



MOZAMBIQUE

Capacity-Building for Disaster Management

Disaster Context

The history of Mozambique shows repeated occurrences of natural disasters such as droughts and cyclones, as well as pests and health epidemics (including HIV/AIDS). In the year 2000 Mozambique was hit by the worst flood event in 50 years, which caused enormous destruction and losses and left a quarter of the population affected with around 540,000 people displaced and one hundred killed. In the following year, 2001, the country was flooded again in the central region, as well as in 2003 in the northern region.

Recent floods and their impacts on the highly fragile economy and vulnerable social network accentuated the continued need for a well-defined plan of action for strengthening the country's disaster management capacity. A national policy on disasters management was formulated and a new Institute of Disaster Management was created in June 1999, marking a substantial change in the philosophy of dealing with disasters and the need for an integrated long-term plan of managing disasters. The institute was established as a national coordinating entity with the legal authority to call on all partners to plan and implement response and prevention measures.

Project Title

Capacity-Building for Disaster Management (MOZ/00/013)

Sectors

- Institutional strengthening and capacity-building
- Public awareness, training, and sensitisation
- Risk mapping and vulnerability analysis

Funding

- UNDP contributed \$500,000
- The Government of Italy is expected to donate \$2.7 million

- Government of Germany plans to contribute \$1 million

Partners

- The Carl Duisenberg Society
- The Italian Cooperation
- WFP
- Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders)
- InWent NGO

Programme Activities

- Preparation of a national disaster plan
- Establishment of a fund to support local and community disaster reduction initiatives
- Risk mapping of all vulnerable areas
- Training of personnel of agencies involved in disaster management
- Development of a national early warning system for disasters
- Campaign on raising awareness of national disaster reduction efforts
- Establishment of a Disaster Information and Communications Centre