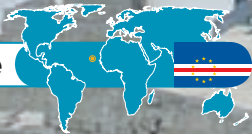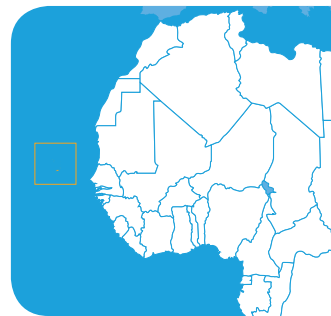Cabo Verde

Customer overview

- **Capital : Praia**
- **Population : 420979 inhabitants**
- **Density : 126 inhabitants/km²**
- **Area: 4033 km²**
- **Official Language : Portuguese**

CABO VERDE : enrol towards the ambition of serving better the citizens... electronically!

A modern and ambitious government program, which has been resulting in one of the most outstanding examples of e-government in Africa, has guided the Capeverdean authorities in this initiative, supported by the Zetes biometric enrolment experience on the field, especially on the African territory, and brought them together to prepare a biometric and electronic enrolment project to prepare the next democratic elections, coming up early in 2008.

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Key highlights

- About 330,000 voters
- 120 enrolment kits on the field
- 400 enrolment officials
- 4 to 8 weeks enrolment period
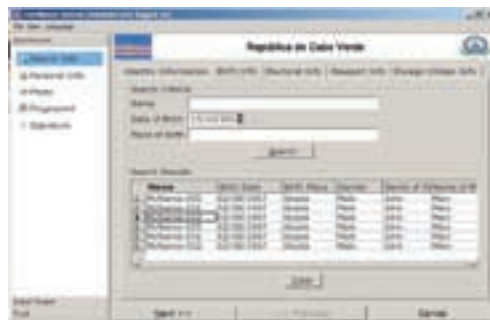- Up to 100 new records per kit each day

Cabo Verde enjoys a good visibility outside and is considered an example by the other African countries and even beyond, more specifically by the other African Portuguese speaking countries.

Zetes is responsible for the delivery of a turn-key solution and the project & program management, playing a role the company knows very well: to be the prime contractor and the top integrator offering good-end warranty towards the authorities.

NOSI (Núcleo Operacional da Sociedade de Informação), a governmental department linked directly to the Prime Minister's Office and in charge of the rollout of the overall e-government policy, has been the prime interface in Cabo Verde and responsible for this implementation, working as a local partner too.

The solution

The solution is based on the PRS **(Population Registration Solution)** enrolment software from Zetes, operating in a versatile, mobile enrolment kit environment, and on the AFIS management solution developed by Zetes around the AFIS engine from Motorola in this case.

This concept of enrolment based on a mobile, standalone kit has already been extensively tested by Zetes on the field, especially in Africa. This concept has demonstrated to be robust and efficient under the most adverse conditions.

The AFIS management system (fingerprint digital processing) is a powerful tool to guarantee a fraud-free enrolment, avoiding double registrations. Working centrally on the enrolment data, this system will detect and report any case of double registration automatically, so an action can be taken by the authorities upon this finding.

This enrolment solution pretends to be a critical first step of a roadmap to implement a high-secure an reliable People ID infrastructure in Cabo Verde.

The versatility was a key guideline, so the solution can be easily adapted to be used in other kind of people registration projects (e.g.: sectorial application).

Why Zetes?

Zetes was awarded because of the following main factors:

- Its international reputation in People ID solutions for government.
- Its proven capacity in managing nationwide projects, in a very close and productive relationship with the local authorities, in each country where the company has built references so far.
- The company's well-succeeded references in the EMEA region (Europe, Middle East and Africa), such as the enrolment in the Republic Democratic of Congo and Togo.
- Zetes' experience as prime contractor in the Belgian e-ID project and its contribution to the Portuguese e-ID project, a benchmark project for the Capeverdean authorities.

What's next?

This enrolment solution was designed and developed with the future in mind. And the future can be the National e-Register and e-ID documents (e-ID card, e-passport).

The project's first objective is to produce reliable lists of voters, but right after there is the goal of having a unique/unified population database, the baseline for a National e-Register and an e-ID card. That was the orientation taken into account from the very beginning with the Capeverdean authorities.

Zetes has learned that these large-scale, nationwide strategic projects need to be planned carefully with the long-term future in mind, since they usually involve big investments for the Governments and, even more important, they bring a positive impact for the populations.