

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AFRICA POLICY DIALOGUE PROGRAMME

CDD promotes dialogue with students from Eduardo Mondlane University (Universidade Eduardo Mondlane)



As part of the implementation of the Africa Policy Dialogue (APD) Programme in Mozambique, the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) held a dialogue with students from the Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM) on 02 November 2021.

In addition to reflecting with university students on the “Role of Inclusive Governance as a Catalyst for Structural Transformation”, this event served as a pretext to inform students and collect

inputs for the “*Whatch and Act!*” This initiative arises as a mechanism for monitoring inclusive governance practices. With this initiative, CDD will be responsible for annually monitoring inclusive governance indicators, assigning labels as a way to consistently track and recognize progress and setbacks in relation to inclusive governance.

The event had two moments. In the first one, Professor Eduardo Siteo, Head of the Political Science and Public Administration Department

, gave a lecture on “The Role of Inclusive Governance for Development”. In the second moment, Américo Maluana, CDD Researcher, made the presentation of the Watch and Act! This act included a discussion on some theoretical assumptions about governance.

According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), governance is “the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage the country’s affairs at all levels. It comprises the mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, fulfil their obligations and mediate their differences¹”. For the World Bank (WB), governance is the way in which power is exercised in the management of a country’s economic and social resources for development².

More systematically, the WB defines governance as “the traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised. This definition assumes three levels, (a) the process by which governments are selected, monitored and replaced; (b) the government’s ability to formulate and implement sound policies effectively; and (c) the respect of citizens and the state for the institutions that govern economic and social interactions between them.

For measurement purposes, the WB defined two governance measures corresponding to each of these three areas, resulting in a total of six governance dimensions:

a) The process by which governments are selected, monitored and replaced:

1. *Voice and accountability* - captures perceptions of the extent to which citizens of a Country can participate in the selection of their Government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association and freedom of the press.
2. *Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism* - captures perceptions of the likelihood that the Government will be des-

tabilized or overthrown by violent or unconstitutional means, including politically motivated violence and terrorism.

(b) Government’s ability to formulate and implement sound policies effectively:

3. *Government Effectiveness* - captures perceptions about the quality of public services, the quality of public service and the degree of its independence from political pressures, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the Government’s commitment to such policies.
4. *Regulatory quality* - captures perceptions about the Government’s ability to formulate and implement sound policies and regulations that enable and promote private sector development.

c) The respect of citizens and the State for the institutions that govern the economic and social interactions between them:

5. *Rule of law* - captures perceptions of the extent to which agents trust and abide by the rules of society, and in particular the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police and courts, and the likelihood of crime and violence.
6. *Corruption Control* - capturing perceptions of the extent to which public power is exercised for private gain, including small and large forms of corruption, as well as “capture” of the state by elites and private interests³.

In the context of the APD Mozambique 2020, it is proposed to be, through the “Watch and Act!” initiative, a mechanism to monitor inclusive governance, and assign labels as tools to consistent-

¹ <https://www.parlicentre.org/Governance.php>

² <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/711471468765285964/pdf/multi0page.pdf>

³ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/3913/WPS5430.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

ly track and recognize progress and setbacks in relation to specific governance mechanisms.

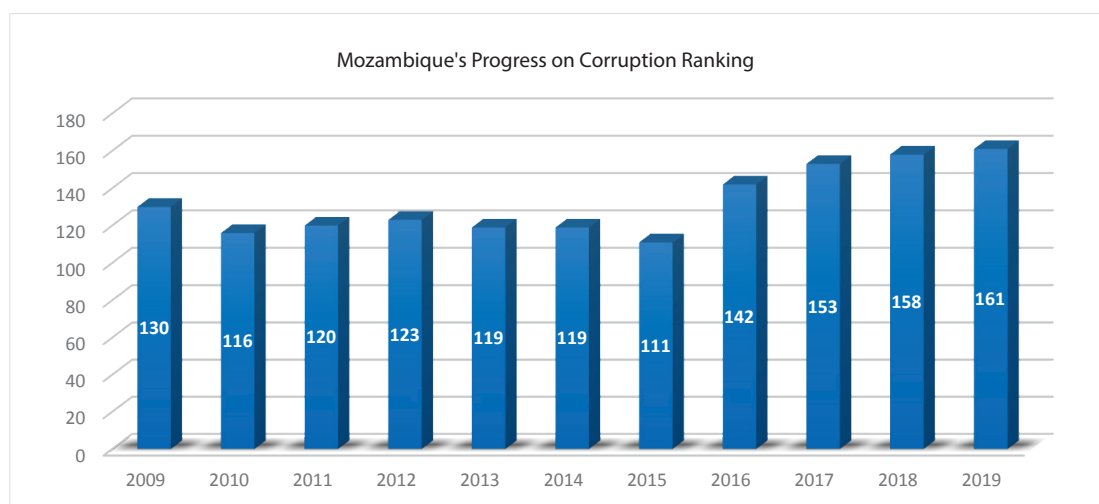
The target audiences of this initiative will be: governance bodies assessed by means of the indicators; relevant actors acting in the area of governance. In the future, it is also desirable that this Initiative can provide regional comparisons (between similar governance mechanisms existing in African countries). Thus, the following preliminary indicators have been defined:

- Effective participation of local communities;
- Effective participation of women in decision-making;
- Effective participation of young people in decision-making;
- Women in leadership positions

- Young people in leadership positions;
- Election mechanisms
- Mechanisms for participatory debate;
- Instruments to promote economic equality;
- Equitable income distribution.

The creation of instruments to measure governance at national level is very relevant, especially since there is a tendency for institutional quality to deteriorate. For example, the Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International shows that the country is the most corrupt in Southern Africa, occupying 161st position in a total of 183 countries⁴, which has been falling over the last three (3) years, making it clear that corruption is a pressing challenge in the governance of natural resources in Mozambique.

Fig.1: Mozambique's Progress on Corruption Ranking



Based on data from Transparency International.

The figure shows the evolution of the country in the Transparency International ranking over the last 11 years. It is easy to see that the poor performance is constant, with a notable “historic slide” of about 30 places in 2016, that is, from position 111 in 2015 to position 142 the following year,

as a result of the triggering of the “hidden debts” scandal, an international corruption scheme involving Mozambican agents and high State officials⁵. This scandal led to a loss of confidence by cooperation partners and the consequent suspension of direct state budget support.

⁴ <http://opais.sapo.mz/mocambique-cai-pelo-terceiro-ano-consecutivo-no-indice-de-percepcao-da-corrupcao>

⁵ <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/mo%C3%A7ambique-em-derrapagem-hist%C3%B3rica-no-%C3%ADndice-de-corrup%C3%A7%C3%A3o/a-37259925>



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