



**ReGeCom**

Rede para Gestão Comunitária de Recursos Naturais

**A Network for  
Community-Based  
Natural Resource  
Management in  
Mozambique**





# A movement for communities in Mozambique

At ReGeCom (Rede para a Gestão Comunitária de Recursos Naturais), we champion the Community-Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) approach as the best way to promote the well-being of both communities and nature. Founded in 2018 and operational since 2020, ReGeCom focuses on supporting communities to lead in sustainable land and natural resource management at the grassroots level.

The success of CBNRM relies on collective action and a strong commitment to placing communities at the forefront of conservation and development efforts. Our early initiatives brought together key stakeholders, including many of our members, to establish national standards for community engagement. This led to the development and launch of Mozambique's first Community Governance Guidelines, which are currently being trialled in four landscapes (Chimanimani National Park, Marrromeu Special Reserve, Maputo National Park and Mount Mabu Forest). Thanks to our efforts and the foundation we've laid, there is greater momentum in the community conservation movement in Mozambique, with the future holding even more exciting opportunities.

**“In Mozambique, where approximately 60% of the population reside in rural areas and rely on nature and ecosystems for their sustenance, the imperative for community-based sustainable land and natural resource management has become a key development agenda.”**

- Jose Monteiro  
Executive Director, Regecom



## Our members

At the 5th Community Management Conference in Maputo in February 2018, challenges in CBNRM implementation and community roles in sustainable resource management were discussed. The need for a Strategy and Action Plan for CBNRM in Mozambique was highlighted. Post-conference, a coalition of public, civil society, academic, and NGO groups decided to form a national platform to address this, and ReGeCom was born.

Today, we are a national network and platform of over 20 Mozambican NGOs and CSOs, universities, and government agencies. Our members are all united by the vision of seeing stronger community-based natural resource management in Mozambique, transforming the lives of people, and building a sustainable future across our beautiful country.

# Our vision

**Communities in Mozambique lead the sustainable management of land and natural resources, based on improved models of community governance.**

# Our mission

**To drive the effective development of Community-Based Natural Resource Management across Mozambique.**





# Our work and approach



## Strengthening Governance

Strengthening systems as a basis for recognising the rights of communities and their involvement in leading community development processes. This consolidation is accompanied by the development of instruments (land use plans, community agendas, etc.) that facilitate collective planning and decision-making.



## Lobbying for Legal Framework

Development of the legal framework for community management of natural resources based on sectoral legislation, serving as a platform to standardise the instruments and approaches that enable community engagement in development processes. Communities, as active rather than passive actors, are recognised as indispensable assets for the promotion of economic growth and biodiversity conservation.



## Strengthening Capacity

Building institutional capacity and information management systems that enable informed decision-making, and provide evidence of community management models that address specific needs for socio-economic growth and natural resource conservation.

**“For CBNRM to work, you need to build community governance systems, you need to know if the rights are there, you need to build capacity, and then you need to give tools such as community land use plans and other resources that support decision-making.”**

-José Monteiro,  
ReGeCom’s Executive Director

# ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE



**150.000 HA**  
OF COMMUNITY LAND  
RIGHTS REGISTERED

CHIMANIMANI  
NATIONAL PARK

**35**  
COMMUNITY-BASED  
INSTITUTIONS  
ESTABLISHED

MAPUTO  
NATIONAL PARK

**6600**  
HOUSEHOLD  
REACHED

MAGOE  
NATIONAL PARK

**376**  
(40% WOMEN) COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS TRAINED ON  
GOVERNANCE AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

MARROMEU  
NATIONAL RESERVE

MOUNT MABU  
COMMUNITY FOREST

Despite being in operation for only just over three years, ReGeCom has established itself as the go-to network for community governance of natural resources in Mozambique. We are committed and passionate about our role in creating real change.

Here are some highlights of our successes.



## ReGeCom's Strong Reputation and Partnerships

This reputation has attracted some of the country's top organisations working in community-based conservation and has allowed the network to establish strong and trusted relationships with numerous government institutions. These relationships extend beyond national borders, with ReGeCom having formed important partnerships with other networks and organisations in the region, such as the Community Leaders Network, Southern Africa's network for natural resource management, and attracting funding from various donors. In this context, ReGeCom has become a regional civil society voice for CBNRM and is well-positioned to lead a new era of CBNRM in Mozambique.





## Pioneering Community Governance Guidelines

One of ReGeCom's most significant achievements to date, the guidelines for community governance, was developed in a participatory manner by the network's member institutions and other key stakeholders, including the government. Drawn from lessons learned during the work of these institutions, this is the first guide of its kind in Mozambique. Community governance is one of the main gaps limiting community engagement, and the guidelines provide a foundation for establishing effective community governance systems.

The proposed model places communities at the centre of resource management, emphasising effective representation and collective decision-making on the use of land and natural resources using tools developed and approved by the communities themselves.





## Community Information Management System

The community information management system developed by ReGeCom presents socio-economic data about communities and their management of natural resources. Having this information as open source promotes better and more efficient planning and decision-making regarding natural resource management.

The system also offers an opportunity to accelerate community natural resource management initiatives, improve the complementarity of the network's member institutions, and facilitate the planning and implementation of harmonised interventions involving the government, the private sector, donors, and the community itself.



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**Strategic Plan  
2024-2028**

# Looking Forward

As we advance, our 2024-2028 strategy has been formulated with a conscious effort to scale the community governance approach to encompass communities living around and within protected areas. Simultaneously, we aim to fulfil our internal objective of enhancing the capacity of our network members to continue placing communities at the centre of conservation.

**[Download and Read the Strategic Plan](#)**

# Our funding priorities to scale our work



**Enhancing ReGeCom's  
capacity for greater impact:  
\$250,000**

ReGeCom is expanding its capacity to amplify our impact. With this annual budget, we aim to fund essential secretariat and management salaries, foster collaboration through General Assemblies and Working Group discussions, and engage with government and key stakeholders to advocate for community-based natural resource management.

## Expected Results:

- Hire a Project Manager to work closely with our Executive Director, enabling us to enhance our ability to scale and execute our strategies.
- Hold at least 2 General Assemblies where members attend to receive updates, network, and learn from each other.
- Hold at least 4 webinars on CBNRM and Community Governance in Mozambique to raise the profile of critical work happening nationwide.
- Plan at least 1 Community Governance conference.
- Spearhead the development of a 'Lessons Learned' publication for reflection, learning and thought leadership.
- Participate in discussions about CBNRM policy in Mozambique.
- Improve ReGeCom internal documents, systems and processes for enhanced organisational efficiency.



**Building strong institutions for  
effective community-led conservation  
in 50 communities: \$500,000**

We aim to strengthen community conservation by registering community-based representative institutions and securing community land rights. Guided by communities' aspirations, we'll develop community development agendas and land use plans at the local level. Additionally, we'll establish benefit-sharing mechanisms to ensure communities directly benefit from natural resource management.

## Expected Results:

- Communities are increasingly recognised as legitimate entities that can and should decide on their land and natural resources.
- There is measurable, reduced deforestation, which can be attributed to communities' better adherence to land use plans.
- Communities' participation in consultations and decision-making processes related to land and natural resources is enhanced across various stakeholder groups, such as the government.
- There are clear and improved benefit-sharing mechanisms which centre the communities and their needs.



**Improving livelihoods through nature-based value chains:**  
**\$250,000**

We're enhancing livelihoods in supported communities by focusing on nature-based value chains. Our approach involves identifying these value chains, developing context-based business plans, and fostering partnerships between communities and the private sector. We plan to scale this work extensively in the coming years.

**Expected Results:**

- Nature-based business plans developed with clear implementation plans in selected communities.
- There is direct resource channelling to communities with nature-based business models.



**Supporting communities in governance and biodiversity monitoring through data collection: \$100,000**

We aim to have communities actively monitoring their governance systems and collecting essential data on governance, population, and biodiversity to feed into a community information system. They'll also track key biodiversity metrics like deforestation, habitats, and population dynamics. Additionally, communities will gather data on land and nature-based investments, livelihoods, and benefit-sharing to drive informed decision-making and sustainable development.

**Expected Results:**

- There is an updated dashboard about community information systems.
- There are improved community-based investments.
- Overall, better track of impacts of community-led conservation.

# Invest in our work



Please don't hesitate to get in touch for more information.



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