

WP2 / WP5 / WP7

UDI-AFRICA IMPACT ON THE PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

IMPACTO DO UDI-AFRICA NAS UNIVERSIDADES PARCEIRAS

NAME: FRANCISCO NOA

DATE: _ 3rd May, 2020

UNIVERSITY

	P5- Universidade Agostinho Neto (UAN), AO
	P6- Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM), MZ
	P7- Universidade Katyavala Bwila (UKB), AO
X	P8- Universidade de Lúrio (UniLurio), MZ

TARGET-GROUP: Rector or Vice-Rector

1- REASONS TO JOIN UDI-AFRICA AND INITIAL EXPECTATIONS?

FROM THE BEGINNING, WE FORESAW THIS CONSORTIUM AS A HUGE OPPORTUNITY TO OUR UNIVERSITY FOR BEING SO YOUNG (12 YEARS OF EXISTENCE) AND LOCATED IN ONE OF THE POOREST AND CHALLENGING REGIONS OF MOZAMBIQUE, THE NORTH. THE INITIAL EXPECTATIONS EMBEDDED IN OUR DEEP CONVICTION THAT OUR YOUNG TEAM, LECTURERS, RESEARCHERS, SUPPORT STAFF AND THE DIRECTORS ARE AND WILL BE STRONGLY CHALLENGED TO GET NEW INSIGHTS, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCES FROM HIGHLY PRESTIGIOUS EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES.

2- WHAT HAS MY INSTITUTION LEARNED? OR WHAT HAS CHANGED?

THE CONCEPT AND PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED BY MOST OF OUR STAFF AND STUDENTS AND HELPED MOST OF US TO DEEPEN OUR PERCEPTION OF THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONCEPT AS A WHOLE. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS PROJECT HAS BROUGHT A VERY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE MINDSET AND TO THE WAY MANY OF US DO THINGS INTERNALLY, AND ESPECIALLY HOW WE DEAL WITH THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT AS WELL.

3- WHAT IMPACT DO I FORESEE FOR MY INSTITUTION

THE CONTACT WITH A PLURAL AND DIVERSIFIED ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONALLY BASED (4 AFRICAN AND 4 EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED), THE TRAINING RECEIVED BY TWELVE OF OUR UNILURIO CHAMPIONS, THE VISITING LECTURERS FROM KING'S COLLEGE, THE SUPPORT WE RECEIVED WITH EQUIPMENT'S PROVISION BY THE PROJECT ARE SOME DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE RESULTS ALREADY ACHIEVED, WHICH WILL CERTAINLY BOOST OUR CAPACITY BUILDING IN TERMS OF RESEARCH, TRAINING, MANAGEMENT AND INTERACTION WITH COMMUNITIES. FOR UNILÚRIO, THE OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE HAD OF EXCHANGING EXPERIENCES WITH A WORLD-RENOWNED UNIVERSITY AS CAMBRIDGE RAISED OUR SELF ESTEEM AND OUR VISIBILITY.

4- WHY DO UNIVERSITIES SUPPORT (OR SHOULD SUPPORT) SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP? HOW OR WHY IS THIS RELATED WITH THEIR MISSION AND TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH?

UNILÚRIO HAS BEEN CARRYING OUT, FOR YEARS, A WELL KNOWN CROSSCUTTING AND FLAGSHIP EXTENSION PROGRAM CALLED "ONE STUDENT, ONE FAMILY" WHICH INVOLVES STUDENTS AND COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING OUR CAMPUSES, AND LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER. THIS PROGRAM, AMONG OTHER EXTENSION PROGRAMS, IS ONE OF THE PILLARS OF UNILÚRIO'S MISSION, ESTABLISHING A LINK AMONGST THE TRIANGLE OF TEACHING, RESEARCH AND EXTENSION. SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WILL BRING ABOUT MORE CONSISTENCY ON THIS RELATIONSHIP AND STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF OUR INSTITUTION AS A WHOLE.

5- WHY UNIVERSITIES ARE INTERESTED IN CREATING SOCIAL IMPACT AND WHAT IS THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING SOCIAL IMPACT INDICATORS & MONITORING SYSTEMS? DOES SUPPORTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONTRIBUTE TO ENHANCING THEIR SOCIAL FOOTPRINT?

MORE THAN EVER, AND TAKING INTO SERIOUS CONSIDERATION THE FAST AND MASSIVE TRANSFORMATIONS WE ARE FACING IN THE LAST THIRTY YEARS ACROSS THE WORLD, UNIVERSITIES ARE INCREASINGLY CALLED UPON TO PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE IN BRINGING EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SOLUTIONS THROUGH GENERATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND, THUS, DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY AS WELL. THIS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THOROUGH MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEMS IN PLACE. IN AFRICA, THIS IS A REAL IMPERATIVE FOR THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS VIS À VIS ALL THE SOCIOECONOMIC ASYMMETRIES AND TECHNOLOGIC GAPS. BRINGING REAL INPUTS, WITH RELIABLE AND VISIBLE SOCIAL IMPACT INDICATORS, WILL GRADUALLY ENABLE CHANGING SOCIETIES FOR BETTER, MAKING REAL AND EFFECTIVE POSITIVE IMPACTS, MAKES UNIVERSITIES' MISSION TRULY RELEVANT.

6- WHAT IMPACT DO I ANTICIPATE FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONS (DO I ANTICIPATE IMPACT ON OTHER INSTITUTIONS, OUTSIDE THE CONSORTIUM? IN WHAT WAY?)

DUE TO THE INSIGHTS AND POSITIVE EXPERIENCES ACQUIRED BY THE UNIVERSITIES WHICH ARE TAKING PART IN THIS CONSORTIUM AND THE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED, I AM CONVICTED THAT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN OUR COUNTRIES WILL TRY TO FOLLOW THE UDI-AFRICA PATHS. THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, INTERACTIONS BETWEEN UNILÚRIO AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS PUBLIC SECTOR, PRIVATE ENTERPRISES (SME AND LARGE ONES) AND NGOs HAVE IMPROVED, RAISING INTEREST IN CLOSER COLLABORATION AMONG ALL INSTITUTIONS.

7- SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

MORE COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS AMONG AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES ARE NEEDED. OTHER ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS CONSORTIUM'S CONFERENCES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN OUT OF THE CAPITAL CITIES.