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The Women Members of Parliament in Cape Verde call for additional resources for the “Strengthening Gender Equality and Equity” program



On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, 24 November 2014, the Network of Women MPs of Cape Verde (RMPCV) proposed the **allocation** during Parliament discussions on the General State Budget for 2015, **of an additional ECV 45 million** (equivalent to EUR 41 million) for the “Strengthening of gender equality and equity” program.

This main objective of this action, planned within the framework of the Pro PALOP-TL ISC, in partnership with the office of UN Women in Cape Verde, is the analysis of gender-sensitive budget, allowing for the identification and consideration of the need to bridge the gender gap in sectoral and local governmental policies, plans and interventions in the budgets, as well as to analyse the differential impact between men and women and policies to increase the performance and allocation of internal resources.

The **Analysis of the State Budget for 2015 from a gender-based approach** carried out by the Network has shown the following:

- The funds allocated for the implementation of the Law are only **ECV 12,963,360** (equivalent to EUR 11,744,459), exclusively from donations;
- The total of the financial effort devoted to the “Promotion of gender equality”, including the implementation of the Law, amounts to ECV 31,303,894, (equivalent to EUR 28,360,495) which represents only **0.06% of the 2015 State Budget** ;
- The implementation of the Plan for combating Gender-Based Violence and the National Plan for Gender Equality (PNIG), in addition to other measures to be implemented by other sectoral bodies, needs an allocation of ECV 62,708,867 (equivalent to EUR 56,812,565) for the “Strengthening gender equality and equity” program.

It is emphasized that these additional resources which represent ECV 56,863,467,933 (equivalent to EUR 51,516,788,955), 0.08% of the 2015 State Budget have their own sources of financing, as established by the Law (84/VIII/11 which provides that “15% of the revenue generated by the administration of movable assets seized or confiscated in favour of the State shall go to the Support Fund for Victims of Gender-Based Violent Crimes”.

Since the Special Law on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) came into effect in March 2011, the RMPCV is monitoring compliance, with the support of Pro PALOP-TL ISC.



This legislative monitoring included visits on the ground to all the districts in the country, which made it possible to identify the challenges in terms of compliance with the implementation of this Law, including the operation of safe houses and the fund for victim support, the program for aggressors, as well as improving the links between the various institutions involved in this matter.

Pro PALOP-TL SAI NEWS

This Project is fully financed by the European Union

Editorial

The Project of Strengthening Technical and Functional Capacities of the Supreme Audit Institutions, National Parliaments and Civil Society for the control of Public Finances in PALOP and in Timor-Leste, Pro PALOP-TL ISC, is fully funded by the European Union with an amount of EUR 6,400,000 and administered by UNDP for a period of 3 years, and is a project with great chances of success.

This is because Pro PALOP-TL ISC unveiled a strategy inspired by and anchored in a shared history of processes, institutional practices, legal frameworks, cultural ties and fraternity that unite the African Portuguese-speaking Countries and Timor-Leste.

There is an **inclusive strategy**, where all the beneficiaries are involved in the formulation process of the operational work plans for the promotion of external and independent control of public finances, by means of a **solid process of identification and outlining needs** that makes the inter-institutional south-south cooperation, the exchange of experiences and peer learning, the main instruments for the development of human and institutional capacities.

Pro PALOP-TL ISC has gone through a **long and steady formulation process**, marked by a well-structured and inclusive methodology that evolved gradually to an in-depth documentary analysis of the main reports and indicators on economic governance and management of public finances, profiling of beneficiary countries, for a systematic assessment of the institutional, human and financial capacities of each of the beneficiary institutions for the effective

exercise of external control and supervision of public accounts in PALOP and Timor-Leste.

Pro PALOP-TL ISC reflects the reality of its beneficiaries in the field of external control of public finances: human resources, public institutions, non-state actors, etc.

And because this project is deeply anchored in institutional practices, well aligned with legal frameworks and best practices, sensitive to the idiosyncrasies and cultures of PALOP and Timor-Leste, **Pro PALOP-TL ISC will be a success!**

Pro PALOP-TL SAI participates in the Board of Directors Meeting of ISC of CPLP

At the invitation of the Board of Directors of the Organization of the Supreme Institutions of Control of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (OISC/CPLP), Pro PALOP-TL ISC participated in the Eighth General Assembly of said Organization, which was held between 16 and 19 of September, in Brasilia, Federal Capital of Brazil.

The event was organised under the auspices of the Court of Auditors of the Union (Brazil), had its motto was "The Contribution of Governance for the Improvement of Public Administration and National Development".

The participation of the manager of Pro PALOP-TL ISC at this event allowed for, among other things, the following:



Pro PALOP-TL ISC participates in the Meeting of the Board of Directors of ISC of CPLP

To introduce Pro PALOP-TL ISC to the members of the organization and plan joint actions for the capacity development of ISC PALOP-TL.

To coordinate a series of working sessions with the technicians from TCU (ISC Brazil) and TCPT (ISC Portugal) which will enable the refining of concept notes, as well as better identifying the activities to be financed and drawing up indicative budgets and agreeing on the rules and procedures for the financing of actions.

To agree with the OISC/CPLP the Activity Plan for

strengthening the capacities of ISC, PALOP and East Timor for the period 2015-2016, to be financed within the framework of Pro PALOP-TL ISC

One of the highlights of this meeting was the creation of the DECLARATION OF BRASILIA which integrates different recommendations in order to improve the role of ISCs in the promotion of good public governance.

For More Information, visit
www.oiscclp.org/cplp/inicio.htm

Pro PALOP-TL SAI NEWS

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Formulation of Work Plans. Challenges and Results

The Project for the strengthening of the technical and functional competencies of the supreme audit institutions, national parliaments and civil society for the control of public finances in the Portuguese-speaking African Countries and Timor-Leste (Pro PALOP-TL ISC), has passed through a long and consistent process of formulation, marked by a systematic and inclusive methodology. This methodology gradually evolved from an in-depth analysis of the main reports and indicators on the economic governance and management of the beneficiary countries, to a systematic evaluation of the institutional, human and financial capacities of each of the beneficiary institutions, with the aim of achieving effective external scrutiny and inspection of public accounts in the Portuguese-speaking African Countries and in Timor-Leste.

It was a piece of work which allowed the consultation and involvement of **24 institutional partners** (Supreme Audit

institutions, Parliaments, Finance Ministries and Civil Society Organizations) in **6 different countries** in extensive sessions to formulate operational work plans.

In a period of about 9 months, 18 Annual Work Plans, about 198 activities, approximately 396 activity results and over 1,118 actions were devised in a participative and inclusive way. These promote capacity development, the exchange of experiences, peer learning and institutional south-south cooperation in the PALOP countries and in East Timor.

This solid process of understanding and identifying needs worked in the service of a vision and strategy which makes inter-institutional south-south cooperation, the exchange of experience, and peer learning the main instruments for the development of human and institutional capacities.



Pro PALOP-TL ISC Supports the Cabo Verde National Assembly in Implementing the Legislative and Parliamentary Information System (SILP)

The Cabo Verde National Assembly now has a Data Processing Centre which will allow, among other things, the **digital processing of parliamentary activity, the automation of processes, and electronic voting.** The system allows information produced by Parliamentary activity to be administered and publicized in an integrated and automated manner, the main objective being to make Parliament more open and accessible to its citizens.

Inaugurated by the President of the National Assembly, Basílio Mosso Ramos, on 23 October, the ceremony was attended by the Representative of the European Union in Cape Verde, the Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira. The Centre forms part of the process of reforming the Cabo-Verdean Parliament in terms of communication and new technologies, a process begun in 2011.

The Centre functions with the SILP information system, a web application which enables the digital processing of Parliamentary activity, and is inspired by **Bungeni** - an application developed by experts from the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs "i-Parliaments Action Plan". The sustained implementation of SILP will be supported by Pro PALOP-TL ISC in other beneficiary countries, with its aims including the following:

1. **The Development** of flows of Parliamentary activity
2. **The Training** of staff and Parliamentarians in the use of the system
3. **The Modernization** of the National Assembly's information technology infrastructure.

On the same day, the SILP Implementation Agreement was initialled by the Vice President of the National Assembly and President of the Administrative Council of the National Assembly in Cabo Verde, Dr Júlio Correia, and by the Coordinator of the United Nations System and Resident Representative of UNDP in Cabo Verde, Ulrika Richardson.



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The Mozambique Work Plan gets off to a good start with the participation of Supreme Court staff in meetings promoted by AFROSAI-E

The Administrative Court (TA) of Mozambique, with the support of Pro PALOP-TL ISC, has participated in two meetings organized by the African Organisation of English-Speaking Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI-E) in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Between 17 and 21 November, five auditors of the TA participated in the **Refresher Workshop on Performance and Regularity Auditing**.

Performance auditing allows the independent monitoring and evaluation of government action, at the level of programme implementation, the execution of projects and activities, systems management and the administration of agencies and entities, with a view to the most economical utilization of public resources, the efficient generation of goods and services, the fulfilment of programme targets and the achievement of effective results from government policies.

In addition to performance auditing, the AFROSAI-E programme of leadership and human resources featured among the subjects addressed in this workshop. This programme will serve as an input for Mozambique's strategy of career professionalization for public auditors.

The event occurred after the 9th Annual Technical Update which also took place in Johannesburg, between 10 and 14 November, in which the TA was represented by three auditors.



The objective of this Annual Meeting, at which 91 international representatives and delegates from member countries and institutional partners were present, was to update members of the Supreme Audit Institutions on the principal conclusions and recommendations of the seminars that had been organized over the year.

Interview with the Representative of the European Union in Cabo Verde, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira



What does this project represent for the European Union, particularly within the framework of cooperation with Portuguese-speaking African countries (PALOP)/ Timor-Leste?

This project is important for the European Union for many reasons, but especially because, on the one hand, it is a cooperation project with Portuguese-speaking African countries and East Timor - the Portuguese-speaking ACP countries -, therefore enabling a form of South-South cooperation between these partners with a shared history and culture, as well as experiences. On the other hand, the fact that this project is aimed at building the capacity of supreme audit institutions over the use of public finances, parliaments and civil society is an important step towards the consolidation of democracy in these countries and of a culture of

accountability and scrutiny over the use of public funds in the benefit of populations.

In your understanding, what is the role of public administration and supreme audit institutions in contributing towards the effective workings of the political system and, more specifically, for the promotion of a more inclusive and corruption-free society?

These supreme audit institutions play a fundamental role in the consolidation of democratic systems. Legitimately elected leaders ahead of their countries' governments manage public funds in accordance to the allocations stipulated on the respective State budgets as well as government programmes. Therefore, it becomes indispensable that independent institutions have the opportunity to monitor the management of these funds in light of the legislation in place, particularly when it comes to the terms of public procurement, priority setting, adherence to government programmes and meeting the populations' claims and aspirations. It is in this sense that the three types of actors participating in this capacity-building project, courts of auditors, parliaments and civil society, will improve the efficiency of their work.

In your understanding, how can this project contribute towards strengthening the

partnership between the European Union and the PALOP/Timor-Leste?

The partnership between the Portuguese-speaking African countries, East Timor and the European Union, which already dates back to over 20 years in several key areas of interest, is strengthened by this project. It allows for a broadening of the scope of cooperation between these countries and the European Union, extending it to new areas, such as the capacity-building of supreme audit institutions supervising the use of public funds, not only at the level of courts but also involving parliaments and civil society. This is, therefore, a new area of cooperation and a further important step in channelling resources for these countries, in these respective areas of work, while also enabling them to share experiences and harmonising institutional procedures. The European Union considers this to be a significant achievement in these countries' development processes.

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Interview with the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Cabo Verde, Ulrika Richardson



How in your view can this project contribute to strengthening the partnership between the United Nations Development Programme and the European Union?

This project is another example of the excellent collaboration between Cabo Verde, UNDP and the European Union. If each of us were to reflect on what it could be tomorrow, in a globalized world, which is the engine of economic, social and environmental

change and transformation, I note with satisfaction that we have worked together for social development - development that values institutional capacity and good governance, and strengthens the inclusion of actors from civil society and from the national and international communities in general. The project aims to develop the capacities of national actors in an effective way, placing south-south inter-institutional cooperation and peer learning at the centre of the methodologies for empowerment, and at the centre of a strategy that is anchored in the shared cultural, legal and human heritage that characterizes PALOP-TL (the Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste). This approach represents a good example of partnership between the European Union and UNDP in a crucial area for the promotion of Development and Human Rights. Both institutions have put the promotion of **democracy and good governance** at the forefront, as pillars of their frameworks for global cooperation.

These two institutions have a structured framework for strategic global partnership with a long history of success and significant impact in a wide range of areas, especially in the promotion of democratic governance. This work benefits enormously from the achievements of Pro PALOP-TL ISC*, which have been considered to be good practice. The very innovative approach allows the empowerment of beneficiaries and the effective development of their capacities in the external scrutiny of accounts and public expenditure - an area which is traditionally hermetic and difficult to access. The results and the lessons learned on this project will serve to strengthen the system for financial accountability and independent external scrutiny of public finances in the beneficiary countries, with clear positive repercussions for a more strategic visibility of the global work of the European Union and UNDP.

In your opinion what is the role of the public administrations and Supreme Audit Institutions in the effective functioning of the political system, and specifically for the development of a society which is more inclusive and freer from corruption?

Throughout recent decades, the United Nations has been proposing a set of key principles for good public governance. These include financial accountability, efficiency, transparency and quality in the management of public affairs, a public administration focused on the interests and participation of the citizens, and equality between men and women. The work of public administrations in ensuring good governance in contemporary democracies is very much about assuring these principles in an effective response to the demands of the citizens, who are at the centre of public policies. It is the Supreme Audit Institutions, the Courts of Auditors, Parliaments and civil society as well as the public in general, who ensure that the responses of the public administrations meet the demands of the citizens, in a continuum of complex interrelations which simultaneously presuppose cooperation and independent monitoring. The impact of these interrelations on the effective functioning of the political system and the development of a society which is more inclusive, more just and freer from corruption will depend on the capacity of the Supreme Audit Institutions to evolve from the mere monitoring of the legality of the executive's acts and its accounts, to the evaluation and monitoring of effectiveness, transparency and quality in the choices of public policies, their implementation and their administration. In my opinion, this evolution is a fundamental element for the effective functioning of the political system, and ultimately for justice, social peace and sustainable human development.

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***Project for the strengthening of the technical and functional competencies of the supreme audit institutions, national parliaments and civil society for the control of public finances in the Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste (Pro PALOP-TL ISC)**

Ethics and Professional Deontological Ethics in Public Auditing” was the theme of a training session involving the staff of the Court of Audit Photos

“Ethics and Professional Deontological Ethics in Public Auditing” was the theme of a training session involving the staff of the Court of Audit of Cape Verde (TCCV, in the Portuguese acronym), which took place between the 29th and the 31st of October, in Praia.

The training session aimed at the following goals:

- **Identifying** general ethical principles and those that should guide professional deontology applied to public auditing and, in particular, those enshrined in the guidelines for the internal control of the public sector (INTOSAI, in the Portuguese acronym), as well as its respective applicability;
- **Presenting** a series of practices, for implementation and assessment, that should guide the conduct of TCCV staff and encourage them in their fulfilment as well as
- **Discussing and collecting** feedback on the proposal for TCCV code of ethics.

“Ethics and Professional Deontological Ethics in Public Auditing” was the theme of a training session involving the staff of the Court of Audit of Cape Verde (TCCV, in the Portuguese acronym), which took place between the 29th and the 31st of October, in Praia.

The opening ceremony was presided by the Representative of the European Union in Cape Verde, the Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira, by the TCCV President, José Carlos Delgado, and by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations and Resident Representative of UNDP in Cape Verde, Ulrika Richardson.

This training, within the framework of Pro PALOP-TL ISC and provided by a trainer from the Court of Audit of Portugal, lasted for three days and included modules on issues such as the importance of ethics, main challenges and best practices in supervising institutions, aimed at general TCCV staff, technical personnel and directors.

A video of this capacity-building training can be found here: <http://youtu.be/INdD5VukVG8>



Pro PALOP-TL SAI NEWS

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Parliamentary Multiparty Auditing at the Justice Sector in Cape Verde



The banquet salon of the National Assembly hosted, on the 23rd July, a **Parliamentary Multiparty Public Auditing**, supported by Pro PALOP-TOL ISC.

This Auditing was intended as a joint effort to reach the best solutions with regards to the Justice sector Budget for 2015 and for subsequent years, as well as building the capacity of Members of Parliament on the Debates over State Budget Proposals and on the supervision of its implementation. During the Auditing, the following individuals and entities were consulted:

- The Minister of Justice, José Carlos Correia
- The President of the Supreme Court of Justice, Arlindo Medina
- The President of the Superior Council of the Judiciary, Teresa Évora
- The President of the Superior Council for the Public Prosecution, Óscar Tavares

This session was organized by the Commission on Juridical Affairs, Human Rights and the Media (CEAJDHCS, in the Portuguese acronym) and included the participation of some Members of Parliament from the Commission on Finances and Budgeting. The president of CEAJDHCS, parliamentarian Clóvis Silva, delivered an opening statement, framing this multiparty Audit as a parliamentary work session, followed by interventions from each participant entity in a session of questions and answers.

It should be noted that this initiative was preceded by field missions which took place in Praia and São Vicente to collect information on local budget and public expense. All these actions were undertaken with the support of Pro PALOP-TL ISC, within the framework of the Annual Work Plans of the Project for the Archipelago (Planos de Trabalho Anuais para o Arquipélago).



Parliamentary Network for the Population and Development of Cape Verde visits sites on Island of Sal and Santo Antão



Between July and December 2014, the Parliamentary Network for the promotion of Population and Development underwent a series of field missions, with the support of Pro PALOP-TL ISC.

During the first visit, to the Island of Santo Antão, on the occasion of the celebrations of World Population Day, on the 11th July, the Network ran two workshops, for three days, and a series of meetings with local rural populations, from the island, to discuss relevant and pressing issues, such as:

1. The impact of teenage pregnancy, alcohol consumption and substance abuse on school abandonment;
2. An updated status on violence and sexual abuse in infancy and adolescence;
3. Reproductive and Sexual Health: Women's Health (how to prevent breast cancer and cervical cancer)
4. The role of Rural Women in the Fight against Poverty.

This parliamentary delegation was met by the Mayors of the Island of Santo Antão in audiences on all three councils.

A second visit, to the Island of Sal, took place between the 30th November and 2nd December in the context of World AIDS day, on the 1st December. During these days, the parliamentary delegation was engaged in the following activities:

1. **Finding** health care institutions dealing directly with this health issue in order to obtain an updated status on the situation in the Island of Sal;
2. **Monitoring** the implementation of **Law no. 19/VII/2007**, which regulates all aspects related to the prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS, assessing potential challenges and constraints and collecting feedback towards its improvement;
3. **Promoting** a wider dissemination and knowledge of this legislation and raising the islanders' awareness to the necessary cautions to be taken in order to avoid contracting the disease.

These initiatives allowed for the Network to strengthen its capacity in monitoring government policies, targets and budget allocation with regards to the protection of vulnerable groups, particularly women and youth.



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Calendar of Main National Activities January-March 2015

Angola (February) Preparation of the 2015-16 WAP for the National Assembly. Formulation and publication of the Call for Applications for training proposals for auditors in Public Finance, Audit and Macroeconomics

Cabo Verde (March) Training of the Ministry of Finance in the area of budgeting based on results and support for developing the legal Framework of the Multiannual State Budget and based on results

Guinea-Bissau (March) Preparation of the 2015 Participatory Budgeting and public presentation/ release of quarterly financial reports

Mozambique (February) Support for performing a performance audit in the extractive industry sector and for a training on procurement large contracts for TAMOZ.

São Tome and Príncipe (March) Preparation of the Strategic National Plan Of the Assembly and support for the improvement of technical, transparency and accessibility of citizens to the work of Parliamentary Committees.

Timor-Leste (February) Auditors training in audit of public supply and the work environment computerized and National Conference Organization on fiscal transparency, external control and parliamentary oversight of the budget cycle.

Transversal Activities (Ongoing) (1) Formulation of the Support Programme to Civil Society in the PALOP and Timor-Leste for more and better public participation in the budget process ; (2) Specialized technical support to the parliaments for strengthening the sustainable analysis capabilities of tax information and budget.

Major Events PRO PALOP-TL SAI 2015

Cabo Verde (March 9-13) High Level Seminar on legislative budget oversight and external control of public expenditure in the PALOP and Timor-Leste and the particular case of Supervision of Accounts of Political Parties - the Experience of Brazil and the practical case of the Law "Ficha Limpa". Seminar held under the high patronage of National Assembly and the Cabo Verde Court of Auditors, co-organized with the World Bank Institute and with the participation of the TSE / TCU.

Guinea-Bissau (May-June) Training of trainers SAI - PMF for auditors of SAI PALOP and Timor -Leste under the OISC | CPLP. Training held under the patronage of the High Court of Auditors of Guinea-Bissau, co-organized with the OISC | CPLP and with the technical support from the TCU Brazil.

Brazil (September- October) E-Learning Training and performance audit to SAI auditors of the PALOP and Timor-Leste. Training held under the high patronage of the TCU Brazil, co-organized with the OSIC | CPLP and with the support TCU Brazil.

Guinea-Bissau (November-December) High Level Seminar on the public participation in the budgetary procedure and monitoring of public expenditure and accounts. Ongoing Organization discussion of this seminar with the International Budget Partnership.



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TEAM

The project management unit is placed in Cabo Verde, integrating the following elements.

Ricardo Godinho Gomes, Program Manager | Maria de Jesus Andrade, Senior National Adviser | Isaura Lopes Ramos, Communications Officer | André Delgado, Programme Associate | Jennifer Lucu Newsletter Design English Version

Useful Links

- [Cooperação PALOP e Timor Leste/EU cooperacao.palop-tl.eu](http://cooperacao.palop-tl.eu)
- [2015 Ano Europeu do Desenvolvimento europa.eu/eyd2015](http://europa.eu/eyd2015)
- [Nações Unidas Cabo Verde-logo 40 anos un.cv](http://un.cv)
- [AGORA agora-parl.org](http://agora-parl.org)
- [AFROSAI-E afrosai-e.org.za](http://afrosai-e.org.za)
- [OISC/CPLP oiscplp.org/cplp](http://oiscplp.org/cplp)
- [CREFIAF crefiat.org](http://crefiat.org)
- [INTOSAI/IDI www.idi.no/artikkel.aspx?Mid1=4&Aid=395](http://www.idi.no/artikkel.aspx?Mid1=4&Aid=395)
- [IBP internationalbudget.org](http://internationalbudget.org)