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PLATAFORMA DE PAZ E SEGURANÇA DE CABO DELGÁDO



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Strengthening Youth Resilience Against Violent Extremism in Northern Mozambique

- Social and Behavioral Change Communication (SBC) Campaigns Focused on Youth and Women in the Youth Hubs of Montepuez, Chiúre, and Palma



Credits: DW

Context

Supported by the Open Society Foundation, the project “Strengthening Youth Resilience Against Violent Extremism in Northern Mozambique” is led by the Center for Democracy and Human Rights (CDD). This initiative is part of a broader set of actions that CDD

has been implementing in northern Mozambique to promote resilience and social cohesion in a region affected by violent extremism since October 2017. Specifically, this project aims to combat violent extremism (VE) in Cabo Delgado by enhancing community resilience centered on

youth in the districts of Montepuez, Chiúre, and Palma. The intervention draws on evidence from previous programs that address the risks and vulnerabilities of natural disaster victims and how to build resilience at structural, community, and individual levels. Anchored in a rights-based perspective, the project seeks to catalyze prevention and resilience in Cabo Delgado by building trust and dismantling narratives that promote violent extremist organizations (VEOs) and their recruitment pathways.

The theoretical framework of this project is based on three main aspects: (i) behavior change among individuals considered at risk, especially youth and women; (ii) enhancing community capacities to resist and mitigate violence; and

(iii) applying effective human security approaches to prevent extremism. The second set of project activities focuses on increasing the capacity of youth to resist and reject violent extremist narratives. In this context, youth leadership and action are fundamental to stopping recruitment. These activities take place in youth centers and aim to strengthen capacities, build trust, and enable inclusive participation of youth in decision-making at the district level. This is crucial for countering insurgent narratives of state failure and abandonment. As part of the project, CDD plans to implement Social and Behavioral Change Communication (SBC) campaigns focused on youth and women in the Youth Hubs of Montepuez, Chiúre, and Palma.

Objective

To implement Social and Behavioral Change Communication (SBC) campaigns through the Youth Hubs in Montepuez, Chiúre, and Palma, focusing on youth and women, to promote robust community resilience against violent extremism.

Expected Results

- **Active and Engaged Participation:** Significant increase in the participation of youth and women in community initiatives, pro-

moting robust and continuous involvement in local activities.

- **Strengthening Community Resilience:** Enhanced community resilience in Montepuez, Chiúre, and Palma, with a special emphasis on empowering youth and women to face and mitigate the impacts of violent extremism.

Methodology

A Powerful and Inclusive Approach to Community Resilience

Our approach is grounded in active and inclusive participation, involving detailed community consultations and close collaboration with local stakeholders. This methodology ensures that every voice is heard and that the needs and perspectives of the communities are fully incorporated into our initiatives.

We utilize evidence-based Social and Behavioral Change (SBC) techniques, ensuring the effectiveness of our messages and engagement strategies. By leveraging proven methods and real-world data, we design campaigns that not only inform but also inspire action and foster

positive change.

To maximize reach and impact, we disseminate our messages through community radios and social media. These channels allow us to connect directly with our target audience, ensuring that information is delivered in an accessible and relevant manner.

Our target audience includes youth and women from Montepuez, Chiúre, and Palma, as well as community leaders, youth groups, civil society organizations, and local authorities. By focusing on these groups, we aim to strengthen community resilience and empower individuals to resist and combat the influences of violent extremism, promoting a safer and more cohesive society.



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