



## Cartolina 07 – The sea of Guinea-Bissau

Have you ever imagined arriving on a paradisiacal beach and finding, instead of people, cows cooling off freely? This is what happens every day on the 7 km beach of Jeta Island. There is no hotel facility here and, if you want to stay overnight, you need to bring a camping tent.

This island is located north of the nearby Bijagós archipelago, made up of 88 islands that are globally important reservoirs of biodiversity. This territory serves as a maternity ward for endangered species and is on the migratory route of 31 bird species that search for food in the intertidal zone. This undisturbed wildlife paradise has been listed by UNESCO as a biosphere reserve since 16 April 1996.

The total population of the Bijagós archipelago is approximately 30 thousand inhabitants. Of these, 90% belong to the Bijagó ethnic group and live in communities characterized by matriarchal dynamics where solidarity is indisputable and old age is respected and protected.

These populations live in harmony with nature and build brick and straw houses in the *tabancas* (villages) concentrated in the center of the islands. Subsistence is ensured through agriculture and fishing. They consider waste a crime and believe that the gods manifest themselves in nature and punish those who destroy it.

## Documentary - Neram N'Dok

*Neram N'Dok* is a Bijagó expression that means "take and keep with you".

This documentary presents the participatory management process of a marine protected area on the Urok Islands, in the Bijagós Archipelago.

Available to view with English subtitles here: <https://vimeo.com/131428541>



**We are holding a second-hand market in Merano. We look forward to seeing you in Piazza del Grano on Friday 29th March 2024. It will also be an opportunity to see the school project. Come and visit us!**

The money raised will help to support the construction of a new school in the village of Sincha Alfa. You can also donate to this project by making a transfer to the dedicated bank account of the Centro di Ricerca e Formazione sull'Intercultura ([www.centrocultura.net](http://www.centrocultura.net)).

Cassa Raiffeisen della Valle Isarco  
Conto Sostegno Guinea Bissau

**IBAN: IT19Y0830758221000300235911**

**BIC e SWIFT: RZSBIT21007**

**If you work in Italy, you can also allocate your 5x1000 to the Association by entering the following code in your tax declaration:  
02447760212**

Thank you for your support!

To learn more about this initiative and its progress, you can visit the following webpage:

<https://sostegnoguineabissau.weebly.com/>