

January 25, 2013

**Comments from the United States on the Approval by Mail: PPCR Mozambique:
Climate Resilience: Transforming Hydro-Meteorological Services (IBRD)**

Colleagues,

Attached are comments and questions from the United States. We applaud the effort put into this proposal and support it moving forward.

Best,
Elizabeth

Elizabeth Lien
Environment and Energy Office
Department of the Treasury

Mozambique Climate Resilience: Transforming Hydro-Meteorological Services
U.S. Comments and Questions

- We support Mozambique's plan to use and integrate these hydro-met data into existing and future water, adaptation and infrastructure planning.
- We have a few technical questions:
 - There could be more emphasis on cooperation with neighbors. Paragraph 32 addresses this, but it seems a bit sparse considering that "more than 50% of the country's total-mean-annual runoff is generated outside Mozambique's boundaries". In addition to looking for ways to work with neighboring countries, Mozambique should consider connections to the African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD).
 - On page 32 (B.2) it reads, "To build retention of staff, the activity will also finance X master degree trainings." How might a master's degree improve retention or might it decrease the likelihood that an employee will stay? Did Mozambique consider financing X bachelor degree trainings and/or provide targeted training to build the skills of existing employees and fill specific needs?
 - Components B and C currently list GoM contributions as "tbc." Does the GoM intend to contribute resources, in-kind contributions or are these operations and maintenance costs that are yet to be determined? How will O&M costs be covered in future years as this is vital to sustainability of these investments?
 - Why does this proposal include a 50-year cost-benefit analysis as opposed to a shorter period of time, considering the difficulties in maintaining such technologies long-term?
 - The project focuses quite a bit on building capacity of existing staff and acknowledges the need for a staffing plan, but does not go into

comparable detail on how to fill the highlighted need for additional staff. Contractors are mentioned several times, and will be useful for filling short-term gaps, but are not a sustainable solution for building fully operable hydromet capabilities.

- We did not see references to Mozambique pursuing necessary training at one of the WMO Regional Training Centers. There are 11 Regional Training Centers in Africa alone. In addition, within the United States, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) has a program - - COMET -- which has developed many hydrometeorological and climate distance-learning modules that would likely benefit Mozambique in their training efforts. Such distance-learning opportunities should be fully exploited by Mozambique to maximize benefits from existing programs and overall effectiveness while minimizing costs.
- It is important to involve users in the design of the information, and we are encouraged to see that there will be efforts to survey key users about their needs and satisfaction. Building long-term relationships is an important complementary practice to gathering data through annual surveys for understanding what users need and use.
- We appreciate the efforts highlighted to adhere to WMO data standards and to emphasize data stewardship. We encourage the government of Mozambique to share data collected through this work throughout the region and globally, particularly given more than half of the runoff is generated outside of Mozambique.