

# Action Plan for Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity's Programme of Work on Protected Areas

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(Cape Verde)

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# Protected area information:

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## **Lead implementing agency:**

General Directorate of Environment – Ministry of Environment

## **Multi-stakeholder committee:**

No multi-stakeholder advisory committee has been formed. But the assessment of the status of key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, the priority actions and timeline was made with the collaboration of various numbers of stakeholders, at a meeting done in December 2011.

# Description of protected area system

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## National Targets and Vision for Protected Areas

The National Protected Areas Strategy report is currently under development.

## Coverage

Since the legal establishment of 47 PA in 2003, only 3 PA have approved the management plan and the boundary (Serra Malagueta Natural Park - SMNP, Monte Gordo Natural Park - MGNP and Fogo Natural Park -FNP) (Figures 1, 2 and 3). Cape Verde has 2.5% (10195 hectares) of terrestrial area protected and 0% of territorial waters protected.



Fig. 1: Serra Malagueta Natural Park. (source: [www.areasprotegidas.cv](http://www.areasprotegidas.cv))



Fig. 2: Monte Gordo Natural Park. (source: [www.areasprotegidas.cv](http://www.areasprotegidas.cv))

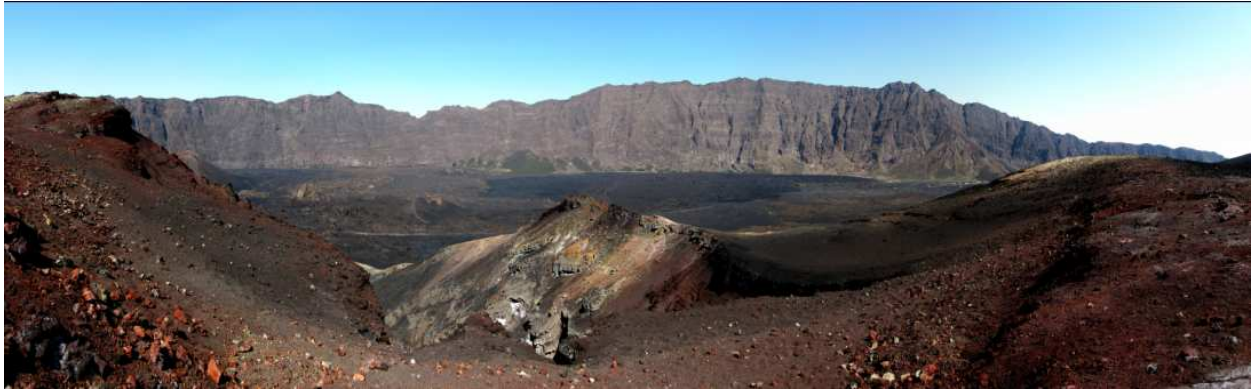


Fig. 3: Fogo Natural Park. (source: Christian Muller)

## Description and background

Cape Verde is an archipelago nation composed of ten islands of volcanic origin and is located approximately 500 km west of the West African coast. Cape Verde's biodiversity is globally significant. It is threatened, however, by a variety of anthropogenic pressures. In coastal and marine ecosystems, rapid tourism development, exacerbated by unsustainable fishing, lead to a continuous loss of habitats. In terrestrial ecosystems, overgrazing and land degradation aggravated by invasive plant species, are the reason for the loss of ecological equilibrium.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (1999) defined priority habitats for conservation in Cape Verde. This priority-setting exercise served as the basis for the legal establishment of the National Protected Area (PA) Network in 2003, counting on 47 sites consisting of both terrestrial and coastal/marine protected areas.

## Governance types

Currently, in Cape Verde, the only governance type that exists is the government-managed. The General Directorate of Environment is the entity responsible for the management of the protected areas.

## **Key threats**

Invasive species; Pollution; Unsustainable activities (sand mining, mass tourism); Vulnerability to climate change.

## **Barriers for effective implementation**

The main barriers for effective implementation are Lack of funding and Lack of integration into spatial plans and some relevant sectors (fisheries, tourism, etc).

Since the legal establishment of the national PA network (with 47 AP) in 2003, the Government has been leading efforts towards operationalizing the sites.

Only 3 PA have approved a management plan (SMNP, MGNP and FNP): Regulatory Decree No. 19/2007 approving the boundaries of SMNP, Regulatory Decree No. 10/2007 approving the boundaries of MGNP, Resolution No. 40/2008 approving the management plan of SMNP and Resolution No. 41/2008 approving the management plan of MGNP, Regulatory Decree No. 3/2008 approving the boundaries of FNP and Resolution 20/2010 approving the management plan of FNP.

In 2010, began a Consolidation of Cape Verde's Protected Areas System Project funded by the GEF. This project will operationalize 14 sites.

And there are also other initiatives that will operationalize 10 sites.

# Status, priority and timeline for key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

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## Status of key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Status of key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress on assessing <b>gaps in the protected area network</b> (1.1)</li> </ul>	0 (However, in some PA - Fogo, MG and SM- was made a preliminary gap analyses.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing <b>protected area integration</b> (1.2)</li> </ul>	0 (The integration of protected areas into some spatial plans just started.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in establishing <b>transboundary protected areas</b> and <b>regional networks</b> (1.3)</li> </ul>	0 (There are no transboundary protected areas.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in developing <b>site-level management plans</b> (1.4)</li> </ul>	1 (There are 3 approved management plans and there are 24 protected areas which management plans are being developed.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing <b>threats</b> and opportunities for <b>restoration</b> (1.5)</li> </ul>	1 (In the 3 protected areas with approved management plans are known threats as well as opportunities for restoration (was made a preliminary assessment). However, the progress in assessing threats and opportunities for restoration is slow in the protected area network.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing <b>equitable sharing</b> of benefits (2.1)</li> </ul>	0 (No equitable formula for benefit sharing has been developed.)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing protected area <b>governance</b> (2.1)</li> </ul>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing the <b>participation</b> of indigenous and local communities in key protected area decisions (2.2)</li> </ul>	0 (The local communities participate in the protected areas decisions, but we have to improve the mechanisms for their participation.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing the <b>policy environment</b> for establishing and managing protected areas (3.1)</li> </ul>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing the <b>values</b> of protected areas (3.1)</li> </ul>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing protected area <b>capacity</b> needs (3.2)</li> </ul>	1 (A preliminary assessment has been done.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing the <b>appropriate technology</b> needs (3.3)</li> </ul>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing protected area <b>sustainable finance</b> needs (3.4)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in conducting <b>public awareness</b> campaigns (3.5)</li> </ul>	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in developing <b>best practices and minimum standards</b> (4.1)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing <b>management effectiveness</b> (4.2)</li> </ul>	0 (In the 3 protected areas with approved management plans was made a preliminary assessment using WWF's RAPPAM methodology.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in establishing an <b>effective PA monitoring system</b> (4.3)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in developing a <b>research program</b> for protected areas (4.4)</li> </ul>	0 (But, there are some independent research activities.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in assessing opportunities for <b>marine</b> protection</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in incorporating <b>climate change</b> aspects into protected areas</li> </ul>	0 (There is no incorporation of climate change aspects into protected area management. However, the incorporation of climate change aspects was made in some relevant sectoral plans.)

Status: 0 = no work, 1 = just started, 2 = partially complete, 3 = nearly complete, 4 = complete

(Insert notes as appropriate)

## Priority actions for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas:

- Form the multi-stakeholder advisory committee
- Assess gaps in the protected area network (1.1)
- Assess protected area integration (1.2)
- Assess threats and opportunities for restoration (1.5)
- Assess the policy environment for establishing and managing protected areas (3.1)
- Assess the values of protected areas (3.1)
- Assess protected area capacity needs? (3.2)
- Assess protected area sustainable finance needs (3.4)
- Conduct public awareness campaigns (3.5)
- Establish an effective PA monitoring system (4.3)
- Assess opportunities for marine protection

## Timeline for completion of key actions

2012 - 2016

## Action Plans for completing priority actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

### Action 1: Assess gaps in the protected area network (1.1)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
Consultancy (recruit consultants and draft report development)	2012	Ministry of Environment	24.000 €
Presentation and validation of the report			6.000 €
Dissemination			10.000 €



### Action 2: Assess protected area integration (1.2)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
Consultancy (recruit consultants and draft report development)	2012	Ministry of Environment	40.000 €
Presentation and validation of the report			10.000 €
Dissemination			10.000 €

### Action 3: Assess protected area sustainable finance needs (3.4)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
Consultancy (recruit consultants and draft report development)	2012	Ministry of Environment	120.000 €
Presentation and validation of the report			10.000 €
Dissemination			10.000 €

### Action 4: Conduct public awareness campaigns (3.5)

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
Consultancy (recruit consultants and draft report development)	2012	Ministry of Environment	50.000 €
Presentation and validation of the report			10.000 €
Dissemination			10.000 €
Implementation of the national protected area communication, education and public awareness strategy	2012 - 2014		80.000 €

### Action 4: Conduct public awareness campaigns

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Indicative budget
Consultancy (recruit consultants, oceanographic studies and preparation of the draft report)	2012-2014	Ministry of Environment	500.000 €
Presentation and validation of the report			10.000 €
Dissemination			5.000 €
Implementation of priority recommendations			15.000 €

# Key assessment results

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**Ecological gap assessment** (insert summary findings if available)

**Management effectiveness assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Sustainable finance assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Capacity needs assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Policy environment assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Protected area integration and mainstreaming assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Protected area valuation assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Climate change resilience and adaptation assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

(Insert other assessment results if available)