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IMPACT STORY

NO. 02, 2026

More Than a Roof

The Story of a Young Gay
Man on the Outskirts of Beira



Organization

INCLUSÃO
JUSTIÇA, JUVENTUDE E DIVERSIDADE

Partners

ANTRA
ASSOCIAÇÃO NACIONAL
PARA PROMOÇÃO DOS DIREITOS
DE TRANSGÊNEROS DE MOÇAMBIQUE

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On the outskirts of the city of Beira, where the effects of poverty and climate change are part of daily life for many families, lives a 26-year-old gay man, a 11th-grade student and LGBTQIA+ rights activist. His story reveals a reality that is often invisible: that of LGBTQIA+ youth who, in addition to economic hardships, also live marked by social exclusion and constant insecurity.

With the salary he receives from the organization where he works, he is able to cover food and transportation to work. Still, there was one problem that continued to deeply affect his life: the precarious state of his home.

In 2019, Cyclone Idai drastically worsened the living conditions. The roof was partially destroyed, and ever since then, every rainfall has been a source of anxiety. Water seeped into the house, damaging the few possessions they had, including the television and the sofa. Part of the house, especially the bathroom area, remained without proper roofing for years, a situation that made it easier for thieves to enter and further increased the sense of insecurity.



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GABINETE DE RECONSTRUÇÃO PÓS - CICLONE IDAI

PROVÍNCIA DE SOFALA

DISTRITO: Bena

POSTO ADMINISTRATIVO: [redacted]

LOCALIDADE/BAIRRO: [redacted]

**CARTÃO DE REGISTO DE AGREGADO FAMILIAR
INQUÉRITO À HABITAÇÃO**

NOME DO CHEFE [redacted]

CASA RECENSEADA

CÓDIGO DE AT	070104990104
NÚMERO DE AF	0 3 3

Scm
11/7/2027

MATENHA O CARTÃO CONSERVADO

After the cyclone, teams from the Post-Cyclone Idai Reconstruction Office visited his home, documented the damage, and promised support. But that support never arrived.

“They took photos of my house, gave me a card, and said they would come back. They never came back. They repaired other neighbors' homes, but I've lost hope of receiving help”

-Gay male beneficiary

Over the years, they tried to repair the house with their own resources, in a slow and difficult effort. As is the case for many LGBTQIA+ people in vulnerable situations, survival meant simultaneously dealing with economic precariousness, emotional exhaustion, and social invisibility.



In May 2026, a concrete change finally emerged. INCLUSÃO – Associação para Promoção da Inclusão Social da Juventude e Diversidades, through the BeFriendly project—Climate Recovery and Economic Resilience for LGBTQIA+ Communities in Maputo and Beira, with funding from Outright International, supported the partial restoration of the house.

With the involvement of young people from the community, corrugated zinc sheets that had been severely corroded due to the proximity of the coastal and saline area in the city of Beira were replaced. The intervention included the installation of 6 IBR sheets and the purchase of essential materials, such as cement, sand, blocks, beams, and nails, making the house safer and more secure.



“When they told me about the support, I explained what I needed, but honestly, I didn't believe it could happen. I only realized it was true when they arrived with the building materials. At that moment, I was speechless”

-Gay male beneficiary





Although materially simple, the intervention had profound significance. More than just repairing a roof, it was about restoring dignity, security, and recognition to someone who had long felt forgotten.

According to the young man, the support meant much more than just protection from the rain.

“There are people who go their whole lives without ever receiving help. But receiving support like that makes a huge difference, especially when we’re always struggling against everything and everyone. It was like lifting a huge weight off my shoulders.”

-Gay male beneficiary



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Today, the house is no longer just a physical space. It represents peace of mind, a sense of belonging, and hope. His story demonstrates how small community actions, when guided by inclusion and human dignity, can bring about profound and lasting changes in the lives of LGBTQIA+ people in vulnerable situations.

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