



Republic of Cabo Verde



**Cape Verdean Institute for
Gender Equality and Equity**

CABO VERDE NATIONAL REPORT: BEIJING+25



**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION**

April 2019

CONTENTS

Acronyms	4
Executive Summary	6
SECTION ONE: PRIORITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND SETBACKS	10
1. Most important achievements, challenges and set-backs in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women.....	10
2. Top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls through laws, policies and/or programmes	13
3. Measures to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination	18
4. Humanitarian crises caused by extreme weather or other events: effects on BPfA implementation	20
5. Priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls for the coming five years through laws, policies and programmes	21
SECTION TWO: PROGRESS ACROSS THE 12 CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN SINCE 2014.....	22
A. INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT, SHARED PROSPERITY AND DECENT WORK	22
6. Women in paid work and employment	22
7. Unpaid care and domestic work and work-family conciliation.....	24
8. Austerity/fiscal consolidation measures.....	25
B. POVERTY ERADICATION, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL SERVICES	25
9. Poverty among women and girls.....	25
10. Access to social protection for women and girls.....	27
11. Health outcomes for women and girls	28
12. Education outcomes and skills for women and girls	30
C. FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, STIGMA AND STEREOTYPES	31
13. Prioritized forms of violence against women and girls	31
14. Combating violence against women and girls.....	33
15. Strategies to prevent violence against women and girls.....	35
16. Prevention and respond to violence against women and girls facilitated by technology	36
17. Portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/or gender bias in the media	37
18. Action to address violence against specific groups of women facing multiple forms of discrimination	38
D. PARTICIPATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE INSTITUTIONS ..	39
19. Women’s participation in public life and decision-making	39
20. Expression and participation of women in decision-making in the media, including through ICT	41
21. Tracking of the proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)	41
22. Donor country tracking of ODA invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting).....	42
23. National strategy or action plan for gender equality	42
24. Action plan and timeline for implementation of the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee, UPR or other UN human rights mechanisms that address gender inequality/discrimination against women	44
25. National human rights institution.....	44
E. PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES	44
26. Peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and implementation of the women, peace and security agenda.....	44
27. Leadership, representation and participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian action and crisis response	46
28. Judicial and nonjudicial accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed and other conflicts or humanitarian action	

and crisis response	46
29. Discrimination against and violations of the rights of the girl child	47
F. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION	48
30. Integration of gender perspectives and concerns into environmental	48
31. Integration of gender perspectives into policies and programmes for disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation	48
SECTION THREE: NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BPfA AND SDGs.....	50
32. National machinery for gender equality	50
33. Participation of the head of the national machinery in the institutional process for SDG implementation	50
34. Formal mechanisms for the participation of different stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the BPfA and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	50
35. Gender equality and priorities of the national plan/strategy for SDG implementation	51
SECTION FOUR: DATA AND STATISTICS	53
36. Gender statistics	53
37. Priorities for strengthening national gender statistics	53
38. National indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs	54
39. Collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs	54
40. Routine disaggregation by major surveys	55

Acronyms

ACLCVBG	Cape Verdean Association to combat GBV
ACRIDES	Association of Disadvantaged Children
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
APIMUD	Association for the Promotion and Inclusion of Women with Disabilities
ARC	Social Communication Regulatory Authority
ARV	Antiretroviral
BIC	Business Incubation Centre
CAV	GBV Support Centers
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CIGEF	Research and Training Centre in Gender and Family
CNDHC	National Commission on Human Rights and Citizenship
CNPS	National Social Pensions Centre
CPLP	Community of Portuguese Language Countries
CRP	Regional Partner's Commission
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CVE	Cape Verdean Escudos
DGI	Immigration General Directorate
DGIS	General-Directorate of Social Inclusion
DGPOG	General-Directorate of Planning, Budgeting and Management
DNP	National Planning Directorate
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ESAD	Adolescent Friendly Health Facilities
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GAV	Police GBV Cabinets
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HVP	Human Papiloma Virus
ICIEG	Cape-Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IDRF	Household Income and Expenditure Survey
IDSR	Demographic Reproductive Health Survey

IEC	Information, Education, Communication
IEFP	Institute of Employment and Vocational Training
INE	National Institute of Statistics
INPS	National Institute of Social Security
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex persons
MFIS	Ministry of Family and Social Inclusion
MORABI	Association to Support the Auto-promotion of Women in Development
NGO	Non-Governmental organization
OMCV	Organization of Cabo Verde's Women
PEDS	Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development
PEMDS	Municipal Strategic Plans for Sustainable Development
PGA	Access to Income, Education, Care and Health Program
PISI	Project for the Social Integration of Immigrants
PNE	National Employment Plan
PNIG	National Gender Equality Plan
PNVBG	National Plan to Combat Gender Based Violence
PRO-Empresa	Business Promotion and Support Institute
REMPE	Special Regime for Micro and Small Enterprises
RMP-CV	Network of Women Parliamentarians of Cabo Verde
RSI	Social Inclusion Income
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SIEPC	Department of Inclusive Education and Promotion of Citizenship
SIGO	Integrated Operational Management System
SIGOF	Finance and Budget Integrated Management System
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
STI	Sexual Transmitted Infection
TCV	Television of Cabo Verde
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
VERDEFAM	Cape Verdean Association for the Protection of Family

Executive Summary

Since Cabo Verde's 2014 Report on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the country has achieved considerable progress in the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. Among which, the strengthening of the already favourable **legal framework**: with the revision of the **Penal Code** in 2015, reinforcing national legislation on several issues relevant to violence against women; the approval of the **Regulatory Framework for the Gender Based Violence Law (GBV)**, also in 2015; the recent prioritization of the prevention of GBV crimes and crimes against sexual freedom and auto determination, under the revised **Regime for the implementation of criminal policy**; the approval in July 2017 of the Decree-Law establishing the **measures for social and educational support to school girls/students during pregnancy, after child birth and while breastfeeding**, guarantying pregnant student's access and stay in the education system, in quality conditions, at different levels of education (primary, secondary, professional training, higher education); while several other legal diplomas, passed since 2014, include affirmative measures targeting women and the promotion of gender equality. Additionally, a **Parity Law proposal** is about to be submitted to the National Parliament: it foresees parity in political representation in elected positions, as well as leadership positions in Public Administration.

In terms of strengthening of the favourable **institutional framework**: for the first time in Cabo Verde, a Minister has responsibilities on gender equality, in addition to the oversight of the Cape-Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (ICIEG), **with the establishment of the Ministry of Family and Social Inclusion (MFIS)**; the **Inter-ministerial Commission for Gender Mainstreaming (Gender Commission)** was established end of 2018, as mechanism to monitor the effective mainstreaming of gender in public policies and to create an institutional culture that is favourable to the use of the gender approach in planning and in the implementation of sectoral policies.

In Cabo Verde there is high level **political commitment** and gender equality has been integrated in the country's **strategic development documents**, namely the Government Plan for the 9th Legislative term (2016-2021) and the **Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development (PEDS 2017-2021)**. The **Government Plan** explicitly states its political commitment with gender equality, gender mainstreaming in all spheres, gender responsive budgeting, the promotion of parity at all levels, among others. The **PEDS** also considers gender equality as a central issue for the country's sustainable development, requires the use of gender mainstreaming across all pillars of the PEDS (economic, social, governance) and defines specific gender orientations. To be noted that both the Government Plan and the PEDS are well aligned with SDGs, especially SDG 5.

The country has a **National Gender Equality Plan (PNIG 2015-2018)** and a **National Plan to Combat GBV (PNVBG 2015-2018)**, both formulated end of 2014 and under implementation, which further detail the gender equality strategic priorities and commitments of the Government, which are the reference documents for all stakeholders (public institutions and civil society) to ensure coherent and systematic interventions. The **PNIG (2019-2021)** is being developed and will be an integrated plan, also including GBV, under a single document.

In terms of **gender mainstreaming in planning** the following achievements can be highlighted: (i) the establishment of a **Gender Marker for the State Budget**, to afford greater visibility to

investments made in national gender equality priorities, and as a means to monitor progresses in gender mainstreaming across sectors; (ii) **data production and dissemination**, with key progresses in the collection, treatment, analysis and dissemination of sex disaggregated data and specific gender indicators, produced both by the National Institute of Statistics (INE) and by sectors, in the case of administrative data and studies (to be noted that a substantial proportion of SDG indicators are available in the country, including SDG 5 indicators, as well as other indicators that explicit on gender equality); (iii) the integration of gender equality in **school curricula** and gender equality as a cross-cutting thematic of the Strategic Plan for Education (2017-2021); (iv) the mainstreaming of gender equality into **municipal planning**.

In terms of gender policies, the highlight goes to the **design and implementation of the National Care System**, focusing on children from 0 to 12 years of age (especially 0 to 3 years) and dependent elderly and persons with disabilities, aimed at decreasing the negative impact of the care crisis on social cohesion and contributing effectively to gender equality, though freeing women's time, on the same basis as men, for their personal and professional development.

In Cabo Verde the top 5 priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in Cabo Verde, over the five past years, have been: **Education and training**, in particular with the revision of basic and secondary education curricula, taking gender equality into account cross cuttingly in all subjects, the elaboration of gender equality module for vocational courses, and addressing violence in schools; **political participation and representation**, with a systematic and substantive approach, through the coordinated work and advocacy of ICIEG, the Network of Women Parliamentarians of Cabo Verde (RMP-CV) and CSOs committed to gender equality; **unpaid care and domestic work/work family conciliation**, through the establishment of a Care System; **gender responsive social protection**, through improved access of women to social protection, social inclusion income, the establishment of a Unified Social Registry of Beneficiaries of Social Protection that uses a gender sensitive social targeting indicator; **basic services and infrastructure**, with gender equality mainstreamed in the ongoing water and sanitation sector reform, impacting on its legal and regulatory framework, policy and institutional framework, as well as women headed household's access to water and sanitation services.

Cabo Verde has implemented several measures to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination: especially in the case of **women with disabilities, women living with HIV/AIDS, migrant women and women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities**.

To promote **inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work**, Cabo Verde has developed gender sensitive employment policies and is implementing gender-responsive active labour market policies (women are the majority of beneficiaries of the national internship program, promotion of entrepreneurship initiatives and professional training), as well as measures to promote the visibility of women's role in the informal sector, and women's organizations ability to participate in policies for the transition from informal to formal work. In the context of the establishment of the Care System, Cabo Verde is increasing the availability and access to childcare services as well as care services for elderly persons and dependent persons with disabilities, through the development and implementation of a National Care Plan, the definition of services to be provided and their regulation; the establishment of Professional Profiles for carers, the development of training modules and their implementation, enabling the establishment of a Pool

of carers; and support for the provision of care services.

To promote **poverty eradication, social protection and social services**, Cabo Verde is implementing a gender sensitive National Poverty Reduction Program, especially focusing on rural poverty; the social protection floor has improved women's social protection, through the strengthening of non-contributory social pensions, establishment of unemployment benefits and access to social protection for specific populations; SRH, maternal and HIV services have increased their coverage, including the implementation of specific approaches for adolescents, while investments have been made in gender-responsiveness training for health service providers, and to strengthen sexuality education in schools; progresses in education have already been mentioned above (gender sensitive curricula, addressing violence and GBV in schools, strengthened measures in the case of student pregnancy).

To promote **freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes**, Cabo Verde has prioritized different forms of violence against women and girls: intimate partner violence/domestic violence, sexual harassment and violence in public places, educational settings and in employment; femicide/femicide; violence against women in politics; and trafficking in women and girls. The combat to GBV in Cabo Verde has included strengthening of the legal framework, developing and implementing a national action plan; services for survivors of violence; awareness raising and prevention campaigns, including initiatives targeting men; training of GBV Law implementers and health personnel; rehabilitation of men perpetrators of GBV, in order to prevent GBV recidivism; data production; and the evaluation of implemented measures. In respect to violence against women and girls facilitated by technology, cyber violence was included in a study on violence in schools, for a better understanding of existing practices. On the portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/or gender bias in the media, consumer protection services are giving visibility to gender issues. Specific measures were implemented to address violence against persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons and women immigrants.

To promote **participation, accountability and gender-responsive institutions**, several proposals the strengthen the legal framework that promotes women's participation in politics and decision making have been made (Parity Law Proposal and inputs for the revision of the Political Party Law and of the Electoral Code) and women parliamentarians, CSOs committed to gender equality and the ICIEG are implementing an advocacy plan for their approval. Several initiatives have been conducted to raise awareness on young women's participation in ICT. On peaceful and inclusive societies, the National Internal Security and Citizenship Program was approved in 2017, introducing several gender friendly measures. Policies and programmes to eliminate violence against girls have been adopted, as well as to eradicate child labour, which are under implementation.

To promote **Environmental Conservation, Protection and Rehabilitation**, Cabo Verde mainstreamed gender equality into the water and sanitation sector reform. The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, approved in 2017 has a specific section on gender equality, which is considered as a crosscutting issue, along with environment sustainability. Several projects, under implementation to strengthen capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation (agriculture, forestry) and biodiversity conservation, have mainstreamed a gender approach.

To be noted that Cabo Verde is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), vulnerable to phenomena

associated with **climate changes**. During the period under review the country was affected by a severe drought (2017), vector-borne disease epidemics – the first ever ZIKA virus and malaria epidemics (respectively 2015/16 and 2017), and in November 2014, the Fogo Volcano eruption. Efforts were made to mainstream gender into needs assessments for emergency and mitigation responses, and post disaster assessment.

Several factors contributed to these achievements, including: (i) high level **political commitment** and, consequently, the inclusion of gender equality in the public agenda, continued strengthening of the legal and institutional framework for gender equality, the integration of gender equality in the country's strategic documents, as well as sectoral and municipal planning, the definition of gender policies, and tools and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of progresses; (ii) **availability of gender data and analysis** in several domains, contribution to the visibility of inequalities, pinpointing them as priorities to be addressed by sectors, institutions and civil society; (iii) **strengthening of the capacities** of various stakeholders on gender mainstreaming in planning, especially in the case of sectors and municipal level stakeholders, relying on south-south cooperation partnerships in specific areas (ex: for the establishment of the Care System); (iv) a privileged relationship with **civil society organizations** and **jointly conducted advocacy**, leveraging in particular the advocacy efforts towards women's increased participation in politics and decision making; (v) the **global political framework**, placing gender equality at the centre of the **2030 Agenda** and across all **SDGs**; (vi) the **technical and financial support** of international institutions and their enhanced engagement with gender equality and women's empowerment and accountability on their contribution to gender equality within cooperation.

The main challenges encountered on gender equality and women's empowerment have been (i) reducing poverty, which continues to affect in particular women headed households; (ii) women's access to decent work; (iii) leadership and political participation of women; (iv) the eradication of violence against women; (v) combating gender stereotypes and changing attitudes and practices at community level; (vi) adequate funding for implementation of gender equality policies, programs and projects.

Despite the investments made in the domain of GBV, the country recognizes the need to strengthen support services to GBV victims and improve judicial procedures.

Considering the progresses achieved and challenges identified, Cabo Verde considers as its top 5 priorities to accelerate progress for women and girls for the coming five years: (i) Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls; (ii) Eliminating violence against women and girls; (iii) Political participation and representation; (iv) Right to work and rights at work (e.g. gender pay gap, occupational segregation, career progression); and (v) Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation.

SECTION ONE: PRIORITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND SETBACKS

1. Most important achievements, challenges and set-backs in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women

1. Since Cabo Verde's 2014 Report on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the country has achieved considerable progress in the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. Among the **main achievements**:
 - (i) **Strengthening of the favourable legal and institutional framework.** In terms of **legal framework**, in 2015 the **Penal Code** was revised (Legislative-decree n°4/2015, 11 November), reinforcing national legislation on several issues relevant to violence against women: it criminalizes Trafficking in Persons (TIP); provides guarantees to victims of trafficking by establishing that the victim will not be criminally responsible for having entered illegally into national territory or for having participated in any capacity in illegal activities, when these are a direct consequence of their victim situation; criminalizes the practice of forced prostitution, recourse to child prostitution and non-consented artificial procreation; articles 148° and 149° were revised to criminalize the facilitation of, or profiting from, the prostitution of children between 16 and 18 years old; it aggravated most of the penalties for sexual crimes and increased the age for article 145° - *Sexual abuse of children aged between 14 and 16 years*, to children between 14 and 18 years. The **Regulatory Framework for the Gender Based Violence Law (GBV)** (Decree-law n°8/2015, 27 January) was also approved in 2015. Recently the prevention of GBV crimes and crimes against sexual freedom and auto determination became a priority, under the revised **Regime for the implementation of criminal policy** (Law n°52/IX/2019, 10 April). As for pregnant student's access and stay in the education system, in quality conditions, in July 2017 Decree-law n°47/2017, 26 October was approved, establishing the **measures for social and educational support to school girls/students during pregnancy, after child birth and while breastfeeding** and applies to different levels of education (primary, secondary, professional training, higher education). Several other legal diplomas, passed since 2014, include affirmative measures targeting women and the promotion of gender equality. Additionally, a **Parity Law proposal** is about to be submitted to the National Parliament: it foresees parity in political representation in elected positions, as well as leadership positions in Public Administration. In terms of **institutional framework**, the new Government structure (Decree-law n°37/2016, 17 June) establishes the **Ministry of Family and Social Inclusion (MFIS)** as the governmental department responsible for the areas of childhood, elderly, persons with disabilities, fight against poverty and promotion of gender equality. Thus, for the first time, a Minister has responsibilities on gender equality, in addition to the oversight of the **Cape-Verdean Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (ICIEG)**. Moreover, the **Inter-ministerial Commission for Gender Mainstreaming (Gender Commission)** was established, through Resolution n°103/2018, 11 October: it is an inter-ministerial mechanism established to monitor the effective mainstreaming of gender in public policies and to create an institutional culture that is favourable to the use of the gender approach in planning and in the implementation of sectoral policies. The Gender Commission is chaired by the ICIEG and counts on permanent representatives of the General-Directorate of Planning, Budgeting and Management (DGPOG) of the different sectors, acting as sectoral gender focal

points; as well as representatives of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) committed to gender equality. Among other responsibilities, the Gender Commission monitors the implementation of gender equality and women's rights international commitments subscribed by Cabo Verde, namely SDGs and the CEDAW.

- (ii) **Political commitment and integration of gender equality in the country's strategic development documents**, namely the Government Plan for the 9th Legislative term (2016-2021) and the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development (PEDS 2017-2021). The **Government Plan** explicitly states its political commitment with gender equality and, among the 11 commitments defined for the decade, it commits to *«placing the care of dependents – children, elderly persons and persons with disabilities, traditionally considered as an exclusive social mandate of families, at the centre of social inclusion and family public policies, in order to promote gender equality and the conciliation of work and family life»*. It also explicitly states its engagement with gender mainstreaming in all spheres, gender responsive budgeting, the promotion of parity at all levels, among others. The **PEDS** also considers gender equality as a central issue for the country's sustainable development, requires the use of gender mainstreaming across all pillars of the PEDS (economic, social, governance) and defines specific gender orientations.
- (iii) The country has developed and is implementing new **strategic documents for gender equality and for combating GBV**, which further detail the gender equality strategic priorities and commitments of the Government, which are the reference documents for all stakeholders (public institutions and civil society) to ensure coherent and systematic interventions: the **National Gender Equality Plan (PNIG 2015-2018)** and the **II^o National Plan to Combat GBV (PNVBG 2015-218)**. The **PNIG (2019-2021)** is being developed and will be an integrated plan, also including GBV, under a single document.
- (iv) In terms of **gender mainstreaming in planning** the following achievements can be highlighted: (i) the establishment of a **Gender Marker for the State Budget**, to afford greater visibility to investments made in national gender equality priorities, and as a means to monitor progresses in gender mainstreaming across sectors; (ii) **data production and dissemination**, with key progresses in the collection, treatment, analysis and dissemination of sex disaggregated data and specific gender indicators, produced both by the National Institute of Statistics (INE) and by sectors, in the case of administrative data and studies; (iii) the **integration of gender equality in school curricula** and gender equality as a cross-cutting thematic of the Strategic Plan for Education (2017-2021); (iv) the **mainstreaming of gender equality into municipal planning**: the development of Municipal Strategic Plans for Sustainable Development (PEMDS) is underway (aligned to the PEDS) with the PEMDS' results framework organized around 5 pillars of sustainable development, namely: (a) Local Economic Development and Employment; (b) Social Services; (c) Environmental and Risks Management; (d) Governance and Decentralization; and (e) Promotion of Gender Equality. Programs are developed for each pillar, to respond to the challenges identified in the diagnosis phase, that are then further detailed into projects. Guidelines include a recommendation that in each of the 1st 4 pillars there is at least one gender equality promotion project. The *Practical Guide for the Localization of SDGs and Municipal Strategic Planning*, prepared by the program to support the planning process, has a specific section on gender mainstreaming, that

identifies 3 steps aligned with the PEMDS elaboration process, as well as the tools and methodologies to be used by the gender facilitators (gender awareness raising, training on gender mainstreaming in strategic planning, including the preparation of local gender diagnosis, and monitoring and evaluation). PEMDS are already available in 9 municipalities and will be developed in all the municipalities of the country by 2020.

- (v) In terms of gender policies, the highlight goes to the **design and implementation of the National Care System**, focusing on children from 0 to 12 years of age (especially 0 to 3 years) and dependent elderly and persons with disabilities, aimed at decreasing the negative impact of the care crisis on social cohesion and contributing effectively to gender equality, though freeing women's time, on the same basis as men, for their personal and professional development.
2. Several factors contributed to these achievements, including: (i) high level **political commitment** and, consequently, the inclusion of gender equality in the public agenda, continued strengthening of the legal and institutional framework for gender equality, the integration of gender equality in the country's strategic documents, as well as sectoral and municipal planning, the definition of gender policies, and tools and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of progresses; (ii) **availability of gender data and analysis** in several domains, contribution to the visibility of inequalities, pinpointing them as priorities to be addressed by sectors, institutions and civil society; (iii) **strengthening of the capacities** of various stakeholders on gender mainstreaming in planning, especially in the case of sectors and municipal level stakeholders, relying on south-south cooperation partnerships in specific areas (ex: for the establishment of the Care System); (iv) a privileged relationship with **civil society organizations** and **jointly conducted advocacy**, leveraging in particular the advocacy efforts towards women's increased participation in politics and decision making; (v) the **global political framework**, placing gender equality at the centre of the **2030 Agenda** and across all **SDGs**; (vi) the **technical and financial support** of international institutions and their enhanced engagement with gender equality and women's empowerment and accountability on their contribution to gender equality within cooperation.
3. The main **challenges** encountered on gender equality and women's empowerment have been (i) reducing poverty, which continues to affect in particular women headed households; (ii) women's access to decent work; (iii) leadership and political participation of women; (iv) the eradication of violence against women; (v) combating gender stereotypes and changing attitudes and practices at community level; (vi) adequate funding for implementation of gender equality policies, programs and projects.
4. Despite the investments made in the domain of GBV, the country recognizes the need to strengthen support services to GBV victims and improve judicial procedures. Access to **GBV victim support services** can be said to have suffered a **setback**, with a substantial decrease in the number of victims supported by the GBV Support Centres (CAV) and the SOL network (inter-institutional GBV support network), between 2017 and 2018, a gap that may be due to the re-organization of the CAV and to a reduction in the dynamics of the SOL network. The reformulation in 2016 of the Legal House model (which provided legal information, legal assistance in court and conflict mediation) entailed the closing of the spaces where the CAV operated. In the context of the ongoing decentralization of social services to municipalities, the

CAV were relocated to the social services of Town Halls and are operational in 8 of the 9 islands of the country, covering 18 of the 22 existing municipalities, operating under ICIEG's supervision, and soon to be operational in all islands/municipalities. CAVs are responsible for coordinating the SOL Network (coordinating public and CSO initiatives). To revive and consolidate the partnership and common procedures between the CAV and SOL network, 8 local trainings were conducted end of 2017/January 2018 for 193 staff of the different institutions/organizations involved in combating GBV. In respect to the GBV support structures within Police Stations - the Police GBV Cabinets (GAV), 9 are presently operational, covering 5 islands and 8 municipalities, as opposed to 12 in 2016, the main reason for the decrease being the mobility of police agents trained for specialized attention to GBV victims. Efforts are under way to increase the coverage of GAVs. In terms of **judicial procedures**, the number of GBV cases solved has increased over the last two judicial years (from 2,122 in 2015/2016 to 3,880 in 2016/2017 and 3,971 in 2018/2018) and, for the first time, the number of pending cases from the previous legal year have decreased in 2017/2018 (from 8,409 in 2016/2017 to 7,121 in 2017/2018): nonetheless, 7,121 cases are still pending, unsolved as of August 2018. The high pendency of GBV cases is a major constraint for the punishment of perpetrators, although the slowness of justice is an issue that vastly transcend GBV cases: it affects all types of judicial procedures, while GBV procedures are quicker than other procedures, since the entry into force of the GBV Law. In respect to **access to justice**, the reformulation of the Legal Houses model in 2016, led in 2017 to the provision of legal information and counselling through lawyers attached to Town Halls, as per Protocols established between the Ministry of Justice and Town Halls, while legal representation in court has become the exclusive responsibility of the Cape Verdean Bar Association. This new model is in the process of consolidation.

2. Top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls through laws, policies and/or programmes

5. The top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in Cabo Verde over the 5 past years are:
 - ✓ Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
 - ✓ Political participation and representation
 - ✓ Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation
 - ✓ Gender-responsive social protection
 - ✓ Basic services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, energy, transport etc.)
6. **Education and training:** the Government Program (2016-2021) signals the need for education towards a culture of equality and non-violence in schools and institutional practices and strategies that respond to the specific needs of boys and girls, to decrease gender gaps educational access and success, as well as in vocational/professional choices. The Education Strategic Plan (2017-2021) has gender equality as a cross cutting theme, along with special education, nutrition and school health, and gender equality is mainstreamed in all programs and planning, budgeting and monitoring processes. The Ministry of Education is already working on the **revision of basic and secondary education curricula**, and gender equality

has been integrated cross cuttingly in all subjects. After the Ministry of Education's directive was revoked in 2013 (which recommended the temporary suspension of school attendance of pregnant students, to be reassumed after childbirth), Decree-Law n°47/2017, 26 October approved the **measures for social and educational support to school girls/students during pregnancy, after child birth and while breastfeeding**, aimed at their continued access to education in quality conditions, at all educational levels (basic, secondary, professional training, higher education) (more details in section B). A **Diagnostic Study on Violence in Schools** was conducted in all the secondary public and semi-public establishments of the country, and an Action Plan for its prevention and combat is under development. A **Department of Inclusive Education and Promotion of Citizenship** (SIEPC) was established within the Education National Directorate (Decree-law n°40/2018, June 20), taking into account the need for strengthened capacities to address several gender equality issues in education, as well as issues pertaining to inclusive education. Among others, the department's responsibilities include: *preparing, in collaboration with multisectoral institutions, intervention plans to overcome issues related to the prevention of violence and school dropout, the promotion of gender equality and interventions with at risk children, adolescents and youth*; as well as *promoting capacity strengthening initiatives for teachers and other school staff on the prevention of violence and school dropout, as well as health promotion, sexuality, gender equality and school safety*. At local level, crosscutting issues are addressed through the **Inclusive and Promotion of Citizenship Spaces**, recently established in all school clusters, under the responsibility of the cluster's Pedagogical Coordinator. On school violence, the SIEPC has already trained 10 teachers (trainers of trainers) on urban violence, in 10 schools in Praia, the capital. In respect to **vocational training**, a **Road map for a Gender Equality Strategy in the Education-Vocational Training-Employment Sector** was developed in 2017. In this context, a **module on gender equality for vocational courses** was prepared, through a partnership between the ICIEG, the Institute of Employment and Vocational Training (IEFP), the School of Hotel and Tourism Management and the Centre for Renewable Energies and Industrial Maintenance, and a trainers of trainers is being planned, for teachers to implement the module, as a required subject of some vocational courses and to be included cross cuttingly in all vocational training.

7. **Political participation and representation:** a systematic and substantive approach has been adopted in this area, through the coordinated work of ICIEG, the Network of Women Parliamentarians of Cabo Verde (RMP-CV) and CSOs committed to gender equality. In 2015 the Alliance of Women of Santiago (women politically engaged at local level) prepared an agenda of demands, claiming women's inclusion in political party candidates' lists for the 2016 elections, in electable positions: the agenda of demands was presented to political parties and awareness raising was conducted for women to accept being part of candidates' lists. The rate of women's representation in Parliament increased from 20.8% to 23.6% in the 2016 Legislative elections, and from 22% to 26.3% in the Municipal election the same year (29.4% women delegates in the Municipal Assemblies, 21% Council women in Town Halls and 13.6% Chairwomen of Municipal Assemblies). Considering the modest results, albeit positive, in January 2017 the RMP-CV conducted, in partnership with ICIEG, a workshop on **Parity Mechanisms for Women's Political Participation**, gathering women Parliamentarians, the Alliance of Women of Santiago, civil society leaders, enabling in depth analysis of the issue.

A commitment declaration was signed (**Declaration of Rui Vaz**) for the formulation, adoption and implementation of a Parity Law: it was presented and discussed with political parties and the country's highest authorities. Another result of the workshop was an **Advocacy Action Plan for Gender Parity in Cabo Verde (2017-2019)**, which is being implemented jointly by RMP-CV, ICIEG and their partners. As a result of Parliamentarian's advocacy within their parties, the **representation of women in party structures has increased significantly**: in the case of the *Movement for Democracy*, at its latest Caucus (January 2017), women's proportion in the Caucus Board went up to 60%, 43% in the Jurisdiction Council, 40% in the National Board and 30% in the National Political Commission. The *African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde* has a proportion of 30% of women in the National Council, 30% in the National Political Commission and 50% in the General Secretariat, the party's executive body. Since 2014 this party has a woman President, who was elected Vice-President of the Socialist International in July 2017. In July 2017 the RMP-CV, in partnership with ICIEG, organized an international conference on parity, providing participants the opportunity to learn about the experience of different countries with **successful experiences, namely Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain and Portugal**. The workshop contributed to build consensus around the Parity Law. Several **television debates** took place on this issue and, on the 5th of July (celebration of Cabo Verde's Independence Day) the exhibition **Women, Action and Politics** was organized, paying tribute to women that stood out in politics since independence. A **Parity Law Proposal** has been drafted, under the leadership of the RMP-CV and in close collaboration with the ICIEG and other partners, especially civil society. The Parity Law Proposal foresees parity in political representation in elected positions, as well as in leadership positions in Public Administration, and is about to be submitted to Parliament. At the same time, both the ICIEG and the RMP-CV have participated in the process of **revision of the Political Party Law** and of the **Electoral Code**.

8. **Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation**: as referred in the Beijing+20 report, Cabo Verde conducted a **Time Use Survey** in 2012, the results of which were analysed and disseminated between 2013 and 2014, leading to the consolidated notion that care work needs recognition: indeed, being performed mainly as unpaid work and not accounted for in national accounts, it is invisible to the economy and for public policy decision making, especially economic policy. Based on the strong existing political commitment (please see paragraph 1(ii)) a **Gender Analysis of Social Policies** was prepared beginning of 2016, linking statistics on time use and unpaid work of women in care activities, with an analysis of social protection's legal framework, policies and institutional setup. This study also provided an analysis of the economic costs and benefits of a **Care System**, and its short-term and long-term impact on economy, outlining the main features of the Care System. End of 2016, Resolution n°89/2016, 23 December, established the **Inter-ministry Group for the Design and Monitoring of the Access to Income, Education, Care and Health Program (PGA)**, responsible for the design of the PGA and monitoring of its progress. The PGA's main components are (i) Inclusion Income Support, through direct transfers to vulnerable families, to ensure access to basic goods and services (many of which headed by women), (ii) **Care System of dependents**, through indirect transfers to families, establishing contracts with public and private organizations for the provision of care services, namely to children up to 12 years of age, with priority to **0-3 years old, and dependent elderly and disabled persons**,

and (iii) Access to Education and Health, through indirect transfers to families, establishing contracts with Town Halls for medication for non-contributory regime, and access of children from low income families to preschools. To be noted that under the Education Strategic Plan (2017-2021), **pre-primary education (children 4-5 years of age) is being integrated in the formal education system, as universal compulsory education.** In 2017 the **National Care Plan 2017-2021**, for the establishment of the Care System, was approved through the Cabinet of Ministers Resolution n°143/2017, 6 December (more details in section A).

9. **Gender-responsive social protection:** in Cabo Verde social security covers approximately 227,439 persons, 206,241 through the **contributory subsystem** and 21,198 through the **non-contributory subsystem**. As such, the contributory regime covers close to 40% of the population (counting both direct and indirect beneficiaries) and its coverage continues to increase, both for women and men: close to 41% of the employed population is registered at the National Institute of Social Security (INPS) in 2017 (48.8% in urban and 18.6% in rural settings), **41.9% of women** employed and 40.3% of men employed. The non-contributory component, the **social pension**, managed by the National Social Pensions Centre (CNPS), seeks to provide minimum living conditions to persons not covered by social security. Women represent **70.2% of beneficiaries** and men 29.8%, certainly due to the fact that women are the majority of the older population, and that they are more likely to have been out of the labour force, or when they were part of the labour force, more likely to have worked in the informal sector, thus with less access to contributory social security. ILO recently considered Cabo Verde as a “*successful experience of expansion of social protection*” and one of the most advanced nations in Africa, considering the country took two key measures towards the establishment of a **social protection floor**. To be noted that social pensions has been increased from 5,000 CVE to 6,000 CVE, as well as the annual limit for acquisition of medicines in private pharmacies (50% increase, going from 2,500 CVE to 3,750 CVE). Cabo Verde has established a **Unified Social Registry of Beneficiaries of Social Protection** (Regulatory-Decree n°7/2018, 20 September), enabling the registration of vulnerable families as well as the full array of benefits they can receive under different vulnerability situations. This management and planning instrument will support the evaluation of gaps and overlaps in social protection programs and lines of action. It is thus a key tool for the promotion of poverty mitigation policies and programs and as a social protection information system. The Unified Social Registry data base classifies registered persons/families (beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries) through the **social targeting indicator** (defined by Ordinance n°37/2018, 6 November): the econometric model bases calculations on the most recent poverty data (IDRF III 2015) and scores are derived from the aggregation of a number of variables (56) identified as **predictors of expense in poor households**, respecting all **correlation of gender and poverty**, namely through the demographic characteristics of the household (composed by 7 variables related to the head of household), educational characteristics of the household (4 variables), among several others. Additionally, the **Social Charter**, which describes the **network of services and social structures in the country** is being updated and linked to the Unified Social Registry. The network of services is being **re-conceptualized** considering the social benefits available today, including **care services, GBV victim support services, GBV shelters**, etc. As mentioned in the previous paragraph, MFIS is implementing the **PGA Program**, aimed at guaranteeing family’s access (especially those in vulnerability situations)

to income and basic social services, to provide minimum conditions for the wellbeing and quality of life of their members, with special focus on infancy, **women heads of households**, persons with special needs, immigrants, deportees and older persons. In addition to the (i) **National Care Plan**, the Program has the following key components: (ii) **Social Inclusion Income (RSI)**, consisting of a direct monetary transfer to families in extreme poverty that have children under 15 years of age under their responsibility, coupled with income generating measures, and (iii) **Access to Education and Health**, through indirect transfers to families, establishing contracts with Town Halls for medication for non-contributory regime, and access of children from low income families to preschools. The beneficiary of **RSI** are identified through the Unified Social Registry: in 2018 (commencing in July) 1,026 families were benefitted, **54% of which headed by a woman** and 46% by a man. Beginning of 2019, the number of beneficiary families increased to 2,410. Positive discrimination measures can also be noted for **household connections to water and sanitation public networks**, as well as for **water and electricity social tariffs**, favouring most vulnerable families, among which women headed households.

10. **Basic services and infrastructure:** over the last 5 years, gender equality has been mainstreamed in the ongoing water and sanitation sector reform, impacting on the legal and regulatory framework, policy and institutional framework. In terms of legal framework, in October 2015 the new **Water and Sanitation Code** (Legislative-decree n°3/2015, 19 October) was approved: it identifies the most vulnerable population groups, defines participation as a principle, as well as IEC. It foresees the development and implementation of equality plans by water and sanitation municipal facilities, and social and gender obligations in cases of concessions, as well as gender equality and social objectives for the projects financed through the Water and Sanitation Fund. Globally, it foresees that the water and sanitation sector planning addresses gender equality and poverty reduction concerns. Decree-law n°26/2016 (12 April) establishes strategic guidelines for the water and sanitation tariff policy: it foresees price regulation, among others to promote universal access, especially among the poor, and protecting gender equality. These dispositions have been strengthened by the 2018 State Budget (Law n°20/IX/2017, 30 December), that determines the urgency and relevance of social tariffs for vulnerable consumers for both **water** and **electricity** and by the establishment of the regime for the allocation of the water social tariff (Decree-law n°41/2018, 20 June). Key policies and strategies for the water and sanitation sector are explicit on gender equality. The **National Strategic Plan for Water and Sanitation** (Resolution n°10/2015, 20 February) establishes 40 litres of water per person per day as the minimum target and the reduction of distances for water collection to 10 minutes maximum. Also the adoption of tariffs that take into account poor people; the reduction of disparities in access to water and sanitation between different communities, poor and non-poor, and female and male headed households; water and sanitation infrastructures that respect human dignity and integrity of men, women and children, both in domestic context and services; promote equitable representation of women and men in sector decision making; promote division of water and sanitation related tasks within the family; contribute to the reduction of water and sanitation related illnesses, with special attention to the most disadvantaged; ensure the sector's institutions are accountable; and guarantee IEC for all social groups. A **Social and Gender Strategy 2015-2020** has been developed for the sector, organized across 5 pillars and strategic objectives (Physical

accessibility of services; Economic accessibility of services; Power; Social responsibility and oversight; Social and gender mainstreaming). At institutional level, social and gender mandates and responsibilities were defined at all levels (National Water and Sanitation Agency, inter-municipal facilities, Municipal Environment, Water and Sanitation Committees, Sanitation Divisions, etc.). A **Water and Sanitation Fund** was established and the project selection criteria include social and gender aspects. The **Social Access Fund** is a sub-component of this Fund, aimed at promoting disadvantaged population's access to water and toilet/sewage network connections, including female headed households, households with orphans, disabled/dependents and isolated older persons (urban, peri-urban and rural communities) (more details in section F).

3. Measures to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination

- ✓ Women living with disabilities
 - ✓ Women living with HIV/AIDS
 - ✓ Migrant women
 - ✓ Women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities
11. **Women with disabilities:** to promote **labour market** access for persons with disabilities, including women, the following measures were adopted: Decree-law n°38/2015, 29 July, that regulates selection and recruitment procedures in Public Administration, establishing a 5% quota for persons with disabilities for external recruitment processes; and the approval of fiscal incentives for the creation of employment, with tax deductions for the creation of work opportunities for persons with disabilities. Decree-law n°27/2015, 6 May, which entered into force beginning of 2017, established rules and principles for the protection and assistance to persons with reduced **mobility in air transport**, men and women: transport cannot be refused based on the person's disabilities or limited mobility, except for security reasons, as foreseen by law and justified. To promote the integration of persons with disabilities, including women, in **teaching establishments** at all levels of education, the State Budget establishes a positive discrimination measure for their free enrolment and attendance in state schools (preschool, elementary, secondary, higher education and professional training), starting academic year 2017/2018, as well as private schools, which has since been regulated by Ordinance n°27/2018, 8 August. Ordinance n°7/2017, 6 March, establishes grant procedures for **professional training** provided by the MFIS, which includes persons with disabilities among potential beneficiaries, as well as mothers of persons with disability. To better ensure the right to education of children with special educational needs (SEN), the Ministry of Education established the **Unit for Special Education and Educational Inclusion** (new structure of the Ministry of Education, 2016), specifically responsible for inclusion issues of children/youth with SEN in the educational system. The **Strategic Plan for Education 2017-2021**, foresees specific measures for children/youth with SEN (girls and boys), which are under implementation. Presently, 14 out of 22 municipalities of the country have **support spaces** equipped with specific special education resources and materials, and teachers have been trained to support students with SEN. A **Study on access to SRH services of women with**

disabilities and women living with HIV was conducted in 2015 and several measures have been implemented to address the findings of the study, such as awareness sessions and training for health staff at all levels (Ministry, Health Delegations), the elaboration of a guide on SHR rights, a micro program has been aired, summarizing information on modern contraceptive methods, including simultaneous translation to sign language, while other options to promote accessibility to information are being analysed, namely the adaptation of other information materials on SRH and HIV prevention to braille. The establishment of the Association for the Promotion and Inclusion of Women with Disabilities (APIMUD) in 2015 is to be noted, as it defends and promotes the rights and interests of women with disabilities, with strong advocacy messages in several fora. In 2018 APIMUD organized a national forum – **Breaking barriers: promoting the rights of women and girls with disabilities**, gathering stakeholders at the Presidency of the Republic (public institutions, civil society, private sector) to debate in particular the achievement of SDGs for women and girls with disabilities, their civil, social and political rights and SRH rights. Humanité Inclusion has supported persons with disabilities' associations to develop an Advocacy Plan on their rights, including gender issues. APIMUD is a member of the Gender Commission.

12. **Women living with HIV/AIDS:** the **Law on the Prevention, Treatment and Control of HIV/AIDS is being revised**, and specifically addresses discrimination against women living with HIV/AIDS and specific vulnerable groups, some of which mostly female (as is the case with sex workers), as well as public entities' obligation to mainstream gender in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the initiatives foreseen by the Law, both for prevention and integrated attention. The **HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan 2017-2020** was developed and is under implementation, based on the principle of systematic attention to human rights and the gender approach. It identifies specific vulnerabilities of young and teenage women and girls (10-24 years), women with disabilities, women's special exposure to sexual violence and GBV, specific issues of especially vulnerable groups (some mostly female), the low rate of participation of spouses in anonymous and voluntary HIV testing during pregnancy, the discrimination against persons living with HIV/AIDS (women, men, children) and proposes measures to address the gender issues identified. The increase in equipments to determine viral load has been key in the context of the prevention of **mother to child transmission**, as it enables pregnant women to opt for normal labour and breastfeeding when the viral load is controlled. To be noted that the rates of mother to child transmission have decreased from 5.6% in 2011 to 0.02% in 2015 and that new HIV infections only affect children marginally. Two studies on the **discrimination and stigma towards persons living with HIV** were conducted, one of them specifically on the access of HIV positive women to SRH services.
13. **Migrant women:** the **IInd Immigration and Social Inclusion of Immigrants Action Plan (2018-2020)**, coordinated by the Immigration General Directorate (DGI), integrated a gender approach, as had also the previous Action Plan. Within the action plan the following projects are under implementation: the (i) **Project to Promote Multiculturalism (PROMUL)**, aimed at informing, raising awareness and training to promote tolerance, cultural and religious diversity in Cabo Verde, and respect for differences, that launched the Campaign *Everyone's Cabo Verde* (including women and men); and the (ii) **Project for the Social Integration of Immigrants (PISI)**, to promote dialogue and strengthening of civil society for the social

integration of immigrant communities in Cabo Verde. The PISI has implemented training for leaders and members of immigrants' association (women and men) on project design and management, associative and financial management, leadership, immigration issues; funded integration projects submitted by the associations, 46% of the beneficiaries being women and 4 civil society projects in 2015/2016 specifically dedicated to the economic empowerment of immigrant women; IEC on the *Convention on Migrants Workers*, regularization, social security, gender equality, health, access to education, etc. Specific activities were implemented on *Gender, Human Rights, Citizenship and GBV*, targeting community based and association leaderships (men and women), in which **FGM and early marriage issues** were addressed (in 2018 IEC initiatives with women, in the islands of concentration of immigrants, reached 118 immigrants, 93 women and 25 men). Also to strengthen civil society, the **House of African Immigrant Communities** was established: it is the headquarters of the Platform of African Communities, which includes the Muslim Women Association, while the participation of women in the associative movement is stimulated, in order to increase the percentage of immigrants' associations that have women in their social bodies, to defend their rights and duties in the Cape Verdean society. DGI is in the process of designing measures for the **Assistance and Protection of Immigrants in Risk Situation**, considering the specific needs of immigrants at social risk (traffic victims, readmission of third country nationals, discrimination, voluntary return applicants, harmful practices combat, early marriages, FGM, child marriage).

14. **Women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities:** several actions were implemented to raise awareness on gender diversity and to promote equal rights and fair treatment of LGBTI persons, both women and men, and to support the establishment and strengthening of LGBTI associations: more details provided in paragraph 51.
4. **Humanitarian crises caused by extreme weather or other events: effects on BPfA implementation**
15. Cabo Verde is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), vulnerable to phenomena associated with **climate changes**, such as rising sea levels, increase in the average temperature and increased in the frequency of extreme events, such as storms, hurricanes, droughts and extreme temperatures, among others. At the end of 2017 the country experienced the **most severe drought since 1977**, impacting on water availability, agriculture and livestock, and consequently on poverty, health and education, with the full impact expected to be seen after March 2018. The following year was also a drought year. Cabo Verde has also been experiencing, over the last few years **vector-borne disease epidemics**: during the period under review, Cabo Verde had its first ever ZIKA virus (2015-2016) and malaria (2017) epidemics. In November 2014 the **Volcano on the island of Fogo** erupted and, after 88 days of eruption, the houses and communities of *Chã das Caldeiras* were completely destroyed, while population had to be evacuated and resettled. Regarding the 2017 drought, the needs evaluation considered gender impacts (**Cabo Verde Multi-Sector Drought Response Plan**), highlighting the increase in gender inequality, through women's head of household escalation of difficulties and vulnerabilities, including loss of income, increased poverty in time for women and girls, reports of increased GBV against women and girls and increased risk of sexual abuse against girls. The Government's **Emergency and Mitigation of Drought and**

Bad Crop Year Program 2017/2018 includes a positive discrimination measure, in terms of priority to women head of households in respect to job but does not address the specific needs of men and women at other levels. Regarding the ZIKA epidemic, the **strategy for the dissemination of Zika prevention information in communities mainstreamed a gender approach**: NGOs working on women's SRH and rights (OMCV, MORABI and VERDEFAM) were involved in IEC and 3 *Sexual and Reproductive Health, GBV and Zika* projects were supported (Santiago, Maio, Fogo, Sal and Boavista, mostly in rural communities). Information and awareness raising sessions (69 sessions, reaching 7,677 participants, men and women) linked information on Zika to social gender relations (ex. gender stereotypes that attribute almost exclusively care work to women, power relations and decision making on sexual health, etc.) and, in sessions in schools, teenage pregnancy issues were addressed. The sessions were preceded by 6 training workshops covering these issues, with NGO local activists and kindergarten teachers, teachers and members of APIMUD. Regarding the Fogo volcano eruption, the **Post-Disaster Needs Assessment** evaluated gender impacts and recommended the strengthening of mechanisms to ensure gender equality and protection of women's rights during the emergency and recovery phases, in particular in respect to access to land and formalization of property rights, compensation schemes and access to job opportunities and financial instruments, also highlighting the need to strengthen social protection mechanisms during the emergency resettlement and temporary relocation to prevent sexual violence, especially against girls.

5. Priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls for the coming five years through laws, policies and programmes

16. Cabo Verde's top five priorities for accelerating the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the next five years include:
 - ✓ Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
 - ✓ Eliminating violence against women and girls
 - ✓ Political participation and representation
 - ✓ Right to work and rights at work (e.g. gender pay gap, occupational segregation, career progression)
 - ✓ Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation (e.g. paid maternity or parental leave, care services)

SECTION TWO: PROGRESS ACROSS THE 12 CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN SINCE 2014

A. INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT, SHARED PROSPERITY AND DECENT WORK

6. Women in paid work and employment

- ✓ Other: gender sensitive employment policies
- ✓ Strengthened gender-responsive active labour market policies
- ✓ Supported the transition from informal to formal work

17. **Gender sensitive employment policies:** the new **National Employment Plan (PNE 2018-2023)** focuses especially on youth's and women's employment and has a specific sub-product on youth employment (15-34 years) – the **National Action Plan for Youth Employment (PNAEJ)**. The PNE identifies and documents gender professional segregation as a problem, as well as women's over representation in the informal sector and the PNAEJ has a specific gender section. The **Program on Decent and Qualified Work**, implemented within the PEDS, aims to reduce unemployment rates by one digit, with priority for the creation of qualified employment for youth (women and men) and women. Considering the importance of Tourism for women's integration in the labour market, ICIEG, in coordination with the General Directorate of Tourism, developed an **Action Plan for Gender Mainstreaming in the Tourism Sector (2016-2018)**.

18. **Gender-responsive active employment policies:** such as (i) the **National Professional Internship Program**, managed by the IEFP, targeting young graduates from higher education or professional training (18-35 years of age), looking for their 1st job, so that they have real labour force experience. The program has benefitted hundreds of young people (2/3 with higher education) to improve their personal, social and technical skills, and enter the labour force, especially young women, as 2/3 of the Program's beneficiaries are women (66.8% from 2015 to 2017). Indeed, the unemployment rate among women with higher education is higher than men's (24.7% for women and 16% for men).¹ The (ii) **promotion of entrepreneurship**, also targets women in particular: from 2015 to 2017 the IEFP implemented 3 entrepreneurship programs, in partnership with NGOs and the Agency for Entrepreneurial Development and Innovation (now PRO-Empresa: Business Promotion and Support Institute), one of them specifically targeting young women graduates from professional training - **Support to Women's Entrepreneurship**, conducting training in entrepreneurship, financing business plans, providing technical assistance and incubation. The other programs benefit both women and men (**Local and Regional Employment Initiatives & Business Viability Unit**): women represent 64.4% of beneficiaries. PRO-Empresa has responsibilities in brokering access to bank credit or microfinances (as access to financial credit is a major constraint for entrepreneurs, especially for women) and follow up and support to business development (after its establishment) and the focus is on youth employment (women and men), but without an age limit in the case of women. PRO-Empresa presently implements the **Youth start up** program:

¹ INE (2018) Labour Market Indicators – Briefing to the Media (01/04/2019)

the program finances 18-35 years old youth that completed higher education or professional training, and at least 40% of financing is destined to women's businesses. Within this program, PRO-Empresa and the Business Incubation Centre (BIC) have launched an innovation challenge for women, where 30 female entrepreneurs work in groups of 3 to convert ideas into business models. The winning project is offered a twelve-week acceleration program and incubation with BIC. This initiative has been conducted in Praia and São Vicente. PRO-Empresa also implements the program **Development of Micro-entrepreneurship**, benefitting men up to 40 years of age and women without an age limit. Lastly, for **Long-Term Unemployed persons**, in 2015 the IEFPI piloted a program for the development of their personal and/or professional skills to enable socio-professional insertion (through the creation of own businesses and/or recruitment), with 83% of female beneficiaries. The pilot phase resulted in 73% beneficiaries inserted in the labour market. According to the impact evaluation conducted by the IEFPI in 2018 (employment and entrepreneurship programs implemented from 2015 to 2017), over 2/3 of beneficiaries are women (67.9%), however the rate of labour market insertion is higher for men beneficiaries (72.3% versus 64.6% for women); in terms of income, there is a substantial increase for all beneficiaries (comparing salaries prior and after participation in one of the programs), nonetheless, on average, men have higher salaries than women at the outset (prior to program) and this gap is maintained after the program, except in the case of entrepreneurship programs, for which some balance is achieved between the income of men and women. In terms of (iii) **professional training**, in 2015 a total of 162 professional training courses were implemented by the IEFPI Employment and Vocational Training Centres and other accredited entities, for a total of 3,178 beneficiaries, 1,778 women (56%) and 1,400 men (44%). Close to 63% of trainings (102 courses) focus on priority development areas for the country (Finance, Tourism, ICT, Agribusiness, creative industries). Additionally, 24 training of trainers' courses were conducted for 451 trainers, 273 women (60.5%) and 178 men (39.5%). The **Fund for the Promotion of Employment and Training** has financed, since 2014, professional training and micro and small business of young people, the majority women (65% of the 4,551 beneficiaries financed).

19. **Transition from informal to formal work:** gender mainstreaming in this domain is crucial considering women are the majority of informal sector workers. The establishment in 2014 of the **Special Regime for Micro and Small Enterprises - REMPE** (Law n°70/VII/2014, published 26 August) provided informal businesses with a specific tax and contribution. Among other benefits: it exempts businesses from the publication of any corporate action, considerably reducing the costs of establishing an enterprise and other acts; as well as from compulsory organized accounts, reducing accountancy costs; provides a simplified model for tax payment which considerably reduces the amount of tax to be paid, though the Unified Special Tax (4% of business volume) which substitutes the Tax on corporate income, the VAT – value added tax (in the normal regime it corresponds to 15% of invoice), the Fire Tax and contributions to social security (corresponds to 16.5% of salary of each worker in the normal regime). As previously mentioned, women are the majority of operators in the informal sector. The beneficiaries of the REMPE regime that are registered at the INPS has increased: from 330 in 2015 to 3,745 in 2016, of which 2,085 are women and 1,660 men. In 2017 ICIEG prepared a **gender analysis of the results of the Informal Sector Survey (2015)** to inform

the National Transition Strategy from Informal to Formal Economy (2017–2020), giving visibility to their characteristics (low levels of education, work in least profitable informal sector activities - retail, are mainly self-employed and when they earn a salary, it is on average 71.5% of the salary of men). An Interinstitutional Group for the Strategic Management of the Transition from Informal to Formal Economy was established, of which ICIEG is a member. To be noted that the first trade union for informal sector workers was established end of 2017 and launched at the end of a seminar on the Transition from Informal to Formal Economy: the **National Union of Trade, Services and Domestic Workers** is a mechanism for informal sector workers to organize to better participate and defend their labour rights during the process of transition from informal to the formal economy. The President of this Union is a woman. In the case of domestic workers, under the impetus of CSOs, the following can be highlighted: the drafting of a Proposal for the Regulatory Framework of Domestic Work; an analysis of the Labour Situation of Domestic Employees and associated public policies; the establishment of a Domestic Workers' Association. In Cabo Verde, domestic work is performed almost exclusively by women and is a professional occupation marked by informality.

7. Unpaid care and domestic work and work-family conciliation

- ✓ Childcare services
 - ✓ Support for frail elderly persons and others needing intense forms of care
20. **Public policies to increase the availability and access to childcare services as well as for elderly persons and dependent persons with disabilities:** as referred in paragraph 8 of this report, the process of implementation of the Nacional Care System started in 2012: the **National Care Plan 2017-2021**, approved through Resolution n°143/2017, is under implementation, and defines the main actions to be implemented for the establishment of Cabo Verde's Care System, which is at the centre of social protection policies, considering that (a) dependent persons have the right to care, acknowledged as a key dimension of human rights and as a shared responsibilities between families, the State and NGOs, in view of its universalisation; (b) the system is a required condition for gender equality, considering women's predominance in care activities, which is an underlying factor for inequality; (c) it promotes effective citizenship for women and is a force for economic development, as well as a guarantee for the sustainability of the protection system, channelling women's time towards decent work; (d) it contributes to inclusive and sustainable development, through women's personal and professional development, up till now reduced to carers; (e) is a motor for poverty reduction, in the sense that it opens opportunities for paid work. The Plan considers 5 dimensions (services, regulation, training, information/knowledge management, communication) around 6 strategic objectives: (i) enlarge the support network for families dependent on care services, including a needs assessment at municipal level, and technical and financial support to care initiatives (including kindergartens and care of dependents); (ii) establish an administrative and normative framework for the care system; (iii) develop a care training plan, including the design of capacity strengthening curricula for kindergartens and assistants for care dependent adults, the establishment of a data base of professionals per municipality, the identification of women caregiver that can be professionalized; (iv) establish an internal and external communication network; (v) establish a management system for access, information and knowledge management; and (vi) guarantee the sustainable and

solidarity funding of the system. Progress was made in 2018 in the **definition of services to be provided**, as well as their **regulation**; the development of information and knowledge management tools; the **development of training modules and their implementation**; and the dissemination of the Care System. Several normative instruments were developed, including: Decree-Law n°58/2018, November 14, on the **norms for the establishment and operation of nurseries** (minimum standards for infant care facilities - 0 to 3 years of age); institutional tools were developed to harmonize the **process of accreditation of care facilities for infancy**; and a **Ludo-Pedagogical Orientation Guide for Children from 0 to 3 years** is being developed. The **regulation instruments for social facilities for older persons and persons with disabilities** are being finalized; the **Professional Profile of Infancy Carers** (level 2 of professional qualifications of the National Qualifications Catalogue) and of **Carers of Dependents** (older persons and persons with disabilities, level 3) were approved through a joint Order of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Education (Joint Order n°1/2019, January 11). The definition of Professional Qualifications is key to orient quality professional training offers and, in turn, the availability of trained carers is key to ensure the rights of persons that are care dependent, and to provoke a paradigm change on care work, from being mainly performed by women, as an unpaid activity, to paid work. In terms of training, the first **trainings of carers** have been conducted for the two professional profiles defined in Praia, Sal and São Vicente, for a total of 105 trainees (93 women and 12 men), which has enabled the establishment of an initial **Pool of Carers**. In terms of **care services**, projects contracts have been signed with non-profit associations, as well as Town Halls; investments have been made in kindergartens and facilities for older persons (Day Care Centres), through the concession of public facilities for the establishment of nurseries, rehabilitation of facilities, financing of equipment, provision of ludo-pedagogical materials. In respect to persons with disabilities, in April 2018 a Financial Grant for Associations Operation was launched, for non-profit Associations working in this domain. The grant subsidizes fixed operational costs (rent, water, electricity, office supplies and cleaning materials) of 11 associations, among which APIMUD, while the remaining 10 associations work both with women and men with disabilities. A **Care and Rehabilitation Centre** for children and youth with disability was also established: Praia's Town Hall provided the space for the facility, which in addition includes a Training Nucleus for Professionals working on disability and family members; the headquarters of the Federation of Organizations working on disabilities; and the administrative headquarters of non-profit associations working on disabilities. One of the Centre's lines of work is *improving care and support services for children and youth with disabilities*.

8. Austerity/fiscal consolidation measures

NO

21. Over the last five years Cabo Verde did not introduce austerity/fiscal consolidation measures.

B. POVERTY ERADICATION, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

9. Poverty among women and girls

- ✓ Women's entrepreneurship and business development
- ✓ Social protection programmes for women and girls

22. **Women's entrepreneurship and business development:** the section on *Gender-responsive active labour market policies* describes some of the programs underway to promote entrepreneurship (paragraph 18). Additionally, to address rural poverty, the **National Poverty Reduction Program** targets beneficiaries from rural zones in poverty or food insecurity (or at risk for food insecurity). Up to September 2018 the Program (2013-2018) benefited directly 9,908 poor people, 46% of which women and created 2,029 employments, 1,217 for rural youth (women and men), contributing to increase the income of families occupied in fishing, agriculture and processing, and an estimated 35,736 indirect beneficiaries. Women account for 41% of the 485 **economic micro-projects funded**, especially food processing/bakery projects (73%), pig and poultry raising (64%) and trade and services (58%), that are areas traditionally occupied by women, while they benefitted little from agriculture projects and projects of structural significance, around water access and new technologies/practices for agriculture and livestock), due to women's limited access to land, as well as their lack of experience and proficiency in the required techniques. These shortcomings also applies to young women, which represent 45% of the youth beneficiaries of the Program. Some **good practices** were identified with potential to overcome this state of affairs: such as a partnership with Tarrafal's Town Hall on a micro project to mobilize water for 30 farmers using drip-irrigation, 27 of which women, which gave women the opportunity to access modern agricultural techniques/practices, reduce the work load of dry farming and increase their income; another good practice was the implication of a woman head of household in a hydroponic vegetable production unit, thus overcoming the issue of land ownership. The Program also focused on capacity building and promotion of **women's participation**. Between 2015 and 2016 Regional Partner's Commission (CRP) organized several trainings for Community Development Associations (association governing bodies and members, which are part of the community assemblies that identify and select the beneficiaries of microprojects): 43 trainings were conducted for 994 persons, among which 478 women (48%), on leadership, association management, conflict management, entrepreneurship, planning, project management and monitoring, gender equality, and the role of families in combating GBV. In terms of participation the Program established that at least 45% of participants in community assemblies should be women: women's participation in the 495 community assemblies conducted is 52% (always above 43% in all islands, with the lowest rate in Santo Antão). Women's participation in CRP is also promoted, one of the decision-making levels: women's proportion increased from 23% in 2014 to 27% in 2016. Slow progress is determined by women's low presence in elected bodies of Community Development Associations (members of CRP). Women are (i) 37% of General Assemblies of CRP, (ii) 21% of CRP boards, (iii) 32% of Audit Committees of CRP, and (iv) only 16% of decision making bodies of Community Development Associations (76 out of a total of 472), indicating the need to continue awareness raising efforts with CRP and Associations. The Program to combat rural poverty signed a **cooperation protocol with the ICIEG**, to strengthen work to combat gender stereotypes in rural communities and to promote increased and improved participation of women in decision making. In this context, the ICIEG conducted trainings for women beneficiaries of the poverty reduction program: (i) to strengthen their entrepreneurship and small business management skills and (ii) on gender and self-esteem, with a focus on participation in Community Development Associations and Regional Committees of Partners.

23. **Social Inclusion Income:** in the context of poverty reduction, Cabo Verde is also implementing a Social Inclusion Income policy, consisting of a **direct monetary transfer** to families in extreme poverty that have children under 15 years of age under their responsibility, coupled with income generating measures. The monetary transfer is monthly, for a two-year period (5,500 CVE) and beneficiary families are identified through the **Unified Social Registry:** in 2018 (commencing in July) 1,026 families were benefitted, 54% of which represented by a woman and 46% by a man. In these families, a total of 52 children were out of school, 39 girls and 13 boys. Beneficiary families are followed by the social team of Town Halls and the MFIS has the responsibility of preparing Guidelines for the orientation and mobilization of resources to be applied in activities for their productive inclusion. Beginning of 2019, the number of beneficiary families increased to 2,410. As an example of **income generation projects**, in the municipality of São Miguel funds were provided for a vegetable production and marketing project (for Boavista island, one of the touristic islands) and 10 women are being supported to submit requests of access to land, water and technologies at the Town Hall and receiving assistance from the local Delegation of the Ministry of Agriculture. Additionally, several **NGOs implement economic empowerment and income generating projects**, with women as one of their foremost target group, as do institutions such as municipalities, Employment and Professional Training Centres, among others.

10. Access to social protection for women and girls

- ✓ Strengthened non-contributory social pensions
- ✓ Introduced social protection for unemployed women
- ✓ Improved access to social protection for specific populations (domestic employees)

24. **Non-contributory system social pensions:** the Cape Verdean social protection system includes a non-contributory component, the **social pension**, managed by the CNPS. Its aim is to provide minimum living conditions to persons in poverty and/or socially excluded not covered by social security and it is divided in 3 modalities: **basic pension**, **social pension** due to incapacity and **survival social pension**. In 2017 21.198 persons were covered, which corresponds to 43% of the population with 60 years of age or above. The old age social pension covers 17.030 persons, the pension due to incapacity 3.997 and the pension for survivors of spouse 171 persons. **Women represent 70.2% of beneficiaries** (men 29.8%) and are the majority in all 3 types of pension, but especially so for the elderly pension, reflecting women's greater vulnerability. Indeed, women are the majority of the older population, and they are more likely to have been out of the labour force, or when they were part of the labour force, more likely to have worked in the informal sector, thus with less access to contributory social security. Coverage increases every year, and up to 22.487 beneficiaries in 2018. To be noted that social pensions has been increased from 5,000 CVE to 6,000 CVE, as well as the annual limit for acquisition of medicines in private pharmacies (50% increase, going from 2,500 CVE to 3,750 CVE). Cabo Verde is also implementing a **Social Inclusion Income** policy, as described in the previous section (paragraph 23).

25. **Unemployment benefits:** the legal regime for the allocation of an **unemployment benefit** was approved in 2015 (Decree-Law n°15/2015, 5 March), in the context of the compulsory social protection scheme for employees, for reparation of unemployment situations. It will be funded

by contributions of employers and employees, at a 3% rate over salaries, through a 1.5% increase, respectively 1% to employers and 0,5% to employees, in addition to 1.5% from allowances. INPS is responsible for administering the benefit and the IEFP for managing active employment measures, such as personalized support for strategies to integrate labour force or other interventions to promote employability, such as counselling, training, monitoring of efforts. The total amount of the benefit can be paid in one instalment when the beneficiary has a proposal for self-employment. In 2017 Decree-Law n°23/2017, 5 March, establishes the data of 1st May 2017 for entry into force of the unemployment benefit in a phased way, starting with the general regime, while special regimes (domestic employees, public administration and the special regime for micro and small enterprises) will be incorporated in a phased way, through a specific diploma. In 2018 193 workers benefitted from the unemployment, 101 women and 92 men, respectively 52% and 48%).

26. **Improved access to social protection for specific populations (domestic employees):** the proportion of domestic workers covered by Social Security is still low (9.5% in 2015), as such in 2017 the INPS started a TV campaign on the right of domestic workers to social security, a professional category almost exclusively feminine. Indeed, although this occupation only represents 6% of all employments in Cabo Verde, women represent 95.3% of workers (2018). In 2018 the proportion of domestic employees registered with INPS increased to 17.5%. As mentioned in paragraph 19, several actions were undertaken to improve domestic workers' social and professional rights and empower this professional category (under the impetus of CSOs, the drafting of a Proposal for the Regulatory Framework of Domestic Work; an analysis of the Labour Situation of Domestic Employees and associated public policies; the establishment of a Domestic Workers' Association).

11. Health outcomes for women and girls

- ✓ Expanded Sexual and Reproductive Health, maternal and HIV services
- ✓ Gender-responsiveness training for health service providers
- ✓ Sexuality education in schools

27. **Expanded Sexual and Reproductive Health, maternal and HIV services:** in terms of infrastructure, the country counts on 3 more Health Centres, which provide SRH services. The **SRH services** provided to girls and women include antenatal counselling; contraception information and provision of modern contraceptive methods to prevent unwanted pregnancies; pre-natal, birth and post-partum monitoring; perinatal care and promotion of breastfeeding; prevention, attention and follow-up to abortion and its complications; prevention of STI/HIV/AIDS and provision of ARV treatment; prevention and treatment of breast and cervical cancer; prevention and treatment of infertility and menopause complications; prevention against physical and sexual violence and support; communication for behaviour change and adoption of healthy life styles; human sexuality and responsible maternity and paternity; gender and promotion of women's empowerment. To be noted that HVP vaccination is in the process of being included in the national vaccination protocol, for teenage girls, for the prevention of cervical cancer. These services continue to be provided mostly free, while some imply charges. As referred in paragraph 11, based on the results of a **Study on access to SRH services of women with disabilities** conducted in 2015, several measures have been

implemented to better address the specific SRH needs of **women with disabilities**: the Ministry of Health conducted technical meetings and meetings with the health hierarchy have been conducted, to share the findings and reflect on them, as well as to disseminate SRH rights and duties and the laws that protect them. These meetings have been conducted in partnership with APIMUD; 33 health staff from all Health Delegations of the country participated in a training conducted by Humanité Inclusion, on health and SRH rights of persons with disabilities and this training is being replicated at each of the Health Delegations of the country, in order to include more technical and support staff (3 already conducted); a guide on SRH rights is being finalized, for dissemination and also as support material for trainings on SRH rights for health personnel and other target groups; a micro program has been aired, summarizing information on modern contraceptive methods, including simultaneous translation to sign language. As for **SRH of teenagers (boys and girls)**, specific facilities have been established in some Health Centres of the country, to ensure easy access, privacy and confidentiality of SRH services for girls/teenagers, an initiative to be extended to all the country's Health Centres this year. These facilities are foreseen by the **Adolescent Health Plan (2018-2020)** and are designed as **Adolescent Friendly Health Facilities (ESAD)**, providing integrated services beyond SRH, including mental health, nutritional education, among others. The attention provided is multi-disciplinary and focused on the promotion of health and healthy lifestyles. The facilities are specific for teenagers and are equipped with a multipurpose room to conduct group chats on issues of interest to adolescent, both female and male, chosen by them. These Centres have partnerships with local stakeholders, including CSOs that ensure the dissemination of these facilities/services at community level, and collaborate on specific themes according to the know how they have. All Health Centres in Praia already have ESADs, as well as 2 Health Centres in the island of São Vicente, 2 in the island of Fogo and the Health Centres of Boavista, São Domingos and Santa Catarina. Ribeira Grande de Santiago also has an ESAD, operating in a facility provided by the Town Hall. In term of **HIV health services**, the country went from 1 to 5 equipments to determine viral load, benefiting women and men, but especially pregnant women, allowing them to opt for normal labour and breastfeeding when the viral load is controlled. The **syphilis, HIV1 and HIV2 tests** are now latest generation tests and are provided free of charge to all pregnant women. In respect to IEC, **peer education** at community level if being used for awareness raising, condom distribution and dissemination of HIV services and their gratuity, in particular with the most vulnerable groups (sex workers, drug users, etc.). To be noted that end of 2017 a bio-behavioural survey was conducted on the vulnerability of **persons with disabilities to HIV/AIDS**: the study revealed an HIV prevalence of 2.3%, specifically 3.5% among men with disabilities and **1.7% among women with disabilities**, which are higher rates than the HIV prevalence among the general population is of 0.6% in 2018 (**0.7% for women** and 0.4% for men),² representing a decrease in HIV prevalence among men (1.1% in 2005) and increase among women (0.4% in 2005). The findings of the bio-behavioural study show that persons with disabilities are quite vulnerable to HIV/AIDS: although they know of the existence of HIV/AIDS and have access to condoms and use them, they are subject to multiple vulnerabilities (poverty, low educational level, low income) and are hardly ever targeted by STI/HIV/AIDS awareness raising strategies and campaigns, while they are also exposed to

² INE and Ministry of Health (2018) Preliminary Results of the IDSR III

violence (sexual, physical, stigma): 45% of the sample of persons with disabilities refer they have suffered some kind of violence (14.4% verbal, 10.4% physical and 4.7% economic), most of which in their neighbourhood (31.2%), household (28.0%) or on the street (17.2%). Over half of those that suffered violence have not done anything (seek help, file a complaint, etc.) after the latest episode of violence (53.8%). Over 1 in every 10 persons with disability refer their first sexual intercourse was not consensual (14.5%), affecting women more than men. Altogether, women suffer more than men from physical, psychological and sexual violence.

28. **Gender-responsiveness training for health service providers:** between 2015 and 2016 **14 trainings** were implemented for health professionals on GBV, for a total of 274 professionals (doctors, nurses, psychologists, administrative staff). In 2016 a **Procedures Manual was developed for Health Service Professionals**, to provide information on GBV concept, support identification of GBV situations and to harmonize procedures, and was disseminated in 2 workshops with 43 participants from all islands.
29. **Sexuality education in primary and secondary school:** the introduction of sexual education in basic and secondary education, beyond the already existing contents in specific subjects, is being worked on and technical assistance has been contracted to define approaches and scenarios for its implementation. The inclusion of sexual education in pre-school, is underway and is already part of the *Curriculum Activities Guide and Pedagogical Guidelines for Pre-school*.

12. Education outcomes and skills for women and girls

- ✓ Strengthened educational curricula to increase gender-responsiveness and eliminate bias
 - ✓ Safe, harassment-free and inclusive educational environments for women and girls
 - ✓ Strengthened measures to prevent adolescent pregnancies and to enable adolescent girls to continue their education in the case of pregnancy and/or motherhood
30. **Revised primary and secondary education curricula:** as mentioned in paragraph 6 the Ministry of Education is revising the curricula of basic and secondary education. The revised **basic education curricula** (1st to 8th grade) were implemented in September 2017 and will continue in a phased way until academic year 2020/2021: 1st and 5th grade in 2017/2018; 2nd and 6th grade in 2018/2019; 3rd and 7th grade in 2019/2020; and 4th and 8th grade in 2020/2021. Several crosscutting themes were considered in pedagogical materials, among which gender equality, thus all materials (programs, manual and teacher guides) include contents on education for gender equality, as well as gender sensitive images and language. The revised secondary education curricula (9th to 12th grade) will be implemented starting 2021.
 31. **Safe, harassment-free and inclusive educational environments for women and girls:** the **Project Equality Promoting Schools** ended,³ having involved schools from the islands of Fogo, Sal and urban Praia (with higher GBV statistics). The Project trained 257 teachers, who subsequently prepared and implemented 24 Action Plans to promote gender equality and combat GBV, through activities in classrooms, school and school communities. The project developed several campaign materials, including 3 TV spots. Out of the trainings and of the

³ This Project (then starting) was mentioned in Cabo Verde's previous report (Beijing+20), paragraph 84

implementation of action plans a campaign emerged – *This hand is not for violence*, stimulating youth to understand the roots of GBV and to take a stance for non-violence. The **project evaluation conducted in 2015** shows that in target schools the concepts of equality and non-violence were well established among students and teachers, and that teachers address gender equality and non-violence in the classroom. As referred in paragraph 6 a **Diagnostic Study on Violence in Schools** was conducted to better understand the situation, through a partnership between the Research and Training Centre in Gender and Family (CIGEF), the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences and Arts, of the University of Cabo Verde, and the Ministry of Education. The study is grounded in a holistic approach to school violence, including institutional violence which is usually legitimated by the unequal power relations implicit in pedagogical interaction. This approach will enable responses which focus, among others, on promoting positive and non-violent pedagogical relationships. The study considered physical, psychological, sexual, patrimonial and cybernetic violence. The CIGEF is continuing its collaboration with the Ministry of Education for the elaboration of the **Plan to Prevent and Combat Violence in Schools**. As a more immediate response to the findings of the study, the recently established SIEPC is planning trainings and peer to peer education for the teams of the **Inclusive and Promotion of Citizenship Spaces** Inclusion operating at school level. The training of 10 teachers (trainers of trainers) on urban violence has already taken place in 10 schools in Praia, the capital.

32. **Measures to enable students to continue their studies in the case of pregnancy and/or motherhood:** as mentioned in paragraph 6, in July 2017 the Diploma establishing the **measures for social and educational support to school girls/students during pregnancy, after child birth and while breastfeeding** was approved, aimed at their continued access to education in quality conditions, at all educational levels (basic, secondary, professional training, higher education). It establishes in particular: the right to 60 days of maternity leave after child birth; leave before childbirth in clinical risk situations; a special regime of leave postpartum (justified leave for consultation, illness and assistance to the baby); and adjustments of evaluation rules according to need (deadlines and modalities). The Diploma foresees the possibility of special evaluation dates, of waiving registration for a minimum number of school subjects, specific orientation of pregnant students by the school's Social Action services and special transfer conditions to other school establishments. Education institutions are required to train their teachers on SRH, adapt to the diploma's dispositions and disseminate it, including to pregnant students, and promote an environment free of discrimination. The Education National Directorate has disseminated the Diploma among teachers and school pedagogical departments are supporting pregnant students, at local level, with class replacement and taking measures to avoid school abandonment.

C. FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, STIGMA AND STEREOTYPES

13. Prioritized forms of violence against women and girls

- ✓ Intimate partner violence/domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape
- ✓ Sexual harassment and violence in public places, educational settings and in employment
- ✓ Femicide/Feminicide

✓ Violence against women in politics

✓ Trafficking in women and girls

33. **Intimate partner violence/GBV:** achievements linked to the GBV legal framework have been referred in paragraph 1(i)). In addition, significant progress has been achieved since 2014 in the implementation of the PNVBG, specifically in terms of: (i) **GBV awareness raising and prevention**, a domain in which CSOs continue to have a paramount role, in particular in the **dissemination of the GBV Law** and the **GBV free information and help line**, working directly with families, school and kindergartens, and addressing all forms of GBV. To be noted that since 2018 the Police emergency line (132) is now the main line used for GBV information and reporting, available 24 hours a day and free of charge for both landline and cell phone calls. Simultaneously, several **campaign materials** were made available, both printed materials and for television; (ii) awareness raising and **training of GBV Law implementers**, with a special focus on justice personnel (7 regional workshops for magistrates and lawyers, *Annotated Version of the GBV Law* updated and its 2nd edition was published, training for administrative staff from Public Prosecutor's Offices from all justice districts of the country, who deal administratively with GBV procedures) and health personnel (14 trainings between 2015 and 2016, covering all islands, for a total of 274 professionals (doctors, nurses, psychologists, administrative staff). In 2016 a **Procedures Manual was developed for Health Service Professionals**, to support identification of GBV situations and harmonize procedures, that was disseminated in 2 workshops with 43 participants from all islands; (iii) **assistance and protection of GBV victims**, through the GBV Support Centres (CAV), the SOL network and the Police GBV Cabinets (GAV), while a first **shelter** was established, in the island of Fogo, through a partnership with the Town Hall and Franciscan Congregation, (iv) **rehabilitation of men perpetrators of GBV**, in order to prevent GBV recidivism (consolidation of the **National Program for the Rehabilitation of men perpetrators of GBV** (paragraph 46); (v) **data production**, with the establishment of the **Integrated Operational Management System (SIGO)**, allowing for improved information sharing among the National Police, Criminal Police, Public Attorney's Office and other entities from the security and justice sector, as well as criminal information collection and treatment, including on GBV; and the completion of the **IIIrd Demographic Reproductive Health Survey (IDSR III)**, which include for the second time a GBV module (GBV results soon to be disseminated); (vi) **evaluation** of implemented measures, through an evaluation of the implementation of the GBV Law, conducted in 2017, and, in 2018, of the evaluation of the Program for the Rehabilitation of GBV.
34. **Sexual harassment and violence in public places, educational settings and in employment:** the Association to combat GBV (ACLCVBG) organized in March 2017 a **Forum on sexual harassment in the work place:** participants included justice professionals (judges, attorneys and lawyers), unions, Labour General Directorate. Recommendations were issued for more effective action in respect to this form of violence. Considerable efforts are under way to prevent and respond to **violence** in educational settings and **in public places** as described in paragraphs 6 e 31 and paragraphs 63, respectively.
35. **Femicide:** the number of women who are fatal victims of GBV is being closely monitored: 8 cases of femicide were registered in 2018. Over half of the victims were 21 to 30 years old (63%) and the femicide happens predominantly during separation from an ex-partner (63%).

In half the cases (4) the femicide is followed by attempted suicide from the presumed perpetrator, consummated in 3 out of 4 cases. Most victims had no previous complaints: only 1 victim had an ongoing GBV complaint. A qualitative study is about to start to enable a better understanding of the characteristics of femicide in the country and underlying dynamics.

36. **Violence against women in politics:** in the context of the advocacy efforts for the Parity Law, this form of violence against women is being widely debated as one of the obstacle women face in political participation. Specific examples of personal attacks and character assassination of women in politics have been publicly repudiated by the various party's leaderships and highest political levels of the country.
37. **Trafficking in persons, including women and girls:** in addition to the strengthening of the **legal framework**, with the **revision of the Penal Code in 2015** (paragraph 1(i)), the country has for the first time a **National Plan to combat Human Trafficking (2018-2021)** and Cabo Verde has **intensified cooperation** with several countries and UN Agencies with a view to strengthening its capacities and information exchange in this domain.

14. Combating violence against women and girls

- ✓ Strengthened violence against women laws, and their enforcement and implementation
 - ✓ National action plans on ending violence against women and girls
 - ✓ Strengthened services for survivors of violence
 - ✓ Strengthened strategies to prevent violence against women and girls
 - ✓ Monitoring and evaluation of impact, including evidence generation and data collection, including regarding particular groups of women and girls
38. **Strengthened legal framework:** as referred in paragraph 1 (i) of the present report.
 39. **National action plans on ending violence against women and girls:** the IInd PNVBG is focused on the implementation of the GBV Law and encompasses different forms of violence, including sexual harassment, sexual violence and FGM. It is structured around 4 strategic pillars: the first on information, awareness raising and improved data production, both quantitative and qualitative, desegregated, and its analysis and dissemination; the second on the empowerment of women, economically and physically (SRH and rights, decision making); the third on assistance and protection of victims; the fourth aimed at improved institutional commitment in respect to GBV, both at central and decentralized levels, through capacity strengthening of human resources and institutional and interinstitutional mechanism. The **National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents 2017-2019** highlights the need for a specialized support and care network for children and teenagers subject to sexual violence and their families; and foresees education strategies for children and adolescents on sexual rights and gender, in a self-protection perspective; empowerment projects for girls, who are the majority of sexual abuse victims; educational and awareness raising on the rights of children and adolescents; updating the legal framework, perfecting surveillance and notification and responsibilities flows, to reduce impunity; and highlights the need for local and multilateral alliances for the Plan to be implemented in an integrated, encompassing and sustainable way. The **National Plan to combat Human Trafficking 2018-**

2021 is organized around 5 strategic domains: (i) legal and institutional aspects; prevention of traffic in persons; protection and support of victims, including legal, medical and psychosocial support; repression, accountability and social reintegration of perpetrators; while strengthening institutional mechanisms to combat human trafficking (National Police and Public Prosecutor's Office), in close coordination with NGOs and IEC strategies to mobilize stakeholders.

40. **Strengthened services for survivors of violence:** as referred in paragraphs 33 of the present report.
41. **Strengthened GBV prevention strategies:** as described in several sections of the report and addressed in the following section.
42. **Monitoring and evaluation of impact, including regarding particular groups of women and girls:** the results achieved in the combat to violence against women and girls have been documented by 3 evaluations: the evaluation of the **Support to the implementation of the GBV Law Project** (Trust Fund) in 2015; the **Evaluation of the implementation of the GBV Law**, in 2017; and the **evaluation of Program for the Rehabilitation of GBV Offenders**, in 2018. The **project evaluation**, looking at the 3 expected results, showed an increase in the number of men and women mobilized for practices based on equality and non-violence; increased quality of the support services to GBV victims; significant slowness in the resolution of GBV cases, with a negative impact on victims, although improvement was made compared to the situation prior to the GBV Law; the country's capacities have been strengthened to prevent and ensure the responses foreseen by the GBV Law for support to victims, nonetheless efforts remains necessary to achieve all that is foreseen by the Law. The **Evaluation of the implementation of the GBV Law** shows substantial progress in measures taken to implement the GBV Law, in all its dimensions: (a) GBV awareness and prevention initiatives, as well as education for equality, that resulted in increased knowledge of the population in respect to GBV and the Law that forbids and punishes GBV; however, doubts on the concept of GBV still persist, in particular among personnel responsible for law implementation; (b) the establishment of the GBV Support Centres (CAV) and continuation of the SOL network were considered a best practice for assistance and protection of GBV victims; nonetheless, after 2016 a gap occurred due to the re-organization of the CAV and to a reduction in the dynamics of the SOL network (in 2018, there is evidence of improvement); the commitment of the National Police to assist and protect GBV victims is notorious, and investments were made in the health sector, that have however not yet translated into visible results in terms of institutionalization of the sector's response to GBV; recently a GBV shelter was established, strengthening this aspects of the protection response; (c) the delay in GBV proceedings is a major constraint to the punishment of perpetrators; delays are a generalized problem, and GBV cases are solved more quickly, comparatively to other cases; the need persists for specialized Prosecutors and judges, dedicated to GBV, as foreseen by the PNVBG (only Praia has one specialized Prosecutor and Judge). The **evaluation of the Program for the Rehabilitation of GBV Offenders** shows that, since the beginning of the program in 2013, 38 rehabilitation groups were implemented, for a total of 360 participants (336 complete the program), resulting in improved awareness of participants in respect to their behaviour, low dropout rates from the rehabilitation groups (subjectively perceived as very important by the participants) and the

adoption of a multiplier role in the community after the end of the program; to evaluate recidivism of GBV there is the need for improvement in data collection and treatment at the level of courts, public prosecutor and rehabilitation services; overall the number of men participating in rehabilitation groups is low compared to the number of GBV proceedings and there is a need to increase the program's response capacity. Moreover, the data from the IDSR III (2018), which has included a GBV module, will be available soon (2nd semester of 2019) will update GBV rates and typologies, bringing crucial data to assess results achieved and re-orient interventions. Also on data gathering, the establishment of the **SIGO**, allowing for improved information sharing among the National Police, Criminal Police, Public Attorney's Office and other entities from the security and justice sector, as well as criminal information collection and treatment, including on GBV, risk evaluation of the situation of the victim and stage of the procedure (information now computerized), also enabling victims easier access to information on the progress of their complaint. In relation to **specific groups of women and girls**, a **Bio-behavioural study on the vulnerability of persons with disabilities to HIV/AIDS** was conducted end of 2017, including an analysis of violence. More details on the study to be found in paragraph 50.

15. Strategies to prevent violence against women and girls

- ✓ Public awareness raising and changing of attitudes and behaviours
 - ✓ Work in primary and secondary education, including comprehensive sexuality education
 - ✓ Working with men and boys
 - ✓ Perpetrator programmes
43. **Public awareness raising and changing of attitudes and behaviours:** in 2015 the support **manual for the community dissemination of the GBV Law** was developed and disseminated, as part of a training initiative for community leaders, local associations, local level public servants (education, health, etc.) and members of the SOL network, conducted in 2014. The Manual was distributed to OSC and other stakeholders and contains practical orientation on the GBV Law and strategies for its dissemination at community level. CSOs have had a key role in awareness raising and increasing the population's understanding of stereotypes and practices that perpetuate inequality between men and women and, as such, in the prevention of GBV. In 2018 the ACLCVBG launched the Campaign **Enable and mobilize for non-violence against women**. Simultaneously, in support of awareness-raising, several campaign materials were produced and disseminated on radios and television, namely: spots for campaigns *STOP GBV* and *Say no to abuse and sexual violence against children and adolescents*; several booklets and leaflets were produced and distributed, including on GBV in dating; the *Guide on Abuse and Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents* was updated and re-edited, as well as the booklet *The Shared Secret*, a story on the importance of reporting such cases; the 2nd edition of the pocket booklet *All you need to know about the GBV Law* was printed and disseminated. Community radios have also supported awareness raising to combat GBV, through debates and informative sessions. The impact of the prevention efforts (including media campaigns), as documented by the **Evaluation of the implementation of the GBV Law** conducted in 2017, is the population's increased knowledge on GBV, underlying

factors and punishment, knowledge of the GBV Law, and the increased non acceptance of GBV. The weekly TV program *Different and Equal* was launched in 2018, dedicated to gender equality issues.

44. **Work in primary and secondary education, including comprehensive sexuality education:** as mentioned in paragraphs 1 (iv), 6 and 30 of the present report, the **basic and secondary curricula** is being revised to integrate gender equality. As referred in paragraph 29, the strengthening of sexual education in different educational levels is being analysed. Additionally, a **GBV Module for secondary education** is being finalized, including a teachers' Guide and a Guide for students. In 2018/2019, 127 teachers were trained on GBV.
45. **Working with men and boys:** as mentioned in paragraph 85 of the Beijing+20 report in 2014, the Laço Branco network (of men against violence and for gender equality) is a strong ally for **men's engagement and social mobilization**, towards changing socio-cultural stereotypes on men's and women's roles. Their activities have been focused on men in communities, through theatre sessions, exploring different forms of GBV manifestations, concepts of masculinity/femininity, and responsible paternity, among others. Within the evaluation of the **Support to the implementation of the GBV Law Project** in 2015, Laço Branco's initiatives were shown to have a positive impact on the understanding of masculinity stereotypes and behaviour change. The Laço Branco network runs a **radio program *Mi ki ta desidi*** (I decide) focused on gender and masculinities, engaged citizenship and social and personal development, transmitted through the Educational Radio and re-transmitted by several community radios. Other initiatives to mobilize men are: the campaign *He for She*, launched in 2015 in Cabo Verde, under the leadership of the President, and mobilizing over 5,000 men and boys in less than a year; civil society's campaign *Homem que é Homem*, (a man that is a Man does not...) endorsed by well-known personalities, such as the Prime-minister and Town Hall Presidents, among others, with special impact on youth through the media and social media.
46. **GBV perpetrator programs:** the implementation of the **National Program for the Rehabilitation of men perpetrators of GBV**, established in 2012, was generalized to all the country's justice districts in 2014/15. The Program is aimed at improved understanding and the establishment of relationships based on respect, gender equality, acceptance of differences, and supports the establishment of non-violent interpersonal skills and reflexion on gender, masculinities and human rights. The Program operates through **Reflexion groups (rehabilitation groups)**, which give the participants the opportunity to reflect on their experiences and practices, and underlying beliefs and values, and enable the deconstruction of traditional masculine models, the recognition of women's autonomy and the importance of sharing decision making, as well as the development of new personal and social skills. Up to 2016, 37 Rehabilitation Groups were conducted across 8 municipalities, benefitting 238 men convicted of GBV. The **Evaluation of the implementation of the GBV Law** conducted in 2017 highlights the establishment of the Program as a best practice and, in 2018, the **evaluation of Program for the Rehabilitation of GBV Offenders** was conducted (results described in paragraph 42 of the present report).

16. Prevention and respond to violence against women and girls facilitated by technology

- ✓ Other: inclusion of cyber violence in a study on violence in schools
- 47. **Study on violence in schools:** as mentioned in paragraph 31 of this report, a study in violence in schools was conducted, that considered cybernetic violence, which is signalled mostly by students comparatively to teachers. The following behaviours were considered by students to occur regularly at their school: *says insults through social media* (48%); *launching rumours or lies through social media* (47.3%); *publish complicated photos and videos* (40.3%); and *threaten or pressure through social media* (37.2%). In response to the study findings, a **Plan to Prevent and Combat Violence in Schools** is being developed. As a more immediate response 10 teachers (trainers of trainers) on urban violence has already taken place in 10 schools in Praia, the capital, including the prevention of violence facilitated by technology.

17. Portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/or gender bias in the media

- ✓ Strengthened legal reforms to combat discrimination and/or gender bias in the media
- ✓ Established consumer protection services
- 48. **Strengthened legal framework to combat discrimination and gender bias in the media:** Law n°90/VIII/2015, 4 June, **regulates access to television activities and the audio-visual offer to the public**, complementing the legal framework approved in 2010 for media and journalism: article 44° establishes as limits to freedom of programming, programs that disseminate or incite racial, religious, political hatred or hatred based on colour, ethnic or national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disabilities. Non-compliance with these legal provisions is liable for criminal sanctions.
- 49. **Establishment of consumer protection services:** the Regulating Board of the **ARC - Social Communication Regulatory Authority**, established by Law n°8/VIII/2011, 29 December, took office in 2015. ARC is responsible for regulating and supervising entities that carry out communication activities in Cabo Verde. The ARC is a collective entity governed by public law, constituted constitutionally as an independent authority, that is not subject to guidelines or guidance from the political power, and whose performance by legal determination cannot call into question the freedom of the press. The main regulating objectives of the ARC are the promotion and guarantee of cultural pluralism and the diversity of expression of different views; ensure the free circulation of content by entities pursuing media activities and free access to content by their recipients; ensure that information provided by editorial services complies with criteria of high standards, impartiality, journalistic independence and rigour; and ensure the protection of individual rights of personality wherever they are concerned. ARC's intervention and supervision encompasses press agencies, periodic publications, irrespective of the support in which they are conveyed, radio and television operators, on-line content subject to editorial treatment and organized as a coherent whole, as well as publicity and marketing agents/companies and companies dedicated to surveys and opinion polls. ARC, in its 2016 annual report, analyses the **diversity and plurality of information** produced by public media, which showed both women and men as key players in news, although men predominate (68% of news analysed have men as key players). ARC published in 2018 a study on the **journalistic portrayal of GBV and domestic violence**, based on the analysis of the Night News of TCV (all broadcast of 2016). Out of the 14 news items analysed (on GBV, as per criteria defined), 5 are *Focused on the incident* (specific case of domestic violence) and 9

are *Focused on the issue* (covering, in addition to the facts, domestic violence as a social, economic and political problem). All the latter included pedagogical information (ex. reference to victim support associations, information of GBV as an *ex-officio* crime, appeal to the reporting of violence practices, etc.), which is the case with only 1 of the 5 news items focused on the incident. In terms of respect for individual rights (of the victim and presumed perpetrator), 5 news pieces showed images of the victim, 6 mentioned the name of the victim, while 1 showed the image of the presumed perpetrator, and 6 mentioned his name. In 4 of the news items possible justifications for the violent conduct were delivered (ex. jealousy, separation of the couple, new love life of the victim), although this is discouraged by the **Manual on Journalistic Good Practices to Combat GBV**,⁴ considering that it may induce the idea that some motives can justify GBV. The study on GB Vis being conducted every year and is reported on through ARC's annual report, containing a specific section on Media and Gender. In 2017 (as reported in 2018) the study identified 20 news items between July-September, thus more news items were produced on the subject (in a lesser span of time) and almost all on focusing on the *issue* versus *incident*. Results show that, while there is room for improvement, the journalistic treatment of GBV/domestic violence in TCV News is moving towards compliance with media legal framework, namely the Television Law and the Code of Conduct of Journalists (although these results cannot be generalized all televisions/media). Recommendations include a more general respect of good practices (remove motives to justify GBV form news items, avoid images that enable the identification of victims – direct images or images of homes or workplaces, avoid the identification of victims and presumed perpetrators by name, inclusion of pedagogical elements and useful information on rights/existing supports in all news items). To be noted that ARC is a member of the Platform of Media Regulatory Entities of Portuguese Speaking Countries and Territories, and that the Platform's VII Plenary Session (23rd October 2018) took place in Luanda, under the theme **Media, Gender and Regulation: in the Luanda Declaration 2018**, lusophone regulators reaffirm the principles of the Maputo Letter (approved in the annual meeting of the previous year) for the promotion of equality between men and women in the media and the need for each media institution to adopt a gender policy, in the context of regulation policies, to revert the existing unbalanced situation in journalistic coverage, marked by men as main protagonist and women's low presence.

18. Action to address violence against specific groups of women facing multiple forms of discrimination

SIM

50. **Persons with disabilities:** the **Bio-behavioural study on the vulnerability of persons with disabilities to HIV/AIDS** mentioned in paragraph 42 took into account the violence to which persons with disabilities (women and men) are exposed, enabling the country to have data on this issue to give it visibility. Results show that 45% of the sample have suffered some type of violence: 14.4% verbal, 10.4% physical and 4.7% economic. The following were mentioned, among others: inciting to prostitution (1%), FGM (0.1%), forced marriage (0.4%), sexual harassment (2.6%), sexual touch (2.9%), forced sex (2.9%). Most of the violence occurs in the

⁴ Developed in 2014, as referred in paragraph 198 of the Beijing+20 Report, and discussed during a training for de 35 media professionals (press, radio, television, both central and decentralized departments).

neighbourhood (31.2%), household (28%) or on the street (17.2%). Over half of those that suffered violence have not done anything (seek help, file a complaint, etc.) after the latest episode of violence (53.8%). Over 1 in every 10 persons with disability refer their first sexual intercourse was not consensual (14.5%), affecting women more than men. Altogether, the focus groups dimension of the study show that women suffer more than men from physical, psychological and sexual violence.

51. **LGBTI persons:** measures to combat violence towards this specific group (both women and men) are focused on prevention, through the promotion of their rights and equal treatment. In 2016 the **UN Free and Equal Campaign** was launched in Cabo Verde during the **Kriol Jazz Festival**. The Campaign counts on the participation of a high-profile Cape Verdean singer – Mayra Andrade, along Brazilian singer Maria Gadú. In previous years, several campaign initiatives were conducted to raise awareness on sexual and gender diversity and promote equal rights and fair treatment of LGBTI men and women: support was provided to the establishment of a LGBTI association (presently 3 exist and all work n’s rights, while the **Praia LGBTI Association** has a female president); debates were organized around the documentary *Txindas* (about the life of a notorious Cape Verdean transgender) in schools, universities and cinemas, a LGBTI pride parade was held in Praia, a radio program was aired on International Day against Homophobia counting on the participation of human rights specialists and LGBTI persons; a photographic exhibition was organized, among other Campaign activities. In February 2017, ICIEG and the Journalists Association of Cabo Verde organized a training workshop for 20 journalists from all parts of the country on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, to ensure a human rights-based coverage of LGBTi issues in the media. In 2018 Cabo Verde became the 1st African country to join the *Equal Rights Coalition*. The Campaign on *Equality and Diversity* has started, linked to the Project *Educating for Sexual and Emotional Diversity: LGBTI Advocacy*.
52. **Women immigrants:** measures pertain to the 2 projects being implemented by the DGI, referred in paragraph 13 of this report.

D. PARTICIPATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE INSTITUTIONS

19. Women’s participation in public life and decision-making

- ✓ Proposals for the strengthening of the legal framework that promote women’s participation in politics and decision making
 - ✓ Capacity building and skills development of women
53. **Capacity building of women for policy dialogue on gender equality:** as mentioned in paragraph 7 a systematic and substantive approach has been adopted in this area, through the coordinated work of ICIEG, the RMP-CV and CSOs committed to gender equality. In 2015 the Alliance of Women of Santiago (women politically engaged at local level) prepared an **agenda of demands**, claiming women’s inclusion in political party candidates’ lists for the 2016 elections in electable positions: the agenda of demands was presented to political parties and awareness raising was conducted for women to accept being part of candidates’ lists. After

the legislative election of 2016, and in preparation of the municipal election of that same year, in May and June 2016 ICIEG and RMPCV conducted two national workshops, to **strengthen the capacities of the newly elected parliamentarians and candidates to the municipal elections** in the identification of key gender issues, and share accumulated experience and lessons learnt on women’s political participation. The **campaign for mass participation of the electorate in the local election of 2016**, implemented by the National Electoral Commission, in partnership with NGOs and in coordination with the ICIEG, integrated the issue of **women’s participation in politics** in the awareness raising and training initiatives in communities. Considering the modest progress achieved in women’s representation in elected positions (as referred in paragraph 7), in January 2017 the RMPCV conducted, in partnership with ICIEG, a workshop on **Parity Mechanisms for Women’s Political Participation**, gathering women Parliamentarians, the Alliance of Women of Santiago, civil society leaders, enabling in depth analysis of the issue. A commitment declaration was signed (**Declaration of Rui Vaz**) for the formulation, adoption and implementation of a Parity Law: it was presented and discussed with political parties and the country’s highest authorities. Another result of the workshop was an **Advocacy Action Plan for Gender Parity in Cabo Verde (2017-2019)**, which is being implemented jointly by RMPCV, ICIEG and their partners. In July 2017 the RMPCV, in partnership with ICIEG, organized an international conference, providing participants the opportunity to learn about the experience of different countries with successful experiences, namely Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain and Portugal. The workshop contributed to build consensus around the Parity Law. On the 5th of July (celebration of Cabo Verde’s Independence Day) the exhibition Women, Action and Politics was organized, paying tribute to women that stood out in politics since independence. The RMP-CV and the Alliance of Women of Santiago have had a key role in mobilizing party militants at the base, party structures and leaders in public administration, and several debates were conducted in the media on women’s participation in politics, in addition to the local awareness initiatives.

54. **Proposals to strengthen the legal framework that promote women’s participation in politics and decision making:** a **Parity Law Proposal** has been drafted, foreseeing parity in **political representation in elected positions**, as well as in **leadership positions in Public Administration**. The Proposal sets out the **principle of parity** between men and women (50/50); includes parity in political representation, both in national electoral processes (legislative elections) and local ones (municipal elections); proposes the establishment, on a compulsory basis, of parity lists of candidates running for Parliament, Municipalities, and other elected seats and decision making positions, to guarantee effective equality of treatment between women and men; considers alternance, as a requirement, of men / women in candidate lists to collegiate bodies of political power; establishes that candidate lists that are plurinominal cannot have same sex candidates successively; foresees that in the case of constituencies where 2 deputies are elected, each political party should alternate the head of lists between men and women, or women and men, in order to ensure parity of both sexes (indeed, of the 13 existing constituencies for legislative elections, 7 elect only 2 deputies, and it is usual for the mandates to be divided between the two main parties, as Cabo Verde is a bi-partisanship system, which does not favour the election of women in these constituencies, as the two main political parties tend to privilege men as heads of candidate lists); and, lastly, determines that the head of Government, when composing the Government of the Republic of Cabo Verde, strives to apply

the principle of parity. On the other hand, the Proposal establishes that the **Board of Directors and other decision-making positions in Public Administration, Public Enterprises, State Participated Enterprises and Public Institutes**, have parity in representation, through the alternance of men and women in the proposed lists for election or appointment. The Parity Law Proposal is about to be submitted to the National Parliament, to be scheduled for discussion in Specialized Commissions, to be followed by its discussion in plenary session. At the same time, both the ICIEG and the RMP-CV have participated in the process of **revision of the Political Party Law** and of the **Electoral Code**, with the latter proposal including the principle of parity and penalties for non-compliance (in addition to the incentives that already existed). The revision proposal is pending submission to the National Assembly. As for the Political Party Law, the revision process has not been finalized. Nonetheless, the internal debate on parity has occurred within political parties, with an impact on women's representation in party decision making bodies, as referred in paragraph 7.

20. Expression and participation of women in decision-making in the media, including through ICT

- ✓ Other: awareness raising on young women's participation in ICT
- ✓ Other: monitor women's portrayal/representation in the media

55. **Awareness raising on young women's participation in ICT:** awareness raising on women and girls' participation in ICT are being conducted. In 2016, in commemoration of *Girls in ICT Day*, the CIGEF organized an international **conference on the Empowerment of Women in the ICT sector in Cabo Verde - Opportunities and Challenges**, to promote public debate on the issue. And in 2017, the *Week of Informatics and Multimedia Technologies*, focused on the use of cell phones as a means for informational and media literacy with **young women in out-of-school**. Cabo Verde is participating in the initiative *African Girls can Code*, aimed at exposing girls to digital culture and skills, especially regarding coding and programming. The Project supports African girls' access to TIC and coding sector, encourages their leadership and confidence and promotes the presentation of their projects and innovations. In 2018 two Cape-Verdean girls participated in a two-week meeting in Ethiopia. In 2019, on *International Day of Women and Girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic)*, the Multisectoral Economic Regulatory Authority organized a Conference for students of several secondary schools in Praia on the **Role of Women in ICT: Contribution Inclusion and Gender Equality**. The First Lady has conducted several talks in secondary schools and Universities on girls in sciences, technology and mathematics.

21. Tracking of the proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)

56. Cabo Verde is in the process of establishing a system to track investments in gender equality and the empowerment of women. In 2017 a **Gender Marker was defined for the State Budget**, in order to afford greater visibility to investments made in national gender equality priorities, and the means to monitor progresses achieved in gender mainstreaming across sectors. The RMP-CV is committed to monitoring and controlling the inclusion of gender priorities in the State Budget and prepared an **Agenda for the Gender Sensitive Oversight of the State Budget**. For the first time, the **report on the State Budget Proposal for 2018**

includes a section on Gender Responsive Budget. The Budget Gender Marker is logged directly in the SIGOF (Finance and Budget Integrated Management System) by the DGPOG of each sector, as a rating of budget projects within the State Budget, aligned to the program structure defined by the PEDS. The rating includes 4 levels: G0 for projects that have not yet mainstreamed gender, G1 for projects with some gender intervention (an output, activity or indicator), G2 for projects with a gender component (output, activity and indicator, simultaneously), G3 for gender projects. The Budget Gender Marker has already been used to rate 2 State Budgets: experimentally in 2018, with 810 projects rated out of a total of 947 projects of the 2018 State Budget (85%); and across all projects for the 2019 State Budget, rating 1001 projects (100%). To make the most of this tool and enable sectors to better quantify, monitor and analyse the investments they dedicate to gender equality, further **capacity building** of sectoral staff will be necessary.

22. Donor country tracking of ODA invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)

NOT APPLICABLE

23. National strategy or action plan for gender equality

YES

57. Cabo Verde counts on national gender equality plans since 2005. Presently the **National Plan for Gender equality (PNIG 2015-2018)** is being implemented, while the **PNIG (2019-2021)** is under development. The Plan is structured around **8 strategic pillars**: (1) Health, (2) Sexual and Reproductive Rights, (3) Education and professional training, (4) Productive economy, (5) Reproductive economy, (6) Political participation, decision making and communication, (7) Institutional strengthening towards improved gender mainstreaming in public policies, and (8) GBV, which counts on a **specific action plan**, the IInd PNVBG (2015-2018). Priorities are to (i) promote increased demand for quality health services with differentiated responses that respect human dignity (Health Strategic Pillar); (ii) promote conditions for men, women, teenagers and youth to fully fulfil their sexual and reproductive rights and increased access to quality SRH services that respect specificities (Sexual and Reproductive Rights Strategic Pillar); (iii) contribute to eradicate GBV and fulfil the principle of gender equality (GBV Strategic Pillar); (iv) promote the permanence and success of boys and girls at various levels of education and access to quality education that promotes gender equality (Education and Professional Training Strategic Pillar); (v) promote equality in the labour market and the economic autonomy of women, especially the poorest (Productive Economy Strategic Pillar); (vi) contribute to greater visibility of reproductive economy and promote increased co-responsibility (Reproductive Economy Strategic Pillar); (vii) advance towards parity in women and men's participation in all domains of decision making, in particular in parliament and local power by 2016 (Participation in Politics and in Decision Making and Communication Strategic Pillar); (viii) contribute to a culture of gender equality in institutions and effective coordination for gender mainstreaming at sector and local level (Institutional strengthening for gender mainstreaming in public policies Strategic Pillar). The PNIG is well aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (see table), which is also the case with the gender priorities defined in the PEDS for gender policies, and to which the PNIG (2019-2021), under

development, will be aligned.

Alignment of gender priorities of the PEDS (2017-2021) and of the strategic pillars of the PNIG (2015-2018) to SDG 5

Gender priorities of the PEDS for gender equality	Strategic pillars of the PNIG (2015-2018)	Alignment to SDG 5
Economic empowerment (productive and reproductive economy)	Productive economy Reproductive economy	Target 5.4 - Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate Target 5.a – Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
Education and professional training	Education and professional training	
Health and sexual and reproductive rights	Health	Target 5.6 - Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences
	Sexual and reproductive rights	
Gender based violence	Gender based violence	Meta 5.3 - Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation Target 5.2 - Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
Political participation and exercise of power	Political participation, decision making and communication	Target 5.5 - Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
Mainstreaming of the gender approach	Institutional strengthening towards improved gender mainstreaming in public policies	Target 5.c - Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

58. Both the PNIG (2015-2018) and the PNVBG (2015-2018) were budgeted and their respective budgets are 184.950.000 CVE and 63.800.000 CVE. Potential sources of financing were identified for each strategic measure identified in the PNIG, including the links to the programs of the Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (DECRP III, then being implemented), in addition to areas of interest of international partners. Thus, it was estimated that 66% of the funds would come from Medium-term Expenditures (ICIEG and sector funds) and 34% from international partners. In December 2014, at the end of the formulation process of the PNIG, 15% of funds were guaranteed (10% State funds and 5% from international partners), and 85% to be identified: 56% through the allocation of resources from the Medium-term Expenditures Framework (to be made explicit in the budget of implementing sectors/entities) and 29% through international partners. Nonetheless, a gender analysis of the 2015 State Budget,

conducted by the RMP-CV, brought to light the fact that only a minority of budgetary programs explicitly address gender equality, and that there was a considerable gap between funds allocated for the implementation of the PNIG and PNVBG and their respective budgets.

24. Action plan and timeline for implementation of the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee, UPR or other UN human rights mechanisms that address gender inequality/discrimination against women

59. In order to improve the country's compliance with reporting obligations under Human Rights International Conventions ratified by Cabo Verde, in 2017 a specific mechanism was established, the **Inter-ministry Commission for the Elaboration of National Reports** (Resolution n°55/2017, 15 June), under the responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and composed of representatives of governmental departments. The Commission has the responsibility, among others, of developing monitoring plans, with the relevant Ministries, to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations received from human rights mechanisms. The members of the Commission were appointed in 2018 by Decree n°02/2018, 2 February. To be noted that **CEDAW recommendation received in 2013** were taken into account in the planning process of both the PNIG and PNVBG.

25. National human rights institution

YES

60. Cabo Verde counts on a national human rights institution since 2004, the **National Commission on Human Rights and Citizenship** (CNDHC), established by Decree-Law n°38/2004, 11 October. CNDHC has clear and encompassing responsibilities in the protection and promotion of human rights, as per its statutes, including also the promotion of gender equality and women's rights. Responsibilities include the promotion of education for human rights, international humanitarian law and citizenship participation in the definition and implementation of the Government's public policies in this domain, advice to the Government, investigation of human rights violation situations, monitoring of the implementation of the national plan for human rights and citizenship. To bring CNDHC into conformity with the Paris Principles, namely in terms of independence and autonomy, the **CNDHC statute is being revised**. In 2017, the **2nd National Human Rights and Citizenship Plan (2017-2022)** was approved, and includes a section gender equality, with special focus on women's economic empowerment, the need for child support services adapted to the needs of women in the informal sector, the mobilization of men for gender equality, and the non-discrimination of pregnant school girls. It also highlights the need to address discrimination based on sexual orientation. The CNDHC has implemented specific actions to promote gender equality, such as the high-profile campaign "*Ami é Pai*" (I am a father), to raise awareness among the general population and men on responsible paternity. The CNDHC collaborates in training organized by partners and schools, facilitating modules on women's rights, sexual and reproductive rights, on sexual identity, gender and the rights of LGBTI persons.

E. PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

26. Peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and implementation of the women, peace and security agenda

- ✓ Control the availability of armaments
 - ✓ Other: promotion of peaceful society
61. Cabo Verde has been working towards a National Plan for the implementation of Resolution 1325. The country is a member of the *Working Group on Women, Peace and Security in West Africa*, jointly coordinated at regional level by UNOWAS and UN-Women. At its 3rd Thematic Session of 2017, the Government's National Security Adviser presented Cabo Verde's experience of the *Impact of transnational organized crime, drug and human traffic, on women and youth*. Participants included governmental departments (justice, police, education, emigration, defence), academics and CSOs. Internally, in 2016, the report *Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security: Cabo Verde's experience in the Defence Sector* was presented and discussed at the Permanent Secretariat on Defence Issues. The report concluded that, although Cabo Verde is a country at peace, some of the Resolution's measures can be implemented in a prevention perspective and should be considered as a guiding document for the policy and programs that promote women's active participation in various aspects of society. The Ministry of Defence is also part of a Working Group for the elaboration of a **Resolution 1325 Implementation Plan in the context of the CPLP** (Community of Portuguese Language Countries). The Working Group developed a draft focused on the dissemination of Resolution 1325 in all CPLP countries, training and establishment of a pool of trainers on the Resolution. This document is being finalized.
 62. **Control the availability of arms:** since 2017 the Ministry of Internal Affairs **suspended the granting of arms licences**, and the operation of the **Integrated System for Management of Arms, Ammunition and Owners** is being perfected, for enhanced control of arm entry into the country, and investments in equipments were made: scanners for the ports of Praia, Brava, Fogo, Boa Vista and São Vicente, all, operational. The National Police systematically controls for arms in its daily operations and works both on arms recovery and prevention of arms use, raising awareness on disarmament.
 63. **Promotion of a peaceful society:** the **National Internal Security and Citizenship Program** was approved in 2017 (Resolution n°144/2017, 6 December) and adopts an encompassing and integrated perspective on Security, Development and Citizenship, based on citizens and the specific situations in which they live. It is based on three principles: (i) proximity intervention, to strengthen the use of social authority versus physical authority, as a result of local prevention mechanism that favour a humane urban environment and identification between citizens and authorities; (ii) intolerance of incivility, for early identification and remediation of anti-social conduct that favour the outbreak of violence or that are incompatible with community life, coexistence and/or social wellbeing; (iii) prevention and criminal response, based on institutional reform and qualification of police response and criminal response, considering that traditional models of response have had limited impact on the effective decrease of violence and criminality. Implementation will be along two axes: (i) Institutional and Organizational Development; and (ii) the **Local Promotion of Public Security**, focused on prevention and citizens along 3 levels: *Primary prevention*, reducing the risk factors for violence outbreak and increasing factors that reduce the risk, through locally led action, in coordination with responsible institutions, towards the progressive reduction of vulnerability factors and/or social exclusion and the promotion of a culture of social peace and citizenship;

Secondary prevention, through the reorganization and refocusing of security force action, and a closer relationship with the community; and *Tertiary prevention*, for confirmed authors of specific crimes, adopting prevention of re-incidence, working on rehabilitation and reintegration of those who are in, or are leaving, the prison system. **Promotion of Public Security** foresees, among others: socio-urban rehabilitation and regeneration (strengthening of public illumination, public space rehabilitation and revival, etc., which have already been implemented in Praia, the capital and biggest urban centre of the county); social innovation and urban citizenship programs; strengthening of education for citizenship; increasing active combat to substance use; and strengthening of the cooperation network and mechanisms for the **promotion of gender equality and GBV and sexual abuse combat**, through the implementation of the PNIG, PNVBG and National Plan to Prevent and Combat Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents, and operationalization of the Statute of the Child and Adolescent. To be noted that the 2018 National Police data shows a substantial decrease in incidents: 32.6%, corresponding to minus 7,664 incidents, during the three-year-period of 2016-2018, when compared to 2015. The decrease is especially notable for crimes against persons (such as bodily injury, threats, GBV, insult, sexual assault, sexual abuse of minors, child abuse, homicides).

27. Leadership, representation and participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian action and crisis response

64. Cabo Verde is a country at peace, without armed conflicts and responses to humanitarian crises have been reported in paragraph 15. Women's leadership and participation is addressed in the context of participation in public and political life, aimed at women's participation in decision making positions, as referred in paragraphs 7, 53 e 54 of the present report. The 90th **Regional Open Day on Resolution 1325** and subsequent resolutions on women, youth, peace and security took place in Praia, on the 26th November 2018 (organized by UNOWAS in partnership with the President of the Republic, Government, regional organizations, sub-regional UN peacekeeping missions, regional offices of West Africa, UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNOHCHR, UN gender thematic groups in Cabo Verde and the sub-region, the Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security in West Africa and Sahel, and the G5 Sahel Women's Platform). The theme of the meeting was **Involving women and youth in all decision-making processes in West Africa and the Sahel**, to discuss and define challenges and strategies for women's and youth involvement in all decision-making processes in the region. The event also contributed to national and regional efforts for conflict prevention and resolution.

28. Judicial and nonjudicial accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed and other conflicts or humanitarian action and crisis response

- ✓ Legal reform
 - ✓ Combat trafficking in women and children
65. **Legal reform:** the **Penal Code Revision** referred in paragraph 1(i) of the present report is a major development, reinforcing national legislation on several issues, adjusting the national legislation to **international law, in particular the Rome Statute of the International**

Criminal Court. A new chapter introduced crimes of genocide and its incitement, as well as incitement to war, crimes against humanity, war crimes and trafficking in persons. Article 268°A punishes the crime of genocide, for whoever practices the following, with the intention of destroying, totally or partially, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group: homicide or offences against physical or moral integrity; acts preventing procreation or birth of elements of the group; rape; sexual slavery; forced prostitution; forced pregnancy or any other form of sexual violence of similar severity; cruel, degrading or inhuman treatment. Article 268°B punishes crimes against humanity, for whoever, in the context of a generalized or systematic attack against any civil population, practices acts that result in, among others: homicide or offences against physical or moral integrity; extermination; slavery; rape; sexual slavery; forced prostitution; forced pregnancy or any other form of sexual violence of similar severity; imprisonment; torture, persecution and forced disappearance of persons. Article 268°C punishes war crimes against persons, for whoever, in the context of an international (or not) armed conflict, practices the following against persons protected by international law: homicide; torture or cruel, degrading or inhuman treatment; severe offences against physical; taking of hostages; acts offending the dignity of the human being; deportation, transfer or illegal deprivation of liberty. **Criminalization of trafficking in persons** is another novelty of the revised Penal Code, as described in paragraphs 1(i) e 37 of the present report.

66. **Combat trafficking in women and girls:** measures implemented to this effect have been referred to in paragraph 37 of the present report.

29. Discrimination against and violations of the rights of the girl child

- ✓ Policies and programmes to eliminate violence against girls
 - ✓ Policies and programmes to eradicate child labour
67. **Policies and programs to eliminate violence against girls:** the revised **Regime for the implementation of criminal policy** (Law n°52/IX/2019, 10 April) establishes the **priority prevention and investigation** for crimes practiced against children in general (previously only contemplated crimes against contra freedom and auto determination of minors). In 2015 a study on **Sexual abuse and exploitation of children and adolescents in Cabo Verde** was conducted to update the situation analysis made in 2004 and 2009, based on a qualitative and socio-anthropological approach. Most victims of sexual violence and rape in Cabo Verde are women, and children and adolescents are preferred victims. The **National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents 2017-2019**, was approved in 2017, as referred in paragraph 37 of this report. The Plan counts on interventions from various sectors (16 entities and institutions with implementation responsibilities). Some of the implemented actions are: (i) elaboration of a **Law Proposal on sexual abuse and exploitation of children and adolescents**, to be socialized, validated and submitted for approval in 2019; (ii) TV and radio campaign against sexual abuse and to promote reporting through the a dedicated helpline (slogan *Say no to sexual abuse and violence against children and adolescents*; (iii) new edition of the Guide to combat sexual abuse and violence against children and adolescents, launched July 2015 and 2016; (iv) re-edition of the booklet *The Shared Secret*, a story on the importance of reporting such cases; (v) awareness raising talks in schools and communities; (vi) partnership with the NGO ACRIDES for the implementation of the Project **Prevention of**

Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents; (vii) training of **media professionals**, teachers and **kindergarten teachers**; (viii) development and dissemination of a **Guide on journalistic coverage for the prevention and combat of violence against children and adolescents**.

68. **Policies and programmes to eradicate child labour, including girl's work:** in 2016 the **List of Hazardous Work for children and adolescents**, was approved (Law n°113/VIII/2016, March 10). Not only does it establish more clearly the categories of worst forms of child labour and jobs considered hazardous, as it makes possible to periodically review the list and the mechanisms of supervision and accountability. The ICCA, Labour General Directorate and Labour General Inspection are responsible for special attention to hidden labour that exposes girls, in particular, to risks, as well children with specific needs. The **Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour** (Resolution n°43/2014, 2 June) has girls as one of its primary groups of special attention, considering undeclared work, for which they are at special risk.

F. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION

30. Integration of gender perspectives and concerns into environmental

- ✓ Women's access to water and sanitation

69. **Women's access to water and sanitation infrastructure:** in the context of the water and sanitation sector reform, 12 projects were implemented to improve water access infrastructures. In 2017, 71% of urban households receive water through the public network and 60.9% of rural households, against 66.9% and 49.7%, respectively, in 2014. In 2014, 17.7% of urban and 18.9% of rural households obtained water through taps in distribution points, while in 2017 these proportions decreased to 10.8% and 11.9% respectively. To be noted that more time is spent to collect water when it is accessed via distribution points (getting there and back, waiting time) and that collecting water is carried out mainly by women and children; schedules for water collection interferes with other activities (productive, care and/or school related), be it collected through distribution points, auto tank or public network. Additionally, the cost of water is higher if there is no access to the public network, which especially affects poor women heads of households. In respect to sanitation, in 2014, 83.4% of urban and 56.1% of rural households had sanitary facilities with a toilet, proportions that increased to 87.5% and 66.9%, respectively, in 2017. Through the **Social Access Fund**, mentioned paragraph 10 of the present report, funding was provided for 4,343 households connections to water and toilet/sewage network connections, of which 2,790 headed by women (64%) and 1,553 men (34%), and their respective families (approximately 27,518 beneficiaries, 50% women). Many of the communities benefitted were poor rural communities. The initial target of the project was surpassed in 1,800 connections.

31. Integration of gender perspectives into policies and programmes for disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation

- ✓ Elaboration of gender-sensitive policies related to disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation
70. **Elaboration of gender-sensitive policies:** the *Project to Strengthen the Adaptation and*

Mitigation Capacity of the Forestry Sector started in 2018 and is developing a **gender capacity building kit and tools to monitor the gender impacts of the project**. In the context of a *Project to Integrate Biodiversity Conservation in the Tourism Sector and Strengthening Cabo Verde's Protected Areas System*, the project team is being trained on **gender sensitive planning and management methodologies**, and **indicators to monitor and evaluate gender issues** are being established: a **gender analysis** is being prepared, based on which a **Gender Action Plan** will be defined for the Project. The *Project for Agriculture Adaptation to Climate Change* will be intervening in 10 rural zones/ hydrographic basins of the islands of São Nicolau, Santiago, Fogo and Brava, targeting 6,075 beneficiaries with a focus on **women head of families and youth** (men and women). Overall, the guidelines in the environment sector are for the **systematic use of sex disaggregated data** and implementation of **gender mainstreaming strategies**, as well as considering persons with disabilities (women and men). Cabo Verde developed in 2017 its **National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) (2017-2030)**, which describes in detail the country's disaster risk profile and disaster profile. It is organized around 7 priority intervention areas, including the integration of DRR into development processes, sectoral planning and management. The Strategy defined two crosscutting issues: gender equality and environment sustainability. The gender section of the Strategy focuses on the need for sex desegregated information on risks and disasters and a gender sensitive analysis of underlying vulnerability factors, as well as of the results and impacts of proposed measures to reduce the risks of disasters. Proposed measures include measures to promote: the participation of women in DRR structures, mechanisms, decision and management positions; participation of women's organizations in DRR platforms; gender mainstreaming in all response preparation activities, response mechanisms (contingency and emergency plans, evacuation, etc.), as well as post-disaster recovery programs; gender sensitive training, awareness and education DRR programs.

SECTION THREE: NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BPfA AND SDGs

32. National machinery for gender equality

71. The institutional framework for gender equality in Cabo Verde has been strengthened, with the establishment of a **Ministry with specific responsibilities in the domain of gender equality**, as referred in paragraph 1(i) of the present report. The MFIS counts on 3 General-Directorates and 3 autonomous institutes, one of which is the **ICIEG**, responsible for implementing and coordinating the implementation of women's rights policies, the PNIG and PNVBG. These responsibilities are implemented in close coordination with all Ministries. The General-Directorate of Social Inclusion (DGIS) coordinates the implementation of the **National Care Plan**. As stated in paragraph 8, the aim of the National Care System is to reduce the negative impact of the care crisis on social cohesion and contribute effectively to gender equality, though freeing women's time, on the same basis as men, for their personal and professional development. The remaining departments of the MFIS mainstream gender equality in their work and are vital to the **rights of specific groups of women**, such as women with disabilities (DGIS), women immigrants (DGI), women in poverty (DGIS, the National Social Pensions Centre – CNPS), and girls, especially those that are victims of abuse (Cape Verdean Institute of the Child and Adolescent - ICCA). As referred in paragraph 1(i), a **Gender Commission** was established (Resolution n°103/2018, 11 October): it is an inter-ministerial mechanism established to monitor the effective mainstreaming of gender in public policies and to create an institutional culture that is favourable to the use of the gender approach in planning and in the implementation of sectoral policies. The Gender Commission is chaired by the ICIEG and counts on permanent representatives of the DGPOG of the different sectors, acting as sectoral gender focal points; as well as representatives of CSOs committed to gender equality. Among other responsibilities, the Gender Commission monitors the implementation of gender equality and women's rights international commitments subscribed by Cabo Verde, namely SDGs and the CEDAW.

33. Participation of the head of the national machinery in the institutional process for SDG implementation

YES

72. The Ministry of Finance, through the National Planning Directorate (DNP), is responsible for the monitoring of progresses in SDG achievement, as well as PEDS implementation. The DNP works in close partnership with the INE, that established **intersectoral working groups** to gather and compile data on SGD progress and regularly update it. The **ICIEG is a member of 3 working groups**, on SDG 5, 8 and 10. To be noted that ICIEG's representation is at technical level rather than the head of the Institute).

34. Formal mechanisms for the participation of different stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the BPfA and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

a) NO

73. Nonetheless, these **frameworks are a key reference at national level and are part of the**

monitoring framework for gender equality: the last national implementation report was prepared in 2014 (Beijing+20) through a participative and inclusive process, enabling a wide dissemination of the overall framework (including CSOs, especially those working on gender equality, CIGEF, governmental sectors, RMP-CV, CNDHC, ICCA, etc.)

b) NO

74. The **participation of women and girls, including those from marginalized groups** is ensured through their representation by CSO. To be noted that the recently established **Gender Commission** counts on representatives from CSOs, among which associations of marginalized groups, such as women with disabilities and LGBTI persons.

c) Beijing+25 National Report elaboration process

75. The process of elaboration of the Beijing+25 national report coincided with two other key participative processes in Cabo Verde, specifically the (i) **process of elaboration of the PNIG 2019-2021**, and the (ii) **process of elaboration of Cabo Verde's answers to CEDAW Committee's List of Issues** (received in the context of the review of the country's IXth periodic report, to be discussed beginning of July 2019 at the 73rd session of the CEDAW Committee), processes that counted on the participation of various stakeholders, from institutional partners to civil society, along 3 main stages:

- a) **Working sessions with the Gender Commission** at the Committee's first meeting, conducted under the leadership of the Minister for Family and Social Inclusion, the Gender Committee was briefed on Cabo Verde's international gender commitments, in particular: CEDAW, Beijing Declaration and Platform for, 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, SDG 5 and the gender dimensions of other SDGs. A second meeting was conducted, to specifically discuss the guidelines for the elaboration of the Beijing+25 report and collect inputs.
- b) **Interviews** conducted both with governmental sectors and CSOs, to gather information and contributions for the report, as well as for the PNIG 2019-2021 and Cabo Verde's answers to the CEDAW Committee List of Issues.
- c) **Workshop** to share the first draft of the report and discuss it. The workshop counted on the participation of sectors and CSOs, the Gender Commission, the Inter-ministerial Commission for the Elaboration of National Human Rights Reports, institutional partners, unions, Chamber of Commerce and media professionals. The contributions were integrated in the final version of the report.

35. Gender equality and priorities of the national plan/strategy for SDG implementation

76. No specific plan or strategy exists for the implementation of SDGs. Nonetheless, gender equality is **crosscutting to the Government Plan** for the 9th Legislative term (2016-2021), as well as the **PEDS (2017-2021)**, and considered as a key issue for the country's sustainable development. The PEDS, the macro reference document at national level, was developed through a participative process with sectors and gender mainstreaming was supported in several working groups for the elaboration of the PEDS. Sectors, as players of the national planning system, are required to align sectoral planning and budgets to the PEDS. A rapid assessment of the Government Plan shows it is well aligned with SDGs, especially SDG 5.

This also applies to the PEDS, developed considering the principles of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs. The PEDS refers, program by program, the SDGs each program contributes to and 74.4% of the impact indicators of the PEDS results framework are SDG indicators, enabling their integrated monitoring and evaluation. The Ministry of Finance, through the National Planning Directorate (DNP), is responsible for the monitoring of progresses in SDG achievement, as well as PEDS implementation. Cabo Verde submitted in June 2018 its **National Voluntary Report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development**. The report describes ongoing gender policies and presents most SDG indicators desegregated by sex. As illustrated in the table of paragraph 57, the gender interventions of the PEDS, are organized around 3 key issues, namely economic empowerment of women (productive and reproductive economy, education and professional training), in close alignment to SDG 5 targets 5.4 and 5.a; physical autonomy of women and girls (GBV combat, health and sexual and reproductive rights), aligned to SDG 5 targets 5.2, 5.3 and 5.6; and leadership and political participation of women (participation in decision making spheres and politics) corresponding to SDG 5 target 5.5. The strategic axe *Institutional strengthening for the gender mainstreaming in public policies* pertains to coordination, technical support, statistical production and analysis, gender sensitive planning and budgeting tools, in support of gender mainstreaming in the country's development frameworks and sector and local levels. As already mentioned (paragraph 56), Cabo Verde has implemented a Gender Marker for the State Budget, and the country is thus advancing towards the achievement of SDG 5 indicator 5.c.1. And as referred in paragraph 1 (iv), Municipal Strategic Plans for Sustainable Development (PEMDS) are being developed, aligned to the 2030 Agenda and incorporating a pillar on the promotion of gender equality. Each program signals the SDGs to which they contribute, as well as to corresponding PEDS programs, in order to facilitate dialogue and coordination with the national level and relevant sectors for implementation.

SECTION FOUR: DATA AND STATISTICS

36. Gender statistics

- ✓ Use of gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
 - ✓ Improved administrative-based data to address gender data gaps
 - ✓ Knowledge products on gender statistics (ex: reports, policy briefs, research papers)
77. **Use of gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy:** as referred in paragraph 8, the availability of data on Time Use (survey conducted in 2012) resulted in the consolidated notion that care work needs recognition (being performed mainly as unpaid work and not accounted for in national accounts, it is invisible to the economy and for public policy decision making, especially economic policy) and led to the formulation and approval, in 2017, of the National Care Plan (2017-2021) for the establishment of a Care System (more details in paragraphs 8 e 20). The availability and analysis of Time Use data is also contributing to the definition of employment policies and programs for the economic empowerment of women.
78. **Improved administrative-based data:** the INE supported the improvement of **justice and security sector statistics**, working in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Superior Council of Public Prosecutors and the Superior Council of the Judiciary. As a result, sector statistics were formalized, and the quality of indicators improved. During the **1st Seminar on Justice and Security Statistics**, attended by all data producers, a decision was made to prioritize **gender and child protection statistics**. In 2016 the report **Cabo Verde, Justice and Security in Figures (2015)** was published and presents data on GBV cases, sexual assault, child and minor sexual abuse, the profile of victims and perpetrators, and the situation of judicial GBV cases, in addition to other sex disaggregated indicators. The establishment of the SIGO (referred paragraph 42) allows for improved information sharing among the National Police, Criminal Police, Public Attorney's Office and other entities from the security and justice sector, improving information collection and treatment (which will now be computerized), including on GBV. Since entry into force of the **revised Penal Code** (December 2015) Cabo Verde has data on the crimes of human trafficking and forced prostitution.
79. **Knowledge products on gender statistics:** based on the 2010 Census data set, INE published in 2014 a specific gender report: **Feminine, masculine and gender relations: analysis of the Census 2010 data**. That same year INE also published the report on the **Time Use and Unpaid Work** survey (2012). The 3rd and 4th pocket booklet **Women and Men in Cabo Verde: facts and figures** was published in 2015 and 2017, respectively, compiling statistics that give visibility to differences between men and women in various areas, publicizing disaggregated data from surveys conducted recently. In 2015 the INE published its first **Statistical Yearbook**, compiling key indicators of Cabo Verde in one publication and sex-desegregated (demography, living conditions, employment and labour market, gender, justice and security, social security, education, health, environment, among others), facilitating access to general and sectoral statistics for various information users.

37. Priorities for strengthening national gender statistics

- ✓ Use of gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- ✓ Improved administrative-based data to address gender data gaps
- ✓ Knowledge products on gender statistics (ex: reports, policy briefs, research papers)

38. National indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs

NO.

80. Regarding SDG 5, 13 of its 14 indicators are available in the country: indeed, the questionnaire for the IIIrd Demographic and Reproductive Health Survey (IDSR III 2018) was revised in 2017 to guarantee the availability of the data necessary for the calculation of key SDG 5 indicators. The IDSR II, conducted in 2005 already integrated a Domestic Violence module, that was revised and included new questions (ex. on FGM, which is not a practice in Cabo Verde, but may be an emerging phenomenon linked to migration; thus, the country will have for the first time information on the populations knowledge of FGM, its acceptability and possible practices). Regarding the other 39 SDG indicators, that explicit on gender equality (as listed in Annex 1),⁵ approximately 2/3 of these indicators are available in the country. To be noted that calculation methodologies have not yet been defined for some of these indicators. Additionally, some of these indicators are available but do not fully comply with all levels of disaggregation foreseen by the metadata, which are quite demanding in some cases. The application of the metadata is sometimes a challenge, especially for the calculation of indicators that were already produced in the country previously.

39. Collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs

YES.

81. The Ministry of Finance, through the DNP, is responsible for the monitoring of progresses in SDG achievement, as well as PEDS implementation. The DNP works in close partnership with the INE, that established intersectoral working groups to gather and compile data on SGD progress and regularly update it. Cabo Verde submitted in June 2018 its **National Voluntary Report** on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.⁶ The report describes ongoing gender policies and presents most SDG indicators desegregated by sex. A mapping of the availability of SDG indicators in the country was conducted by the INE in 2017, before the elaboration of the report: out of the 244 indicators of the 2030 Agenda, 160 are produced by institutions of the National Statistical System, 55 are not produced and 29 were not considered, as they pertain to regional or supra country evaluations. It should be noted that Cabo Verde, through the INE, has been leading the **Praia Group on Governance Statistics**: the Praia Group was established in March 2015 by the United Nations Statistical Commission, to address the issues of conceptualization, methodology and instruments in the domain of governance statistics.

⁵ Anexo 1 - Gender-specific SDG indicators and supplemental gender-specific indicators used in the report, pp 261-265 in UNW (2018) *Turning Promises Into Action*.

⁶ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/caboverde>

40. Routine disaggregation by major surveys

Geographic location

Income

Sex

Age

Education

Marital status (including *de facto* union)

Race/ethnicity

Migratory status (*through questions on the change of residency at national and international level*)

Disability (*note: although this disaggregation is not systematic, question on disability (self-rating) have been included in some key surveys, such as the 2010 Census 2010, IDSR III 2018*)

Other characteristics relevant in national contexts

Nationality

Religion

Comfort level (*through questions on characteristics of the housing & goods, which enables the calculation of a level of comfort indicator*)