

## SOCIAL COHESION PROGRAM

# CDD empowers youth to catalyze social cohesion in northern Mozambique

- As part of the Program “Civil Society Actions for Social Cohesion in Northern Mozambique”, the Center for Democracy and Development (CDD) carried out, between July 25th and 30th, the pilot training of 30 young people from the Youth Hub of Angoche, Nampula Province. The launching of the training was witnessed by the local governance structures, with emphasis on the district government, representation of the education district services, representation of the economic activities district services, as well as the municipal authorities.





**W**ith this initiative, CDD intends to provide the youth from the Youth Hub of Angoche with different skills, structured in five modules, namely:

- I. Civic Engagement** - with this module it is intended to provide a technical introduction to youth on basic rights and forms of political participation in order to ensure that they are able to participate fully and effectively in all aspects in their communities;
- II. Conflict Resolution and Negotiation** - this module aims to enable participants to be able to distinguish between different kinds of sources of conflicts, to prevent and address them. Enable participants to understand and negotiate;
- III. Leadership** - to strengthen the skills of young people as potential leaders to actively participate in civic movements and decision-making bodies at the local level;
- IV. 21st Century Skills** - this module aims to
- V. Entrepreneurship and Community Development Projects** - with this module we intend to provide young people with the necessary skills to identify scarce resources in the district or municipality where they live and transform them into business opportunities; to promote in young people the culture of self-employment so that they can contribute to the development of their communities; and to support them in exploring the capacities and potentialities that their district or municipality offers.

During the six days of training, the young people showed their potential and committed themselves to act as agents of change for the development of their communities. Social cohesion is a prerequisite for economic development and the consolidation of democracy. A cooperative society is characterized by resilient social



relationships, a positive emotional connection between its members and the community, and a focus on the common good. Building cohesion among individuals and groups can help in reducing the social cleavages and marginalization that motivate people, especially young people, to engage in violent extremism <sup>1</sup>.

Indeed, social cohesion is an important determinant of a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous nation. It creates stronger bonds within and between different groups and fosters greater trust in government institutions. Strengthening or promoting social cohesion needs to be an integral part of government policy and civil society engagement in countries where various identity groups share the geographical space. It is even more important when there is a history or current context of conflict, hostility or mistrust between different identity groups or between the state and its citizens.

Cabo Delgado Province in northern Mozam-

bique has been the scene of a violent and destructive conflict since 2017. Young people are disproportionately at risk of violent extremism, particularly in situations where they have little to lose. Youth are the group most commonly identified as vulnerable to radicalization and recruitment. In Mozambique, the challenges of poverty, unemployment, low levels of participation in governance, and lack of inclusive development are glaring.

It is precisely to strengthen social cohesion in Northern Mozambique and to respond to these and other challenges that CDD and its partners (IESE and MASC Foundation) are implementing the Social Cohesion Program, with the support of the Swiss Embassy in Mozambique. The Program is being implemented in the three (3) Northern Provinces (Nampula, Niassa and Cabo Delgado). In Nampula, the Social Cohesion Program focuses on the districts of Moma and Angoche.

<sup>1</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/niger/mobilizing-communities-build-social-cohesion-and-reduce-vulnerability-violent-extremism-evidence-peacebuilding-program-niger>



# CDD. Juventude



## EDITORIAL INFORMATION

**Propriedade:** CDD – Centro para Democracia e Desenvolvimento  
**Director:** Prof. Adriano Nuvunga  
**Editor:** Emídio Beula  
**Autor:** Américo Maluana  
**Equipa Técnica:** Emídio Beula, Dimas Sinoa, Américo Maluana  
**Layout:** CDD

**Address:**  
 Rua de Dar-Es-Salaam Nº 279, Bairro da Sommerschild, Cidade de Maputo.  
 Telephone: +258 21 085 797

CDD\_moz  
**E-mail:** info@cddmoz.org  
**Website:** http://www.cddmoz.org

### PROGRAMMATIC PARTNER



### FINANCING PARTNERS

