

**ICMPD**International Centre for
Migration Policy DevelopmentMINISTÉRIO
DA JUSTIÇAGOVERNO DE
CABO VERDE

A TRABALHAR PARA TODOS.



OBSERVE- CV

STRENGTHENING THE CABO VERDE'S CAPACITY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Background

In line with the article 271-A from 2015 of the Criminal Code, as well as all the international commitments Cabo Verde has assumed on the topic of Trafficking in Persons, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) will implement the OBSERVE-CV project. It will support the national anti-trafficking stakeholders to fulfil their mandates according to the legal framework and policies in place. This action is funded by the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons of the United States Department of State and is expected to be implemented through May 2024.

Key Activities

1. Structuring the National Observatory against trafficking

Agreement on the roles and responsibilities of each member within the Observatory, as well as establishing faster avenues to share information among them. This activity will streamline their relationship and promote sustainable, joint work.

2. Facilitating the regular functioning of the National Observatory

Provision of financial and technical support for the Observatory members to meet with the regularity they need to oversee policies and maintain the national case reporting system.

3. Promoting international cooperation

Organization of study visits abroad (Brazil or Portugal) to promote the sharing of experiences with the National Observatory of the other country, understand how they work, exchange lessons learnt, solutions to common problems, and good practices in running a multi-stakeholder forum.



The Goal

OBSERVE-CV aims at creating, with the Cabo Verdean anti-trafficking actors, the mechanisms and knowledge they need to fight Trafficking in Persons, as well as facilitating the national coordination efforts to identify and protect trafficked people.

Objectives

- Create a solid framework for collaboration and information sharing among the anti-trafficking stakeholders.
- Empower the National Observatory and its members to properly monitor and identify instances of exploitation.
- Support the national authorities and civil society organizations alike to rescue more and better protect victims.
- Ensure that all islands have operatives to monitor and report suspected cases of exploitation.
- Update the knowledge about the current context of trafficking and use it to inform policies and other anti-exploitation measures.
- Ensure that all relevant stakeholders are well trained to identify trafficking cases, protect its victims, and prosecute the perpetrators.

4. Implementing the Standard Operation Procedures for the National Referral Mechanism

Congregation of the main anti-trafficking stakeholders to formalize agreements to enable the flow of national referral to take place consistently. The project will also offer courses to all relevant actors to train them on how to properly apply the procedures.

5. Establishing focal points on all inhabited islands

Trafficking does not occur only in the capital. The project will strive to conclude agreements with local authorities on the islands and appoint focal points there to work as decentralized operatives of the National Observatory. These focal points will be part of an alert system that reports any suspected cases to the competent authorities. They will also help monitor policy implementation and promote anti-trafficking activities in their communities. As such, the focal points will connect all islands in a national network and increase the operability of public institutions in remote areas.

6. Understanding the current status of the phenomenon of trafficking

Conduct a comprehensive assessment, counting on local researchers, on all islands of Cabo Verde. This study aims to unveil a more complete picture of the phenomenon of exploitation in the country, with its regional specificities. It will attempt to ascertain new trends, forms and routes of trafficking, victim recruitment methods, as well as the vulnerability and resilience factors on each island. As a result, the knowledge created here will feed into policy-making and implementation, also serving as the basis for future training.

7. Training trainers and responders at broad

Based on the findings of the evaluation and the operational procedures of the national referral mechanism, OBSERVE-CV will offer a series of training courses to stakeholders dealing with trafficking. As a first step, a group of trainers will be prepared to teach how to identify cases, protect and refer victims, and prosecute traffickers. Secondly, those trainers will offer basic training on those topics to public officials and members of civil society. The pedagogical methodology and training materials that ICMPD will develop for these courses may be used by any organisation in the country to train their staff, even after OBSERVE-CV ends.

8. Publishing of practical guidelines and an online course

All those who were not able to participate in the series of training courses and all professionals who will start working against trafficking after the completion of OBSERVE-CV will benefit from a practical manual and an online course, with the same content as the basic training, which will be available on demand. ICMPD will negotiate with key anti-trafficking stakeholders in the country to adopt the materials as part of their regular training programmes.

Find out more

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