



ANNUAL REPORT

2019





CONTENTS

Letter from the Executive Director	4
About ALPS	5
ALPS in Action	7
Building Resilient Refugee Communities (BRRC)	9
People to People Dialogues (P2P)	13
Survey of Communities at Risk of Violent Extremism in Tanzania and Mozambique	15
Preventing Violent Extremism Workshop Series	17
Insecurity in Northern Mozambique	18
Emergency Assistance to Zwelihle, Hermanus	20
Looking Forward to 2020	21

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

2019 was a year of tremendous growth for ALPS Resilience. ALPS was founded in 2015 working with the Somali diaspora community in South Africa's Western Cape and investing in resilience building projects. These projects included providing free English and computer classes to refugees and asylum seekers while strengthening the capacity of our community-based partner. Today, our organization supports a thorough resilience program with offices in South Africa and Mozambique and the United Kingdom. We have also lent our expertise to projects in forced migration and violence prevention which have been underway in South Africa, Mozambique and Tanzania.

All this would not be possible without the support of our donors and partner organizations. Their interest and collaborative efforts in our work, support, guidance and partnership is invaluable. I would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for their continued support since 2015.

I would also like to thank our staff for a year of strategic vision, excellent project management, endless hard work and undivided dedication towards our various projects and beneficiaries. Without your commitment to ALPS, the achievements over the past year would not have been realized. In 2020 we aim for additional growth as we look to work with more partners, staff and projects.

Best wishes,

Dave Bax
Executive Director

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 2019



4000+

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



4

countries across Sub-Saharan Africa



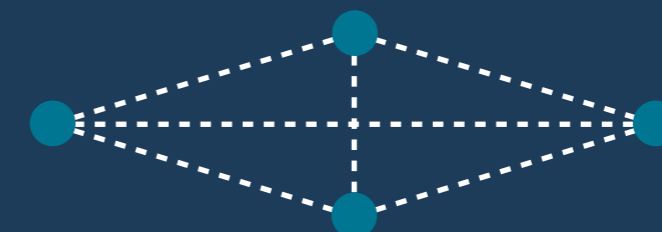
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survey monitoring levels of community resilience in South Africa



5

programmes focused on building community resilience and preventing violence



4

multi-sectoral workshops for knowledge sharing and networking

ALPS IN ACTION

2019 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)

USAID
2018 – 2019

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 Emergency Assistance to Zwelihle, Hermanus

US Department of State
2018 – 2019

In response to the destruction, looting, and displacement caused by protests in Zwelihle in 2018, ALPS was awarded a grant by the US Department of State (DOS) to provide integration assistance as well as material aid to help foreign nationals return to and rebuild their shops and homes.

4 Surveying Resilience and Mapping At-Risk Communities

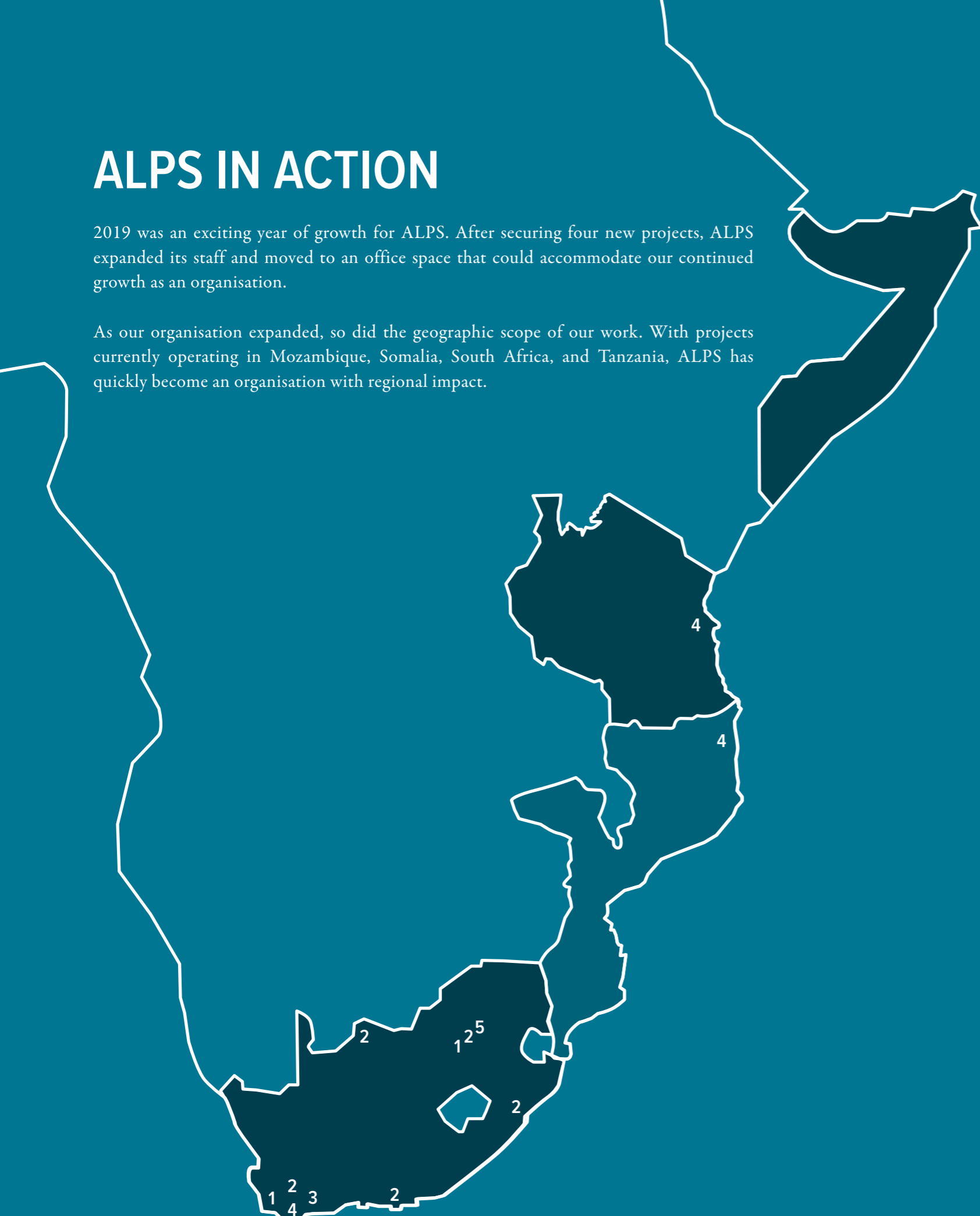
Australian Direct Aid Programme
2018 - 2019

In the first half of 2018, ALPS designed and implemented a pilot survey assessing levels of resilience to violent extremism in Cape Town, South Africa. After taking stock of lessons learned, ALPS began implementation of the survey in Pwani, Tanzania and Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, two regions highly vulnerable to violent extremism.

5 Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) Workshop Series

British High Commission, Swedish Embassy, American Embassy
2017-2018

Through its annual PVE workshop series, ALPS plays a key role in driving conversations on preventing violent extremism in Southern Africa. The series involves collaborative presentations and discussion on topics related to preventing and protecting individuals against acts of violent extremism.



BUILDING RESILIENT REFUGEE COMMUNITIES (BRRC)

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

ALPS Resilience has worked in partnership with the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA) since 2016, to harness social integration and increase self-reliance amongst the community of Somali refugees and asylum seekers living in the Western Cape and in Gauteng. The project expanded to include Gauteng in late 2018, with SASA offices running activities in Pretoria West. Over the past three years, with support from the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), ALPS has successfully implemented a community-based approach to deliver classes, referrals, and workshops to over 3000 beneficiaries a year.

THE CHALLENGE

Globally 60% of refugees and asylum seekers are located in urban areas compared to camps and peripheries. In South Africa, the vast majority of refugees and asylum seekers live in the major metropolitan areas of Cape Town (Western Cape), Johannesburg and Pretoria (Gauteng), and Durban (KwaZulu-Natal). While urban areas have made it easier for refugees and asylum seekers to find livelihoods and access to better lives, rapid urbanization makes it difficult to ensure protection and sanctuary in vulnerable communities. The project has three objectives; first to improve integration through self-reliance workshops, English language classes and computer literacy classes; second, to safeguard the most vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers through a custom referral system and

initiatives dedicated to women, youth and victims of xenophobic attacks; third to equip refugee-led organizations with the tools and resources needed to assist their representative diaspora communities with migration-led challenges. Refugee-Led Organizations (RLO) are vital to carrying out strategy-based interventions in the urban landscape of refugee populations. RLOs are considered vital community structures that when strengthened 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 an important conduit for bring services directly into their communities. This has also meant that youth, women and vulnerable groups also have increased access to services and knowledge of their rights.

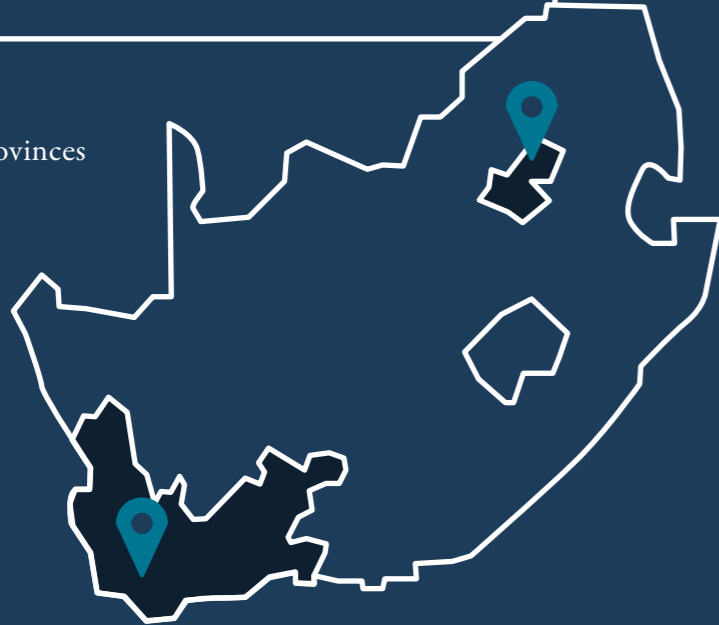


The BRRC soccer programme provides South African and Somali youth with a healthy afterschool activity and promotes social cohesion.

BUILDING RESILIENT REFUGEE COMMUNITIES (BRRC) 2019 Snapshot

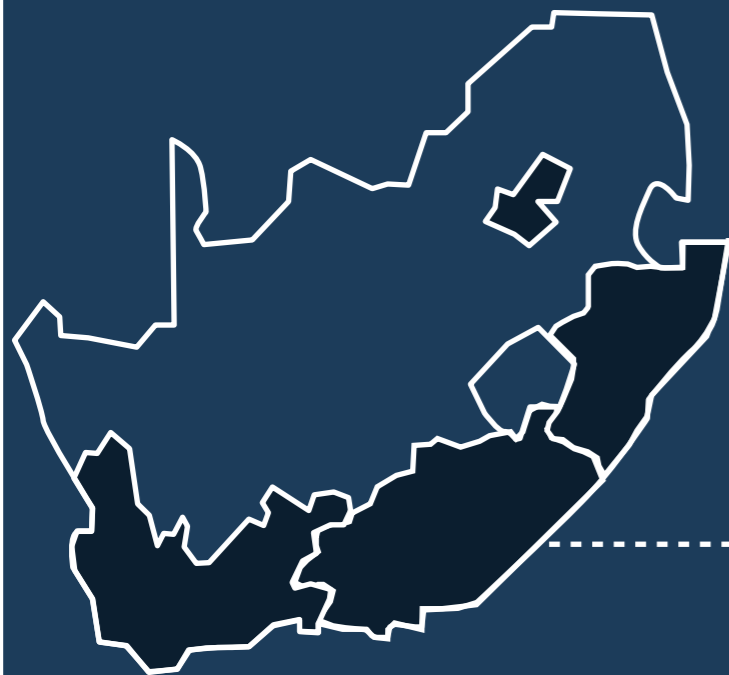
4670 beneficiaries received services from the BRRC project across

2 provinces



2 offices operational

45 community dialogues
4 provincial dialogues



1154 participants

15 sites to improve intercultural understanding, interpersonal communication and conflict resolution

367 beneficiaries attended English language classes



185 Females
182 Males
50,1% Females
49,9% Males

71 beneficiaries attended computer skills classes



32 Females
39 Males
45% Females
55% Males

379 participants attended self-reliance workshops



187 Females
192 Males
49,3% Females
50,7% Males

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 (P2P)

USAID

2018 – 2019

Eastern Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Western Cape

The People-to-People Dialogues (P2P) project was a 15-month project funded by USAID that aimed to foster social cohesion in South African communities by improving relationships between foreign nationals and locals to improve integration. ALPS, in partnership with local stakeholders and community facilitators hosted a series of dialogues and workshops in 15 communities across four provinces, namely: Eastern Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Western Cape. The project was envisioned to create an interactive dialogue series that incorporated themes of xenophobia, violence and community interventions in provinces most affected.

THE CHALLENGE

In South Africa, steady urbanization without corresponding industrialization has resulted in increased demands for basic services and employment within communities. Scarce resources, poverty and unemployment often result in increased tensions between South Africans and foreign nationals who are blamed for “stealing” jobs from South Africans or conducting illegal activities such as drug trade, prostitution.

With assistance from USAID, the dialogue process proved to be a timely response, as violence against foreign nationals had escalated in August/September in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. The escalation of violence made outreach services more integral to the process but difficult to implement with security concern regarding the safety of project facilitators. Foreign nationals still face violent discrimination and marginalization which remains a challenge for integrative measures. ALPS continues to seek the support of partners and stakeholders to contribute to the project in 2020.

OUR RESPONSE

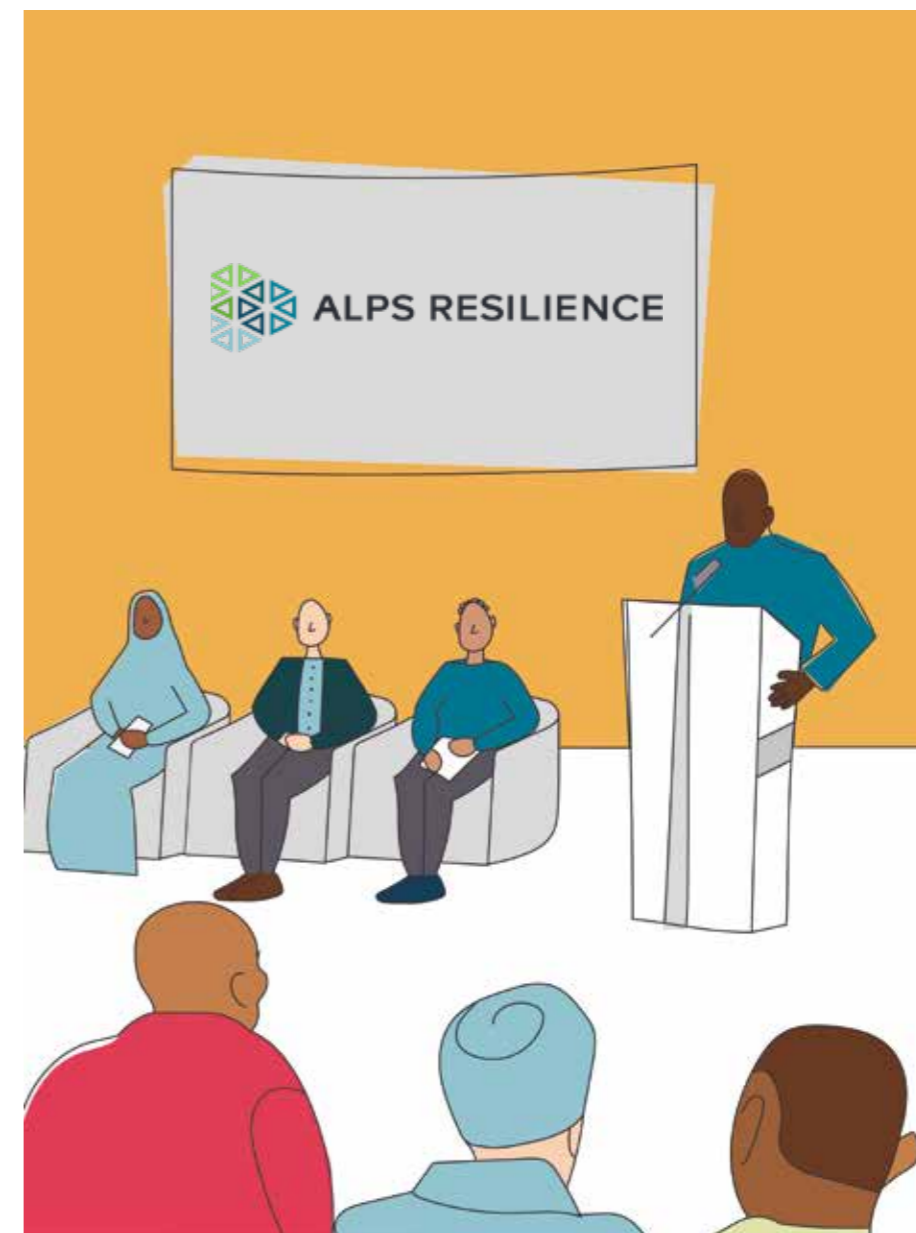
ALPS Resilience opted to use community dialogues as an intervention strategy. Such dialogues resonate at various levels of society and present an opportunity to promote mutual learning in identifying and addressing social tensions and points of conflict, which in turn can strengthen leadership capacities at individual, group, community, and broader societal levels. Further, community dialogues provide a platform to generate an understanding of and response to xenophobia that integrates individual and collective concerns, values and beliefs and that addresses attitudes, behaviors and practices embedded in social systems and structures.

Through these dialogues, ALPS discovered that other than stereotypical cases of xenophobia, the determinants, nature and dynamics of xenophobic violence (or the absence thereof) in the fifteen (15) sites were relatively complex and often differed considerably from how these issues had been portrayed in the media. For example, in some reported instances, acts of violence were difficult to define as xenophobic, given that they were motivated by business interests. i.e., local shop owners instigating attacks against

foreign national shop owners in order to reduce business competition, or instances of foreign nationals hiring South Africans to harm other foreign nationals.

Strong leadership and effective business and community structures within local and foreign national communities were found to serve as effective platforms for constructive dialogue, internal cooperation and coordinated engagements between communities. In response, participants developed local action plans to ensure that the stakeholders find avenues for social

cohesion not only through the dialogues but through joint action for the greater good. The action plans aim to generate increased support for community-based solutions to prevent xenophobic attacks and foster relationships between foreign nationals and South Africans at local and provincial levels. At a deeper level, the local action plans are intended to ensure (i) increased intercultural understanding and interactions between non-nationals and host communities and, (ii) increased joint action between South Africans and non-nationals in local communities.



A Survey of Communities at Risk of Violent Extremism in Tanzania and Mozambique

THE CHALLENGE

A combination of historical grievances tied to perceptions of socio-economic, political and resource marginalization, as well as inter/intra religious and ideological tensions in Northern Mozambique and Tanzania, have created favorable conditions for extremist ideologies to take root in both countries. In addition to these push/pull factors, porous borders and illicit trade networks between the two countries have enabled the growth and spread of extremist sentiments in the region.

In Tanzania, this likely played a role in violence committed by an underground group targeting government and ruling party officers between 2015 and 2018, which left feelings of insecurity among authorities and civilians alike. Over 40 people were killed, many in the Pwani Region of Tanzania, and a securitized response in the form of a harsh police crackdown, including enforced curfews, did not prevent the continuation of brazen attacks.

In Cabo Delgado, the northernmost province in Mozambique that borders Tanzania, a group of men seemingly affiliated with an enigmatic fundamentalist Muslim group, locally known as Al-Shabaab, began a stream of attacks on Mozambique's Defense and Security Forces (FDS), infrastructure and civilians in October 2017. The attacks are still ongoing in 2019.

OUR RESPONSE

Unlike conventional approaches, which aim to identify the root causes that push or pull individuals towards violent extremism, this survey identifies the sources of resilience that individuals and communities draw upon, that enable them to withstand and recover from adverse situations. As the first adaptation of the BRAVE-14 measure in an African context, and a measure of resilience that can inform programmatic interventions that build upon communities' assets, the survey is an innovative and important tool in preventing violent extremism.

The results of the survey enable ALPS to systematically identify existing resilience resources and vulnerabilities among youth in districts of Nampula as well as the Kibaha district of Pwani, allowing for future projects to strengthen these resources of resilience. ALPS Resilience hopes to use these results to build community partnerships that support civil society organizations and local NGOs' efforts to develop effective, meaningful, evidence-based, youth-focused activities. In addition, these findings may be used to support sustainable ways of identifying communities' resilience resources and vulnerabilities over the long-term.

Lastly, the survey is a strategic tool to help guide the implementation of programs focused on strengthening resilience to violence amongst young people and communities.



PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM WORKSHOP SERIES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CEEI

Canadian Embassy & Friedrich Ebert Foundation

THE CHALLENGE

ALPS Resilience began monitoring the emergence of extreme violence in Southern Tanzania and Northern Mozambique as early as 2017. In our efforts to understand the risks the youth face to violent extremism and the sources of resilience they draw upon, ALPS began the study “Rapid Risk Assessment and Resilience of Vulnerable Communities against Violence.”

In 2018/19 the first round of the survey took place across four districts in Nampula province, Mozambique – Erati, Lalaua, Mecubúri and Memba - and in the district of Kibaha in Pwani Region, Tanzania. Overall, the survey found high levels of resilience in the five districts in which the study took place., however it also identified various risk factors within communities i.e. Socioeconomic inequality and marginalization alongside the impact of Cyclone Idai and Kenneth, political censorship and low levels of social and cultural engagement within community members

OUR RESPONSE

ALPS Resilience in partnership with our local research partners Centro de Estudos Estratégicos e Internacionais (CEEI) of the University of Joaquim Chissano, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and with funding from the Canadian Embassy, presented our findings in a workshop held in Maputo. Based on the findings of the study, ALPS Resilience recommended further research into the northern areas most affected by violence in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.



INSECURITY IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo, Mozambique 2019

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CEEI

THE CHALLENGE

It has become impossible to discuss international peace and security without the emergence of violent extremism and the imminent threats they bring with them. Located in the northern region of Mozambique, Cabo Delgado has been the center of an insurgency and violence since early 2017. ALPS has ventured into this territory to strategize with local actors and partners in nuancing possible solutions and furthering research and advocacy on extremism. Given that regional stakeholders have not come up with a solid response plan, potential risk factors may have been identified but have not been directly affiliated with certainty.

OUR RESPONSE

To act on identifying the gaps between knowledge and action, ALPS conducted a workshop in 2019 that delved into the multi-sectoral approach in addressing violent extremism. Focusing on the province of Cabo Delgado, ALPS facilitated a dialogue in the workshop that detailed the prospects and potential of community resilience to extremist insurgency in the mentioned province with the aim to expand our horizons in the region. This workshop also allowed ALPS to understand the underlying factors of extremist threats to vulnerable communities while also looking into the different variables of security issues attached to Northern Mozambique. This could further broaden ALPS’ advocacy reach and implement strategies to conduct research on counter-insurgency measures in the region as well as deliberate on pragmatic methods of implementing community interventions to shape resilience.



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO ZWELIHLE, HERMANUS

US Department of State
2019
Hermanus, Western Cape

THE CHALLENGE

In 2018/2019, the US Department of State (DOS) provided ALPS with funding for emergency humanitarian relief assistance in Zwelihle, Hermanus following a mass of looting and displacement of foreign nationals. Zwelihle was selected as a priority site for the USAID-People to People (P2P) Dialogues Project which motivated ALPS to take on this assistance intervention.

The collaborative funding from both USAID and US DOS has helped ALPS strengthen its interventions in Zwelihle allowing for social cohesion. This has allowed ALPS to enhance the capacity in which it works at an entry level into communities while also adding on to project management skills.

OUR RESPONSE

In 2019, ALPS conducted a briefing highlighting how factors contribute to violent attacks on foreign nationals living in Zwelihle. ALPS implemented a holistic approach in mechanizing social cohesion, without the over-dependence

on material aid. Social cohesion development was mechanized through P2P dialogues with various stakeholders and members of civil society. Where community dialogue is an essential part of coordinating a coherent process of enabling harmony.

Moreover, ALPS also responded to material needs in the community by distributing emergency survival and shelter relief packages, reaching 400 direct and 2000 indirect beneficiaries. The intervention by ALPS has been the first to implement both a material aid and social dialogue mechanism to foster cohesion through the P2P project.

The P2P engagement reiterated the need for integration between foreign nationals and South Africans. ALPS remains committed to provide facilitation in improving social relations in communities affected by xenophobia. Additionally facilitating proactive dialogue between residents in communities that are fraught with socio-economic challenges channels in a process to have collective effort in overcoming disparities that may fuel tensions.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020

Reflecting on 2019, ALPS has had a successful year in the completion of current projects and embarked on new projects that are taking full shape into some long-term commitments. 2019 has seen the expansion of ALPS Resilience in Mozambique, as we aim to establish a local, active presence in Pemba, Cabo Delgado, to address the emergence of Violent Extremism (VE) in the Northern Mozambican province. ALPS continues to expand its knowledge and expertise-base by recruiting individuals aligned with our vision and mission. We endeavour to assist communities negatively impacted by conflict and displacement through advocacy work, research-based interventions, and evidenced-based programming.

We look forward to the following milestones in 2020:

- We will continue to partner with the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA) in their efforts to serve and support communities of Somali migrants and refugees under the Building Resilient Refugee Communities project.
- With support from the donor community, we intend to register ALPS Resilience Mozambique in Pemba, Cabo Delgado province to respond to the emerging conflict in the region.
- We aim to respond to emerging and prevailing needs and challenges faced by the refugee and asylum seeker community through constructive dialogue and effective cooperation and coordination through the People to People dialogues project.

We continue to build our comprehensive links with networks, by providing workshops, high-panel discussions, international networks and more deep impact projects that harness social cohesion and community level resiliencies. We are looking to invest more in integrative and holistic dialogues that include community stakeholders taking an active role in addressing Violent Extremism and the preventive measures associated with it.

“I dream of an Africa which is in peace with itself”

**Nelson Mandela
Citizen, President, Icon
1918 - 2013**

