



VPSHR

VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLES
SECURITY
AND HUMAN RIGHTS

IN CABO DELGADO BULLETIN

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE

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Platform for Dialogue: Business, Security and Human Rights in Cabo Delgado

Raise awareness and widen dialogue on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights to build trust and share international best practice.

Situation

Although Cabo Delgado is home to an abundance of mineral resources, combined with massive foreign investments, the province is destabilised by a poorly understood and rapidly evolving violent conflict with historical, regional religious and ethnic influences, interlinked with illicit trade. The resulting megaprojects to develop resources are potential economic game-changers for Mozambique and its people. However, the conflict poses an increasing threat to the success of the megaprojects and the subsequent economic returns for the well-being of the nation.

Furthermore, the conflict seriously impacts human rights and security. National security responses have been unable to contain the conflict and, on a number of instances, have

exacerbated the situation by targeting already disaffected communities through serious human rights abuses. Major international companies continue to rely on the State and its security forces for protection, with organised forces formally dedicated to projects in return for logistic support. Ultimately, the association between the national security sector and major companies is deep-rooted in attempts to mitigate the threat, yet the application of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPSHR) by the various stakeholders is rarely evident. Therefore, there is a clear need to minimise the risk of human rights abuses and security related incidents on communities, through embracing and implementing VPSHR, which is also likely to impact mega-project success and economic prosperity.

Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

The purpose of the project, supported by the Government of the United Kingdom, is to promote and facilitate effective implementation of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights in Mozambique, with a particular focus on Cabo Delgado province, to minimise the risk of human rights abuses and security related incidents on communities and promote transparency and good corporate social responsibility practices.

The aim of the project is to raise awareness and widen the dialogue on the Voluntary Principles, to build trust, share international best practice, and agree on practical next steps that all parties can take to strengthen implementation of the VPSHR in Cabo Delgado and wider Mozambique.

With support from the British High Com-

mission, CDD will convene a set of activities to advance this purpose. These activities will take place during the first quarter of 2021 and will entail workshops in Maputo and Pemba, with supporting webinars and consultations before and after the workshops, aimed at delivering five outputs:

- Widening the dialogue and raising VPSHR awareness, education and training components;
- Sensitisation and improved understanding of the application VPSHR in the Cabo Delgado context;
- Stakeholder assessments and roadmap development;
- Stakeholder engagement in follow-up training webinars and one-to-one consultations to implement roadmaps.

Presenters:

- CDD Team;
- British High Commission, representatives of other Governments and members of the VPSHR initiative;
- International VPSHR expertise to share lessons learned;
- Experts and observers.

Programme of activities:

- Details to follow. Please pre-register your interest with CDD by email to this address: ilidio.nhantumbo@cddmoz.org



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