



United Nations  
Office for South-South Cooperation



# GOOD PRACTICES

**in South-South and  
Triangular Cooperation:**

Scaling up  
Made-in-Africa  
Solutions



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Designed by Juan Pablo Ramos Valadez

# FOREWORD

South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) is playing an important role in the global development cooperation architecture for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Indeed, SDG 17 on partnerships recognizes that developing countries and Southern actors can be instrumental in achieving sustainable growth through sharing their knowledge and expertise in development through SSTC. This was reiterated during the Second High-Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40), held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in March 2019, and more recently during the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation (June 2021).

In the context of Africa, the long journey of sustainable development has shifted from initially undertaking foreign solutions to African challenges, to adopting African solutions to African challenges. And thanks to the continent's recent transformations and the contributions of its people, particularly its women and youth, it is now moving towards a narrative of African solutions to global sustainable development challenges.

Against this backdrop, the Regional Bureau for Africa of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) collected and analysed African South-South and innovative development solutions that have the potential to be scaled up in peer African countries. The solutions tackle challenges in key SDG-related areas, such as governance, education, climate change, disaster risk reduction, clean water, renewable energy, agro-food, digital finance, environment and inclusiveness.

As a result, UNDP is proud to present the publication *Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Scaling up Made-in-Africa Solutions*. This was prepared in collaboration with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), which provided advisory support throughout the process. The aim of the publication is to promote and facilitate peer learning and collective efforts among African countries and their development partners in addressing development challenges and building resilience with home-grown solutions.

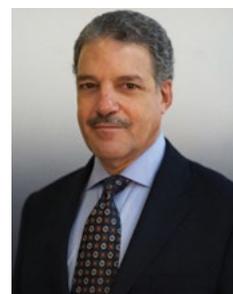
The COVID-19 pandemic has posed a setback in African countries, as it has all over the world. In Africa, at the time of writing, nearly eight million COVID-19 infections have been recorded and almost 200,000 lives lost<sup>1</sup>. The top ten countries account for about 80 per cent of all reported cases in Africa; island nations suffer peculiar impacts; rural-urban differentiation is evident; socioeconomic implications reveal gender biases; and supply-chain disruptions restrain trade growth. Yet, the pandemic has also shown us how quickly African nations can act. It has shown how countries and communities can, when faced with an unprecedented emergency, rally around and show solidarity with one another. For instance, in 2020 more than 20 African countries established a new unit or facility to facilitate the procurement of medical supplies and ensure delivery of public services and government responses to the pandemic. In particular, Southern African Development Community (SADC) Member States established National Emergency Operations Centres and Pooled Procurement Services facility to help coordinate logistics, stockpiling and procurement of medical supplies. This type of Pan-African spirit is a defining feature of South-South and triangular cooperation. The world can learn from these African experiences to build forward better and accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

The publication presented herein builds on the *First African South-South Cooperation Report* released in 2019, which was the first of its kind in demonstrating Africa's achievements in South-South Cooperation. It shows how African countries have developed collaborative solutions through South-South and triangular cooperation for implementation of the SDGs. These solutions are anticipated to inspire governments, the private sector, entrepreneurs, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the general public to adapt, improve and share made-in-Africa and African-tailored good practices to move forward in their SDG achievement journey.



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1 Reuters, as of 31 August 2021. <https://graphics.reuters.com/world-coronavirus-tracker-and-maps/regions/africa>

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# Benin Agribusiness Development Project



## Professionalization of young and women entrepreneurs in the Beninese agro-food sector through material, technical and managerial support

### CHALLENGE

The vast majority of the 150,000 young Beninese who enter the labour market each year, although skilled, do not meet the market's needs, worsening the already high underemployment and unemployment rate of this age group (over 50 percent). The national employment landscape is also marked by a limited entrepreneurial spirit among the youth, most of whom hope for salaried jobs.

The Beninese agricultural sector can be a lever for structural transformation by providing jobs and is a sector in which well-performing businesses can thrive. However, the country's agricultural potential remains stifled by limited access to land, finance and markets for young people, women and small producers. Several initiatives to promote agricultural entrepreneurship have been implemented in Benin, but most have focused on the training component.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Benin Agribusiness Development Project (PDAB) is implemented by a coordination team (a coordinator and a monitoring specialist) under the Directorate of the Agricultural Council, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Training of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Government of Benin and the Government of India.

The PDAB aims to alleviate the problem of youth and women's employment in Benin by enhancing the country's agricultural potential through the development of viable agricultural entrepreneurship, oriented to the promotion of value chains. The project contributes to reduction of underemployment and unemployment through professionalization and the enhancement of the competitiveness of young and women entrepreneurs, small producers and small and



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Benin; India

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

2.3; 2.a; 5.5; 8.2; 8.5; 8.6

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP Benin; Government of Benin; Government of India through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, managed by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Benin's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 - 2021

medium-sized enterprises to supply, distribute and process local agricultural products. The project offers thematic training, advice, facilitates access to information on the agricultural market and to factors of production (especially land and financing) and promotes standards and quality.

The PDAB fosters networking and the capitalization of synergies between small producers, young entrepreneurs and other entities that integrate agricultural product processing value chains. Implementation of the project relies on the expertise of various stakeholders in supporting small and medium-sized enterprises from business formalization to bank financing. The Project Management Unit coordinates the interventions of stakeholders for enhanced public-private collaborations. A mechanism for business profitability and loan repayment has been established.

The project aims to improve beneficiary access to agricultural product markets. In doing so, the incomes of young and women small and medium-sized agricultural enterprises should increase, with a ripple effect on other young job seekers and small producers. Ultimately the attractiveness of agriculture and rural areas should be strengthened, mitigating rural exodus.

Project beneficiaries are selected through calls for expression of interest open to entrepreneurs between 18 and 40 years old who are working in the agro-food sector, primarily in targeted high-added-value sub-sectors (rice, corn, soybeans, cassava, market gardening, fish farming, poultry farming and dairy).

South-South cooperation with India facilitated the mobilization of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund to support incubation services to 101 young agribusiness startups. The project is financed by the Benin Government (\$8 million: 95 percent), UNDP (\$300,000: 3.5 percent) and the India-UN Fund (\$150,000: 1.5 percent). The project envisages future South-South sharing of experiences with other countries (especially in Africa and Latin America) that are investing in their agricultural potential and promoting youth and women entrepreneurship and employment in the agribusiness sector.

Achievements of the project so far are:

- » 1,000 entrepreneurs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the agro-food sector have been selected, trained and affiliated with networks to promote their agribusiness activities;
- » 411 entrepreneurs have been supported to develop agribusiness plans and a financial statement and have been trained on their company's accounting management tools; and
- » 411 entrepreneurs, recruited by the Intermediary in Banking Operations, have undergone negotiations with banks to facilitate access to bank loans and finance their agribusiness plans.



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# Community Seed Banks for Family Farming



Implantação de bancos comunitários de sementes crioulas em áreas de agricultura familiar  
África do Sul, Brasil e Moçambique

## Promoting income generation, community empowerment and agrobiodiversity preservation in Brazil, Mozambique and South Africa

### CHALLENGE

Based on large corporations and intensive monocultures that rely on mechanization and the use of pesticides, commercial seeds and chemical fertilizers to increase productivity, the dominant agricultural development model was propagated in the twentieth century with the intention of solving the problem of world hunger. However, this model has triggered significant socio-environmental imbalances, such as the impracticability of small-scale farming, the gradual impoverishment of agrobiodiversity, the depletion of soils and increased vulnerability of production to atmospheric variations, pests and diseases. In their turn, these imbalances contribute to maintenance of a vicious circle between poverty, hunger and environmental degradation.

Thus, agribusiness has been questioned in terms of its capacity to generate development that is both inclusive and sustainable. Family farming is the main source of food consumed in the world and constitutes the livelihood basis of the majority of the population of African countries (although, paradoxically, most of the poorest people are concentrated in rural areas). By declaring 2014 the “International Year of Family Farming,” the United Nations aimed to increase the visibility of this form of production that plays a key role in food security and sovereignty and that generates employment and income, particularly in the least-developed countries.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

In contrast to the homogenization and simplification of agribusiness cultivation procedures, family farming has been responsible for perpetuating knowledge and practices traditionally developed over time for the selection and improvement of plants and seeds adapted to particular contexts. With energy and industrial-input requirements much lower than those of monocultures, the complex and diversified systems associated with family farming have endured even in hostile environments (such as those subject to drought), thus contributing to the

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, Mozambique, South Africa

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

2.3; 2.5; 2.a; 1.a; 5.b; 15.3; 15.9

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

General Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic (Brazil); Brazilian Institute for Social and Economic Analyses (IBASE); Popular Movement of Small-Scale Farmers (MCP, Brazil); Women Farmers’ Movement (MMC, Brazil); Mozambique’s Ministry of Agriculture; National Union of Small-Scale Farmers (UNAC, Mozambique); Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of South Africa; Trust for Community Outreach and Education (TCOE)

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2009 - 2014

preservation of indigenous genetic and cultural heritage. This is especially relevant considering that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), about 75 percent of agrobiodiversity has disappeared in the last century<sup>1</sup>. In response to this situation, small farmer movements and agroecology scientists have sought to promote the rescue of native seeds – varieties specifically adapted to the place of cultivation – and the associated traditional community practices, in particular seed banks (that ensure seed storage until the next planting) and seed exchange fairs. Rehabilitation and dissemination of such practices by small farmers peasants are among the main challenges to be addressed.

Coordinated by a Brazilian NGO (IBASE), the Community Seed Banks for Family Farming project was the first South-South cooperation project developed by Brazil that was formulated and implemented by social movements. Elaborated with the participation of small farmer organizations and community leaders from Brazil, Mozambique and South Africa, the project trained farmers in procedures for the rescue, multiplication, storage and use of native seeds. Based on the transfer of social and agroecological technologies, the project sought to establish community seed banks and train farmers in seed exchange and trading processes, thus contributing to the organizational and economic strengthening of family farming in Mozambique and South Africa.

Project activities focused on the exchange of professionals for knowledge sharing among the three countries, via technical visits, courses and planting tests with the participation of agronomists experienced in working with small-scale farmer movements. Representatives of Mozambican and South African small-scale farmer movements travelled to Brazil to exchange experiences and learn about native seed planting and harvesting techniques used by Brazilian social movements and, on another occasion, to attend an international seed exchange fair held in the state of Goiás.

Collectively designed by the social movements of the three countries, the training courses involved technicians and small-farmer leaders around themes regarding cultivation and preservation of seeds, as well as cross-cutting subjects related to the organization, functioning, challenges and needs of small-farmer social movements. Course participants were trained on how to disseminate the knowledge acquired so that they could function as multipliers and contribute to the initiative's sustainability. The project took account of gender issues in family farming by including a seminar dedicated to women farmers, conducted by representatives of the Brazilian Women Farmers' Movement. This seminar had an influence on the mobilization and empowerment of women in both Mozambique and South Africa, leading to the creation of specialized structures and events in these countries.

Furthermore, the project trained farmers in the methodology of implementing and operating community seed banks, prepared a catalogue of native seeds present in the areas covered by the project in the two African countries (mainly grains, roots and vegetables) and developed concrete native seed planting experiments. The project results also included recognition by the two involved African governments of the small-farmer social movements and the strengthening of relations between these and the government.

The main distinction of this South-South cooperation project was to have rural social movements from Brazil, Mozambique and South Africa directly involved in the definition of demands and activities and their implementation, which both ensured the initiative's sustainability and promoted the effective strengthening of local economies.

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1 [www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/46803/icode](http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/46803/icode)

# Support for Rural Vocational Training and Social Promotion of Rural Communities



## Fostering higher income and better quality of life for family farmers in Kwanza Sul Province, Angola

### CHALLENGE

Subsistence farming is the predominant agriculture model in Angola, characterized by rudimentary practices and the use of manual tools. Consequently, low crop productivity limits the income and quality of life of small family farmers. In the coastal province of Kwanza Sul, inefficient management of crops has negative consequences for the livelihood of rural families, who end up depending on food imports. The restricted supply of typical local-diet foods thus hinders the food and nutritional security of these communities. Training and professionalization of agriculture technicians and rural producers have the potential to revitalize this productive sector and promote the growth of food production. The main challenge is to adapt more efficient agricultural methods to the characteristics of the Angolan rural environment, as well as to introduce them, through educational actions, in the sociocultural context of traditional communities.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

This South-South capacity-building project was implemented by Brazil's National Rural Learning Service (SENAR), with support from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and Angola's Ministry of Agriculture (Agrarian Development Institute – IDA). The project aimed to promote the improvement of the quality of life of rural communities in the Angolan province of Kwanza Sul. SENAR's technicians adapted the methodology of rural vocational training courses used in Brazil to qualify Angolan farmers and rural workers. Following an initial diagnosis of the local rural working conditions, the technicians included a module on the importance of the correct use of basic personal protection equipment, especially regarding the safe handling of fertilizers. Knowledge was transferred through training provided to 20 technical staff of Angola's Agrarian Development Institute and local agents. Trained as instructors, these resource persons can now disseminate SENAR's methodology to a larger number of family farmers, ensuring the sustained and scalable impact of the project.



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Angola, Brazil

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

2.3; 2.4; 1.a; 4.4; 4.c

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Brazil's National Rural Learning Service (SENAR); Angola's Ministry of Agriculture (Agrarian Development Institute – IDA)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

SENAR

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2009 - 2013

As a result of the capacity-building activities, some basic techniques adapted to the Angolan sociocultural reality have helped improve crop productivity in the communities. For example, family farmers have learned to build and handle a wooden instrument (called pé-de-galinha) that allows them to mark the land with contour lines, a simple solution to protect crops rooted in hilly terrains from rainfall and thus improve agricultural efficiency. Likewise, basic soil-analysis techniques helped guide producers on soil fertility. SENAR's educators conducted training sessions on the use of a hand jab planter (matraca), another very simple and efficient tool for fertilizing and planting in small areas.

The exchange of professionals from the two countries involved two visits of SENAR staff to Angola (between 2010 and 2012) and a visit of 13 Angolan technicians to Brazil (in 2012) to gain first-hand knowledge on rural properties in the state of Paraná. On this occasion, the Angolan delegation also participated in a training programme focused on management and entrepreneurship, as well as in a course on soybean processing for consumption.

This cooperation project has borne fruit in both countries. On the one hand, it transferred agricultural training techniques to Angola, while on the other, it laid the groundwork for SENAR to develop its own methodology for adapting technical assistance and professional training programmes in other developing countries (SENAR now has a unit dedicated to international cooperation).



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# Support to Zimbabwe's Ministry in Charge of Lands and Rural Resettlement



## Enhancing effective implementation of the national land reform programme

### CHALLENGE

Zimbabwe's fast-track land reform programme initiated in the year 2000 transformed the land ownership structure in the country by transferring agricultural land from 6,400 former large-scale commercial farmers to about 163,775 newly resettled farmers. This new structure requires that the land administration system and related policy and regulatory frameworks be strengthened to effectively respond to emerging needs. Otherwise, the expected gains of land reform risk not being achieved. Indeed, challenges that have already arisen include land insecurity, conflicts among farmers, illegal resettlements, environmental degradation and the decline of agricultural productivity and output. Consequently, the country has been experiencing problems such as food insecurity, inadequate supply of raw materials for the industry, job losses, shortage of foreign currency and overall economic decline. Lack of resources and capacities has hampered government efforts to address these challenges.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

This project was implemented by Zimbabwe's Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement (MLAWCRR) and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the European Union. The main objective was to support and strengthen the MLAWCRR and other implementing partners to carry out activities in line with their mandates and in a more effective, efficient and sustainable way. The aim was to accelerate the rehabilitation of the land sector and to improve the regulatory and land management frameworks as prerequisites for the recovery and development of agriculture and other land-based economic activities.

A project management unit was established and housed at the MLAWCRR, while a working group was set up with former commercial farmers to resolve

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, Kenya, Malaysia, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

2.3; 1.4; 16.6

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP; European Union

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Zimbabwe's Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement (MLAWCRR)

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2014 - 2019

outstanding compensation issues. This step helped thaw the relationship between the government and the former farmers. Other key components of the project included:

- » update of farm inventories;
- » development of a consensus-based mechanism for the compensation of former commercial farmers;
- » establishment of an adequate survey-control network;
- » survey of medium-scale farm units (above 100 hectares each) and the update of the land information database;
- » establishment and strengthening of the coordination of the Land Information Management System (LIMS) within the MLAWCRR;
- » development of a dispute resolution framework; and
- » evaluation of land tenure systems and policy recommendations.

The project's specific achievements include the following:

- » 2,881 farm inventories were carried out, providing information for the purposes of determining compensation to former large-scale commercial farmers;
- » 30 MLAWCRR staff were trained in database management and a land database was implemented;
- » five continuously operating reference stations (GPS base stations) were built and are operational, thus cutting the costs and time involved in mapping and surveys;
- » 24 staff of the Department of the Surveyor General (DSG) were trained in image analysis software for using satellite data for mapping;

- » 557 medium-scale farms were surveyed and a draft strategy for surveying the remaining medium-scale farm units was produced;
- » area networks (LANs/WANs) were established at the head offices of the MLAWCRR and DSG, and at the DSG Southerton and Bulawayo offices; 114 officers were trained in LIMS and updated the existing database;
- » MLAWCRR drafted guidelines for a functional and legally supported dispute resolution framework, based on international good practices;
- » a study of land tenure systems and policies was produced to contribute to the development of the National Land Policy Framework; and
- » the Zimbabwe Land Commission was established as a specialized body for dealing with land-related issues and a strategic plan was formulated to underlie its activities, including securing resources for land audits.

South-South study tours to Brazil and Malaysia in 2017 exposed the Zimbabwe Land Commission's commissioners to international experiences and best practices on land reform and tenure issues, including guidelines on how to conduct land audits, which have since been developed and are being implemented in Zimbabwe. Additional South-South study tours to African countries (Kenya, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania) in 2018 provided the commissioners with knowledge about different local land governance provisions and regulations.

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# Voices of Africa (Vozes da África)



## University-extension project for the promotion of food security through family agriculture and agroecology in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

### CHALLENGE

Although less than 10 percent of the 80 million hectares of arable land in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) are currently under cultivation, about 54 percent of the population lives in rural areas<sup>1</sup> and depends primarily on subsistence family farming. Sixty-nine percent of the workforce is employed in agriculture<sup>2</sup>. Yet, against a backdrop of internal instability, the country has not achieved sufficient agricultural performance to meet its domestic food demand. Thus, strengthening the agricultural sector plays a key role in the fight against poverty and hunger and the broader socioeconomic development of the country.

Low productivity of small farms derives from unsustainable agricultural practices, which often trigger deforestation, desertification, loss of biodiversity and degradation of soils, springs and groundwater. Rural communities do not have access to scientific knowledge generated in universities and research centres. When adjusted to local demands, this knowledge can help leverage the country's inherent agricultural potential. Moreover, small producers are not organized in cooperatives, often making it impossible for them to take advantage of collective benefits, notably the safe storage of production and potential economies of scale.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

A South-South cooperation initiative at its core, Voices of Africa is an innovative university extension project implemented by the Federal University of Lavras (UFLA), the Free University of the Great Lakes Countries (ULPGL), the National Institute for Agronomic Studies and Research (INERA, DRC), the University of Kinshasa (UNIKIN), the DRC Ministry of Agriculture and Solidarité Féminine (a community association in Maniema), with support from the Brazilian Cooperation

1 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SPRUR.TOTL.ZS?locations=CD>

2 <https://opportunity.org/our-impact/where-we-work/the-democratic-republic-of-congo-facts-about-poverty>



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

2.3; 2.4; 2.a; 1.a; 17.6; 17.7; 17.9

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Federal University of Lavras (UFLA); Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UFLA; Free University of the Great Lakes Countries (ULPGL); National Institute for Agronomic Studies and Research (INERA, DRC); University of Kinshasa (UNIKIN); DRC's Ministry of Agriculture; Solidarité Féminine

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2011 - Ongoing

Agency (ABC) and the government of the DRC. The project seeks to build the capacity of Congolese teachers and technicians in sustainable socio-environmental technologies that are developed, tested and approved by agroecology. Through the exchange of agriculture professionals from Brazil and the DRC, the initiative proposes the use of simple and viable practices that are appropriate to the local context that can result in a better quality of life for people and preservation of the environment. The initiative largely replicates the Carrancas Project for family agriculture, financed by Brazil's National Council for Scientific and Technological Development and implemented in Brazil by UFLA. The Carrancas Project was recognized in 2012 as a model of economic/social-environmental development by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment.

Fostering the development of agriculture that is economically viable, ecologically sound, socially just and culturally appropriate involves the use of indigenous resources, avoiding high-cost inputs and products. The project emphasizes food security through the production of basic foodstuffs, together with the generation of decent jobs and income that will keep people on their farms, however small they may be, thus discouraging rural exodus and the ensuing formation of vulnerable communities around large cities.

Using a participatory approach, knowledge in the domain of agroecology is transmitted to small producers and family farmers through training workshops held in the communities themselves. The communities that excel in learning are denominated Participatory Experimental Units (UEPs) and become focal points for the dissemination of the acquired knowledge, in a growing spiral format.

Implemented as a pilot initiative in Goma, North Kivu Province, the Voices of Africa project was also taken to the capital Kinshasa and Maniema Province. By the end of 2013, the project had trained 60 Congolese teachers and technicians in agroecology and reached about 3,500 family farmers in areas surrounding Goma, Kinshasa and Kindu (Maniema Province). An agricultural cooperative of small-scale farmers was founded in Butembo, North Kivu Province, and three radio stations were set up to broadcast educational programmes in the province. In addition, ULPGL in Goma started to develop university-extension activities, focusing on agroecology and family farming.

The knowledge generated in academia transcends borders, in this case through university extension activities, participatory dialogue with communities and the training of the professionals engaged in the field, resulting in improved productivity and empowerment of farmers. The Voices of Africa project is currently being replicated in Mozambique, in a partnership between UFLA and the Brazilian NGO *Fraternidade sem Fronteiras*. UFLA is also actively looking for new South-South partnerships to implement a similar project in the Darfur region of Sudan.



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# Global Network of Human Milk Banks



## Sharing knowledge and technologies for the food and nutritional security of newborns and nursing mothers



### CHALLENGE

According to United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) estimates, despite the progress made in recent decades in the global reduction of child mortality and neonatal mortality rates, about 5.2 million children under five died in 2019, with a mortality rate of 37.7 deaths per 1,000 live births. Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be the region with the highest under-five mortality rate in the world—76 deaths per 1,000 live births. In 2019, 1 in 13 children in sub-Saharan Africa died before reaching their fifth birthday, which is 15 times higher than the risk for children born in high-income countries and 20 years behind the world average, which achieved a 1 in 13 rate by 1999. Disparities in child survival abound at the country level as well, where the risk of dying before age five for a child born in the highest-mortality country is about 70 times higher than in the lowest-mortality country and all five countries with mortality rates above 100 deaths per 1,000 live births are in sub-Saharan Africa<sup>1</sup>.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Based on the Brazilian policy and practice of implementing human milk banks, initiated by the Ministry of Health and the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) in the 1980s, the Global Network of Human Milk Banks (rBLH) is an initiative that aims to expand the sharing of knowledge and technologies for the food and nutritional security of newborns and nursing mothers, having the right to health as a core value. Originally structured as a Brazilian network, the rBLH has expanded its scope with the integration of countries with which South-South cooperation activities were developed to transfer principles for the implementation of their own human milk banks (in particular, Angola, Cabo Verde and Mozambique)<sup>2</sup>. The rBLH was recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as one of the initiatives that

1 <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-survival/under-five-mortality>

2 <https://portal.fiocruz.br/en/news/brazil-opens-3rd-human-milk-bank-africa>

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Angola; Brazil; Cabo Verde; Mozambique

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

3.2; 2.2; 17.6

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Ministries of Health of the rBLH participating countries

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz); Brazil’s Ministry of Health

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2010 - Ongoing

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<https://rblh.fiocruz.br/pt-br/pagina-inicial-rede-blh>;  
<http://www.iberblh.icict.fiocruz.br>

has most contributed to human development in the southern hemisphere by promoting practical solutions that are reproduced, expanded and adapted by other countries, following a South-South cooperation approach.

With the mission to support breastfeeding and to collect, process, evaluate, store and distribute human milk, human milk banks can be established with simple and inexpensive technology and in a relatively short time. In addition to their important contribution to increasing newborn-breastfeeding rates and improving neonatal health, the human milk banks generate evidence to improve health-related public policies. The Brazilian experience shows that human milk banks are an effective means to extend the survival of babies born with problems (especially premature babies) and to reduce neonatal mortality (as indicated by the drop in this rate by more than 75 percent between 1990 and 2019<sup>3</sup>).

South-South cooperation for the implementation of a human milk bank involves professional capacity building, provision of specialized equipment and adaptation of physical facilities. Staff training includes courses, such as human-milk processing and quality control and human-milk bank management and information, and internships in the fields of assistance to breastfeeding women and communication and information, among others. Fiocruz and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) jointly provide technical and financial support for the establishment of human milk banks in various parts of the world through the sharing of experiences, knowledge and technologies and the strengthening of local capacities, in accordance with the different socioeconomic and cultural contexts. This approach results in the development of legal frameworks and public policies that complement the technical and scientific dimension of the initiative an essential aspect for the expansion and consolidation of the rBLH.

The establishment and reinforcement of human milk banks in African countries are essential for strengthening their national health systems. The first African human milk bank was installed in 2011 at the Agostinho Neto Hospital in Praia, Cabo Verde, and involved the training of 96 technical staff. In its first year of operation, the local team noted a 50 percent reduction in newborn deaths; between 2011 and 2016, 2,500 babies benefited from breast milk (thanks to the collaboration of 1,928 donors) and 17,499 women were assisted in breastfeeding. The second African human milk bank was implemented in 2018 at the Maputo Central Hospital, Mozambique, and a third one started operating in 2019 at the Lucrecia Paim Maternity Hospital in Luanda, Angola. The other Lusophone African countries and Timor-Leste are expected to also join the rBLH, as envisioned with the creation in October 2017 of the Human Milk Bank Network of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP).

The rBLH plays a key role in fostering the implementation and ensuring

3 <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-survival/under-five-mortality>

the sustainability of human milk banks in its member countries by holding activities such as specific forums and workshops and by promoting the sharing of technical and scientific materials. Examples of such initiatives include a YouTube channel with educational videos, a distance learning platform and awards for young researchers involved in the rBLH.



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# Network of National Public Health Institutes of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries



## Strengthening national health institutes' response capabilities and strategic positioning through South-South cooperation

### CHALLENGE

Often originating from former national public health laboratories, national health institutes (NHIs) are entities that focus on research, training, monitoring, evaluation and the generation of evidence to improve public health policies (these policies are generally more permanent in nature than health authorities). Thus, the creation and/or consolidation of NHIs in African countries is essential for the strengthening of their national health systems, especially considering that their roles include managing resources destined for public health and supporting the formulation of policies in this sector. NHIs are in fact technical-scientific bodies of strategic scope that are considered the main means to overcome public health problems in a structural manner in the long term. The challenge is therefore the solid training of NHIs in African countries, particularly regarding their scope of action and the development of human competencies.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Following an integrated approach to public health issues, the Network of National Public Health Institutes of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (RINSP-CPLP) is one of the networks of strategic institutions defined in the Health Cooperation Strategic Plan of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP). The network's executive secretariat is under the responsibility of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz, Brazil) and follows a cooperation approach between developing countries that prioritizes the use of each country's endogenous capacities and resources (as opposed to a unidirectional transfer of knowledge and technology). Thus, concrete interventions for knowledge generation are promoted in parallel to dialogue between partners to enable local agents to assume leadership of the processes in the health sector of each country and autonomously formulate their own development agendas.

The initiative is implemented by Fiocruz and Brazil's Ministry of Health, with support from the CPLP, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the World Bank, the

#### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Angola; Brazil; Cabo Verde; Equatorial Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Mozambique; São Tomé and Príncipe; Timor-Leste

#### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

3.8; 3.c; 3.d; 16.6; 17.6; 17.9; 17.18

#### SUPPORTED BY

CPLP; Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); World Bank; International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI); Ministries of Health of the RINSP-CPLP participating countries

#### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz); Brazil's Ministry of Health

#### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

#### PROJECT PERIOD

2011 - Ongoing

#### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<http://www.cplp.org/id-3518.aspx>

International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) and the ministries of health of RINSP-CPLP participating countries. Formally established in 2011, the RINSP-CPLP aims to promote technical-scientific cooperation among its members to: (1) improve the quality of scientific knowledge about the social determinants of health; (2) technically support concerned ministries for epidemiological, sanitary and environmental surveillance; and (3) improve public health policies based on scientific knowledge.

To this end, cooperation within the network has focused on the training of human resources in the biomedical and public health domains, as well as on organizational strengthening and institutional development. Activities carried out in these areas include strategic-planning workshops, consultations and benchmarking visits, postgraduate courses, in-service training and polytechnic health training. Implementation of NHIs in CPLP Member States in which they do not yet exist is one of the network's priorities.

Thus, within the scope of its initiatives, the RINSP-CPLP supported Mozambique to revise its NHI strategic plan, construct a new institutional building, implement master courses in health sciences and in health systems (in partnership with the International Development Research Centre – IDRC), reformulate the NHI's scientific journal and establish a National Health Observatory, among others. In Angola, it set up a master's course in public health for the training of professionals at the School of Public Health and contributed to the reorganization of the country's technical health schools. The RINSP-CPLP supported the creation of the national health institutes of Guinea-Bissau (INASA) in 2010 and Cabo Verde (INSP) in 2014 following technical cooperation exchanges involving Fiocruz, Portugal's Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Peru's NHI. In turn, Cabo Verde's recently created INSP took part in a Fiocruz mission to São Tomé and Príncipe to support the creation of the country's national health institute.

The RINSP-CPLP conducts international fundraising activities to leverage the development of its member NHIs. Because of its clear impact on African NHIs, the network mobilizes funding sources outside of the CPLP, such as IANPHI and IDRC. The network promotes the articulation of African NHIs with congenious entities to carry out joint research and capacity-building initiatives, ensuring the sustainability of the programmes developed under the network.

Overall, the NHIs of the network's African countries have gained greater strategic and scientific importance with their respective ministries of health, paving the way for further replication opportunities through South-South cooperation. For instance, in recognition of its development, Mozambique's NHI hosted, in 2016, delegations from Malawi and Sierra Leone interested in learning from its organization.

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# Establishment of the Brazil-São Tomé and Príncipe Professional Training Centre



## Addressing São Tomé and Príncipe’s demand for skilled labour through the provision of vocational training for youth and adults

### CHALLENGE

Limited professional training in São Tomé and Príncipe contributes to the low qualification of the country’s working population and feeds a vicious circle between poverty and social inequality, undermining socioeconomic development. The total unemployment rate in the country is 14 percent<sup>1</sup>, with a labour force participation rate of 60 percent (out of the total population aged 15-64)<sup>2</sup>. Vocational training could help increase the competitiveness of local companies and generate more jobs. To provide skilled labour for the service sector and nascent industries (mainly in civil construction), the national government has expressed interest in establishing a professional training centre of reference, in which young people and adults can enhance their qualifications.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The establishment of the Brazil-São Tomé and Príncipe Professional Training Centre (CFP BRA-STP) resulted from a partnership between São Tomé and Príncipe’s Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and Brazil’s National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI). The project aimed to contribute to the socioeconomic development of São Tomé and Príncipe by providing vocational education, including for young people seeking their first jobs. The project constructed a building to house the training centre in the capital São Tomé and formed its technical-pedagogical structure, which defined the training on offer, trained instructors and managers and provided didactic materials, furniture and equipment required for operation.

Capacity-building sessions were conducted in São Tomé and Príncipe by SENAI’s instructors and part of the São Tomé and Príncipe team that would work at the training centre received training at SENAI Pernambuco’s technical schools in

1 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS?locations=ST>  
 2 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLFACTI.ZS?locations=ST>



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, São Tomé and Príncipe

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

4.4; 4.c; 8.2; 8.6

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); São Tomé and Príncipe’s Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Brazil’s National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI)

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2010 - 2016

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<http://cfpbrastp.wixsite.com/cfpbra-stp>

areas covered by the courses. This human-capital capacity development helped with sustainability of the project by imparting knowledge that could be utilized in the management and design of future training courses. Not only did the government of São Tomé and Príncipe grant the land and build part of the training centre's facilities, but it actively participated in definition of the courses in civil construction, electricity, metalwork, welding, automobile and motorcycle mechanics, food processing and information technology.

Inaugurated in 2014, the training centre has six classrooms (for up to 30 students each), a multipurpose room (for up to 60 students), three laboratories (information technology, hydraulics and food), five workshops (car mechanics, motorcycle mechanics, electricity, civil construction and welding), an auditorium (for up to 100 persons) and a library, in addition to administrative and support facilities. The training centre has the capacity to train up to 800 students per day. The project also included activities that sought to ensure the sustainability of the training centre, such as:

- » formulation of a strategic plan;
- » implementation of a shared management structure (under the responsibility of the government); and
- » establishment of evaluation and monitoring mechanisms.

Between 2014 and 2017, the centre trained more than 1,250 students. The success of this initiative led SENAI to be recognized by the United Nations as one of the three most important institutions fostering quality education in the Global South. Besides São Tomé and Príncipe, SENAI has also contributed, together with the ABC and national governments, to the establishment or restructuring of professional training centres in Angola, Cabo Verde, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru and Timor-Leste.



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# School for All (Escola de Todos)



## Fostering a more inclusive education system in Cabo Verde by better attending to pupils with disabilities and special educational needs

### CHALLENGE

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has been promoting as an international goal the provision of access to quality education for all, regardless of factors such as gender, ethnicity and disability. About 15 percent of the world's population has a disability and about 80 percent of those people reside in developing countries<sup>1</sup>. An estimated 93 million children worldwide live with disabilities<sup>2</sup>. Like all children, children with disabilities need quality education to develop their skills and realize their full potential. At the same time, children with special educational needs (SEN)—such as intellectual disability, visual impairment or deafness—are less likely to complete basic education. This has negative individual and collective repercussions, in particular social exclusion and the feeding of a vicious circle of poverty. Thus, there is a need for inclusive education that promotes greater autonomy for children with disabilities and integrates them into mainstream school systems. This orientation requires additional resources, in particular teachers and support staff with specialized training and access to adapted teaching materials. Cabo Verde has been developing initiatives in the field of inclusive special education, namely the elaboration of specific training plans for teachers. About 1,000 children with SEN are enrolled in the country's schools.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

School for All was a South-South cooperation project between Brazil and Cabo Verde implemented by Brazil's Ministry of Education, the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM) and Cabo Verde's Ministry of Education. Supported by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the project aimed to support the Cabo Verdean education system to develop and offer inclusive education in its various

1 [www.unicef.org/media/96421/file/Combating%20the%20Costs%20of%20Exclusionfor%20for%20Children%20with%20Disabilities%20and%20their%20Families.%20%20%20%20%20%20%20.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/media/96421/file/Combating%20the%20Costs%20of%20Exclusionfor%20for%20Children%20with%20Disabilities%20and%20their%20Families.%20%20%20%20%20%20%20.pdf)

2 [www.unicef.org/education/inclusive-education](http://www.unicef.org/education/inclusive-education)

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, Cabo Verde

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

4.5; 4.a; 4.c; 10.2

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Brazil's Ministry of Education; Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM); Cabo Verde's Ministry of Education

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2006 - 2018

interfaces. In a first phase (2006-2007), teachers were trained in three areas: Braille system and unified mathematical code; orientation and mobility (for visually impaired students); and Portuguese-language teaching for persons who are deaf, with the provision of didactic material and specialized pedagogical kits. In a second, more comprehensive, phase, the project carried out activities in three main areas, described below.

1. Implementation of a teacher training course (250 hours) for complementary specialized educational care, covering 11 modules (distance education, specialized educational care, assistive technology, physical disability, intellectual deficiency, visual impairment, deafness, autism, intellectual giftedness, pedagogical assessment of students with disabilities and curricular adaptation). Two thirds of the modules were conducted remotely (virtual learning environment) and the remainder through in-person classes (in both Cabo Verde and Brazil).
2. Development of guidelines for public policies on inclusive education and assistive technology, with a view to strengthening the process of inclusion of students with SEN in mainstream schools. In this context, several studies were carried out in Cabo Verde that resulted in documents and activities to guide the development of a national policy on inclusive education. These activities were notably related to the Cabo Verdean sign language, with the registration of signs used by the hearing impaired in the different islands of the country, the preparation of a dictionary of signs in Creole (in printed and digital formats) and the provision of sign language courses and training of interpreters.
3. Implementation of three multifunctional resource rooms to provide specialized educational services for students with SEN in three schools on the islands of Fogo, Santo Antão and Santiago (the three rooms have been serving as a reference in accessibility for students with disabilities). Teachers and students also received training in practical work in the multifunctional resource rooms, through an in-person course using the materials available in the rooms.

Up to 2017, about 300 primary- and secondary-school teachers in Cabo Verde have been involved in the programme, in addition to 50 teachers trained in specialized educational assistance, 40 teachers in transcription and adaptation of materials in Braille and four teachers in deaf-blindness and assistive technology. This training-of-trainers strategy ensured the sustainability and geographical expansion of the project. Furthermore, a testament to the initiative's replicability, the School for All project, in a similar format, was also developed in Angola between 2008 and 2015, with the support of the Brazilian Ministry of Education.



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# Solidarity Literacy (Alfabetização Solidária)



## Supporting São Tomé and Príncipe’s efforts to reduce illiteracy and expand educational opportunities for youth and adults



### CHALLENGE

The adult literacy rate in São Tomé and Príncipe has increased substantially over the past thirty years. While in 2001-2011 the literacy rate was between 69.5 and 85 percent<sup>1</sup>, it increased to 92.8 percent by 2018.

Despite the negative individual and collective repercussions of illiteracy, particularly in terms of social, economic and political exclusion, the country had no official policy or public provision for education for youth and adults (individuals aged 15 and over). The poorest districts had higher illiteracy rates than more affluent districts<sup>2</sup> and males, both poor and nonpoor, had higher literacy rates than their female counterparts. Young girls were more prone to grade repetitions or dropping out, the quality of education was poor and children living in remote areas had limited access to the education system<sup>3</sup>.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Based on an initial request from the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, the Solidarity Literacy project was implemented by AlfaSol, a non-governmental organization working in Brazil since 1997 on the reduction of illiteracy rates and promotion of youth and adult lifelong education opportunities. The South-South cooperation project, carried out in close cooperation between AlfaSol and São Tomé and Príncipe, received support from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC). By reducing illiteracy rates and increasing overall schooling, the initiative promoted youth and adult education in São Tomé and Príncipe, ultimately contributing to the expansion of the personal autonomy of youth and adults derived from the incorporation of reading, writing and mathematical skills into their daily lives.

1 [www.knoema.com/atlas/Sao-Tome-and-Principe/topics/Education/Literacy/Adult-literacy-rate](http://www.knoema.com/atlas/Sao-Tome-and-Principe/topics/Education/Literacy/Adult-literacy-rate)  
 2 [www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2014/cr1409.pdf](http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2014/cr1409.pdf)  
 3 [www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2014/cr1409.pdf](http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2014/cr1409.pdf)

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil; São Tomé and Príncipe

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

4.5; 4.6; 4.c; 10.2

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

AlfaSol

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2001 - 2011

An initial diagnosis of the educational context of the youth and adult population in São Tomé and Príncipe was conducted by AlfaSol together with a local technical team. The diagnosis was based on official indicators, the mapping of pre-existing actions and an analysis of the socio-economic and cultural environment. This diagnosis led to the formulation of an initial work proposal highlighting priority themes and actions to build the process of continuous schooling for youth and adults.

The project conducted the following main activities:

- » support for the formulation of public policies, legislation, pilot projects and programmes for early literacy and youth and adult education;
- » selection and continued training of local coordinators and literacy coaches;
- » identification in Brazil of specialists coming from higher education institutions, research centres and NGOs to elaborate an initial proposal for a training process and to act as trainers;
- » mobilization and enrolment of students throughout São Tomé and Príncipe;
- » training of the local programme management team, including on-site sessions and technical internships in Brazil;
- » organization of experience exchange seminars to discuss educational policies and the expansion of educational opportunities for young people and adults;
- » development of courses and didactic materials adapted to the local needs; and
- » capacity building in the fields of partnerships, fundraising, social mobilization and monitoring and evaluation of educational processes.

Between 2001 and 2011, the project trained 110 teachers and benefited more than 21,000 São Tomé and Príncipe youth and adults who were illiterate or had little schooling and contributed greatly to reducing the illiteracy rate in the country (now estimated at 7 percent). On average, 60 percent of those attending the initial literacy course continued their schooling through enrolment in the country's public schools. To ensure the sustainability and continuity of the actions in the long term, the project supported the national government to establish a specific body within the Ministry of Education, the Directorate of Technical and Professional Education and Youth and Adult Education.

The Solidarity Literacy project was based on the internationally acclaimed experience of AlfaSol in Brazil, where 5.6 million students benefited between 1997 and 2017. Besides São Tomé and Príncipe, the initiative has been replicated in other Portuguese-speaking countries (Cabo Verde, Mozambique and Timor-Leste), as well as in a Spanish-speaking country (Guatemala).



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# Accelerating the Transformational Shift to a Low-Carbon Economy in Mauritius



## Towards supplying 60 percent of the country’s energy needs with renewables by 2030

### CHALLENGE

With 84 percent of its primary energy requirements met from imported fossil fuels, Mauritius is extremely vulnerable to energy shocks. The country’s grid emission factor is extremely high at 1.01 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>/MWh<sup>1</sup> due to the prevalence of coal (39 percent) and fuel oil (38 percent) in the electricity-generation mix<sup>2</sup>. Moreover, net greenhouse gas emissions are increasing at a rapid rate of three percent per year. To overcome these issues, Mauritius has recently announced an ambitious target of 60 percent renewable energy in the electricity grid by 2030<sup>3</sup>. But to use more low-emission technologies, the country must first remove the existing bottlenecks to the deployment and scaling-up of renewable energy.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The project Accelerating the Transformational Shift to a Low-Carbon Economy in Mauritius is implemented by Mauritius’s Ministry of Finance and Economic Development with other responsible parties including the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, the Central Electricity Board and the Outer Islands Development Corporation. The project is funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which provides execution and oversight support. Some project activities are co-funded by the South-African based Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

The project is part of a broad national strategy to reduce Mauritius’s dependence on fossil fuels, enhance energy security, contribute to climate change mitigation, improve the country’s balance of payments and create more employment opportunities in the renewable-energy sector. Under the project’s first component (Institutional strengthening for renewable energy), the Ministry of Energy and

1 [www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/funding-proposal-fp033-undp-mauritius.pdf](http://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/funding-proposal-fp033-undp-mauritius.pdf)  
 2 [https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard\\_base/Grid\\_emission\\_Mauritius.pdf](https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/standard_base/Grid_emission_Mauritius.pdf)  
 3 [https://budgetmof.govmu.org/Documents/2021\\_22budgetspeech\\_english.pdf](https://budgetmof.govmu.org/Documents/2021_22budgetspeech_english.pdf) (paragraph 96)



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

India; Mauritius; South Africa

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

7.2; 7.b; 5.5; 9.1; 9.a; 13.2; 13.b

### SUPPORTED BY

Green Climate Fund; Government of Mauritius; Development Bank of Southern Africa

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Mauritius’s Ministry of Finance and Economic Development; Mauritius’s Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities; Central Electricity Board; Outer Islands Development Corporation; UNDP

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2017 - 2025

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<https://bit.ly/3BT0dv9>

Public Utilities has been receiving assistance from the GCF to develop a fit-for-purpose regulatory framework to allow the ambitious scale-up of renewable energy in Mauritius.

The project encompasses the development of the recently established Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency (MARENA) to coordinate the rapid uptake of renewable energy and to provide technical oversight and policy planning support. South-South linkages were established with other energy regulators, notably in India and South Africa, that have a similar role, i.e., with the mandate to promote renewable energy at a national level. While preliminary scoping has been done to plan South-South missions, on-site activities have been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2019, DBSA, a leading African development finance institution wholly owned by the government of South Africa, began co-financing policy development activities of MARENA. In view of the DBSA's strong commitment to enabling Mauritius to promote investment in renewable energy, the scope of work of the contracted consultant (an energy firm from Uruguay) was expanded to ensure that, once the project is completed, MARENA will have all necessary technical tools and frameworks in place to promote the implementation of renewable-energy projects. Under the project, UNDP is supporting awareness-raising and training activities on renewables and entrepreneurship, targeting in particular women, who are statistically underrepresented in the renewable-energy sector and who have suffered disproportionately from the impacts of COVID-19.

Under the project, 4 out of 18 MW of battery energy storage systems (BESSs) have already been installed. Once the full 18 MW of BESSs are installed, the electricity grid will be able to accommodate 125 MW of intermittent renewable energy. Once the grid's absorption capacity has been enhanced, the project will also provide partial grants for low-income households, non-governmental organizations and public buildings to meet installation and system costs of photovoltaic units (totalling 25 MW). Achieving these goals will greatly contribute to the decarbonization of the country's energy sector and to highlight Mauritius as an example of how Small Island Developing States can use the latest technologies to promote renewables and gain access to clean-energy systems.



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# Creating a Market for Development and Use of Biogas Resources in Guinea



## Towards the widespread adoption of biogas technologies to capitalize on their socioeconomic and environmental benefits



### CHALLENGE

Deforestation, increasing greenhouse gas emissions from domestic energy use and deficiencies in electricity supplies which adversely affect economic activities constitute major socio-environmental challenges in Guinea. The use of biomass in the form of firewood and charcoal represents one of the main sources of domestic energy in Guinea, especially in rural areas, and is increasing due to the clearing of forests for agricultural, forestry and mining purposes. This has been threatening habitats, exposing soil to erosion and severely affecting water resources.

Thanks to its potential to provide a clean source of energy for cooking and lighting, domestic and institutional biogas can be an appropriate substitute for the consumption of wood and charcoal in rural and peri-urban areas.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

This project was implemented by Guinea’s Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Livestock and Ministry of Agriculture and supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project falls within the framework of climate change mitigation through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the sustainable management of forest resources.

The project aimed to establish a viable and effective market for the widespread commercialization and use of biogas technologies in Guinea, focusing on three interconnected segments. The first was small-scale, family-sized biodigesters, primarily for self-consumption and in-house management of raw materials; this category targeted primarily farm households raising livestock. The second was large-scale biodigesters for institutional, commercial and industrial applications that need heat and/or electricity; these are also mainly self-consumers, replacing current energy carriers (such as diesel and grid power) with a cleaner and cheaper

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Burkina Faso; Guinea

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

7.2; 7.b; 3.9; 5.5; 13.2; 13.3; 15.1; 15.2

### SUPPORTED BY

Global Environment Facility (GEF); UNDP

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Guinea’s Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests; Guinea’s Ministry of Energy; Guinea’s Ministry of Livestock; Guinea’s Ministry of Agriculture

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2016 - 2019

alternative for their business process. The third was the manufacturing and installation of biodigesters in the domestic market.

To achieve its objectives, the project conducted a strategic set of actions, namely: (i) mastery of the technology and its popularization; (ii) involvement of public institutions enabling the project to develop and capitalize on good practices; (iii) integration of the concerns of rural women as actors and beneficiaries; (iv) generation of income for the target populations through the stimulation and integration of vital rural-economy sectors; (v) establishment of structures and policies favourable to market development (including a regulatory framework and a financial-support mechanism); and (vi) strengthening of the technical and entrepreneurial capacities of local human resources to form the basis of the private sector that will carry the biogas technologies market.

The main achievements of the project up to 2018 include:

- » installation of model domestic biodigesters (each with a capacity of between 4 and 10 m<sup>3</sup> of gas usable for lighting and cooking) in 565 households in 116 rural communes;
- » installation of an industrial biodigester to supply electricity;
- » training of 222 masons and 6 technical supervisors deployed in 28 prefectures; and
- » training of 57 agricultural extension workers in the use of biodigester effluents as organic fertilizer.

South-South cooperation contributed to the sustainability and replicability of the project's achievements. Close collaboration between the project and Burkina Faso's National Biodigester Programme allowed Guinean artisans and technicians to be trained in building the biodigesters. In addition, Guinea joined a sub-regional alliance on biodigester technology, which brings together 13 countries from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and three countries from Central Africa. This was under the context of the ECOWAS's 2012 renewable-energy policy, which proposed, among other items, to establish biogas facilities to promote the efficient use of household energy and to supply electricity to mini grids. The project has significant potential for South-South cooperation and horizontal exchanges and collaboration with African countries in ECOWAS and Central Africa to address climate change issues by harnessing innovative biotechnologies.



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# From Waste to Wealth



## Production of smokeless bio-briquettes from waste materials for use as an alternative energy resource

### CHALLENGE

Countries all over the world are concerned about the vicious circle of environmental degradation and climate change. One main challenge is the depletion of forest resources for energy generation. At the same time, in the absence of recycling practices, domestic and industrial waste generated by ever-increasing urban populations create additional health and environmental concerns. This context calls for safer, cleaner and more reliable energy sources for household, commercial and industrial processes, thus avoiding the overdependence on non-renewable energy resources.

While research has long been proposing biofuels, bio-briquettes and other biomass-related energy resources, logistical intricacies still hinder their development and delivery at reduced environmental and economic costs. New energy resources must address environmental challenges during production and use and be affordable for the average consumer.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Ebonyi State University in Nigeria is implementing the From Waste to Wealth project, with individual support, to develop smokeless bio-briquettes from domestic waste as a way of managing and decreasing environmental waste and reducing overdependence on fossil fuels. This replicable green technology addresses both the production process and the energy resource's final use, through efficient smokeless burning, with fewer by-products.

The production process involves sorting and classification of waste (from households, factories, offices and other areas), carbonization of waste using an environmentally-friendly method with zero release of greenhouse gases and compounding the carbonized bio-waste by incorporating a desulphurization agent and binder. Thus, the milled carbonized bio-char is mixed with binders (limestone, clay) and water to arrive at a homogeneous paste that can agglomerate. Different

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Nigeria

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

7.1; 7.2; 7.3; 9.4; 11.6

### SUPPORTED BY

Ebonyi State University and individuals

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Ebonyi State University

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2016 - Ongoing

formulations are made by varying the percentages of the bio-char, binders and water. The blended samples are introduced in a machine that moulds the blends into briquettes. The briquettes are air dried and compared with oven-dried samples. The contents are evaluated to find an end-product that is affordable, reliable and safe.

This alternative energy resource is intended to replace firewood and would be advocated for large populations in many developing nations. As the heat from the bio-briquettes is steady, it can be used for household heating and cooking as well as commercial purposes. The by-product (bio-briquette ash) is fully reusable and is a good source of organic fertilizer and a soil amendment agent. The entire process is a win-win procedure that will help reduce deforestation and desertification.

The production of smokeless bio-briquettes from waste will:

1. Reduce if not completely replace the use of environmentally unsafe kerosene, gas and fuelwood for household and commercial cooking, which leads to greenhouse effect and threatens the environment. Smokeless bio-briquettes from waste are an excellent replacement because they do not add more carbon to the environment;
2. Address the issue of waste management, utilization and disposal. There is an unhealthy culture of indiscriminate waste disposal in Nigeria and other countries which leads to environmental problems ranging from aesthetic impairment to diseases, such as cholera and Lassa fever. This work will incorporate sorting of waste from dump sites generated from household and commercial sources and utilizing this waste for the production of clean and safe solid cooking fuels;
3. Provide employment opportunities and create an export commodity when produced on a commercial scale; and
4. Provide a new domestic solid fuel to the Nigerian and foreign market, which reduces pressure on kerosene, gas and fuelwood demand.

This project will positively impact individuals, government and industries. Specifically it will help individuals and households that depend on kerosene, gas and fuelwood by providing a cheaper and safer product and commercial restaurants and industries will be able to shift from the use of other energy resources to greener, safer and cheaper bio-briquettes. The bio-briquettes will not smoke when in use which ensures clean cooking and a cleaner environment. Their use is particularly beneficial to areas threatened by desertification. As local artisans will be used in construction and installation of bio-briquette plants, local technological development will result. In addition, raw materials and utilities required for the project will be locally sourced and burning appliances locally produced.

Bio-briquettes have been tested and their effectiveness established in Nigeria. The technology is being applied in communities in Ebonyi State, including the Ebonyi State University community and Agbaja Unuhu community where 100 jobless individuals, including youth, are engaged in a profitable venture as a source of income through waste scavenging, sorting and conversion.

With financing support, larger scale production would be possible. The solution's replication is easy and does not require sophisticated technical approaches; even unskilled persons can be trained in the processes. Thus the prospects of adopting the solution in other developing nations with a similar context in which untreated waste and use of firewood are widespread are promising.

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# Leaper Innovative Green Energies Air Battery



## Development of an innovative energy storage system that generates clean water as a by-product

### CHALLENGE

Many African countries, including South Africa, have a high demand for stable energy and long-term energy storage, as well as clean water sources. However, the electricity access rate in sub-Saharan Africa, at 43 percent, is the lowest of all the world's regions and corresponds to less than half of the global access rate (87 percent<sup>1</sup>). Medium and large energy users in the region thus face many challenges. A disruption in either energy or water supplies directly affects the proper functioning of both public infrastructures (such as hospitals and schools) and productive sectors.

To deal with power shortages, these entities use generators and/or battery storage systems. Yet, these alternatives have high operating costs and are generally inadequate because they only cover minimal infrastructural requirements. They are hence only short-term solutions. At the same time, changing climatic conditions, increasing populations and production bases, including agriculture, are putting pressure on the scarce water resources available.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Leaper Innovate Green Energies (LiGE) is an award-winning South Africa-based engineering company that designed, developed and patented (in South Africa, Africa and Europe) an innovative energy storage system: the LiGE Air Battery. The LiGE Air Battery converts any form of energy, including solar, wind and grid, without using chemicals and stores it as compressed air which can be released any-time to produce clean power on demand. The system generates distilled water as a by-product, which can be used for irrigation, cleaning and other applications as it contains no chemicals or ionization. A 50-kWh storage system can produce

1 Blimpo, Moussa P. and Malcolm Cosgrove-Davies. 2019. Electricity access in sub-Saharan Africa: Uptake, reliability and complementary factors for economic impact. Africa Development Forum series. Washington, D.C.: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-4648-1361-0.



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Eswatini, South Africa

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

7.1; 7.2; 7.3; 6.3; 9.4; 13.1

### SUPPORTED BY

South Africa's Technology Innovation Agency; South Africa's Department of Trade and Industry; The Innovation Hub

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Leaper Innovative Green Energies (LiGE)

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2015 - Ongoing

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<http://www.lige.co.za>

approximately 700 litres of clean water per day, without requiring a water source such as streams, rivers or oceans. While providing a cost-effective, clean and stable energy power, the LiGE Air Battery also removes particulates and CO2 from the air, replacing them with uncontaminated air.

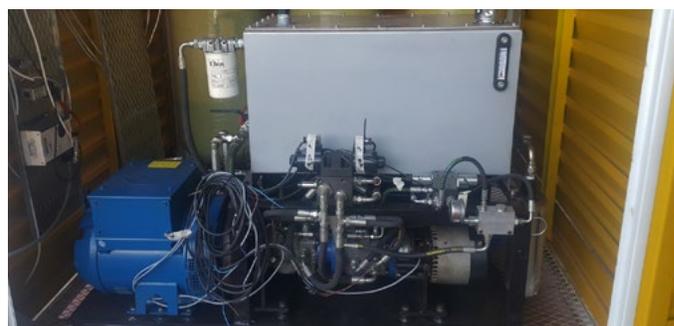
This initiative is implemented by LiGE and supported by South Africa's Technology Innovation Agency, South Africa's Department of Trade and Industry, the Innovation Hub, Magriet Leaper and Warwick Leaper.

Through South-South cooperation, LiGE worked with experts from Eswatini to create a super compressor which could not only store compressed air for later use as on-demand energy, but could effectively compress the humidity in the air and generate clean water from the air in significant quantities. The system is designed to be transportable, scalable, clean with no chemicals and have at least a 30-year lifespan. The solution can provide medium and large energy users with the ability to store energy at low cost and utilize it during high-peak periods.

The LiGE Air Battery outperforms all other storage systems in most of the critical success parameters, such as lifespan, efficiency, charge and discharge cycles and cost per kWh generated. It offers a savings of approximately 65 percent on the electricity bill of large energy users and its performance does not deteriorate during its 30-year lifespan. The system has zero-carbon footprint and does not utilize toxic components or rare earth metals in its manufacture and operation. All its parts are recyclable, with no materials going to landfill.

This LiGE technology won the 2015 World Wildlife Fund-South Africa Climate Solver Award and the 2019 Southern African Startup Award and was among the finalists of several other innovation competitions. It was the only African solution featured in the recent Cleantech Global Survey for long-term energy storage.

The system has been tested and is in daily use at the company's factory. Delayed by the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the last R&D milestone should be accomplished in 2021 as the project moves to commercial status. This solution can be piloted in other African countries that require stable cost-effective energy storage and/or clean water. The solution's market response has been promising, with orders coming in from all around the world (about 40 percent of which are from the Global South, notably Cambodia, Egypt, Kenya and South Africa). More specifically, various energy departments and energy suppliers of several African countries, including Burkina Faso, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania, have expressed considerable interest to pilot the systems and, if successful, to explore manufacturing possibilities in those countries to help solve their energy issues. The next step for this solution is to identify manufacturing partners in different continents to scale up capacity to face the increasing demand for clean storage and clean water. At the same time, South-South technology transfers could allow its innovation to become a key component of comprehensive energy solutions to ensure more environment-friendly and reliable power provision in developing countries.



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# Promotion of Renewable Energy Technologies in Public and Private Institutions in Ethiopia



## Addressing challenges related to access to energy and sustainable resources consumption through South-South cooperation

### CHALLENGE

In Ethiopia, limited access to modern energy sources is a barrier to socioeconomic development and a centralized renewable energy model is lacking. Only 43-48 percent of the population between 2016 and 2019 had electricity coverage (approximately 33 percent through on-grid electrification and 11 percent through off-grid service provision)<sup>1</sup>. While around 93 percent of urban households were connected to the grid<sup>2</sup>, only 36 percent of rural households had access to electricity in 2019<sup>3</sup>. Most new initiatives of renewable energy development have targeted off-grid and household electricity uses. However, public institutions and productive energy uses may require different technology answers.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Renewable Energy project in Ethiopia is co-funded by the Ministry of Commerce of China, the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy of Ethiopia (MoWIE), the Sri Lanka State Energy Authority (SLSEA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project is implemented by MoWIE, SLSEA, the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, the Administrative Centre for China's Agenda 21 (ACCA 21) and the China Agricultural University, as well as UNDP country offices in China, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka.

The project in Ethiopia takes as its point of departure the need for renewable energy technology dissemination and scaling-up for climate-resilient growth. The project supports access to energy and sustainable resource consumption through trials and demonstrations of biogas and solar energy for productive uses. It is implemented under a South-South cooperation framework and serves as a

1 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.ELC.ACCS.ZS?locations=ET>  
 2 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.ELC.ACCS.UR.ZS?locations=ET>  
 3 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.ELC.ACCS.RU.ZS?locations=ET>

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

China, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

7.2; 7.a; 7.b; 13.3; 13.b; 17.6; 17.7

### SUPPORTED BY

Ministry of Commerce of China

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UNDP in China, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka; Ethiopia's Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy; Sri Lanka State Energy Authority (SLSEA); China's Ministry of Science and Technology; Administrative Centre for China's Agenda 21 (ACCA 21); China Agricultural University

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2019 - 2022

learning platform for China, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka to engage and collaborate at the international level on renewable energy technology and skill transfers.

The project has two key outcomes: 1) capacity for the transfer of renewable energy technology, built through the demonstration of biogas and solar systems for productive uses (including in hospitals, universities, condominiums and industrial zones); and 2) South-South knowledge and experience exchange. As a pilot initiative, the project's successful implementation will provide concrete examples of South-South cooperation at work for other developing countries to emulate.

Several approaches are utilized to ensure the sustainability and successful outcomes of the project. First, the project leverages support, experience and technical know-how from China, the latter of which has a proven track record of renewable energy technology dissemination to meet various needs for its own development, supported by successful policies and business models.

Second, the project employs UNDP's five-step methodology for effective capacity-development: 1) engage stakeholders on capacity development; 2) assess capacity and needs; 3) formulate a capacity-development response; 4) implement the response; and 5) evaluate capacity development.

Third, stakeholder coordination is considered a fundamental aspect of the project, and includes the establishment of linkages, mutual understanding and deep collaboration between research institutes, private sector entities and government counterparts through UNDP's facilitation, study visits, matchmaking between enterprises and establishing online and offline communication platforms.

Fourth, the project is thematically aligned with national priorities. The project is articulated within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) adopted in both China (in particular Outcome 3) and Ethiopia (in particular Outcome 5). The project is supporting the Government of Ethiopia's National Electrification Programme, which focuses on integrated (grid and off-grid) electricity access and provides an implementation framework for the achievement of 35 percent of off-grid access by 2025. The project also contributes to the government's Climate Resilient Green Economy vision by introducing and scaling up relevant technologies.

Through a national implementation modality, Ethiopian government institutions directly execute the project's interventions. Public institutions selected as project beneficiaries are tasked with demonstrating the multiple benefits of the interventions, which will potentially attract more private entities to install photovoltaic and/or biogas systems, contributing to the acceptability and sustainability of the initiative. The knowledge and skills acquired through project implementation are expected to create additional personnel capacities to facilitate timely maintenance services for the systems that are installed and to further expand the use of those systems across the country, bringing positive social, environmental and economic impacts. Furthermore, the Joint Research and Extension Centre (JREC) established in collaboration with local and

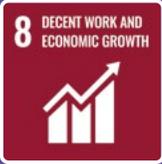
Chinese partners will cater to capacity-building needs and provide continuous technical support when and where required, including through the adoption of a long-term research agenda.



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# Development of Handicraft Production in São Tomé and Príncipe



## Contributing to the socioeconomic development of São Tomé and Príncipe through the design and manufacturing of high-quality handmade products

### CHALLENGE

Employment, income generation and social inclusion, especially of youth and women, are important challenges for the socioeconomic development of São Tomé and Príncipe. Like other small island developing states, São Tomé and Príncipe has a fragile, limited and poorly diversified economy. Currently, the net official development assistance received accounts for 12 percent of the gross national income (GNI)<sup>1</sup>. The total unemployment rate is 14 percent<sup>2</sup>, with women having higher unemployment rates than men: the female unemployment rate is 20.5 percent<sup>3</sup> of the female labour force versus the male unemployment rate of 8.8 percent<sup>4</sup> of the male labour force. Handicraft production in São Tomé and Príncipe, in addition to its lack of professionalization and low added value, suffers from the absence of a particular differentiation from what is traditionally manufactured on the African continent and is poorly linked to external consumer markets.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

This project was a collaboration between the governments of Brazil and São Tomé and Príncipe and the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP). It was implemented by Instituto Mazal (Brazil) and São Tomé and Príncipe's Ministry of Youth and Sports (Youth Institute) and supported by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC). The main objective of this triangular-cooperation project was technical training to design and develop handicraft products that represent the country's cultural identity. Targeting artisans and apprentices (mostly young people and women), the project sought to provide them with new sources of income by invigorating handicraft production for domestic consumption and export.

1 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/DT.ODA.ODAT.GN.ZS?locations=ST>  
 2 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS?locations=ST>  
 3 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.FE.ZS?locations=ST>  
 4 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.MA.ZS?locations=ST>



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, São Tomé and Príncipe, Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP)

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

8.2; 8.5; 8.6; 1.a; 5.b; 12.2; 12.8

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); CPLP; Government of São Tomé and Príncipe

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Instituto Mazal (Brazil); São Tomé and Príncipe's Ministry of Youth and Sports (Youth Institute)

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2009 - 2011

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=bAsWjVxKUPg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bAsWjVxKUPg)

With the involvement of designers and artisans from Brazil and São Tomé and Príncipe, the project comprised three phases, described below.

1. A one-year capacity-building programme for artisans and apprentices in the production of handicraft items with the use of various techniques and materials: embroidery, vegetable dyeing, paper, carpentry, sculpture, sewing. The programme focused on the technical quality and originality of the items produced, highlighting the use of local raw materials and motifs in their design and included the organization of groups of artisans, taking into account their vocations.
2. Complementary training in social entrepreneurship, management, marketing, communication and environmental preservation. This phase included acquisition of machinery and equipment for the capacity-building workshops (as well as the training of technicians to maintain and repair them) and the training of local instructors in the various techniques employed, who later took on the role of multipliers.
3. Elaboration of dissemination materials and development of promotion activities, mainly aimed at the foreign market.

The main results of the initiative include:

- » training of about 150 artisans and apprentices from around the country in the production of competitive and culturally rooted handicrafts;
- » establishment of a shared management structure involving the workshop leaders, the local coordinators, the general design coordination and the style coordination;
- » elaboration of a manual of procedures related to the project's components, supporting the quality of the production and consolidation of the initiative;
- » establishment of the Uê Tela cooperative by the trained artisans to give continuity to the project and ensure its sustainability (hosted by the Youth Institute in the capital São Tomé);
- » launch of two handicraft collections (including decorative objects, furniture, paper items made from banana trunks, cotton fabrics dyed using wood bark, clothing and fashion accessories): Fédu cu Món ("handmade") and Modo Fenón ("our way of doing/being"), promoted through bilingual catalogues (in Portuguese and English); and
- » establishment of product distribution and commercialization channels: a social store in São Tomé and Príncipe and international deliveries (part of the products are sold in Brazil).

The craft activity fostered by the project has already become the main means of living of most of the cooperative's artisans (especially women). When it was approved by the CPLP in 2011, the initiative was intended as a pilot project that, depending on its outcomes, could be expanded to other Lusophone countries. Thus, Angola and Cabo Verde have already expressed interest in replicating São Tomé and Príncipe's experience in the field of handicraft production.



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# Hackathon on Inclusive Financial Services



## Promoting innovative solutions to enhance financial inclusion in Lesotho

### CHALLENGE

Access to formal and semi-formal financial services is limited in Lesotho, especially for low-income and rural populations. The majority of the population is excluded from the formal credit system, while restricted accessibility and high pricing of banking products further limit uptake. The Government of Lesotho has recognized this issue as a major constraint to job creation and income generation and has prioritized financial inclusion in both the National Strategic Development Plan and the Financial Sector Development Strategy.

Mobile money offers an important avenue to deliver financial services in Lesotho, as the use of mobile phones is widespread, with an estimated accessibility rate of 70 percent of adults. Yet, 2016 research by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Lesotho's mobile money sector identified some systemic problems within the enabling business environment and highlighted four areas that prevent mobile money products from reaching scale and providing valuable financial services to underserved populations: awareness, acceptance, availability and affordability.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Hackathon on Inclusive Financial Services was a competition organized as part of the Lesotho Scaling Inclusion through Mobile Money (SIMM) project initiated in 2017 by the Ministry of Finance and UNDP Lesotho. The competition aimed at generating new ideas and facilitating mobile money product diversification to unlock opportunities for improved access to financial services. Innovations in the mobile money sector provide an opportunity for low-income and rural populations to gain access to credit, savings and insurance products.

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Ghana, Lesotho, Rwanda, South Africa

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

8.3; 8.10; 1.4; 9.3; 10.2; 17.6; 17.17

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP; FinMark Trust

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UNDP Lesotho; Lesotho's Ministry of Finance; FinMark Trust

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 – 2019

The objectives of the competition were to:

- » design and develop next-generation applications to improve on existing digital financial systems and product offerings;
- » create Lesotho-relevant technological solutions to local challenges;
- » facilitate the use of technology to bridge the financial inclusion divide in Lesotho; and
- » leverage existing information, networks and human capacity to generate innovations.

Held in April 2018, the three-day Lesotho SIMM Hackathon provided a platform for young innovators to collaborate and explore their ideas, while interacting with private-sector and civil-society experts and practitioners in the fields of financial services and business development. The event targeted individuals with an interest in developing solutions to unique mobile money ecosystem challenges in Lesotho, with extensive support provided by mentors and stakeholders throughout the duration of the competition.

During the Hackathon, 62 participants in 17 teams developed prototype solutions that were presented to a panel of judges during a final pitching session. Assessed according to a range of fundamental criteria, the seven winning teams received a cash prize of US \$5,000 each, as well as continued mentorship and technical support to enable the development of their solutions up to market introduction. The evaluation of the initiative highlighted the importance of linking innovation and financial inclusion, using skills development and mentorship and tapping into partnership, networking and collaboration opportunities.

The initiative eventually enabled the development of the following solutions:

- » ITMAS (by TECHNIFY): an e-ticket that enables minibus operators to bank their daily earnings instead of having to deal with cash and offers commuters without mobile phones the possibility to pay electronically;
- » SESIU (by TRIO): a financial-management solution that offers members of savings groups the possibility to deposit subscriptions, monitor group performance and lend money over the system;
- » Buddy Rescue (by NOVA): a mobile application that assists people who are elderly, visually impaired and semi-literate to use mobile-money services;
- » KYC (by Bundle-Up): a mobile application that facilitates know-your-customer (KYC) processes by providing a depository for KYC documentation with verification through the National Identification database; and

- » Cashflow (by Cashflow): a solution that tackles liquidity and agency challenges to financial-service accessibility, by providing a searchable and verifiable platform to remit funds.

For the organization of the Hackathon, UNDP Lesotho partnered with the private sector, NGOs and fintech start-ups to provide technical support and facilitate market interfacing for the programme. South-South partnerships were established with FinMark Trust (an independent non-profit organization based in South Africa that promotes financial inclusion and regional financial integration) and MEST Africa (a fintech mentorship programme based in Ghana that supports young African software entrepreneurs through training and incubation). Prior experience-sharing engagement with UNDP Rwanda was facilitated through peer-to-peer support organized by the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa. The initiative thus benefitted from South-South technical support to shape the concept and terms of reference and maximize stakeholder outreach.



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# Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund (MICF)



## Providing technical and financial assistance to promote innovative pro-poor and inclusive business models

### CHALLENGE

Inadequate diversification of the Malawian economy and its exports is one of the country's main development barriers. Despite efforts carried out hitherto, the slow rate of economic transformation hinders Malawi's ability to move away from a consumer and import-oriented country to a manufacturing- and export-oriented one. The country lacks incentives for the private sector to increase its investments and outputs. Major constraints perceived by businesses are limited access to finance, poor transportation infrastructures, informal business practices and power shortages. This unsatisfactory investment climate exacerbates the country's limited competitiveness caused by its inland location, which makes for high transport costs for imports and exports. Another constraint is the lack of integration in domestic, regional and global value chains. Private sector investments in agricultural trade and agro-processing are thus being hampered by the disconnect between small-scale producers and larger agri-businesses.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund (MICF) is a competitive mechanism that provides matching-grant financing for innovative projects proposed by the private sector active in Malawi's agricultural, manufacturing and finance sectors. The initiative is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Nathan Associates London Ltd., Imani Development and Malawi's Ministry of Industry and Trade, and supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), UK Aid, the German Development Bank (KfW) and the Embassy of Norway in Malawi. Running since 2014, the MICF offers risk capital that generates real impact in terms of increasing the country's productive capacity and employment and income opportunities for the poor. The MICF supports the process of transformation within the Malawian economy, while focusing on the targeted priority sectors of the National Export Strategy and on value chains with strong potential to contribute to growth and poverty reduction. For instance, it seeks to enable manufacturers to backward integrate processes

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Malawi

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

8.2; 8.3; 8.5; 1.a; 9.3; 10.1; 10.b; 17.3; 17.17

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP; International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); UK Aid; KfW (Germany); Embassy of Norway in Malawi

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UNDP Malawi; Nathan Associates London Ltd; Imani Development; Malawi's Ministry of Industry and Trade

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2014 – Ongoing

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

[www.micf.mw](http://www.micf.mw)

to incorporate local products and services that would enable them to compete in international markets or allow for import substitution in the domestic market, while delivering substantial social or environmental impacts.

The MICF is designed to be a transparent, quick and responsive mechanism that endeavours to understand the needs of the private sector. Grantees are expected to match 50 percent of the grant amount and this grant follows a rigorous verification process of milestones achieved according to a contract. The MICF is implemented through an Inclusive Market Development approach, which recognizes that a series of interventions are required across the market system to ensure sustained changes in behaviour and to enable markets to function more effectively for the poor. This approach overcomes the drawbacks of conventional instruments by focusing on systemic change. Integrating this approach with the MICF instrument reduces some of the risks faced by businesses associated with innovating pro-poor and inclusive business models.

Since 2014, the MICF has worked with over 50 grantees across Malawi, supporting the development and commercialization of innovative products, such as a water treatment solution, a hydro-powered water pump, non-refrigerated margarine, UHT long-shelf-life milk and specialty tea. The corresponding enterprises have helped deliver socio-economic impacts for the communities in which they operate, contributing to the creation of over 2,000 jobs, delivering affordable products to 21,000 low-income consumers and ultimately improving the livelihoods of 350,000 Malawians (41 percent of which are women) by increasing their incomes.

In view of the success of the initiative, many UNDP Country Offices in Africa (for example in Ethiopia, Kenya and Zimbabwe) have been supported through South-South exchanges to better understand the functioning of the MICF, considering possible country- or regional-level replications of the instrument.

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# Promotion of Handicrafts and the Recycling of Garbage



## Fostering the professionalization of disadvantaged segments of the population in Praia, Cabo Verde, based on the principles of a solidarity economy and cooperativism

### CHALLENGE

The capital city of Cabo Verde, Praia, where 30 percent of the nation's population live, identified waste collection and recycling as two strategic and complex issues. Due to the absence of a properly implemented recycling chain, garbage is not being sorted, nor does it have a planned destination. Likewise, no decent livelihood alternatives are available for people living in dump areas in unhealthy and inhumane conditions, where they mainly collect food remains (for feeding pigs) and recyclable materials.

Local handicrafts constitute another underdeveloped sector in Cabo Verde. Praia does not have its own identity in artisanal products and a large portion of the items traded are imported. The handicraft sector can be an important source of preservation of local culture and history but needs better quality and added value, notably through using local raw materials. Development of the handicraft and waste recycling sectors in a coherent, impactful and sustainable way required a specific study to define structures and activities needed.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Support to the Promotion of Handicrafts and the Recycling of Garbage was a South-South cooperation project implemented between 2011 and 2015 by the Municipality of Praia and the Central de Cooperativas e Empreendimentos Solidários (UNISOL), a Brazilian association established in 2005 to advance cooperativism and a solidarity economy. The project was supported by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) and Cabo Verde's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The initiative aimed to elaborate a feasibility study for the handicraft and waste-recycling sectors in Praia, geared towards contributing to a development pattern that is both environmentally sustainable and socially fair. It focused on elaborating methodologies and structuring actions around four main axes: (1) mapping the productive chains in the target sectors; (2) assessing the application of social

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, Cabo Verde

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

8.2; 8.4; 8.5; 8.8; 1.2; 1.5; 1.a; 10.2; 11.3; 11.6; 12.4; 12.5; 12.8; 12.a

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Cabo Verde's Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Central de Cooperativas e Empreendimentos Solidários, Brazil (UNISOL); Municipality of Praia

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2011 - 2015

technologies; (3) identifying and fostering the participation of community leaders; and (4) supporting potential solidarity-economy groupings.

The elaboration of the study was based on exchanges between Brazil and Cabo Verde. A UNISOL team composed of representatives of the recycling and handicraft sectors visited Praia to establish contacts and gather information. A participatory diagnosis of the local craftspeople (about 50) was carried out, identifying their socioeconomic profile, their needs and their priorities. This activity resulted in the joint formulation of a draft project for the strengthening of the handicraft sector. Following a visit to Praia's unplanned dumpsite, a diagnosis of the recycling chain's potential was conducted together with the waste-pickers (80 people) to formulate solutions that could transform the prevailing situation. An assessment was made of the materials with recycling potential and of the products that could be manufactured and commercialized, together with an appraisal of the initiative's required investment and expected financial return.

In turn, a Cabo Verdean delegation visited Brazil to gain first-hand knowledge on experiences of enterprises linked to UNISOL, such as handicraft and garbage recycling cooperatives (including social projects with waste-pickers) and other local solidarity economy initiatives. The Cabo Verdean representatives attended the National Handicraft Fair (FENEARTE), took part in meetings with artisans and visited a sanitary landfill and a factory in Osasco to observe an example of recyclable material transformation.

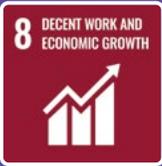
The feasibility study, completed in 2015, delineated initiatives that could be implemented by the Municipality of Praia, together with the means and steps required to do so. The proposals included, among others, a marketing strategy for handicrafts involving Cabo Verde's Ministry of Culture and the National Handicraft Forum (FONARTES) to enhance the sector's sales and income generation. The establishment of a PET-bottle processing unit was also envisaged, involving the acquisition at fair prices of recyclable raw materials collected by the waste-pickers for the manufacturing of brooms and other products.



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# Vocational Training Scholarships in the Hospitality Industry



## Triangular cooperation initiative for the enhancement of the São Tomé and Príncipe tourism sector

### CHALLENGE

Tourism is a strategic sector for the development of São Tomé and Príncipe, with strong potential to contribute to the improvement of living conditions through the promotion of socioeconomic transformation, notably in education, health and infrastructure development. National authorities have concentrated on stimulating tourism since 2000, however, the country lacks institutional structures and capacity to train skilled human resources in the tourism sector.

Human resources for hotels, restaurants and other tourism activities are not suitably trained and qualified to ensure quality tourism with high growth potential. If not properly capacitated, human resources will be one of the main bottlenecks that limit the future high-quality and competitive development of this strategic sector in the country.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The project Vocational Training Scholarships in the Hospitality Industry is a triangular cooperation initiative facilitated by the Government of Luxembourg, implemented by Cabo Verde's School of Hospitality and Tourism (Escola de Hotelaria e Turismo de Cabo Verde, EHTCV) and supported by the Embassy of Luxembourg in Cabo Verde and the Embassy of Cabo Verde in São Tomé and Príncipe. The project enhances São Tomé and Príncipe's tourism capacity through offering vocational-training scholarships to persons from that country at EHTCV in Praia, the capital of Cabo Verde. By improving access to education and thus employment, the project contributes to poverty reduction.

Trainees are selected based on their profiles and motivations, through evaluation of their educational backgrounds and via face-to-face interviews. The initiative enrolled 61 participants in 2017 and 2018 (39 percent of which are women). With a duration ranging from eight months to two years (including an internship period), trainees study, among other subjects, cooking and pastry, pastry and bakery,

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Cabo Verde; Luxembourg; São Tomé and Príncipe

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

8.5; 8.6; 1.2; 1.a; 4.3; 4.4; 4.b; 5.5

### SUPPORTED BY

Embassy of Luxembourg in Cabo Verde; Embassy of Cabo Verde in São Tomé and Príncipe

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Cabo Verde's School of Hospitality and Tourism (Escola de Hotelaria e Turismo de Cabo Verde, EHTCV)

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2017 - 2021

catering and drinks, and hotel management, all of which are certified by Cabo Verde's National Qualification System. During their stay in Cabo Verde, the fellows receive full-board and accommodation at the school's student residence in the capital Praia.

After completing their training, two thirds of the graduates have thus far been absorbed in the São Tomé and Príncipe labour market in the tourism sector. This triangular-cooperation initiative has also garnered international recognition for EHTCV as one of Cabo Verde's centres of excellence, with a strong potential role in South-South exchanges.

Established in 2011 as a state-owned enterprise, EHTCV now envisages setting up a dedicated department to further advance the school's internationalization and promote the inbound and outbound mobility of trainers and students, ensuring the project's sustainability. Acknowledging the importance of professional stays abroad for the building of new skills and know-how, the success of the initiative paves the way for similar EHTCV partnerships with other developing countries (notably Portuguese-speaking and West African nations) and for the replication of the training-scholarship model by other Cabo Verdean reference centres.



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# E-commerce to Support Informal Market Vendors



## Development of an online platform to connect informal micro, small and medium enterprises and consumers in Uganda

### CHALLENGE

New constraints to business continuity and food supplies brought by the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt in both formal and informal supply chains worldwide, impacting businesses and consumers alike. In particular, sales activities have often been restricted to contact-reduced delivery channels, due to the physical distancing, restricted movement and lockdown measures taking place in many countries.

These challenges have affected Uganda, where the informal sector constitutes 75 percent of total employment and hosts 85 percent of working women and 92 percent of the youth workforce<sup>1</sup>. Due to the ongoing crisis, informal market vendors (notably women and youth) have been forced to adapt, suspend their operations or go out of business and lose their livelihoods.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Digital commerce has proven it can meet people's needs and protect livelihoods during widespread sanitary crises. In partnership with Jumia Uganda, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Accelerator Lab experimented with an online delivery platform that harnesses technology to link informal vendors (notably women, youth and persons with disabilities) with customers who cannot easily move around to purchase goods from markets in Kampala, Uganda. Based on its experience and infrastructure in such fields as mobile money transactions and distribution networks, the African e-commerce firm Jumia prototyped an online purchase and delivery platform on a small scale for two markets in Kampala (Nakasero and Nakawa). The dedicated online ordering platform relies on a last-mile distribution network and a diverse set of payment methods and comprises quality assurance, training of vendors and growth marketing.

<sup>1</sup> <https://balloonventures.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Decent-Work-in-Ugandas-Informal-Economy.pdf>

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Cambodia; Côte d'Ivoire; Ghana; Honduras; Kenya; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Uganda

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

9.b; 3.d; 8.2

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP Rapid Response Facility

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UNDP Uganda; Jumia Uganda

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing (experimental phase)

### PROJECT PERIOD

2020 - 2021

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<https://food.jumia.ug>

The model employs market agents who validate the goods and services for quality and hygiene before they are dispatched, and motorcycle riders are trained to provide safe and contactless deliveries. Consumers have the option of giving feedback on their level of satisfaction with both the products and the service through the dedicated application. The platform allows market vendors to reach a large segment of customers that might never have reached and to track their daily sales. Early indicators show that the platform has significantly incremented vendor daily sales, thanks to increased interactions with customers online.

Mobile phones, airtime and data services have been provided to the vendors by UNDP as catalytic support. The UNDP Uganda Accelerator Lab now offers an opportunity to enhance the model in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. In fact, the analytics from this partnership will be used to scale the offer to different customer segments and other regions beyond the Ugandan capital city (where seven markets and 3,000 vendors already use the platform) and to come up with more production in various sectors.

The project helped the informal sector and small to medium enterprises in Uganda continue operating and reach customers during the COVID-19 pandemic. It helped reduced congestion in and traffic jams around markets, thus diminishing the risk of spreading the virus and increasing the convenience of shopping and connected rural farmers with urban markets, keeping supply chains for agricultural produce active and providing employment, thus mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on the economy.

At the macro level, ongoing collaboration with Uganda's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives has the potential to unlock regional-scale trade opportunities and ensuing South-South linkages, in line with the ministry's core mandate of accelerating industrial development, promoting exports and supporting the eventual realization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The initiative benefited from stimulating South-South exchanges on the role of e-commerce as a transformative digital technology with countries like Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Niger and Nigeria. With support from the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa, plans are in place to develop a regional framework and roll out this solution in some of the countries that already have a Jumia presence. Internationally, the initiative has also been shared with the governments of Cambodia and Honduras.



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# “E-voluir” (“E-evolve”) Innovation journey



## Addressing the socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 in Portuguese-speaking African countries through innovation and South-South cooperation

### CHALLENGE

The cultural and socioeconomic similarities of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries (Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe, known as the PALOPs) offer valuable opportunities for the development of innovation networks and other collaborations in the business and entrepreneurship realm.

Like in other developing countries, many economic activities in the PALOPs have been severely hit by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, impacting the livelihoods of thousands of families and intensifying inequalities. The massive challenges imposed by the pandemic on every layer of society have highlighted the key roles of cooperation and innovation to help affected communities cope and achieve more equal and resilient societies.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

“E-voluir” was an innovation competition and programme that put forward creative solutions to development challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fábrica de Startups Brasil, a business accelerator, implementing the project across the PALOPs with full financing from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guinea-Bissau and technical support from UNDP country offices in Angola, Cabo Verde, Mozambique and São Tomé e Príncipe, as well as from Guinea-Bissau. The competition was an opportunity for citizens of the PALOPs to come forward and propose ideas and solutions to socioeconomic problems affecting their communities, mainly in areas related to: (i) work and economy; (ii) e-governance and digital transformation; (iii) disaster risk reduction; and (iv) community resilience. It represented a chance for beneficiaries of development interventions to have an active say and participation in how to address the most pressing issues faced in their everyday lives, in both the formal and informal sectors.

#### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Angola; Brazil; Cabo Verde; Guinea-Bissau; Mozambique; São Tomé and Príncipe

#### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

9.3; 9.b; 1.5; 8.2; 17.6; 17.9; 17.16

#### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP in Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe; Disruption Lab; Djassi Africa

#### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UNDP in Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe; Fábrica de Startups Brasil

#### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

#### PROJECT PERIOD

2020 - 2021

#### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<https://inscricoes.fabricadestartups.com.br/e-voluir-aceleracao-pnud>;

<https://inscricoes.fabricadestartups.com.br/e-voluir-pnud>

The initiative attracted more than 1,000 applications in the ideation phase from young professionals and graduate students from both PALOP resident nationals and members of the diasporas. A landing page for the initiative was established by Fábrica de Startups Brasil, under the guidance of UNDP's PALOP Country Offices. A call for entries was shared on social media channels and with partners and an online press conference was held in Guinea-Bissau to bring attention to the initiative.

Ten teams were eventually selected, each composed of three to four participants. In partnership with Fábrica de Startups Brasil, "E-voluir" provided support to the selected startups, starting with an intensive ideation week for the development of solutions (held online in February 2021). The teams were introduced to key innovation concepts and methods, notably the design-thinking approach, and how to design a business model, how to identify the persona of their solution, how to put together a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) and Proof of Concept (PoC) and how to prepare a pitch. The ideation week was followed by a 20-week acceleration programme, during which the winning teams were joined by ten early-stage startups from the PALOPs that already work on similar challenges. The 20-week acceleration programme entailed methodological sessions and workshops around business and entrepreneurial topics, such as PoC, Business Model, MVP, etc. Throughout "E-voluir," participating teams were put in contact with mentors and possible funding and technical partners. "E-voluir" officially ended on 29 July 2021, with a Demoday.

The selected startups with innovative solutions were:

- » Guinea-Bissau: 2 startups; Djemberém (business incubator) and ABIPTOM with its N'Djar Project (agricultural information digital platform for farmers)
- » Cabo Verde: 2 startups; CV Shopping (connecting farmers to urban market); Amatera (dehydration of fruits and vegetables to avoid food waste)
- » Angola: 1 startup; Iduka (e-education)
- » Mozambique: 1 startup; Geosmart (Disaster Risk Reduction solution focused on sensors and sirens for local communities)
- » São Tomé e Príncipe: 1 startup; Mina Pikina (safe transport to school children)

"E-voluir" was considered a success by participating country offices, partners and participants. Currently, UNDP Guinea-Bissau is reflecting on how to build upon what was achieved through this initiative and how to continue building bridges with other PALOP Country Offices to support young entrepreneurs and innovators. The initiative has shown that, even during a pandemic, it is possible to organize an online innovation journey, focusing on network development and on South-South cooperation. Although the initiative dealt with immediate solutions to the COVID-19 crisis, it also has potential long-term impacts, including the intensification of South-South cooperation among the PALOPs through exchanges of best practices and strengthening of Lusophone entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation networks.



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# Working with Guinea's Chamber of Mines and the Mining Industry to Enhance Local Development Impact



## Multi-stakeholder partnership to map and fund local initiatives that foster the social and environmental sustainability of the mining sector

### CHALLENGE

Guinea is one of Africa's poorest countries and is ranked 178 out of 189 countries worldwide according to the Human Development Index<sup>1</sup>. More than 36 percent of Guinea's 12.8 million inhabitants live on an income of less than US \$1.90 per day<sup>2</sup>. Mining is the predominant economic sector, based on the large-scale extraction of bauxite, aluminium and gold, and represents about 31 percent of government revenues<sup>3</sup>. However, mining operations leave behind environmental damage and often create social tensions. Mining requires machinery and skills that are not locally available; thus, the jobs that are accessible for local people often have low remuneration. Hence, while mining operations contribute to aggregate GDP, they do not always foster local development and can sometimes even harm local economies. A major factor limiting the mining sector's impact on local wealth is the absence of financial instruments to support access to domestic finance for project sponsors.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

This project was implemented by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Guinea. The objective of the project was to strengthen the capacity of Guinea's Chamber of Mines to play an intermediary role among the mining industry, the United Nations system and local governments to form robust and innovative partnerships to realize greater development impacts.

The project's programmatic framework focused on issues of common concern, one being climate change adaptation, which cannot be addressed solely by individual

1 <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/GIN>  
 2 <https://povertydata.worldbank.org/poverty/country/GIN>  
 3 [www.itie-guinee.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Rapport-ITIE-Guinee-2018-version-finale-signee-30122020.pdf](http://www.itie-guinee.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Rapport-ITIE-Guinee-2018-version-finale-signee-30122020.pdf)

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Guinea

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

9.3; 1.1; 1.2; 1.a; 10.1; 10.2; 17.1; 17.3; 17.16

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF); UNDP Guinea

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 - 2019

mining companies at the local level and require national-level engagement. The framework enabled mining sector partners to address challenges related to skills development and the creation of local employment opportunities through local content in mining supply chains at a sector-wide level. The project assisted in the preparation of a communication plan that engaged with stakeholders (including local communities) to build awareness about a joint vision for the development of the Guinean mining sector, corporate social responsibility and local content obligations of mining companies. The communication plan informed stakeholders about the objectives, actions and expected impacts of the project at both local and sector levels, including alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Building on the achievements of an earlier project (Support for Improved Governance of Mining Royalties – AGREM<sup>4</sup>) conducted by the Government of Guinea, UNCDF, UNDP and the Guinea Chamber of Mines that focused on the promotion of inclusive, transparent and accountable practices in the management and use of resources in local government, the project also set up a local development fund, capitalized from mining industry contributions with additional support from the United Nations system and development banks. To promote sustainability of the project's impacts, the local development fund finances strategic investments aligned with the programmatic framework that have high local development potential, using a range of financial instruments, such as matching grants, revolving grants for private initiatives, public-private partnerships, etc. When possible, the investments are used to leverage contributions from other stakeholders, such as the government, local communities and donor funded development projects.

Extractive industries represent an important part of many economies in Africa and initiatives that can make this sector more socially and environmentally responsible can add value and create more inclusive development. The project contributed to this end by generating and testing a new funding stream to invest in local development. Through enhanced South-South cooperation within the region, this project can provide a model for replication in other African countries in which the mining sector accounts for a large share of the GDP (such as Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Senegal).

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4 [www.uncdf.org/guinee](http://www.uncdf.org/guinee)

# Deaf Livelihoods Development Activity



## Lifting Kenyan people who are deaf and their families out of extreme poverty by actively engaging them in self-employment economic activities

### CHALLENGE

People with disabilities face several challenges to fully participate in society and its development, including discriminatory social attitudes that culminate in marginalization. According to the most recent census by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, about 150,000 Kenyans have hearing difficulties and prevalence rates of people with hearing difficulties range from 0.9 percent to 0.1 percent across all counties<sup>1</sup>.

It is difficult for young people who are deaf to find employment in the formal sector. Youth who are deaf may see self-employment as an important income generating option in view of the real or perceived absence of other opportunities in the job market. Yet, their socioeconomic vulnerability and a prejudice against their capacities to manage a business hinder their entrepreneurship. Moreover, adequate financial services and disability-inclusive entrepreneurship support are presently very limited.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Deaf Livelihoods Development Activity (DLDA) initiative was carried out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the Deaf Empowerment Society of Kenya (DESK), under UNDP's Economic Empowerment Programme, with support from the Government of Kenya, USAID and the Indian Institute of Public Health. This initiative mainstreamed inclusiveness in institutional and policy frameworks and empowered marginalized groups as economic agents through enhancing their entrepreneurship and vocational skills and promoting value chain development and business models. In particular, the DLDA aimed at empowering Kenyans that are deaf and their families to lift them out of poverty through self-employment by involving them in sustainable economic activities and inclusive business development.



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

India; Kenya

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

10.2; 8.5

### SUPPORTED BY

Government of Kenya; UNDP; USAID; Indian Institute of Public Health

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Deaf Empowerment Society of Kenya (DESK)

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2016 - 2018

### URL OF THE PRACTICE

<https://bit.ly/3IIIUMB>

<sup>1</sup> [www.devinit.org/resources/status-disability-kenya-statistics-2019-census/#downloads](http://www.devinit.org/resources/status-disability-kenya-statistics-2019-census/#downloads)

The initiative provided individuals who are deaf and hard-of-hearing with a one-month training programme in management, business plan formulation and skills development, as well as offered mentorship and financial support (seed capital in the form of assets). The initiative targeted people who are 18 years and above who are deaf, including both those who had active micro and small businesses and those wishing to start new businesses. The first phase of the initiative covered 29 Kenyan counties and reached 151 persons (80 males and 71 females).

Following the entrepreneurial training, DESK conducted visits to the beneficiary's business location to confirm their business ideas before procuring the needed equipment. It is worth noting that even before receiving the seed capital contributions, some beneficiaries had already started new income-generating activities based on the knowledge acquired from the training.

Through monitoring and evaluation, DESK will follow up with the beneficiaries and record lessons learned for improving the DLDA format. In addition to ensuring the sustainability and continued improvement of the initiative, the monitoring and evaluation exercise has also allowed the beneficiaries to receive additional mentorship and technical support.

DESK was sponsored by the Indian Institute of Public Health to attend a conference in 2018 to share the lessons learned from the DLDA initiative and other experiences on disability, health and inclusion.



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# Support to Cabo Verde's Housing Development



## Learning from the Brazilian experience in the development of housing projects for low-income populations



### CHALLENGE

The Government of Cabo Verde proclaimed 2009 the “Year of Housing” and endorsed measures and strategies to promote social housing throughout the country, seeking to lay the conditions for the gradual fulfilment of one of the constitutional determinations claimed by the population: the right to decent housing. The Casa para Todos (“House for All”) programme was thus developed that year, considering that the country had a quantitative housing deficit of about 40,000 units. However, a need existed to formally structure the programme through housing public policy that could institutionalize instruments required to promote and make feasible both the construction of new houses (8,500 units) and the rehabilitation of pre-existing precarious housing (about 16,000 units).

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Supported by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Support to Cabo Verde’s Housing Development project was a South-South knowledge transfer initiative implemented by Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA, a Brazilian state-owned financial services company), Brazil’s Ministry of Cities, Cabo Verde’s Ministry of Environment, Housing and Spatial Planning and Cabo Verde’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project facilitated the structuring of the Casa para Todos programme through the consolidation of the instruments and procedures required for its implementation. Project activities included technical visits to initiatives carried out by the Brazilian congenerous housing programme Minha Casa, Minha Vida (“My House, My Life”), the training of a team from the Cabo Verdean ministry in charge of housing, technical advice and the joint elaboration of support tools and guidelines for the development of housing projects for low-income populations.

The project trained Cabo Verdean professionals in analysis of unproven income. It provided technical advice to the ministry in charge of housing in several areas, notably:

- » consolidation of a methodology for calculating the housing deficit and assessing the inadequacy of houses;

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, Cabo Verde

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

11.1; 1.4

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

CAIXA; Brazil’s Ministry of Cities; Cabo Verde’s Ministry of Environment, Housing and Spatial Planning; Cabo Verde’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2010 - 2011

- » formulation of guidelines for the integration of municipalities into the National Social Housing System;
- » elaboration of the Casa para Todos programme's manuals;
- » calculation of the distribution of subsidies under the programme and the structuring of a guarantee fund;
- » formulation of a methodology for implementation of the urban policy instruments, in urban planning, legal and tax domains;
- » structuring of a national programme to support sustainable land regularization; and
- » structuring of multipurpose territorial cadastres.

Ensuring the project's sustainability, the outputs jointly elaborated by CAIXA and the Cabo Verdean ministry in charge of housing, comprised the following documents and instruments necessary for implementation:

- » bidder and engineering analysis manuals;
- » a social work manual (elaboration included the training of about 100 local agents);
- » a manual on operational procedures for contracting;
- » a technical analysis report on the adequacy of the structure of Cabo Verde's single cadastre (a registry system that enables the identification of low-income families that will benefit from the programme);
- » electronic selection of social housing beneficiaries through the single cadastre;
- » a financial model for ensuring the sustainability of the programme;
- » a financial calculation spreadsheet compatible with the local context;
- » a handbook of technological innovations; and
- » a spreadsheet aggregating parameters for the analysis of tenders for contracting construction firms.

Thanks to the results of this cooperation initiative, the Government of Cabo Verde was able to launch international tenders to build in a first stage 1,700 new housing units. The Support to Cabo Verde's Housing Development project is featured among the good practices disseminated by UN-Habitat's Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme.



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# Support to Urban Development in Mozambique



## Learning from Brazilian policies, methodologies and practices related to the provision of housing for low-income populations

### CHALLENGE

One of the great challenges Mozambique has faced is sufficient and adequate quality housing for its 30 million inhabitants, especially considering that more than 60 percent live below the poverty line<sup>1</sup>. Two thirds of Mozambicans live in rural areas, with restricted access to suitable materials and technologies for building decent houses<sup>2</sup>. According to UN-Habitat Mozambique, 80,000 new houses are needed annually in urban areas to accommodate natural population growth arising from rural-urban migration, on top of the fact that about 80 percent of existing urban housing is informal and has poor access to infrastructures and basic services<sup>3</sup>.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Aimed at reducing Mozambique's housing deficit, a Support to the Urban Development of Mozambique project was implemented by the Brazilian state-owned bank Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA), the University of São Paulo (USP), the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP), the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) and Mozambique's Ministry of Public Works and Housing, with support from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC). The project's technical cooperation activities covered the five areas listed below.

- » 1. Formulation of a housing policy directed at low-income populations (the central objective of the initiative).
- » 2. Production of low-cost building materials based on locally available raw materials, and the structuring of associative rural microenterprises for this purpose.
- » 3. Development of building typologies for social housing.

1 <https://povertydata.worldbank.org/poverty/home>

2 <https://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-country-programme-mozambique-2018-2021>

3 <https://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-country-programme-mozambique-2018-2021>



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil; Mozambique

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

11.1; 11.3; 11.c; 9.1; 9.a; 17.9; 17.16; 17.17

### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

CAIXA; University of São Paulo (USP); State University of Campinas (UNICAMP); Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ); Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS); Mozambique's Ministry of Public Works and Housing

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2007 - 2014

- » 4. Establishment of a national information system on construction costs and indexes.
- » 5. Architectural plans for the renovation of a construction industry technology centre.

The project's South-South activities included sharing knowledge between the two countries through the exchange of professionals from the Mozambican Ministry of Public Works and Housing and CAIXA. Technical visits to Brazil focused on learning about the country's experiences and main actors involved in the five axes of the project. In turn, visits were made to Mozambique to diagnose local housing demands (urban and rural) and survey the existing material, technological and infrastructural resources related to the provision of social housing, as well as to train technicians and rural communities to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

The project's main achievements were:

- » Approval in 2011 by the Council of Ministers of a Housing Policy and Strategy for Mozambique, developed with the participation of technicians and communities, through regional workshops and debates in different provinces, as well as a national seminar.
- » Transfer of knowledge (through two training sessions and the preparation of manuals) about the production of machines for the manufacturing of soil-cement bricks and plant-fibre tiles (two low-cost materials suitable for the Mozambican reality). This capacity-building component included establishment of an incubator of popular cooperatives to produce adapted building materials in the Technology Centre of Namialo (Nampula Province), whose staff were also trained in management.
- » Development of five model projects for low-income housing: three for rural areas, one for urban and suburban areas and one for people with special needs.
- » Establishment of partnerships for the creation of a system for monitoring civil construction costs in Mozambique (SINAGEC), an adapted replication of Brazil's congenerous SINAPI.
- » Architectural plans for the renovation and expansion of the Technology Centre of Namialo, which will be focused on research and training in locally appropriate construction technologies (in collaboration with the Engineering Laboratory of Mozambique), seeking to strengthen the province's rural microenterprises.

This South-South cooperation project was an award winner in the 2013-2014 edition of CAIXA's Best Practices in Local Management Programme, which recognizes and disseminates successful social-development experiences, carried out with the financial or technical support of the bank.



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# Support to Urban Development in Namibia



## Learning from Brazilian adapted construction methodologies, social-housing public policies and solid-waste management

### CHALLENGE

Namibia has experienced rapid urbanization since its independence in 1990, accompanied by the growth of numerous informal settlements<sup>1</sup>. About 38 per cent of the country’s urban population lives in slums. Namibia’s major cities are marked by the absence of land use regulations, the prevalence of precarious self-built housing and significant urban infrastructure shortcomings, calling for the structuring and implementation of public policies for urban development.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Support to the Urban Development of Namibia project was implemented by Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA), a Brazilian state-owned bank with extensive experience in the fields of urban development, housing and management of social programmes, and Namibia’s Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, with support from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC).

Based on the know-how of CAIXA, this South-South cooperation initiative encompassed three complementary components:

1. Support for the formulation of housing policies aimed at low-income populations. To inform the development of affordable-housing policies, a survey of existing Namibian legislation was carried out with officials from the targeted municipalities of Okahandja and Rehoboth and Namibia’s Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, as well as community representatives. After identifying Brazilian policies that could be adapted to the Namibian reality, a housing policy document for the country was debated. Topics discussed included land-use planning, the definition of housing-programme beneficiaries, environmental education and public participation. The Brazilian team recommended the adoption of



#### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil; Namibia

#### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

11.1; 11.3; 11.6; 9.1; 9.a

#### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)

#### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA); Namibia’s Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development

#### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

#### PROJECT PERIOD

2005 - 2008

<sup>1</sup> [www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/NamibiaCLIP092.pdf](http://www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/NamibiaCLIP092.pdf)

the participatory methodology as a new public policy paradigm in Namibia.

2. Transfer of unconventional construction methodologies suitable for the local context. To foster the construction of low-cost housing, a seminar was held on unconventional building methodologies (using local materials and labour), presenting examples from the Brazilian experience. A training session on the soil-cement technique took place in Okahandja municipality, with the presence of representatives of Namibia's Habitat Research Development Centre and UN-Habitat. Community members who attended the training learned how to produce and lay soil-cement blocks, among other construction details.
3. Development of a solid-waste management and sanitation pilot project. Successful Brazilian experiences in solid-waste management were shared and the situation in Namibia diagnosed. As a result, CAIXA provided training to women waste-pickers, who learned how to collect and store recyclable materials to be sold to recycling enterprises. Through the qualification of their work and by acting according to technical guidelines and in a joint manner, these women were able to increase their income. A diagnosis was done of the solid waste dumpsite where the municipality of Rehoboth disposed of its waste and, based on this, made recommendations to improve urban cleaning management and to carry out environmental education campaigns, the latter of which led to the following developments: the daily weighing of waste (and the ensuing issuance of monthly reports); the fencing of the dumpsite; the provision, by the municipality of Rehoboth, of a shed for the storage of recyclable materials; and the subcontracting of an additional enterprise for waste collection.

To ensure the sustained and scalable impact of the project, the Namibian technicians involved in the activities committed to form a community of practice to further develop the acquired knowledge and share it with additional municipalities. The project is now featured in UN-Habitat's "Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme" and it was also a great source of lessons for CAIXA, especially since it was the first South-South cooperation initiative implemented by the institution.



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# Support to the Urban Development of São Tomé and Príncipe



## Transferring know-how to enhance the São Tomé and Príncipe public administration’s capacity to develop and implement social-housing instruments and policies.

### CHALLENGE

About 36 percent of the population of São Tomé and Príncipe lives below the poverty line<sup>1</sup>. About 74 percent of the country’s population<sup>2</sup> are concentrated in urban areas that are characterized by unplanned peripheral neighbourhoods with insufficient infrastructures, where the lowest-income population lives. The low-income housing panorama is dominated by precarious dwellings, mainly built of wood (from the deforestation of native forests), that lack basic sanitation and are often inhabited by more than one family.

Provision of decent housing for this segment of the population is a challenge for national authorities, especially considering that the country lacked dedicated financing mechanisms and specific legislation for the development and implementation of housing programmes and projects, particularly for social housing. In addition, conventional building materials (such as cement bricks, pipes and paint) and construction tools and equipment are not produced locally and must be imported at high costs. This constitutes an additional burden for the vulnerable economy of this small island developing state.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Support to the Urban Development of São Tomé and Príncipe project was implemented by Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA), São Tomé and Príncipe’s Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure, Transport and Communications and São Tomé and Príncipe’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and supported by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC). It was based on the know-how of CAIXA, a Brazilian state-owned financial services company with extensive experience in the fields of urban development, housing and management of social programmes. This South-South cooperation initiative aimed at enhancing the



#### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Brazil, São Tomé and Príncipe

#### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

11.1; 11.c; 1.4

#### SUPPORTED BY

Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC); Caixa Econômica Federal (CAIXA)

#### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

CAIXA; São Tomé and Príncipe’s Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure, Transport and Communications; São Tomé and Príncipe’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

#### PROJECT PERIOD

2010 - 2017

1 <https://povertydata.worldbank.org/poverty/country/STP>  
 2 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS?locations=ST>

São Tomé and Príncipe public administration in the area of housing instruments and policies.

The project focused on three complementary components. The first component, capacity building in the structuring and management of social-development funds, supported the national government to establish a social-development fund for the provision of social housing in the country. This component mainly comprised the joint drafting of a proposed law for the creation of a national system of controlled-cost housing and the technical training of the government agents involved in the housing sector.

The territorial planning component of the project sought to transfer knowledge on urban planning to support the government of São Tomé and Príncipe to structure a policy in this area. It included the drafting of a basic-law proposal on territorial- and urban-planning policy and the formulation of a decree-law proposal laying the basis for the Urban-Expansion Plan of the city of São Tomé (Northern Sector, between Gongá, Santo Amaro and the airport) as well as for expansion plans of the district capitals and the capital of the Autonomous Region of Príncipe. In particular, the project contributed to institutionalization of the concerned policy-implementation body, the Directorate of Territorial Planning and Urban Development, through capacity-building activities and the acquisition of software and equipment.

The third component, housing policy and non-conventional construction methodologies, transferred knowledge to the technical staff of the São Tomé and Príncipe government on the use of non-conventional construction methodologies applicable to the country's reality, aiming to optimize the local construction standard. The intention was to streamline the use of equipment with high operational costs and of materials from native forests, reducing the environmental impacts of extraction. Dissemination of a soil-cement construction technique was applied in the construction of two model residential units. This component also resulted in the preparation of a draft housing legislation for São Tomé and Príncipe together with its implementation strategy.



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# Integrated Landscape Management for Improved Livelihoods



## Empowering communities in the Mount Elgon region of Uganda to manage their production landscapes for improved livelihoods and ecosystem resilience

### CHALLENGE

Located on the Uganda-Kenya border, Mount Elgon has the widest volcanic base in the world and is the oldest and largest solitary volcanic mountain in East Africa. Mount Elgon offers a variety of ecosystem goods and services essential to the livelihoods of the rural communities settled there. However, the ability of the ecosystem to continue providing these goods and services has been substantially diminished. This is mostly due to land degradation driven by insecure land tenure, overexploitation of natural resources, use of unsustainable agricultural practices, soil erosion, lack of integrated land-use planning and deforestation to create land for agriculture and settlement for the growing population. All these factors are exacerbated by climate change, jeopardizing the livelihoods and economic activities of the communities that depend on Mount Elgon's agricultural landscape.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Integrated Landscape Management for Improved Livelihoods project aimed to achieve a transformative shift from unsustainable to integrated sustainable land management in the Mount Elgon region of Uganda and sought to systematically reduce land degradation and risks of nature-induced disasters (notably floods and mudslides), whose economic losses can be significant. The project followed a landscape approach, whereby integrated land use management practices were reinforced by gender-responsive resource-management principles and by an enabling environment (bylaws and ordinances) developed through the participation of the community.

The project was implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of Uganda and the District Governments of Bulambuli, Manafwa and Mbale. The project received support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the National Forest Authority of Uganda, the Government of Uganda (Operation Wealth Creation), the Coffee Development Authority of Uganda, the Office of



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Kenya; Uganda

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

13.1; 13.3; 13.b; 1.4; 1.5; 1.a; 15.1; 15.2; 15.3; 15.4

### SUPPORTED BY

Global Environment Facility (GEF); UNDP; District Government of Bulambuli; District Government of Manafwa; District Government of Mbale; Uganda's National Forest Authority; Government of Uganda (Operation Wealth Creation); Uganda Coffee Development Authority; Office of the Prime Minister (Third Northern Uganda Social Action Fund); ECOTRUST; Uganda Women Environment Project; Mount Elgon Tree Planting Project; Kyagalanyi Coffee Limited; UNEP (UN-REDD Programme); Government of Germany (Low Emission Capacity Building project); European Union (Low Emission Capacity Building project)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Uganda's Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries; District Government of Bulambuli; District Government of Manafwa; District Government of Mbale

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2017 - 2020

the Prime Minister (Third Northern Uganda Social Action Fund), ECOTRUST, the Uganda Women Environment Project, the Mount Elgon Tree Planting Project, Kyagalanyi Coffee Limited, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN-REDD Programme, the Government of Germany (Low Emission Capacity Building project) and the European Union (Low Emission Capacity Building project).

Project's activities included a South-South learning visit to the Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund Project in Kenya, attended by Ugandan farmers and technical officers from three district governments and from three of the five ministries that form the national inter-ministerial committee on sustainable land management. The host team introduced the visit participants to Kenyan farmers involved in fish production, fruit tree nurseries and coffee irrigation, as well as to the project partners overseeing and providing technical support and services to the related value-chain actors (World Agroforestry (ICRAF), the National Water and Sewerage Corporation, the Kenya Water Resource Authority and the Kenya National Roads Authority).

During the visit, the Ugandan farmers learned that in the mountain areas they can harvest runoff water from roads into cheaply made water reservoirs reinforced with polythene dam liners. They can then use the water for fish and yam production, while protecting the soil from landslides through planting bamboo around the reservoirs. The bamboo later provides good charcoal for household use and for income generation. Up to now, three groups of farmers (each with 25 members, half of whom are women) are implementing the lessons learned around three water reservoirs. In addition, Self Help Africa, an indigenous NGO working in Mount Muhabura in Southwestern Uganda, supported 52 farmers (including 29 women) to attend a learning event in the Mount Elgon region, focusing on community-level methods used to halt land degradation and landslides.

To avert climate change effects (notably a higher incidence of heavy rains leading to floods and mudslides), the project established 1,142 kilometres of contour bunds, 525 kilometres of grass bunds, 30 kilometres of stone bunds, 44 hectares of woodlots, 330 hectares of agroforestry (mainly fruit and fuelwood), 30 kilometres of bamboo rows and 50 kilometres of hedgerows in the districts bordering Mount Elgon (Sironko, Mbale, Manafwa and Bulambuli). The planting of Napier grass and Calliandra on contour bunds served the dual purpose of reducing soil erosion while increasing fodder available for livestock. Alongside the use of composite manure, these practices improved soil fertility and water retention capacity. The project also constructed 3,150 energy-saving stoves, which are contributing to reductions in the firewood used by the communities for cooking. Furthermore, the establishment of 33 demonstration plots of coffee-banana systems showcase and support the uptake of sustainable land and forestry management, climate-change mitigation technologies and household level approaches.

These initiatives are easily replicable as they require accessible materials and can be carried out by local community members who benefit from the activities through increased availability of food and income.



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# Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation in School Curricula in Lesotho



## Reducing climate change vulnerability through awareness raising and the dissemination of ecosystem management adaptation measures in schools

### CHALLENGE

Climate change is negatively affecting rural communities of Lesotho. While the country's mountain ecosystems provide a range of benefits that can increase the resilience of such communities to climate change, these ecosystems are fragile and face widespread degradation as a result of unsustainable land management and exploitation of natural resources, which reduces their capacity to protect communities and their livelihoods.

Climate change adaptation in Lesotho faces multiple barriers, including:

- » insufficient technical capacity and a limited information base for the analysis of climate risks;
- » a low level of application of cutting-edge technologies in the planning and implementation of climate-smart ecosystem rehabilitation and management measures; and
- » limited institutional and community awareness and knowledge of climate risks and adaptation measures.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

To improve the climate change challenges facing Lesotho the Reducing Vulnerability from Climate Change in the Foothills, Lowlands and the Lower Senqu River Basin (RVCC) project was adopted to enhance the capacity of technical personnel to manage climate change risks and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities. This process involved, among other actions, changing mindsets. Therefore, it was critical to target future generations, in particular young people at schools.

The project was implemented by Lesotho's Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project mainstreamed climate risk considerations in Lesotho's Land Rehabilitation



Towards Mainstreaming Climate Smart Ecosystems Rehabilitation and Management in The Lesotho School Curriculum, "Through The Voice of a Learner as an Individual and A Member of the Society".

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Lesotho

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

13.1; 13.3; 13.b; 15.1; 15.2; 15.3; 15.4

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP; Global Environment Facility (GEF)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Lesotho's Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 - 2019

Programme. The goal was improved ecosystem resilience and reduced vulnerability of livelihoods to climate shocks.

One project activity was providing access to knowledge and training on adaptation using an ecosystem-management approach. After enhancing the technical capacities of the Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation (MFRSC) and other relevant departments regarding the management of evolving climate-change risks and uncertainty, MFRSC and Ministry of Education officers partnered with a local NGO called Geography and Environment Movement to mobilize teachers and led a team that developed a climate change adaptation manual for schools.

A rapid assessment of available resources was done at the targeted schools. The assessment informed development of the training manuals and the provision of agricultural inputs, such as shade nets, drip-irrigation system kits and water-harvesting tanks, for practical applications (for example, crop production to complement a school feeding programme). Three community councils in the Mphahlele district were chosen as the implementation sites. The project facilitated a five-day training for the schoolteachers and a two-day training for pupils in five environmental thematic areas: climate change, rangeland management, soil conservation, water and agriculture.

The validation of the manual was followed by training of teachers, school board members, local authorities and learners from 27 schools. The launching of the manual reinforced the involvement of stakeholders in terms of awareness, capacity building and lifelong ownership, even beyond the lifespan of the project. In addition, before the launch, a meeting was held with senior officials from the ministries in charge of forestry and education and other line ministries and media briefs provided updates on the project's progress and expected activities. This was another way of reinforcing the project's ownership and sustainability measures. After the launch, a one-day workshop was held for principals, chiefs and their headmen as well as councillors for 27 beneficiary schools. The objective of the workshop was to inform member schools on how the project will intervene following material support and what is expected from them.

The climate change adaptation manual for schools has been adopted by the Ministry of Education and the National Curriculum Development Centre with the intention of rolling it out to the rest of the district and the country. This initiative is building on other initiatives, such as a school feeding programmes aimed at enhancing nutrition for pupils from disadvantaged communities through protected crop production. Furthermore, a newly launched GEF-funded project implemented in the Thaba Tseka, Mafeteng and Quthing Districts is replicating this initiative.

The activity has already reached 52 teachers and 1,170 students (538 males and 632 females) and the manual is still in use in 24 primary schools and three high schools. The launch of the manual at national and community council levels was a key event for raising climate change awareness and to draw technical support for climate change

adaptation implementation; the launch was attended by 60 project partners and 413 students from 3 schools.

The impacts of climate changes in Africa are wide ranging and in many cases are the primary drivers of vulnerability and poverty. As countries across Africa take steps to fulfil their Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement, it will be essential to mainstream, scale up and accelerate climate change adaptation initiatives across the continent through South-South Cooperation. Therefore, the mainstreaming solution in this project holds high potential for South-South cooperation with other African countries faced with the serious challenges of climate change. Potential South-South exchanges can start with countries next to Lesotho, such as Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa, which experience similar climate change impacts and challenges. Such South-South exchanges on mainstreaming climate change adaptation approaches and management of climate risks can involve ministries of environment, education, other line ministries, NGOs and selected schools in those potential partner countries and can be further integrated into other ongoing climate change adaptation initiatives in those countries.



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# Capacity Development Support to Kenya's Foreign Service Academy



## Enhancing the formulation, management and articulation of Kenya's foreign policy and providing career development pathways for the country's diplomats

### CHALLENGE

The global environment in which diplomats operate is dynamic and constantly changing. Thus, besides bringing a robust doctrine, diplomats should have multi-faceted skills in the economic, social, environmental and political fields to enable them to effectively promote national interests on the international stage.

The Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs established the Foreign Service Academy (FSA) in 2007 to champion the professional needs and enhance the capacities of its officers through training and foreign-policy research and analysis. However, a recent assessment of the FSA's performance indicated that it has been unable to effectively deliver on its mandate. Major shortcomings identified include a lack of a clear organizational structure and a nonresponsive curriculum, as well as inadequacies in financial and human resources. Moreover, factors such as a lack of systematic recruitment, outdated foreign-service regulations and unfocused career development have not been able to stimulate key staff.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya has been seeking to reengineer the FSA to provide for continuous training of the entire foreign-service cadre and selected governmental officers. The aim is to strengthen their capacity to advance Kenya's foreign-policy goals and to provide career development pathways within the national and multilateral contexts.

The Capacity Development Support to the Foreign Service Academy project was implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It was a multi-pronged initiative that involved: 1) the establishment and launching of the FSA's International Advisory Board; 2) a review of the FSA's programmes and activities to align with Kenya's foreign-policy goals; and 3) the establishment of partnerships with the United Nations and other international entities to



### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Algeria; Central African Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Egypt; Ethiopia; Gabon; India; Kenya; Nigeria; Republic of Korea; South Africa; Sudan; Uganda; United States of America

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.6

### SUPPORTED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2019

enhance skills and career pathways for national staff within the MFA and in the multilateral system.

The first phase of the initiative contributed to equipping the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the appropriate policy framework for effective, accessible, participatory, equitable, transparent and accountable service delivery. The outputs of this phase comprised:

- » enhancing the operational and project-management capacities of the MFA (including through the setting up of digitized procedures), enabling staff to administer protocol services and manage diplomatic privileges and immunities in the most efficient manner; and
- » strengthening the training, research and advisory capacities of the FSA, geared towards making it the leading diplomacy institute in the region.

Activities of the initiative's second phase encompassed:

- » designing and developing a knowledge management information system and an integrated library information management system;
- » expanding the FSA's resource centre; and
- » documenting and archiving Kenya's foreign-policy evolution since independence, to reinforce institutional memory.

With UNDP support, the initiative benefited from South-South engagements that offered opportunities for learning best practices from other countries and domesticating these to the local context. Benchmarking visits were carried out to congenerous FSAs in Egypt and India (besides the Republic of Korea and the United States). The team involved then interacted with four diplomatic training institutions, three government-affiliated research and policy analysis bodies and five privately funded think tanks. Lessons learned through these meetings resulted, among others, in the proposition of a new curriculum.

Furthermore, a consultative forum of African diplomatic academies was organized in Nairobi in December 2019, bringing together 12 countries to share experiences: Algeria, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda. The richness of the discussions in this South-South meeting prompted the participants to call upon the African Union to provide overarching guidance on training and skills development within all regional diplomatic academies. It also engendered a collective commitment to strengthen consultations and collaborations within participant networks to provide support to the diplomatic academies in their respective countries. This included establishing partnerships to ensure the financial sustainability of the academies, reinforcing their research and policy analysis units and working closely with think tanks to refine their agendas for government engagement.



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# Community Dialogue Platform for Social Cohesion and Local Development



## Establishment of inclusive dialogue frameworks in Togolese municipalities for the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflict

### CHALLENGE

Despite various dialogue processes geared towards national reconciliation, Togo's stability remains fragile due to the country's vulnerability to political conflict and the weak resilience of institutions and communities to conflicts. The socio-political crisis is slowing the country's development momentum and hampering its achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Also, in Togo, young people (aged 15-24 years) account for 38 percent of the total population<sup>1</sup>, which represents a potential factor for socio-political instability and violent internal conflict, especially when associated with poverty and unemployment. Therefore, it is essential to prevent Togolese youth from being marginalized and to strengthen their identity as citizens to enhance their potential capacities for peace and socio-economic recovery.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Aware of the current socioeconomic and political challenges, in its National Development Plan (2018-2022), the Government of Togo committed to strengthening social cohesion, improving governance and accelerating the decentralization process. The government also understood that at the municipality level, social cohesion as an intrinsic element of development processes must be embraced or communities would run the risk of conflict situations, compromising achievement of the prosperity expected from the National Development Plan and the SDGs.

Thus, the project Community Dialogue Platform for Social Cohesion and Local Development is being implemented by Togo's Ministry of Human Rights, Training, Citizenship and Relations with the Institutions of the Republic and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Togo's Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization, Togo's Ministry of

<sup>1</sup> [www.unfpa.org/data/adolescent-youth/TG](http://www.unfpa.org/data/adolescent-youth/TG)

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Benin, Ghana, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.1; 16.3; 16.6; 16.7; 16.a; 5.5

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP Togo; Togo's Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization; Togo's Ministry of Social Action, Women's Empowerment and Literacy; Togo's Ministry of Grassroots Development, Crafts and Youth; WANEP Togo; Catholic Relief Services; MINODOO

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Togo's Ministry of Human Rights, Training, Citizenship and Relations with the Institutions of the Republic

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2019 - 2021

Social Action, Women's Empowerment and Literacy, Togo's Ministry of Grassroots Development, Crafts and Youth, and the non-governmental organizations WANEP Togo, Catholic Relief Services and MINODOO.

This project seeks to achieve SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) as an essential basis for the accomplishment of all the other SDGs. The project targets 20 municipalities for the establishment of inclusive dialogue frameworks on social cohesion and local development. The project is based on the experience of the Local Peace Committees established in all prefectures of Togo<sup>2</sup>. It intends to strengthen the technical capacities of the municipalities to adopt inclusive approaches to intra- and inter-community dialogue for the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts. The project includes the creation of peace, social cohesion and leadership clubs in schools.

The approach followed combines an appraisal method called "4Ds" (Discover, Dream, Design and Delivery) with a peacebuilding method called "3Bs" (Binding, Bonding and Bridging). The 4Ds help people face their own fears and mistrust and to envision a future free from conflict, poverty and exclusion and lay foundations for social engagement. The 3Bs encompass: 1) binding activities to create an additional space for individual reflection and individual healing; 2) relationship building activities within identity groups; and 3) bridging activities that develop trust between and among identity groups. The combination of the 4Ds and 3Bs has shown to be an effective way for groups, organizations and communities that are undergoing a crisis or facing challenges to examine differences, find common ground, collaborate for mutual benefit and envision a harmonious future.

Three peace clubs have been created in three pilot municipalities, allowing 13,620 students (51 percent of whom are girls) to be sensitized on living together, the prevention of violent extremism and the peaceful management of land and leading to the definition by the youth of a vision for their municipality. More than 400 local actors (42 percent of whom are women) have been trained in social cohesion, including mayors, opinion leaders and young people. This made it possible to conduct various connector initiatives, such as the creation of youth groups carrying out public health actions, sports awareness-raising activities in public spaces and the drafting of petitions to local authorities on specific social and environmental issues.

Electronic collaborative platforms will support the dialogue frameworks put in place, enhancing communication between local authorities, local administrations and other main players, in particular women and young people. At the same time, these platforms should help improve the visibility, knowledge bases, experiences and lessons learned from the project. South-South project exchanges are planned with other countries known to have rebuilding experiences involving living together between and within communities, such as Benin, Ghana, Rwanda and Senegal.



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<sup>2</sup> <https://hcrrun-tg.org/pour-un-processus-electoral-apaise-les-comite-locaux-de-paix-formes-par-le-hcrrun>

# Electoral Transparency and Credibility



## Strengthening the capacity of Mozambican electoral management bodies to enhance the transparency and credibility of electoral processes

### CHALLENGE

Despite the recognized operational experience of the local electoral management bodies (EMBs) and their technical know-how developed since the country's first electoral process in 1994, Mozambique still faces several challenges to ensure efficient, transparent and credible electoral processes. Voter participation has been below 50 percent since 2009 and the release of electoral results has been marked by excessive delays. Dispute resolution and complaint procedures are also still not accessible or clear. Furthermore, for the first time, the district judges were called upon to solve electoral disputes in the 2018 ballot and thus required special training in electoral matters. Election-related communication and education targeting both voters and electoral officers are much needed across the country.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Electoral Transparency and Credibility project provides tailored technical assistance to Mozambique's EMBs to strengthen their capacities through an electoral cycle approach, contributing to the creation and maintenance of an environment for inclusive and responsive electoral and political processes. It seeks to strengthen the capacity of a broad range of stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of and consolidation of democracy at local and national levels.

The project is implemented by Mozambique's National Electoral Commission (Comissão Nacional Eleitoral - CNE), the Technical Secretariat for the Administration of Elections (Secretariado Técnico de Administração Eleitoral - STAE) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project is supported by the Governments of Canada, Finland and Norway and the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom.

**Mozambique Elections 2019**  
 Presidential, Legislative and Provincial  
 SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION



#### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Mozambique; Timor-Leste; the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

#### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.3; 16.6; 16.7; 10.2

#### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP; Government of Canada; Government of Finland; Government of Norway; Department for International Development of the United Kingdom

#### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Comissão Nacional Eleitoral (National Electoral Commission – CNE); Secretariado Técnico de Administração Eleitoral (Technical Secretariat for the Administration of Elections – STAE); UNDP Mozambique

#### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

#### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 - 2021

The project started during the last quarter of 2018 with specialized training and support provided by UNDP to STAE, the Supreme Court and the National Police. To achieve transparent 2019 presidential, legislative and provincial electoral processes in Mozambique, two electoral management delegations from Timor-Leste and three from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela were invited to exchange experiences. The delegations arrived in Mozambique a week before election day and during their monitoring visits were able to meet political parties, presidential candidates, civil society organizations and other electoral stakeholders. Before leaving, after the announcement of the preliminary election results, the delegations presented their observation findings to the Mozambican EMBs. Overall, the delegation visits contributed to the effective management of the elections and was eventually validated by other observation groups as well.

These exchange programmes helped all the EMBs involved enhance their capacity, through a collective learning process. For instance, Timor-Leste, which is just beginning to conduct and manage elections, had an opportunity to strengthen its own national electoral management system and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which has a similar electoral management system, learned from the Mozambican experience before its own 2020 parliamentary elections.

Such cooperation between EMBs is sustainable as it can substantially enhance the transparency of electoral processes and assure credibility. The costs involved in these programmes are generally not high and mutual agreements between EMBs can further contribute to the effective management of elections.



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# Enhancing Human and Institutional Capacity in the Justice Sector in Eritrea



## Online learning programmes on Eritrean law for Ministry of Justice officials and community court judges

### CHALLENGE

Following its independence in 1991, Eritrea faced the challenge of the codification of its laws, based on the country's values, history and culture and the socio-economic aspirations of its people. The country's tradition of peaceful dispute resolution by community members in accordance with customary laws became the mainstay of the present formal community-court system, established in 2003. Civil and criminal codes and their related procedures were successfully published in 2015. These advancements nonetheless represented a heavy burden for the justice sector, which did not have the capacity to effectively manage the almost 400 community courts countrywide.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The project Enhancing Human and Institutional Capacity in the Justice Sector in Eritrea seeks to strengthen the performance of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) of Eritrea and improve the administration of justice in the country. The project is implemented by the MoJ, which is responsible for achieving the expected results and ensuring that the outputs are produced through effective use of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) fund.

The project is professionalizing and strengthening the legal services department of the MoJ so that it can adequately address emerging and anticipated legal trends and anomalies (such as transnational legal anomalies in the areas of maritime law, transnational crime, environmental law, investment and corporate law and a cybersecurity legal framework). The capacity of the judges appointed to the almost 400 community courts countrywide is being strengthened to improve the business efficiency of justice processes and administration. The efficiency and effectiveness of justice services at community courts are being enhanced through newly recruited law graduates that complement the roles of community court judges. It is envisaged that the law

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Eritrea; South Africa

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.3; 16.6; 4.4; 4.7

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Eritrea's Ministry of Justice; UNDP

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2019 - 2021

graduates will also undergo training to assimilate into this court system and the justice administrative processes.

The MoJ training centre will serve as a training hub and centre of excellence providing revised curriculum and support for public services. Training, including online and in-house training, will be available locally, regionally and internationally. Activities will include study and exploratory visits, curriculum development and peer support exchanges between countries with similar legal systems.

As part of the project, the MoJ and UNDP engaged with the University of South Africa (UNISA) through a South-South cooperation modality to create specialized online Eritrean law learning programmes for MoJ officials. MoJ officials with Bachelor of Law degrees can register for the Master of Law and training in business leadership and management and newly recruited officials, as well as community court judges, can register for the diploma in law.

The majority of MoJ staff are currently holders of Bachelor of Law degrees, diplomas and certificates, with few specializations. Only five officials are holders of Master of Law degrees. By increasing this number twentyfold, the project envisages transforming the human resource landscape of the ministry, enabling the administration of justice to be fulfilled with a higher degree of professionalism, efficiency and effectiveness. The newly trained legal cadres are expected to be able to contribute to the sustainability of the project by supplementing the shortage of instructors at the School of Law and by conducting upgrading training programmes at the ministry.

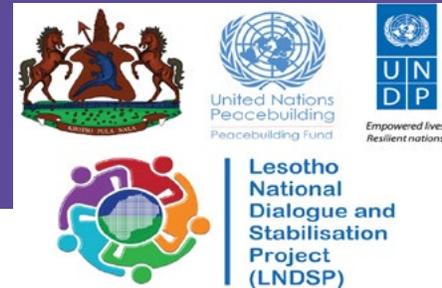
The 2020 cohort of 52 students are performing well and based on assignment and examination results received thus far, many students have obtained distinctions. It was noted that, in particular, female students are performing best. 41 new graduate students are registered for 2021.

This South-South aspect of the project will improve, enhance and strengthen the administration of justice and ensure greater accessibility to justice-related services in Eritrea. This supports Pillar 3 of the Public Sector Capacity Development of the Strategic Partnership Co-operation Framework (SPCF) between the Government of Eritrea and the United Nations and contributes to SDG implementation, especially Goal 16. It promotes gender equality in both the training of females and through a significant improvement of and consistency in legal administrative services being provided for the entire country.

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# Lesotho National Dialogue and Stabilization Project



## Facilitating consensus building and catalyzing an environment conducive to comprehensive national reforms in Lesotho

### CHALLENGE

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has long been recommending reforms in Lesotho as a basis for its enduring stability and peace. However, several SADC summit decisions have remained unimplemented, mainly due to security fears, government instability and lack of political consensus. Since 1998, SADC has been providing a window of stability in the country through peacekeeping military interventions and preventive oversight initiatives (notably election observation missions); yet the high associated costs are not sustainable.

It is now widely perceived that the successful implementation of the reforms requires the inclusion of all stakeholders, in particular women, who had been largely missing in the previous political dialogues and stabilization efforts. Thus, SADC, the government and the opposition have agreed that the reforms must be preceded by a multi-stakeholder national dialogue to build consensus on processes and content and to seek ways of promoting long-term reconciliation and unity.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Lesotho National Dialogue and Stabilization Project (LNDSP) gathered the Government of Lesotho, the United Nations, the SADC Secretariat and Member States (with South Africa as a sponsor and facilitator) and other partners to collaborate towards an inclusive national dialogue to create an enabling environment for comprehensive national reforms. The project is implemented by the Government of Lesotho, the National Dialogue Planning Committee, SADC, the Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organizations, the Christian Council of Lesotho and United Nations agencies (UNDP, UN Women, UNHCR and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), with support from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund and UNDP. The project supported national consensus and trust building through a multilevel dialogue on the proposed reforms, involving urgent stabilization measures

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

SADC member states (Angola; Botswana; Comoros; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Eswatini; Lesotho; Madagascar; Malawi; Mauritius; Mozambique; Namibia; Seychelles; South Africa; United Republic of Tanzania; Zambia; Zimbabwe)

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.1; 16.3; 16.6; 16.7; 16.a; 5.5

### SUPPORTED BY

United Nations Peacebuilding Fund; UNDP

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

UNDP; UN Women; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); Government of Lesotho; National Dialogue Planning Committee; Southern African Development Community (SADC); Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organizations; Christian Council of Lesotho

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 - 2020

in the security sector, women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming and the development and implementation of a communications strategy.

To contextualize the reforms, especially security sector related ones, the project used volunteer experts from SADC Member States who were familiar with the Lesotho context. This reduced the project's implementation cost. Through the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation and the Summit of Heads of States and Governments, SADC provided a political deadlock-breaking mechanism in which shuttle diplomacy was applied to defuse tensions and bring conflicting parties to the negotiation table.

In addition to engaging experts from the SADC region and leveraging the political capital of the SADC Organ, the project utilized South-South cooperation by relying on the mobilization capability of civil society and faith-based organizations in SADC member countries. National partners – the Christian Council of Lesotho and Lesotho Council for NGOs - and their regional counterparts adopted traditional dialogue mechanisms to get views and input of citizens on the reforms. A fulltime SADC Facilitation Team led by the President of South Africa was established to engage with SADC, thus serving as a political and social deadlock breaking mechanism to defuse tensions in the dialogue process. The SADC also provided timelines and oversight which sustained regional engagement. Importantly, South Africa's experience with transitioning from apartheid rule and the handling of internal conflicts through a mediating role was critical to the negotiations and consensus building.

The national dialogue process identified the institutions that should be reformed to enhance good governance, social accountability and cohesion. Other results included:

1. National agreement on reform content and options for implementation, safeguarded by a legal and institutional framework and endorsed inclusively by different state and non-state stakeholders.
2. A strong foundation for a comprehensive vision, strategy and policy for the national security sector, with reduced tensions and enhanced participation of the sector in the reforms process through policy assessment, engagement and concurrence with the sector's high command, counselling and psychosocial support to 1,200 security members, and security training of 500 trainers.
3. The communication strategy for national dialogue and reforms led to increased access to coherent information on the national dialogue and reform process and mobilization of the public to effectively participate in district consultations.
4. Implementation arrangements for resolutions and decisions of national reform were established through the enactment of the National Reforms Authority Act, 2019, which constitutes a safeguard to insulate the reform process from interference. These arrangements resulted in the mobilization of over \$4 million for reform implementation, including support from the European Union, UNDP and the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund.



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# Provincial Peace Committees



## Setting up sustainable structures for the prevention and resolution of conflict within communities in Zimbabwe

### CHALLENGE

A baseline mapping process conducted in Zimbabwe in 2016 and 2018 by two civil society organizations, the Research and Advocacy Unit and Heal Zimbabwe Trust, showed that conflict causes, management and transformation are singularly peculiar to each province. For example, while some provinces grappled with historically unresolved conflicts, others struggled with violent flare-ups. Accordingly, solutions need to be tailored and targeted to address these peculiarities. In contrast, solutions adapted from other models have resulted in gaps, including exclusion of communities and lack of decentralization and most often caused more harm than good due to improper fit to the local context. Home-grown options thus stand as a necessity rather than an option.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

The Provincial Peace Committees initiative is supported by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and implemented by national partners, specifically the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission, a constitutionally mandated body dealing with issues of national healing, truth and reconciliation and conflict prevention, management and transformation.

The initiative undertakes conflict prevention and resolution interventions in Zimbabwe that are home grown, localized and context-specific in addressing provincial peculiarities, while ensuring that community approaches to participatory inclusion are modelled in the related solutions. This entails strengthening local capacities to investigate and handle complaints, while feeding into a broad peace architectural design on citizen engagement, dispute resolution and national healing.

South-South learning, facilitated by UNDP with the engagement of experts from Ghana, Kenya and South Africa, contributed to the development of a

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Ghana; Kenya; South Africa; Zimbabwe

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.1; 16.3; 16.6; 16.7; 16.a; 5.5

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP, United Nations Peacebuilding Fund

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Zimbabwe's Office of President and Cabinet; Zimbabwe's Office of the Vice-President; Zimbabwe's Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare; National Peace and Reconciliation Commission; Traditional Chiefs Council; National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations; Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations; UNDP; United Nations Children's Fund; UN Women

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2019 - 2021

decentralized system to enhance conflict prevention, management and transformation within Zimbabwe's ten provinces. Experts consulted were former members and commissioners of truth and reconciliation commissions who had overseen truth, healing and reconciliation initiatives in their home countries. The South-South exchanges mainly focused on conflict early-warning and early-response mechanisms and their importance in maintaining peace and the significant role of public hearings as a tool for national healing and reconciliation. The National Peace and Reconciliation Commission secretariat and members of Provincial Peace Committees, which included civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, academia, community leaders, political parties, gender activists and youth representatives, participated in the knowledge exchanges.

Ten Provincial Peace Committees were established by the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission in 2019, each with around 30 members ensuring a wide representation base, including at-risk populations, such as persons with disabilities, women and youth. Through the initiative, the Provincial Peace Committees are supported to be key referral points for addressing peculiar perennial issues experienced in each province and communities gain first-hand knowledge of their peculiar problems.

Following the success of the Provincial Peace Committees, local chapters have been created that contribute to systematically monitoring the prevailing environment and setting off conflict early warning and response. Entrusting communities to be custodians of peaceful environments in the provinces contributes to the sustainability of the project. The Provincial Peace Committees also provide an operational window for the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission, which currently does not have offices in the main Zimbabwean cities, by allowing it to decentralize its services through an agreed partnership.



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# Accelerating the Implementation of African Union Treaties in São Tomé and Príncipe



## South-South learning from the Beninese judicial system's experience in the domestication of human-rights treaties

### CHALLENGE

The judiciary in São Tomé and Príncipe was (and still is) building the necessary skills and knowledge to implement the principles and norms embodied in the international human rights treaties it has signed, in general, and, more specifically, those enshrined as part of its obligations under African Union Treaties. Therefore, the country and its judges, prosecutors and lawyers are working to implement the interpretation and application of international human rights documents into their daily routine, which would allow to further harmonize and implement in the country's legal structure, through its internal judicial system, the legal provisions contained in international treaties.

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

In the framework of the joint African Union-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) project, Accelerating the Ratification and Domestication of African Union Treaties, a regional initiative supported by the Government of Sweden, anchored in UNDP's Regional Programme for Africa and implemented by the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa, a familiarization visit to Benin by São Tomé and Príncipe judicial bodies took place in December 2019. This visit was to promote the exchange of Beninese good practices in dealing with and interpreting cases based on ratified African Union human rights treaties.

This South-South initiative was implemented by the Government of Benin, the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe and UNDP country offices in São Tomé and Príncipe and Benin. The main objective of this three-day South-South exchange visit was to gather inputs from the recognized Beninese experience in the domestication and implementation of regional treaties.

The São Tomé and Príncipe delegation was composed of judges representing the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance, as well as a prosecutor. The programme of the visit was drawn

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Benin; São Tomé and Príncipe

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

16.3; 16.6; 5.5

### SUPPORTED BY

Government of Sweden; UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Government of São Tomé and Príncipe; Government of Benin; UNDP in Benin and São Tomé and Príncipe

### PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 - 2021

up jointly by the two countries with UNDP support. Benin accepted the Court's jurisdiction to receive complaints brought by individuals and NGOs with observer status before the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights on 8 February 2016. The country's judiciary has earned significant and important experience in human rights cases as a result of the individual access of citizens to the direct implementation of African Union treaties.

The Santomean delegation had working sessions involving several Beninese entities, including authorities in charge of penitentiary administration, of human-rights protection and of supervised education and social protection of minors, as well as the Cotonou Court, the Cotonou Court of Appeal and the Constitutional Court.

The exchange of experiences enabled the São Tomé and Príncipe representatives to familiarize themselves with how human rights violations claimed by common citizens are legally addressed in compliance with ratified African Union treaties. The visit helped raise the awareness of the judges on the importance of fulfilling their international commitments, in view of their key law enforcement role.

To ensure the sustainability of the initiative and the achievement of practical results in terms of democratic governance and rule of law, the project is supporting São Tomé and Príncipe to create a favourable environment for good practices to be adapted and replicated. One of the measures taken in this direction was the institutionalization of a national committee and an observatory for the transposition of African Union treaties.

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# Investment Clubs for Local Development



## Mobilizing domestic savings and diaspora community funds for productive investments in Senegal

### CHALLENGE

Despite Senegal's relatively high GDP growth rates in recent years (4.4-7.4 percent between 2014-2019)<sup>1</sup> nearly half of the country's 16.3 million inhabitants live in poverty, according to the multidimensional poverty ratio, with a concentration in rural areas<sup>2</sup>. Although many poverty reduction initiatives have been implemented over the years, economic growth is not leading to sufficient reduction of poverty. The decentralization process has not yet been able to trigger the desired local development in rural areas and a lack of resources in and for secondary cities undermines development prospects. Moreover, due to poverty, migration to other countries is significant. Remittances thus play an important role in supporting families, but they also tend to widen economic disparities in local communities and motivate more migration as a result of social comparisons. At the same time, a large part of private savings is being invested in non-productive sectors (real estate, in particular).

### TOWARDS A SOLUTION

Through a partnership between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Senegal and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), an initiative called the Investment Clubs for Local Development formed Investment Clubs for both Senegalese living in the country and those in diaspora communities (in West Africa, Libya, Mauritania, Europe and the United States) to help them make productive investments. By building financial and legal structures, offering financial education to the rising middle class and migrants and providing technical assistance, the initiative has helped channel diaspora remittances to more productive and economically viable investments with high social impact in secondary cities and rural areas.

1 <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?locations=SN>.  
 2 <https://povertydata.worldbank.org/poverty/home>.

### COUNTRIES | REGIONS | TERRITORIES

Senegal

### NOMINATED BY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET(S)

17.1; 17.3; 17.17; 1.a; 1.b; 8.3; 9.3; 10.1; 10.b; 11.a

### SUPPORTED BY

UNDP

### IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF); UNDP Senegal

### PROJECT STATUS

Completed

### PROJECT PERIOD

2018 – 2020

Funds deposited in the Investment Clubs were supported by matching grants to boost participant willingness to invest, while encouraging investments that generate social change alongside financial returns. The resulting funds made seed capital available to catalytic and bankable projects with strong developmental impact. These projects are prepared and de-risked by UNCDF through the technical assistance of its mechanisms, in particular the Local Finance Initiative. The Investment Clubs initiative demonstrated to the Senegalese middle class and diaspora groups how their savings can contribute to local economic development.

Compared to other similar private initiatives in Senegal, the advantage of the Investment Clubs is their link to the UNCDF capacity to source projects geared towards the achievement of the SDGs and to carry out feasibility studies for projects until they reach financial sustainability. Projects benefit from UNCDF's dual system of assessing and monitoring impacts and providing technical assistance and capacity building so that projects reach creditworthiness stage.

The initiative conducted market research to identify expectations of the Investment Clubs, formulate their concept and define an investment strategy. In total, 20 Investment Clubs were created, US \$4 million in funds were mobilized and 6,000 people received education on financial investments for social development.

The initiative paves the way for similar activities in other West African countries that have common factors, such as the challenge of developing savings habits, the need to promote investments that have a local impact, the opportunities offered by a rising middle class, the contribution of diaspora communities to a large portion of GDP and a common regional economic community (the Economic Community of West African States – ECOWAS). In the context of intense migration flows within the region, strengthened South-South cooperation within ECOWAS could enable the scaling-up of the initiative to boost engagement of diasporas and the rising middle class to save and invest in projects with high local development impacts.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Made-in-Africa Solutions: Overview

This publication gathers a selection of 38 made-in-Africa development solutions that were profiled in the framework of South-South cooperation (SSC) mapping exercises conducted by the UNDP Africa Finance Sector Hub of the Regional Service Centre for Africa between 2017 and 2021. These African solutions encompass South-South development solutions and innovative African solutions that have the potential to be scaled up in peer African countries, covering crucial Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-related issues, such as governance, education, climate change, disaster risk reduction, clean water, renewable energy, agro-food, environment, digital finance and inclusiveness.

## SOLUTION MAPPING METHODOLOGY

The 38 solutions were originally reported by 18 sub-Saharan African countries and their South-South partners. The solutions were sourced mainly from UNDP's internal and external reporting mechanisms and databases, through explorative research and review of database entries, project documents, reports and newsletters from the UNDP Results-Oriented Annual Reporting (ROAR) records, Accelerator Lab databases, UNDP digital responses to COVID-19 database, UNDP Intranet, UNDP Evaluation Resource Centre website, UNDP Transparency Portal and UNDP country offices' websites. The data collection process also involved surveys and stocktaking-assessment activities carried out with UNDP's development partners. Following this extensive data collection, screening and assessment process, these original sources of information were complemented through consultations with the solutions' proponents and with key informants from the concerned UNDP country offices and other supporting and implementing entities of the solutions.

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE SOLUTIONS

All four sub-Saharan African subregions (as defined by the African Union) are represented among the 18 African countries that reported the mapped development solutions (Figure 1). In addition, most of these reporting countries (15 out of 18) are part of at least one vulnerability grouping – least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

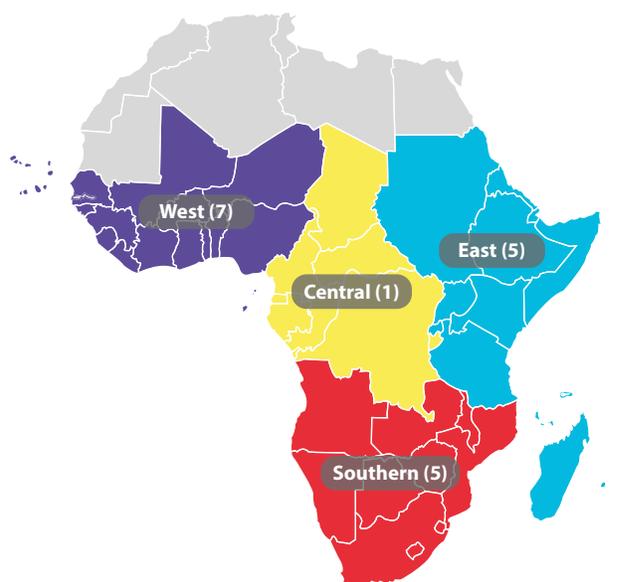


Figure 1: Subregions of the reporting African countries of the mapped solutions

## EXTENT OF SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN THE SOLUTIONS

Most of the mapped development solutions represent full-fledged SSC initiatives, each involving at least two and up to 16 developing countries. 15 solutions concern initiatives that comprise at least one SSC component embedded within a wider standalone (national or local) project, while four do not feature any SSC component, but possess strong potential for South-South scale-up (Figure 2). The latter correspond to solutions that, although not already focused on SSC, have a high replication potential through exchanges of knowledge, experiences and ideas with other developing countries facing similar SDG-related development challenges. These include, in particular, two innovative initiatives on clean energy and water supported or disseminated by the UNDP Accelerator Lab Network.

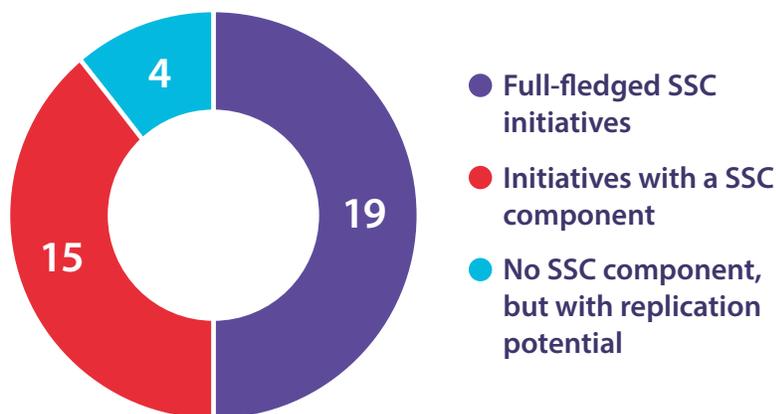


Figure 2: SSC scope of the 38 mapped development solutions.

Whereas the 19 full-fledged SSC initiatives have an intrinsic international scope, most of the remaining initiatives address country-wide challenges (13 solutions), for example “Creating a Market for the Development and Use of Biogas Resources in Guinea,” “Electoral Transparency and Credibility” in Mozambique, and “Enhancing Human and Institutional Capacity in the Justice Sector in Eritrea.” Local issues are the focus of six solutions, such as “Deaf Livelihoods Development Activity” in 29 pilot counties in Kenya and “Integrated Landscape Management for Improved Livelihoods” in Uganda’s Mount Elgon region.

## TYPES AND PARTNERS OF SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN THE SOLUTIONS

With regards to the 34 development solutions that do involve SSC (either as a core aspect or as a secondary component), the most frequent form of partnership is technical cooperation (Figure 3), as per the definition adopted in UNDP’s First African South-South Cooperation Report (2019)<sup>1</sup>. These technical cooperation initiatives often combine multiple types of exchange (Figure 4), notably benchmarking visits, provision of training and recruitment of experts. Within the group of 34 SSC-related solutions, 11 result from intra-African partnerships, whereas 14 refer to collaborations between sub-Saharan Africa and Brazil and four relate to exchanges with Asian countries (China and India). The remaining five solutions have a more global reach, involving concomitantly countries from more than two continents. The two initiatives reporting both economic and technical cooperation feature China and India as the sharing countries.

1 [www.africa.undp.org/content/dam/rba/docs/UNDP-Africa-SSC-Report-2019-EN.pdf](http://www.africa.undp.org/content/dam/rba/docs/UNDP-Africa-SSC-Report-2019-EN.pdf)

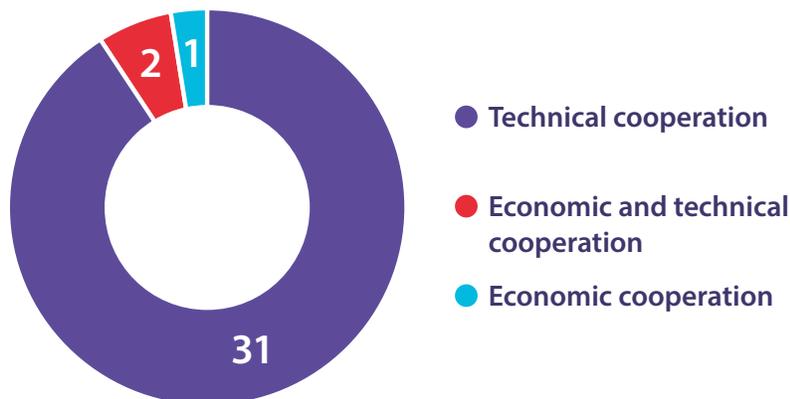


Figure 3: Form of cooperation of the 34 SSC-related solutions.

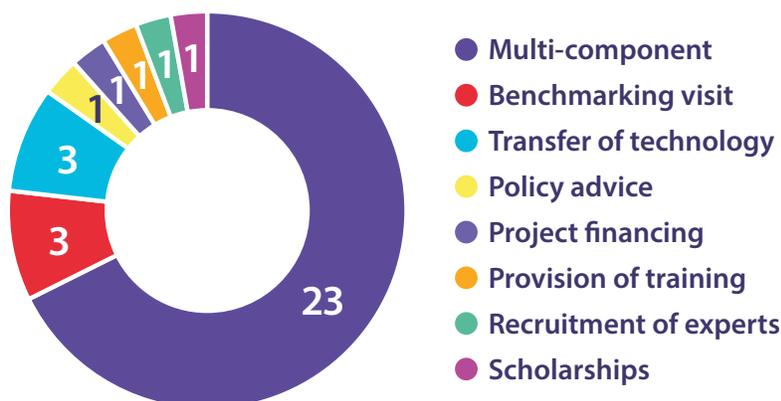


Figure 4: Type of cooperation of the 34 SSC-related solutions

In most of the 34 SSC-related solutions, the reporting African countries are in the position of SSC hosts (beneficiaries). Yet, evidencing the mutuality of benefits intrinsic to SSC, the distinction between sharing and host countries is often not clear-cut. This is notably the case of three of the 19 full-fledged SSC initiatives (“E-volve Innovation Journey,” “Global Network of Human Milk Banks” and “Network of National Public Health Institutes of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries”), in which the countries involved formally play both roles and thus appear on both Table 1 and Table 2. 19 solutions out of the 34 SSC-related solutions benefit from the triangular-cooperation modality, whereby South-South collaborations are technically and/or financially facilitated by countries from the Global North and multilateral entities (Table 3).

Sub-Saharan Africa			Others regions
LDCs	LLDCs/SIDSs	Others	
Angola Benin Democratic Republic of Congo Eritrea Guinea Mozambique Senegal Togo	Cabo Verde Mauritius Zimbabwe	Equatorial Guinea Kenya Namibia South Africa	Brazil Cambodia Honduras India Sri Lanka Timor-Leste
Ethiopia Guinea-Bissau Lesotho São Tomé and Príncipe Uganda			

Table 1: Host (beneficiary) countries of the 34 SSC-related solutions.

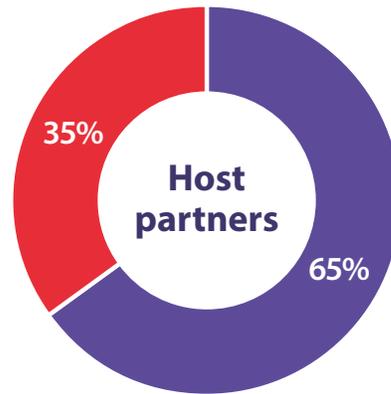
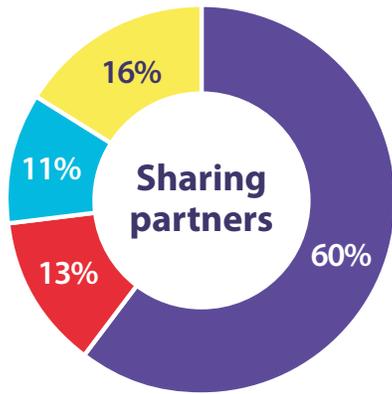
Sub-Saharan Africa			Others regions
LDCs	LLDCs/SIDSs	Others	
Angola Benin Democratic Republic of Congo Guinea Madagascar Mauritania Mozambique Senegal United Republic of Tanzania	Botswana Cabo Verde Eswatini Mauritius Seychelles Zimbabwe	Côte d'Ivoire Equatorial Guinea Gabon Ghana Kenya Namibia Nigeria South Africa	Algeria Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela Brazil China Djibouti+Egypt India Libya Malaysia Republic of Korea Sudan Timor-Leste United States
Burkina Faso Comoros Ethiopia Central African Republic Guinea-Bissau Lesotho Malawi Niger Rwanda São Tomé and Príncipe Uganda Zambia			

Table 2: Sharing (provider) countries of the 34 SSC-related solutions.

Countries	Multilateral entities
Canada Finland Germany Luxembourg Norway Sweden United Kingdom	Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries European Union Global Environment Facility United Nations Capital Development Fund United Nations Development Programme United Nations Environment Programme World Bank

Table 3: Facilitating partners of the 19 solutions benefiting from triangular cooperation.

The SSC sharing partners and the promoters (Figure 5) of the other replicable solutions are mostly public-sector entities (23 initiatives), whereas five are from the private sector and four are civil society organizations (the remaining six initiatives involve combinations of public, private and civil society entities). On the other hand, the majority of the host partners (Figure 5) of the 34 mapped SSC-related solutions are also public sector actors (22 initiatives), followed by 12 initiatives featuring mixed entities (from the public, private and civil society spheres).



- Public sector
- Private sector
- CSO
- Combination
- Public sector
- Combination

Figure 5: Composition of sharing partners and host partners of the solutions.

## THEMATIC AREAS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN THE SOLUTIONS

Governance is the thematic area that is most represented in the 38 development solutions profiled (Figure 6), which is also reflected in the fact that seven solutions contribute most directly to SDG 16 “peace, justice and strong institutions” (Figure 7). The second most represented thematic area is business innovation through the contributions of eight initiatives that mainly seek to promote entrepreneurship and local products and to tackle either socioeconomic challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic or longer-standing environmental concerns.

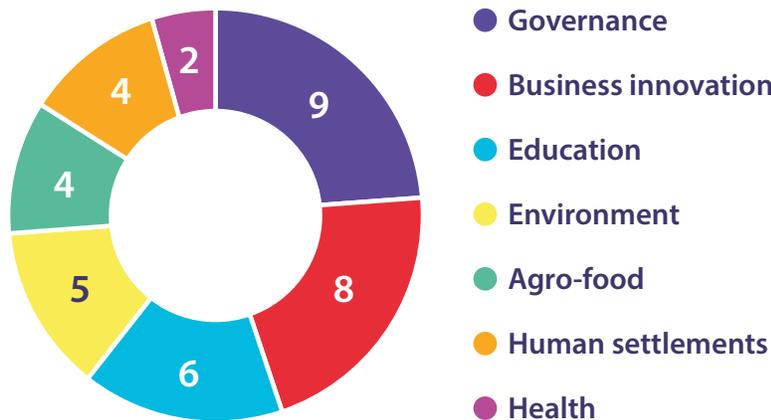


Figure 6: Thematic area of the 38 mapped development solutions.

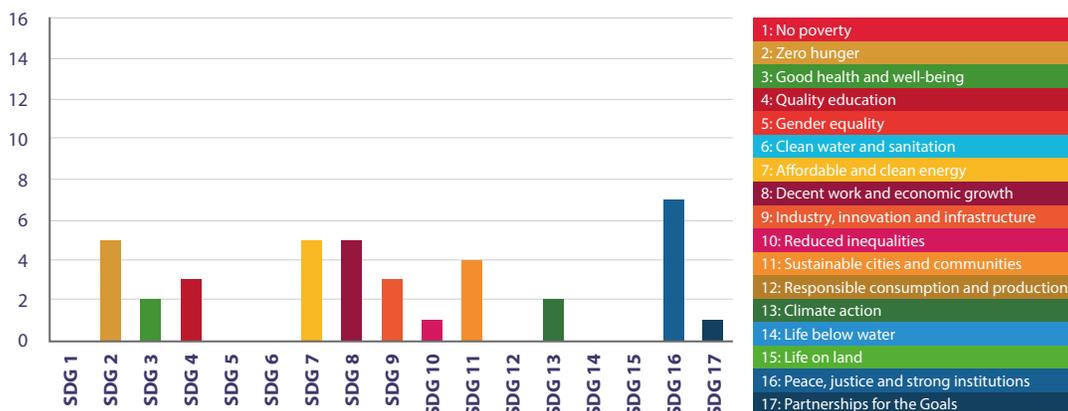


Figure 7: Primary SDG addressed by the 38 solutions.

The most frequent secondary SDGs addressed by the group of 38 solutions are SDGs 1 (no poverty), 5 (gender equality), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (reduced inequalities) and 17 (partnerships for the Goals). For instance, SDG 5 (gender equality) features among the secondary focuses of 10 solutions, reflecting the mainstreaming of gender equality and women's empowerment into the activities of UNDP and its country partners in sub-Saharan Africa.

A finer picture of the challenges tackled is seen in Figure 8, which shows both the primary and secondary SDGs addressed, highlighting that all but one of the 17 SDGs are focused on by at least one of these 38 development solutions.

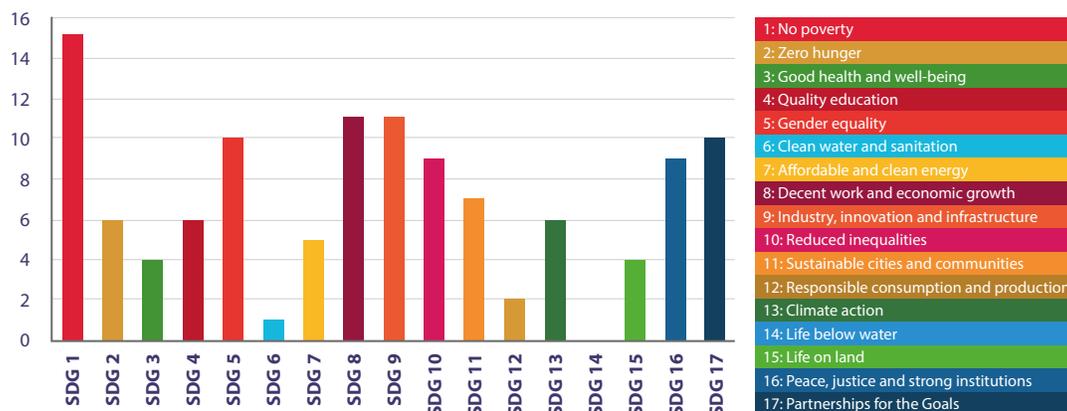


Figure 8: Primary and secondary SDGs focused on by the 38 solutions.

Notwithstanding some key common attributes (development and sustainability orientation, as well as replication and scale-up potential), the heterogeneity of the 38 African development solutions is reflected in their implementation periods. Whereas 22 initiatives have been officially concluded, eight are still expected to be completed in 2021, even though in many cases the activity schedules have been disrupted by the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, six solutions do not have a set timeframe, corresponding mainly to well-established South-South cooperation mechanisms (such as the “Network of National Public Health Institutes of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries”) or to ongoing innovative private initiatives (supported or disseminated by the UNDP Accelerator Lab Network) with commercial operations or prospects beyond a pilot developmental phase (for example “Leaper Innovative Green Energies Air Battery”).

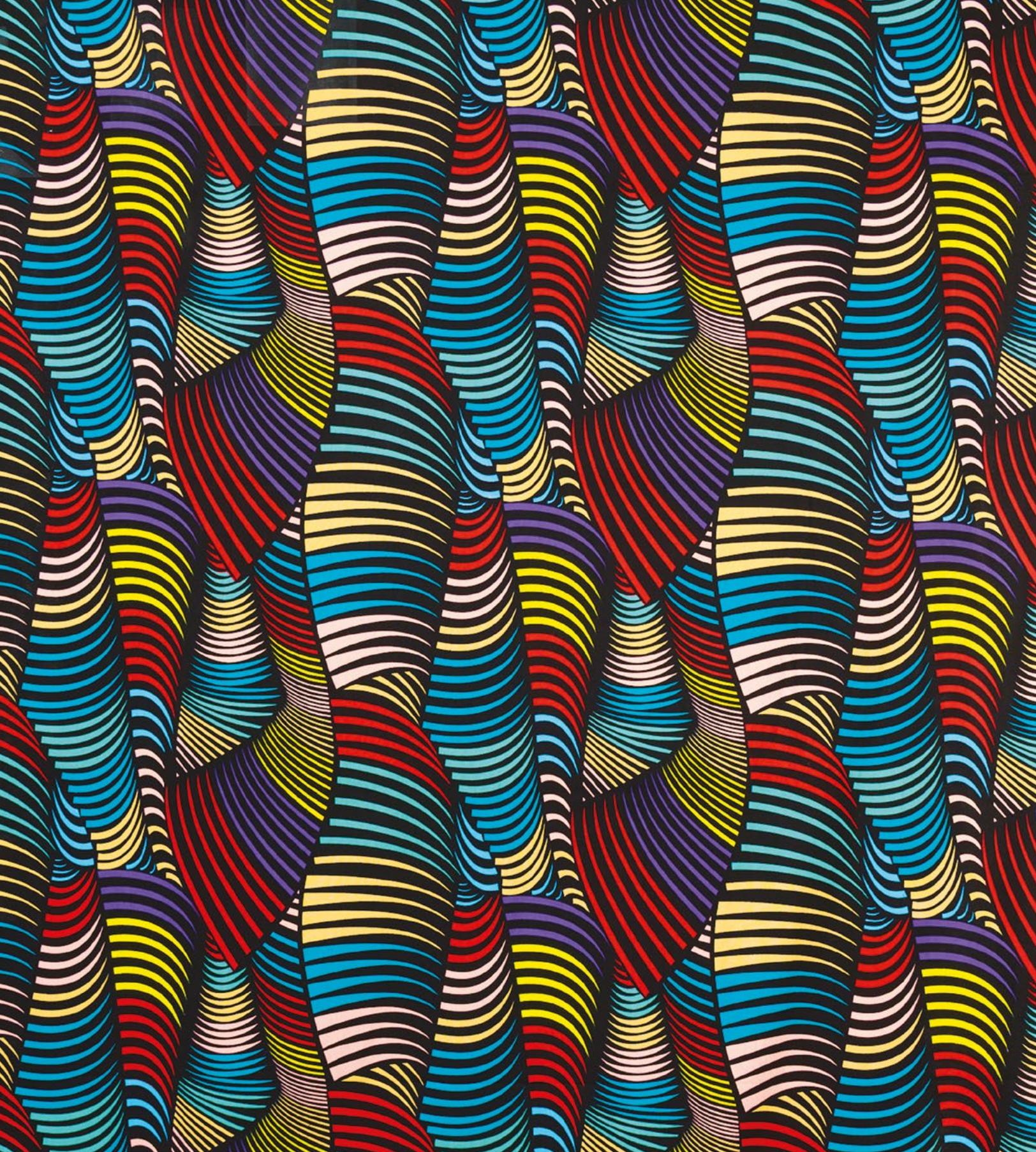
**In conclusion,** the African development solutions showcased in this publication are expected to not only inspire more innovative made-in-Africa and African-tailored good solutions to addressing development challenges in Africa, but also facilitate knowledge sharing and cooperation among a wider range of partners of the global South, including governments, the private sector, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the general public.

## LIST OF THE 38 SHOWCASED AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS

Title of solution	Reporting country	SSC scope	Form of SSC	Type of SSC	Sharing country	Sharing partner	Host country	Host partner	Thematic area	Main SDG	Secondary SDGs	Implementation period	Project status
Benin Agribusiness Development Project	Benin	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Economic and technical cooperation	Multi-component	India	Public sector	Benin	Public sector	Agro-food	2	5, 8	2018-2021	Ongoing
Community Seed Banks for Family Farming	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector and civil society	Mozambique, South Africa	Public sector and civil society	Agro-food	2	1, 5, 15	2009-2014	Completed
Support for Rural Vocational Training and Social Promotion of Rural Communities in Angola	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Private sector	Angola	Public sector	Education	2	1, 4	2009-2013	Completed
Support to Zimbabwe's Ministry in Charge of Lands and Rural Resettlement	Zimbabwe	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: European Union, UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Benchmarking visit	Brazil, Kenya, Malaysia, Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania	Public sector	Zimbabwe	Public sector	Agro-food	2	1, 16	2014-2019	Completed
Voices of Africa (Vozes da África)	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector	Democratic Republic of Congo	Public sector and civil society	Agro-food	2	1, 17	Since 2011	Ongoing
Global Network of Human-Milk Banks	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Mozambique	Public sector	Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Mozambique	Public sector	Health	3	2, 17	Since 2010	Ongoing
Network of National Public Health Institutes of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: CPLP, World Bank)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, Timor-Leste	Public sector	Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, Timor-Leste	Public sector	Health	3	16, 17	Since 2011	Ongoing
Establishment of the Brazil - São Tomé and Príncipe Professional-Training Centre	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Private sector	São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector and private sector	Education	4	8	2010-2016	Completed
School for All (Escola de Todos)	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector	Cabo Verde	Public sector	Education	4	10	2006-2018	Completed
Solidarity Literacy (Alfabetização Solidária)	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Civil society	São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector	Education	4	10	2001-2011	Completed
Accelerating the Transformational Shift to a Low-Carbon Economy in Mauritius	Mauritius	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: Green Climate Fund)	Technical cooperation	Policy advice	India, South Africa	Public sector	Mauritius	Public sector	Environment	7	5, 9, 13	2017-2025	Ongoing
Creating a Market for the Development and Use of Biogas Resources in Guinea	Guinea	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: GEF, UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Burkina Faso, ECOWAS	Public sector	Guinea	Public sector and private sector	Environment	7	3, 5, 13, 15	2016-2019	Completed
From Waste to Wealth	Nigeria	No SSC component, but with replication potential	N/A	N/A	Nigeria	Private sector	N/A	N/A	Business innovation	7	9, 11	[Private initiative with no set timeframe]	Ongoing
Leaper Innovative Green Energies Air Battery	South Africa	No SSC component, but with replication potential	N/A	N/A	South Africa	Private sector	N/A	N/A	Business innovation	7	6, 9, 13	[Private initiative with no set timeframe]	Ongoing
Promotion of Renewable Energy Technologies in Public and Private Institutions in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Economic and technical cooperation	Multi-component	China	Public sector	Ethiopia, Sri Lanka	Public sector	Environment	7	13, 17	2019-2022	Ongoing
Development of Handicraft Production in São Tomé and Príncipe	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: CPLP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Civil society	São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector and private sector	Business innovation	8	1, 5, 12	2009-2011	Completed

Title of solution	Reporting country	SSC scope	Form of SSC	Type of SSC	Sharing country	Sharing partner	Host country	Host partner	Thematic area	Main SDG	Secondary SDGs	Implementation period	Project status
Hackathon on Inclusive Financial Services	Lesotho	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Ghana, Rwanda, South Africa	Public sector, private sector and civil society	Lesotho	Public sector	Business innovation	8	1, 9, 10, 17	2018 - 2019	Completed
Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund	Malawi	Initiative with a SSC component	Technical cooperation	Transfer of technology	Malawi	Public sector and private sector	Ethiopia, Kenya, Zimbabwe	Public sector	Business innovation	8	1, 9, 10, 17	Since 2014	Ongoing
Support to the Promotion of Handicrafts and the Recycling of Garbage in Praia, Cabo Verde	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Civil society	Cabo Verde	Public sector	Business innovation	8	1, 10, 11, 12	2011 - 2015	Completed
Vocational-Training Scholarship in the Hospitality Industry	Cabo Verde	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: Luxembourg)	Technical cooperation	Scholarships	Cabo Verde	Public sector	São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector and private sector	Education	8	1, 4, 5	2017 - 2021	Ongoing
E-volve ( <i>E-voluir</i> ) Innovation Journey	Guinea-Bissau	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector and private sector	Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector and private sector	Business innovation	9	1, 8, 17	2020 - 2021	Completed
E-commerce to Support Informal Market Vendors	Uganda	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Transfer of technology	Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda	Public sector and private sector	Cambodia, Honduras, Uganda	Public sector and private sector	Business innovation	9	3, 8	2020 - 2021	Ongoing
Working with Guinea's Chamber of Mines and the Mining Industry to Enhance Local Development Impact	Guinea	No SSC component, but with replication potential	N/A	N/A	Guinea	Public sector	N/A	N/A	Governance	9	1, 10, 17	2018 - 2019	Completed
Deaf Livelihoods Development Activity	Kenya	Initiative with an SSC component	Technical cooperation	Transfer of technology	Kenya	Civil society	India	Public sector	Education	10	8	2016 - 2018	Completed
Support to Cabo Verde's Housing Development	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector	Cabo Verde	Public sector	Human settlements	11	1	2010 - 2011	Completed
Support to the Urban Development of Mozambique	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector	Mozambique	Public sector	Human settlements	11	9, 17	2007 - 2014	Completed
Support to the Urban Development of Namibia	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector	Namibia	Public sector	Human settlements	11	9	2005 - 2008	Completed
Support to the Urban Development of São Tomé and Príncipe	Brazil	Full-fledged SSC initiative	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Brazil	Public sector	São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector	Human settlements	11	1	2010 - 2017	Completed
Integrated Landscape Management for Improved Livelihoods	Uganda	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: European Union, GEF, Germany, UNDP, UNEP)	Technical cooperation	Benchmarking visit	Kenya	Public sector	Uganda	Public sector	Environment	13	1, 15	2017 - 2020	Completed
Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation in School Curricula in Lesotho	Lesotho	No SSC component, but with replication potential	N/A	N/A	Lesotho	Public sector	N/A	N/A	Environment	13	15	2018 - 2019	Completed
Capacity Development Support to Kenya's Foreign Service Academy	Kenya	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Algeria, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, United States, Benin, Ghana, Rwanda, Senegal	Public sector	Kenya	Public sector	Governance	16		2019	Completed
Community Dialogue Platform for Social Cohesion and Local Development	Togo	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Benin, Ghana, Rwanda, Senegal	Public sector	Togo	Public sector and civil society	Governance	16	5	2019 - 2021	Ongoing

Title of solution	Reporting country	SSC scope	Form of SSC	Type of SSC	Sharing country	Sharing partner	Host country	Host partner	Thematic area	Main SDG	Secondary SDGs	Implementation period	Project status
Electoral Transparency and Credibility	Mozambique	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: Canada, Finland, Norway, UNDP, United Kingdom)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Timor-Leste	Public sector	Mozambique	Public sector	Governance	16	10	2018 - 2021	Ongoing
Enhancing Human and Institutional Capacity in the Justice Sector in Eritrea	Eritrea	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partner: UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Provision of training	South Africa	Public sector	Eritrea	Public sector	Governance	16	4	2019 - 2021	Ongoing
Lesotho National Dialogue and Stabilization Project	Lesotho	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: UN Peacebuilding Fund, UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Multi-component	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe	Public sector	Lesotho	Public sector and civil society	Governance	16	5	2018 - 2020	Completed
Provincial Peace Committees	Zimbabwe	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: UN Peacebuilding Fund, UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Recruitment of experts	Ghana, Kenya, South Africa	Private sector	Zimbabwe	Public sector and civil society	Governance	16	5	2019 - 2021	Ongoing
Accelerating the Implementation of the African Union Treaties in São Tomé and Príncipe	São Tomé and Príncipe	Full-fledged SSC initiative (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: Sweden, UNDP)	Technical cooperation	Benchmarking visit	Benin	Public sector	São Tomé and Príncipe	Public sector	Governance	16	5	2018 - 2021	Ongoing
Investment Clubs for Local Development	Senegal	Initiative with a SSC component (triangular-cooperation modality-facilitating partners: UNCDF, UNDP)	Economic cooperation	Project financing	Europe, Libya, Mauritania, United States, West Africa	Public sector and private sector	Zimbabwe	Public sector and private sector	Governance	17	1, 8, 9, 10, 11	2018 - 2020	Completed



United Nations  
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