a. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

- Ottawa Treaty Against Mines: ratified in 2000
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: ratified in 2011
- Convention on Cluster Munitions: ratified

b. Geopolitical situation

1. Social, cultural and demographic context
The Republic of Cape Verde is a country located in the central Atlantic Ocean region about 570 kilometres off the coast of West Africa. Cape Verde is composed of ten islands and eight islets and has a young population, with an average age of 26. It should be noted that many Cape Verdeans have emigrated abroad, mainly to the United States, Portugal and France, to the extent that there are more Cape Verdeans residing abroad than in the country itself.

The official language is Portuguese, used in schools, public administration, the press and publications. The national language of Cape Verde is Cape Verdean Creole.

2. Political Context
The archipelago of the Cape Verde Islands is known for its democratic tradition, one of few in Africa. The political situation in Cape Verde is based on consensus, and since its independence from Portugal in 1975, there has never been a coup d’état. Elections are considered free and fair and the ruling parties regularly alternate. Cape Verde is a semi-presidential republic, within the framework of a representative democracy.

3. Economic Situation
The archipelago has enormous economic difficulties linked to the various drought crises experienced in the 1980s, but also to its meagre natural resources. With the lack of natural resources and a strategic position between the three continents, Cape Verde has defined tourism and service provision (with an emphasis on port and airport services) as the essential pillars of its development.
**Summary of HI’s Presence in the country**

HI has been present in Cape Verde at various times in the past decades. At the beginning of its intervention in 2006, 4 projects in the areas of physical rehabilitation and capacity building for organizations of persons with disabilities were implemented in the country. Then in 2010, after an absence, new activities were relaunched with the project "Raising the profile of disabilities in Cape Verde", which aimed to strengthen the dialogue between Disabled People’s Organisations and the government, facilitate the exchange of information between these actors and develop awareness on disability in the country.

Since 2017 HI has been developing projects in the field of health and prevention, including the inclusion of disabled and vulnerable people in the fight against HIV. As part of the three-year regional HIV-Handicap project, HI is improving access to data on the vulnerability of people with disabilities to HIV infection. The objective is to increase the technical and organizational capacity of civil society organizations to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in the fight against HIV/AIDS at the national level.

**Projets**

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**Fonds Mondial**

![Fonds Mondial logo]
HI Team in Cape Verde

In Cape Verde, there are 3 HI staff members.
### Projets en cours : secteurs dans lesquels HI mène des projets et principaux partenariats opérationnels

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| VIH-HANDICAP | Contribute to the reduction of new infections amongst people with disabilities, by supporting the promotion of human rights and addressing legal barriers, improving their access to HIV prevention, care and support services, through regional advocacy. | Bio-behavioural studies on the vulnerability of people with disabilities to HIV; establishment and facilitation of national HIV-Handicap platforms; advocacy visits and meetings with actors involved in the fight against HIV | 225 people received training services from the project in the three countries At least 2250 people surveyed on their epidemiological situation With a gender ratio of 60% women and 40% men | - Comité de Coordination Multisectorielles pour la gestion du Fonds Mondial (CCM),  
- Personnes vivant avec le VIH (PVVIH),  
- Associations de personnes handicapées |