



**ALPS RESILIENCE
ANNUAL REPORT 2020**



ALPS RESILIENCE



CONTENTS

Letter from the Executive Director	4
General News - Out Team and COVID	5
About ALPS	7
ALPS in Action	9
Building Resilient Refugee Communities (BRRC)	11
People to People Dialogues / Rapid Dialogues Project	15
ALPS Resilience: Enumerator Revision Training	17
Identifying Resiliencies in Cabo Delgado Mozambique Project (IRP)	19
Focus Group Discussions	20
Looking Forward to 2021	23



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

ALPS Resilience established a field office in Pemba located in the province of Cabo Delgado in Northern Mozambique. The province has been subject to international attention with an active insurgency taking place along the coast. To-date five districts are inaccessible due to ongoing violence between the insurgency and state forces. ALPS Resilience launched an eight-month research project using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to understand youth resilience to violent extremism and explore understandings of the insurgency.

Despite the challenges both in the field and the ongoing pandemic, ALPS Resilience was able to complete the research aimed at identifying youth resilience's to violent extremism in 12 of the 17 districts in Cabo Delgado.

The PRM project continued to run successfully in South Africa. Our work with the Somali Community and other refugees and migrants is at the heart of our story. ALPS started with this project and, along with SASA, the work and support given has been a rewarding collaboration. Our work funded by the US Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has been a rewarding collaboration and partnership.

Our People-to-People dialogues in Masipumele, Cape Town were held within the community, for the community, by the community. The platform created a space for dialogue and discussion which helped ease issues and played a part in overcoming certain barriers and issues within this diverse community.

COVID-19 dominated 2020. We were able to fulfil all our obligations with great skill and pride. We were unable to grow as we had hoped, however, ALPS is very grateful to have maintained such a strong work ethic and remain resilient throughout the lock-down and constrained working procedures and practices that were necessary in the face of the global pandemic.

Lastly we celebrated with every citizen globally, but specifically in our region, sub-Saharan Africa. Their fortitude and success in managing COVID and surviving the health pandemic and the difficult economically strained days, has been remarkable. We are proud to be associated with all the countries we work in.

Best wishes for the coming year.

David Bax

GENERAL NEWS – OUR TEAM AND COVID

Our Team in the field – Pemba 2020. Lock-down arrived and our team were Mozambique based for the entire year. Chris Whakatope did not see his family in New Zealand for a year. Victor spent lock-down in Pemba and was reunited with family later in the year. Citia was able to connect with family in Maputo at distance.

David Bax and Willemijn Dortant were locked down in Cape Town and were unable to travel to Mozambique from March 2020. They resumed in country visits from September 2020. Leah, Lindsay, James, Aubrey, Sumona, Luwando and Tracy worked from home and the ALPS office in Cape Town, when COVID permitted it.

It was a year of upheaval and displacement, globally. Alps and all our staff went above and beyond the call of duty. We are very proud of the team effort. Thank you.

"It is health that is
real wealth and not
pieces of gold and
silver."





~ Mahatma Gandhi



Chris Whakatope, Victor Sapong, Citia Temba

ABOUT ALPS

ALPS Resilience is a community-based non-profit organisation committed to building resilient, vibrant, and self-sustaining communities in fragile, post-conflict and at-risk environments through:

-  **Strengthening partnerships.** In order to empower communities and facilitate resilience building, ALPS partners with community-based and local partners.
-  **Building an evidence base.** ALPS supports knowledge generation and management for evidence-based programming.
-  **Developing local capacity.** In order to ensure sustainability of our interventions, ALPS develops the organisational capacity of our community-based partners.
-  **Engaging with key stakeholders.** Throughout the project cycle, we continuously engage with key stakeholders to ensure that project goals align with community needs.

We partner with community-based organisations to design and implement context-specific interventions that focus on the thematic areas of building refugee resilience, preventing xenophobic violence, preventing hate crimes, and preventing violent extremism.

ABOUT OUR APPROACH

ALPS was founded in 2015 in response to the gap in the services provided for migrant and refugee communities in the Western Cape of South Africa. We began by supporting the community-based organisations, often refugee-led, who step in when government fails to provide essential housing, health, legal, and educational services to refugees and migrants.

Our role has evolved to focus on violence prevention through building the resilience and adaptive capacity of these communities. Rather than aiming to combat or manage violence, which can often lead to security responses, ALPS takes a community resilience approach to violence prevention. A community resilience approach means (a) we view groups and communities

as at-risk or vulnerable (rather than a security threat); (b) we take a whole-of-society approach to violence prevention; and (c) we hold that resilience is built from the bottom up.

We identify communities that are 'at-risk' or vulnerable to violence and we partner with local organisations within those communities to design and implement custom interventions that address these vulnerabilities.

We uniquely combine community-level interventions with action-oriented research and best practise. Our research feeds into programme design and implementation. This means that we compose, learn from, and adapt programmes on a strong evidence-base.

OUR IMPACT 2020



3000+

participants attended resilience-building activities in fragile or at-risk communities



4

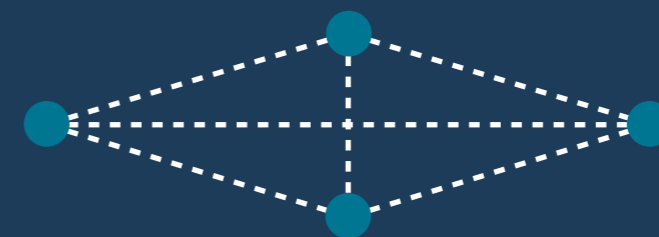
countries across Sub-Saharan Africa



1 survey monitoring levels of community resilience in South Africa



5 programmes focused on building community resilience and preventing violence

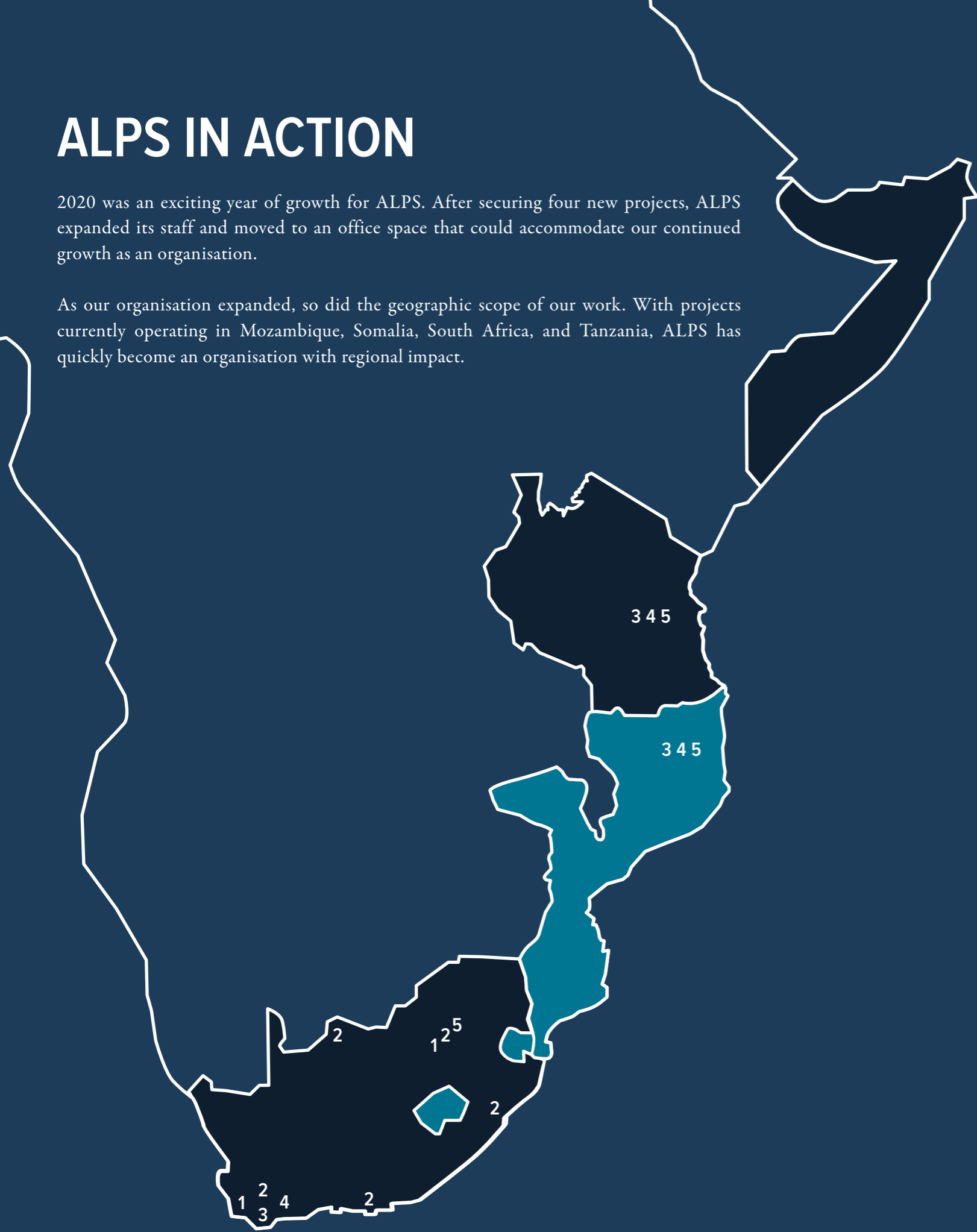


4 multi-sectoral workshops for knowledge sharing and networking

ALPS IN ACTION

2020 was an exciting year of growth for ALPS. After securing four new projects, ALPS expanded its staff and moved to an office space that could accommodate our continued growth as an organisation.

As our organisation expanded, so did the geographic scope of our work. With projects currently operating in Mozambique, Somalia, South Africa, and Tanzania, ALPS has quickly become an organisation with regional impact.



1 Building Resilient Refugee Communities (BRRC) United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) 2016 – 2021

The BRRC project aims to strengthen the capacity of the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA), a refugee-led community-based organisation, to provide key services and protection to refugees and asylum seekers living in the Western Cape and Gauteng.

2 People to People Dialogues (P2P) Austrian Diplomatic Mission 2020 – 2021

The P2P project aims to combat xenophobia in South Africa by fostering social cohesion and healthy relationships between foreign nationals and locals. ALPS will host a series of dialogues across five provinces to promote mutual understanding, shared identities, trust, and empathy.

3 ALPS Enumerator Revision Training 2020

4 Identifying Resilience in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique Canadian High Commission Australian Direct Aid Program DAI Private Donors 2020 – 2021

ALPS Resilience established a field office in Pemba located in the province of Cabo Delgado in Northern Mozambique. The province has been subject to international attention with an active insurgency taking place along the coast. To-date five districts are inaccessible due to ongoing violence between the insurgency and state forces. ALPS Resilience launched an eight-month research project using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to understand youth resilience to violent extremism and explore understandings of the insurgency.

5 Focus Group Discussions 2020-2021

The FGD project continued to enable ALPS to identify needs within communities particularly rural areas. Resilience projects were planned and implemented, commencing in early 2021. ALPS office in Mozambique grew exponentially and new partners joined the collective effort.

BUILDING RESILIENT REFUGEE COMMUNITIES (BRRC)

United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM)
2016 – 2021
Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng provinces

ALPS Resilience continues to work with the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA) to enhance social integration and increase self-reliance amongst the community of Somali refugees and asylum seekers living in the Western Cape and Gauteng. The Gauteng office has become a key linkage for international and local organizations providing direct services in health care and litigation among others. Over the past 5 years with the support of PRM, ALPS has successfully reached 7310 beneficiaries since the beginning of the project in September of 2018.



PROJECT BRIEF

The project seeks to reach refugees living within urban communities, as research has shown that the majority of refugees and asylum seekers live in major metropolitan areas of Cape Town (Western Cape), Johannesburg and Pretoria (Gauteng), and Durban (Kwa-Zulu Natal). Living in urban areas allow for refugees and asylum seekers to find livelihoods and access better lives, while rapid urbanization makes it difficult to ensure adequate protection and sanctuary to vulnerable communities. The project has three objectives: first to improve integration through self-reliance workshops, English Language classes and computer literacy classes; secondly, to safeguard the most vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers through a custom referral system and initiatives

dedicated to women and youth; third to equip refugee-led organizations, specifically those led by women, with the tools and resources needed to assist their representative diaspora communities with migration-led challenges. Refugee-led organizations are vital community structures. When strengthened, they become a tool through which the community are able to channel their dissatisfaction, able to access services and understand their constitutional rights. SASA is illustrative of this as an advocacy partner to service providers and important conduit for bringing services directly to their communities. This has also meant that youth, women and vulnerable groups have increased access to services and knowledge of their rights.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

ALPS Resilience and our community partner, the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA), was able to successfully adapt with the resources available to us to the Covid-19 pandemic. SASA and ALPS were able to continue delivering

classes, workshops and referral support to beneficiaries through innovative methods. We were able to utilize easily accessible mobile application throughout the hard lock-down and the subsequent levels.



BUILDING RESILIENT REFUGEE COMMUNITIES (BRRC) 2020 Snapshot

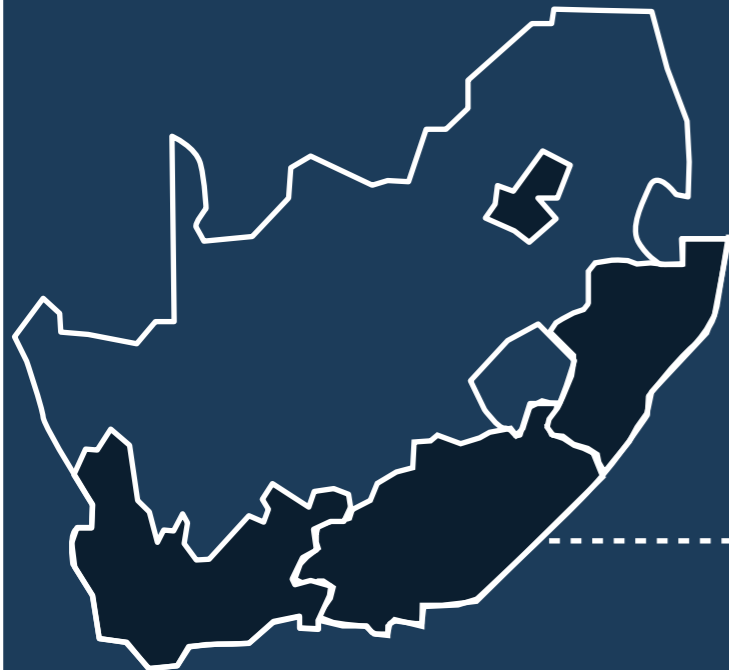
2148 beneficiaries received services from the BRRC project across

3 provinces



3 offices operational

45 community dialogues
4 provincial dialogues



1154 participants

15 sites to improve inter-cultural understanding, interpersonal communication and conflict resolution

367 beneficiaries attended English language classes



71 beneficiaries attended computer skills classes



379 participants attended self-reliance workshops



261 women attended women's workshops that covered topics ranging from:

health education

womens rights

self improvement

495 beneficiaries were accompanied to appointments



382 beneficiaries assisted with queries

193 youth wing activities



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE DIALOGUES / RAPID DIALOGUES PROJECT

Austrian Diplomatic Mission

2020-2021

Masiphumelele, Western Cape, South Africa

Following the completion of the People to Peoples Dialogues project, ALPS Resilience undertook business development activities which would allow it to return to key sites. With the support of the Austrian Diplomatic Mission in Pretoria, ALPS Resilience was able to return to key stakeholders and community leaders in Masiphumelele in the Western Cape. Following in-depth discussion with stakeholders ALPS began the Rapid Dialogue Project aimed at providing key community leaders with effective leadership and project management skills.

PROJECT BRIEF

ALPS Resilience's, People to People Dialogues project, identified business competition amongst non-nationals and nationals as one of the primary drivers of xenophobia within the community. After having conducted the People to People Dialogues project, ALPS revisited the community to assess what progress was made on local action plans developed at the end of that project. Through a SWOT assessment, ALPS determined that conflict drivers had persisted in the community and leaders felt ill-equipped to undertake the local action plans they had created. As a critical lesson learned, ALPS Resilience developed a Rapid Dialogue Project

aimed at building effective leadership skills and basic project management skills. Communities remain over reliant on external actors to resolve community conflicts rather than developing community based solutions and mechanisms. Throughout the course of 3 months 6 dialogues were held focused on five topics: first, effective community mobilization; second, problem free project design and developing objectives through the use of real-life examples; third, monitoring and evaluation concepts; fourth, using reality therapy as an approach; fifth, developing community mechanism using a constitution, organizational structure, best practices and accountability.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

The project was sustainable and successful, it provided community leaders with the tools they need to address community conflicts and provided them with examples of mechanisms which would enable them to do so effectively.

The Masiphumelele Business Development Forum was established in early 2021, with a diverse leadership structure comprised of both non-nationals and nationals.

2020 Snapshot

 **40** participants attended the dialogues.

 **6** dialogues held



ALPS RESILIENCE: ENUMERATOR REVISION TRAINING

TRAINING SUMMARY

An introduction to Revision Training was conducted in Pemba. In attendance for ALPS Resilience was, Christopher Whakatope, Country Manager, Victor Sapong, Project Officer (PO) and Citia Tembe, Administration/Communications Officer (A/CO) as well as Cremildo Cau, Trainer & Field Supervisor from CEEI. Representing DAI and the MCRP team, Mr Zaido Abibo, Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Officer (MELO) was in attendance. The above introduced themselves and provided a brief introduction to the enumerators.

Enumerators completed a pre-evaluation test for insights into their understanding, of concepts, such as “resilience” and “violent extremism.” Once the revision training was completed, the enumerators completed a post-evaluation, to understand any changes in their comprehension of the themes brought up during the revision training. Dialogue and a platform for discussion and education was key.

The program covered revision of following topics and primarily focussed on theoretical concepts:
Introducing the project and project objectives;

- Mozambique Government policy on COVID-19, social distancing and hygienic practices;
- The materials for the research;
- Theoretical contents regarding households and sample sizes in the Enumeration Areas.

Focus group discussions, led by our Enumerators, have continued into 2021. Resilience projects were designed and implemented early 2021



FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION TRAINING 2020 Snapshot



Training venue - Pemba



20

Enumerators in attendance



IDENTIFYING RESILIENCIES IN CABO DELGADO MOZAMBIQUE PROJECT (IRP) / FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Canadian High Commission, DAI, Australian Direct Aid Program, Private Donors
2020
Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique

In early 2020, ALPS Resilience along with the Centro de Estudos Estratégicos e Internacionais da Universidade Joaquim Chissano (CEEI-UJC) launched the multi-donor funded “Identifying Resiliencies in Cabo Delgado Mozambique” project (IRP). The IRP is an extension of our previous quantitative research conducted in 2018/2019 towards surveying resilience and mapping at-risk communities.

PROJECT BRIEF

October 2020 marked 3 years since the local violent extremist organisation Ansar al Sunna (or Al-Shabaab) began their attacks in the northern region of Mozambique.

Since then, the violence has resulted in the death and injury of thousands and the internal displacement of tens of thousands more threatening to derail the country’s extractive industries and socio-economic development plans, potentially destabilizing the region. The window for intervention is narrowing as

the insurgency becomes more sophisticated in its ability to radicalize and recruit individuals, capture and hold urban areas, or isolate entire districts from the province, further preventing humanitarian aid workers from accessing these areas. A greater understanding is needed on the radicalization and recruitment methods enabled ALPS and partners to design and implement targeted interventions aimed at reducing the spread of violent extremism across Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Between the previous research period in 2018/2019 and 2020, the security situation had deteriorated requiring special government permission to conduct the study across Cabo Delgado. The IRP builds on the quantitative research conducted in Nampula however

it is innovative in being the first to apply a mixed method design of both qualitative and quantitative research methods to understand community resiliencies in Cabo Delgado. ALPS delivered on all districts, either directly or through IDP camps.

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS / INTERVIEWS IN THE FIELD

2020 Snapshot



17

Districts of Cabo Delgado province identified for initial fieldwork

5

Districts deemed inaccessible due to rising insecurity

1643



Households targeted in initial sample size

1578

Households visited across 12 Districts

839



Interviews successfully conducted

40



Focus Group Discussions conducted

480



FGD participants

IDENTIFYING RESILIENCIES IN CABO DELGADO MOZAMBIQUE PROJECT (IRP)

The objectives for the research were to:

- Map communities vulnerable to violent extremism in the affected districts of Cabo Delgado.
- To identify the risk and protective factors for radicalization amongst the youth in Cabo Delgado

Overall, the research found that high levels of resilience exist across the districts of Cabo Delgado.

Alps continued further research into:

- The identity and objectives of the insurgents and the causes of the insurgency,
- Existing cultural differences within communities and how these communities experience the violence, their attitudes towards government, law enforcement and insurgent forces.
- Greater efforts should be made to increase community trust and confidence in government and law enforcement.

Enumerators in Ancuabe district



Enumerators in Namuno district



Enumerators in Mecufi district



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2021

Building towards 2021 we are expanding our presence in Cabo Delgado Province and building on the excellent foundations and work done in 2020. The research, data and programming undertaken in 2020 will enable ALPS to develop, grow and expand into other districts in Mozambique. The new ALPS office in Pemba has grown and new offices are in line for 2021.

