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Francisco Mendes Palma is graduated in Economics from the Portuguese Catholic University and holds a Master in Economics from the College of Europe, Belgium.

He is currently Director of the Espírito Santo Research and Administrator of the Banco Espírito Santo Cabo Verde, SA. He was a lecturer at Universidade Católica Portuguesa, advisor at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at the Energy Services Regulatory Authority (ERSE), and consultant in several companies, projects and studies regarding industrial economics, regulation and competition, energy and innovation.

He has participated in conferences and debates, as well as written articles and books on economic activity, international and sectoral energy, economic internationalization, industrial economics, innovation and sustainability.