

AAPF ACTIVITY START-UP BRIEF (8 March 2013)



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Continental Shelf Study Tours

24 October 2011 – 31 December 2013



Background: The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) proposes to host expert delegations in Canberra, to provide the necessary skills and knowledge to prepare an application to the United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), for recognition of an extended continental shelf. The delegations will have up to five people, with a four-day program for the delegation from Sierra Leone and a five-day program for the delegation from Cape Verde.

Objective: The objectives of the Cape Verde and Sierra Leone Continental Shelf study tours are to:

- build effective working partnerships that contribute to sustainable achievement of targeted development priorities in African countries;
- provide Sierra Leone and Cape Verde officials with the necessary skills and knowledge to prepare an application to the CLCS, for recognition of an extended continental shelf; and
- provide advice on fisheries management issues, including coral reefs in the case of Cape Verde.

Activity description: DFAT will host delegations from Cape Verde and Sierra Leone to provide the necessary skills and knowledge to prepare applications to the CLCS and for recognition of an extended continental shelf.

The program will provide an overview of Australia's extended continental shelf submission and address legal and other issues surrounding such submissions. The program will also include a fisheries management component:

- The Cape Verde delegation will visit the Great Barrier Reef and attend a presentation by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.
- Sessions will be delivered by: DFAT; Geoscience Australia; the Attorney General's Department; Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Cape Verde only).

Relevance to AAPF objectives: The Continental Shelf Study Tours will strengthen the relationships between the governments of Cape Verde and Sierra Leone and the Government of Australia. The Cape Verde and Sierra Leonean governments will receive practical advice relating to submissions and a better understanding of the expertise that Australia can provide. Australia, in turn, will better understand the challenges faced by African countries when submitting applications to the CLCS.

Current progress

Although this activity has a signed Activity Request Report (ARR), there has been no further action or planning since late 2011.

Proposed participation by country and gender:

Country	M	F	Total
Cape Verde	3	2	5
Sierra Leone	3	2	5
TOTAL	6	4	10

Activity Number:	94/01
Date approved:	20/09/2011
Date commenced:	N/A
Date completed:	N/A
Implementation partner/s:	DFAT
Total cost:	AUD185 250
■ AusAID:	AUD185 250

