

SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PEACE KEEPING

ABOUT UNITED PURPOSE

- ➔ Developmental International NGO;
- ➔ Established in Mozambique since 1996, main office in Lichinga, (1 in Maputo and 1 in Chimoio);
- ➔ Works in partnership with the Government and local organizations in 6 Provinces: Zambezia, Niassa, Manica, Nampula, Maputo and Cabo Delgado;
- ➔ Focus areas: Governance and Social Accountability; Food Security; Community Health; WASH; Gender; HIV; Climatic Changes and Disability.
- ➔ 10 years of experience in the area of Governance and Social Accountability;
- ➔ Its team is composed by 22 collaborators;
- ➔ Impacts on 120,000 lives per year.

The **role of sport as a potential tool for development, peace and social inclusion** has been highlighted by many social agents. United Purpose understands that promoting more inclusive sports and recreational initiatives in different spheres of society has the power to raise awareness of the vulnerability of some groups, to combat stigma and discrimination against persons with disabilities, while promoting greater social cohesion.

Aiming to mobilize and empower its partner organizations working with people with disabilities, **UP organized a Sports Training in Lichinga in November 2019**, focusing on:

- The **advantages** that sport brings on the physical, emotional, intellectual and social level and the benefits of sport for the well-being of each individual;
- The **potential** of sport to promote conviviality, tolerance and interaction between individuals from various social backgrounds;
- The **power** of sport activities to create ties of empathy and sense of belonging, promoting unity and solidarity for the cause of people with disabilities.

Sport is an **innovative tool in community outreach, information dissemination and community empowerment, in promoting gender equality and social cohesion**, which can be applied in contexts of conflict and instability.



Sports Tournament in Lichinga for the Disabled



SAMCom - Social Accountability Monitoring Committee from the Municipality of Lichinga, in partnership with **United Purpose** and **FAMOD** - Forum of Mozambican Disabled Organizations (and all its partner organizations) **organized a Sports Tournament in Lichinga for People with Disabilities**, between the 1st and 3rd of December. A total of 86 athletes with disabilities, including 17 women, participated in this tournament.

The aim of this tournament was to **combat discrimination and the stigma of disability** and was aimed to **promote greater inclusion of people with disabilities in society through sport activities**. This tournament had 6 modalities to highlight: Indoor Soccer, wheelchair Basketball, Athletics, Canadian Racing, Tricycle Racing and Bottle Water Filling.



"I feel pleased after these activities because I could see a great adherence by the communities and I hope that more and more activities that value people with disabilities take place here in Lichinga. This event brought inclusion at all levels, people could realize that we are equal and can do and participate in everything. In the future we also want to include traditional games."

(Frederico Dumas Belém, member of ACAMO – Blind and Amblyopic Association of Mozambique)

"I especially liked the novelty of wheelchair basketball, it was a sport none of us knew, and we want to continue. I really enjoyed the prize for the dumb deaf in Futsal which was done collectively, an attitude that in itself fights against discrimination and promotes unity and inclusion. I ask INAS to continue with these examples, which help not to see us as animals".

(Domingos Samuel Carlos, member of AJODM – Mozambique Young Handicapped Association)

www.united-purpose.org.mz

Mozambique, C.P. 234/1073; Tel: 271 20 163; Fax: 271 21 553; Cel: +258823631646

Registered in England & Wales with Charity No. 272465 and Company No. 1278887