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Development
Agency



Local Development for the consolidation of Peace in Mozambique – DELPAZ: Sofala Sub-programme

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 01

Reporting Period: 01 November 2020 – 31 December 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ADC Contract Number 6547-00/2020 & 6547-01/2020

EU Identification Number FED/2020/419-613



This project is co- funded
by the European Union

Implemented by

Austrian
Development
Agency

PROJECT SYNOPSIS

Project Title	<i>Local Development for the consolidation of Peace in Mozambique – DELPAZ: Sofala Sub-programme</i>
ADA Contract Number	<i>6547-00/2020 & 6547-01/2020</i>
EU Identification Number	<i>FED/2020/419-613</i>
Implementers	<i>Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Provincial Executive Council of Sofala (CEPS), and others</i>
Target country(ies) and region(s)	<i>Mozambique, Sofala Province, 6 districts (Chibabava, Machanga, Maringué, Gorongosa, Chemba, Cheringoma)</i>
Type of contract	<i>Contribution Agreement (CA)</i>
Start of implementation period	<i>01.11.2020</i>
End of implementation period	<i>31.12.2024</i>
Implementation period in months	<i>50 months</i>
Annual Progress Report and reporting period	<i>First Annual Progress Report, April 2022 Reporting Period: 1 November 2020 until 31 December 2021</i>
Actual expenditures as of 31 December 2021	<i>EUR 1,905,207.00 (including EUR 1,211,210 disbursed to CEPS and excluding VAT)</i>
Committed costs as of 31 December 2021	<i>EUR 00,00</i>
Total amount of EU contribution	<i>EUR 9,500,000.00</i>
ADC/ADA co-financing contribution	<i>EUR 1,000,000.00</i>
Reported to	<i>Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Mozambique, for the attention of the Head of Finance, Contract & Audit, Avenida Julius Nyerere 2820, C.P. 1306, Mozambique delegation-mozambique-fcs@eeas.europa.eu</i>
Reported by	<i>Austrian Development Agency (ADA) Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) Coordination Office for Development Cooperation, Edifício JAT-4, Av. Zedequias Manganhela 267 (4. Andar), Maputo, Mozambique maputo@ada.gv.at</i>



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The DELPAZ Sofala Action contributes to the **implementation of the EU programme: “Support to the consolidation of peace in Mozambique: local governance and early economic recovery”**, referred to as **“DELPAZ programme”**. The two intervention areas of the DELPAZ Programme are local governance (Specific Objective 1 - SO1: “to enhance inclusive local governance in selected provinces and conflict affected districts”) and economic recovery (Specific Objective 2 - SO2: “to improve the livelihoods of rural communities in conflict affected districts, with a special focus on women and disadvantaged groups”), focusing on Sofala, Manica and Tete Provinces.

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) is responsible for the implementation of SO2 in Manica and Tete Provinces, while the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is responsible for implementing SO1 in all three DELPAZ provinces. The Austrian Development Agency (ADA) has been entrusted with the implementation of the activities to achieve SO2 in Sofala Province in the six target districts: Machanga, Chibabava, Gorongosa, Maringué, Chemba and Cheringoma. The budget provision for DELPAZ Sofala is EUR 10.5 million: EU contributing EUR 9.5 million and Austrian Development Cooperation contributing EUR 1 million. An addendum for additional EUR 1.5 million EU contribution to ADA for DELPAZ Sofala is in preparation.


The **Contribution Agreement (CA) between the European Union and ADA was signed on 22 December 2020**, with a 50-month implementation period retroactively beginning on 1 November 2020. In the first year ending 31 December 2021, ADA’s Coordination Office of the Austrian Development Cooperation in Maputo and the Team Leader of DELPAZ Sofala focused on the establishment of the programme implementation structure, the DELPAZ Sofala project office including IT and transport equipment, the recruitment of fourteen (14) staff members for the Project Management Team (PMT) and on finalising the grant agreement with the Provincial Executive Council of Sofala (CEPS) for implementation of an important part of the future activities.

The **grant agreement between ADA and CEPS provides up to EUR 4.7 million** for both provincial and district budgets to finance public investments and other activities identified through the district planning process. After several months of negotiations with CEPS and the central government led by MINEC, a grant agreement between ADA and CEPS was signed on 1 September 2021. Even before signing the DELPAZ Sofala contribution agreement, CEPS and ADA began working together to identify so-called “Quick Wins” to support rapid results in support of the peace process. The selected investments include: distribution of seeds and agricultural inputs; construction of water supply systems, small-scale irrigation systems, greenhouses and tick tanks. CEPS initiated the preparation for the tenders of the “Quick Wins” in April 2021 and DELPAZ Sofala PMT assured the adherence to the agreed vetting system.

Despite delays in the administrative processes to register the funds, the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Fisheries (DPAP) of CEPS and the District Services for Economic Activities (SDAEs) in the districts implemented as part of the Quick Wins the delivery and distribution of seed kits and tools for farmers to 750 direct beneficiaries (408 Women / 342 Men, around 3000 indirect beneficiaries) in DELPAZ districts in collaboration with the PMT District Focal Persons. By 31 December 2021, most of the inputs had been handed over to the beneficiaries who began sowing without delay after the seed germination capacity had been tested.

With the aim of developing solid partnerships, DELPAZ Sofala PMT has initiated and maintained regular consultations with provincial partners and district authorities and conducted information workshops on DELPAZ Sofala in each of the six districts with the participation of district authorities, district advisory council members, private sector and community leaders.

The official **DELPAZ Programme Launch Ceremony was held on 14 October 2021** in Gondola district, near the city of Chimoio, Manica Province. Throughout the first year, DELPAZ Sofala was in close coordination with UNCDF and AICS to support coordination of activities, joint visibility activities and the development of the DELPAZ M&E framework.



The **inception phase** is also being used to conduct a social mapping study to identify priority intervention sites within the target districts. In addition, DELPAZ Sofala PMT explored different scenarios for implementation of scholarships for vocational education and training in support of enhanced market integration and off-farm activities of conflict affected communities. DELPAZ Sofala PMT also had intensive consultations with project partners for the preparation of tender and contracting documents for the Baseline Study & Implementation Plan and the Market and Food System Study. Furthermore, the terms of reference for a call for proposals were prepared for contracting a CSO partner to facilitate community-level participation and accountability, social inclusion, gender equity and peace-building dialogue in district planning and decision-making processes.

As part of strengthening project accountability, a consultancy was assigned for supporting the development of a community-based feedback and complaint mechanism for DELPAZ Sofala with a focus on prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and sexual harassment (PSEAH) guided by the OECD DAC Recommendations on Ending Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance. In December 2022 the consultant also provided training on preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment for DELPAZ Sofala PMT.

Total incurred expenditures amount to EUR 1,905,207 in the first year of implementation. The incurred expenditures include the first transfer for the amount of EUR 1,211,210 to CEPS.

Challenges/difficulties

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and official restrictions in Mozambique (limits to missions and travelling, reduced working hours, reduced number of persons in meetings), most of the meetings were conducted virtually. A tightening of travel restrictions led to the cancellation of the DELPAZ Sofala Kick-off Meeting in July 2021 (initially planned with the participation of six district administrators, 18 district technicians, experts from ADA headquarters, Maputo coordination office, DELPAZ Sofala PMT). A smaller Kick-off Meeting was held in hybrid form with online participation from ADA headquarters and the Coordination Office.

Another challenge has been the inscription of funds for CEPS to implement the Quick Wins. After repeated interventions on various levels it is hoped that administrative delays in the process of the fund inscription have been overcome, as was assured by both the Provincial Director of Planning and Finance and the MEF representative.

Furthermore, the correct and appropriate communication to beneficiaries, as well the management of expectations of communities not targeted by DELPAZ Sofala, is crucial for peace and inclusive development. Mainstreaming conflict sensitivity in all project activities is a key project approach.

The ongoing decentralisation process has also posed certain challenges. Mozambique's decentralisation process is a very important part of the peace process but also very complex, not least as a result of the creation of two entities at the provincial level (directly elected Governor reporting to provincial Parliament & Secretary of State, who is a representative of central Government). This resulted in two different structures with similar objectives and targets, which in practice complicates an efficient and smooth implementation in the provinces and in the districts.

Looking ahead

The planning of activities for 2022 and the preparation of the planning of activities for 2023 require close coordination at district and provincial levels among different government structures. DELPAZ Sofala PMT will have frequent exchanges and discussions with implementing partners to strengthen the inclusiveness of district planning and decision-making. DELPAZ Sofala will also provide resources for district technical teams to conduct consultations and fieldwork to enhance participatory planning, with a special focus on the inclusion of vulnerable groups.

Map of DELPAZ Sofala Quick Wins locations

