MAPUTO
MOZAMBIQUE

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE

CITY OVERVIEW

Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, is located in the south of the country, and covers an area of 300 Km^2. In 1997, with a density of 3.700 Hab/Km^2, the city housed 45% of the total Mozambican urban population, 50% of which was considered to live below the poverty line. Recent data indicates an increasing rural-urban migration contributing to higher poverty and vulnerability levels.

CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS AND VULNERABILITY

Maputo is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change since it faces the Indian Ocean and is the most densely populated urban area in Mozambique. The rising sea level has resulted in salty intrusion, impacting on agricultural activities and contributing to urban poverty. Further sea-level rises will result in flooding of the lowest topographical areas - which are the most populated - negatively impacting on the urban poor who have limited capacity to adapt to climate change.

There is a reduction of sand strips on the beaches due to the continuous movement of the sea, resulting in serious coastal erosion problems and impacting negatively on economic activities. Further, the city's three islands located a few kilometers from the coast show clear evidence of climate change effects which include the disappearance of mangroves, degradation of water quality in wells, desertification, exposure of sand dunes, worsening wind erosion, loss of coastline and lack of arable land for domestic agriculture.

CURRENT CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE

1. The Maputo Municipality, in collaboration with a local educational and research institution, has recently launched the "Rapid Urban Air Quality Assessment" (RUA) project which aims at evaluating emission levels within the municipality and surrounding areas to facilitate rapid decision making.
2. The current restructuring of the Municipality includes two new departments for environmental inspection and management intended to strengthen the role of the municipality in the enforcement of mitigation and adaptation measures.
3. The current reconstruction of the National Disaster Management Institute, will address the gap between emergency humanitarian response and long-term reconstruction within the current Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) government policies, strategies and institutional setting.

Coastal erosion © UN-HABITAT/Bridget Oballa

Population: 1 million (2007). Greater Maputo (Maputo, Matola and Marracuene) 2-2.5 million
Economy: Agriculture, Fishing, Trade, and Services
Governance: Decentralized
Role in Country: Capital, Administrative, Commercial and Educational Center

Climate indicators
Annual rainfall: 860.1mm with peaking from December to March; Rain expected in 93 days a year
Seasons: 2 seasons, that is, warm and humid season and fresh and dry season
Mean annual minimum temperature: 18.6 °C
Mean annual maximum temperature: 27.4 °C

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THE NATIONAL CONTEXT: MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique, located in south-eastern Africa, has a land area of 784 090km^2 with a coastal line of 2,515 km, 17,500 km^2 of which is under water. The terrain is mostly coastal lowland with a vast network of rivers and tributaries emptying into the Indian Ocean. The coastline is highly susceptible to cyclones and tropical storms - since 1970, Mozambique has been hit by 34 significant cyclones or tropical depressions and 4 major flood events (2000, 2001, 2007 and 2008). According to the IPCC report of 2007a trend of increased temperature has been observed in Mozambique.

In response, the country has put in place the National Adaptation Plan of Action to Climate Change which highlights disaster preparation and management, and environmental management. In addition, the 2nd Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper of Mozambique (2006-2009), is clearly orientated with the current international Disaster Risk Reduction agenda and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015. The Poverty Reduction Strategy embraces the culture of prevention and the adoption of preparedness and mitigation measures. The country's Master Plan for Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation includes important aspects of climate change mitigation and adaptation such as: the construction of cyclone and flood resistant public infrastructure; the construction of improved houses that are less vulnerable to floods; the enhancement of community participation in all Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities; the inclusion of DRR topics within the formal education system.

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UN-HABITAT'S CITIES IN CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE

UN-HABITAT launched the Sustainable Urban Development Network (SUD-Net), an innovative network of global partners, promoting inter-disciplinary approaches to sustainable urban development.

The Cities in Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) is the flagship programme of SUD-Net. The initiative aims to strengthen the climate change response of cities and local governments. Cities are key drivers of climate change due to their high energy consumption, land use, waste generation and other activities that result in the release of the vast majority of greenhouse gases. At the same time, it is cities, and in particular the urban poor, in the developing world, that are most vulnerable to and have the least resilience against, for example, storms, floods, and droughts. Cities need to respond to Climate Change by cutting their greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation). The negative impact of climate change seems however unavoidable and for most cities in developing countries adaptation to the risks is a must.

The Cities in Climate Change initiative brings together local and national governments, academia, NGOs and international organizations with the aim to alert cities to the action they can take and by strengthening capacities of cities and their partners to respond to Climate Change. The key components of the Cities in Climate Change initiative are:

- Advocacy, policy dialogue and policy change
- Tool development and tool application
- Piloting climate change mitigation and adaptation measures
- Knowledge management and dissemination, through, amongst others, the UN-HABITAT partner universities and the partnership with UN-HABITAT's Local Government Training Institutes Network.

Initially four cities, Esmeraldas in Ecuador, Kampala in Uganda, Maputo in Mozambique and Sorsogon in the Philippines participated in the Cities in Climate Change Initiative as key partner cities. An additional 5 cities from Africa Bobo Dioulasso in Burkina Faso, Kigali in Rwanda, Mombasa in Kenya, Saint Louis in Senegal and Walvis Bay in Namibia have joined the initiative since July 2009. Cities in 9 Asian Countries are preparing to join CCCI.

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