

University
cooperation
for
development
between

Mozambique and Flanders (Belgium)

October 2020



Mozambique is a partner country of VLIR-UOS with a modest financial envelope. From 2003 to 2020 VLIR-UOS spent over € 7 million in cooperation programmes with Mozambique, including 1 long-term Institutional University Cooperation (IUC) programme with **Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM)**.

Currently no new projects are started in Mozambique but UEM remains an important partner in International Course Programmes (ICP).

Higher education as a driving force for sustainable development

Mozambique is a priority country of Belgian and Flemish cooperation. Links with previous activities of Flemish universities in the health sector and small scale VLIR-UOS cooperation projects in Mozambique led to the implementation of an institutional university cooperation programme in 2008.

The VLIR-UOS Country Strategy for Mozambique complies with the Mozambican national strategy by giving priority to **agriculture, health and environment**. Governance, education, community engagement, information & technology services and statistics were identified as **transversal themes**.

VLIR-UOS supports interventions that **strengthen higher education institutions** in their role as actor of change by improving education, research and extension of new knowledge, applications and services in various domains. This is in line with the **Joint Strategic Framework for Mozambique**, which was developed in 2016 by the Belgian Non-Governmental Actors active in Mozambique. More synergy and complementarity with other Belgian actors in Mozambique will be sought for.

Institutional Capacity Building

The institutional university cooperation (IUC) programme with **Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)** started in 2008, has now come to an end. The IUC, abbreviated “**Desafio**”, is mainly focused on **reproductive and sexual health** in Maputo and surrounding areas (Development Programme in Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, and Family Matters through multidisciplinary inter-university investigation).

The overall objective of this programme is to contribute to the reduction of the incidence of maternal mortality and HIV/AIDS in Mozambique through **knowledge base and training** in HIV/AIDS, on one hand, and **engaging the key stakeholders** in the efforts to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in Mozambique, on the other hand. It touches upon human and social rights; gender, family and health issues; reproductive health and HIV/AIDS; capacity building and bio-statistics.

Short term projects

TEAM and South Initiative (SI) projects are mutually reinforcing projects that aim to **strengthen** the **research** and **education capacity** and to bring into service this capacity to find sustainable solutions to local and global development challenges. One finalized SI project with Manica Higher Polytechnic Institute has worked on **community based management** of **carbon stocks** and strengthened the local partner to monitor and analyse the carbon stocks. Another finalised project with the University of Zambeze worked on an **integrated, sustainable development** of the **Zambeze river basin**, by setting up a research base, organising workshops, improving the qualifications of teaching staff and involving stakeholders for the uptake of the results.

About VLIR-UOS

VLIR-UOS supports **partnerships** between universities and university colleges in Flanders (Belgium) and the South looking for **innovative responses** to global and local challenges. VLIR-UOS funds cooperation **projects** between professors, researchers and teachers. VLIR-UOS also awards **scholarships** to students and professionals in Flanders and the South. Lastly, VLIR-UOS helps to **strengthen higher education** in the South and the **globalisation** of higher education in Flanders.

VLIR-UOS is part of the Flemish Interuniversity Council and receives funding from the Belgian Development Cooperation. www.vliruos.be

Contact: Christophe Goossens,  + 32 2 550 19 65, 
christophe.goossens@vliruos.be



VLIR-UOS partnerships

The IUC programme Desafio was based on a partnership between a Mozambican university and three Flemish universities. The goal of these partnerships is **capacity building** based on long term investments in human capital and **building up**

