



AN ISLAND WITHOUT WATER

Strengthening climate-resilient management of water in Cabo Verde

As a small island state with limited rainfall and a dry tropical climate, Cabo Verde is already experiencing fresh water resource constraints. Climate models predict increasing aridity, shifting rainfall patterns and temperature increases. Changing climatic conditions for local communities will not only reduce the availability of water for household needs, but will also negatively impact agricultural productivity.



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The Government of Cabo Verde, with financial support from the Global Environmental Facility's Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and additional funding from the Government of Canada under the Canada-UNDP Climate Change Adaptation Facility (CCAF), partnered with UNDP to develop an integrated approach to resilient water resource management, through the «Building Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Water Sector» project.



While in Cabo Verde there is water available in the mountains above the villages, it is often lost to sea since there is no way to capture it and use it as it travels towards the shore. The project will support the development of a reservoir and water distributions system to help access and use this water. It will pair this with the training of farmers (10 women and 15 men) on different sustainable farming and livestock raising techniques, including drip irrigation methods.

The project is initiating 17 community-led demonstration projects. These projects target the most vulnerable communities on the islands of Santiago and Santo Antao, ensuring the activities address priority needs and harness local knowledge. Once proven as successful practices, they will be replicated and scaled up to reach more communities across the country.

As part of the Canada-UNDP Climate Change Adaptation Facility (CCAF), the project is aligned with the CCAF's aims to strengthen climate-resilient approaches to agriculture and water management, with an emphasis on gender-sensitive approaches. The Facility works to document results and share experiences between the CCAF-supported projects in Cambodia, Cape Verde, Haiti, Mali, Niger and Sudan.

For more information on the project in Cabo Verde, visit the UNDP Project Profile: [Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in the water sector in Cabo Verde](#). For more information on the CCAF, visit www.undp-alm.org/projects/ccaf.



UNDP CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Adaptation-undp.org is UNDP's knowledge-sharing platform, highlighting UNDP's support to countries on climate change adaptation.

For UNDP, adaptation to climate change means climate-resilient economic development and sustainable livelihoods, especially for vulnerable populations - the poor, women, and indigenous peoples. UNDP supports these goals by assisting over 90 countries to integrate current and future climate risks and uncertainties into national and sub-national development efforts.

