



Termos de Referencia

Workshop 4.2: Inclusive Development

In the last decade, Cabo Verde's largely tourism-driven economic growth has resulted in significant progress on meeting the basic needs of the population, and it is now one of the few African countries expected to realize most, if not all, of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. However, despite some promising achievements, poverty reduction continues at a slow rate and unemployment has reached worrying levels, especially among the youth population. According to the latest data, the youth unemployment rates in Cabo Verde reached 34.5% (15-24) and 19.7% (25-34), in contrast to the national average of 16.4%. Further, regional disparities have increased with the divergence in development opportunities and prospects specific to each island and there is a widening rural-urban divide, with the poor mainly in the rural areas.

Under such circumstances, it is imperative to achieve economic transformation so that economic growth becomes more robust and benefits reach across all segments of the population. Economic growth must then be coupled with differentiated and targeted social protection measures in order to ensure that all Cabo Verdeans can effectively participate in the economy. Achieving inclusive development in Cabo Verde will be directly linked to the country's capacity to develop and mobilize its human capital by investing in effective education, skills-training and healthcare systems that serve to increase labor productivity, per-capita income and overall well-being. Recent economic trends further suggest the need for education and skills training to be more closely integrated with identified growth strategies, so as to facilitate the emergence of sufficient and decent employment.

Recognizing that a transformative social policy framework can play an important role in supporting strong economic transformation, achieving demographic dividends, breaking poverty cycles and maintaining peace and social cohesion, the workshop session will examine the issues with a focus on how to ensure inclusive development in an environment of socioeconomic transformation in Cabo Verde. This workshop will also be an opportunity for the country to re-visit its social policy strategy as it builds a national consensus around the post 2015 sustainable development goals. Specifically, the workshop will focus on exploring the following questions:

- What has been Cape Verde's performance relative to the Millennium Development Goals?
- What were the main social development achievement goals reached in the last decade?
- What are the key remaining challenges to tackle (inequality, gender, unemployment)?
- How can the development of the clusters be utilized to promote social development and inclusiveness (gender, regional, urban/rural, youth, etc)?
- What innovative social protection measures can be implemented to promote inclusiveness while upholding individual responsibility?