Entrepreneurship is a key driver of inclusive and sustainable growth. It has great potential for promoting agricultural transformation and rural development, but is often impeded by restrictive business environments and low technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skill bases.

UNIDO fosters the conditions entrepreneurs need to succeed, aligning skills development to the needs of modern industries. This is particularly important in less developed countries, where many young people lack access to modern education, which would prepare them for the world of work and enable them to participate actively in their communities.

**APPROACH**

UNIDO has a number of programmes designed to support entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs, particularly youth and women in rural areas. The organization also supports the efforts of national authorities in reforming regulations and improving the performance of public services to foster the conditions entrepreneurs need to succeed.

**Entrepreneurship Curriculum Programme (ECP):** For the past 15 years, UNIDO has assisted ministries of education to foster entrepreneurial culture and skills among millions of students in secondary and vocational-technical schools. In the programme, students spend more than half their time learning from local entrepreneurs, identifying business opportunities in their communities and assessing resources for starting businesses. UNIDO also assists education authorities in developing their own curricula.

**HP’s Learning Initiative for Entrepreneurs (HP LIFE):** HP LIFE is a free, online entrepreneurship training platform targeting aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners. Through HP LIFE workshops, UNIDO equips young people with practical business and IT skills to help them develop a viable business plan and solve daily business challenges. The platform offers over 30 courses covering finance, operations, marketing and communications in seven languages, which UNIDO also leverages to enrich the curricula of higher education institutions.

**Innovation, Development and Entrepreneurship for All (IDEA):** IDEA is a UNIDO programme designed to foster an entrepreneurial culture and facilitate integration into the formal economy through a modular and flexible approach. The IDEA app provides an online programme to connect young entrepreneurs with mentors from all over the world to accelerate the growth of new entrepreneurship communities and foster an entrepreneurial culture. As a web-based service, it provides a highly structured and qualitative digital mentoring & incubation experience through all-in-one access to 1-on-1 mentoring, a step-by-step incubation methodology with key definitions, business cases, and data visualizations.

**GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE**

**GLOBAL**

**ECP**

Enriching secondary and vocational-technical schools with entrepreneurship curricula

**HP LIFE**

ICT-based entrepreneurship skills training

**IDEA**

A modular and flexible approach for entrepreneurs. Also available as an online mentoring and incubation programme

**CONTACT**

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ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS FOR YOUTH IN MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique is one of a growing number of countries that recognize the development of entrepreneurial skills as a key competence for their secondary and vocational schools students. With funding from Norway, UNIDO worked with the Ministry of Education and Culture to develop and introduce an entrepreneurship curriculum into schools with syllabi, teacher guides, textbooks, as well as monitoring and evaluation tools. Through practical activities, students learn how to identify businesses opportunities with growth potential in their communities and how to mobilize local resources. So far, 331 schools have implemented the programme for around 496,400 students, of which 47 per cent were girls. The results are positive, with some students starting small business projects and teachers and parents noticing increases in self-confidence, initiative and responsibility among the ECP students.

“I am constantly thinking of new ideas because I want to expand my businesses and make a contribution to my community. I try to find out what people in my area need, prepare a business plan and make savings to start. I am proud of being a businessman and I like my work”

David, 22, young ECP graduate from Nampula