



## Sustainable Tourism

"Sustainable tourism is tourism that is implemented in accordance with the principles of social justice and economics and a complete respect for the environment as well as the local cultures. It recognizes the importance of the host community and the community's right to be involved in tourist developments. It works through the promotion of positive interactions between the tourism industry, the communities, and the travellers."

AITR - Associação Italiana de Turismo Responsável

In Mozambique, tourism is one of the most important potential resources for the development of the country, but the sector is almost entirely in the hands of foreign investors. This limits the industry's benefits for the local residents, who are relegated to manual labor and consequently remain at a low income level.

The idea to create the *Hotel Escola Estrela do Mar* began in 2008 with the spirit of collaboration between the Italian NGO, CeLIM, and the Diocese of Inhambane. The goal of the project was to use tourist development as a means to improve the socio-economic situation of the local population through the technical education of the youth, the promotion of community-managed services and the creation of a link between Mozambique and Europe to incentivize sustainable and responsible tourism.

The project is affiliated with a local professional school, created by ACLI de Vercelli and managed by the Inhassoro Church of Saint Eusébio. Through the pre-existing *Escola Industrial e Comercial "Estrela do Mar"* CeLIM implemented new courses in Hotel Management and Tourism (Cooking, Serving and Bartending, and Reception) and constructed facilities for both theoretical and practical instruction.



## Hotel Escola Estrela do Mar

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Estrela do Mar

