

F U N D A Ç Ã O



R E G G I O E M I L I A

"Solidarity isn't an act of charity, it's cooperation, mutual help between people striving for the same goal."

Samora Machel

"Friendship and solidarity, even before they become a political act, are an expression of the feelings of millions of men who take sides and help other men to free themselves from their chains."

Giuseppe Soncini

Credits

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Our Values



transparency
inclusive education
environment
resilience
cooperation
inter-sectoriality
local development
participation
citizenship
public policies
institutional development
solidarity
human rights
interdisciplinarity
inclusion
social innovation

Mission and Vision



VISION

Promoting decentralization processes and integrated sustainable development at national level, based on experiences at local level.

MISSION

To contribute to the development of Mozambican institutions through decentralized cooperation processes and projects, promoting the design and implementation of long-term public policies by mobilizing the best local and international skills.

The E35 Foundation for International Projects - Reggio Emilia is a non-profit foundation of Italian origin, recognized and authorized to carry out its activities on Mozambican territory since 2021.

The E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation is promoted by the Municipality of Reggio Emilia, together with other public and private institutions in its territory. It was created in 2015 with the aim of promoting the internationalization of Reggio Emilia.

Historically, Reggio Emilia has had a strong international vocation, which makes its **international relations and internationalization policies a strategic competence**.

One of the main competences of the E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation is to develop **Decentralized Cooperation** paths and projects, with the strong conviction that cooperation processes between cities and communities are capable of connecting the best territorial competences with **medium and long-term visions**. These are real processes of co-development, which contribute to the **sustainable development of territories**, as well as to achieving the objectives of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Reggio Emilia Mozambique

a brief history

The first institutional relations between the city of Reggio Emilia and Mozambique began with the participation of the Mayor of Reggio Emilia, Renzo Bonazzi, at a conference of the Partigians for Peace (Partigiani per la Pace, in Italian) in Warsaw in 1963, the aim of which was to put an end to colonialism in Africa.

On that occasion, President Bonazzi met and fraternized with Amílcar Cabral and Marcelino dos Santos, leading figures in the liberation movements of Angola and Mozambique respectively.

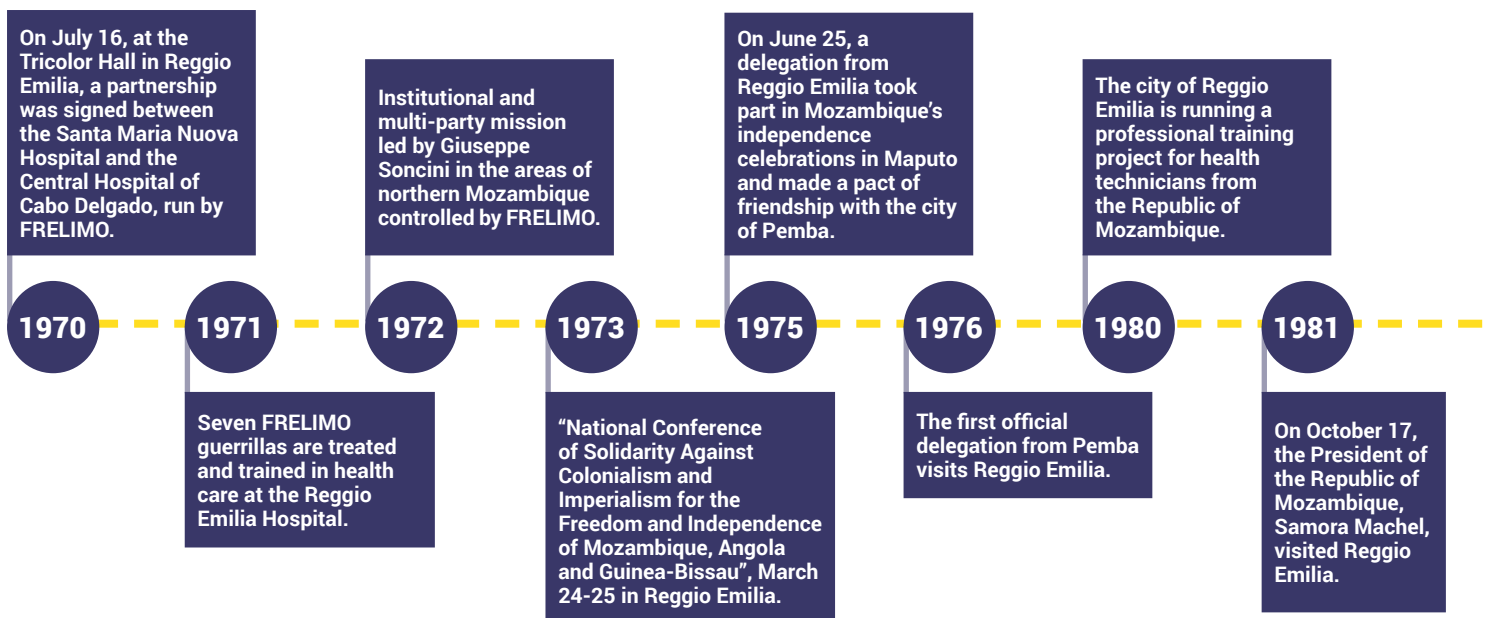
Because of this relationship of esteem and friendship, in 1964, at the start of the liberation wars, Bonazzi sent them a letter of solidarity. After taking part in the International Solidarity Conference in Rome in 1970, Bonazzi, Marcelino dos Santos and Óscar Monteiro met in Reggio Emilia and signed a twinning agreement between the Arcispedale Santa Maria Nuova Hospital in Reggio Emilia and the Central Hospital in Cabo Delgado.

This gave birth to the “Committee for Health Aid to the People of Mozambique”, chaired by Giuseppe Soncini and open to institutions and civil society organizations with an interest in solidarity actions with the Mozambican people.

Giuseppe Soncini mobilized the Reggio Emilia hospital with health care projects and political solidarity, making the “Committee” a stable partner of the movement to liberate Mozambique.

In 1972, a delegation from Reggio Emilia, led by Giuseppe Soncini, entered the guerrilla territories of Mozambique.

Franco Cigarini, who was part of the delegation as a photographer and cameraman for the Municipality of Reggio Emilia, recorded the documentary “10 Days with the Guerrillas of Free Mozambique”. This was the beginning of an exciting and extraordinary story of the relationship between the city and community of Reggio Emilia with Mozambique and the city of Pemba.



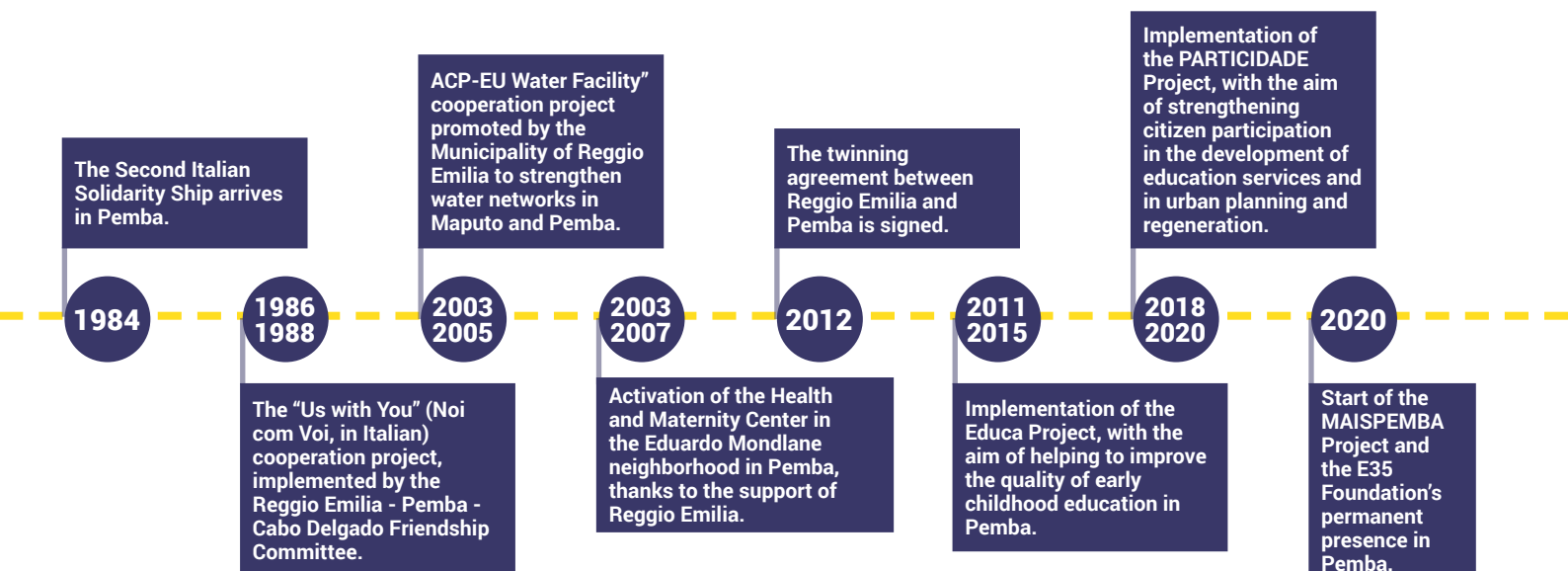
A history that has continued for more than 50 years and has seen the realization of many activities of international collaboration, cooperation and solidarity. A history revived in the recent past with the signing of the twinning pact between the city of Reggio Emilia and the city of Pemba in 2012.

With the new agreement, the two cities have mutually committed to promoting stable and lasting friendly relations, as well as making their own specific contribution to cooperation and exchange projects.

With regard to the principles of combating poverty and human development, the parties committed themselves to:

- the promotion, development and defense of the rights of **active participation of communities**; the rights of children and adolescents to a cultural and socio-educational life; the individual rights of the person in the socio-health field;
- the promotion, development and **growth of the territories**, complying with the principles of sustainability, social cohesion, quality of life and respect for the environment.

The E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation operates today in Pemba and in other contexts in Mozambique, based on these principles and on this extraordinary history of relationships and solidarity between communities.



Approach

The E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation's mission is to contribute to local institutional development. **The guiding idea is that Local Authorities are at the heart of a territory's vision, management and strategic development.**

It is therefore through the creation of solid local governance instruments that we can lay the foundations for any private, public or civil society actor to contribute to the coherent and harmonious development of a society.

Based on this principle, the E35 Foundation's projects and activities are based on a territorial approach to local development, and are based on two main pillars:



public policy communication campaigns to raise community awareness

PILLAR 1

FROM THE DESIGN OF LOCAL POLICIES TO THEIR IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION.



local policies



by implementing



*up to monitoring
and evaluation*

Strategies:

- Support and work closely with **local administrators and civil servants**, also through the exchange of good practices at national and international level, to strategically design medium and long-term local public policies in aligned with the 2030 Agenda.
- **Promoting multidisciplinary and intersectoral approaches** in the thinking, design and implementation of local public policies, contributing to the implementation of integrated urban management practices.
- Support, through the implementation of projects financed by different donors, for innovative actions to devise, test and **implement local public policies**.
- **Monitoring and collecting data on the effectiveness and efficiency of the local public policies** designed and implemented, in order to evaluate their effects and make corrections or improvements if necessary.

PILLAR 2

PROMOTING LOCAL SKILLS AND INVOLVING LOCAL COMMUNITIES.



*from local
competencies*



*up to community
involvement*

Strategies:

- Promotion of multi-stakeholder interventions, based on collaboration, **peer dialogue and participation**, both in the design and implementation phases of local policies.
- Promoting trust and dialog between local institutions, communities and private and social actors at a territorial level, to foster **processes of co-responsibility in the management** of common resources, goods, spaces and public services.
- Promoting international dialogue between peers in order to foster collaborations and exchanges in the various areas of competence, guaranteeing a **collective role** in the mutual growth of local communities and skills.

Stakeholders of the E35 Foundation

The E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation sees local and international stakeholders as the real protagonists of its activities and projects. **Building connections, networks and relationships between international and local actors, and between public and private institutions and civil society organizations, has been one of the Foundation's main lines of work and commitment since the beginning of its activities.**

For the E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation, stakeholders are all the public and private “actors”, whether for profit or not, who, together with E35, code actions or interventions, or participate in the implementation of activities at local and international level. It is through dialogue and partnerships that E35 Reggio Emilia extracts ideas and finds skills to promote its institutional strengthening action, creating the conditions to implement approaches and create alliances for integrated urban development.

Partnerships with institutional, private and non-profit stakeholders in the Reggio Emilia territory, with relevant technical skills related to integrated, sustainable and inclusive urban planning and development, aim to make connections between peers, promoting dialogues, exchanges of skills and technology transfer for effective decentralized

cooperation action. The nature of the E35 Reggio Emilia Foundation's stakeholders in Mozambique is therefore multiple:

- Local and national institutions (such as municipalities, districts, provinces, ministries, educational institutions, universities, cultural institutions and research centers);
- Civil society organizations (such as national and international NGOs, social enterprises, community organizations, cultural associations, etc.);
- Private for-profit organizations (such as national and international companies, research centers, etc.);
- International organizations (such as development agencies, UN organizations, international foundations, etc.);
- Associations of categories (such as business associations, trade unions, etc).



THE STAKEHOLDERS IN NUMBERS



8

Institutions and local authorities



4

Ministries and national institutions



35

Private for-profit companies and entities



5

United Nations and Development Agencies



2

International Organizations



12

Local civil society organizations



26

Public Schools, Kindergartens and Universities



totals: 92

REGGIO EMILIA'S TECHNICAL STAKEHOLDERS



architetti reggioemilia



THE ORGANIZATION'S MAIN DONORS ARE



Projecto financiado pela União Europeia



Bélgica

parceiro para o Desenvolvimento

Areas of Intervention

How the mission is developed



Public Policies, Development and Institutional Strengthening

The process of institutional development of local authorities and the creation of innovative public policies is at the heart of all the projects and activities carried out by the E35 Foundation, which uses this strategy with the following objectives:

- encourage the appropriation of approaches, methods and knowledge by public managers and technicians;
- encourage the sustainability and continuity of their actions;
- influence district, provincial and national public policies through concrete practices developed at the local level.

DEVELOPMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Working with municipalities is extremely important, as they have direct contact with the reality of the communities and their leaders, and often lack adequate structures and qualified material and human resources.

PUBLIC POLICIES

Quality institutional relations and the carrying out of activities in partnership with local authorities culminate in the joint design and development of local public policies, which formalize the approaches and methods created, with the aim of ensuring their continuity after the end of the projects.





Urban Planning and Regeneration

Mozambique has solid legislation on land use planning. However, the lack of effective application of this legislation results in numerous problems related to infrastructure and accessibility, damaging the quality of life of its population.

Most of the population lives in settlements that are not properly planned, and one of the consequences is also that people have limited access to services and employment opportunities.

Even when cities have land-use planning instruments at municipal level, some practices hinder mobility and reduce space for public services and public facilities, such as the use of very large plots of land, for example.

Strong population growth and informal settlements in urban areas are pushing municipalities to adopt more efficient strategies related to population density and urban planning.



To meet these challenges, the E35 Foundation:

- contributes to the participatory drafting of urbanization plans in conjunction with the municipal office dedicated to Planning and Territorial Management;
- contributes to the creation of other important tools, such as municipal registers and the organization of case files and cartographic bases;
- implements urban regeneration interventions in informal neighborhoods, interventions identified as priorities by local communities and institutions;
- contributes to the networking of all local, national and international actors who carry out interventions.



6



7



11



13



Urban Resilience

The sharp increase in the population of cities and the lack of land management tools have led to uncontrolled and random urbanization, causing damage to the environment and vegetation, and making it difficult to access basic services such as sanitation and public hygiene.

In large urban areas there is no reliability in the provision of essential services, such as water supply and energy connections. The elimination of vegetation to exploit land for agriculture and construction also leads to soil impoverishment, resulting in vulnerability to erosion and consequent flooding in rainy seasons.



To meet these challenges, the E35 Foundation:

- carries out urban afforestation interventions, supporting the increased production of seedlings in municipal nurseries and the planting of trees in streets, schools, squares and sea-fronts;
- carries out interventions to regenerate wells and other water supply points, helping to improve access to drinking water and reduce diseases related to the use of contaminated water;
- supports specific emergency activities, such as cleaning waste accumulation points and unblocking and cleaning drainage ditches and waterways.



Environment and solid waste management

Urban solid waste management is one of the most critical factors in many urban contexts, a chronic problem whose causes are: a lack of management plans, a lack of adequate investment in the sector, poor education about sustainability and proper household waste management, and a lack of resources and infrastructure, lack of management plans, the absence of adequate investment in the sector, poor education on sustainability and the proper management of household waste, and the lack of resources and infrastructure.

To meet these challenges, the E35 Foundation:

- contributes to the design and implementation of new integrated urban solid waste management plans;
- carries out awareness-raising and environmental education activities and campaigns in schools, institutions, universities, companies and communities, with a focus on good waste management;
- encourages the creation of centers for environmental education and the creative reuse of recyclable and reusable waste;
- carries out innovative waste management interventions to improve practices in the sector;
- designs infrastructure to improve the management of solid urban waste;
- supports associations and small businesses active in the waste sector.
- implements household and community composting interventions to significantly reduce the amount of organic waste to be disposed of at urban level.



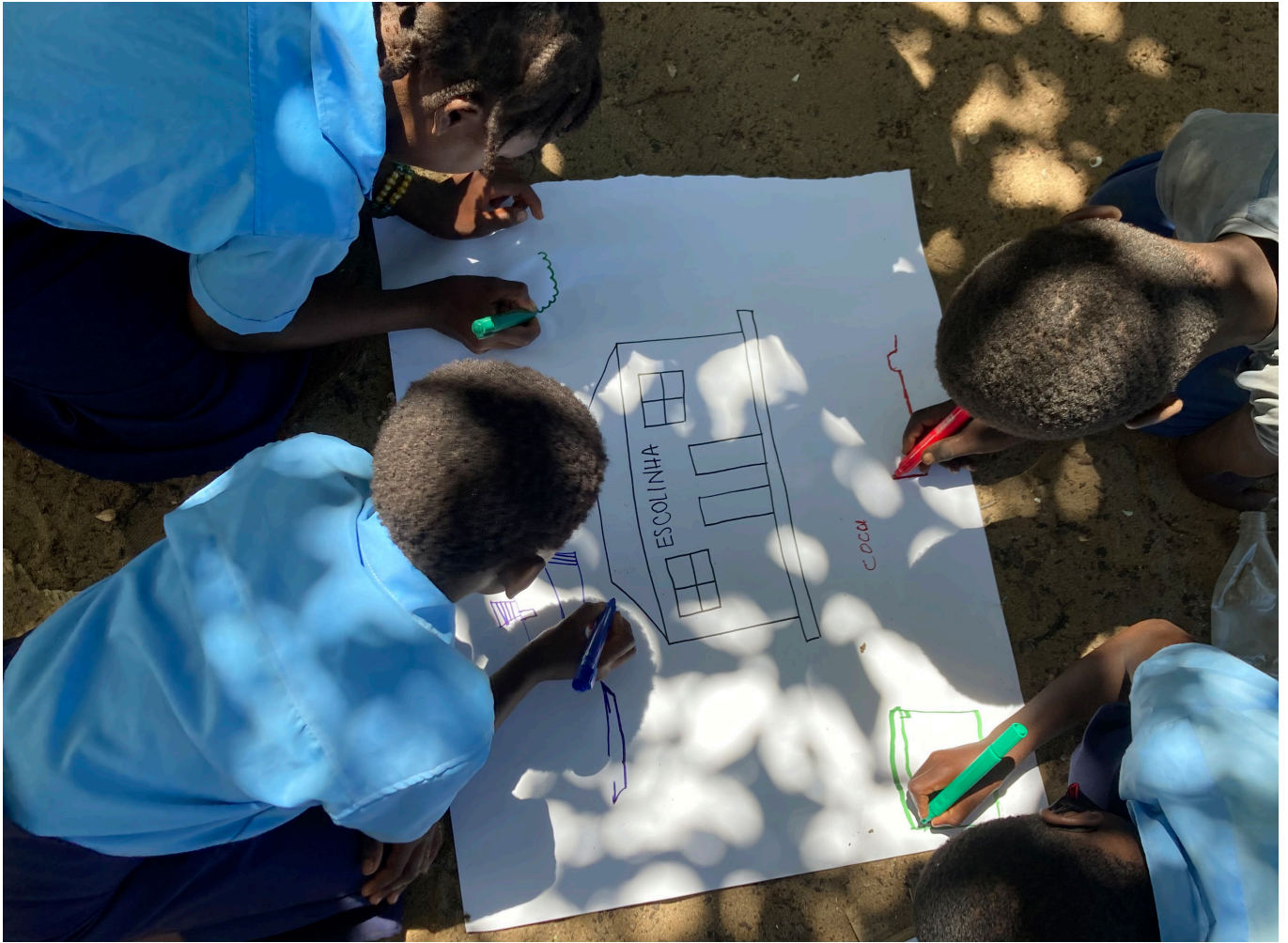


Education and social innovation

The Mozambican context is very fragile in terms of early childhood services and quality primary education. Due to the demographic growth of the cities and poor public investment, school facilities have seen their enrollment increase in the last decade, in a context that already had overcrowded classrooms in the primary sector and an enrollment level for the 3-6 age group of only around 3%.

To meet these challenges, the E35 Foundation:

- supports the definition of local inter-institutional policies on the quality of pre-school and primary education;
- contributes to the training of early childhood educators through training courses, in collaboration with local and international universities, promoting the Reggio Emilia Approach in early childhood;
- contributes to increasing the quality of primary education services by training teachers and experimenting with extracurricular courses for children;
- improving and renovating the educational spaces in the pre-school sector;
- contributes to increasing school attendance among 3-6 year olds through the construction and start-up of new schools.



Inclusion of people with disabilities

In Mozambican cities, people with disabilities often face challenges related to accessibility. The lack of resources and investment in this area makes it difficult for them to access even basic services such as health, education and sanitation. Physical barriers are common, such as a lack of accessible infrastructure and adapted facilities, poor sidewalks and inadequate transportation. There are also cultural and social barriers, such as discrimination and prejudice, which limit social inclusion and access to the job market, education and other opportunities. Disabled People's Organizations (DPOs) support communities and try to sensitize institutions to improve accessibility for all people to basic services.

Against this backdrop, the E35 Foundation:

- dialogues with DPOs to identify barriers in urban contexts and outline possible actions to eliminate them;
- encourages dialogue between public institutions, organizations of people with disabilities and international NGOs, with the aim of creating synergies, common values and inclusion policies;
- conducts training and workshops on the inclusion of people with disabilities;
- supports the elimination of physical and cultural barriers within health services;
- addresses issues of inclusion as a cross-cutting theme in all its areas of implementation.



Youth empowerment

Unemployment affects around 18.4% of the Mozambican population in urban areas, the majority of whom are young people living in urban areas. Employment and economic growth play a significant role in combating poverty and in human and social development. Interventions in the area of youth empowerment need to respond to the demand for a qualified workforce capable of keeping up with technological developments, prioritizing innovative areas.

To meet these challenges, the E35 Foundation:

- contributes to improving the professional skills of young people by offering short-term technical and vocational courses with different packages (life skills, entrepreneurship and career guidance);
- supports the practice of internships and professional integration to increase the chances of young people joining the job market;
- facilitates financial support for young talents motivated to set up their own company and provides support for the enterprise in its early stages.



Public-private partnerships

In a context where the capacity to use and maintain public assets is insufficient due to limited public sector funds, it is essential to encourage and facilitate processes to create Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). These relationships can represent alternatives for carrying out initiatives aimed at involving communities in the management of quality public spaces and services. These processes are particularly challenging in the Mozambican context, with its institutional decentralization reforms.

To meet these challenges, the E35 Foundation:

- contributes to interventions to attract economic resources, companies, partnerships and conditions to support local development policies and government entities;
- contributes to the creation of routes to meet the needs of the public and private sectors, in order to encourage co-participation in the management of public spaces and services;
- favors paths of encounter and participation at the local level, with the involvement of different actors from the private and social private sectors, in order to design new mechanisms for the participatory management of public spaces and services;
- carries out awareness-raising and education campaigns aimed at communities in order to inform them about access to public services and good management of public spaces.



