



EmpowHER - Women's Entrepreneurship in Cape Verde

Overview

Main partner	Avenir Écoles Cap-Vert (AECV) is composed of members from the Cape Verdean diaspora living in France. Its activities focus on supporting Cape Verdean communities through education, economic empowerment, and sustainable development projects.	
Associate partner	The Instituto de Emprego e Formação Profissional's (IEFP) mission is to implement local and regional policies focused on employment, vocational training, and entrepreneurship. It aims to promote employability and economic inclusion by responding to the needs of the labor market and offering tailored training to improve the skills of beneficiaries.	
Budget	€ 75,691	
Duration	12 months (September 2025 - August 2026)	
Sustainable Development Goals	  	

Project design

Context & needs	Enhancing economic opportunities and strengthening women's position in society remain key priorities for Cape Verde, where 27.4% of the population still lives in poverty (INE). On Santiago Island, rural women face particular barriers, from limited access to finance and training to high rates of informal work. This project addresses these challenges through entrepreneurship training, mentorship and equipment support to women-led businesses, while also engaging the Cape Verdean diaspora and local entrepreneurs to share expertise and raise awareness among women and girls about entrepreneurship opportunities. By fostering female leadership and linking local women with diaspora networks, it creates a replicable model for economic inclusion.
General objective	To improve the economic and social autonomy of women on the island of Santiago.
Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspire and motivate women and girls to engage in entrepreneurship and leadership Strengthen the entrepreneurial and financial skills of 50 women Support the implementation and promotion of women-led entrepreneurial projects
Target groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 women on the island of Santiago 200 high school girls 50 farmers (fruit and vegetable producers) 25,000 consumers/community members

Programme of activities



This is a Diaspora for Development (D4D) Grants project of the EU Global Diaspora Facility. D4D Grants aim to promote sustainable development by supporting diaspora-led initiatives in the country of origin in the areas of climate, economy, education and health. It provides financial support for diaspora organisations to undertake small-scale projects that generate tangible improvements in the well-being of a target community.

Funded by the European Union



Implemented by

