

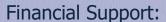


## **LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT**

# Promotion of Human Rights in a Business Environment and Judicial Sector Action in Northern Mozambique

November 7, 2022 Maputo City, IPAJ Conference Room







Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

#### 1. Framework

The abuses and violations of human rights in companies, mainly in agricultural investment projects and natural resources, is a reality in Mozambique. For example, the Mozambican Bar Association (OAM), in its Report on Human Rights in Mozambique for the period of 2018 to 2019, states that the rights of communities where extractive industry projects are implemented (coal, oil and gas) remain far from being respected, as there are, among other things, situations of non-compliance with resettlement plans, failure to implement social responsibility measures, lack of transparency in the allocation and management of benefits to local communities, inequality of opportunities and treatment for Mozambicans, inappropriate working conditions, and lack of information.

In Mozambique, the general legal framework for human rights and business is governed by the Constitution of the Republic of Mozambique (CRM). Under the terms of the Constitution, the Republic of Mozambique is a rule of law, based on pluralism of expression, democratic political organization, respect and guarantee of fundamental human rights and freedoms" (article 3). Therefore, the perspective is that companies respect these fundamental rights and freedoms and if they do not respect them, they will be held accountable (as a last resort) or made aware of doing so, although there is no clear provision in the Constitution that allows an individual or community to bring an action directly against a company that has violated human rights.

The main institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in Mozambique are the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary branches. This institutional framework also includes relevant public institutions, such as the Public Ministry (PGR), the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), the Ombudsman, the Mozambican Bar Association (OAM), the courts and the Police of Republic of Mozambique (PRM).

The actions and mechanisms of intervention of each of these institutions in the promotion, respect, protection, and realization of human rights are the main reason that led the Center for Democracy and Development (CDD) and the Legal and Judiciary Training Center (CFJJ) to prepare the project "Promotion of Human Rights in a Business Environment and Judicial Sector Action in Northern Mozambique".

The initiative comes in a context in which the human rights situation in Mozambique tends to become increasingly worrying, with civil, political, and economic rights at high risk. Its focus is on actions and intervention mechanisms of the institutions responsible for the promotion, respect, protection and realization of human rights and the training of human rights defenders.

It is within this context that the CDD and the CFJJ hold the launch event of the Project on "Promotion of Human Rights in a Business Environment and Judicial Sector Action in Northern Mozambique". The project aims to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of action of the ombudsmen, human rights defenders, companies, and other actors in matters of human rights in the business environment.

#### 2. Event Objectives

Thus, the specific objectives of the event are as follows:

- Disseminate the Project to the main intervention and support actors in the area of human rights, right to development and promotion of the rights of disadvantaged and vulnerable people.
- Share the general lines of the Project with the different actors that act for the promotion and defense of human rights in Mozambique, mainly in the context of the implementation of investment projects in the areas of natural resources and extractive industry.
- Identify potential partners for cooperation and implementation of the Project.

#### 3. Event date and location

The event will take place on November 7, 2022, at the IPAJ Conference Room, in Maputo City.

#### 4. Format, participants and program

The event will be a hybrid (in person and virtual through the Zoom Meeting Platform), with live broadcast on CDD and CFJJ social networks.

Participants include representatives of the Government, the administration of justice system, cooperation partners, the private sector, academics, and civil society.

### 5. Program

| Hour        | Activity/theme  | intervener                    |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 08:30-08:55 | Entrance and registration of participants   | Protocol                      |
| 08:55-09:00 | Entrance of Presidium Members   | Protocol                      |
| 09:00-09:05 | Words of greetings and presentation of the event program  | MC                            |
| 09:05-09:15 | Welcome notes and event background by CDD Executive Director                                    | Prof. Adriano<br>Nuvunga      |
| 09:15-09:25 | Presentation of the general lines of the Project by the Excellency Director-General of the CFJJ | Dr. Elisa Samuel<br>Boerekamp |

| 09:25-09:35 | Cultural moment by a newly graduated CFJJ judge: poetry recitation on human rights and business             | Dr. Emerson<br>Mutombene  |
|-------------|---|---------------------------|
| 09:35-09:45 | Intervention by the UNDP representative   | UNDP<br>Representative    |
| 09:45-09:55 | Intervention by the representative of the Swiss Embassy   | Dr. Mauricio Sulila       |
| 09:55-10:05 | Project launch speech by Her Excellency<br>the Minister of Justice, Constitutional and<br>Religious Affairs | Dr. Helena Mateus<br>Kida |
| 10:05-10:15 | Occasion photo  | All                       |
| 10:15-11:00 | coffee  | All                       |