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Implemented by:



Inclusive Participation in Peace and Security (IPPS) in the border area of Mozambique and Tanzania

Since 2017, Northern Mozambique has grappled with violent extremism, causing significant social and economic disruptions. Civilians bear the brunt, facing loss of life, displacement, and persistent vulnerability. This insecurity has also affected neighbouring Tanzania, primarily along the border. Security measures, primarily through military interventions, have yielded mixed results. While some stability has been achieved, the predominantly securitized response has often resulted in further alienation of local communities. The region, already impacted by poverty and neglect, urgently requires more inclusive peace and security approaches to address underlying vulnerabilities and strive for sustainable peace. The EU, in collaboration with the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), funds GIZ to implement the project 'Inclusive Participation in Peace and Security (IPPS) in the border area of Mozambique and Tanzania', aiming to strengthen the engagement of state and non-state actors in peace and security and to promote community resilience of at-risk groups.



Project name	Inclusive Participation in Peace and Security (IPPS)			
Commissioned by	German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)			
Financed by	European Union and GFFO			
Political partner	Mozambique (TBC), Tanzania (TBC)			
Implementing partner	Mozambique: Agency for Integrated Development of the North (Agência de Desenvolvimento Integrado do Norte – ADIN) Tanzania: National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC)			
Implementing agencies	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH			
Project region	Northern Mozambique (Niassa, Cabo Delgado) Southern Tanzania (Mtwara, Rovuma)			
Duration	August 2023 – September 2025			
Budget	Total: 5,000,000 EUR (GFFO: 1,000,000 EUR; EU {Foreign Policy Instrument, FPI} 4,000,000 EUR)			

Background

Mozambique is one of the countries ranking lowest in the Human Development Index (HDI), particularly in the North which is experiencing particularly high levels of poverty despite its natural resource wealth. Historical neglect, economic disparities, extreme poverty, corruption, and political exclusion contribute to this, compounded by educational deficits affecting human capital development in the area where over 45% of the population is youth. Since 2017, an armed conflict initiated by the Islamic State (IS) affiliated 'Al-Shabab' extremist group has claimed over 4,000 lives and displaced 800,000 people to other parts of the country. Ongoing recruitment of children and youth by insurgents, alongside Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), has severely impacted women and children. While military efforts have stabilized the region to some extent, they are viewed as lacking coordination, struggling with low morale, and missing trust from the local population.

The Context

The expansion of the IS network in Africa, although facing substantial constraints in Mozambique, has led to increasingly institutionalized local insurgencies, according to observers. Extremists continue to infiltrate communities, utilizing mosques and schools to spread radical Islam, and attack civilians. To support Mozambique against the insurgents, Rwanda, the Southern African Development Community (SADC Mission In Mozambique, SAMIM), and Tanzania have deployed military forces in Cabo Delgado. Also, the EU has deployed a training mission for the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces (Forças Armadas de Defesa de Moçambique, FADM). While military efforts have allowed the return of over 540,000 individuals to Cabo Delgado, the region continues to grapple with a lack of essential infrastructure and services and continued attacks by OAGs (Organised Armed Groups), leading to recurrent displacements and vulnerabilities for returnees. >>



Photo left: Mozambican military and soldiers from the EU Training Mission (EUTM) handing out learning material to local school children in Cabo Delgado.

Photo right: Young men are supported in improving their livelihoods.



Photo left: Soldier patrols in Mocímboa da Praia, in the Cabo Delgado province, to provide stability for local communities.

Image right: Map of border area between Mozambique and Tanzania, showing Cabo Delgado and Niassa in Mozambique and Ruvuma and Mtwara region in Tanzania.

Tanzania is currently advancing its security efforts by formulating a Counter Terrorism Strategy with the National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC), aiming also to enhance coordination between government bodies and developmental partners within the security sector. Regional initiatives such as the African Union's Counter Terrorism Framework and the SADC Centre for Peacekeeping Training and Counter Terrorism (SADC RCTC) prioritize community-centric approaches to prevent and counter violent extremism. However, challenges persist in implementing comprehensive, multi-level strategies and integrating them into the broader Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) nexus, with women's equal participation and leadership in peace and security processes still overlooked in many initiatives.

The IPPS Project

In response to these challenges, the project focuses on inclusive engagement between security actors and communities and on strengthening community resilience to radicalization and recruitment by extremists, especially among those most at risk. It engages with both state and non-state actors at the hyper-local, national and regional level to foster inclusive peace and security approaches in Northern Mozambique and Southern Tanzania. The project's objective is to strengthen the role of regional and local state and non-state actors in the border area of Mozambique and Tanzania to implement inclusive approaches to prevent and counter violent extremism (P/CVE). The project gives special attention to empowering women and youth, recognizing their vital role in maintaining peace and security.

Project Implementation

Implementation runs from August 2023 to September 2025. The Integrated Development Agency of the North (ADIN) is the key implementing partner in Mozambique. In Tanzania, it is the NCTC. The project's geographical scope includes districts in the provinces Niassa and Cabo Delgado in Northern Mozambique, as well as in

Tanzania's southern regions Mtwara and Rovuma. The main target groups are youth at risk of radicalisation and recruitment, local religious and civil society leaders, especially women associations, as well as government and security actors at hyper-local, national, and regional level.

Project Activities

To address the root causes of conflict and displacement in the region by implementing inclusive approaches to peace and security, the project focuses on three interlinked intervention areas:

- 1. Improving key stakeholders' understanding of local conflict dynamics through research and knowledge sharing**
Support partners to gain a better overview of which initiatives and approaches are existing at various levels as a basis for better alignment and coordination on conflict prevention; provide spaces for knowledge sharing and exchange; collect in-depth information about the realities and challenges on the ground to develop collaborative and synergetic approaches.
- 2. Promoting regional exchange and non-securitized approaches to CVE**
Facilitate exchange between Tanzania and Mozambique, as well as with other regions and provide capacity development on inclusive, gender-responsive approaches to P/CVE for security actors; support the establishment of regional dialogue fora to build a common vision on how to address fragility challenges and their underlying causes.
- 3. Strengthening women and youth resilience at local level**
At local level, support collaborative approaches by state, religious and civil society actors to strengthen women-led initiatives to P/CVE and promote counter narratives and community engagement. To achieve this, collaboration with youth at risk of radicalisation and recruitment, local religious and civil society leaders, especially women associations, as well as government and security actors is conducted.

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