

Roadmap for a Digital Economy in Cabo Verde

Consultation with Cabo Verde's Diaspora in Boston

Monday April 8th, 2019

Cabo Verde has made consistent and forward-looking efforts to improve the country's development, particularly the growth of its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector. These recent efforts in connectivity and use of ICT have paid off in relatively high levels of broadband adoption, extent of use by government, and availability of local digital services that are hosted in a state-of-the-art data center in the newly established Praia Technology Park.

A new vision for the ICT sector has articulated three key priority pillars including expansion of the connectivity infrastructure, enhancement of capacity building, and provision of digital services through a regional marketplace. The vision has also highlighted the importance of establishing an enabling governance and regulatory framework to accelerate the country's digital transformation towards being a regional ICT hub.

To support Cabo Verde's ambition to become an inclusive, resilient and data-driven digital economy, the World Bank team is currently conducting a thorough ICT sector analysis with the aim to provide the Government with a set of policy recommendations for supporting the foundational elements of a nascent digital economy, with an initial focus on the country's digital infrastructure edge. The team met recently with many of the key public and private sector stakeholders to reach a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities to support the government vision for transforming Cabo Verde into a digital hub capable of supporting business outsourcing and back office operations, software development, and Cloud hosting.

The World Bank team is recognizing that the diaspora in the United States will have a key role to support such ambitious plan in Cabo Verde (CV). In this sense, a consultation with the diaspora in the United States is important in guiding our analysis and recommendations. The CV community, particularly within the Boston greater area, is well known for its advanced IT talents, diverse entrepreneurs and businessmen and women that are eager to expand their operations to capture new jobs and business opportunities in CV.

The objective of this consultation is to discuss the current evolving opportunities in Cabo Verde's ICT sector and better understand the CV diaspora's interest, investment attitudes and perceived challenges. The discussion will also serve as a forum to recognize the successful incentives for mobilizing the diaspora in support of leapfrogging towards digital economy.

For further information on the World Bank work in Cabo Verde, please click here [WB/Cabo Verde](#)