



Poverty Hearing

Niassa, Zambézia, Inhambane and City of Maputo

REPORT of Mozambique, 2010

African Monitor Initiative

National Coordinating Board: CCM, MISA, FDC, and G20

National Focal Point: Economic and Social Justice Program- Christian Council of Mozambique

“Poverty is in the people’s mentality”

Armando Guebuza
President of Mozambique

“When God created a man there was no space for poverty. The poverty is an intruder and must be unhorsed as soon as possible (...). The poverty hearing is not to blame anyone, but is a mechanism in which we seek the solutions for the real causes of poverty”

The Right Rev. Bishop Dom Dinis Sengulane –
Former Chairman of CCM board
Poverty Hearing head of Commissioners in Mozambique

“ The poverty is an undesirable harm within our society, therefore must not be combated in isolated manner, but yet in a well coordinated manner, where everybody has a role to play, whether is the government, the Civil Society, the Church and many other social stakeholders”.

Rev. Marcos Macamo
General Secretary of CCM

“Are we poor because we are a race destined to remain poor?”

Rev. Dinis Matsolo – Former General Secretary of Christian Council of Mozambique

We feel there are many improvements indeed. But those improvements are related to what?

What is the comparison support?

Bishop Markus Van Koeverning – Anglican Bishop of Niassa Diocese

“I think our district is developing, we have schools, hospitals and there is an indication of a University being build here in the district”

Eduilo Lissuco, Resident of Sanga District – Niassa

“Some people said that the life has improved. But if we could ask if they did get their breakfast this morning, surely will respond no. if you can ask where their kids sleep, they will respond on the floor. I am entirely sure that most of them are not sure what will have for lunch”.

Alfredo Joao Calombo, Resident of Sanga District – Niassa

“I do not want to be poor but yes be free from being poor”

Tufu dancing group – Zambezia

“How can we practice a commercialized agriculture with a small hoe?

We need a tractor to better cultivate the soil”

Mustafa Omar, Resident of Sanga District – Niassa

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**Message from the Poverty Hearing Initiative commissioner
in Mozambique**

Right Reverend Bishop Dom Dinis Sengulane

“I would like to greet all the participants, and make a comment around what we heard today in this great initiative. I would like to remind to my beloved brothers and sisters present here, that within the God’s plan should never have space for poverty. The poverty is an intruder and must we must unhouse it as much possible as we can. Because when God created the universe say the Holy Scriptures “God looked to all he has done and said it was good, it was fair and pacific, and there was no space for poverty. And then during the creation, created the man to be the steward to all what was his creature. Therefore, one more time we can notice that within the God’s plan there was no space for poverty.

When we go a bit further, we find that when Jesus came to this world, he said: “ I came so that you may have life, life abundantly” this means, it was not to survive but yet, to live fairly. But when we continue towards the end, we find the restauration of the garden, where there are plants, animals and there is no pain, lamentations, there is no poverty, thus the poverty is an intruder.

We know that, what we are doing is the restauration of the God’s plan. And carrying out this poverty hearing means that our business does not consist in the attribution of guilty to whoever could be, but yet, identify partners that jointly can restaurate this God’s plan, so that together can get rid of poverty.

By carrying out this poverty hearing in a primary school, we want one more time to reaffirm that the school is a fundamental space for poverty fighting. What we have heard here, the people talk on reducing the poverty, but we must fight not only to reduce but yet to eliminate the poverty, because we do not want to be more poor.

However, more importantly in this process of hearing, is that we are talking about poverty with the poor, with those who feel in the skin the consequences of poverty, this is why is more easy to turn the poverty agenda as our agenda”.

ACRONYMS

PH: Poverty Hearing

CCM: Christian Council of Mozambique

FDC: Community Development Foundation

G20: National Platform for the coordination of the Mozambican Civil Society Organizations participation in the Poverty Observatories

MISA- Mozambique: Media Institute of Southern Africa – Mozambique

MDG: Millennium Development Goals

CSO: Civil Society Organizations

PRSP: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

RAP: Annual Poverty Report

PRESENTATION

The Poverty Hearing (PH) is a tool that capture in first hand, the poverty situation in the poor's view, so listening him/her on his/her surviving daily experience and fight against poverty. This tool is an initiative of African Monitor a Continental organization based in South Africa, Cape Town. 10 Years ago carried out a Poverty Hearing program in South Africa, listening to thousands of poor South African families who expressed their poverty experiences. It was a unique in the African context since it brought on top the true concept of poverty in South Africa. The hearing data were highly publicized and served as basis so that the policy- makers could look the poverty fighting in a more thorough manner.

A decade after and with the celebration of the gains resulting from the PH in the South African Context, the African Monitor decided to expand this experience in some of the African countries, having identified four of them in the first phase: Mozambique, Kenya, Liberia and Senegal. The selection of those countries was based in the pre-established criteria, highlighting the high levels of poverty. Then the AM visited each of those countries and identified partners which would together work in the PH initiative development within their respective countries.

In Mozambique the visit from African Monitor took place in October 2009 and the Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM) was selected as the coordinating partner of the process. In the same way were also visited the FDC and MISA-Mozambique. In its turn CCM together with the Community Development Foundation (FDC) and Media Institute of Southern Africa – Mozambique (MISA-Mozambique) and later the National Platform for the coordination of the Mozambican Civil Society Organizations participation in the Poverty Observatories (G-20) formed the National Coordinating Board. For each organization was delegated specific assignment, being the Christian Council of Mozambique through the Economic Justice Desk, in charge for the technical secretariat of the initiative, the MISA-Mozambique for the divulgation of the initiative and link with medias/press, the FDC and G-20 with policy area. During the process other CSOs amongst them local and international were invited to join the process, and were set up a meeting schedule which serves as monitoring and assessment the process.

This hearing besides of giving the opportunity to the poor in Mozambique to be heard also has contributed for the conception of the new generation of Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

(PARPA) and to do radiography of the current situation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in Mozambique. In sum, the accomplished work enabled the collection of ideas on what is the perspective of the poor on poverty and the challenges faced, providing thus, clear paths for the solutions to the identified problems.

The present report is structured in four fundamental chapters.

The Chapter 1 consists on – the poverty hearing process in Mozambique, falling upon on the followed track. The chapter 2 is basically talking on the aspects related to what are poverty understanding and the environment in which the poverty monitoring and evaluation takes place in Mozambique. The chapter 3 tackles the essence of the document which is translated on the poverty status in the poor perspective. At last the Chapter 4 tackles the way forward in the fighting of poverty, especially the social and political commitment as well as the approaches/strategies for its effective fighting.

For better handling/reading of this report, as working tool it was written in a very simplified manner, in the exposition as well as in the employed language.

CHAPTER 1

THE POVERTY HEARING ROUT IN MOZAMBIQUE

The poverty hearing (PH) in Mozambique was carried out with technical support from the African Monitor and Norwegian Church Aid and took place from 19 April to 3 May 2010 in Zambezia (City of Quelimane), Niassa (Sanga District), Inhambane (Maxixe District) and Maputo (City of Maputo) provinces, comprehending more than 1.000 people. The selection of these places took into consideration the level of living conditions, observing the rural and urban poverty. In the northern region the Niassa province represented the rural poverty, in the central region the City of Quelimane, capital city of Zambezia Province represented the urban poverty, in the southern area, the Inhambane province considered the poorest in the country, represented the rural poverty and the City of Maputo represented the urban poverty.

The City of Maputo choice took into consideration that it is the capital city of the country where it believed to have all the basic living conditions. To choose Inhambane it was decisive the fact of being the poorest of the country. The Zambezia province was considered the fact of concentrating the majority of donors. In regarding to Niassa, it was determining its slowness of its development which opposes with the agricultural and tourist potential that possesses.

For the better performance of PH in Mozambique five (5) individuals, representing all the provinces included in the PH travelled to Kenya in order to attend a training and collect experiences of the South African process as well as visit some places whereby some activities have already done in Kenya and taking into consideration that Kenya was more advanced in the process.

For the kick-off initially was produced a reference/conceptual note document, explaining the nature, objectives, expected outcomes, key areas of the process and the general chronogram of PH activities as mean to introduce the initiative and society mobilization to board on it.

The process involvement counted with the following structure and personal:

- A technical team skilled for technical issues of the initiative;
- A coordinating committee;

- National commissioners who served as linkage between the participants and the government, who would take all the hearing outcomes to the decision makers as mean of pressing the government to improve the basic service delivering;
- Outstanding guests from the region;
- Government and Municipality representatives;
- Partners of international cooperation;
- Local religious leaders;
- Civil Society Organizations; e
- Citizens (ordinary participants and testimonies)

It was adopted as basic strategy to work with government (at all levels) and municipality authorities which the commissioners held meetings that served to call for their support and involvement, but also as part of the key parts of the process in order to meet the objectives and outcomes preconized by this initiative. Thus, the role of the commissioners was to challenge the government at the provincial level where the hearings took place to accommodate within their plans the outcomes reached by this initiative.

Other issues were observed during the selection process amongst them were noted:

- Involvement of the local networks/platforms in the pre-hearing in order to facilitate the identification process, selection, psychological preparation of the citizens who were to be heard; and
- The inclusion of CSOs with human resource expertise and experience to give the technical value to the initiative.

Objectives of the Public Hearing in Mozambique

General Objective:

- To bring the voice of the poor to assess and influence the public policy in Mozambique

Specific Objectives

- To provide a platform where the people living under the poverty can speak about their current condition of living, and amongst others, the following aspects:

- ✓ Their understanding of the actions which are being carried out by the government to eradicate/reduce the levels of poverty;
- ✓ Have a comprehensive information on what the people themselves are doing to improve their living conditions;
- ✓ Have an understanding of the levels of knowledge of citizen's rights as prescribed in the Constitution and other laws of the Republic of Mozambique;
- To evaluate at what level the MDGs are being met in Mozambique;
- Document and Publish evidences, testimonies and poverty experiences shared by the participants as mean to measure the poverty evidences within the country;
- To set up a platform whereby all the decision makers can listen in firsthand the stories and fighting of those who really face the poverty in their daily lives; and
- Produce evidences that can be incorporated in the policies and programs which address the needs of the poor in the rural and urban areas.

1.2 Expected Outcomes

The PH initiative in Mozambique is expected to contribute for the elaboration of the new generation of PRSP/PARPA with useful and updated information based on the poor's voice. Besides that this initiative constitute a added value for the self-analysis and evaluation on the MDGs implementation, having in account that the United Nations in the year 2010 intend to make a self-assessment on the development of the MDGs implementation, namely the areas of which the goals are possible to meet and those which there are some fears. In this context, the PH in Mozambique expects to contribute to meet at least half of the goals fixed at global level, in Mozambique in particular.

Applied Methodology

The PH observed three phases, namely:

- Pre-Hearing: four teams were formed in April and their mission consisted in visiting each of the identified provinces with the aim to do: i) the recognition of the suitable places where the happening would take place at the provincial level, identify potential testimonies who would give their testimonies in public during the official hearing; ii) to dialogue with the local authorities and provincial government as well as various

provincial government officials on the PH process, calling thus their involvement . The Pre-Hearing also served as a way to publish the initiative at the provincial level and create conditions for the accomplishment of the activities. During the pre-hearing volunteers were also trained and distributed the questionnaires to conduct the survey through data collection:

- Rural/urban community hearing Day: citizen were listened in public and filmed in the presence of local community, and before the prominent personalities, amongst them government entities, local authorities, CSOs for advocacy sake post-hearing; and
- National Poverty Hearing: Conceived to count with the presence of local and international prominent personalities, citizens representing the 4 provinces where the hearing took place (giving primacy to those testimonies that came on public to give their testimony), the media and the interested public for a joint advocacy around the poverty hearing outcomes. But due to financial limitations it was resorted to the video system which was produced in each of the provinces to be displayed during the national hearing.

At national as well as provincial levels were identified six people who would give their testimonies, but besides those the space was open for other volunteers who would react on what were their perceptions and giving thus their individual contribution.

For the data collection for hearings two methods were used, namely:

- The questionnaire/inquiry application;
- Public testimony; and
- Plenary discussion

The data analysis observed the following aspects:

- Systematization and analysis of the testimonies and questionnaire ;
- Framing of the PH outcomes in the context of MDGs achievement;
- Analysis on how the findings fit with the policies and developmental issues in the country, region and in Africa in general;
- Analysis on how the findings fit in the issues related with the financing commitments, disbursement and impact within the country;

Limitation and Initiative Advantage

The levels and coverage of the hearings can't be translated for statistic purpose or for a national representative sample. The essential point for the PH initiative in Mozambique was to carry out an approximation exercise between those who suffer the most and those who directly participate in the decision making process, serving as starting point for many more initiatives and of major dimension to take place in the country.

The initiative is useful for it allows setting up a platform where the decision makers can listen, in first hand/direct speech, stories and fights of those who really face the poverty in their daily lives. And it add value to the process of public planning, providing evidences that would serve as base to be embodied in form of policies and programs which address the needs of the poor in the rural and urban areas.

Step Forward

Is expected that PH outcomes would be appropriated by the CSOs in the sense of promoting advocacy activities to influence the new generation of PRSP/PARPA and for major engagement towards the MDGs implementation. For that effect and as input the initiative intends to put in perspective to publish and divulge widely the present report in all socio-cultural, economic and political scopes of the country.

CHAPTER 2

POVERTT IN THE NATIONAL AGENDA

In this chapter is captured the PH side that deals with the understanding that the testimonies have on the poverty concept and context and their level of participation as overseer and participant, on what is being done by the government to eradicate/reduce the levels of poverty as well as the availability and commitment of the government as listener. Both talk and carry out actions, in a separated manner, or together, but all actions are for national interest, in general, and for the poor in particular.

2.1. UNDERSTANDING ABOUT POVERTY (BEING POOR)

“The Poverty varies from society to society and forestalls all the areas. The lack of resources, the lack of housing, the lack of sanitation, the lack of employment. It is notably in this city to see people starving because do not have money”

Urban testimony

“The Poverty has got levels. There are people who suffer more than others, but I will talk about those who are poor by choice, those who are employees or are working but they do nothing with the little they earn”

Urban Testimony

The clear understand from all the participants on what is being combated is critical for the definition of the development success. In this sense, the hearing seek to raise this issue, looking at how is defined the government tool and, ultimately, exhort the need for a national debate in this issue in order to reach a consensus and clarity in the definition of the common “*enemy*”.

2.1.1. Poverty Perception

From the poor perspective resulted in the following perceptions on what poverty is all about:

At Rural Level it is all about:

- Not having bridge, roads and housing;
- Not depending from nobody to eat;

- To die from the curable illness by lack of medical doctors and hospitals; and
- By being lazy because of the donations

At Urban Level

- Lack of financial resources;
- Lack of housing and sanitation;
- Lack of employment

As it can be perceived the understanding of poverty is diversified in both levels as well as within them. The issue now is to know which of the understanding is considered or should be accommodated by the policies and public plans in Mozambique.

It matters to remember that the CSOs congregated by G20 presented in the 2nd Development Observatory in 2004, in an anticipated exercise for the PRSP I review (2001-2205) and formulation of PRSP II (2006-2009), a proposal for the definition of poverty that incorporate elements of perception which the Mozambican have regarding the issue of Poverty. Thus it was suggested the following for the official definition of poverty: “the impossibility of the families, associations and enterprises’ have access to conditions which enable them to satisfy their basic needs and put in perspective their growth and development in a short possible period” (RAP 2004:24)

2.2.2. The Government as Listener

In both levels, rural and urban, the testimonies said that the more visible mechanism of interaction between the governors and governed are the open presidencies and the provincial governors visitations. These visitations are seen as opportunities to express in direct the speech the concerns, from the poor to the decision makers, but these fail due to the lack of follow up and if it does happen is in prejudice to the one who expressed the concern.

2.2.3. Sum and Linkage with the Public Planning

Taking into consideration that the monitoring and evaluation must establish the effective flow of information, involving all the stakeholders, so that it can serve as a continuous review mechanism and program at the level where the public planning is exercised the PH outcomes indicate that although there have been some efforts for maximum approximation between the

citizen and the state, between the poor and the decision makers, most of the testimonies, can not find the linkage between their status of poverty and what the government does or thinks of doing to solve the situation. There are times whereby the government actions instead of solve the problems make them even worse. Or otherwise, in the place of facilitate it makes more difficulty. From this incur: i) that the testimonies know about what they want and what should be done, and ii) there is a question related to the use of the existing spaces, in particular those happening at urban level which count with the Civil Society participation.

CHAPTER 3: THE POOR IN THE DIRECT SPEECH

This chapter presents the outcomes of the hearings. It was seeking to obtain comprehensive information from the side of the testimonies on what they themselves do to improve their lives and the level of involvement of the policy makers and/or decision makers on the issues that affect the poor, in particular, and the society, in general. The collected data were fit within the groups of the Agenda 2025, respectively:

- Human Capital – the characterization of the Mozambican man;
- Social Capital- the way he/she get organized in the society ;
- Economy- The way he/she organize and perform the productive activity;
- Governance – How does he/she institutionalize and practice the management of the state [Agenda 2025, p. 1].

In the other hand, in this report, according to the approach from G20 in its Poverty Annual Report (RAP) 2004, were adopted, for the sake of systematization, the poverty dimension established around the four groups of the Agenda 2025 namely:

- The poverty derived from lack of satisfaction of the vital needs, was called Human Poverty. According to the understanding of the testimonies this regards, for example, to: “ *lack of food and clothes; and suffering from the effects of Climate problems*”;
- The poverty which is related to structural disparities or social issues was identified as Social Poverty. In this kind of poverty “ *being lazy; being abandoned; and lack of assistance* “ were examples pointed out by the testimonies;
- The poverty, derived from the causes of low income, was called Economic Poverty. In this domain the testimonies spoke for example, on the issue of “ *lack of employment and Money*” and
- The poverty, related to issues of governance, was named Political Poverty and according to the framing from the testimonies response, these, for example, indicate: “ *Not to be able to or to depend on somebody to live and support the family, not to have and/or enjoy the infrastructures and public services (bridges, roads, housing, water, education, health,*

electricity, security, etc and lack of conditions and opportunities to expose and develop ideas”.

3.1. Human Poverty

“ I don’t have my own house, there is a problem of electricity in my home area, there is a problem of public fountain in order to get drinking water, we would like to request support from the government because it is not easy to bring up orphans children. When they don’t have food they only think of steal or prostitution”.

Urban Testimony

“I have concluded the primary education in 1998 and in 1999 I could not manage to enroll for secondary school due to the lack of vacancies. I had to go to Lichinga Agrarian School (...) when I finished the basic level in agricultural production I did not get employment. I returned to my homeland and I started to cultivate a piece of land ...”

Rural Testimony

Within the scope of Human Poverty (HP) the testimonies presented the following problems: Interruption of their children’s education, access to the high education and professional training and poor quality of education;

- Lack of professional framing post training;
- HIV/AIDS;
- Lack of improved latrines;
- Lack of housing;

Discussing about some causes of the problems the testimonies understand that the interruption of study of their children has to do with the lack of conditions to maintain them in the school and early pregnancy. In the case of the quality of education they present the education curriculum as having a gap linkage with the reality and the capacity/potentiality of the teachers. In the case of sanitation the testimonies indicate as one of the causes, in particular in the urban areas, more specifically in the periphery, the deficient or lack of city physical planning.

Highlighting what the testimonies have been doing or can do to move away from such situations they have pointed out the following actions:

- To direct and seek supporting for their children and other dependent children at school ;

- Contribute in the construction/rehabilitation of the schools and the roads;
- To attend professional trainings, and
- Collaborate in the grant of occupied spaces for opening of new roads to secure the sanitation in the area.

Regarding what the government did within the fight of Human Poverty the testimonies referred that have observed that the government is developing the following actions:

- Construction/rehabilitation of schools, public offices and improved houses;
- Projects seeking to open universities, technical schools and promotion of free primary education;
- Construction/Rehabilitation of Hospitals/health posts;
- Improvement in the drinking water supply, electricity and Public lights within the city outskirts;
- Distribution of mosquito nets to combat malaria; and

In regarding to what the government has not done/solved the testimonies indicated that it has not been doing anything in regarding to:

- The improvement related to the quality of education;
- Lack of ambulances;
- Sanitation;
- Poor city planning;
- Housing.

Inquired what has brought more impact within the HP fighting, the testimonies referred the following aspects:

- Improvement in the education and health sectors with construction of new schools and hospitals, and the extension of the high education;
- Construction of new houses; and
- Open of fountains.

Still in what regards to HP the testimonies have referred that were not happy with the provision and access to the public basic services.

3.2. Social Poverty

"I will talk about domestic violence and poverty. The parents in most of the case abandon their families and their wives with the children, without anything to eat. Thus the women are forced to find ways which can assist them to bring up the children. Otherwise, the children will become street kids because the mother does not have money to buy books and pay the school fees. The children end up selling alcohol and being prostitutes."

Urban Testimony

"... It was possible for me to study thanks to my sister, uncles and other community members with good heart, because I lost my parents in 1987..."

Rural Testimony

Within the Social Poverty framework the testimonies presented the following concerns:

- Domestic violence against women and children;
- Death or abandonment of family by parents and the orphan children and/or the children taking care of other children and/or get involved in prostitution;
- Excess in the drugs and alcohol consumption, in particular by youth;
- Lack of associative culture and inter-support spirit; and
- Envy on the people that are social and economically growing.

Describing on what the testimonies have been doing to move away from the situation in which they are at the level of Social Poverty, the testimonies have indicated the following actions:

- Inter-family solidarity and from civil society organizations;
- Participation in initiatives for behavior change and alcoholism fight;
- Home area/community cleaning; and
- Participation in the construction of house for aged people and orphan children.

Whilst what the government has been doing or can do within the SP fighting the testimonies referred that have observed it developing the following actions:

- Establishment of a centre to host the aged people and orphan children; and
- Development of partnerships public-private to address the social demands.

In regarding to what government has not been doing/solved the testimonies indicated the following aspects:

- Minimization of the suffering of children who become head of families; and
- Increase of prostitution.

On the actions that have brought major impact at community level:

- Establishment of NGOs and community radios;
- Existence of youth and head of families with employment;
- Fighting against HIV/AIDS; and
- Construction of a sports centre and for street kids and aged people;

The testimonies, in general, have manifested a concern from the state capacity in intervene in the social poverty component, relegating in many cases the assignment to the free judgment of private initiatives that despite of giving its contribution, also carries high social costs by diversions “the norm” that happen due to the state absence.

3.3. Economic Poverty

“ We know that within the district exist the fund for local initiatives in an amount of 7 million Meticaís per year, but we as citizens of the cities we do not have access to that funding. We want that the 7 millions could also reach the city of Quelimane because there are also poor, by living in the city does not mean we do not go hungry”

Urban Testimony

“... it is not possible to finish poverty by giving donations to the local citizens, by doing so, it end up creating laziness to the peasants. Many people go to local authorities to apply for loans for projects, but they do not end up not applying the requested loans in the projects they have presented. Those make people not to reimburse the requested funds”

Rural Testimony

Within the framework of Economic Poverty (EP) the testimonies have presented the following concerns:

- Lack of employment for trained people and local professionals (Agrarian technicians, water pump mechanics, boreholes and wells),
- Access to micro-credits and problems related with the District Development Fund, so called
7 millions, namely: the lack of the loan's devolution jeopardize the access to other interested people, the youth does have access as well as the urban districts which are not covered by the DDF;
- High Bureaucratic cost to start a business;
- Increase of high cost of living;
- Lack of work tools such as Tractors/plow to cultivate the soil and the conservation conditions for production surplus,
- Lack of markets close to the production centers and transportation to take the products to the outlandish markets;
- The sustainability of the small business, for besides of not being safe and profitable are the targets from the municipality police and also there are many people doing the same business; and
- Low wages in the public service.

Stating on what has been done or what can be done to move away from the situation they are the testimonies pointed the following actions:

- Practice of Agriculture, livestock and fishing (feed the family and generate income); and
- Start of small business (taxi, commercialization of homemade alcohol, carpentry, etc);

Regarding what the government has done to fight EP the testimonies referred that have observed it developing the following actions:

- Improvement of the roads;
- Seeds Distribution; and
- Expansion of Electricity supply network.

In regarding what the government has not been doing/ solved the testimonies indicated the following aspects:

- Rising of the living Cost;
- Financing of projects (eg: access to the fund of 7 millions) of enterprising and/or professionals (painters, locksmith, etc);
- Lack of employment; and
- Low wages

In the domain of what is having impact the testimonies have indicated:

- Development of small scale business initiatives (self-employment);
- Construction of irrigation system and of dams;
- Establishment of banks;
- Food production and commercialization of cash crops; and
- Improvement on the access roads, telecommunications and electricity power supply.

In the context of EP, what is intended, in general, the testimonies ask for more intervention from the government in the services facilitation and condition in which the poor can develop their initiatives.

3.4. Political Poverty

“...our gardens are being destroyed by the goats. We have reported to the government and it instead of resolving the problem have increased the goats within the community and our small farms continue being destroyed, thus, what kind of development is the government looking for? Goats of people? We need to cultivate the land for our sustenance or to feed the goats?”

Rural Testimony

“I am going to talk about the children that have concluded the grade 7 and 8. We thank our government because of the grades 1-7 which we are not paying any fee. However, there are big problems on getting the children enrolled for the grade 8”

Urban testimony

In light of the Political Poverty (PP) the testimonies presented the following concerns:

- Public safety with the increase of criminality, lack of public lights, and public safety, and lodgers with doubtful behavior from the rented houses-accommodation;
- Inlay of youth after they have attended the binding military service;

- Lack of working and social condition for the police;
- Clash or lack of articulation between the government and the poor, because the government priorities, are not always the priorities of the poor;
- Shortage of space and dialogue of debate of the local concerns;
- Corruption in public sector.

Stating on what they have been doing or can be doing to move away from the current situation, the testimonies indicated:

- Community Policing; and
- Establishment of association and initiatives for the dialogue with the state.

Regarding on what the government has been doing within the PP combat scope, the testimonies referred that have been observing it developing the following actions:

- Public lights, in particular in the suburb areas; and
- Establishment and provision of public services (conservatories and notary, etc).

Regarding on what the government has been not doing/resolving the testimonies have noted:

- The insecurity in the home areas (robbery/assaults/lack of public lights/policing)
- Services of public transport;
- Access to children enrollment for studying in grade 8;
- Corruption within the government;
- Access to justice; and
- Increase of criminality.

Regarding on what has been seen as changing, the testimonies have highlighted:

- Improvement in some justice services (attorney offices);
- Creation of municipality policing; and
- Subdivision of plots/land.

In general, in regarding to PP, it is crucial the issue of public safety and an extended contact between the government and the citizens for the identification and resolution of the problems that affect the social and economic development of Mozambique, in particular, in the improvement of the lives' condition of the poor.

Exposed the outcomes, it is a matter of analyzing them in accordance with the MDGs. Despite that was not done any work directed to the configuration of the MDGs, but by the outcomes it is possible to make an appraisal, in general on what was said by the testimonies, framing within the MDGs the respective issues that is related to each one of the goals.

MDGs	Appraisal based on the PH Outcomes
1. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger	The appraisal from the majority of the testimonies is that their conditions of life did not improve in the previous years, as much as it is difficult for most of them to enjoy two meals a day. Note that they have said that, slowly, with the increase of food production at family level the issue of hunger can not be felt so much, but they feel the absence of the government to turn around the current status in the agricultural field. As per indications, combined the two spheres, the family/private action and the public action, there are more probabilities to reach the goal of eradicating hunger and extreme poverty.
2. Achieve Universal Primary Education	The evaluation through the testimonies is that the government is put on a lot of efforts, but which may not be effectively used by the reason related to non attendance, abandonment, interruption, amongst many other reasons, that can undermine the achievement of the goal.
3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women	On this specific goal, it is understood through the testimonies and responses from the testimonies that Mozambique still has to make igneous paces in this issue, despite that some advances in the chapter of the insertion of women in the decision making bodies in the country and of girls to access the school. By being an area whereby various stakeholders intervene it can be a handspike in the achievement efforts.
4. Reduce the Child Mortality Rate	The progress made in the expansion of the health services for the testimonies is visible, looking at the establishment of new health posts and hospitals. However, they are not entirely happy with the rendered services also with the financial capacity to support the due expenses which can impact the achievement of the goals by what can be overcome with the stakeholder's efforts, in particular at the level of Goal 6 where there are many non state stakeholders.
5. Improve Maternal Health	
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria	

and other Diseases	
7.Ensure Environmental Sustainability	The PH outcomes reveal a major participation of the community in the environment management. Also, a part of it, there is still challenges in what regard to access to water and sanitation.
8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development	The partnerships, according to the PH outcomes, they take place at the working level amongst the NGOs and international projects that act in the provision of basic services, micro-credit, amongst many other, at the community level.

The concerning in the outcomes of this PH has to do with the impact in the public policies and commitments at continental level and from the respective countries, because they are not bringing results in conformity with the created expectations. The issue which is being raised is: at what extend the problems raised in the public policies priorities and the resolving form are in line with the understanding of the poor? In the other hand, it is questioned the effectiveness of the financing of such public policies for development, since the problem persist and the funding never stopped, instead is increasing.

CHAPTER 4:

FUTURE STEPS IN THE COMBAT OF POVERTY

4.1. Social and Political Commitment

In reaction to what was said by the testimonies to the policy makers and/or the decision makers who influence the decision making they have said, in the workshops, that they are committed with the process and in what was said by the testimonies. In general, were captured the following key aspects:

- Concordance and encouragement with the poverty hearing initiative
 - ✓ *“Thank you for having created this interaction space (...) it coincides with the government strategy, the so called community participation” **Representative of the Provincial Government of Niassa.***
- Concordance in the common agenda of poverty combat
 - ✓ *“From these testimonies it was clear that the combat against poverty is a desire and imperative of all of us” Itai Meque, Zambezia Provincial Governor.*
 - ✓ *“.... The poverty is the main problem of government and we will continue fighting against it” Lucília Hama, City of Maputo Governor*
- Diversity of understanding in the identification of what is a poor/poverty
 - ✓ *“ The taxi riders(bicycles which transport passengers in Quelimane) are not poor, there are people who have got nothing and at this time they are sitting at home without doing anything and without food” Itai Meque, Zambezia Provincial Governor*
 - ✓ *“ (According to a study) ...The taxi riders have an income that is above the minimal salary offered to the public workers” Representative of the Mayor of Quelimane Municipality*

- ✓ *“some people define (poverty) in a monetary way, saying that poor are those who live below US \$ 1/ day...” Reverend Dinis Matsolo former General Secretary of CCM*

- **Needy to identify the causes/reasons of the raised problems**
 - ✓ *“ ...The disappearance of the cashew nuts, sugar cane, copra agricultural companies are factors that contribute to the prevalence of the poverty in the country-side and in the urban areas” Itai Meque*
 - ✓ *“ (One of the testimonies) stated that there is a lot of production but there is no market to sale, (however) this can be an indicator that the district is growing (and not that is poor)” Permanent Secretary of Sanga District, Niassa Province*

- **Valorization of Self-esteem and of the family**

“No-one should feel despised but what he/she is doing because all of us we do something to contribute and better the development (...) when we talk about self-esteem it has to do with love of yourself and your family....” Itai Meque, Zambezia Provincial Governor

 - ✓ *“the family is the source of wealthy, is there where the children are taught to follow good examples, is where the inspiration of the society begins, is where the small gains in a lawful manner is valued in detriment to unlawful enrichment.....”. The Right Bishop Rev. Dinis Sengulane – Anglican Bishop of Libombo Diocese,*

- **The spirit of union, solidarity and of inclusion/participation in the poverty combat**
 - ✓ *“We need to come together in order to combat and defeat the poverty...” Representative of Quelimane Municipality*
 - ✓ *“We must work together to defeat poverty (...) it is not possible to work succesfully without the collaboration of all...” Lucilia Hama, Governor of Maputo City*
 - ✓ *“ We as Government of the District we can not make a self-assessment...” Permanent Secretary of Sanga District, Niassa*
 - ✓ *“The poverty is an animal and therefore can not be eliminated by one person or institution (...) It will not go away from us if we are not solidarity(...) we need to listen to one another and not decide on behalf of others” Reverend Dinis Matsolo*

- Culture of Labour

- ✓ “The most important are actions and not only speeches; we must go fighting to bring solutions. The speech is a starting point ” Rev. Dinis Matsolo
- ✓ “ We believe that still there is a lot to be done in the sense of improving the lives of the citizens” Representative of Quelimane Municipality
- ✓ “With the mendacity we can’t fight the poverty. Let’s work more and more, but combat poverty is not moving around with money in the pocket” Permanent Secretary of Sanga District

4.2. Strategies/Approaches: What should be done to the poor?

“The life is improving but still we need the government hand.”

Testimony

The testimonies during the attest/testimony endorsed issues to the government and other stakeholders with responsibility in the fighting of poverty in order to resolve the raised concerns, since without those affiance the success will never be reached. Such issues agree and/or add to the identified ones along the development of chapter 3.

In the Combat of Human Poverty Scope:

- To develop a stimulus policy to the study which must be followed up by a supplementary support to the families and allocation of employment;
- To reformulate;
- The school curriculum)to link it to the reality and potentialities of Mozambicans);
- Enframe the unemployed women in supporting activities to the health care centers and schools during the rushing hours; and
- Develop Educational programs for project elaboration and peasant’s capacity building in business development covering the all production chain.

In the domain of Social Poverty

- Stimulate and/or create youth socio-economic cooperatives, and in favors of women, in particular the single mothers and widows;

- Conceive and develop sanitation programs which count with the community participation;
- Intercalate in a rotative and community manner the program “food by labouring”; and
- Assist the NGOs in diverse social sensitization initiatives of the families at the quarter’s areas.

Within the Economic Poverty Frame

- Consolidate the DDF and its extension to the urban districts, positively discriminated its access and securing the transparency in its management;
- Creation of jobs and development of self-employment;
- Develop an agriculture industrialization and urban/ rural electrification;
- Avail the means (machinery, animals, improved seeds, conservation systems, etc); and
- Establishment of markets for products sale and creation of condition for products conservation such as tomato.

Within the Political Poverty Frame

- Access to justice, civil identification services and registration and notary
- Public security and transport services; and
- Legislative facilitation, transparency and corruption fighting.

FINAL REMARKS

The hearing enabled to visualize, in general, the following final considerations:

- The testimonies have expressed the citizenship consciousness, assessing on what must/can or are doing and what must/can or are receiving from the state in order to move away from the poverty situation in which they are. In other words it was clear the high level of understanding and knowledge of their rights and obligations as stated in the pertinent legislation on the issue, in particular in the Constitution of the Republic;
- The citizens who were testimonies/heard define poverty as lack of access to basic services of health, education, water and sanitation, the lack of housing and fair employment, the inaccessibility to the justice, the lack of food in quality and sufficient quantity;
- In a general way, the testimonies state that there are improvement in the rendering of basic services by the government and that their community are observing a unequivocal development, but this development is not harmonized with the basic needs for the survival of the family aggregates living in the urban and rural areas of the four provinces; and
- The notable personalities, invited to assist the advocacy work, stated harmoniously that as much as the government and the citizens are called to come together in the poverty eradication. Nevertheless, The government must continue to improve (i) the inclusion policies and the local citizens participation in the decision making process on their needs and development priorities and (ii) rendering of basic services such as water, health and.

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