



PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

Sustainability Progress & Impacts Report

HBD PRÍNCIPE · AUGUST 2026

*This report includes a selection of updates and data from 2023 through July 2026.
Each figure notes the period it covers.*



“

Wouldn't it be amazing if we could set a standard for what's possible in the balance between nature and humanity, culture and tourism.

– MARK SHUTTLEWORTH · FOUNDER, HBD PRÍNCIPE

Who We Are & What We Do

HBD Príncipe is an ecotourism and agriculture business based in Príncipe, an island off the west coast of Africa, with a vision of the sustainable social and economic development in Príncipe and conservation of the island's UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

Príncipe's nature and communities make it different; and we have a differentiated commitment to protecting them. HBD Príncipe believes that we have the opportunity and responsibility to disrupt the status quo: our mission is to become a global inspiration through sustainable integrated ecotourism, agroforestry, support services, and social initiatives.

We know that what makes the island special—from clean air and clear skies to the high number of endemic species—is what sustains our business, too.

Our name comes from ‘here be dragons’ — what early mapmakers wrote across the parts of the world still uncharted.

In Essence, this is Sustainability

Moreover, how we operate—striving to minimize negative effects and increase positive contributions—is essential. In essence, this is sustainability; the HBD Príncipe team considers the direct impact and ramifications that our actions and decisions have on our vision, our operations, and the Biosphere Reserve today and in the future.

One thing we know for certain is that this work takes time. While the HBD Príncipe team is hard at work and making progress, we still have more to do to achieve our goals.

As guests explore the island's beaches and forests, learn about and admire flora and fauna, and enjoy local food and drinks, they are also contributing to this journey of sustainable development.

Our Vision & Mission

OUR VISION

Sustainable social and economic development in Príncipe and conservation of the island's UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

OUR MISSION

To become a global inspiration through sustainable integrated ecotourism, agroforestry, support services and social initiatives.

Our Values

We are guided by STARS in everything that we do.



Sustainability

Balancing economic growth, environmental protection, and social wellbeing. By fostering a sense of collective responsibility and resilience, sustainability efforts aim to improve the quality of life, preserve natural resources for future generations, and create a self-sufficient, thriving community that can withstand environmental and economic challenges.



Teamwork

We work collaboratively, supporting each other in achieving objectives based on what is best for all. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.



Authenticity

We are motivated by principle, passion and making a genuine difference in people's lives. We act with integrity in all that we do.



Respect

We respect ourselves and others; and the environment in which we live. We believe in equality of opportunity: giving everyone the chance to achieve their full potential, free from prejudice and discrimination of any kind.



Safety

Everything that we do is based on the safety of each team member, our guests and the people in the communities around us. By having no accidents as our target, we ensure that that where we work and operate is safe.

Part of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves

The whole of Príncipe—the island, its islets, and the Tinhosas Islands—has been a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve since 2012. The designation recognizes the island's marine and terrestrial biodiversity in addition to its high number of endemic species.

The island of São Tomé was designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in September 2025; São Tomé and Príncipe is the first country in the world to have this status for its full national territory.

A Biosphere Reserve is not a fenced-off wilderness. It covers the places where people live and work—it exists precisely to hold conservation and development together, sustainably.

WHERE WE ARE ACROSS THE ISLANDS

Príncipe

Sundy Praia · Roça Sundy · Bom Bom · Belo Monte ·
Agricultural Operations · Light Industrial Zone ·
Shared Services

São Tomé

Omali · Shared Services

Stewards of UNESCO World Heritage

In July 2026, UNESCO inscribed The Roças of São Tomé and Príncipe: Colonial Agricultural System and Forced Migration on the World Heritage List, recognizing six historic estates across the archipelago for their Outstanding Universal Value, the standard a place must meet to be considered so culturally significant that it deserves protection for all humanity and for future generations.

Among those six roças are Belo Monte and Roça Sundry, both on the island of Príncipe.

For HBD Príncipe, this recognition is deeply meaningful. It acknowledges not only the extraordinary history of these places, but also the responsibility of caring for them and ensuring they continue to evolve with integrity and purpose.

Roça Sundry

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST · 2026

Roça Belo Monte

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST · 2026

References

Our Membership: The Long Run

We are a proud Fellow Member of The Long Run, a membership organization of nature-based tourism businesses committed to driving sustainability through the 4Cs.

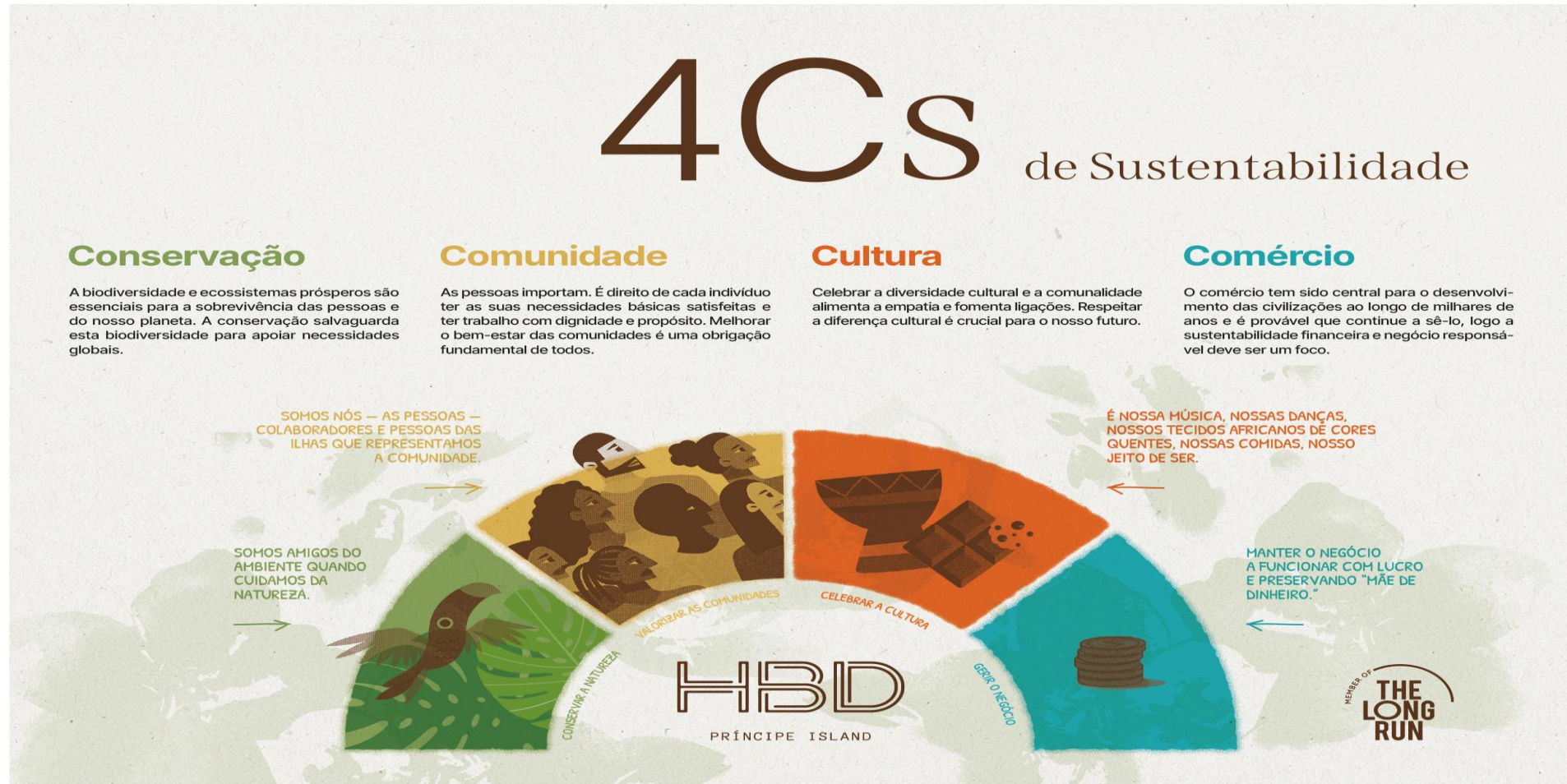
Our Aspiration: Global Ecosphere Retreat®

We aspire to Global Ecosphere Retreat® status: an independent, audited standard that will show we walk the talk of sustainability.

The 4Cs of Sustainability

The 4Cs of Conservation, Community, Culture, and Commerce give our sustainability strategy its framework.

The 4Cs of Sustainability



Measuring Sustainability Impacts & Progress

Every figure in this report comes from one place: our Sustainability Dashboard (powered by Power BI), which officially launched in 2026 and includes data reaching back to 2021 for some categories.

The goal of our Sustainability Dashboard is to collect, understand, analyze, and make decisions with 4Cs sustainability data across 25 categories.

Conservation

Water Consumption
Water & Occupancy
Energy Consumption
Energy & Occupancy
Waste & Recycling
Waste & Guests
Recycling Training
Recycled Products
Composting

Príncipe Recycling Initiatives
HBD Concessions
Trails
Naturally Fallen Trees
Incidents
Extra Clean-Ups
Fuel Consumption
ecooGPS

Community

Conservation & Communities
Contribution (CCC)
Training
Workplace Health & Safety
Medic Clinic
Human Resources

Culture

Cultural Performances

Commerce

Sustainability Visits
Purchase History

Conservation

PRESERVING NATURE

LONG-TERM GOAL

Príncipe's rainforest canopy is kept intact in perpetuity while beneath it, communities thrive with nature-based livelihoods created and revitalized by HBD Príncipe while we also lead with on-the-ground sustainable operations that protect and celebrate this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

Measuring What We Manage

As the saying goes, “you cannot manage what you do not measure.” We have focused on measuring so that we can better manage our resource use. During the previous five years, we have tripled the number of sites where water and energy consumption is monitored.

WATER AND ENERGY MONITORING · 2021 TO 2025

2021

Roça Sundry and Sundry Praia

2 sites

2022–2024

Omali added

3 sites

2025

Bom Bom added, plus the Light Industrial Zone
and the Casa Verde office

6 sites

An Example of a Key Insight

Measurement immediately identified Sundry Praia as our heaviest water consumer. That finding changed how we work: vehicle washing, among other routines, was redesigned to use less water. This is the point of monitoring—it turns a learning into an action.

Lighting

Motion-sensor and photocell lighting is a major focus across our operations.

Air Conditioning

A concerted focus on AC temperature setpoints can lead to energy and cost savings.

Carbon

We measured our greenhouse gas footprint—Scope 1, 2, and select Scope 3 data—in 2024 and 2025.

Six Streams Sorted at the Source

São Tomé and Príncipe has limited waste management and recycling infrastructure. Additionally, nearly everything that arrives here stays here. Our teams separate waste and recyclables across six streams at every site. Our in-house Waste Management & Recycling Department recycles as much as possible.



Organic Compost



Food Waste



Glass



Plastic & Metal

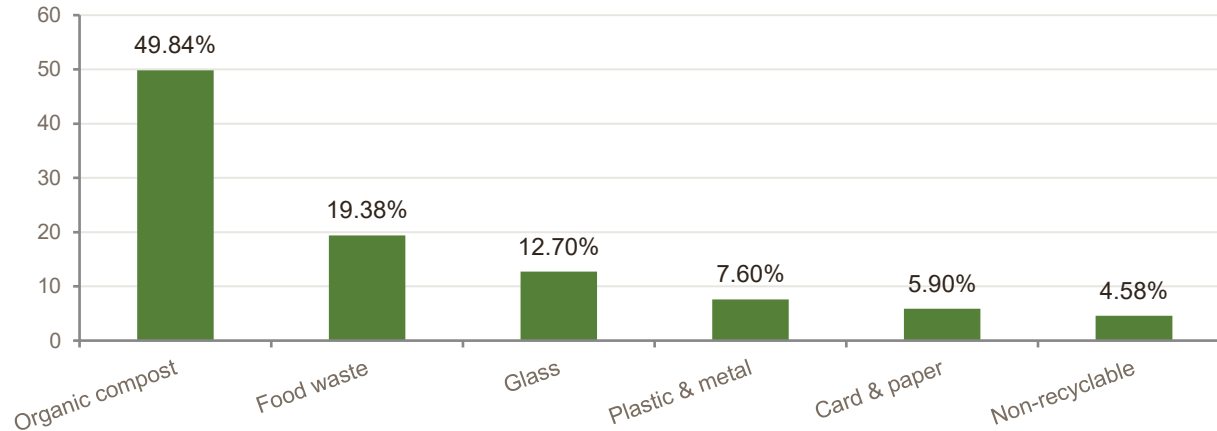


Cardboard & Paper



Non-recyclable

Share of all waste collected by weight (%)



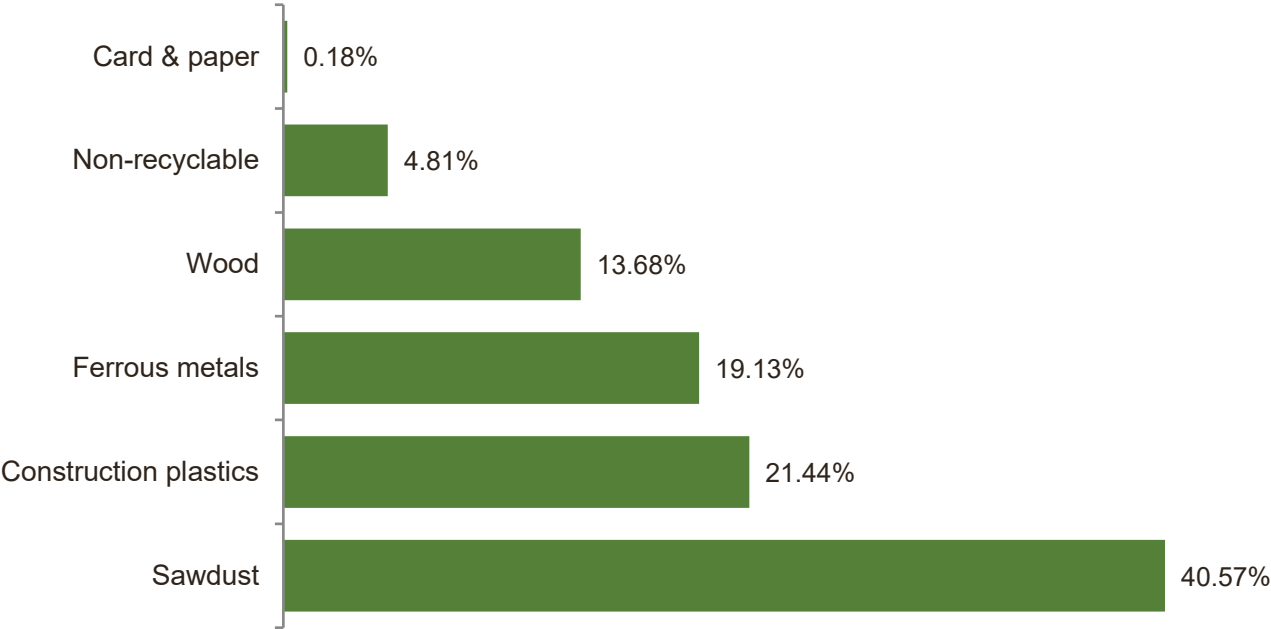
RECORDED WASTE BY WEIGHT · 2023 TO JULY 2026

Coverage grew from two sites in 2023 to eleven by 2025, adding Bom Bom, Belo Monte, Casa Verde, the Chocolate Factory, the Light Industrial Zone (LIZ), Roça Paciência, Uba de Boi, and the Medic Clinic. Then, Omali joined in 2026.

Bulky Material Joins the Journey to Measuring to Manage

In 2025, we began measuring bulky waste and recycling material from construction and carpentry by volume. While it is a different kind of material, the same sorting discipline applies to it.

CONSTRUCTION & CARPENTRY WASTE & RECYCLING BY VOLUME · 2025 TO JULY 2026



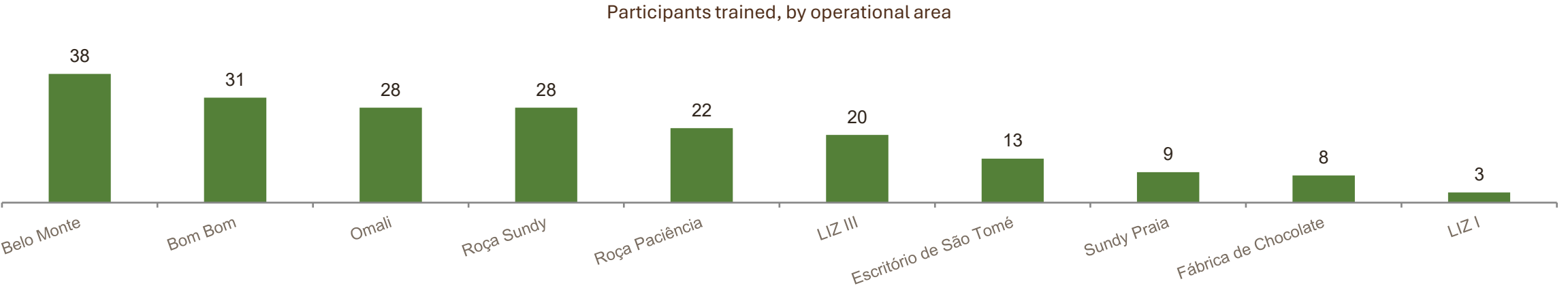
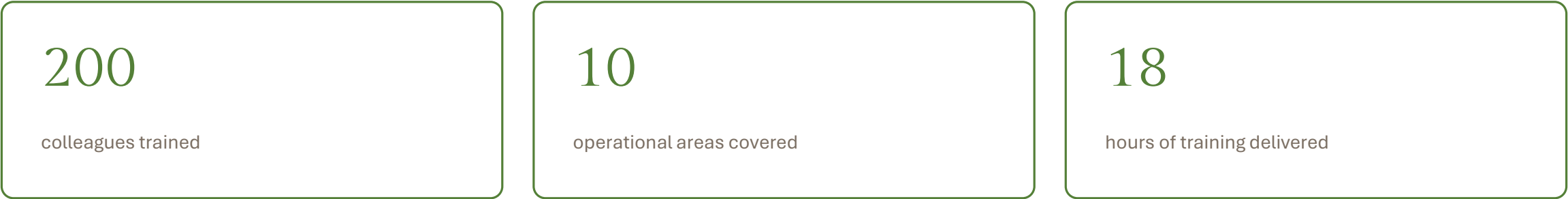
A Note on Recycling Rates

We have high recycling rates across the different separation categories and are continually seeking more alternatives to divert waste from the landfill, for we know this is a major contributor to our greenhouse gas footprint.

Sorting Requires Training

Strong separation rates depend upon strong training. Training must be continuous. Recycling begins at the operational sites: poor separation leads to poor recycling.

WASTE AND RECYCLING TRAINING · APRIL 2025 TO JUNE 2026



Giving New Life to Glass

Managing our own footprint is not enough on an island with almost no recycling infrastructure. Dar Nova Vida ao Vidro takes back glass from across Príncipe, free of charge, and turns it into sand to give back to the community members in an island-wide exchange program.

DAR NOVA VIDA AO VIDRO · JUNE 2023 TO JULY 2026

228 metric
tonnes

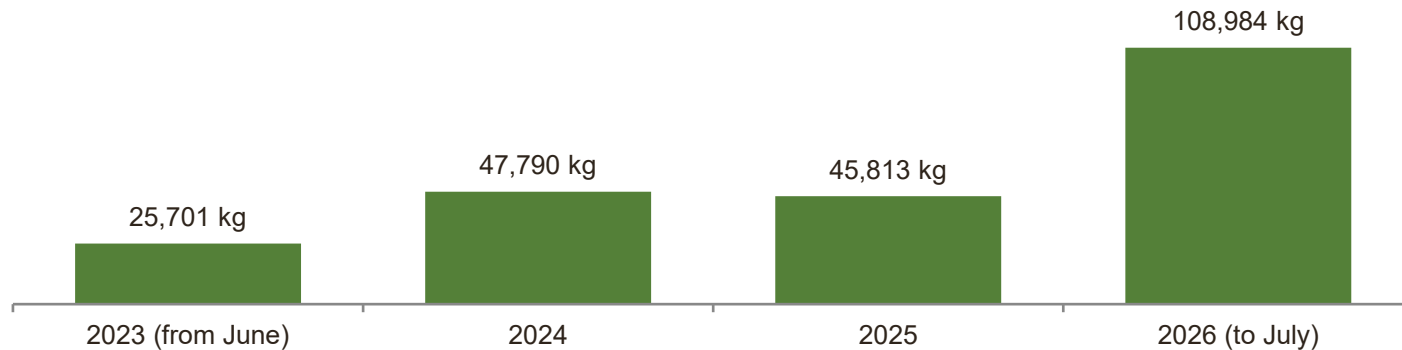
of glass recovered across the island, and recycled

1,383

participants

Free

to community members; an exchange for the
“price” of time and effort



2026: A Banner Year

2026 has already more than doubled any full year before it: 109 metric tonnes in seven months. Participation is climbing with it: 446 participations in 2026 through July, compared to 391 total participants in 2025.

Cans for School Supplies

This program, “Latas por Letras,” trades aluminum cans for school supplies. Children and families bring cans; they leave with pens, pencils, and notebooks.

LATAS POR LETRAS · JULY 2024 TO JULY 2026

4,987 kg

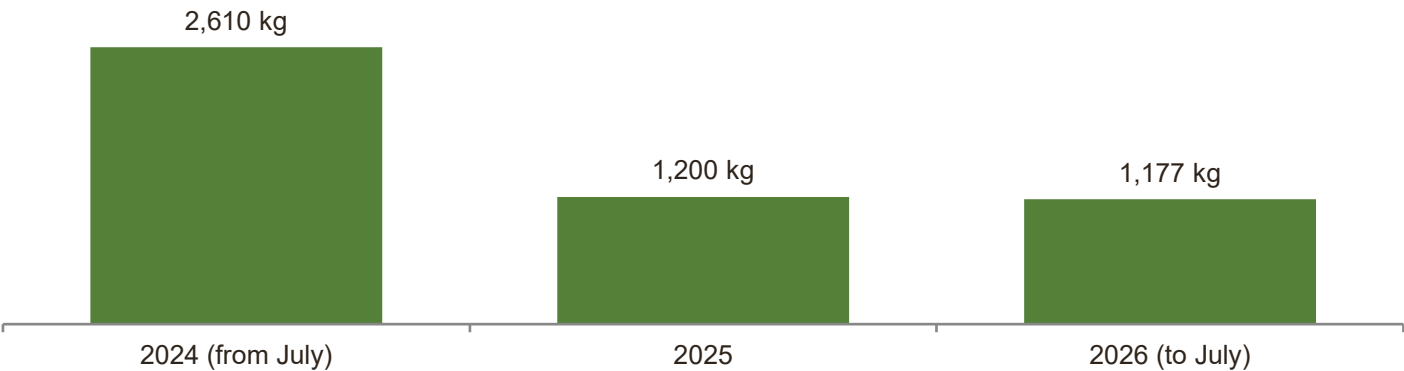
of aluminum cans collected

1,504

pens, pencils, notebooks and uniforms given out in exchange—at no cost to participants

751

community member participants



Watching this one closely

Collection fell sharply in 2025, then in seven months of 2026 nearly matched the whole of the previous year. The volumes are recovering and we are increasing our communication efforts for this island-wide exchange program.

Valuing Recycled Material

Not only is HBD Príncipe focused on recycling, but also on utilizing recycled and upcycled materials—such as using glass sand and compost in our operations.

IN-HOUSE RECYCLING · JANUARY 2025 TO JULY 2026

46,400 kg

of glass sand used in HBD construction and maintenance projects

The aforementioned “Dar Nova Vida ao Vidro” island-wide exchange program recycles glass into glass sand free of charge for community members. We keep half of the glass we receive and turn it into sand for our own building projects, to offset some of the program’s costs. A further 4,740 kg of glass sand was made from glass our own hotels and operations used.

110 m³

of organic compost produced

915 kg

applied back to our soils

COMPOST · DEC 2025 TO JULY 2026

Organic compost is the single largest stream we collect, at just under half of everything by weight. Returning it to the soil rather than sending it to landfill is what makes that figure particularly meaningful.

In-House Recycling Results

Recovered plastic, cardboard, and HDPE plastic, to name a few, are recycled into finished products in our own workshop “Atelier Novo Olhar” (New Look Atelier).

RECYCLED PRODUCTS MADE IN-HOUSE · JULY 2025 TO JULY 2026

3,848

finished products made in our own workshop from material we collected and recycled

33.37%

Ecological charcoal

A charcoal alternative made from recycled cardboard and paper, produced for community use

24.71 %

TetraPak seedling planters

Drink cartons repurposed as planters for young seedlings

14.81 %

HDPE decorative items

Recovered rigid plastic turned into decorative pieces

10.99%

PET and LDPE pavers

Mixed plastic pressed into paving blocks

9.67 %

PET ecobricks

PET bottles packed with plastic film for use as construction bricks

6.44 %

HDPE machete handles

Recovered plastic molded into machete handles

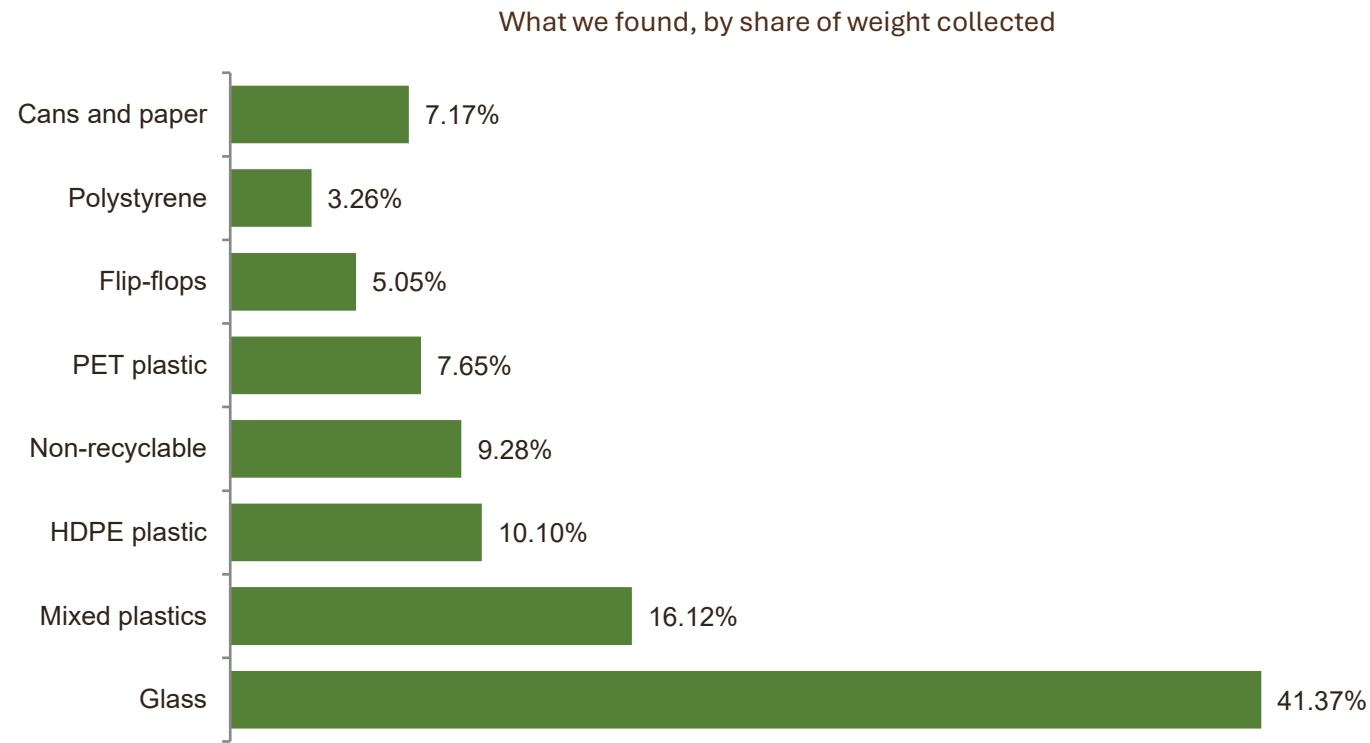
Beach and Forest Clean-Ups

We have a commitment to going above and beyond our operational sites—for our grand commitment is to the island as a whole.

EXTRA CLEAN-UPS · 2025 TO JULY 2026

923 kg

collected from beaches and forests across Príncipe



Caring for the Land We Steward

We understand and care for the HBD concessions with an active, focused eye on conservation.

TRAILS CREATED AND MAINTAINED · APRIL 2025 TO JUNE 2026

20.8 km

of trail worked

69%

maintenance, not new
cutting

Monitoring our Concessions

Our Natural Resources team patrols and monitors the concessions in our care. They log and investigate incidents observed and escalate them to the relevant authorities, if necessary. Incidents include extracted stones and felled trees. Monitoring and measuring incidents enables us to understand trends.

A widening area of care

We added concessions in 2025, increasing the area of land for which we hold stewardship responsibility. Our concession record is maintained continuously and reaches back to 2011.

A LARGE PART OF OUR CONCESSIONS IS HELD FOR CONSERVATION

Some of it forms part of, or neighbors, the Floresta Azeitona of the Parque Natural do Príncipe, and the turtle-nesting hotspot of Praia Grande.

Cacao as Conservation

Our cacao is grown in an agroforestry system certified organic and Bird Friendly®, meaning we cultivate cacao under and alongside native shade trees that feed and shelter endemic birds and other wildlife. Two independent certifications verify our approach.

BIRD FRIENDLY® · SMITHSONIAN MIGRATORY BIRD CENTER

139.5 ha

of certified shade-grown cacao, covering the plantation, the processing facility, and the storage and export facility. Certified to March 2027.

EU ORGANIC · CERTIFIED BY AGRICERT

90 farmers

of the Príncipe Island Agricultural Producers Association audited and granted organic certification, alongside our own certified agricultural operation.

Community

VALUING THE COMMUNITIES

LONG-TERM GOAL

HBD Príncipe's colleagues and neighboring communities thrive together through fair and transparent employment, accessible healthcare and wellbeing support, and inclusive economic opportunities rooted in Príncipe's agroforestry and conservation economy.

Our Team

We are Príncipe's largest employer. What is normal at HBD shapes what is expected elsewhere on the island.

98%

of the HBD team are from the islands
(as of August 2026)

36,410

hours of training delivered across six operating
entities

2022 TO Q2 2026

Recorded at group level in 2022 and 2023; recorded by
operating entity beginning in 2024.

Safety

Safety is one of our STARS values. By having no accidents as our target, we ensure that where we work and operate is safe. Incidents are recorded and monitored on our Sustainability Dashboard. Our Workplace Health & Safety team leads “Daily Dialogues” that instill safety as part of every team's routine.

We recruit locally first. The overwhelming majority of our team is from São Tomé and Príncipe. Career paths and training move colleagues into supervisory and leadership roles. We aim for locally rooted leaders to carry our vision forward.

The HBD Medic Clinic

A clinic staffed by a doctor and a nurse, open to our colleagues, to their families, and to members of the community, provides additional healthcare capacity to the island's health services.

MEDIC CLINIC · JANUARY 2025 TO JULY 2026

2,484

patients treated

72%

HBD colleagues

17%

colleagues' family members

11%

community members

Community access has held steady as the clinic has grown busier. The same share of patients came from outside HBD in 2026 as in 2025. On an island where healthcare is hard to reach, keeping this option available to communities as demand rises from our own team is intentional and effortful.

Nature-based Agriculture as a Livelihoods Strategy

Our five-year plan commits us to moving agricultural production to out-grower and in-grower programs; HBD becomes a knowledge base helping local producers become more productive and more environmentally sound.

AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS · 2025

IN-GROWERS

31

contracts signed in the first phase. Each farmer works a two-hectare plot on HBD concessional land, on a loan basis, growing cacao and other crops to organic-certification and biodiversity standards.

After seven months, 22 farmers had completed plot clearing, 20 had sold cacao at least once, and 26 were assessed as suitable to continue.

OUT-GROWERS

90

farmers of the Príncipe Island Agricultural Producers Association audited and granted organic certification, connecting them to premium markets—particularly for cacao—through HBD.

A farmers' association was established to facilitate certification; field visits, internal control, and traceability documentation were completed and validated.

10,000

cacao seedlings produced and distributed to association farmers

8

vegetable out-grower contracts with local farmers

Guests' Direct Contributions to Príncipe Island

In alignment with our vision, guest rates for our hotels in Príncipe include a Conservation & Communities Contribution (CCC) of €25 per person per night (guests aged 13+). 100% of the CCC funds local initiatives.

CONSERVATION & COMMUNITIES CONTRIBUTION · 2024 AND 2025



Learn More

Read HBD's annual Conservation & Communities Contribution (CCC) Impact Report, available in English and Portuguese, for 2021-2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

<https://www.hbdprincipe.com/sustainability/>
<https://www.hbdprincipe.com/pt/sustentabilidade/>
<https://www.principecollection.com/en/sustainability/conservation-and-communities>
<https://www.principecollection.com/pt/sustentabilidade/conservacao-e-comunidades>



Conservation



Education



Social & Environmental

Culture

CELEBRATING CULTURE

LONG-TERM GOAL

Value and contribute to the preservation of local culture, history, and traditions of São Tomé and Príncipe while a team united by the HBD vision for sustainable development and conservation authentically infuses tangible examples of culture into our operations.

Integrating Culture into Our Operations

We understand, collaborate with, and celebrate the culture of São Tomé and Príncipe—from food to dance to artisans’ work, to name a few.

CULTURAL PERFORMANCES · JANUARY 2024 TO JULY 2026

84

performances by local cultural groups at our hotels, each one paid for directly to the group

Share of cultural performances’ spend, by property

Sundy Praia	41.84%
Bom Bom	27.89%
Omali	13.58%
Roça Sundy	13.34%
Belo Monte	3.35%

Island Ingredients

Traditional recipes and island ingredients are infused into our menus, which are supported by our own gardens and the islands' fisherfolk.

Artisans on Show

Our hotels showcase local artists' and artisans' work, including hand-woven lampshades and paintings.

Restoring and Remembering the Roças

Understanding a place adds something a view alone cannot. To deeply understand São Tomé and Príncipe, guests must understand its history, its ruins, and, importantly, the roças.

Restoration that Conserves

Restoration work at the roças retains history, rather than replacing it.

Buildings Back into Use—In a New Way

We bring existing roça buildings back into use as hotels, conserving them and creating work, in line with the government's plans for the roças.

The Full Story

It is important to preserve not only the buildings, but also the story of the people who lived and worked there.

UNESCO World Heritage status

Roça Sundry and Roça Belo Monte now carry UNESCO World Heritage status.

Local Voices

Local voices share local knowledge about cultural heritage and history.

Commerce

MANAGING BUSINESS

LONG-TERM GOAL

To become operationally financially sustainable so the vision and mission of HBD Príncipe are sustained.

Holding Ourselves to a High Standard

In 2025, we formalized the sustainability criteria we track across our hotels—front-of-house and back-of-house. We monitor 34 checklist items across restaurants, bars, rooms, laundry, waste areas, stores and kitchens, plus 23 checklist items for Agricultural Operations, and 16 checklist items for the Light Industrial Zone and offices.

SUSTAINABILITY VISITS · JULY 2025 TO JULY 2026

1,679

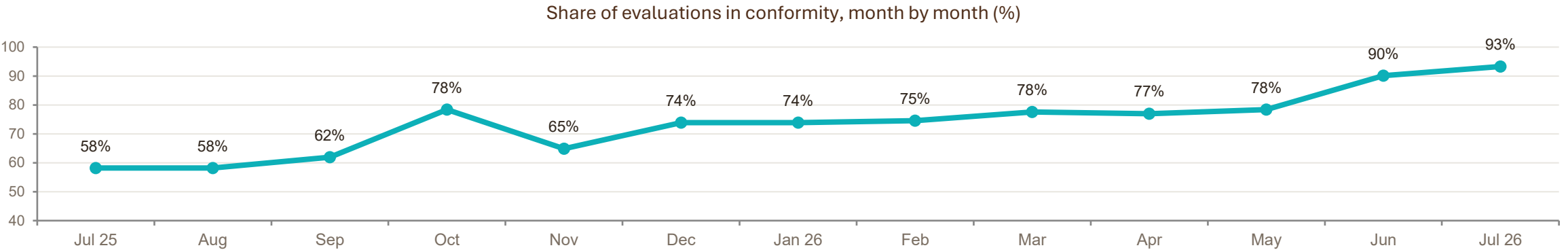
evaluations carried out across five properties

58% → 93%

conformity, from our first month of measuring to our latest

Engaging the Team,
Consistently

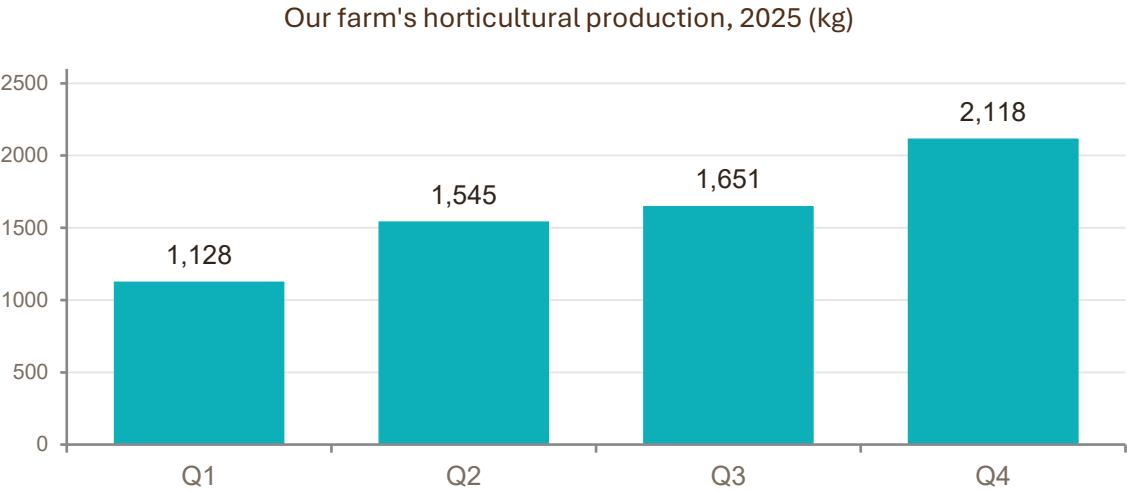
What underlines our work: engaging colleagues through multidisciplinary sustainability visits to share knowledge, hear ideas, and learn about sustainability through tangible examples.



Sustainable Supply in Demand

Every container that reaches São Tomé and Príncipe carries carbon, packaging, and a disposal problem. Buying closer to home solves several of those at once—and invests locally.

HBD'S HORTICULTURAL OPERATIONS · 2025



6,442 kg over the year, rising every quarter. Fruit, vegetables, and herbs from our organic farm go straight onto guests' plates, and supply to our hotels increased through 2025.

914 kg

of produce supplied through eight vegetable out-grower contracts with local farmers, including tomato, lettuce, and chili, strengthening local supply chains while creating income.

Formalizing our Processes

In 2026, we formalized our approach to sustainable sourcing by introducing a sustainable procurement policy and a policy prohibiting four categories of plastic across our operations.

Certified, Where Possible

We choose environmentally responsible products, favoring those with certifications—from cleaning and laundry to guest amenities.

Fewer Journeys, Less Packaging

Purchasing is consolidated in volume to reduce packaging and journeys. We are investigating options for suppliers geographically closer to the islands.

Closing

AWARDS · COMMITMENTS

From One to Watch to Gold and Silver

Our work has been judged by others against international entrants. In two years, we moved from One to Watch, to Gold in Africa, to Silver worldwide.



A Selection of Commitments

These are a few of our targets for the years ahead, measured against a 2025 baseline. Alongside these, our 4Cs Strategic Sustainability Plan focuses our efforts.

BY THE END OF 2026

15%

reduction in our Scope 1 and 2
greenhouse gas emissions

15%

reduction in energy consumption

15%

reduction in water consumption

90%

of waste diverted from landfill

WITHIN THREE YEARS

Zero waste to landfill

Roça Sundy off-grid, through solar
power

LIZ off-grid, also kickstarting
electrification of our fleet



PRÍNCIPE ISLAND



We are HBD. We are Príncipe.

This report is published on our website. We will publish a Sustainability Progress & Impacts Report at least every two years. Our Conservation & Communities Contribution Impact Report is published annually.