



Terms of Reference: Workshop 2.5 ICT Cluster

The country's assumption as an international platform for Service delivery, anchored in its culture and in the growth and consolidation of a knowledge economy, through intensive use of technological resources as well as a commitment to innovation and programmed human resource training, requires a more effective stimulation of key economic sectors.

Thus, promoting a culture of innovation and increased use of information technology, in both the public sector and in society in general, has been one of the strategic objectives for Cabo Verde's Transformation Agenda, which considers the new information and communication technologies (ICT) as cross-sectoral and Electronic Governance as instrumental to the State Reform Agenda.

The aim is to make Cabo Verde an e-State, innovative in different business areas, particularly in governance (e-Gov), society, education (*Mundu Novu*), health, culture and services. So that increasingly the relationship and interpenetration between different players, citizens, the State, business, academia, nongovernmental organizations, and other cultural agents, is made easier by the use of ICT.

By eliminating the perversity of intermediation which adds no value, ICT development creates the conditions for the country to take advantage of its huge, rich and diverse cultural production. Indeed, culture is increasingly one of the most profitable sectors in the world and it should be seen as such. There is indeed a great opportunity to creolize (*Cabo Verdeanize*) technology, with a strong innovative and creative bent, by promoting Cabo Verdean culture sustained in academic research. The idea is to turn culture into a business where production would be aimed at profitability, as well as satisfying the spiritual needs of society.

In short, the ICT Cluster aims to develop an internationally renowned ICT sector, oriented towards exports and the country's economic growth, and ones that promotes the information and knowledge society, efficiency and competitiveness of the remaining clusters.

The workshop will be strategic in nature and will be focused on policy formulation. It will explore Cabo Verde's potential to develop the ICT cluster. It will discuss, in particular, what needs to be done so that Cabo Verde can export already developed services such as e-governance, namely by strengthening strategic partnerships to acquire knowledge, improve competitiveness and attract new markets. Specifically, the workshop will examine the development of entrepreneurial and business activities that reinforce the information and knowledge society and digital economy, and answer the following questions:

- What are the areas of activity within the ICT where Cabo Verde has comparative advantages?
- What should be the governance structure for the ICT Cluster: Who should lead the Clusters? Who should be a member of the network of Clusters? What should be the performance indicators of Clusters? What system should be adopted for monitoring and evaluating Clusters? What is the role of the Information and Communication Technologies Cluster's Strategic Board?
- How do we optimize and plan the activities of Clusters? How do we ensure that planned activities are consistent with the positioning of Clusters?
- How do we ensure the competitiveness of Clusters? Who should ensure the maintenance of this competitiveness?
- What should be the decision-making system to determine which activities should be left to the public sector, private sector or PPP? What are the activities that represent opportunities for the private sector? How do we evaluate the private sector's ability?
- What should be the promotion strategy to attract foreign direct investment and create opportunities for the domestic private sector?