



Call for Proposals

Mapping the Influence of External Actors on Human Rights in Mozambique

1. Introduction

We invite researchers, organizations, and institutions to submit proposals for a study aimed at mapping the influence of external actors on human rights in Mozambique. This research project seeks to identify and analyze the roles and impacts of various international entities, including governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), multinational corporations, and other foreign actors, on the human rights landscape in Mozambique.

Mozambique's wealth of critical and strategic minerals has attracted the attention of numerous investors. The country is increasingly seen as a key player in the clean energy transition, making it a prime target for potential malign actors.

Malign interference can be characterized as an activity that occurs through covert means that obfuscate the role of the state directing the activity, is not per national legislation, is conducted through coercive means, or seeks to create confusion among the population through efforts of disinformation (Nouwens and Neill, 2022: vii).

With a long coastline and poorly controlled borders, Mozambique is susceptible to external influences and malign activities. However, the extent of direct or indirect involvement of these actors in the exploration of strategic minerals in Mozambique remains unclear. Meanwhile, Mozambique is recognized as a gateway for methamphetamine trafficking from Southwest Asia to Southern Africa. Furthermore, along with the ongoing military insurgency in northern Mozambique and the recruitment of mercenaries from various regions, allegations have emerged regarding external interference in electoral processes and human rights violations in companies operated by foreign and domestic entities.

The aim of the research is to understand the current scenario of malign influence in Mozambique, including vulnerabilities in responding to these. The research should focus on the analysis of existing policies, legal and extralegal instruments and legal practices in the field of investments and human rights.

Objectives

The main objectives of this research are:

- Map the involvement of malignant actors in Mozambique (their tactics and strategies);
- Improve Mozambican society's understanding of the modus operandi of malignant actors;
- Increase the awareness of parliamentarians, political decision-makers and civil society about the impact of malign actors on democratic governance in Mozambique;
- Contribute to the protection of human rights, cooperation with local authorities and impact on affected communities.

Scope of Work

The study should cover, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Analysis of policies, legal and extralegal instruments and legal practices associated with the influence of evil influences;
- Collaboration between various stakeholders to build resilience and combat the influence of malignant actors;
- Knowledge, resources and networks to address the intricate challenges posed by disinformation, corruption and other forms of malign influence;
- Role of parliamentarians and political decision-makers on the impact of malign actors on democratic governance in Mozambique;
- Socio-economic and political effects of the action of evil actors in Mozambique;
- Perceptions of the Mozambican population regarding the modus operandi, tactics, of evil actors;
- The capacity of civil society to defend itself against the use of legal and extralegal coercive measures by malignant actors;
- Protection of human rights, cooperation with local authorities and impact on affected communities;
- Potential and real cyber threats.

Deliverables

The selected proposal is expected to deliver:

- A comprehensive research report (max 20 pages) detailing findings and analysis of the role of malign actors, their role and tactics, as well as existing vulnerabilities to malign influence..
- An executive summary (2-3 pages) highlighting key findings and recommendations.
- A presentation (PowerPoint or similar) summarizing the study for dissemination at stakeholder meetings.
- Periodic progress reports (weekly) during the research process.

Proposal Submission Requirements

Interested applicants should submit the following:

- A detailed proposal (maximum 10 pages) including methodology, work plan, and budget.
- A summary of relevant experience and qualifications of the research team.
- Examples of previous work related to human rights or similar fields.
- Timeline for completion of the project.

Eligibility

Proposals are welcome from:

- Academic and research institutions.
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- Independent researchers with relevant expertise.
- Consortiums of the above entities.

Funding and Support

A grant will be awarded to the selected proposal to cover research costs. The amount of funding will be determined based on the proposed budget and scope of work.

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting applications is 10 days from the date of publication of the ToR. The applications must be sent to CDD by email to info@cddmoz.org

Maputo, 31st May, 2024