

Prime Minister José Maria Neves is to preside today over the re-opening of the renovated and expanded Fonte Aleixo/Cobom elementary school in the suburbs of São Filipe, on the island of Fogo. The ribbon-cutting ceremony comes six months after Neves presided over a ceremony marking the beginning of renovation and expansion work. Financed by Luxembourg-based non-governmental organization Betebuerg Helleft, the renovation and expansion of the educational facility and the donation of equipment and furniture came at an estimated cost of 15 million escudos, and constitutes the first phase of a project in the education and sports sector that has a global budget of some 40 million escudos. For the first phase of the project, in addition to the rehabilitation of the four existing classrooms, improvements were made in the kitchen and restroom installations and an additional two classrooms were built to allow the school to take in 5th- and 6th-grade students. Included in the project is the acquisition of 12 photocopiers, the construction of 200 two-student desks and 400 chairs, the construction of 80 teacher's desks and chairs and the purchase of a series of sports materials.