



JUNTOS

United Nations

Delivering as One in Mozambique
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Editorial

More reasons to celebrate children's day... jUNTos!

Every year, the early part of June is marked by two important dates in Mozambique. The Quinzena da criança - as it is known here - is a fortnight of activities and events dedicated to children and their rights marking the International Day of the Child on 1 June and the Day of the African Child on 16 June. These two days bear special significance for the United Nations family as we strive to uphold the world's commitment to human rights for all. Not to mention that children account for half of the population of Mozambique.

The commemorative days typically provide us with an opportunity to take stock of progress and challenges in advancing children's rights in the country. The past couple of years have been characterised by significant achievement in the creation of a protective legal framework for Mozambican children, culminating with the adoption, in 2008, of the Children's Act, which effectively translate the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into national legislation.

But this is only part of the equation. Realising children's rights is really about translating what may be perceived as abstract principles - laws and policies - into concrete results.

I was reminded of this recently as I raced through an action-packed day across four provinces a few weeks ago with high-level government officials and development partners. Leaving Maputo early that morning, we flew to the rural district of Changara, Tete province, to participate in an award ceremony recognising over 150 community leaders for their excellence in the promotion and consistent use of latrines under the community approach to total sanitation. Then, after a short stop in Chimoio, Manica province, we flew to the city of Beira, Sofala province, to attend the official opening of the first Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food factory in Mozambique - one of only six in Africa.

Aside from the logistical challenges of attending two events held hundreds of kilometres apart, on the same day, these events were remarkable for two reasons.

First, they embodied the power of partnerships. The sanitation award ceremony, for example, brought together three provincial governors, two senior ministers, high-level United Nations officials, international and national partners, provincial and district authorities, hundreds of community leaders, and even one of Mozambique's most acclaimed pop singer, around a common cause.

Second, these events are proof that realising child rights is about everyday action. Thousands of children now have a much better chance of growing up healthy because their families - and the communities where they live - understand the importance of building latrines. As for the factory, it has the capacity to produce enough Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food for 35,000 children annually, which will help to tackle the serious issue of malnutrition in the country.

These are but two examples of making child rights a reality - in effect, translating the CRC and child rights into concrete actions. And on that day, in Tete, as we shook the hands of every single one of the community leaders who were being recognised for their work, I felt that we were delivering child rights...as one.

It was another evidence that Delivering as One takes its full meaning not only among the UN family, but when we bring communities, civil society organisations, development partners together around common goals and ideals, to achieve results and seize opportunities - in other words, when we dream, plan and work as one.

For the UN family in Mozambique, the June events will provide an opportunity to reflect on the progress that we have made by uniting our forces with national partners to create synergies on behalf of children through the UN joint programmes, for example.



In that regard, the Child Poverty Report, which provides an in-depth analysis of the situation of children in the country, will be published later this year. The report is a collaboration between a wide range of government agencies, national and international development partners and the United Nations family. It will help to inform pro-child policies and programme development for the years to come... so that every year, we have all the more reasons to celebrate children's day... jUNTos!

Leila Pakkala
UNICEF Representative

UN staff build capacity on Environmental Mainstreaming for Development Programmes

Mozambique is a country endowed with rich of natural resources, including arable land in ten different agro-ecological zones (with only 12% being cultivated), hydropower and irrigation potential from its many rivers (still significantly underutilized), forests, fisheries, gas, and other subsoil assets (such as coal and heavy sands), protected areas, biodiversity with its many endemic species and the coastline for tourism development. According to World Bank estimates, the public revenues from natural resources (fisheries, forests, mining and agricultural land) can exceed 200 million USD in 2015 up from just 30 million USD seven years ago, provided that right reforms and stimulus are put in place.

It is estimated that approximately only 13.5% of the Mozambican population has access to electricity and given the lack of alternatives, fuel wood is the most important source of domestic energy (accounting for 85%



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of total household energy requirements) leading to indoor air pollution with impacts on human health and deforestation. The likely cost of environmental degradation to the national economy is significant (370 million USD or more than 6% of GDP); the number of deaths caused annually due to insufficient water, sanitation and hygiene is estimated at 17,000, and about 11,100 of deaths caused by indoor air pollution. This demonstrates high dependency of Mozambican population on environmental services and resources for their well-being, however, public participation in decision making and public consultation regarding management of local natural resources has been recognized as relatively low by a number of civil society organizations.

In addition, Mozambique is one of the most exposed countries in the world to the cumulative effects of climate variability and climate change. The global warming is expected to increase the frequency and magnitude of extreme events and alter the rainfall variability. How significant the impacts of climate change on Mozambique will be, depends on its capacity to mitigate the risks and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This will depend

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→ to a large extent on the socio-economic and technological development path Mozambique will take and on the protection and planning it will put in place in the coming 5 to 10 years.

It is against this background, that in May this year, UN staff involved in programme development support for Mozambique held a capacity building workshop on mainstreaming environmental sustainability in the development framework instruments.

The workshop was facilitated by Samba Harouna from the Regional Office for Africa of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi and a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Technical Adviser at Ministry of Environmental Coordination (MICOA), Baiba Gaile. The seminar attracted both Programme Management Team Members and Programme Officers from 9 UN agencies, at a time when the country has just approved its Government five year development plan, and on this basis the UN is initiating the drafting of the next United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

The participants discussed the key concepts of Environmental Sustainability and the value-added of integrating environmental concerns into UN programmes, reviewed the possible entry points and opportunities for integrating environmental issues into the country analysis and the UNDAF, as well as ways in which to share experiences, lessons and good practices.

Participants also learnt that some of the main environmental problems, Mozambique faces are: erosion and soil degradation, uncontrolled bushfires, deforestation and degradation of biological resources, water and air pollution,



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solid waste, impacts of climate change, and informal settlements and cyclical natural disasters. The way environmental assets are managed can also reduce the exposure and increase resilience to natural disasters and provide opportunities for adaptation to climate change. Environment sustainability and climate change considerations therefore need to be further mainstreamed into national and local planning/policies and budgeting. The UN agencies should also support the government in the area of implementation Multilateral Environmental Treaties through institutional capacity enhancement.

Environmental sustainability and Climate change are two of the mandatory principles for the UN in planning and designing development assistance instruments, along with Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA), Gender Equality, Results-based Management (RBM) and Capacity Development.

UN Team on Aids supports Private Sector response to the epidemic

Since early 2009, the UN Team on AIDS in Mozambique (UNTAM) has supported the set-up of a monitoring and evaluation system for the private sector's HIV and AIDS response. The system is a tool to gather information on what business coalitions, companies, and cooperatives within the formal and the informal sectors do in response to HIV and AIDS. Today 250 cooperatives with over 48,000 members and 50 small and medium size companies are using the system in five provinces. This gathered information is an important contribution in making the responses to the ongoing HIV pandemic in the country more effective.

The UN Team on AIDS in Mozambique (UNTAM) supports a range of activities in response to the HIV epidemic in Mozambique of which the set up of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for the private sector is one. The M&E system is now being used by 250 cooperatives with over 48,000 members from the informal sector plus 50 small- and medium size companies in five provinces. The system helps the businesses in reporting monthly on their activities to the National AIDS Council through a set of provincial bodies in a way that is aligned with the national M&E system. The gathered information will help

both businesses and policy makers to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the private sector's response to HIV and AIDS and in turn guide what could be done better. The information will also be used in the reporting for the disbursement of the

key partners role and in facilitating the process from the start. Or as an UNAIDS officer described the role of the UN: "We [UN] are like the butter in the sandwich".

The project is an example on how the UN organizations can deliver as one by complementing each other and using each individual strengths. For example has ILO used its business network and good relationships with the private sector in enrolling participants, while other agencies have helped in building a productive involvement of government and non-state actors. Other agencies' have contributed with technical skills like UNAIDS has done in the set-up of the M&E system.



No effort should be spared to ensure an HIV free generation

9th round of grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in 2010. These funds are important in sustaining the HIV response in the country.

UNTAM has together with the local private sector and other development partners been one of the key drivers behind the process of setting up the M&E system and has contributed with financial and technical support. In particular, UNTAM added value to this project has been in convening national

In the pilot phase of the project five provinces have been included: Maputo City, Manica, Tete, Zambézia and Cabo Delgado. An evaluation meeting will be held in 2010 to identify 'lessons learned' and how the project can be further improved before scaling it up across all eleven provinces. A nation wide system of this kind, will contribute to systemize monitoring in the country and provide valuable information for developing an effective HIV and AIDS response within the private sector.

Mapping support to Mozambique

The electronic data base on Official Development Assistance to Mozambique (ODAmoz), which was set up in 2006 to provide high quality information the country needs for development planning, has just been reopened following six months of closure for system improvement and data migration.

Based in the Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD), the database was established in response to the Government's need for data and for greater alignment of partners with national priorities in line with the Paris Declaration.

ODAmoz enables tracking of development partners' projects and programs: location, funding sources, implementing partner/agency, covering

more than 90 per cent of ODA in Mozambique. Designated focal points from all UN agencies resident in Mozambique and a growing number of non-resident agencies provide input to ODAmoz

on all their projects and programmes. A UN focal point in the Resident Coordinator's Office sits in the Management Committee and coordinates UN participation.

After four years of existence, it was necessary to upgrade the technical basis from the system designated 1.0 to a more sophisticated and user-friendly model in order to meet the increasing and more complex needs of the Government and its development partners. Its "Design your own report" function makes it easy to search for specific information and offers tables and geographic maps for analysis. The new ODAmoz 2.0 is currently in a testing phase and will be officially launched next year.

The opportunity this tool provides is also its

greatest challenge. The more reliable the data in the system, the more valuable a source of information it will be not only for the wider public and national planning, but also for simplifying budget allocations and sector reporting and vice versa. The Government and its Development Partners are therefore strongly committed to making ODAmoz 2.0. For development information on Mozambique kindly visit ODAmoz at the following website: <http://mozambique.odadata.ampdev.net/>.



UN Reform aims at improving development results

The UN accelerated reform program that Mozambique is piloting with 7 other countries, aims at delivering better development results, meeting the Millennium Development Goals and other national priorities in order to improve people's lives, representatives from development

cooperation agencies, the Development Partners Group (DPG) were informed.

Speaking in a UN Country Team organized meeting, convened in May to update the other DPG members on the stage and impact of the reform programme, the Resident Coordinator, Ndolamb Ngokwey, underlined the importance of the UN reform in improving development results. "The reform itself has a value only if it truly makes UN more coherent, efficient and effective to produce better results", he said, adding that by Delivering as One the UN has made our Government partners also see the need to Deliver as One by making government sectors plan and work more closely with each other".

He described the support the UN is providing to sectors leveraging its comparative advantages in the areas of policy and advocacy, normative and technical support, capacity development and civil society partnerships.

The UN also plays a central role in many of the working groups and coordination mechanisms within the aid architecture in Mozambique. For example, the UN co-chairs the DPG, chairs two out of five pillar groups of the Government Poverty Reduction Plan (PARPA) and chairs or co-chairs 13 out of 23 Technical Working Groups.

During the meeting presentations were made on the following:

1. A Reformed UN in the New Aid Environment
2. The Delivering as One Evaluation
3. The UNDAF roll-out process currently under way.

Following the presentations, the participants discussed issues parting to:

Predictability of the new UN Development Assistance Programme: The new UNDAF will be as committed as agencies' systems allow them to be. Not all agencies can commit financial, human and technical resources over a five year period. For the latter period of the UNDAF agencies pledges will be gaining in substance as commitments become possible on the basis of incoming financial contributions to UN agencies.

Joint Programme experience: The joint programmes have a new quality of joint work, through joint resource mobilization with the One Fund and stronger integration of agencies components. Concrete results can be presented after an internal evaluation in July. One of the main lessons learnt is that the entirety of the new UNDAF will be the next One Programme.

Incentives: Boards underline the importance of the UN reform process for agencies work and donors see it as a condition to increased funding. However, they often do not follow up within the agencies to reform HR, Finance and programme policies accordingly. They also don't necessarily provide the funds necessary for agencies to take up the coordination role they have been assigned. Nevertheless, as agencies see the benefit of Delivering as one, incentives become stronger for them to get involved.

Government capacity: The main role of UN agencies is to strengthen government capacity. It provides technical assistance for the government to be able to increasingly lead the development process both technically and institutionally. An increased dialogue is needed between bilateral donors and the UN on how the UN system can support each sector and the overall architecture, to support the government in its capacity development efforts.

Commemorative Dates June

- 4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- 5 World Environment Day
- 8 World Oceans Day
- 17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 23 United Nations Public Service Day
- 26 International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
- International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

Up-coming Events

- 1 Comparative Advantage Workshop
- 4 Prioritization workshop between the UN and Government sectors for UNDAF development
- 14-16 - Third Conference for countries piloting the Delivering as One UN Reform initiative - Hanoi, Viet Nam. For more information please visit the following site: Hanoi Conference: www.undg.org/hanoi2010

