

Mozambique

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Development Challenges

Despite gains, Mozambique remains fragile and continues to face serious constraints:

- Politically (north-south divisions, role of opposition party in a previously one-party state, gender inequality, lack of capacity).
- Economically (investor-driven growth, poor capacity exacerbated by the HIV/ AIDS pandemic, gender inequality, underutilized agricultural resources, vulnerability to natural disasters).
- Socially (income disparities, regional disparities, lack of education, gender inequality, HIV/AIDS).
- Environmentally (vulnerability to droughts and flooding that may be exacerbated by climate change).

Mozambique's Development Commitment

Independent and early pursuit of reform has been a hallmark of Mozambique, a trait more recently reflected in the nature of the development of its Poverty Reduction Strategic Plan (PRSP), The *Action Plan for the Reduction of Absolute Poverty* (or PARPA in Portuguese). Unlike many countries whose PRSPs are initiated and led by international organizations, Mozambique initiated and developed its own strategy, making it one of the first countries to do so. Although the PRSP is ambitious, it has received positive reviews commending Mozambique on its commitment to the priorities outlined there-in, which closely reflect the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Education

At the time of independence in 1975, only seven percent of Mozambique's population was literate. By 1983, as a result of significant efforts on the part of the new government, literacy rates rose to 28 percent. The ensuing internal war, however, resulted in the destruction of more than 50 percent of the schools and the deaths of hundreds of teachers and students.

Although the Government of Mozambique has made significant progress towards increasing access to primary education, the statistics indicate that much more still needs to be done:

- The high dropout rate (32 percent for girls and 48 percent for boys) and repetition rate (23 percent) at the primary education level. Primary completion rates remain low at 40 percent for Grades 1-5.
- There are still one million children out of school and approximately 400,000 AIDS orphans, the majority of whom are not enrolled in primary school.

The Government of Mozambique's commitment to the education sector is clearly reflected in the PRSP and its comprehensive education strategy. Mozambique has also been identified as a country that will need additional support in order to meet the MDGs pertaining to education, based on both need and demonstrated commitment.

Canada recognizes that support to education is the single most effective poverty reduction measure. The future for children in Mozambique will be determined largely by their access to quality education. Support to the education sector has been, and will continue to be, a cornerstone of CIDA's partnership with Mozambique, comprising half of the bilateral programming resources.

Canada has been actively involved in the education sector over the past three years, having established a strong partnership with the Ministry of Education and key non-governmental players in Mozambique. CIDA's contribution is consistent with Mozambique's education strategy, which contains three main priorities:

- improved quality of primary education
- increased access to primary education
- strengthened institutional capacity

CIDA's program reflects a balance between program level assistance (for example, contributions from various donors pooled together into a single fund) and more traditional project assistance (for example, funding given to Mozambican or Canadian non-governmental organizations and institutions to fulfill needs).

CIDA support is provided for the following:

- the education sector pooled fund
- provision of educational materials including text books
- literacy programming
- gender equality in education
- HIV/AIDS prevention education programs in schools

Integrating Gender Equality, HIV/AIDS, Capacity Development, and the Environment

Mozambique and Canada both recognize how gender equality, HIV/AIDS, capacity development, and the environment all impact on development efforts. That is why these four areas will be integrated into all programming activities—in effect, becoming de facto objectives of the CDPF.

Gender Equality: Mozambique's PRSP recognizes the challenges pertaining to gender equality in priority areas of action including education, health, and agriculture. It specifically identifies access of women and girls to education, health services, land, extension services, credit, and labour as priority areas. CIDA's Mozambique program has addressed issues of gender equality implicitly in the context of previous and existing initiatives. The principles of gender equality will be integrated more explicitly and pro-actively into all CIDA-supported initiatives through horizontal mainstreaming.

HIV/AIDS: HIV/AIDS cuts across all development issues in Mozambique, particularly given the impact on the human resource base. CIDA will undertake direct measures to ensure that areas of CIDA support are HIV/AIDS-responsive.

Capacity Development: The lack of human resource and institutional capacity are a significant constraint to development in Mozambique, regardless of the sector, region, or issue. Any and all CIDA support will ensure that there are components to build local capacity within government and within the context of civil society.

Environment: The quality of natural resources, and people's equitable access to them, are issues critical to the success of poverty reduction activities. As well, development in Mozambique is vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly related to water (alternate droughts and flooding). It is anticipated that these problems will be exacerbated by climate change. That is why Mozambique's PRSP has effectively integrated environmental issues into its strategy. CIDA will integrate the environment into its programming in Mozambique in support of the PRSP.

Agriculture and Rural Development

To date, Canada has been involved in a number of areas including:

- training farmers, especially women;
- improving financial services, especially to rural women and men living in poverty;
- promoting rural entrepreneurship;
- improving access to potable water;
- promoting sustainable ecosystem management; and
- supporting landmine action in Mozambique, to improve land use currently constrained by the real and perceived presence of landmines.

CIDA's program over the next five years builds on existing activities and represents a balanced approach between program level assistance and project assistance. Specifically, CIDA is concentrating its efforts on:

- support to the agricultural sector pooled fund along with other donors;
- more rural development including rural water supply, agroforestry, and support to microfinance; and
- measures to support farmers in the short-term, at the community level, with an emphasis on underserved regions such as Inhambane and the North.

(The tables below are from the Directory of Oceans, Marine Affairs and Fisheries (CIDA), database is mostly 1980's and 1990's <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/policy/omaf.nsf/vProjByCountryEn?Openview>)

1) Moçambique projects funded by Canada

Some Current CIDA Projects:

- Coastal Rural Support Program: \$9.5 million. Agriculture, basic health, basic education, environmental protection. Implemented by the Aga Khan Foundation (<http://www.akfc.ca/>) ... fisheries not listed.
- Rural Water Development Program: \$10 million. Water supply and sanitation
- Most projects are agricultural, others are mine removal, AIDS, Education, governance. Not much on fisheries
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IDRC:

- National Workshop on Coastal and Fisheries Co-Management (South Africa) 1997: stakeholders from South Africa, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe to share ideas and lessons learned, and formulate a research and development program on coastal and fisheries co-management for submission to donors
- Lusophone Africa Biodiversity Strategy 1999, \$20,000, no information given.

Fully or partially funded by CIDA (past projects)

Canada Fund	\$33,000	1992-1993
Artisanal Fishery Associations*	\$47,759	1987-1992
Meuda / Ibo Phase II	\$48,000	1985-1988
Fisheries Project	\$15,000	1994
Fisheries	\$11,500	1990
FCIL Mozambique	\$14,489	1996-97
Fisheries	\$11,500	1996-97
FCIL Mozambique	\$3,042	1990
Small farming and artisanal fishery project**	\$48,000	1983-1985
Mueda / Ibo Phase II	\$48,000	1985
Mueda / Ibo Phase II	\$66,000	1985

*Support to artisanal fisheries sector through cooperative marketing and supply structures backed by Mozambique Government. Inter Pares is providing equipment for rehabilitation and fish storage and processing.

**In this project, fishing and agricultural equipment was sent from Europe for use in 70 different villages in the province of Cabo Delgado. Total project budget \$488,420. Funding from other groups not listed.