

# BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES IN MOZAMBIQUE



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## SOCIAL PROTECTION AS A TOOL TO ACHIEVE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Mozambique has been one of the fastest growing economies in Africa over the last two decades and has a strong record of macroeconomic stability. Despite this, it remains one of the poorest countries in the world with half of the population living in chronic poverty; high rates of unemployment, HIV prevalence and stunting; and recurrent food insecurity.

The Government of Mozambique and stakeholders have taken steps towards the progressive establishment of a national social protection floor (SPF), as a tool to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth while reducing poverty and vulnerability.

With support from the ILO and other UN agencies, the Government of Mozambique has made progress towards the consolidation of basic social protection programmes through the establishment of a legal and regulatory framework for social protection. Thanks to advocacy efforts by the ILO and the UN, the Government increased the fiscal space dedicated to social protection, from 0.18 per cent of GDP in 2008 to 0.58 per cent in 2015. This has led to a remarkable expansion in the number of beneficiaries covered by basic social protection programmes from 183,000 households in 2008 to 535,000 in 2015.

## SOCIAL PROTECTION LANDSCAPE

Existing social protection programmes in Mozambique include cash benefits for older persons and people with disabilities; support for vulnerable groups such as malnourished and orphaned children, and people with HIV; a public works programme; and social services.

Despite the progress so far, there are significant challenges – issues in implementation, limited financial capacity and a need to improve the policy framework.



## ILO SUPPORT IN MOZAMBIQUE

The Basic Social Protection Strategy (ENSSB) came to an end in 2014. The Government then requested the ILO for technical support to design a new phase, ENSSB 2016-24. The new phase was endorsed by the Council of Ministers in February 2016 and provides a platform for the progressive realization of SPF guarantees in Mozambique. It envisages significant expansion of the coverage of older persons and people with disabilities under the flagship cash transfer and the gradual introduction of a child grant with an increase in the benefit package.

Furthermore, the ILO has led the process to design a management and information system (MIS), to increase the efficiency and transparency of the system. It is expected to start operating by 2017.

## A LIFE OF ANXIETY

Regina is a 65 year old widow living in Malhanzine, a rural town in Mozambique. In Mozambique, half of the population lives below the poverty line. Regina is one of the beneficiaries of the basic social allowance that is trying to reverse this situation. The allowance of 350 Mozambican meticals (US\$9) per month benefits around 300,000 people.

Lives of the elderly in Mozambique are not easy. I go to the farm every day to harvest vegetables. Then I take care of my four grandchildren. If I did not have this benefit, I do not know if we would be able to eat every day. With the money, I can buy food, books and school uniforms. This is my investment. I want to bet on the future of my grandchildren!



- Regina, a recipient of the basic social allowance

## FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

The ILO has long-standing experience in supporting countries to provide social protection. With your help, we can make the SPF a reality for the people of Mozambique.

With your support, we can:

- Support the formulation of comprehensive social protection policy frameworks, advocate for the social protection floor among decision-makers, and build evidence through costing and fiscal space analysis.

US\$ 400.000

- Support programme design and implementation, rollout the new management information system at the decentralized level, and design an integrated monitoring and evaluation system for social protection programmes.

US\$ 600.000

- Develop capacity at central and local levels on integrated benefit delivery, the new management information system, financial management (including budget analysis), and monitoring and evaluation.

US\$ 250.000

- Share the country's experience through country briefs, web pages, and videos.

US\$ 50.000

- Build evidence on the economic impact of social transfers on the local economy with an aim to effectively advocate with the Ministry of Finance for increased fiscal space for social protection.

US\$ 400.000

## BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

The ILO has been a major stakeholder in the extension of social protection in Mozambique since 2005. Building effective and trustful partnerships with stakeholders, including IMF, World Bank, One UN and civil society, to support the Government has been a recognized success factor and will remain a key strategy to reach the objectives.

## LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS

As a donor, you receive regular reports on the progress made and have access to ongoing project activities and performance indicators.

To further discuss your objectives and the ways in which you can support stakeholders in Mozambique and improve millions of lives, you can contact:



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