

## Workshop Report

### Platform for Dialogue: Resolving Conflict in Cabo Delgado (Pemba, Cabo Delgado, 13-14 October 2021)

- *Dialogue, strategy, and positive alternatives to violent extremism*
- *Ensuring the accountability of military forces*

#### Summary:

##### **Outputs achieved:**

- Buy-in from government (national and provincial) to commence resolution dialogue.
- Stakeholder participation equal to expectations.
- Stakeholder perspectives and concerns shared, and interests recognised.
- Stakeholder knowledge of conflict resolution best-practice improved.

##### **Outcomes achieved:**

- Communications and trust between multiple stakeholders improved.
- Traction for further interventions realised.
- A basis for local problem-solving established.
- Awareness raised on the need for greater accountability of national and multinational military forces, in accordance with Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law.

##### **Next steps (November 2021):**

- Consultative conference with government, diplomatic, multilateral, and private sector representatives in Maputo to share workshop findings, discuss strategic coordination and outline future intentions.
- Resolution Dialogue (2), Pemba; with additional faith-based and community focused initiatives. Establishing a baseline for consistent and progressive resolution dialogue.

##### **Recommendations:**

###### To the International Community:

- Provide donor support to the next steps identified above. Take a leadership role in donor and international coordination to continue the important work around conflict resolution.

###### To the Government of Mozambique (Ministry of Defence):

- Continue to champion and support resolution dialogue, widening the participation and engagement to military commanders involved in military operations in Cabo Delgado.

###### To the multilateral organisations (SADC, UN agencies):

- Actively support and participate in resolution dialogue, as recommended above, as key regional and international stakeholders, advocating for the effective coordination of conflict resolution initiatives.

###### To Civil Society:

- Actively support and participate in this initiative; 'mainstream' resolution dialogue in provincial interventions and community engagements.

###### To the Private Sector (international and local):

- Actively support and participate in this initiative; be prepared to champion and sponsor 'local solutions to local problems' and work collaboratively with multiple stakeholders.

## 1. Introduction

Following several weeks of stakeholder consultations and approval processes, CDD conducted a conflict resolution workshop in Pemba on 13-14 October 2021 under the banner “*Platform for Dialogue: Conflict Resolution in Cabo Delgado*”. The workshop was preceded by a preparatory webinar on 16 September 2021, “*Examining Conflict Resolution Initiatives in Cabo Delgado and Discussing Future Courses of Action*” (**Attachment 1**), and CDD’s “*Conflict Resolution Series*” briefings that were initiated in April 2021<sup>1</sup> as a precursor to dialogue and designed to stimulate debate.

## 2. Aim and objectives

A comprehensive description is provided in the workshop announcement at **Attachment 2**.

### **Aim:**

Provide a multistakeholder platform for resolution dialogue, encouraging “*local solutions to local problems*” to promote stability and accountability, and reduce the risk of violence to communities in Cabo Delgado.

### **Objectives:**

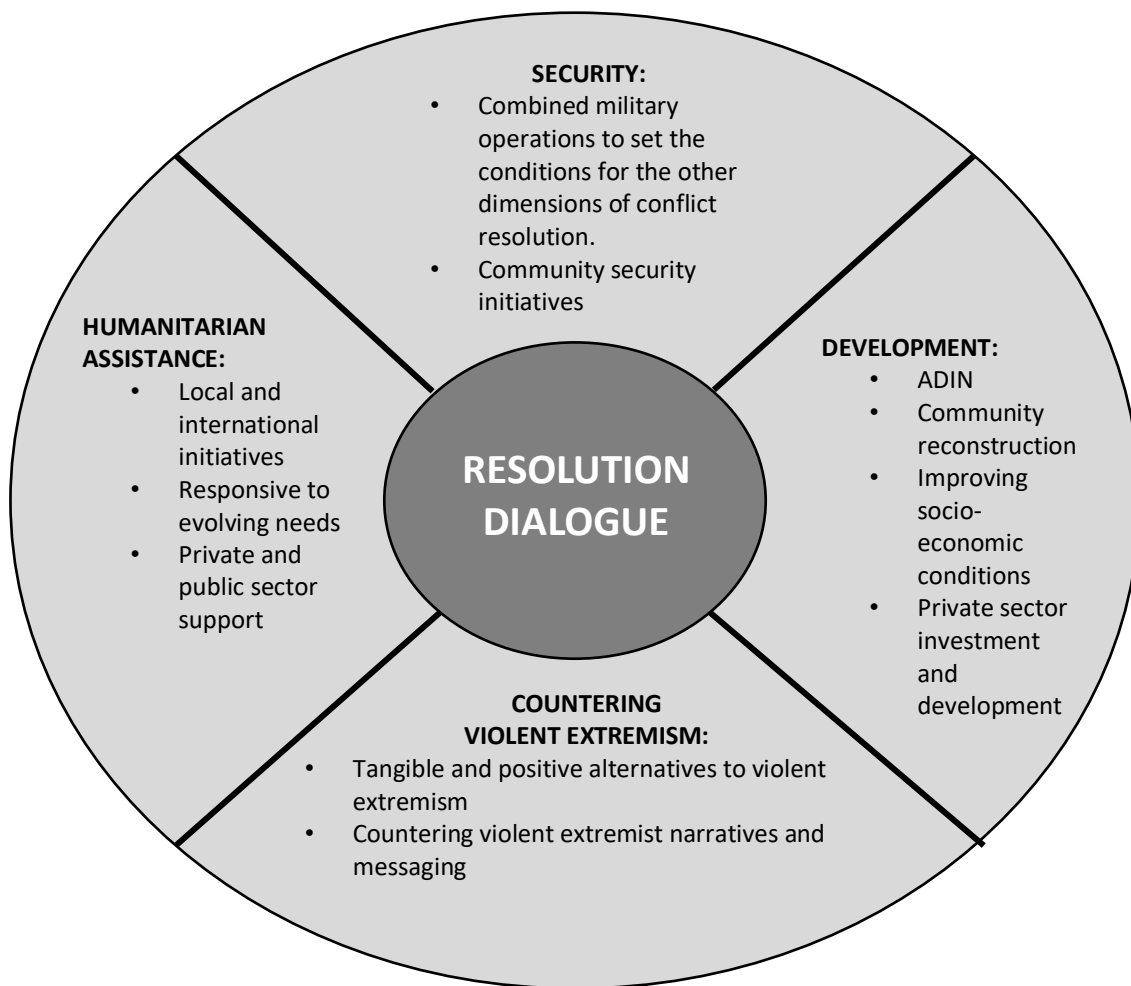
- Establish a locally based multistakeholder platform in Cabo Delgado to facilitate resolution dialogue; engaging with government (national and provincial - political, security and development focused), communities, civil society, faith-based organisations, the private sector (international investors and local business communities), and international missions/organisations.
- Build trust and establish constructive relationships and dialogue between stakeholders.
- Encourage multistakeholder conflict resolution strategies, with a particular focus on “*local solutions to local problems*” to end violence, promote the return of displaced communities, foster conflict-sensitive LNG development (that recognises the interests of the communities in Cabo Delgado) and further private sector investment.
- Promote sustainable peace through fostering a range of development initiatives to improve local socio-economic conditions, thereby empowering the communities to enhance poverty reduction and self-reliance.
- Raise awareness on the need for greater accountability of national and multinational military forces, in accordance with Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law.

<sup>1</sup> There are currently seven Conflict Resolution Series briefings:

1. Resolving conflict in Cabo Delgado: what is resolution dialogue?
2. Resolving conflict in Cabo Delgado: terminology, tools, and processes
3. Preventing and countering violent extremism
4. Risks and opportunities: the use of combined operations against violent extremism in Cabo Delgado
5. Negotiating with violent extremists in Cabo Delgado
6. Seizing the moment: next steps to resolve conflict in Cabo Delgado
7. Strategy development and defining success: a blueprint for conflict resolution in Cabo Delgado

### 3. Methodology (see also Attachment 2)

The workshop was the first major step in CDD’s resolution dialogue initiative, which is a central part of a strategy to minimise security related incidents on communities and set conditions for public and private sector development. Fundamental to this approach is the configuration of a legitimate multistakeholder dialogue to improve communications; share perspectives and interests; foster common understanding and trust; and solve conflict-related problems. Dialogue also fosters a multi-dimensional strategy for conflict resolution, which is illustrated in the diagram below. The implementation of this approach, combined with improving coordination between conflict resolution stakeholders, will be an area of focus for future resolution dialogue.



### 4. Attendance

Attendees (in Pemba) included (inter alia) the following, with over 100 additional attendees watching proceedings online through a zoom link and CDD TV:

- Governor of Cabo Delgado
- MoD policy representative
- PRM provincial police commander
- ADIN provincial representative

- Representatives from:
  - Political parties
  - IOM
  - Total Energies
  - Saipem (CCS JV)
  - Several local civil society organisations

Also attending, as presenters:

- Vamoz (humanitarian volunteers)
- Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (Preventing Violent Extremism)
- Association of Protection of Women and Girls (Pemba)
- Aga Khan Foundation
- Tanzanian research specialist
- Open Society Foundation
- Local business leaders
- CDD advisors

## 5. Stakeholder Responses:

The details of the main presentation and discussion points can be found in CDD's initial public reports, which can be found at **Attachments 3 and 4**. Additional stakeholder responses, resulting from dialogue included:

- Concerns over the situation in Tanzania and its impact on the conflict in Cabo Delgado (a first realisation, and improved awareness, for many of the influences emanating from Tanzania).
- Encouraging next steps to develop a strategic working group / coordination group, as there seems to be multiple independent organisational / component strategies, yet no overriding coherence or rationality.
- Further understanding of the motives and mindsets of violent extremists by national actors is required. There remains significant and diverse understanding of the drivers of conflict, and a lack of comprehension because of false or contradictory narratives.
- Major concerns over continued socio-economic deprivation and a lack of livelihood opportunities, with frustrations among the youth increasing. There is also a need for the youth to 'exercise citizenship'.
- Frustrations over a lack of 'local-local' content (opportunities in Cabo Delgado resulting from LNG development). Also, agreement that when LNG resumes opportunities and investments must be more Cabo Delgado-centric.
- It is critical that safety, security, prosperity, and resilience-related conditions are implemented to persuade IDPs to return to conflict-affected districts. There is an urgent need to coordinate the implementation of these conditions.
- The need to coordinate and deconflict P/CVE initiatives, given there are an increasing number of donor-sponsored initiatives in this field.
- The implementation of a Human Rights Monitoring Mechanism is vital, not just to ensure state obligations are met, but as a tool of conflict resolution (since so much community disaffection is caused by the abusive actions of national military / security forces)
- There was a strong call for access to remedy and transitional justice.

## 6. Next Steps

To sustain the momentum achieved so far, through the workshop and preparatory activities, resolution dialogue needs to focus at two levels:

- Greater coordination to ensure a coherent resolution strategy is developed and implemented to achieve sustainable peace, through the approval and support of government authorities; international donor backing; and multilateral organisation and private sector participation.
- Multistakeholder resolution dialogue from provincial to community levels to identify and develop *local solutions to local problems*, feeding and bolstering strategy coordination at the higher level.

To progress these agendas, the following events are being planned for November 2021, in order to establish the conditions for consistent and progressive resolution dialogue into 2022.

- A consultative conference in Maputo involving government, diplomatic, multilateral, and private sector representatives to share workshop findings, discuss strategic coordination and outline future intentions (***week 8-12 November 2021***).
- Platform for Dialogue: Conflict Resolution in Cabo Delgado (2): a second Pemba-based workshop; with additional faith-based and community focused initiatives (***week 22-26 November 2021***).

The situation in Cabo Delgado is dynamic and sensitive to multiple influences. Resolution dialogue is also a dynamic process and must be responsive to changing circumstances and attitudes. Therefore, building on the outcomes of the sessions planned for November 2021, and combining a nuanced understanding of the evolution of the conflict, CDD intends to design resolution dialogue for the first quarter of 2022 by mid-December 2021.

### Attachments:

1. Conflict resolution webinar 1 (16 September 2021)
2. Workshop announcement; Resolving Conflict in Cabo Delgado
3. Initial public report: *“Social cohesion, economic stability, and inclusion of local youth in employment opportunities are essential in the fight against violent extremism.”*
4. Secondary public report: *“Winning the hearts and minds of communities, prioritising dialogue over confrontation and not putting business before human rights is fundamental to resolving the conflict.”*