



THE MOZAMBIQUE COUNTRY PROGRAMME



Downtown Maputo, Mozambique. Photo: Mariana Kara Jose/Cities Alliance

The Mozambique Country Programme at a Glance

The Country Programme is a partnership initiative undertaken by the Government of Mozambique and its support partners to align urban development efforts at the national, municipal and community levels. It aims to:

- * Support the Government of Mozambique's efforts to scale up inclusive urban development policies
- * Build the capacity of cities to strategically manage urbanisation
- * Empower and strengthen community organisations to actively engage in city development
- * Focus on strengthening municipal level government

WHAT IS THE MOZAMBIQUE COUNTRY PROGRAMME?

The Mozambique Country Programme is an initiative undertaken by the Government of Mozambique to align urban development efforts at the national government, municipal government and community levels. It aims to include the urban poor in the planning and decision-making processes.

The programme draws on the decades of experience by Cities Alliance members and development partners in Mozambique. The Cities Alliance Secretariat has been active in Mozambique since 2002, awarding \$2.2 million in grants that have covered issues including urban vulnerability, slum upgrading and city development strategies in cities throughout the country.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME?

The programme seeks to support Government—both national and local—and urban poor communities so that they can effectively manage urban growth, improve access to services, and formulate inclusive urban development policies that benefit the poor at scale.

It does this by:

- **Bringing coherence of effort** by creating an institutional framework that allows stakeholders to align their activities and financing towards common objectives.
- **Building effective partnerships** among the national government, municipal governments, urban poor communities and other stakeholders that enable inclusive city management and development to be scaled up.

WHO ARE THE PARTNERS IN THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME?

The Government of Mozambique will implement the programme through the Ministry of State Administration (MAE). Local partners include the National Association of Municipalities of Mozambique (ANAMM) and the Faculty of Architecture and Physical Planning at the University of Eduardo Mondlane.

These partners are supported by international organisations including the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), USAID, the World Bank, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF), the Government of Norway, the UK Department for International Development (DFID), and Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI).

Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the programme is facilitated and supported by the Cities Alliance, a global partnership for urban poverty reduction and the promotion of the role of cities in sustainable development.

One of the key development challenges is the need to strengthen municipal level government and ensure that the poor also benefit from the country's economic growth.



Urbanisation in Mozambique

- * In 2005, Mozambique was among the least urbanised countries in Southern Africa. By 2025, it is projected to be the fourth most urbanised country in the region, after Botswana, South Africa and Angola.
- * The total population of Mozambique is estimated at 24 million; of these, 36 percent live in its 43 urban municipalities.
- * Around 20 of the 43 municipalities have populations greater than 50,000; seven are growing at the staggering rate of over 10 percent per year.
- * Within secondary cities, unregulated informal settlement makes up roughly 90 percent of municipal territory. In Maputo alone, some 75 percent of the urban population lives in “bairros” with limited or no services and very basic concrete block houses.
- * Mozambique's economic growth is strong, but cities lack the capacity to respond effectively. One of the key development challenges is the need to strengthen municipal level government and ensure that the poor also benefit from the country's economic growth.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME?

The Country Programme builds on two major activities already underway. The first is a City Development Strategy and Slum Upgrading initiative in Nampula, which is being implemented by the Nampula Municipal Council with the support of UN-Habitat and ANAMM.

The second is a slum upgrading initiative in Maputo implemented by the Municipality of Maputo as part of the Italian-Brazilian Triangular Cooperation Programme, which is based on an agreement between Italy and Brazil to carry out cooperation activities with third countries.

Through the programme, Maputo will be able to benefit from the experience of Brazil. Specifically, it will draw on over ten years of experience with integrated and participatory slum upgrading developed in Bahia, Brazil with the support of the Italian Government and the Cities Alliance. The initiative is being piloted in Maputo's Chamanculo-C settlement, which will provide a basis for broader application within the city and is expected to contribute to the eventual development of a nationwide programme for Mozambican cities.

At the National Level

Country Programme activities at the national level focus on supporting the Government of Mozambique in its efforts to create national policy frameworks to address the country's urban development needs.

Areas of focus are:

- **Enabling the national government to champion municipal issues** and actively engage on a national municipal agenda. This includes strengthening institutional capacities within the Ministry of State Administration and supporting ongoing engagement with national and other development partners.
- **Strengthening ANAMM as an effective advocate for municipalities**, so that it is able to identify specific areas of concern at the municipal level and match those areas with clear policy prescriptions and relevant international experience. This allows municipalities to influence the national policy dialogue and access global learning.
- **Creation of a knowledge hub** that identifies, distils and distributes relevant research on urban issues so that decision makers have better access to up-to-date information.

At the City Level

In addition to the CDS in Nampula and the slum upgrading initiative in Maputo, activities at the city level support building the capacity of cities to provide improved services to the urban poor.

These include:

- **Developing a national training strategy** for skilled municipal technicians and administrators, so that municipalities have the capacity to manage daily implementation of land use plans and the skills to oversee the integrated nature of urban growth.
- **Supporting municipal engagement with the private sector** to identify areas of common interest and collaboration.
- **Improving financial management systems** so that municipalities can improve their financial accountability and increase local revenues. Efforts will also focus on identifying new sources of revenue and strategies for collection.
- **Developing training materials on inclusive municipal planning** to enhance the capacity of municipalities to plan and formalise slums. This will be done in consultation with all stakeholders by documenting the methodologies and slum upgrading approaches used in the Country Programme.

*Informal traders in the Chamanculo-C neighbourhood of Maputo.
Photo: Andrea Merrick/Cities Alliance*



Shoe vendor in an informal settlement in Nampula, Mozambique.
Photo: Mariana Kara Jose/Cities Alliance



At the Community Level

Activities at the community level focus on strengthening Mozambique's civil society and community organisations so that they can actively engage in the urban debate at the national level. This component also seeks to mobilise communities and give them the capacity to work together and with local officials.

- **Raising public awareness of municipal finance.** This part of the programme will establish a rights-and-responsibilities dialogue to raise public awareness of how municipal finance works and why payment for services is important.
- **Sharing international experience on community mobilisation.** Mozambican civil society organisations will work closely with SDI to promote cross-visits. They will also learn from NGOs and slum dweller federations in neighbouring countries how they can increase their voice and participate in urban governance.
- **Develop a study of urban land rights** with practical policy options so that communities and municipalities are better equipped to engage in policy dialogue on tenure security for the urban poor.

People selling grain along the road in Tete, Mozambique.
Photo: Mariana Kara Jose/Cities Alliance

