

SOCIAL COHESION IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE

Youth Hubs training curriculum discussed and validated at Rovuma University (UNIROVUMA)

- The CDD held, on 18 August, at the UNIROVUMA Campus, in the city of Nampula, the presentation and validation event of the training curriculum of the Youth Hubs/Youth Centres, under the Social Cohesion Programme.



The event to discuss and validate the Youth Hubs curriculum was attended by around 50 participants, including academics, university students and youth association leaders.

Youth Hubs are formal and/or informal spaces

for youth empowerment. Youth Hubs offer a wide range of programmes in a network of safe spaces where members are free to socialise and learn new skills, helping to develop identities and unlocking their potential. With a district focus, the



Youth Hubs approach includes capacity building, resources, networking and engagement with state and non-state authorities. The capacity building dimension of Youth Hubs revolves around the so-called 21st Century skills which include: cognitive, interpersonal and intrapersonal.

In general terms, the Youth Hubs training curriculum developed by CDD aims to unlock the transformative potential of young people and catalyse collective action for social cohesion in northern Mozambique. In specific terms, the objectives of the curriculum are as follows:

- To empower young people with cognitive, interpersonal and intrapersonal skills;
- To enable young people to participate actively in governance processes;
- To stimulate civic action in young people

and create an environment in which they take a leading role in the transformation and development of local communities.

The Youth Hubs are the main learning spaces for young people aged between 14 and 21, both in and out of school. Young people are encouraged to be the leading actors in order to engage in dialogue with the authorities and other groups. The training offered serves not only to strengthen the capacities of young people, but is also an element that provides opportunities to build knowledge for life, for work and to strengthen citizenship. The aim is to train autonomous, enterprising, participative, supportive and competent young people who know how to use their potential to serve the community and participate in local development.

1. training modules of the Youth Hubs

The training of young people includes five modules, namely: i) Youth Civic Engagement, Rights and Political Participation; ii) Conflict Resolution and Negotiation; iii) Leadership for Change; iv) 21st Century Skills; v) Entrepreneurship and Community Development Projects.

i) Civic Engagement, Rights and Youth Participation: This training module provides technical guidance on the skills that should

be achieved by students and community youth in the transition from school to the world. The training module is prepared to help youth policy makers, professional trainers, other training facilitators and the youth community improve their skills. Youth rights, civic engagement and political participation are some of the basic rights of youth. Raising awareness of youth in this regard is a responsibility of policy

makers. This effort will help in formulating a youth-centric development system. This training module hopes to introduce a youth development approach where youth rights are safeguarded.

ii) Conflict Resolution and Negotiation: It is intended to provide practical tools to enable young people in Youth Hubs to acquire and develop skills to identify conflict hotspots and seek ways for their mitigation and resolution. Young people should be intermediaries of the promotion of dialogue between parties in conflict and create opportunities for people to talk, identify their needs and think of actions capable of meeting them. Therefore, this training module will enable young people to become mediators in their own communities using traditional and modern methods of conflict resolution.

iii) Leadership for Change: This module aims to provide a tangible resource for young leaders and peace-builders in the Northern region of Mozambique on how to use their social mobilization capacity as community leaders to further contribute to peace-building and social cohesion. This module will instill in the youth the idea and spirit of entrepreneurship, innovation, commitment, belief, determination and sacrifice - which are the key elements that

shape a leader for change.

iv) 21st Century Skills: As future leaders of families, communities and government it is imperative that young people develop the necessary skills to succeed in work and life. Education that promotes innovation must be innovative and flexible - employing a variety of tools and new educational approaches, including state of the art and technologies and, most importantly, involving businesses and other relevant stakeholders. This module will train young people to be able to have their own ideas and projects and to learn by doing. This is how they will be prepared to drive innovation and come up with new ideas that can turn into successful businesses.

v) Entrepreneurship and Community Development Projects: There are many barriers that affect young people's ability to explore their potential and opportunities to become entrepreneurs in their communities. This module is designed to leverage the potential of youth and transform it into business opportunities and social projects in order to trigger community development. The module includes recommendations on how to produce and implement an entrepreneurship project for local development and how a young person can use social networks to promote their business.

2. Graduates' exit profile

Youth Hub graduates must assume an attitude of impartiality and objectivity. They must also assume the values of citizenship and commitment to the objectives and priorities of local and national development. Thus, Youth Hub graduates will be those young people who are able to:

- Design and implement entrepreneurship projects for local development;
- Work and support other young people in finding solutions to local problems;
- Identify and build strategies to prevent, mitigate and resolve local conflicts;
- Know the spaces for participation and use

them to interact with other young people and with local governments;

- Know how to use social media to promote their development projects;
- Draw up action plans for civic engagement among local authorities and communities;
- Lead consultations with authorities and awareness campaigns to improve local service delivery;
- Actively participate in existing local consultation and accountability forums;
- Identify themselves and sign the Code of Conduct for Life.

During the discussion on the curriculum, university students and youth association leaders praised the initiative and suggested greater interaction with secondary schools and other relevant entities for the successful implementation of the programme.

The Social Cohesion Programme in Northern Mozambique is implemented by CDD, MASC Foundation and IESE, with support from Swiss Cooperation, and covers the provinces of Cabo Delgado (Montepuez and Chiúre), Nampula (Angoche and Moma) and Niassa (Cuamba and Chimbunila).





EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Property: CDD – Centro para Democracia e Desenvolvimento
Director: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga
Editor: Emídio Beula
Author: Américo Maluana
Technical team: Emídio Beula, Dimas Sinoa, Américo Maluana
Layout: CDD

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

Twitter: CDD_moz
E-mail: info@cddmoz.org
Website: <http://www.cddmoz.org>

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