National Plan of Action for
Adolescent and Youth Development 1998-2001

Executive Summary

1. Introduction

The Intersectoral Committee for Support to Adolescent and Youth Development (CIADAJ) was set up in 1996, housed in the National Directorate of Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports and supported in the initial phase by UNFPA. The President and Vice-President are the Ministers of Culture, Youth and Sports and of Health respectively and the committee has representatives from all the key ministries, national NGOs and religious organisations associated with Adolescent and Youth Development. (For list of member organisations, see annex). The committee's role is to act as a technical support and pressure group for coordinating Adolescent and Youth Development activities, collecting and analyzing information, identifying research needs, sensitizing the public and appropriate authorities and advocating for the defense of young peoples rights and defining programmes to meet the needs of adolescents and young people. Implementation will be carried out by the respective entities.

The aim of the CIADAJ's initial phase was to develop the National Plan of Action for Adolescent and Youth Development (PNA), which is here presented in summary form. Priorities were identified during the planning period through the Committee member organisations' work plus input from studies carried out in Zambezia and a consultation process in Maputo City and Province, and these are reflected in the PNA.

2. National Plan of Action for Adolescent and Youth Development (PNA)

**Overall Objective:**
*Promote the healthy, harmonious and responsible development of adolescents and young people ensuring a better knowledge and exercising of their rights and contributing to gender equality.*

**Immediate Objectives and Strategies:**

2.1. *Contribute to ensuring the effective protection of the rights and interests of adolescents and young women and men.*

- Review existing legislation to make it consistent with the-relevant international conventions, ensuring the protection of adolescents' and young peoples' rights
- Advocate for ratifying the new legislation and including adolescents and young people specifically in government and sectoral policies
- Ensure data is disaggregated by age and sex.
- Inform and educate young people and the general public as to their rights

2.2. *Improve the collection, collation and analysis of data and information relating to adolescents and young people and the effective coordination of activities for their benefit.*

- Establish a Documentation Centre to collect, collate and analyse existing
information on adolescents and young people.

- Strengthen CIADAJ technically and extend it to six provinces in three years (Zambezia, Nampula, Sofala, Cabo Delgado, Inhambane and Gaza)

2.3. Sensitize and raise the awareness of parents, educators, and the general public about issues relating to adolescents and young women and men to promote attitudes consistent with their harmonious development.

- Carry out a nationwide IEC campaign

2.4. Promote healthy development especially relating to the preparation for sexual life, reproductive health and the exercise of reproductive health rights of young women and men.

- Carry out a series of CAP studies
- Sensitize the community to support reproductive health activities (sex education, family planning etc.) for adolescents and young men and women
- Establish mechanisms to educate and counsel young people in sex education and RH in schools and communities (IEC material, training teachers and young people as activists, etc.)
- Train staff and equip health units to provide appropriate RH services for young men and women.
- Expand the teaching of sex education in schools.

2.5. Stimulate the participation of young people in the identification and resolution of their problems.

- Strengthen existing youth associations and promote the setting up of new ones through leadership training for young people etc.
- Promote and support sport and cultural activities

2.6. Promote educational opportunities for adolescents and young women and men.

- Collect and disseminate information about existing opportunities including ETP and NFE
- Promote increased access to and quality of education especially at secondary, pre-university and higher level in the public and private for profit and not for profit sectors
- Support school libraries
- Improve school/community liaison

2.7. Promote employment opportunities for young women and men.

- Collect and disseminate information about existing opportunities, promote career counselling for first jobs and support the existing employment centres.
2.8. **Support the responsible moral and civic and development of adolescents and young women and men.**

- Assist the religious organizations in training young people in "moral" and civic education with technical and financial support, including promoting inter-denominational activities.

2.9. **Encourage the participation of adolescents and young people in the protection of the environment.**

- Promote EEC campaigns and the setting up of "environment clubs" in schools to encourage young people to protect the environment.

2.10. **Contribute to the prevention of drug dependency in adolescents and young people.**

- Promote the training of young people to carry out IEC campaigns to prevent drug and alcohol abuse.
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