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INSTITUTO DE GESTÃO DA QUALIDADE E DA PROPRIEDADE INTELECTUAL



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP)

Response to the COVID-19 crisis and recovery of the tourism sector in Cabo Verde

UNIDO Component



Cabo Verde



The West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP)

The West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP), is a partnership initiative between the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the European Union (EU). It has a bearing on regional economic integration and highlights a commitment to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the EU and West Africa. WACOMP is funded through a EUR 116 million contribution from the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for West Africa (2014 – 2020) under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF).

The main economic challenges in West Africa include competitiveness of enterprises and the need for better value-chain integration at regional and national levels in order to scale up sustainable structural transformation.

The overall objective of the programme is to strengthen the competitiveness of West Africa and to enhance the ECOWAS countries' integration into the regional and international trading system, including the newly established African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

WACOMP embraces the vision of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) and is also aligned to the mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) of fostering Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID).

The action is being carried out in the ECOWAS member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Republic of Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo) and in Mauritania, through national components in each country, as well as a regional one. The country components are being implemented by selected specialized agencies.

In line with its mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development, UNIDO has been entrusted by the EU as implementing partner for seven country components, including Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Cabo Verde and Senegal.

WACOMP's Overall Objectives

Specific Objective 1



Improve the performance, growth and contribution to industry, regional trade and exports of selected Value Chains

Country level

- Competitiveness at firms level is improved, especially through the Cluster's approach.
- Intermediate organisations of the selected Value Chains are strengthened and service delivery to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises is improved and expanded (quality standards, new green solutions, market access, etc..).

Regional level

- Better regional linkages among selected VCs actors are promoted and key regional intermediary organisations are supported.
- Regional quality infrastructure system is strengthened, with a view to promote environmental issue.

Specific Objective 2



Improve the climate for business at national and regional levels

Country level

- Regional policies in favour of competitiveness are mainstreamed in the country and help enable a business-friendly environment.

Regional level

- The regional policy and framework to improve competitiveness are harmonised, formulated and monitored.
- The capacity of the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions and Member States to successfully manage, coordinate and monitor the programme is strengthened.

WACOMP in Cabo Verde

The WACOMP Cabo Verde project, entitled the “West Africa Competitiveness Support Project (adapted for COVID-19 crisis response and recovery) in Cabo Verde”, is a national component under the West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP) funded by the European Union (EU), with the aim to safeguard the overall socio-economic sector of Cabo Verde during and after the COVID-19 crisis.

The WACOMP in Cabo Verde is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the main implementing agency with a specific component entrusted to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Under the EU-funded WACOMP, a regional program financed by the 11th European Development Fund (EDF 11), Cabo Verde benefits from a EUR 5 million envelope to implement a national project. UNIDO has been entrusted a specific component of the project, for a total budget of EUR 150,000.

The specific objective is to mitigate the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic for the most vulnerable economic actors and to support the recovery of the tourism sector. To this end, the Government of Cabo Verde has identified a range of measures that will offer the means to tourism-sector stakeholders to not only recover from the impact of COVID-19 but also make it more competitive in the medium-to-long term.

The project is being implemented in close collaboration and coordination with the Institute for Quality Management and Intellectual Property (IGQPI) and the Ministry of Tourism and Transport. IGQPI is already leading the national reinforcement of certification of products and services, whose capacity will be strengthened throughout the intervention. The project will foster synergies with the regional quality infrastructure component of the WACOMP programme, the West Africa Competitiveness and Quality Infrastructure Project (WACQIP).

IGQPI, in partnership with UNIDO, has developed a certification scheme to guarantee the sanitary safety and quality of goods and services in the food sector companies, which will help to remove access barriers to trade and promote the improvement of food safety and quality in the chains. related to the tourism sector.

The training of small entrepreneurs will contribute to improving the quality of their products and services, better welcoming tourists, as well as increasing the competitiveness of the Cabo Verdean tourism sector.

THIS PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)



BENEFICIARIES

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and producers (predominantly composed of women and youth)

Ministry of Industry, Trade and Energy

Ministry of Tourism and Transport

Actors in the Special Regime for Micro and Small Enterprises (REMPE)

CONCERT- National Certification Commission

Stakeholders of the tourism sector

Testing select laboratories

Quality Management and Intellectual Property Institute (IGQPI)

AT A GLANCE

Donor:
European Union

Duration:
May - Sept 2021

Budget:
EUR 5 million of which EUR 150,000 allocated to UNIDO


Co-Implementing Agencies:
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Main Counterparts:
Quality Management and Intellectual Property Institute (IGQPI), the Cabo Verdean Ministry of Industry, Trade and Energy and Ministry of Tourism and Transport

SYNERGIES

West Africa Competitiveness and Quality Infrastructure Project (WACQIP)



 @WACOMPCaboVerde
www.wacomp.projects.ecowas.int

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