



Fisheries
Transparency
Initiative

FiTI Candidate Country application

Country: Cabo Verde

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Brites

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Important information for the submission of the FiTI Candidate application

In order to be recognised as a FiTI Candidate country – after the completion of all six sign-up steps (as outlined in section A of the FiTI Standard) – the country must submit a formal candidate application to the FiTI.

In order to facilitate this final procedural step, please consider the following aspects:

- The FiTI National Lead (or another senior representative from the FiTI Lead Ministry, e.g. Minister) must submit the FiTI Candidate application – with the approval of the National MSG – to the Chair of the FiTI International Board, Dr Valeria Merino (vmerino@fiti.global).
- Ideally, the FiTI Candidate application should feature the signature of the submitting national authority, for example on the cover page.
- The FiTI Candidate application must be submitted in English.¹
- The FiTI Candidate application must be submitted as a PDF document.
- The FiTI Candidate application, including all corresponding documents (where necessary), must be provided at least two weeks prior to the next FiTI International Board meeting.
- The FiTI Candidate application must be based on this template. The coloured areas of this template should not be altered.

In case of questions with this template, please contact your country's Regional Coordinator of the FiTI International Secretariat.

Kindly note that in assessing the Candidate Application, the FiTI International Secretariat may contact stakeholders at the national level to ascertain their views on the sign-up process, and may seek comments from supporting governments, international civil society organisations, supporting companies, supporting multilateral organisations and investors.

The FiTI International Board will review the application and assess whether the sign-up steps have been completed. The FiTI International Board will also make the final decision about the applicant country's status. The Board's decision will be publicly communicated.

¹ In order to facilitate participation of all stakeholders, the FiTI National Secretariat may translate the main provisions of this template into another language, if applicable.

Rationales and objectives

Please provide a general statement on the rationales for implementing the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) in your country and on the objectives that your country wants to achieve through the FiTI.

Cabo Verde is a small oceanic archipelago in the southern part of north Atlantic Ocean, about 500 km from west Africa's continental zone. Historically, the cape Verdean people always relied on fisheries as one of the main animal protein sources and key to fight hunger and food security, due to its potential and accessibility, with a maritime zone of more than 700 thousand kms, and lack of other resources.

The fisheries are carried out by 1,463 artisanal vessels, 127 semi-industrial and industrial vessels and 36 recreational fishing vessels, with 3,023 artisanal fishermen 1,039 ship-owner/fishermen directly employed, and 1,881 sellers and a high number of fish handlers indirectly employed. Fisheries transforming industry is also responsible for more than 1,000 jobs.

The government consider the fisheries sector as one of the main components of the blue economy, to sustain its sustainable growth, continuously promoting actions to sustainable manage the fisheries resources, such as the Blue Economy Chart, Management Plans, and Action Plans to combat the IUU fishing, among others, and credible information, such as the status of fish stocks, the amount of fish caught, as well as authorisations and contracts awarded to international vessels, in an accessible, transparent and within the reach of all interested parties, are key to sustain all this strategy.

As such, the government consider that committing to the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) will help the country to achieve this objective in an internationally recognized way, reason why the leading minister declared publicly in 2020 the commitment to adder to the initiative.

Step 1: Public commitment

→ FiTI Standard, Part I, Section A.1

<p><i>Name, role/title and contact information of the government's senior official who issued the public commitment:</i></p>	<p>The public commitment was issued by the Minister of the Sea, Paulo Veiga, who is no longer in charge and was replaced by Abraao Vicente, who emphasised and reenforced this commitment. Contact: abraao.vicente@palgov.gov.cv</p>
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Please indicate below where your government's commitment to implement the FiTI in your country can be found (e.g. website, press release).² Furthermore, please outline whether this statement:

- <https://www.fiti.global/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Fisheries-Transparency-Initiative-FiTI-Final.pdf>;
- <https://www.inforpress.cv/cabo-verde-applies-for-membership-in-the-fisheries-transparency-initiative/>;
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gV9ABeTW4Rw>;
- <https://expressodasilhas.cv/topico/fiti>.

² In case the government's public commitment is not yet available on a government website for download, please attached it as an annex to this application.

Step 2: Enabling environment for stakeholder participation

→ FiTI Standard, Part I, Section A.2

Please describe below your government's commitment to an enabling environment for business and civil society participation. Such an environment refers to relevant laws, regulations, and administrative rules as well as actual practice in implementing the FiTI.

In Cabo Verde freedom is guaranteed by the national constitution to all, and this include, but do not limit to, access information, opportunities, justice, etc.

Furthermore, the Government of Cabo Verde is committed to promote a transparent governance system, including but not restrict to fisheries, deciding to adhere to the Open Government Partnership as of 2015: <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/members/cabo-verde/#river>

In the 2020 Ibrahim Index of African Governance Cabo Verde ranked second, with a score of 73.1, representing an improve of 0.2 from 2019, only behind Mauritius, as a recognition of all the efforts done to improve it governance.

The Gini coefficient of Cabo Verde was of 42.4 % in 2015 (the most recent year), representing a decrease of almost 10% in comparison to 2001 (52.5%) (World Bank, 2020), meaning that the country also improved in terms of equality in wealth distribution. For the Corruption Perception Index (2022), which measures how corrupt each country's public sector is perceived to be, Cabo Verde ranked 39th out of 179 countries, with a score of 58 out of 100, representing a slight improvement compared to 2017. These facts, combined with the political stability, favour the country in attracting investment, and the excellent business regulatory environment makes it easier to start a business.

More specific to fisheries and blue economy, among others, Cabo Verde published:

- the Legislative Decree nº 2/2020, of 19th March that defines "the general regime for the management and ordering of fishing activities in national maritime waters and on the high seas" and considers fishery resources "properties of the State of Cape Verde"; and
- the Resolution no. 172/2020, 21sta December that provide a Unified Strategy Framework for the Promotion of the Blue Economy in Cape Verde (CASUEB).

None-government organisations are now spread through the country, with openness and freedom to promote and contribute to nature and wildlife conservation and community projects.

Cabo Verde implemented its "Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development of Cape Verde 2017-2021" that sets goals for the period 2017-2021, based on 4 structural objectives: to make Cape Verde an economy of circulation in the Middle Atlantic; ensure economic and environmental sustainability; ensure social inclusion and the reduction of social and regional inequalities and

asymmetries; reinforce sovereignty, valuing democracy and directing diplomacy towards the country's development challenges. The country is now preparing to approve its new ambitious strategic plan.

Step 3: FiTI Lead Ministry and FiTI National Lead

→ FiTI Standard, Part I, Section A.3

FiTI Lead Ministry:

Name, address and contact information (e.g. website, phone) of the appointed FiTI Lead Ministry:	Ministry of the Sea Edifício do Ex-Comando Naval, CP n° 34 Mindelo - S. Vicente — Cabo Verde Phone: +238 2300085
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Please describe below the rationales for selecting the FiTI Lead Ministry:

The Ministry of the Sea is the government department which the mission is to prepare, propose, coordinate, implement and survey the public policy in the domain of maritime policy, blue economy, sea industry, marine resources, fisheries, aquaculture, ports and maritime transport.

The ministry also allocates all the authority/agencies that deal with fisheries, from catch to research, including fisheries monitoring and control and quality insurance.

The location of the ministry in the city of Mindelo is also key, due to the fact that the main infrastructures supporting fisheries and the main related business, as well as the main authorities are also based in Mindelo.

FiTI National Lead:

Name, title/role and contact information of the FiTI National Lead:	Iolanda Brites Senior Technician at the Ministry of the Sea Phone: 00238 5161629 Email: Iolanda.Brites@mm.gov.cv
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Please describe below the rationales for appointing the FiTI National Lead (e.g. competences, experiences, authority and freedom to coordinate action on the FiTI implementation across relevant ministries and agencies):

Please describe below where the announcement of the FiTI Lead Ministry and the FiTI National Lead can be found in the public domain (e.g. website, press release):

FiTI Lead Ministry - <https://kiosk.incv.cv/V/2022/4/6/1.1.36.4171/p45>

FiTI National Lead – the document is not yet online, so it will be attached here as an annex.

Step 4: FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)

→ FiTI Standard, Part I, Section A.4

<i>Name, title/role, organisation, and contact information of the Chair of the FiTI National MSG:</i>	Iolanda Brites Senior Technician at the Ministry of the Sea Phone: 00238 5161629 Email: Iolanda.Brites@mm.gov.cv
<i>State whether membership in the FiTI National MSG is individual or institutional:</i>	Institutional
<i>Total number of members in the FiTI National MSG:</i>	15
<i>List of government members in the FiTI National MSG:³</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Direção Nacional das Pescas e Aquacultura (DNPA) ▪ Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) ▪ Direção Nacional do Ambiente (DNA) ▪ Associação Nacional de Municípios de Cabo Verde (ANMCV) ▪ Instituto Marítimo e Portuário (IMP)
<i>List of business members in the FiTI National MSG:⁴</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Associação dos Pescadores de Salamansa ▪ Associação dos Armadores de Pesca de Cabo Verde (APESC) (2 representantes) ▪ Frescomar ▪ Associação dos Pescadores e Peixeiras de Pedra Badejo
<i>List of civil society members in the FiTI National MSG:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Biosfera ▪ Lantuna

³ In case official Alternate members have been assigned to members of the government, business and/or civil society group, please indicate.

⁴ Please also indicate the members' affiliation to either large-scale (industrial) or small-scale (artisanal) fisheries.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Terrimar ▪ Associação para a Defesa do Ambiente (ADAD) ▪ School of the Sea (EMar)
<p><i>List of permanent observer organisations to the FiTI National MSG (if any):</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No permanent observer was established ▪ Any observer can be invited to participate in meetings or to assist, in function of the needs

Please state below where information regarding the members of the FiTI National MSG can be found in the public domain (e.g. website):

The document is not yet online, so it will be attached here as an annex

Please describe below the efforts and measures taken to ensure the openness and inclusiveness of the invitation process to participate in the FiTI National MSG:

Individual meetings were carried out with a large number of potential members to present the initiative and create conscience about its importance and about the MSG needs and role.

Two workshops were organized with those who showed their interest in joining the MSG, one in Mindelo and another one in Praia.

Individual meetings with each of the subgroups, civil society and business members, were organised to facilitate their elections.

Please provide information below on the selection process conducted by every stakeholder group to nominate their own representatives:

The selection process conducted by every stakeholder group to nominate their own representatives were facilitated by the consultant, with the support of the national secretarial for the logistics, and the methodology applied was direct election.

Please document below how the formally-documented Terms of Reference of the FiTI National MSG were approved:

Terms of Reference of the FiTI National MSG were prepared during the workshops, shared with the MSG as a first draft, and then approved in the first meeting of the group. The document is attached to this application form.

Please indicate the provisions of the Terms of Reference for decision-making procedures in case a consensus cannot be reached (i.e. voting is required):

Vote is required to approve all the decisions in the group, including to approve any document.

Please state below where the formally-documented Terms of Reference of the FiTI National MSG can be found in the public domain (e.g. website):⁵

The document is not yet online, so it will be attached here as an annex.

⁵ In case the Terms of Reference are not yet published online, please attach a copy of this document as an annex to this application.

Step 5: FiTI National Secretariat

→ FiTI Standard, Part I, Section A.5

Organisation/host structure and address of the FiTI National Secretariat:	DIREÇÃO NACIONAL DE PESCA E AQUACULTURA - DNPA Ex Prédio Cartório – 1º Andar Esq. – Achada Santo António (A.S.A.) – Praia C.P. nº.206 Tel./Fax Nº (238) 2613758
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Please describe below the rationales for selecting this organisation to act as the FiTI National Secretariat:

The National Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture is the national entity appointed by the government as responsible for defining and implementing the national policy applied to fisheries and aquaculture.

Name, title/role and contact information of the Head of the FiTI National Secretariat:	Emilio Sanches Senior technician at the National Directory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Phone: 00238 9185081 Email: Emilio.Sanches@mm.gov.cv
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Current number of staff assigned to serve in the FiTI National Secretariat (part-time and full-time), including name, title/role and contact information:	Híliliana Moniz – Senior technician at the National Directory for Fisheries and Aquaculture / telephone – 00238 5162949 Natalia Rosa – Technician at the National Directory for Fisheries and Aquaculture / telephone – 00238 5161633
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Please describe below the process of selecting key staff of the FiTI National Secretariat (e.g. qualifications, experience):

The FiTI's secretariat, as well as the two techniques that support it, are senior technicians at the National Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture with many years of experience in the fisheries sector, having worked both with semi-industrial/industrial fishing and with artisanal

fishermen, with connection to various projects, from the collection of statistical data to the investigation and production of regulations, including community projects, which can function as a link to all stakeholders in the process.

Please describe below the measures taken for establishing a properly authorised and resourced FiTI National Secretariat:

The FiTI National Secretariat was proposed by the FiTI National Lead and approved by the FiTI National Leading Ministry and formalised by an official statement.

Please state where the formally-documented Terms of Reference of the FiTI National Secretariat can be found in the public domain (e.g. website).⁶

The document is not yet online, so it will be attached here as an annex

Please state whether operational synergy effects have been explored in case similar secretariats or organisations that support other multi-stakeholder initiatives are already established in the country, if applicable:

Efforts were made to identify possible similar secretariats or organisations that support other multi-stakeholder initiatives, but no one was found.

⁶ In case such Terms of Reference are not yet published online, please attach a copy of this document as an annex to this application.

Step 6: Workplan

→ FiTI Standard, Part I, Section A.6

Timeframe of workplan:	During 2023
List the core objectives for the first reporting period, as documented in the workplan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obtain the official status of Cape Verde as “FiTI Candidate Country” ▪ Submit Cabo Verde's first FiTI Report (consisting of information for calendar year 2023) ▪ Increase the visibility of Cabo Verde's engagement in the FiTI at local and regional levels ▪ Strengthen administration and governance of FiTI implementation in Cape Verde
State the anticipated financial budget for the achievement of these objectives and indicate, to what percentage this budget has already been secured:⁷	<p>Estimated budget: EUR 39 000</p> <p>Financial support yet to be identified</p>

Please state below whether input from stakeholders outside of the FiTI National MSG has been included in the preparation of this workplan:

The work plan was prepared and discussed within the GMN and will be published shortly.

Please document below how the first workplan of the FiTI National MSG was approved:

The first plan was unanimously approved at a GMN meeting.

⁷ In case the anticipated budget is less than 50% secured at the time of submission this application, please indicate how the FiTI Lead Ministry/FiTI National MSG is planning to obtain the remaining funding.

Please state where the approved workplan for the FiTI National MSG can be found in the public domain (e.g. website).⁸

The document is not yet online, so we include it here as an attachment.

⁸ In case this workplan has not yet published online, please attach a copy of this document as an annex to this application.

Additional information

Please provide any additional information deemed useful for the FiTI International Board in assessing this application. While this section is non-mandatory, such information may include:

- *additional relevant organisations and/or individuals involved in the sign-up process (and their activities);*
- *necessary legal or administrative requirements for establishing the FiTI in your country (e.g. presidential decree), if applicable;*
- *other national efforts (e.g. open government) that can be used to further anchor the implementation of the FiTI in the country;*
- *any other information relevant to assess the fulfilment of individual sign-up steps;*
- *determined calendar year that will be covered by the first FiTI Report.*

The plan is expected to be implemented throughout the calendar year 2023, from the moment when, and if so, the application is accepted.