



SKILLS FOR YOUTH IN MOZAMBIQUE (SIM!)

CONTEXT

The Skills for Youth in Mozambique (SIM!) project builds on Switzerland's long-term experience in addressing skills gaps of marginalized groups and aims to enhance rural and peri-urban youth's, especially women's, (self-) employment opportunities by increasing their access to relevant skills, supporting the transition to the labour market and contributing to policies conducive to their economic inclusion, complementing interventions of SDC's portfolio in Mozambique to reduce poverty.

The northern region of Mozambique is characterized by lack of economic opportunities for youth, conflicts, adverse climate events and weak markets. The densely populated Nampula province has several areas of economic opportunities related to natural resource exploration, agriculture, and Nacala corridor with growing opportunities. In addition, the rural and peri-urban youth hardly have access to formal training and are very far from benefitting from potential economic growth, due to limited access to skills development services, support services to (self) employment orientation and need to operationalize inclusive TVET and employability policies.

SIM! operates from 2023 onwards, starting in Nampula province and expanding through Niassa to Cabo Delgado at a later stage. The project addresses youth capacity building for market insertion of vulnerable youth in North Mozambique that are left out of mainstream educational and training facilities, by developing local vocational training systems at community level, supported by local, provincial, and national stakeholders, and carried by local training businesses.

OBJECTIVE

The project goal is to integrate youth from rural and peri-urban zones of Nampula and Niassa provinces, and especially young women, into the labour market, thus increasing their incomes and realizing further economic growth.

TARGET GROUPS

Mozambican women (at least 50% of the total beneficiaries) and men aged 15 to 35 in northern Mozambique, especially in rural and peri-urban areas. Local training enterprises are also supported and strengthened, generating more training opportunities for young people. Government and non-governmental institutions, and partners at national and provincial level benefit by strengthening their participation and roles in the improvement and operationalization of vocational training and employment policies.

APPROACH

The project improves traditional apprenticeship systems through local organisation of work-based vocational training, improvement of training quality and inclusion mechanisms for vulnerable youth. The project will expand skills development and training opportunities to youth in rural and peri-urban areas, including basic literacy and numeracy skills for vulnerable groups excluded from formal training such as internally displaced persons (IDPs).

For this purpose, the project will collaborate with government institutions in charge of youth, employment and training and establish partnerships with conventional and nonconventional, formal and non-formal education and training providers, such as micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs), civil society organizations and private sector actors. Given the circumstances, the project will explore innovative non-formal and formal skills training methodologies to ensure quality of training and participation of the beneficiaries.

The project will secure that labour market information, career guidance services and job placement tools are available to youth in transition to market. The project will support schemes to improve employability of recently trained youth as well as the availability of post-training support for youth who wish to start their own business (coaching and links for access to resources).

The project will work with policymakers as to assure that the realities and needs of rural and peri-urban youth in terms of accessing affordable, good-quality skills training are reflected in national VSD and employment policies.

OUTCOMES

Outcome 1 – Skills Development

- Young men and women from rural and peri-urban areas acquire market-relevant and good quality technical, social and personal competencies, including basic literacy/numeracy skills, entrepreneurship and business skills, conducive to their (self-) employment.

Outcome 2 – Support to labour market integration

- Mechanisms to support young men and women's transition from training to (self-)employment are operational and effective.

Outcome 3 – Inclusive policy dialogue

- National training and employment policies are conducive to youth's socio-economic inclusion.



Project Title:

Skills for Youth in Mozambique (SIM!)

Duration and Total Budget:

Inception Phase: 06/2022-02/2023 | CHF 300,000

Phase I: 2023-2026 | CHF 7,900,000

Phase II: 2027-2030 | CHF 8,000,000

Implementing Agency:

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation

Project Partners:

- State Secretariat for Youth and Employment (SEJE)
- State Secretariat for Technical and Vocational Education (SEETP)
- Institute for Vocational Training and Labour Studies Alberto Cassimo (IFPELAC)
- National Professional Education Authority (ANEP)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Geographical Areas:

Nampula and Niassa provinces

IMPRESSUM

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