



A BEACON FROM CABO VERDE

CARLOS ALBERTINO VEIGA FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER | No. 14 | AUG 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friends and partners of the Foundation,

July captured, rather neatly, who we are: a foundation with its feet in the community and its eyes on the world. We welcomed the BNCFF/IUCN to Cabo Verde, confirmed the direction of three applications with the Luxembourg Trust Fund, and saw first-hand in Praia Baixo what it really means to turn international partnerships into tangible projects, from the Escola Azul programme to our

forthcoming virtual fish market.

Nature, too, reminded us why we do this work, treating us to the sight of sea turtles nesting at Prainha, a modest but telling sign that our coastline remains a living heritage well worth protecting.

We also took a further step in our conversation with InkSpire 3D of Saudi Arabia, exploring cutting-edge technology for restoring our coral reefs, further proof that Cabo Verde's blue economy is attracting interest well beyond our shores.

Our team grew, too: we were delighted to welcome Shaquille L. Dangerfield aboard, who brings with him discipline, a spirit of service and a real willingness to contribute to this cause, with more news on that front to follow shortly.

To everyone who makes this work possible, thank you. Let's keep building Cabo Verde's blue economy together.

Paulo Veiga
President, Fundação Carlos Alberto Veiga

THE FOUNDATION WELCOMES SHAQUILLE L. DANGERFIELD

NEW EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT JOINS THE FUNDAÇÃO CARLOS
ALBERTINO VEIGA TEAM



There's a new face on the Fundação Carlos Alberto Veiga team. Shaquille L. Dangerfield joins the Foundation as Executive Assistant to President Paulo Veiga, a homecoming the Foundation is delighted to welcome.

Before joining the Foundation, Shaquille lived in California, juggling work with a degree in cybersecurity, a demanding routine that helped shape his discipline and drive. It was during this period, too, that he built a deep commitment to community service, from supporting homeless people to building shelters for

underprivileged communities in Mexico.

Back in the community that watched him grow up, Shaquille arrives eager to learn from Paulo Veiga's leadership and his new colleagues, and to play an active part in positive change across Cabo Verde.

Outside the office, you'll likely find him in Kebra Canela, training, running, or spending quality time with his family. It's this spirit of commitment and closeness to people that the Foundation recognises in Shaquille, and which sits so naturally alongside the values that guide our work every day: service, community and purpose.

We are confident that his energy, his eagerness to learn and the journey that brought him here will be a real asset to our current projects and to the continued growth of our team. The Fundação Carlos Alberto Veiga warmly welcomes Shaquille and wishes him every success in this new chapter. ■

THE FOUNDATION WELCOMES THE BNCFF/IUCN TO CABO VERDE

A FOLLOW-UP VISIT TO THE PRAIA
BAIXO PROJECTS CONFIRMS THE DI-
RECTION OF OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE LUXEMBOURG TRUST FUND



July brought the Fundação Carlos Albertino Veiga a visit that confirmed, in practice, the direction we have been building together with our international partners. Representatives of the BNCFF, the Blue Natural Capital Financing Facility, a mechanism run by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and backed by the Government of Luxembourg, spent several days in Cabo Verde, in a programme that combined institutional meetings with a visit to the field.

The BNCFF is one of the Foundation's

key partners in the blue economy. Active since 2018, it has so far backed 21 projects across Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America, applying more than €6 million in grants and mobilising over €24 million in additional financing. Building on these meetings, the Foundation used the visit of the international delegation to Santiago to submit three separate applications under Phase III. Shark Bay Cabo Verde, in the Baía dos Tubarões on Sal; Sphyrna Odyssey Cabo Verde, dedicated to whale and dolphin

observation and conservation across the archipelago; and the Praia Baixo Virtual Fish Market were all presented to the fund and will be among the finalists under review in the second half of this year.

While in Cabo Verde, the BNCFF delegation met with the Foundation's President and with Foundation representatives to take stock of the three applications and align priorities for the coming stages of evaluation and financing. The real highlight of the visit, however, was the trip to Praia Baixo, one of the coastal communities where the Foundation has long been active and where, with BNCFF support, it now hopes to take things a step further.

On the ground, the delegation saw two ongoing community initiatives up close: Escola Azul, focused on ocean literacy and environmental awareness, and Padrinhos do Mar, a community outreach programme with two events planned as its main milestones later this year. It was also in Praia Baixo that the Foundation discussed, in greater detail, the new project it hopes to deliver with BNCFF support: a virtual fish market, a digital auction platform that will connect fishermen, fishmongers and buyers across Santiago in real time. Designed to cut post-catch losses and boost incomes for those who make their living from the sea in Praia Baixo, this initiative is now the Foundation's flagship application to the BNCFF, and the visit gave the delegation a chance to see, first-hand, the community and the direct beneficiaries of this future project.

The visit reinforces the BNCFF's confidence in the Foundation's work in Cabo Verde and cements a partnership that, with three applications now under way, is carrying the country's blue economy well beyond Praia Baixo, from whale and dolphin conservation across the archipelago to the protection of the Baía dos Tubarões on Sal. We will keep a close eye on each of these stages and keep our community informed as things progress. ■



WORKING MEETING WITH THE SAUDI COMPANY REFLECTS THE FOUNDATION'S DRIVE TO FORGE STRONG INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

THE FOUNDATION OPENS TALKS WITH INKSPIRE 3D TO BRING CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY TO CABO VERDE'S BLUE ECONOMY

The Fundação Carlos Albertino Veiga has taken another step in building international partnerships for Cabo Verde's blue economy. On 22 July, it held its first working meeting with InkSpire 3D, a Saudi company specialising in restoring coral reefs through 3D printing, a meeting that confirmed a mutual interest first sparked nearly a year ago. The relationship between the two organisations dates back to September 2025, when the Foundation and InkSpire 3D first met in Osaka during an official visit to the Saudi Arabian pavilion. That first encounter planted the seed of a possible collaboration in Cabo Verdean waters, an idea that matured over the following months until, in early July 2026, the two sides picked up the conversation again to carry forward what had begun in Japan. At the meeting, the company presented its

work and the Foundation shared its vision for protecting and enhancing Cabo Verde's coastal areas. The encounter confirmed a shared interest in exploring concrete forms of collaboration, and both sides expressed a wish to keep deepening the conversation in the months ahead. This is yet another example of the Foundation's ongoing work to forge strong international partnerships, ones capable of bringing the most advanced technologies to Cabo Verde and of making a real contribution to the development of the country, its economy, its territory and its people. It is in this spirit that the Foundation continues to build bridges with global partners committed to the blue economy and to Cabo Verde's future. We will keep working on this and other partnerships, and keep our community informed as things develop. ■

SEA TURTLES NEST AT PRAINHA, A SIGN WORTH CELEBRATING



A rare sighting underlines the importance of the Foundation's work in protecting marine life and coastal communities

This July, the Foundation's Linha D'Água team reported that a group of sea turtles had nested at Prainha, a beach where this kind of nesting is unusual. Simple as it may sound, the news is in fact an encouraging sign of the health of our coastline. Cabo Verde is one of the world's most important nesting sites for the loggerhead turtle, and it is around these very animals that, in São Vicente for example, a turtle-diving offer has developed that draws visitors from around the world and generates direct income for local communities. It is precisely this link between conservation and development that sits at the heart of the Foundation's work: protecting marine life is not just an environmental matter, but an economic opportunity for coastal communities, who can turn the presence of these animals into responsible tourism, employment and local pride. A moment like this one at Prainha reminds us that Cabo Verde's coastline holds a heritage well worth protecting, and that the Foundation remains committed to safeguarding this, and other treasures of our sea, alongside our communities. ■

THE TENTH ISLAND



One Cabo Verde, scattered across the world; one people, bound by a single love for a flag, an anthem, and a soul that lives in blue and gold.

There is an island that appears on no map of Cabo Verde, and yet it is the largest of them all, larger than many countries, and far larger than any measure of land or population could ever capture. This is our diaspora. Millions of Cabo Verdeans and their descendants, scattered across the Atlantic and every corner of the globe, have crossed the very ocean our Foundation works to protect, carrying with them a piece of the archipelago wherever they go. This July, that piece beat harder than ever before.

We all know the history that was written at the World Cup. But the history written on the streets, in the stands, in the cafés, and in every home where Cabo Verde is still spoken of with love, deserves to be remembered as something else entirely: singular, undying, and ours. It was in those eyes fixed on a screen, thousands of miles from home, that we truly understood who we are. In a living room in Rotterdam, a kitchen in Boston, a café in Lisbon, the same cry, the same hush, the same tear. No one was weeping for a goal alone; they were weeping for

a lifetime of saudade, of sacrifice, of hands worn rough by work far from the land that raised them, of nights spent dreaming of a smell of grogue and cachupa that no distance can erase. In that instant, everyone who had ever left came home, if only in spirit.

Because the diaspora is not absence, it is presence in another form. It is the mother working double shifts in a European factory to provide for those she left behind. It is the child born far from the islands who still carries Kriolu on their tongue and morabeza in their eyes. It is the wave that leaves a beach in Santiago and, however far it travels, never stops belonging to the same sea. That sea, the one our Foundation works to protect, is the same sea that binds these ten islands together: the nine we can see, and the tenth we can only feel, the one that has never, for a single moment, stopped running through the veins of those who left.

To all of you who carry Cabo Verde in your suitcases, in your accents, in your children and in your hearts: our deepest, most heartfelt thank you. We won alongside you, we dreamed alongside you, and it is alongside you that we will keep on writing the story of this nation without borders, always in blue and gold. ■

A BEACON FROM CABO VERDE



**2021
2030** United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Carlos Albertino Veiga Foundation's mission is to promote the social and economic development of Cabo Verde, based on the values of solidarity and entrepreneurship, contributing to a fairer future for all Cape Verdeans.

PARTNERS:



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