



**Centre of Excellence
Network for Spanish
and Portuguese
speaking countries in Africa
(9RAF08075)**



BACKGROUND

Within the Centres of Excellence Initiative the project delivered high level training programs to stakeholders in the telecommunication/ ICT sector, in order to serve and facilitate the development of the telecommunication markets within the Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in Africa. The project provided successful face to face training programs to support building of human and institutional capacity for the Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in Africa in various telecom/ ICT related fields.

The stakeholders of the project greatly benefitted from the implementation of distance learning courses through ITU's e-Learning platform.

The project was launched in October 2008 and completed in December 2013.



WHY WAS THE PROJECT NEEDED?

This project was launched as a response to the linguistic challenges faced by Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in Africa, as they were not able to fully benefit from the Centres of Excellence (CoE) networks created for the French and English speaking countries in Africa.

PARTNER / BENEFICIARY COUNTRY

Angola

Cape Verde

Equatorial Guinea

Guinea Bissau

Mozambique

São Tome and

Principe

The project was conceived in partnership with El Ministerio De Asuntos Exteriores Y De Cooperación ("MAEC") of Spain and ICP - Autoridade Nacional De Comunicações

("ICP-ANACOM") of Portugal.

The beneficiaries of the project were decision makers, high level managers, executives and professionals from the ICT sectors from the state of Angola, Cape Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and São Tome and Principe.

The CoE mechanism was also aimed at the institutions of these countries, through which the CoE programmes were delivered.

The project brought training in the areas of: Policy and Regulation, New Technologies and Services, Business Management, and Universal Access and Rural ICT Development.

OBJECTIVES

01

Develop the skills and competencies of players in the ICT sector in the various topics identified annually by the Steering Committee.

02

Install the equipment and develop an e-learning platform based on Joomla, Moodle and Joomla, within the beneficiary countries.

03

Prepare potential trainers and managers for distance learning program implementation.



RESULTS

- Throughout the five years implementation period of this project, 49 training workshops were conducted, with the participation of 1576 trainees.
- The ELEFATOR e-Learning Task Force was created.
- The capacity for professionals in various areas was improved. An e-Learning capability within the beneficiary countries were successfully developed.



“The project created opportunities to establish contacts with other existing entities, enabling the exchange of experiences among member countries and fostering growth in the electronics communications sectors in these countries”-
*Mr Valdmiro Segredo, ANAC
Director, Cape Verde*

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- 2008: 1 training activity with 11 Participants
- 2009: 11 training activities with 368 trainees
- 2010: 11 training activities with 309 trainees
- 2012: 12 training activities with 360 trainees
- 2013: 5 training activities with 197 trainees
- 2011: Installation of the E- Learning Platform & training of the trainers



The average satisfactory rate
among participants was

85%.

LESSONS LEARNED

- A strong cooperation from key stakeholders is essential for the success of the project.
- Good financial management during the implementation of the project, resulted in savings of the budget.



CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The further involvement of Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in the CoE network was essential.

It is necessary today to keep up with the technology in order to achieve the goal in terms of e-Learning services.

In order to enhance the success of similar projects, regular, preferably annual Steering Committee meetings are suggested to be organized with the participation of all stakeholders.