

CONCEPT NOTE

Cabo Verde will host an international event that will take place from July 10 to 16, 2023, at the Convention Center of the University of Cabo Verde, Praia. The event has two parts: A Business Forum and an International Conference. Each event part has a specific schedule.

1. The International Conference, under the theme «Application of Basalt Powder in Agriculture and basalt fiber for industry - Its advantages as fertilizer for agriculture and basalt fiber for industry», will be held from July 10 to 12. This Conference, entitled *BASALT CONFERENCE*, under the slogan «*BASALT - THE WEALTH OF NATIONS*», is centered on the application of agrominerals (basalt powder) in agriculture and basalt fiber for industry, as fertilizer for agricultural soils par excellence and Basalt Fiber in Industrial Innovation, bringing together some of the most eminent international experts.

Agrominerals in agriculture (basalt powder), the subject of the International Conference, proved capable of having a great impact, particularly in six dimensions:

- In the profitability of agricultural production; environmental protection and human health;
- In the quality of the food produced;
- In the availability of fertilizers for the majority of micro, small and medium agricultural producers, particularly in Africa, given the importance of agriculture in the development of the continent;
- Of capital importance for Cabo Verde, which could enhance one of its most important natural resources (basalt rocks) and strengthen the regional integration of the Cabo Verdean economy;
- Foster, develop and consolidate scientific and technological relations between Cabo Verde and countries with accumulated experience and knowledge in the research and use of agro-minerals in agriculture.
- To promote the development of the innovative industrial chain based on basalt fiber, which is increasingly used in a wide field of applications, in particular in the manufacture of pressure units, cylinders, profiles, parts for cars, wind turbine blades, in concrete reinforcement, in fireproof textile materials, in the automotive industry, in maritime industry, in the military industry, in the aerospace industry and in many other sectors.

2. In parallel with this International Conference, from July 13 to 16, 2023, a Business Forum will be held, entitled *ATLANTIC BUSINESS FORUM*, under the slogan: «*Cabo Verde - a link with markets of excellence*», which aims to bring together companies, industries, investors, financiers, importers, exporters, economic operators in general, from all sectors and from all origins, as well as institutions that are bastions of development, focused on high-potential markets and opportunities, as is the case with *ECOWAS*, the European Union, Brazil and the United States of America.

The *ATLANTIC BUSINESS FORUM* has 5 objectives:

- Energizing intra-regional trade in the *ECOWAS* region, establish and energize a business network between Cabo Verdean companies and entrepreneurs, involving partners from economic blocks with which Cabo Verde maintains excellent relations, such as *ECOWAS*, the European Union and the United States from America;
- Identify and strengthen the mechanisms for promoting economic and trade relations within the framework of the preference systems from which Cabo Verde benefits, namely *AGOA*; *SLEC/ECOWAS*; *EU/GSP+*;
- Establish and promote a business network involving companies and entrepreneurs from Cabo Verde, Brazil and partners in different *ECOWAS* countries;
- Present, enhance and project a vision of all the Markets in relation to which Cabo Verde is a Link of Excellence, namely the markets of *ECOWAS*, the European Union (*EU/GSP+*); the United States of America (*AGOA*) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (*AFCFTA*);
- Establish and energize a business and investment network involving companies and investors from the economic blocks with which Cabo Verde has strong relations, such as the cases of *ECOWAS*, *EU/GSP+*, *Brazil* and of *AGOA*.

Within the framework of the event in question, from July 07 to 15, 2023, there will be a fair called «*FLAVORS OF CABO VERDE*», which will bring together the entire offer of products and services, including information on the most attractive tourist sites in each municipality of Cabo Verde, organized around sectors that represent the wide variety of products present in the Cabo Verdean market. The products and services of external companies participating in the event will also be represented at this fair. All information related to the event in question, including documents, registration forms, online registration can be obtained through the platform: www.saboresdecaboverde.com.

The Diaspora can support the economic diversification of countries of origin and foster its economic integration into global value chains. The participation of the Diaspora in the Development of Science, Technology and the Internationalization of the Economy of the Countries of origin, is also part of the programming of the Atlantic Business Forum.

The *BASALT CONFERENCE* and *ATLANTIC BUSINESS FORUM* will necessarily result in cooperation between the scientific and technological sector and the productive sector and, consequently, in the transfer of technology and knowledge from the first to the second, with high benefits for society in general.