertake an analysis of the Cabo Verdean society and address the issue of building an inclusive nation and including the Diaspora in national efforts to transform Cabo Verde. Specifically, the session will examine and answer the following questions:

1. How do we encourage Cabo Verdean communities in the Diaspora to be full Cabo Verdean citizens and a factor of Cabo Verde's affirmation in the world?
2. How do we encourage citizens to adopt attitudes and behaviors that promote a culture of peace and tolerance?
3. How do we encourage initiatives aimed at creating spaces for social dialogue and strengthening social networks' capacity to intervene in protecting rights and promoting justice, promoting the democratic rule of law, gender equality and women's empowerment?
4. How do we find appropriate mechanisms to progressively solve the problem of youth inclusion in society?