

December Editorial
Year End 2019:
Greater perplexities:
International cooperation and their attitudes
Correct use of financial resources - Donations
Internal capacity for own development

Dear Colleagues and KULIMA Members,

Our Organization, is comprised of Founding Members, Associated Members, Friends, and Cadre operating in specific integrated socio-economic development programs, reaping the fruits of an entire year of activities, and preparing for the start of the new year, 2020.

All Delegations, for better or worse, managed to carry out various activities in favor of community development of the most disadvantaged segments of the country. Without overlooking other delegations, from the least- to most productive, the great dedication and engagement of the Sofala Delegation, supported by Manica, merits emphasis. Sofala, with the support of Manica, confronted significant activities to provide relief against the damages caused by Cyclone IDAI, which in March destroyed everything in Beira, Dondo, Buzi, and Nhamatanda. After nine months of struggle... there is still so much to do!

And, there is a resulting spontaneous reflection **of international cooperation and the correct use of donations that National and International NGOs receive and use in a less than consistent and coordinated.** From the two Cyclones - IDAI in the Beira Corridor and Kenneth in Pemba, an unprecedented rush of activities ensued, where the direct beneficiaries became only spectators and the poor.

Airplanes, helicopters, 4x4 vehicles, trucks with clothes, food, and medicine ... all in motion... without engaging the locals in the solution of the problems who are affected. Just like the destructive winds, international cooperation with all its administrative and bureaucratic machinery passed, leaving local NGOs and, above all, the populations without defense instruments to face similar situations that may happen.

Unfortunately, this is the situation we are experiencing, and we are facing. There is still no talk of reconstruction of houses, which should have been the first concern. Experts and international donors bombarded the country with tents and tarpaulins, washed their hands and returned to their countries. With the exception of some international NGOs, such as OXFAM, FHI360, HI, AVSI, among others, few are determined to remain on the ground before, during and after Disasters. And new Cyclones will come... or rather, as I write, a new one is plaguing the coastal region of Pemba.... What will you leave after you pass? Only destruction and return to the starting point. People with nothing and without the ability to face similar situations. Always poor and dependent on foreign aid!

And continuing our reflection, I would like to highlight two aspects of international development: (1) **The Donors' general trust of International NGOs**, except for a sophisticated principle, direct collaboration with National NGOs, that after thirty-one years, remain active in the field, with

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profound knowledge of the situation, language and customs, as well as how to confront the problems of underdevelopment in the communities, especially rural ones. And (2) with respect to trust in local NGOs, **the compulsory use of unrestricted funds (organization's funds, before donor funds are disbursed) to implement social- and emergency programs.** A practice emulated by International NGOs. Months and months of delay. Do employees of these institutions also stop receiving salaries because of funding shortfalls and/or run out of operational funds during the start-up phase of programs? Do donors think national NGOs possess an enormous capacity of stockpiling large quantities of unrestricted funds, a stipulation which is not required of international NGOs? **A very strange and unintelligible attitude!**

BUT this is the reality! Always alleging the inability of financial account (insolvency), the funds arrive 3 to 6 months late ... **and in cases that are best left unmentioned ... funds are canceled! Horrible!** ... And, all this, to fatten institutions that, with the mere role of intermediaries, are already rich and want more!

Year 2020?

- **We need to reorient all of this!**
- **We need to show our financial capacity! With or without sacrifice ...!**
- **We need to develop technically feasible proposals!**
- **We need to move forward with innovations in production and productivity.**
- **We need to move forward with clear ideas and actions on environmental protection.**
- **We need to clearly define the steps to be taken in the fight against chronic malnutrition.**
- **We need to ensure that the fight against HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB and other neglected diseases has realistic results.**
- **We need Gender Equity to be effective.**

We have staff, but,

- **We need to review our personnel capacity and engagement strategy.**
"Be accountable and separate people who refuse to grow and produce results!"
- **We need to redefine times, tasks, without constraints!**

- **We need rich and enduring partnerships.**
- **We need to have a financial capacity, which goes beyond an outstretched hand to Donors!**
- **We need to revitalize entrepreneurship and microfinance activities.**

- **We need to be more expert in implementation activities - KULIMA pillars.**

At the beginning of the year.... This is our reflection and the starting point of new challenges of service in support of the most underserved communities.