



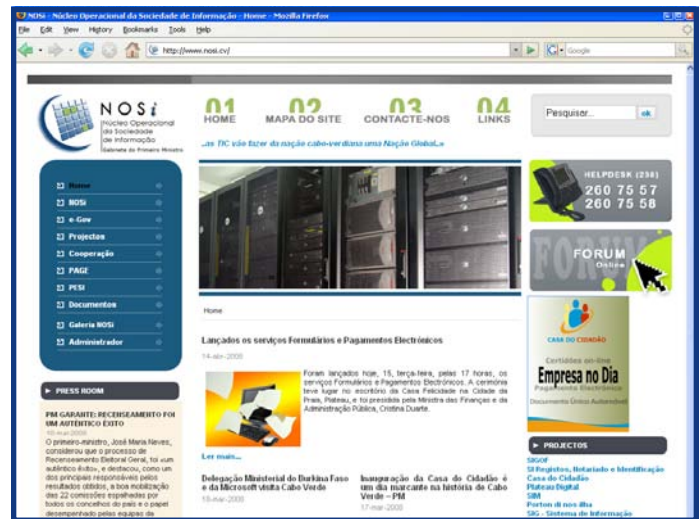
Cape Verde: E-Procurement System a Model of Transparency, Efficiency

Imagine the difficulty of governing a nation of ten islands scattered over 4,033 square kilometers of the Atlantic Ocean. This geographical obstacle has been one of Cape Verde's challenges throughout history. In response, the government smartly developed an e-government system to facilitate public administration of its territory through a computer network. This system includes, among other features, real access to government expenditures and a consolidated public registry database. It was one of the factors behind Cape Verde's solid performance in the areas of transparency and the fight against corruption that made it eligible for a \$110 million compact with the United States' Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

Now, as part of its partnership with MCC, Cape Verde will expand upon its e-government system to elevate efficiency and transparency of its procurement system to world class standards. MCC will support NOSi (Operational Nucleus for the Information Society), the Cape Verdean agency responsible for e-government, by providing equipment, software and technical expertise. Roughly \$1 million in compact funds have been allotted to strengthening Cape Verde's e-government system

The e-procurement system will serve as the backbone of compact procurements in the areas of infrastructure, agriculture support, and private sector development. Eventually, it will be applied to enhance efficiency across all government ministries. The system will standardize purchasing procedures and terms and conditions while at the same time allowing government officials, suppliers, and the public easy access to calls for bids, procurement rules, and a record of all procurement transactions. For the average citizen, this translates into the guarantee of a less corrupt, more transparent and efficient use of government resources.

Not only will MCC's compact change the face of procurements in Cape Verde but it will also improve the government's planning and management system by adding an electronic reporting mechanism. This system will enable ministries to capture, monitor and evaluate performance results. The MCC will fund the integration of these products with the government's online payment system to ensure transparency and efficiency beyond implementation of the compact.



MCC will support NOSi, the Cape Verdean agency responsible for e-government, by providing equipment, software and technical expertise to develop an e-procurement system.