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Reality Checks in Mozambique

- Building better understanding of the dynamics of poverty and well-being -

INCEPTION REPORT

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1. Introduction

Despite an impressive economic growth over the past two decades and the fact that poverty reduction has been high on the political agenda in Mozambique, standard indicators such as GDP per capita (ranked 197 out of 210 countries) and the Human Development Index (ranked 165 out of 169 countries) reveal that the vast majority of Mozambicans remains poor. According to national data (INE 2010), former significant reductions in the consumption-based poverty rate have also come to an abrupt halt. Whereas the overall poverty rate dropped from 69 to 54 percent between 1996/97 and 2002/03, it actually increased to 54,7 percent between 2002/03 and 2008/09 - albeit with large regional variations. The poverty rate dropped by 25,8 percentage points in the province of Cabo Delgado, but increased by 21,9 percentage points in the province of Sofala.¹

Mozambique is one of the largest recipients of development aid in the world, currently representing 45,3 percent of the state budget (INE 2011). Sweden has been an active development partner with Mozambique since Independence in 1975, and is currently one of the largest bilateral donors in the country. Its present portfolio includes general budget support for poverty reduction, targeted support to the sectors of good governance, agriculture and energy and a long term support to the province of Niassa. Niassa has historically been one of the poorest and most isolated provinces in the country, but it has also seen one of the largest and most consistent drops in its poverty rate from 69,4 percent (1996/97), to 54,1 percent (2002/03) and to 31,9 percent (2008/09). The current strategy for Sweden's cooperation with Mozambique shows that the focus will continue the same until 2012 (MFA 2008), with an additional focus following from a Mid Term Review (Sida 2009) on the most vulnerable through support to social protection.

Poverty monitoring in Mozambique primarily takes place within the framework of the implementation of Mozambique's Poverty Reduction Strategy (PARPA II/PARP). The annual Joint Reviews (carried out by the Government, donors and the Development Observatories that are platform for civil society participation in the PARPA processes at the provincial and national levels) are the main institutionalised processes/platforms for reviewing poverty trends and the poverty impact of public policies. These processes are foremost informed by quantitative data derived from different types of national surveys provided by the National Statistics Institute (INE) (see e.g. MISAU 2005, INE 2009, INE 2010), and supported by similar types of studies done by various aid organisations (see e.g. World Bank 2007, UNDP 2010, UNICEF 2011).

These types of data form a fundamental input to the development of government policies and programmes for poverty reduction, as well as donor interventions to support them. However, by their quantitative nature such surveys do not capture all the dimensions of poverty that are relevant to the design of policies and programmes. While quantitative data yield valuable information about the mapping and profile of poverty over space and time, qualitative data are valuable complements in order to better understand the dynamics of poverty and the coping strategies of the poor. There are qualitative studies of poverty and well-being carried out in Mozambique that yield valuable information, but most of these do not relate to and qualify the existing quantitative data in any systematic way and hence easily become less useful as tools for the government and donors (see List of Literature).

1.1 The Reality Checks in Mozambique

Against this background, the Embassy of Sweden in Mozambique has decided that there is a need to apply and possibly further adjust additional tools for monitoring poverty and the impact of public policies. The

¹ There has been a heated debate regarding the implications and relative merits of the 'adjusted flexible bundle' used by INE and an alternative 'fixed bundle' for defining the 'basket' on which the consumption poverty line is based, with the latter giving a more consistent decline in the poverty rate (MPD 2010; Cunguara and Hanlon 2010; Van den Boom 2010).

importance of assessing the impact of development and poverty reduction policies ‘from below’, and to regularly consult local populations in order to understand local processes and relationships, are emphasised in Mozambican Government’s most recent Poverty Reduction Action Plan, PARP 2011-2014 (RdM 2011). It is also reflected in central Sida policy documents (see e.g. Sida 2002, 2004, 2006, 2010). The most concrete recent expression of the latter is the establishment of what is called “Reality Checks” (RC), of which the first by Sida was initiated in Bangladesh in 2007 (GRM 2008). The “Reality Checks in Mozambique”, commissioned by the Swedish Embassy in Mozambique, is the second in what may become a feature also in other countries of cooperation for Sweden, and will be implemented annually between 2011 and 2016 with a particular focus on the province of Niassa with which Sweden has had a close cooperation since 1997 (Swedish Embassy 2010).

In accordance with the ToR (see Annex 1), the “Reality Checks in Mozambique” are more concretely expected to:

- i) Inform the public discussion among key development actors on poverty reduction, especially in the province of Niassa;
- ii) Contribute to a better understanding of qualitative poverty monitoring methods in Mozambique, and;
- iii) Provide Sweden with relevant qualitative follow-ups of developments and results to inform the implementation of its cooperation with Mozambique.

The Reality Checks are expected to achieve these objectives by enhancing knowledge on:

- i) Poverty (non-tangible dimensions of poverty, such as vulnerability and powerlessness; poor people’s own perceptions of poverty; causal processes underpinning poverty dynamics: coping/survival strategies adopted by women and men living in poverty);
- ii) Policies and Service (access to, use of and demand for public services according to people living in poverty; quality of public services according to people living in poverty), and;
- iii) Local power relations and relationships with state institutions (formal [i.e. political, administrative] institutions that enable or constrain people to carry out their strategies; informal [i.e. cultural, social, family or kin-based etc] institutions that enable or constrain people to carry out their strategies).

There is also an expectation that the Reality Checks will, to the extent that it is relevant for the local population under study, pay special attention to “priority issues identified in the annual reviews of projects and programmes within Swedish priority sectors, i.e. democratic governance, agriculture and energy” (see Annex 1).

1.2 The Inception Phase

This Inception Report is the first in a series of reports and other outputs that will be done as part of the “Reality Checks in Mozambique”. The RC is implemented by ORGUT Consulting (Sweden) on behalf of the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo.

Consultations with key stakeholders in Maputo and Niassa and team-building were carried out in the period 12-27 May 2011 (Annex 2 and 3). A de-brief from the field-visit to Niassa was held at the Swedish Embassy in Maputo 25 May 2011 (Annex 4). The main purposes of the Inception Phase have been to apply and contextualise the methodological framework of the RC, as well as develop a plan for how the entire assignment will be carried out. More concretely, the following deliverables have been defined (Annex 1):

- i) A methodological framework, i.e. a document that explains and provides the scientific rationale for the methodological approach and details the instruments and methods that the consultants will use.

- ii) A proposal on how to coordinate with local public and private institutions in Niassa, including options for involving local research institutions/universities.
- iii) A broad Work Plan that covers the entire Reality Checks process
- iv) A detailed Work Plan for the 1st Reality Check
- v) A tentative Table of Contents for the first Reality Check report.

In addition we will, still in line with the Terms of Reference (Annex 1), present an approach to strategic communication and dissemination.

1.3 The Team

The Reality Checks is implemented by ORGUT in association with AustralCOWI in Mozambique and Chr. Michelsen Institute in Norway. The Team Leader is Dr. Inge Tvedten, based at Chr. Michelsen Institute. AustralCOWI provides the Mozambique-based team members including three team members based in Niassa. The main researchers provided are Minna Tuominen, Carmeliza Rosário, Margarida Paulo, Rachi Picardo and Sheila Faquir.

Mirjam Hast at ORGUT in Stockholm is the Assignment Coordinator supported by Maria Cardoso at AustralCOWI in Maputo for arrangement of all field logistics.

The team is further supported by Dr. Sandra Roque at AustralCOWI, Dr. Aslak Orre at Chr. Michelsen Institute and Dr. Channing Arndt from the University of Copenhagen as thematic advisors.

2. Empirical Background

2.1 The Niassa Province

Even though the main purpose of this Inception Report is to plan and further develop the tools for the series of Reality Checks to be carried out in Mozambique in the period 2011-2015, a brief account of the main characteristics of the Niassa province is in place (Map 1). Niassa, in the northwest of Mozambique, is the country's largest province, with an area of 129,056 km² and a population of 1.415.157 (INE 2007, 2010). It is also the least densely populated province, with an average of seven people per square kilometres. With Lichinga as its capital, the province has 15 districts and 4 municipalities (Lichinga, Cuamba, Marrupa and Metangula).

The Ruvuma River forms much of the northern boundary of the province with Tanzania, while Lake Niassa forms its western border, separating Niassa from Malawi. The province shares the Niassa National Reserve with Cabo Delgado Province. Ethnically Niassa is a mixture of Macua, who comprise around 47,5 percent of the population, primarily in the south and east around Cuamba; Yao, who comprise around 36,9 percent, in and around Lichinga; and Nyanja, who comprise around 8,4 percent, in the area bordering Lake Niassa. Only 4,3 percent of the population has Portuguese as a mother tongue. Much of the population is Islamic (60,8 percent), followed by Catholics (26 percent), and Anglicans (4 percent) (INE 2010).

The province of Niassa has a volatile history, and was highly affected by the war of Independence until 1975, the civil war between Frelimo and Renamo between 1984 and 1992, and by Frelimo's policies of (forced) resettlements (Newitt 1995). After a period of relatively strong support for Renamo, Frelimo received 81,3 percent of the votes in the last (2009) national election – albeit with a voter turnout of only 38,4 percent – and the ruling party currently has the Governorship, the political majority in Provincial Assembly, controls all four Municipalities and has appointed all 15 District Administrators. The current Provincial Strategic Development Plan (GdN 2007) is ambitious with the goal of a further reduction in poverty of 15 percent by 2017, and there are also ambitious plans in the areas of good governance, agriculture and energy which are focus areas for Swedish development cooperation with the Province (Annex 7).

In the national context, Niassa province is one of the most deprived in terms of infrastructure, which is linked to Niassa being quite remote from the country's main centres of production and consumption, particularly due to poor interconnection to main roads and transport system. Niassa is as a result poorly integrated in the national market. Having said this, road-construction has been one of the main priority areas of the provincial government in Niassa, and improvements have been made in what is called the “triangle” between the municipalities of Cuamba, Lichinga and Marrupa with plans for extensions to Cabo Delgado (see Map 2 below).

Agriculture is the main economic activity in the province; this activity contributes on average 36 percent to the provincial GDP. It is also the main source of employment and income. Recent developments are considerable investments in forestry, with relatively large ventures in plantations done by international interests. This has provided employment, but also created land conflicts. Niassa has the largest wildlife population within Mozambique, principally within the Niassa Reserve. Tourism has been identified as an area of high potential and there are plans to establish additional tourism destinations and linkages to a broader regional tourism industry.

Two contextual issues seem particularly relevant for the Reality Checks. On the one hand, efforts to reduce poverty in Mozambique are at a cross-road. The latest National Household Expenditure Survey IOF (INE 2010, MPD 2010a) shows that despite concerted efforts by the government and donors consumption poverty has *not* been reduced in the past seven years (Table 1) – questioning the relevance and efficiency of current endeavours. There are also indications that a relatively large group of ‘ultra-poor’ are effectively trapped in poverty and deprivation (Cunguara and Hanlon 2010). On the other hand,

Niassa has shown the clearest signs of poverty reduction over the same period of time from 52,1 percent to 31,9 percent – albeit disguising an unusually high discrepancy in poverty between male-headed households (28 percent) and female headed households (45 percent) in the province. An important objective of the current Reality Checks is to assess the realism of, and dynamics behind, these figures by applying qualitative and participatory methodologies.

Table 1: *Poverty Headcount in Mozambique by Province (Percent)*

Region	1996/97	2002/03	2008/09
National	69,4	54,1	54,7
Niassa	70,6	52,1	31,9
Cabo Delgado	57,4	63,2	37,4
Nampula	68,9	52,6	54,7
Zambezia	68,1	44,6	70,5
Tete	82,3	59,8	42,0
Manica	62,6	43,6	55,1
Sofala	87,9	36,1	58,0
Inhambane	82,6	80,7	57,9
Gaza	64,6	60,1	62,5
Maputo province	65,6	69,3	67,5
Maputo City	47,8	53,6	36,2

Source: MPD 2010.

To further complicate the picture, the lack of success in reducing consumption-based poverty at the national level comes in a context of impressive macro-economic growth averaging seven percent the past seven years (INE 2011), and with key socio-economic indicators related to asset ownership, housing, education and health showing signs of improvement – with Niassa revealing a varied picture in relation to national averages (see Table 2). Niassa stands out as having a relatively low proportion of female-headed households; a relatively high adult illiteracy rate; a relatively low (albeit rapidly increasing) HIV-AIDS prevalence, and a *very* high level of bicycle ownership (at least partly related to long distances and a sparse population).

Table 2: *Key Socio-Economic Indicators – Mozambique and Niassa (Percent)*

Indicator	Mozambique	Niassa
Proportion FHH	29,6	16,3
Proportion polygamous marriages	14,1	23,3
Illiteracy of household head	44,3	51,6
Primary School Attendance Rate	81,0	78,0
Chronic malnutrition under five years	43,7	45,0
HIV-AIDS Prevalence	11,5	3,7
Quality housing (solid roof)	24,8	8,1
Electric lighting in dwelling	13,2	5,8
Bicycle ownership	28,1	65,4

Sources: MIS-AU 2005; INE 2010 and 2009a.

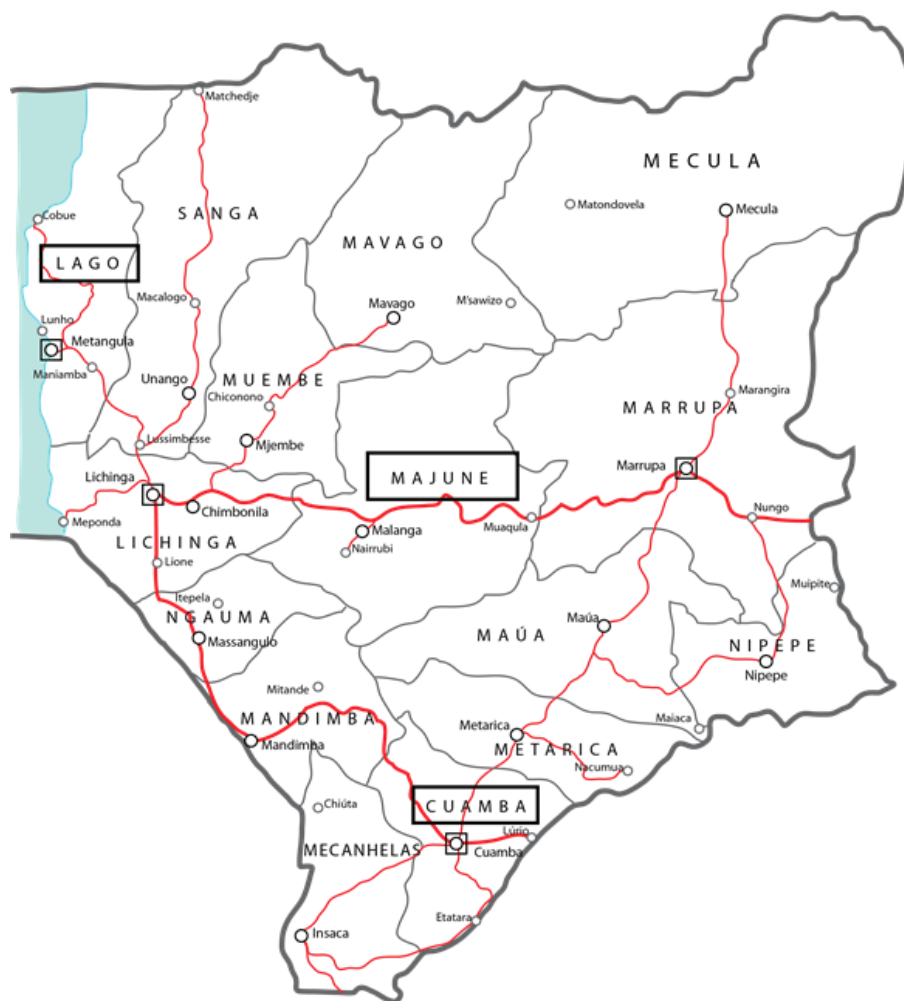
2.2 The Study Sites

One of the objectives of the Inception Phase of the Reality Checks has been to identify suitable areas of focus for the annual studies to be carried out. While the study is to relate to national policies for development and poverty reduction and the Niassa province at large, the Terms of Reference (Annex 1:7-8) state that three districts should be selected “[i]n order to adequately reflect differences in structural constraints (such as access to services, infrastructure and economic opportunities) as well as in political and social relationships (degree of importance of traditional vs state institutions, degree of access to different types of social networks etc.)”. In selecting the three areas we have consulted the Embassy of Sweden as well as the Provincial Government and other stakeholders in Niassa, and done our own

assessments from a research point of view. It has been important to select three districts that are as ‘representative’ as possible for the situation of poverty and well-being in Niassa, and that at the same time make it possible to relate to the more specific issues we have been asked to deal with.

On this basis, and in agreement with the Provincial Government and the Embassy of Sweden, we have selected the Municipality of Cuamba, the District of Lago and the District of Majune for further investigation (see Map 2). Two of the sites are situated in the Western part of the province, with the highest population density: Cuamba is the economic hub of the province, affected by its proximity to the provinces of Nampula and Zambézia as well as to Malawi. The population is primarily Macua, and their economic activities focus around agriculture (including cash-crops like tobacco) and trade. Lago is a rural, with the dominant Nyanja ethno-linguistic group pursuing a mixed adaptation of fishing and agriculture and with emerging new investments in tourism and forestry. Majune is located in the interior of the province with no significant border relations, and the predominantly Yao-population primarily work in subsistence agriculture with the new road and electricity apparently so far having only limited implications for households. All three population groups are matrilineal (albeit with the Nyanja also having patrilineal influences), and have a mixture of Muslim and Christian adherents. Very preliminary information also indicates that the Districts vary in terms of the importance of traditional institutions, and the presence of NGOs and other community-based organisations.

Map 2. Niassa and Study Sites



3. Methodological Framework

Much of the existing literature on development and poverty reduction in Mozambique is quantitative and pays little attention to what constitute the driving forces of development – which seems particularly pertinent with the current void in poverty reduction. We will carry out our analysis with reference to an analytical framework where poverty is seen as the outcome of complex historical and structural forces, as well as the population’s own practices of complex social relations and cultural constructions. In line with Bourdieu (1990, see also Ortner 2006), we hold the view that political and economic structures have a powerful effect upon human action and the shape of events, but there is also room for human agency and ordinary lives in the form of strategies and action for social mobility. The distinction between structure and agency is relevant for the current development debate in Mozambique: While one line of thought holds the view that that people can break out of poverty by enhancing their human capital in terms of education and health, others emphasise that poverty reduction will only be accomplished through the removal of structural political and economic constraints.

Our point of departure will be that poverty can most usefully be seen as a multi-dimensional concept. It involves the lack of employment and income needed to attain basic necessities (alleviated through a combination of increased *opportunities* and an increased *capacity* to capitalise on available opportunities); a sense of voicelessness and powerlessness in relation to institutions of society and the state (alleviated through increased *empowerment*); and vulnerability to adverse shocks, linked with the ability to cope with them through social relationships and legal institutions (alleviated through increased *security*). ‘The poor’ will be identified through a combination of quantitative data on income and consumption, and local categorisations of who the better-off, the poor and the destitute are (see below). With reference to the recommendations in the Mid-Term Review of Sweden’s Development Cooperation with Mozambique (Sida 2009), special attention will also be given to processes of marginalisation and social exclusion of the very poorest men, women and children.

Combining quantitative and qualitative approaches gives the best option for monitoring and evaluating development and poverty reduction. While quantitative data yield valuable information about the mapping and profile of poverty over space and time, qualitative data are valuable complements in order to better understand the dynamics of poverty and the coping strategies of the poor. More precisely, Kanbur and Schaffer (2007), themselves economists, argue that qualitative data should supplement quantitative and thereby: “[I]mprove household survey design; interpret counterintuitive or surprising findings from household surveys; explain the reason behind observed behaviour; suggest the direction of causality; assess the validity of quantitative results; better understand conceptual categories such as labour, the household etc.; facilitate analysis of locally meaningful categories of social differentiation; [and] provide a dynamic dimension to one-off household survey data”.

3.1 Quantitative data

For the mapping of poverty and well-being in Niassa, the team will relate actively to existing quantitative data. These will include the 2007 National Census (INE 2009b); the 2008/09 National Household Expenditure Survey (INE 2010); and other more sector-specific studies such as agricultural income surveys, TIAs (INE 2009c, forthcoming 2011); demographic and health surveys (MISAU 2005, forthcoming 2011), and surveys focusing on women and children (UNICEF 2006, 2011). While we see it as important to relate to official data and publically available studies emanating from these data-sets in order to contribute to the public debates, we will also when deemed relevant relate to alternative data and analyses (such as Canguara and Hanlon 2010, van den Boom 2010).

In addition to national data-sets, we will actively seek out quantitative data and analyses from locally based surveys and projects with particular attention to data produced by provincial, district and municipal governments. In the case of Niassa, we will be particularly looking for studies relating to governance, agriculture and energy that are defined in the ToR as focus areas (Annex 1). The Provincial Social and Economic Development Plan (GdN 2007, 2011), as well as the District Social and Economic Development Plan (PESODS) contain important quantitative information that will be key points of reference for the Reality Checks. We have also established a good relationship and entered provisional

agreements of cooperation with the Provincial Office of the National Institute of Statistics, who will supply us with relevant data and give us advice and other types of support.

We will secure adequate quantitative data to map peoples' relations to public services and poverty and well-being in Niassa by carrying out a local Baseline Survey in the three project sites selected for the Reality Checks. The survey will be done twice with the same families, i.e. in the beginning (2011) and end (2015) of the study period, and thus represent rare panel-data. The Baseline and the follow-up survey will seek to combine i) classical socio-economic data on the composition of households, income and expenditure, levels of education, health and access to public services; ii) questions relating to people's *perceptions* of conditions in the household and their community and iii) the *social relationships* (with public institutions, aid projects, family, friends etc.) in which they are engaged. Given the exceptionally high level of poverty among female-headed households in Niassa (see above), we will consider stratified sampling to better understand their conditions.

The outline and main headings of the questionnaire survey are listed in Annex 9, and the more explicit questions will be elaborated in communication with stakeholders before the Baseline Survey is carried out. We will carry out the survey in *Localidades* in Lago and Majune (i.e. the second tier of the District Government), and in *Bairros* in the Cuamba Municipality. On the basis of advice from INE and practical considerations related to time and resources for the project we will strive towards a sample of 120 households in each site, selected through systematic random sampling. Training of enumerators, pre-tests and questionnaire revision will take place in Lichinga, and the Survey will be carried out during parts of the field-work for the 1st Reality Check with the field-team leaders acting as supervisors.

3.2 Qualitative/Participatory Data

While quantitative data are useful for mapping issues of poverty and well-being in time and space, we have argued, qualitative approaches and data are necessary for understanding the dynamics of change and people's own coping strategies (see e.g. Mikkelsen 2005; Chambers 2008; Addison, Hulme and Kanbur 2009). The fieldwork period for each Reality Check is about two weeks. We propose to use a broad set of such approaches with which members of the team have long experience, and will present these here. Methodologically, every Reality Check will be conducted by combining participant observation in the form of close interaction with individual men and women, male- and female headed households, with key informant interviews, focus groups and extended case studies. In line with specifications in the ToR (Annex 1), their more explicit applicability for the Reality Checks and the context of Niassa will be consolidated, fine-tuned and further adapted during the 1st Reality Check.

For the political/institutional dimensions of the Reality Checks, we will mostly rely on i) semi-structured interviews with key development actors including provincial government, district/municipal government, Institutions for Community Participation and Consultation (IPCCs), traditional authorities and private sector representatives, and ii) case-studies of concrete programs and interventions particularly in the areas of governance, agriculture and energy. Overriding concerns will be local power-relations, the degree of 'local democratic space' and the relevance and utility of existing public services for poverty reduction (see Annex 1). For both, Interview Guides will be developed to secure comparability between the three project sites.

In terms of the qualitative analysis of poverty and well-being, we will complement the classical anthropological methodology of 'participant observation' with expanded case studies at household level and a set of concrete participatory methodologies that will be applied in focus groups. The groups will be composed of men or women, young or old or a mixture of such groups, depending on the topic at hand. The methodologies will facilitate comparison between the different study sites and between each year of study. All have been tested and will take a total of 2-3 days during the 10 days fieldwork period, with the rest of the time left for participant observation and in-depth interviews. The methodologies include (see Annex 7 for a specification of timing and frequency):

- **Histograms:** Findings from other similar projects in Mozambique show the resilience of 'traditional' power-relations and socio-cultural structures, and Niassa is generally considered a province where

‘tradition’ plays a particularly important role due to its historical isolation. The objective is to ascertain the history of each site under study, with an emphasis on events and processes that have been particularly important for current socio-economic conditions of well-being and poverty. Discussions and record-taking (ideally done by the group itself) will be done in groups of approximately 10 people, mainly older men and women with historical memory. The group itself decides on what point in time of history to start.

- **Community Mapping:** The objective is to map the physical places (buildings, natural elements, sacred places etc.) considered most important for the life of the community. A group of approximately 10 people will be asked to draw the map, with the group itself being asked to define the spatial borders of what they consider to be “their community”. The map-drawing will be followed by a discussion with a facilitator to further explain the choices and priorities made. The discussion will also explore the reasons why the chosen locations are so important, and for whom.
- **Force-field analysis:** The objective is to capture perceptions of what conditions may inhibit or accelerate change and development in the community. A group of approximately 10 people will be asked to i) identify important conditions/processes having led to the present situation in the community, ii) identify the kind of situation they would like to have in their communities by, say, 2016, iii) identify what conditions inside and outside of their community may inhibit the community from reaching such a state and iv) outline what they think should be done to overcome such constraints. The discussions will also here be recorded on paper charts.
- **Venn-diagram:** In a group of approximately 10 people the participants will identify the most important services or resources that the community has access to. Then these services are ranked by their importance in three categories. The names of the most important services/resources are written on cards of different sizes, according to the attributed importance. At the end, the cards are placed on a sheet of flipchart where there is a circle drawn on one margin of the sheet. The circle represents the community; the cards are placed at different distance from the circle, according to the easiness or the difficulty of the access that the community members have to these services. During the exercise, the participants should justify the position of each card.
- **Community problem matrix:** The exercise seeks to identify and rank the most important problems that affect the whole community or larger groups of people in the community. Groups of approximately 10 people will first identify the major problems, and thereafter rank those on the basis of the number of people the problem affect, and the seriousness of the problem. This exercise will be used to ascertain possible differences in perceptions and experiences between men and women and young and old, and the groups will be organised for that purpose.
- **Mapping of the daily duties:** The objective is to understand the division of labour between men and women in the community. The exercise will be done separately with a group of men and women respectively. Each group will specify the daily activities that they are involved in during a normal weekday. Thereafter the participants will list the common daily activities of the opposite sex. The activities are listed in a flipchart. The participants should also indicate the approximate time they spend on each activity. The idea is partly to list differences in activities and time-use between men and women and partly to ascertain perceived differences in gendered work-loads – both in order to facilitate discussions.
- **House Map:** The exercise seeks to map the different housing structures as a key socio-economic asset in the community. For this purpose, there will be separate groups of poor and better-off community members. Each group will draw a typical residential house identifying the main building materials and the different divisions of the house and typical household items. The exercise will facilitate the understanding of material poverty at community level.
- **Matrix of ceremonies:** The exercise will seek to reveal the spiritual dimension of the community through mapping of major ceremonies and rituals that are practiced in the community. A group of

approximately 10 participants will identify the major ceremonies, the rationale for each of them, and the process of celebration. Weddings and funerals, used to make statements related to social and economic status, will also be included.

- **Leadership matrix:** The objective is to identify the most important and influential/powerful individuals for the life of the community and its population, both in government, among traditional authorities and other powerholders. A group of approximately 10 participants will first identify the “important people”, thereafter rank them in the order of importance, and then define where the importance derives from.
- **Self-Assessments through Photos:** The objective is to obtain greater insight into peoples’ own (emic) perceptions of poverty. For that purpose, cameras (either digital or disposable ones) will be lent to different families participating in the study and ask them to take pictures of things/events that for them represent poverty and well-being in their lives and in the community. The pictures will be developed and put up as an exhibition in the community, as part of the communication process (see below). The photographers will present their pictures and the reasons they chose to take them.
- **Most important change:** On an annual basis four poor and four wealthy households (identified through the wealth-ranking exercise described above) will conduct this exercise independently of each other – producing a narrative story of the most important changes that have happened in the community within the past year in terms of (i) the way people in the community interact with relevant government institutions; (ii) the way people in the community benefit or not from development activities, and (iii) the way people in the community benefit or not from private sector / entrepreneurial activities.
- **Extended case-studies:** We will, finally, carry out extended case studies with a limited number of families (probably 7-8 in each of the three sites under study) representing different categories of poverty and well-being as defined through the wealth-ranking exercise (see above). These families will be interviewed in depth every year, with a focus on the dynamics of poverty through (changes in) their social relationships with the extended family, neighbours and friends, community organisations and state institutions as well as changes in their socio-economic position.

All five annual studies will, in line with the ToR, assess poverty and well-being and peoples’ relations with formal and informal institutions in general terms. In addition, the Reality Checks in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year will have a specific thematic focus (i.e. democratic governance, agriculture/energy and a theme yet to be decided). The thematic reports will go into some more depth on each of these issues primarily by i) a short introductory discussion of key developments at the district, provincial and national levels related to the sector in question; ii) carrying out group discussions and other participatory exercises specifically about the relevant theme; and iii) systematically comparing people’s own (‘emic’) perceptions of the theme in question with hegemonic views in government, among donors and among other ‘external’ stakeholders (for which we will get support from the thematic advisors).

Our experience from other similar studies in Mozambique is that the participatory research methods function very well. People rapidly understand the idea of the exercises, and appreciate the possibility of discussing and presenting their own households and communities. Putting down the outcome of their deliberations on paper charts also give people a feeling of participation and influence on the research on their own communities. All recordings will be saved, and used in subsequent visits to the study-sites (see below).

Triangulating the sources of information outlined above will give us a good point of departure for the Reality Checks in Mozambique as this is outlined in the ToR (Annex 1). The more exact balance between relating to general developments in poverty and well-being as seen from the local population on the one hand, and more directly to governance, agriculture and energy as sectors defined as priority areas by the Niassa Provincial Government and Sida, on the other, will have to be clarified as the studies progress.

3.3 Challenges

Although the team is well-experienced in qualitative and participatory research methodologies, there is always uncertainty as to the extent to which local populations respond and react. We will need positive cooperation from District authorities as well as community leaders to muster necessary support for the project and its methodologies. One of the main challenges for applied research projects is an increasing ‘fatigue’ among local populations, who are asked to take part in many meetings but often claim they see no results. While we believe that the province of Niassa in general and the Districts where we will work in particular are not among the most susceptible to such projects, it will be important to convince the local populations that our research is a possibility for them to forward their viewpoints to the government as well as to donors. We believe that coming back once a year the way we will do will facilitate the sense of ownership to the research process we hope to accomplish.

One of the main objectives of the Reality Check project is to contribute to a better understanding of the merits of qualitative methods and data for poverty monitoring and evaluation in Mozambique. Our point of departure is that quantitative data are key to assess socio-economic characteristics of poverty and well-being through space and time, and that our own locally based qualitative and participatory approaches and data is important to understand the dynamics of poverty and well-being. We hope to use national data from the National Institute for Statistics (INE) and data generated by INE’s Provincial Delegation in Niassa, and aim at creating an understanding of the relevance of qualitative data not only by presenting our results in the form of reports etc. but also by engaging in direct cooperation with the INE. A preliminary meeting with the INE’s Provincial Delegation in Niassa (see Annex 2) represents a good point of departure for a constructive relationship between quantitative and qualitative traditions.

4. Coordination with Stakeholders

According to the Terms of Reference (Annex 1), the Reality Checks in Mozambique shall be carried out in close coordination with the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo and the Provincial Government of Niassa. In addition, it is stated that active interaction shall take place with Sida Stockholm (to ensure coordination with other Reality Check studies and a wider dissemination of results); with the Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD) and its National Directorate of Studies and Political Analysis DNEAP (to ensure coordination with other poverty monitoring initiatives); with the National Institute for Statistics INE (to ensure coordination with other initiatives and processes linked to the National Statistics System SEN); and with government, civil society, and private sector stakeholders as well as traditional institutions and the population in the communities where the project will be carried out.

4.1 System for Coordination

As we see it, the system of coordination has three main purposes: One is to make sure that what we will focus on in the series of Reality Check studies is considered relevant by these stakeholders; the second is to get feedback from the stakeholders on possible alterations and corrections in our approach to the assignment; and the third is to secure that our findings are properly fed back and communicated to the same stakeholders, including the communities, households and individuals involved.

Coordination with the Swedish Embassy in Maputo, as the contracting authority and owner of the Reality Checks in Mozambique, will be done through regular contacts with the responsible Programme Officer. Each study will also be preceded by a meeting with relevant personnel at the Embassy, and a de-brief (open also to people outside the Embassy) will be done immediately after the team returns from Niassa after each study. It has also been agreed that Programme Officers working on relevant sectors/cross-cutting issues at the Embassy can contact the research team with comments/requests during the course of the project in coordination with the responsible Programme Officer.

Coordination with MPD/DNEAP and INE will be sought through regular contacts with key personnel in the two institutions. Preliminary information about the project has been submitted to the Director of DNEAP and the National Director of Censuses and Surveys at INE. We will give Work Plans for each study to the two institutions, and have preliminary meetings in Maputo immediately before the initiation of each study to secure feed-back and possible additional proposals. We have also requested Credentials from each institution to ease our work and secure ownership to the process. The two institutions will be invited to dissemination events taking place in Maputo (see below).

Coordination with Sida Stockholm will largely depend on the Embassy's and Sida's own initiatives for communication with Stockholm-based ORGUT and the researchers carrying out the study. As expressed in our Tender, we believe that the Reality Checks represent a fairly unique approach to poverty monitoring. We also believe that it will draw increasing international attention, in the context of a new aid architecture that in many ways is distant from 'real lives' on the ground combined with an increasing pressure on recipient governments and donors from their home constituencies to demonstrate results.

One of the main purposes of the current Inception Phase of the Reality Checks study series has been to map and communicate with relevant stakeholders in Niassa. We carried out a number of interviews during the Inception Phase fieldwork with representatives of the provincial government, civil society and the private sector (see Annex 2 for the List of Institutions Interviewed and Annex 4 for the "Institutional Interview Guide"), with the purpose of discussing the project; learning about the work of the institutions, and agreeing on the best ways to coordinate and communicate during project implementation.² The coordination (and result dissemination) will be built around four main pillars:

² There were only two institutions we were not able to meet, but agreements have been made to meet them at the beginning of the First Reality Check. These were the Provincial Directorate of Fisheries (relevant for our work in Lagos), and the Provincial Directorate for Environment Coordination.

- I. All the formal institutions interviewed during the Inception Phase will get access to relevant written outputs from the Reality Checks via e-mail (Work Plans for each sub-project; Draft Field Reports with options for comments for each sub-project; and Final Annual Reports and Briefs for each study site). We have agreed that they will communicate via e-mail or telephone if/when they have particular issues they want to take up with the Reality Checks team.

Closer coordination will be sought with a selected number of institutions deemed particularly relevant for the Reality Checks (see below). We have agreed to: i) Have an introductory meeting before the commencement of fieldwork with the key institutions either individually or with each institutional cluster (i.e. provincial government, civil society, private sector), and ii) a short de-brief will be held with the same institutions immediately following the field-work in the project sites.

The following institutions have been identified as particularly relevant for close coordination/cooperation: Provincial Government³: i) Provincial Directorate of Planning and Finance: Department of Planning and Budgeting; ii) Provincial Directorate of Planning and Finance: Department of Rural Development; iii) Provincial Directorate of Agriculture; iv) Provincial Directorate of Energy and Mineral Resources; v) Provincial Directorate of Women and Social Action; vi) National Institute of Statistics INE (Niassa Delegation). Civil Society: i) Concern Universal (coordinator International NGOs); ii) FONAGNI (coordinator Mozambican NGOs); iii) União Provincial de Camponeses (UPC); iv) União de Camponeses de Lichinga (UCA); v) Estamos. Otherwise the Reality Checks will focus on the NGOs active in each of the three districts under study. The Private Sector: Confederação das Associações Económicas de Moçambique, CTA (Lichinga Office) and one of the forestry companies (probably New Forest). Otherwise the Reality Check will focus on private sector organisations active in each of the three districts under study. Other organisations: i) Development Cooperation of Ireland (the main donor in Niassa together with Sweden); ii) Universidade Pedagógica (UP), Niassa Delegation; iii) UniLurio University.

The Foundation Malonda (established to support private sector development) and the Swedish Cooperative Centre SCC (given the task of supporting civil society) will be consulted during the project, but come in a special category as they are funded by Sweden with a limited mandate in terms of time.

- II. Separate means of coordination/communication will be developed for the District/Municipal Administrations in Cuamba, Lago and Majune (that do not have easy access to e-mail) and the local communities under study.⁴ We will make sure that the District Administrations get access to hard copies of the Work and Time Plans and Final Reports and Briefs for each sub-project. An initial meeting with the District Administrator, the District Permanent Secretary and the Heads of Administrative Posts will be held immediately prior to each study to discuss findings from previous study/work plan for the upcoming study. A de-brief will also be held immediately after each field-work period. Heads of District Offices of various Ministries will be called as deemed relevant.

³ The Provincial Permanent Secretary and the Director of the Provincial Directorate of Planning and Finance have both been involved in the development of the Reality Checks Project, and will be continuously informed about progress and findings.

⁴ The Inception Phase field-work period did not give room for close consultations with the District Administrations in Lago, Majune and Cuamba (which is located eight hours from Lichinga and could not be visited), and the proposal is based on a more general exchange of ideas.

- III. Coordination with the population/communities where the Reality Checks will be carried out will be sought developed ⁵ through meetings with community leaders/representatives at the beginning and end of each field-work period. The most relevant institutions to relate to are the Institution for Community Participation and Consultation (IPCCs) at the Locality (*Localidade*) level. These usually include representatives of i) traditional authorities, ii) Community Based Organisations (CBOs), iii) religious organisations, and iv) ‘other prominent members of the community’. 30 percent of the members shall, by law, be women. Where relevant, we will also relate to recently established thematic ‘study groups’. In addition to the written material emanating from the studies, the team will actively use the outputs from participatory methodologies (see above) as points of departure for coordination and communication with the communities under study (for communication of results to the communities, see below) .
- IV. Finally the ToR suggest that an external Reference Group is set up in order to maximize the usefulness of the Reality Checks and fully utilize its potential to contribute to the discussion around results for people living in poverty, both in Mozambique and globally. The group will be organized by the Swedish Embassy in consultation with the Provincial Government of Niassa. The team will relate actively to the Reference Group once it has been established.

4.2 Challenges

Reflecting the heavy presence and impact of development aid in Mozambique, one interviewee during the Inception Phase exclaimed that “Mozambicans are tired of meetings and seminars!”. Even though we were well received and met with polite interest in the large number of meetings we had, we will have to relate to a situation where many institutions will have to be convinced about the usefulness of the Reality Checks project for them – and hence avoid a situation where they relate to us because they think they have to rather than because they think that working closely with the project will be important for reaching their own goals.

The challenge is perhaps particularly pronounced for what is largely seen as a Swedish research project. Sweden has a long history as a donor in Mozambique, and its activities in Niassa date back to 1997 and the PROANI programme. Together with Irish aid, it has also been – and still is – by far the most important and visible bilateral donor in Niassa. While generally acknowledged to be a good donor and to have had considerable impact in the province (see above), there is also a certain ‘fatigue’ and ‘frustration’ in the relationship which currently is accentuated by the decision of Sweden to freeze its allocations to the Provincial Budget as from the end of 2010 due to suspected irregularities. There is also an uncertainty among many stakeholders, including civil society organisations, about the future plans for Sweden’s presence in Niassa.

We will relate to these challenges by underlining the independence of the Reality Checks research team, and that our ambition is that the project shall be useful as a tool to forward opinions for all stakeholders. The most important way to accomplish this will be to make sure that the project has the necessary relevance and quality, and that our findings are adequately communicated (see Chapter 6).

⁵ The Inception Phase did not give room for close consultations with the communities and their representatives, and the proposal is based on our experience with similar processes in other parts of Mozambique.

5. Time Schedule and Work Plans

5.1 Overall Time Schedule

The overall time schedule of the Reality Checks and their thematic focuses are briefly presented below.

Reality Check	Time Period	Thematic Focus
Inception Phase	April-August 2011	
Baseline Study	September 2011	Quantitative data
1 st Reality Check	September - October 2011	General
2 nd Reality Check	September - October 2012	General + Good Governance
3 rd Reality Check	March-April 2013	General + Agriculture/Energy
4 th Reality Check	September - October 2014	General + Yet to be decided (*)
5 th Reality Check	September - October 2015	General
Baseline Follow-Up	September 2015	Quantitative data
Completion – Final Report	October 2015-April 2016	Summary and reflection

(*) Alternatives are to make energy into a separate focus, social protection that has been defined as a priority area for Sweden in Mozambique, or private sector employment/income generation.

5.2 Work Plan 1st Reality Check

The team will invest a relatively long time-period in the 1st Reality Check, and the first Annual Report and the field reports from each of the three chosen sites will represent a ‘base-line’ for the assignment to which subsequent reports will relate. We will allocate time for securing relevant quantitative data from central and provincial government as well as other institutions in Niassa, and carry out interviews with the main stakeholders within government, private sector, civil society and traditional institutions in Niassa identified during the Inception Phase (see above). The main focus of the 1st Reality Check will be the first round of qualitative and participatory research in the three study-sites selected, using the methodologies outlined above. Being the first round, some initial time will be used to identify relevant community leaders; explain and discuss the Reality Checks project; establish the best ways to engage with the community; and identify groups for the participatory methodologies. In line with the Terms of Reference for the project, a report on the methodological issues and concerns will be produced after fieldwork.

We will also carry out the first phase of the local survey in order to secure adequate quantitative data to map peoples’ relations to public services and issues of poverty and well-being. The survey will be done for a total of 360 households with 120 households in each location. We will train a team of nine enumerators who primarily will be recruited from the Provincial Delegation of INE, which based on prior experience will take three days plus two days of pre-testing. Thereafter the enumerating team will split in three groups to work in the three locations (Lago, Majune and Cuamba), supervised by the relevant field team leader.

The survey will be done in parallel with the main field-work (i.e. over a period of approximately two weeks). The 1st Reality Check is scheduled with the following main pillars (see Annex 10 for details about the timing of the pillars):

- Baseline Survey in Cuamba, Lago and Majune
- Preparations home office
- Preparations/meetings with the Embassy in Maputo
- Initial meetings with stakeholders in Lichinga
- Fieldwork in Cuamba, Lago and Majune
- De-brief Niassa/Lichinga
- Team-leader meetings/de-brief with Embassy in Maputo
- Production of Draft Reports (Field and Annual)
- Presentation of Draft Reports Niassa/Maputo
- Comments from Embassy/other stakeholders
- Production Final Reports (Field and Annual)

The 1st Reality Check will have the following deliverables:

- Field reports, consisting of separate reports from the three selected study sites.
- First Local Survey Reporting (as part of the 1st Annual Report).
- The 1st Annual Report including a section on the methodological issues and concerns
- Updated electronic archive

In Annex 10 we present the Work Plan for the 1st Reality Check, listing the different activities to be undertaken as well as their timing. By mid August 2011 we will present a more detailed plan also specifying the allocation of days between team members based on our contract budget.

5.3 Preliminary Table of Content 1st Reality Check

Each annual Reality Checks study will have two main outputs: One sub-report will be produced for each of the three project sites (i.e. Cuamba, Lago and Majune) and – based on these – one main report will be developed to draw comparisons and main conclusions. The preliminary Table of Content for the 1st Reality Check is outlined below. Being the first report, it will contain some background information on Niassa, the Districts under study and the communities that will not be repeated in the subsequent reports. The subsequent reports will also differ from the 1st Reality Check in that – in addition to the monitoring of possible changes in poverty and well-being – they will have a focus on themes that are deemed particularly relevant by the National and Provincial Authorities as well as Sweden. These are Good Governance (2nd Reality Check 2012); Agriculture, including land, environment and climate change - and possibly energy (3rd Reality Check 2013). The theme for the 4th Reality Check Niassa (2014) will be decided at a later stage on the basis of priorities of the National and Provincial Government and Sweden as well as priorities in the communities under study. A separate focus on energy, social protection or private sector/income generation are relevant topics.

PRELIMINARY TABLE OF CONTENT 1 ST REALITY CHECK 2011	
1) Introduction (3 pages) * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty in Mozambique • The Reality Checks • Outline of Studies 	4) Social Relations of Poverty (10 pages) * / ** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household Organisation • Social Networks and Coping Strategies • Access to Public Services • Relevance and Quality of Public Services
2) Background (5 pages) * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Niassa • Poverty in Niassa • The Districts under Study 	5) Conclusions (5 pages) * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamics of poverty and well-being • Local power-relations and relations with formal and informal institutions • Relevance, access and quality of public services
3) The Communities (10 pages) * / ** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the Community • Socio-Cultural Organisation • Institutional Landscape • Economic Adaptations • Inequalities and Gender 	Annexes: (6 pages) * / ** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Histograms • Institutional Mapping • Wealth-ranking • Seasonal Mapping • Force-field analysis • Other documentation/illustrations

* *Main Report*

** *Sub-report*

5.4 Work Plan 2nd to 5th Reality Checks and Completion

Following the 1st Reality Check in 2011, a new Reality Check will be implemented every year for four years (2012-2015). The outputs to be produced will primarily be based on a combination of i) new quantitative data produced by others (INE, donors, individual researchers etc.); ii) semi-structured interviews with key

stakeholder in Sida, provincial government, local government and the communities; and iii) a follow up of the qualitative and participatory studies outlined above.

The Reality Checks following the 1st Reality Check accounted for above will monitor possible changes in the basic parameters of poverty and well-being identified during the 1st Reality Check, and will in addition have specific ‘thematic focuses’ and involve a special Thematic Advisor (see above). The following thematic areas have been identified and relate to priority areas of development identified by the Provincial Government in Niassa and Sweden:

- 2nd Reality Check in 2012 - Local governance and democratic space (with Dr. Aslak Orre as the Thematic Advisor).
- 3rd Reality Check in 2013 - Agriculture and energy including land, environment and climate change (with Dr. Channing Arndt as the Thematic Advisor).
- 4th Reality Check in 2014 – Theme to relate to priority-areas identified during our qualitative/participatory research and hence yet to be identified/agreed upon.

The 5th and final Reality Check to be done in 2015 will basically be a replication of the 1st Reality Check, repeating the basic methodological approaches outlined above. Also, the second round of the local household survey originally done in the end of 2011 will be carried out – representing a unique option for panel data. This means that a period of five years will elapse between the two surveys.

For each completed yearly cycle the following will be delivered:

- Yearly Work Plans that outlines the process and milestones for each year’s Reality Check (5 in total: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015).
- Yearly Field Reports 2011-2015 documenting the Reality Checks.
- Annual Reports for 2011-2015 that compile the results of the Reality Checks, focusing on changes over time (the 2012-2014 Reports with a Thematic Focus).
- The 2011 and 2015 Annual Reports will include reporting from the first and second local survey;
- Presentations to the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo and the Provincial Government of Niassa, as well as participation in dissemination events in Maputo and at Sida HQ (Chapter 7).
- Feedbacks to the local study-sites based on formal outputs (see above) as well as outputs from the participatory exercises carried out.
- Updated electronic archive.

During October 2015-April 2016 the idea is to compile a final report based on the results from the annual Reality Checks and conduct a review of the entire Reality Checks process through stakeholder consultation workshops in Niassa and Maputo. This conclusion phase will provide the following final deliverables:

- A final report consisting of (i) a summary of the Annual Reports, including a compilation of qualitative data and overall conclusions regarding the findings. (ii) a Reflection report, including an assessment of the methodology and process, lessons learned and recommendations for the future
- Presentations to the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo, as well as participation in other dissemination events on Maputo and possibly at Sida HQ
- Feedbacks to the local study-sites based on formal outputs (see above) as well as outputs from the participatory exercises carried out.
- Final version of the electronic archive established.

5.5 Challenges

While the content, time-frame and budget for each individual study is clearly defined, the very nature of ‘participatory poverty monitoring’ necessitates certain flexibility in the more precise organisation and

implementation of the studies. Following from discussions in Niassa during the Inception Phase, we will particularly mention three areas where flexibility is warranted:

The plan is to carry out the Reality Checks in the period September-October (with delivery of Final Reports in November) each year between 2011 and 2015. However, one of the studies should be done in the period March-April (with delivery of Final Report in May) to be able to assess/monitor the difference in poverty and well-being towards the end of the agricultural cycle (i.e. at a time when resources in kind and cash start to be depleted for most poor households) and in the beginning of the cycle (i.e. at the time of harvest and commercialisation of agricultural products).

While the main focus throughout the Reality Checks will be on the Districts of Lago and Majune and the Municipality of Cuamba, there should be an opening for also including other Districts and communities for further scrutiny of special topics that may arise. This can either be special incidents that warrant more attention (such as natural disasters and particular interventions to alleviate poverty through social protection) or topics that can be better assessed by also looking at them in other contexts (such as the implications of geographical isolation and marginalisation, and private sector interventions such as forestry or tourism).

The key objective of the Reality Checks is to monitor changes in poverty and well-being and their dynamics from year to year in the three selected communities. While there are good arguments for the same sub-team to visit the same site every year, there are also arguments for rotation to make it possible to assess developments in the communities with ‘fresh eyes’. The utility of this will largely depend on the quality of the participatory methodologies we use and their tangible outputs. Our preliminary proposal (to be further assessed after the 1st Reality Check in 2011) is that the same team will work in same District/ during the 1st, the 3rd and the 5th Reality Check, alternating with the other teams the 2nd and the 4th Reality Check. To secure some continuity, we will suggest that the Niassa-based members of the team will work in the same site throughout the project period. This way, each sub-team will also have a first hand impression of the other sites which will ease comparisons.

6. Strategic Communication and Dissemination

To maintain focus in communication of results over the full project period, we will apply a Strategic Communication approach in the choice and production of communication material and means of dissemination. The approach needs to be pragmatic and realistic, both with reference to timing (some of the larger dissemination events involve many institutions and people with busy schedules), accessibility (many of the stakeholders will not have time or a background to relate to extensive written outputs), and the time the team has at its disposal for dissemination (see Annex 10 and Annex 11). While the team will be responsible for all written outputs and the organisation of events in Niassa, the Swedish Embassy will be responsible for the organisation of events in Maputo and Sida for the organisation of events in Stockholm. A Dissemination Plan is summarised in Annex 11.

6.1 Client Level

The main deliverables to the Swedish Embassy and the Provincial Government in Niassa as primary clients are stated in the Terms of Reference and include: i) One Annual Report for the period 2011-2015, of which three will have thematic focuses (good governance/ agriculture/climate/energy, and one theme yet to be decided); and ii) three field-reports per year on findings from our work in Cuamba, Lago and Majune respectively.

In the course of the Inception Phase, we have also agreed that i) an initial coordination meeting shall be held with the Swedish Embassy in Maputo and key stakeholders in the Niassa Provincial Government (see above) immediately before the annual field-work period commences; and ii) a de-brief shall be organised with key stakeholders in the Niassa Provincial Government and at the Swedish Embassy in Maputo immediately following field-work in the form of a power-point presentation with preliminary findings.

In addition the team is expected to participate in dissemination events at Sida Headquarter in Stockholm, possibly in the form of presentations and seminar participation. The extent to which this will be done will depend on initiatives from Sida and/or the Embassy.

We suggest that all Annual Reports are published in Portuguese and English (for accessibility at Sida HQ), and that all field-reports are published in Portuguese only. Publication will be done by ORGUT following instructions from the Embassy on graphic profile and lay-out. Each Annual Report will be submitted in 10 copies to the Embassy and Sida. Copies will also be made available to stakeholders as necessary.

6.2 Local Government and Community Level

To reach the levels of local government and the communities, the Annual Report and Field Reports will be supplemented by the following tailor-made outputs at that level:

The field-reports from each of the three field-sites will be made accessible to the District Administration in draft form via e-mail, with options for comments and further inputs within a stipulated period of approx. two weeks.

The production of four-page illustrated briefs in Portuguese from each of the Annual Reports will be used in interactive workshops with local authorities and in meetings in the local communities. The briefs will be part of the re-introduction to the Districts and communities when commencing a new report-cycle.

Dissemination in local communities will also be done with the use of charts of histograms, community maps, force-field analyses, most important change and other similar outputs from the participatory research methods discussed above, as well as other forms of participatory outputs such as photos taken by members of the local population to present their community.

The goal is also that additional communication of lessons learnt from the studies in Niassa will be done through provincial and community based radio-stations and the local internet-based newspaper FAISCA.

Positive preliminary discussions have been held with representatives from both types of media, but both parties considered it too early in the process to enter into any formal agreements about this.

6.3 Wider Result Dissemination

Dissemination will also be targeted at a wider group of stakeholders in development and poverty reduction.

In Niassa the main dissemination event will be the Provincial Development Observatory, which meets 1-2 times a year and includes representatives of the Provincial Government, civil society, the private sector and academia. The goal, as agreed with the mentioned stakeholders, will be to organise one of the Development Observatories closely after (2-4 weeks) the Reality Check fieldwork⁶ and to present a draft version of the main report with options for additional inputs/corrections. However, in cases when the P.D.O. for whatever reason cannot be organised within this period of time we will either have to postpone the deadline for submission of Final Report or present the Final Report rather than the draft report when the Observatory can be organised (see below).

In Maputo, each Annual Report will be presented in the form of a Power-Point presentation and accessible hard-copies of the Annual Report either at one of the bi-weekly seminars organised by the Ministry of Planning and Development (as the studies will primarily focus on the province of Niassa, the interest for this in the Ministry will have to be tested) or a separate venue organised by the Embassy of Sweden. Likewise, the interest from MPD in publishing the Annual Reports in their web-based series of MPD/DNEAP Working Papers will have to be discussed with them once the first Annual report is finalised.

Annual Reports will be published at ORGUT's website as part of the Electronic Archive. We also suggest that the reports are posted on Sida's website as well as on the website of the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo. In addition links should be available on e.g. the sites of AustralCOWI and CMI to ORGUT's main publications site. A link could also be made available on the very widely used internet-based information and discussion forum on Lusophone Africa (h-luso-africa@h-net.msu.edu).

As argued above, there is currently increasing international attention around local representations and 'the aid architecture seen from below'. Sida's Reality Checks seem unique in their long-term and research-based approach. We therefore suggest that Sida takes the initiative of linking the Reality Checks studies currently being implemented in order to collect and disseminate results and lessons learnt for a wider international audience. Linkages with Sida's Monitoring & Evaluation Team should be considered.

6.4 Documentation storage

An Electronic Archive will be established as part of the ORGUT website. The archive will include i) Annual and field reports for the Reality Checks; ii) photos, videos, audio tapes, drawings and outputs from the participatory methodologies used in the communities; and iii) an overview over the most relevant documents and literature consulted. One copy of the archive shall remain with ORGUT and one shall be lodged with the Embassy. All original material should when possible be stored at the Embassy.

⁶ That is end October/beginning of November each year except in 2013 when fieldwork will be carried out in March/April and presentations will be done at the Development Observatory in May)

7. List of Literature

Government Documents

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Annexes:

- Annex 1: Terms of Reference
- Annex 2: List of People Interviewed
- Annex 3: Brief Project Presentation
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- Annex 5: Inception Phase Interview Guide
- Annex 6: Niassa Province Development Plans
- Annex 7: Outline Qualitative Methodologies
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Annex 1. Terms of Reference



Embassy of Sweden
Maputo

2011-04-15

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Implementation of Reality Checks in the Niassa Province, Mozambique

These terms of reference provide guidance for the elaboration of a tender regarding the application of the methodology for a Reality Check in the Niassa Province in Northern Mozambique, as well as possible further context specific modification of this tool.

1. Introduction

Poverty Monitoring in Mozambique is rather well established and the country's information systems are relatively well developed when comparing with other countries with similar levels of development.

Poverty monitoring chiefly takes place within the framework of the implementation of Mozambique's poverty reduction plan (PARPA). The annual Joint Reviews (carried out jointly by the government and the donors) and the Development Observatories (the main platform for civil society participation in the PARPA processes at provincial and national level) are the main institutionalized processes/platforms for reviewing poverty trends and the poverty impact of public policies. These processes are foremost informed by quantitative data derived from different types of national surveys provided for by the National Statistics Institute, INE (*Inquérito Demográfico e de Saúde* (IDS), *Inquérito de Indicadores Múltiplos* (MICS), *Inquérito ao Orçamento* (IOF) and *Questionário de Indicadores Básicos de Bem-Estar* (QUIBB))¹

This data forms a fundamental input to the development of government policies and programs for poverty reduction, as well as the donor interventions that support them. However, by their quantitative nature, these surveys do not capture all the dimensions of poverty that are relevant to the design of policies and programs. Additional data on qualitative dimensions regarding poverty would constitute valuable complements to the existing quantitative data.

¹ see INE (2008), *Plano Estratégico do Sistema Estatístico Nacional 2008-2012*.

Against this background, the Embassy of Sweden in Mozambique considers that there is a need to apply and possibly further adjust additional tools for monitoring poverty and the impact of public policies. The initiative will hence be carried through within the realm of close partnership between Sweden and the Province of Niassa.

2. Objectives

By improving the knowledge on crucial dimensions of poverty, the use of the Reality Check tool is expected to: (i) provide Sweden with qualitative follow-ups of developments and results to inform the implementation of its cooperation with Mozambique, (ii) inform the public discussion among key development actors on poverty and on poverty reduction programmes and policies in Mozambique, especially in the province of Niassa; and (iii) contribute to an increased understanding of qualitative poverty monitoring methods in Mozambique.

The Reality Check is expected to achieve these objectives by enhancing knowledge on:

Poverty:

- Non-tangible dimensions of poverty, such as vulnerability and powerlessness;
- Poor people's own perceptions of poverty;
- Causal processes underpinning poverty dynamics; and
- Coping/survival strategies adopted by women and men living in poverty;

Policies and Service:

- Access to, use of and demand for public services according to people living in poverty;
- Quality of public services according to people living in poverty;

Local power relations and relationship with state institutions:

- Formal (i.e. political, administrative) institutions that enable or constrain people to carry out their strategies.
- Informal (i.e. cultural, social, family or kin-based etc) institutions that enable or constrain people to carry out their strategies.

3. The assignment: tasks, phases and deliverables

3.1. Tasks

The consultant shall carry out the following tasks:

- a) To apply and, possibly further develop the methodological framework of Reality Checks, including the tools and instruments to be used in its implementation (see section 4 of these Terms of Reference);

- b) Conduct the Reality Check annually over a time frame of five years;
- c) Compile and produce reports on the findings from the Reality Checks;
- d) Provide feedback to communities and local stakeholders that take part in the Reality Check;
- e) Coordinate with stakeholders and development actors in Niassa and at the national level; and
- f) Participate in discussions with the Embassy and other stakeholders, as well as in dissemination events.

3.2. Phases and deliverables

These tasks will be carried out in four different phases during the period April 2011 -March 2016. Each phase will result in specific deliverables to be approved by the Embassy of Sweden in consultation with the Provincial Government of Niassa. In addition to the deliverables specified under each phase, the Consultant is expected to participate extensively in meetings and conduct presentations to the Embassy, the Provincial Government of Niassa and possibly other stakeholders.

Phase 1 (Inception Phase April-August 2011)

During the inception phase, the Consultant shall apply and contextualize the methodological framework of RC as well as a plan for how the entire assignment will be carried out. This phase also involves developing, testing and modifying the tools and instruments that will be applied in the Reality Check, as well as consulting with stakeholders in Niassa. This work will be closely coordinated with the Embassy, the Provincial Government of Niassa and possibly other stakeholders.

During phase 1, the Consultant shall deliver the following products:

- A methodological framework, i.e. a document that explains and provides the scientific rationale for the methodological approach and details the instrument and methods that the consultant will use.
- A proposal on how to coordinate with local public and private institutions in Niassa, including options for involving local research institutions/universities.
- A broad work plan that covers the entire Reality Check process.
- A detailed work plan for the first Reality Check.
- A tentative table of contents for the first Reality Check report.

Phase 2 (Consolidation of Methodology and first Reality Check (September-December 2011))

During Phase 2 the Consultant shall conduct the first Reality Check, document the results in a report and fine-tunes the methodological framework and tools. The adjustment of methods and tools will be based on a separate report about the process and the methodology, as well as on a profound discussion with the Embassy, the Provincial Government of Niassa and possibly other key stakeholders.

During phase 2, the Consultant shall deliver the following products:

- A field report, consisting of separate reports from each selected location. These informal but detailed reports by each field team are the raw material from which the Annual Report is derived and will serve as a baseline for the coming years.
- A first Annual Report based on the on the results of the first Reality Check as presented in the field report. The Annual Report consolidates and synthesizes the field report, taking into account feedback from a Reference Group to be set up in Mozambique (see *below*), including the Embassy of Sweden and the Provincial Government of Niassa, following the post fieldwork presentation. The Annual Report is the public, finalized document, laid out and written for a wider dissemination. The Annual Report shall be written in Portuguese with an executive summary in English. It is expected to be around 30 pages including a summary and should have a professional layout. The report should be ready for dissemination in Mozambique and Sweden within one month after the presentation of the field reports;
- A report on the methodological issues and concerns identified during the first reality check, including suggestions on how to fine-tune and further adapt the methodology.

Phase 3 Reality Checks (December 2011-December 2015)

During Phase 3 the Consultant shall conduct yearly Reality Checks, document the results in reports and participate in the dissemination of the results. Each annual "Reality Check cycle" will be based on a yearly plan that will be discussed with relevant stakeholders and approved by the Embassy in consultation with the Provincial Government of Niassa.

During phase 3, the Consultant shall deliver the following products:

- Yearly plans that outlines the process and milestones for each year's Reality Check (4 in total);
- Yearly field reports 2011-2015 documenting the Reality Checks.
- Yearly reports for 2011-2014 that compile the results of the Reality Checks, focussing on changes over time. The Annual Report shall have the same graphic profile throughout the years. Feedback to the local communities taking part in the Reality Check.
- Coordination with stakeholders and development actors in Niassa and at the national level; and
- Presentations to the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo and the Provincial Government of Niassa, as well as participation in dissemination events in Mozambique (key meetings will be agreed on in the yearly work plans) and possibly at Sida HQ .

Phase 4 Conclusion (October 2015-March 2016)

The phase 4, which partly overlaps with the last year of phase 3, consists of compiling a final report based on the results from the annual Reality Checks, as well as conducting a profound review of the entire Reality Check process

and a critical self-assessment of the methodology. The review will involve the participation of key stakeholders and be documented in the final report.

During phase 4, the Consultant shall deliver the following products:

- A final report consisting of (i) a summary of the yearly reports, including a compilation of qualitative data and overall conclusions regarding the findings. This report shall be in Portuguese, with an executive summary in English; (ii) a Reflection report, including an assessment of the methodology and process, lessons learned and recommendations for the future (up to 50 pages in length). The report shall be in Portuguese, with an executive summary in English.
- Presentations to the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo, as well as participation in dissemination events (key meetings will be agreed on in the yearly work plans) and possibly at Sida HQ.

3.3. Utilization and dissemination of results and reports

The output of the Reality Check will be used by the Embassy and the Provincial Government of Niassa in their dialogue as well as in dialogue with other stakeholders, including the Government of Mozambique at national and district levels. It will also be used in dialogue with development partners in general. In the pursuit of information that can contribute to constructive policy changes that benefit the results for the people living in poverty, spinoff initiatives such as workshops and seminars are expected to emerge along the way. Special flexibility is called upon to meet these requirements, as far as funding and planning goes. After each field period, verbal presentations on findings and experiences is expected to take place as described above. The Consultant may also be requested to participate in dissemination events in Mozambique and/or at Sida HQ in Stockholm, Sweden annual review meetings or similar events. In order to preserve the integrity of the RC approach, and to protect the confidentiality of informants, the Embassy and Sida shall consult with the Consultant before any public dissemination of RC material.

4. Main Features/Methodology of the Reality Check

The two perspectives under Sweden's Policy for Global Development PGD² serve as key points of departure, with particular emphasis on Poor Peoples' Perspectives on Development. Sida's *Perspectives on Poverty* shall also serve as a point of reference³. Special attention should also be given to priority issues identified in the annual reviews of projects and programmes within the Swedish focus sectors, i.e. Democratic Governance, Agriculture and

²Current thinking – the two perspectives of the PGD (2006).
<http://www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/3102/a/18434>

³ Sida's Perspectives on Poverty, October 2002;
<http://sidapublications.citat.se/interface/stream/mabstream.asp?filetype=1&orderlistmainid=2588&printfileid=2588&filex=3499262952264>

Energy. The Consultant is expected to be well informed about progress and difficulties within these sectors and programmes/projects receiving Swedish support, and should find methods to sustain contacts and extract information throughout the assignment.

The process and methodology for the Reality Checks will respond to the following broad characteristics:

a) The emphasis of the Reality Check approach is on qualitative, participatory and innovative methods for listening to poor people's perspectives on development in order to capture the multidimensionality of poverty, offer insight into causal processes and allow for the triangulation of information from different sources.

The Reality Check will:

- depart from the relevant available statistical data on poverty and service provision;
- collect quantitative micro-level household data on living conditions in the locations where the study takes place;
- collect information about service provision from local institutions and service providers through available statistics, visits and observation;
- apply qualitative methodologies such as semi-structured interviews and participant observations with selected households and key actors, including e.g. participatory rural appraisals (PRA) and/or equivalent methods such as life stories, the use of photography, drawings and/or drama if relevant and applicable;
- combine the information from the above sources with the aim to form a comprehensive picture of the reality, focussing on establishing causal links and uncovering underlying dynamics. The central objective is to understand and explain change.

The approach is to be well documented and care shall be taken to ensure consistency from year to year.

b) The reality check will look at how issues related to transparency, non-discrimination, participation and accountability affect people's daily life, more specifically: (i) transparency and access to information about public policies and resource allocation; (ii) participation in public life; (iii) accountability of public institutions to citizens at the local level (district and below); and (iv) the link between discrimination, vulnerability and poverty (including issues related to the rights of women and children).

c) The Reality Check methodology should allow, where possible and appropriate, for the exploring of issues related to the agriculture and energy, including land, environment and climate change.

e) The reality check will be carried out in the province of Niassa. In order to adequately reflect differences in structural constraints (such access to services, infrastructure and economic opportunities) as well as in political and social relationships (degree of importance of traditional vs state

institutions, degree of access different types of social networks etc), the Reality Check should cover a range of different types of locations in Niassa. The criteria for the choice of locations need to be further elaborated on by the Consultant and discussed with Sida and the Provincial Government of Niassa. As a benchmark, three locations should be chosen and the final choice is to be made in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Niassa.

The Reality Check should include a panel of households to allow for the study of poverty dynamics and for understanding the factors behind phenomenon such as chronic poverty, vulnerability and transitory poverty.

f) The Reality Check should be updated annually. Different options for updating the study, such as doing a “lighter” yearly follow up and a “deeper” study every two years, and their cost implications should be discussed during the methodological development process.

5. Coordination

The Consultant shall plan and carry out the Reality Checks in close coordination with the Embassy of Sweden in Maputo and in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Niassa . The Embassy will provide a focal point who will act as the consultant’s main counterpart; however, the consultant will need to interact with a broader group of Sida staff..

The Consultant shall also coordinate with Mozambican stakeholders, including:

- The Provincial Government of Niassa;
- The National Institute for Statistics (INE), in order to ensure coordination with other initiatives and processes linked to the National Statistics System (SEN);.
- The Direção Nacional de Estudos e Análise de Políticas (DNEAP), within the Ministério de Planificação e Desenvolvimento, in order to ensure coordination with other poverty monitoring initiatives;
- Local authorities in the locations where the Reality Checks are carried out as well as the provincial government, to make sure that the initiative is well planned and that its results feed into the local policy discussions;
- Local research institutions/universities in Niassa, in order to ensure that the initiative has an institutional anchor in the Province;
- Civil society stakeholders in the province, to make sure that the initiative contributes to an improved public discussion about poverty and policies and programmes to fight it.

In order to maximize the usefulness of Reality Check, and utilize its potential to contribute to the discussion around results for people living in poverty, both in Mozambique and globally, it is suggested that a Reference Groups is set up in Mozambique . The Reference Group will be organized by the Embassy in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Niassa and consist of persons

of strategic importance and insight in the respective sectors and thematic issues of relevance, including government, donor and civil society individuals. The Reference Group in Mozambique will provide input and feedback to the Consultant, review draft reports and assist the Consultant to draw conclusions from the voices heard in the field work. The Reference Group will also suggest appropriate platforms for the dissemination of the reports, and draw attention to key findings in relevant policy fora. The Reference Group will also assist the focal person in the Embassy to provide the Consultant with reference material concerning the focus sectors and thematic issues of concern. The Consultant is responsible for acquiring relevant documents and up-dated information on the developments in Mozambique and Niassa.

Feedback to the communities participating in the Reality Check is an integral part of the approach to be carried out by the Consultant.

6. Archive

The Consultant shall create an easily accessible electronic archive for photos, videos, audio tapes, drawings, and field reports which can be accessed by the public for purposes authorized by the Embassy in consultation with the Consultant. One copy of the archive shall remain with the Consultant and one shall be lodged with the Embassy. All original material should when possible be stored at the Embassy.

Annex 2. List of People Interviewed

Niassa 16-20 May 2011

Government institutions in Lichinga

Provincial Government	Estevão Richade Nkándjanga, Permanent Secretary
Provincial Directorate of Plan and Development	Feliciano Dembele, Provincial Director
Provincial Directorate of Plan and Development	Dr. Acácio, Head of Department of Plan and Budget
Provincial Directorate of Plan and Development	Benedito Aly, Head of Department of Rural Development
Provincial Directorate of Mineral Resources and Energy	Sertório de Azevedo M. Aurélio, Provincial Director Niassa
Provincial Directorate of Agriculture	Victor John Levene, Head of Rural Extension Services
Provincial Directorate of Women and Social Action	Ana Maviga, Head of Department of Women and Gender
Provincial Directorate of Women and Social Action	João Matias Malisse, Head of Department of Social Action
Provincial Directorate of Women and Social Action	Zaida Magove, Head of Department of Studies and Planning
Provincial Directorate of Women and Social Action	Marcelino Rosário Narrope, Officer
Provincial Directorate of Environmental Coordination	Bernardo Veloso Eduardo Victor, Provincial Director
Provincial Directorate of Fisheries	Rosa Calima Ngome, Provincial Director
Gabinete de Estudos Estratégicos e Desenvolvimento	Anastácio Tamele, Director
Administração Nacional de Estradas /Niassa Delegation	Bernardino Nhachengo, Technician
Instituto Nacional de Estatística / Niassa Delegation	Fernando Laino, Provincial Delegate
Televisão de Moçambique / Niassa Delegation	Emídio Vaz, Provincial Delegate

Other key informants in Lichinga

African Muslim Agency	Adamo Bonamar, Substituto do director
CAFOD	Noel Trindade, Representative
Centro Cooperativo Sueco	Kajsa Johansson, Representative
Centro Cooperativo Sueco	Ângelo Afonso, Deputy programme director
Concern Universal	Agostinho Cigarro, Financial Manager
Concern Universal	Consolata Manirambona, Senior Program Officer
Concern Universal	Francisco Tábua, Program Officer

Concern Universal	Domingos Vidal, Officer for Governance
Development Cooperation of Ireland	Simião Chatepa, Liaison Officer
FASCDL	Juliana Augusto, Manager of Administration
FASCDL	Soares Augusto, Program Officer
FONAGNI	Jaime Namagoa, ROADS Financial Manager
FONAGNI	Sabite Salimo, Program Officer, Capacity Promotion
Fundação Malonda	Tito Gouveia, Director
Fundação Malonda	Celia Enosse, Community Development Officer
Fundação Malonda	Alexandre Chomar, Communication Officer
IBIS	Silvestre Baessa, Coordenador
Intermón OXFAM	Luciano Marques, Program Officer
Médecins sans Frontières	Rafael Sacramento, Physician
Médecins sans Frontières	Nuro Saccamo, Administrative Assistant
OIKOS	Carlos Silva, Coordinator
Rede de Organizações de Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Sustentável	Virgílio Benesse, Coordinator
União de Camponeses de Lichinga	Paulino Imede, Coordenador
União de Camponeses de Lichinga	Rogério Emílio, Advisor
União de Camponeses de Lichinga	Ventura Nunes, Programme officer / Concern project
União de Camponeses de Lichinga	Severino Santos, Programme officer / Ibis
União de Camponeses de Lichinga	Sandra Torres, Programme officer for agriculture
União de Camponeses de Lichinga	Salimo Amin, Técnico de campo
União Provincial de Camponeses	Júlio Pêssego, Coordinator
Universidade Pedagógica / Niassa Delegation	Manel Bucuto, Director

Key informants in Lago

District Government Dr. Moura Jorge, District Administrator

Key informants in Majune

District Government Ana Maria de Lurdes Massengele, District Administrator

Key informants in Marrupa

District Government Iazalde das Neves A. Ussene, District Administrator

Key informants in Mavago

District Government Virgilio Alaone, District Administrator

District Government Leo Jeremias, Permanent Secretary

People to be interviewed in Maputo *

Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD)	Director, National Directorate of Policy Studies and Analyses (DNEAP)
National Institute of Statistics (INE)	National Director of Censuses and Surveys
Irish Development Cooperation	Head of Development Cooperation

* Key national institutions in Maputo are informed about the Reality Checks, and more in-depth interviews will be done prior the initiation of the 1st Reality Check in September 2011. The list may be extended.

Annex 3. Brief Project Presentation

Reality Checks Mozambique/Niassa

What are Reality Checks about?

Reality Checks is a research assignment that seeks to assess the situation of poverty and well-being among the population once a year over a period of 5 years (2011-2015). Hence, there will be in total five “reality checks”, each check producing one analytical report. There will be a particular focus on the role of governance, agriculture and infrastructure/energy investments for poverty reduction.

Who are the researchers?

The study is implemented and coordinated by ORGUT Consulting (Sweden) and the team consists of six independent social-science researchers from AustralCOWI (Mozambique) and Chr. Michelsen Institute (Norway). The study team will be supported by three study assistants from Niassa.

What are the objectives of Reality Checks?

The research programme is developed in cooperation between the provincial authorities in Niassa and Sweden. The objectives of the programme are i) to inform the public discussion among key development actors on poverty and poverty reduction programmes and policies in Mozambique, especially the province of Niassa; ii) to contribute to an increased understanding and use of qualitative poverty monitoring methods in Mozambique; and iii) to provide Sweden with qualitative follow-ups of developments and results to inform the implementation of its cooperation in Mozambique.

What study methodologies will be used?

While we will relate to the whole province, three districts will be selected for a particular focus. The studies will primarily be based on qualitative methodologies: interviews with people in public institutions, civil society, the private sector and academia, as well as group discussions with participatory methods in communities in the selected project sites. We will complement the qualitative information with data from INE and a structured household survey in the first and in the last year (i.e. 2011 and 2015). Fieldwork will be carried out once a year for approximately three weeks (in October).

Local cooperation is important for us

To do our work well and capture the opinions of the authorities and the population in Niassa alike, we will depend on the cooperation and participation of development actors in the province. As we see it, contributing to our research will be a good opportunity to present points of view about developments in Niassa to the Mozambican Government and Sweden. The results of our studies will be presented through workshops and seminars in Niassa and Maputo, as well as written reports. Should you have any contributions or questions, please feel free to contact any of the three main researchers or ORGUT at the below address.

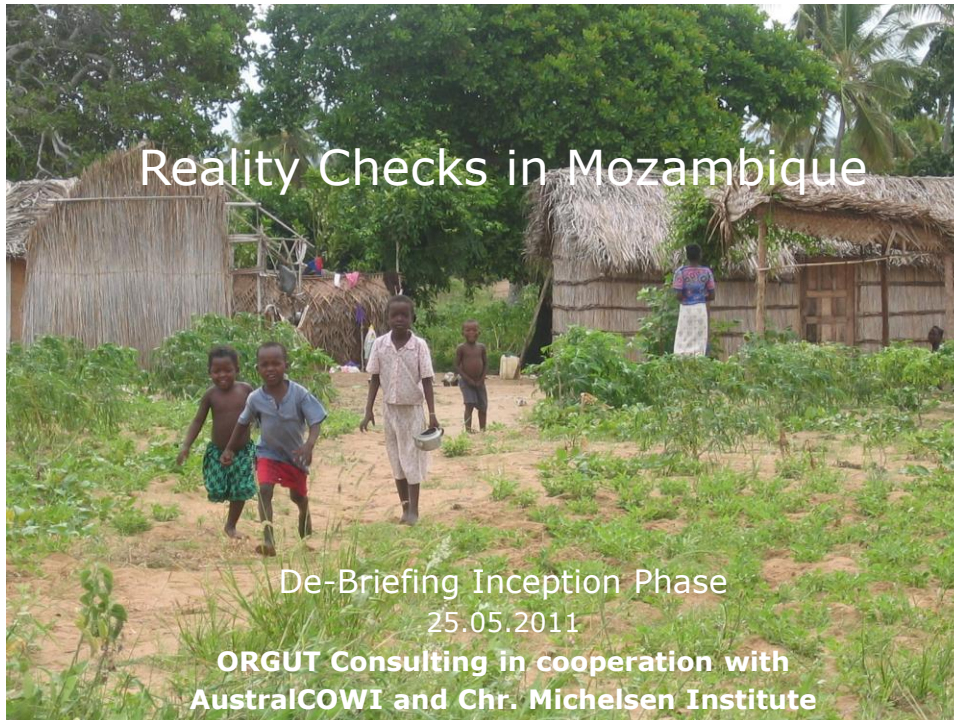
Dr. Inge Tvedten, Chr. Michelsen Institute: inge.tvedten@cmi.no

Carmeliza Rosario, AustralCOWI: carmeliza.rosario@australcowi.co.mz

Minna Tuominen, AustralCOWI: minna.tuominen@australcowi.co.mz

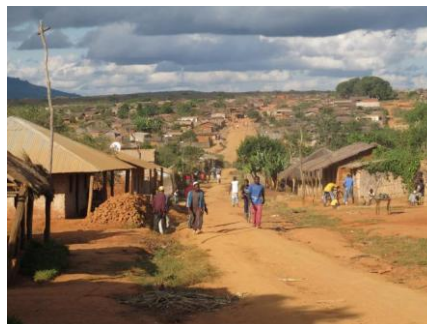
Mirjam Hast, ORGUT: mirjam.hast@orgut.se

Annex 4. Power-Point Presentation



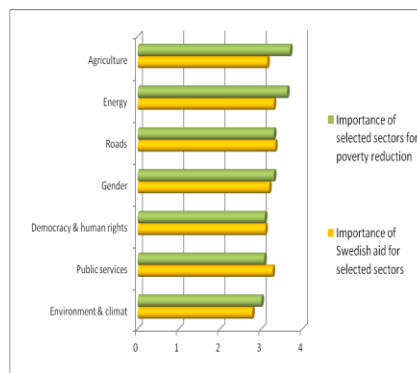
Objectives of Reality Checks

- Inform the public discussion among key development actors on poverty and poverty reduction programmes and policies in Mozambique, especially in the province of Niassa
- Contribute to an increased understanding of qualitative poverty monitoring methods as an important complement to quantitative data
- Provide Sweden with qualitative follow-ups of developments and results to inform the implementation of its cooperation with Mozambique



What do the Institutions Think?

- Which sectors/thematic areas have been most important for poverty reduction the past five years?
- How important has Swedish support been for poverty reduction the past five years?
- What has been the most important factor for poverty reduction?
- What is the main challenge for further poverty reduction in the years to come?



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Institutional Landscape

- Sweden seen as important, but uncertainty regarding its future in Niassa
- Provincial government (DPPF, Agric, Energy, INE)
- District administration (Admin, Chefes de Posto & Localidade)
- Private sector companies (Malonda, Forestry)
- Civil Society organisations (SCC, Concern, UCA)
- Traditional authorities (kings/queens, régulos, mwene, n'dunas)
- Universities (UP, UNILURIO)



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Project Organisation and Result Dissemination

- Fieldwork once a year with thematic focus
- Baseline 2011, to be revisited 2015
- Initial discussions with key stakeholders to secure local ownership
- Provincial 'Development Observatory' main forum for discussion
- Reports, briefs, e-mail, press, radio alternative channels of dissemination
- Swedish Embassy/Sida Stockholm as active partners of discussion



ORGUT

Thank you for your attention



ORGUT

Annex 5. Inception Phase Interview Guide

Reality Check Mozambique

Inception Phase

Interview Guide

The objectives of the Reality Check in Mozambique / Niassa are i) to provide Sweden with qualitative follow-ups of developments and results to inform the implementation of its cooperation with Mozambique; ii) to inform the public discussion among key development actors on poverty and on poverty reduction programmes and policies in Mozambique, especially in the province of Niassa; and iii) to contribute to an increased understanding of qualitative poverty monitoring methods in Mozambique

INTRODUCTION

- Name of institution _____
- Name of person interviewed _____
- History of relation with Sweden/Sida

- Current relations/projects

DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY IN NIASSA

- Main achievements the past 15 years (since 1997)
- Main remaining challenges for further development
- Most important contributions by Sweden/Sida

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INSTITUTION'S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

- Main achievements the past 15 years (since 1997)
- Main remaining challenges for further development
- Most important contributions by Sweden/Sida

PERCEPTIONS OF THE ROLE OF SWEDEN/SIDA AS DONOR

- What should be the role of donors in your institution's area of responsibility?
- What are the most positive aspects of Sweden as donor/partner?
- What are the most problematic aspects of Sweden as donor/partner?
- In what are do you see the largest potential for improvements?

INVOLVEMENT IN THE REALITY CHECK

- What are the existing ways/instruments that you use to follow/monitor the implications of your activities for poverty/well-being in Niassa?
- What would in your opinion be the best way to communicate with us during the five years that the Reality Check will be implemented?
- How would you prefer that we disseminate/distribute the results of the Reality Check in Niassa and to your organisation/institution?

objectivo geral	objectivos especificos	Acções		Relatório-Balanco Anual 2010			
	<p>Acelerar o desenvolvimento económico do Niassa, assegurando um crescimento médio anual de 12%, assente estrategicamente nos polos de desenvolvimento do triângulo Lichinga-Cuamba-Marrupa</p>	<p>Agricultura</p>	<p>Aumento das áreas (456.574 contra 407.476ha) e da produção (730.789 -850.130 ton) das culturas alimentares</p>	<p>foram semeadas 471.069ha. Culturas alimentares produzidas-878.007 ton. Dos cereais o milho foi o mais produzido (349.246 ton).</p>			
			<p>Aumento (45.5% contra 30.8) das culturas de rendimento, destacando-se a do tabaco</p>	<p>produzidas 25.493 ton contra 26.381 da campanha anterior. No sumário executivo diz-se que a produção do tabaco foi maior que as restantes culturas de rendimento</p>			
			<p>Aumento da extensão agrária (31.733 contra 26.948)-distrib. de sementes melhoradas, celeiros melhorados e difusão de mensagens de tecnologias agrícolas...</p>	<p>foram cultivadas 471.069ha de culturas alimentares e 50.099,5ha de culturas de rendimento. Dos insumos só foram distribuídas sementes.</p>			
			<p>o PES 2010 diz que preve-se um aumento de licenciamentos florestais em 68%. O PES 2011 não prevê nenhum aumento.</p>	<p>O relatório 2010 diz que registou um aumento de 12 para 38...</p>			
			<p>Criação de comités de gestão de conflitos homem/fauna bravia</p>	<p>foram criados 53 comités</p>			
			<p>Crescimento da industria de processamento (resultante da expansão da rede eléctrica p/metarica, Mecanhelas, Maúa e Marrupa)</p>	<p>o relatório 2010 diz que registou um crescimento no volume de vendas e registouse o cadastramento de mais unidades industriais</p>			
			<p>Aumento da comercialização agrícola (32.085-46.500 T)</p>	<p>forma comercializadas 43.7016.3</p>			
					<p>Infra-estruturas (Energia, estradas e abast. de água)</p>	<p>Expandir a rede de distribuição eléctrica e aumento dos consumidores em Muembe e Nipepe sede</p>	<p>foi ampliada a rede eléctrica no Lago, Lichinga-Unango, Cuamba-Mecanhelas, Cuamba-Marrupa, Muchenga ...</p>
					<p></p>	<p>Construção de 2 postos de abastecimento de combustível em Mecanhelas e Sanga</p>	<p>foi mencionado apenas a venda de combustíveis</p>
						<p>Reativação das unidades de género nos serviços distritais de planeamento e infra-estruturas (SDPI)</p>	
	<p>Fortalecer os mecanismos institucionais que promovam a boa governação com vista a promover e assegurar o crescimento sócio-económico e cultural sustentável da província</p>	<p>Boa Governação</p>	<p>Formação de conselhos consultivos distritaisgestão de projectos de geração de empregos (parceria c/DPPF e secretaria Provincial)</p>				
			<p>Promover o auto-emprego e identificar oportunidades de emprego</p>				
			<p>Formação de candidatos para o auto-emprego</p>				
			<p>Formação psico-pedagógica (UP-Niassa)</p>				
			<p>Fiscalizar as empresas devedoras (7milhões?)</p>				
			<p>Construção de novas US e aumento do pessoal de saúde</p>				
			<p>Construção de mais centro de alfabetização de adultos (dos quais alguns serão parte do conselho consultivo distritais)</p>				
	<p>Desenvolvimento institucional</p>		<p>capacitar os distritos em infra-estruturas administrativas e habitacionais</p>				
			<p>realização de seminários sobre a gestão de R.Naturais</p>				
<p>alargamento da assistência jurídica no distrito de Maúa</p>							
<p>formar assistentes de oficiais de justiça da procuradoria na Prov.</p>							

Annex 7. Outline Qualitative Methodologies⁷

	Objectives	Themes /Key issues	Methods
1.	Learn to know the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographical characteristics - Political organisation - Population - History - Important institutions/locations - Development interventions - Daily/yearly dynamics - Roles and responsibilities men and women - Dominant views on world order (religious/spiritual/etc.) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Key-informant interviews with local authorities 2. Focus groups (general): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Histogram/history of community (1st year) o Community map (1st, 3rd & 5th year) o Community problem matrix (every year) o Story telling: constitution of family (1st & 5th year) o Daily activity schedule (men/women/female HHH) (1st, 3rd & 5th year) o Matrix of ceremonies (1st & 5th year) o Most significant change (every year) 3. Direct observation
2.	Learn to understand peoples' own (<i>emic</i>) meaning of poverty and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of the poor/ the wealthiest - What makes them poorest of the poor/wealthiest - Opportunities/obstacles to get out of poverty - Opportunities/obstacles to accumulate wealth - Common livelihoods/sources of income of the poor/the wealthy - Vulnerability/powerlessness/greatest hardships faced by the poor/wealthiest - Coping method of the poor/the wealthiest - Social relations (family, friends, community) of the poor/the wealthy (integration/social marginalization) - Important places in community of the poor / the wealthy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus groups (general): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Problem tree (1st, 3rd & 5th year) 2. Focus groups with different social groups (the poor vs. the wealthy): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o House map 1-2 (1st, 3rd & 5th year) o Problem matrix (every year) o Photographing poverty / well-being (1st, 3rd & 5th year) o Most significant change (every year) 3. Expanded case studies 4. Direct observation

⁷ This is an extensive list of methodologies. Some of them will be key (histograms, community mapping, wealth-ranking, force-field analysis, most significant change and expanded case-studies). All of these methods will be applied in the first Reality Check exercise, and their applicability and relevance for future use will then be assessed. The focus groups will be a combination of mixed groups and groups differentiated by age, sex and wealth – depending on the issue at hand.

3.	Learn about local level effects of policies/programs/donor support that seek poverty reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who benefit/do not benefit from poverty reduction measures? Why? - Immediate / medium / long-term benefits - Disadvantages? For whom? - How are disadvantages addressed? - Views about the future 	1. Focus group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Force-field analysis (1st, 3rd & 5th year) 2. Expanded case studies
4.	Learn about the importance of public services for local people and the relationships with state institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local democratic space - Decentralization - Access to public services/aid projects (the poor vs. the wealthy) - Level of satisfaction with the services 	1. Focus groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Venn diagram (1st, 3rd & 5th year) 2. Expanded case studies
5.	Learn to understand local power relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of most important/influential people in the community - Source of importance - Circumstances of influence 	1. Focus groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Leadership matrix (1st, 3rd & 5th year)
6.	Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in decision making - Representativeness - who represents whom, how? - Accountability - Transparency 	1. Focus groups (incl. with Conselho Comunitário) (2 nd year) 2. Expanded case studies
7.	Agriculture/climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to / ownership of land - Who cultivates and what crops? Challenges - Consumption of agriculture produce (quantity, storage, processing process, shortages) - Food, daily nutrition practices - Sales of agricultural produce (quantity, sales channel, prices) - Perceived changes in climate 	1. Focus groups (3 rd year) 2. Expanded case studies
8.	Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to different sources of energy – who has access, and to what cost? - Changes at household level generated through electricity - Changes at community level generated through electricity - Challenges 	1. Focus groups (3 rd year) 2. Expanded case studies

Annex 8. Outline Baseline Survey

Tentative Topics:

1. Household Composition

Nr. of members
Gender
Age
Relationship with Household Head (HH)
Does the member usually reside in the homestead?
If not, where does he/she reside?
If not, why not?
Do non-household members also reside in the homestead?

2. Household Head Characteristics

Gender
Why is the person considered the head of the household
Age
Civil status
Occupation
Education

3. Socio-cultural characteristics

Religion
Cultural ceremonies
Main language of household
Portuguese proficiency

4. Education

Nearest public education facilities
Highest education level achieved
Members in school
Access to non-formal education (incl. madrassas and other informal education options)
School aged children outside of school
Reasons for not studying

5. Health

Nearest public health facilities
Access to non-formal health facilities (incl. curandeiros, nurses, pharmacies, traditional midwives)
Main diseases
First place of treatment
Child mortality
Reasons for child mortality

6. Access to other state institutions

Use of state facilities

- District Administration
- Post Administration
- Agriculture support services
- Notary
- Police
- Courts (including community courts)

7. Access to leaders/powerholders

Use of the following alternative leaderships

- Locality head
- Chiefs (régulos)
- Neighborhood secretary/Village head
- Extensionists
- Priest/Sheik
- Teacher

- Nurse
- Curandeiro
- Other

8. Household Income

Main sources of income

Additional sources of income

- Agriculture
 - ownership of fields
 - size of fields
 - amount produced
 - crops produced
 - average earnings per harvest
 - use of fertilizers
 - use of external human resources
 - perceptions in changes in crop yield in the past 10/15 years
 - reasons for change
- Formal employment
 - Average received per month
- Informal production/trade
 - average received per month
- Fishing
 - average received per day
- Remittances
 - origin of remittances
 - amount received
 - people to whom household sends remittances
 - amount sent

9. Household Expenditures

Relative importance of and expenditure on selected items

- Food
- Housing
- Water
- Electricity/Illumination
- Water
- Health
- Education
- Transport
- Labour
- Other expenditures

Diet diversification

Hunger moments over the year

10. Housing

No. of rooms and functions

Wall materials of main dwelling

Floor materials of main dwelling

Roofing materials of main dwelling

Access to water/sources of water to wash and drink

Access to electricity/sources of energy for cooking and illumination

Type of sanitation

11. Other assets

Possession of assets:

- Bicycle
- Motorbike
- Car
- Phone/mobile phone

- TV
- DVD/VCD/VCR
- Radio
- Stereo
- Sofa
- Bed (not straw mat)
- Others

12. Migration patterns

Geographical origin of HH
Reasons for settling in the area
Frequency of travels
Reasons for travelling
Areas most frequently visited
Relationship with District Capital
Relationship with Province Capital
Relations with other Districts/Provinces/Countries

13. Family dynamics and gender relations

Ownership of land
Ownership of house
Form of acquisition of land
Form of acquisition of house
Who inherits the land
Who inherits the house
Responsibility of tending to the sick
Responsibility of tending to production
Responsibility of selling products
Decision over expenditures
In case they have to choose, who will they invest in for continued studies and why

14. Social networks and community relations

Major problems/preoccupations of the household (that require outside intervention)
Major problems/preoccupations that affect the community
Principal problem solvers/conflict mediators for the household
Principal problem solvers/conflict mediators for the community
Membership in associations/unions/CBOs
Membership in *stique* group

15. Perceptions of well being

Perceptions of change in well-being five years prior to survey
Areas of principle change five years prior to survey
Expectations of change the coming five years
Areas of preferred change the coming five years

(These are a preliminary list of topics that will be covered in the Baseline Survey, to be carried out in September 2011 in the two Districts and the Municipality under study (i.e. Lago, Majune and Cuamba). The sites will be revisited in the end of the Reality Checks project (end of 2015) to assess possible changes in quantitative expressions of poverty and well being.*

Annex 9. Overall Reality Checks Work Plan

Fold-out

Annex 10. Work Plan 1st Reality Check

Activity	Location	2011				
		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Phase II Consolidation of Methodology and 1st Reality Check						
Securing relevant quantitative data	Home Office					
Team mobilisation and field work arrangements	Home Office					
Travel to Mozambique, Phase II start-up meeting with the Embassy	Maputo					
Travel to Niassa and Full Team preparation meeting	Niassa					
Field work in Niassa: Initial meetings with stakeholders in Lichinga; interviews with households and stakeholders and compilation of material	Niassa					
Field work completion meeting; De-brief with stakeholders and travel to Maputo	Niassa					
Team Leaders work in Maputo on compiling field work material and inputs to review of methodology	Maputo					
Conclusion meeting with the Embassy including presentation of Draft Reports	Maputo					
Dissemination events in Mozambique (TBA)	Mozambique					
Preparation and submission of Field Reports, 1st Annual Report and Methodology Report	Home Office					
Submission of Final Phase II Deliverables after commented by the Embassy	Home Office					
Design of first part of local survey	Home Office					
Implementation of first part of local survey	Niassa					
Completion of local survey reporting as part of the 1st Annual Report	Niassa/Home Office					
Update of electronic archive after agreement on what should be published	Home Office					
Dissemination of Deliverables and possible dissemination events in Moz/Sthlm	Moz/Sthlm					

Annex 11. Dissemination Plan

Activity	When	Responsible
2011		
Submission of Inception Report to the Embassy, Sida and stakeholders	August 2011	ORGUT
Dissemination of approved Annual Work Plan to stakeholders	August 2011	ORGUT
De-briefs to District Administrations and other stakeholders in Niassa	September 2011	ORGUT
De-brief at the Swedish Embassy for stakeholders based in Maputo	September 2011	ORGUT (Event organised by the Embassy)
Presentation of the Annual Report at MPD and other dissemination events in Maputo if applicable	September 2011	ORGUT and Embassy as agreed
Draft Field Reports made available to the District Administrations	October 2011	ORGUT
Distribution of approved Field Reports and Annual Report to the Embassy, Sida and stakeholders	November 2011	ORGUT
Four-page Illustrated briefs	November 2011	ORGUT
Dissemination event(s) at Sida in Stockholm	During 2011	Embassy / Sida
Dissemination through radio stations and local newspapers in Niassa	During 2011	ORGUT
Dissemination through relevant web-based channels	During 2011	ORGUT
Provincial Development Observatory	October or November 2011	ORGUT (Depending on Prov.Gov.)
2012		
Dissemination of approved Annual Work Plan to stakeholders	August 2012	ORGUT
Dissemination in local communities of briefs and outputs from participatory methodologies done in 2011	September 2012	ORGUT
De-briefs to District Administrations and other stakeholders in Niassa	September 2012	ORGUT
De-brief at the Swedish Embassy for stakeholders based in Maputo	September 2012	ORGUT (Event organised by the Embassy)
Presentation of the Annual Report at MPD and other dissemination events in Maputo if applicable	September 2012	ORGUT and Embassy as agreed
Draft Field Reports made available to the District Administrations	October 2012	ORGUT
Distribution of approved Field Reports and Annual Report to the Embassy, Sida and stakeholders	November 2012	ORGUT
Four-page Illustration briefs	November 2012	ORGUT
Dissemination event(s) at Sida in Stockholm	During 2012	Embassy / Sida
Dissemination through radio	During 2012	ORGUT

stations and local newspapers in Niassa		
Dissemination through relevant web-based channels	During 2012	ORGUT
Provincial Development Observatory	October or November 2012	ORGUT (Depending on Prov.Gov.)
2013		
Dissemination of approved Annual Work Plan to stakeholders	March 2013	ORGUT
Dissemination in local communities of briefs and outputs from participatory methodologies done in 2012	April 2013	ORGUT
De-briefs to District Administrations and other stakeholders in Niassa	April 2013	ORGUT
De-brief at the Swedish Embassy for stakeholders based in Maputo	April 2013	ORGUT (Event organised by the Embassy)
Presentation of the Annual Report at MPD and other dissemination events in Maputo if applicable	April 2013	ORGUT and Embassy as agreed
Draft Field Reports made available to the District Administrations	May 2013	ORGUT
Distribution of approved Field Reports and Annual Report to the Embassy, Sida and stakeholders	June 2013	ORGUT
Four-page Illustration briefs	June 2013	ORGUT
Dissemination event(s) at Sida in Stockholm	During 2013	Embassy / Sida
Dissemination through radio stations and local newspapers in Niassa	During 2013	ORGUT
Dissemination through relevant web-based channels	During 2013	ORGUT
Provincial Development Observatory	October or November 2013	ORGUT (Depending on Prov.Gov.)
2014		
Dissemination of approved Annual Work Plan to stakeholders	August 2014	ORGUT
Dissemination in local communities of briefs and outputs from participatory methodologies done in 2013	September 2014	ORGUT
De-briefs to District Administrations and other stakeholders in Niassa	September 2014	ORGUT
De-brief at the Swedish Embassy for stakeholders based in Maputo	September 2014	ORGUT (Event organised by the Embassy)
Presentation of the Annual Report at MPD and other dissemination events in Maputo if applicable	September 2014	ORGUT and Embassy as agreed
Draft Field Reports made available to the District Administrations	October 2014	ORGUT
Distribution of approved Field Reports and Annual Report to the Embassy, Sida and stakeholders	November 2014	ORGUT
Four-page Illustration briefs	November 2014	ORGUT

Dissemination event(s) at Sida in Stockholm	During 2014	Embassy / Sida
Dissemination through radio stations and local newspapers in Niassa	During 2014	ORGUT
Dissemination through relevant web-based channels	During 2014	ORGUT
Provincial Development Observatory	October or November 2014	ORGUT (Depending on Prov.Gov.)
2015		
Dissemination of approved Annual Work Plan to stakeholders	August 2015	ORGUT
Dissemination in local communities of briefs and outputs from participatory methodologies done in 2014	September 2015	ORGUT
De-briefs to District Administrations and other stakeholders in Niassa	September 2015	ORGUT
De-brief at the Swedish Embassy for stakeholders based in Maputo	September 2015	ORGUT (Event organised by the Embassy)
Presentation of the Annual Report at MPD and other dissemination events in Maputo if applicable	September 2015	ORGUT and Embassy as agreed
Draft Field Reports made available to the District Administrations	October 2015	ORGUT
Distribution of approved Field Reports and Annual Report to the Embassy, Sida and stakeholders	November 2015	ORGUT
Four-page Illustration briefs	November 2015	ORGUT
Dissemination event(s) at Sida in Stockholm	During 2015	Embassy / Sida
Dissemination through radio stations and local newspapers in Niassa	During 2015	ORGUT
Dissemination through relevant web-based channels	During 2015	ORGUT
Provincial Development Observatory	October or November 2015	ORGUT (Depending on Prov.Gov.)
2015-2016		
Dissemination of the Final Completion Report and lessons learnt	April 2016	
Completion events in Mozambique and Stockholm	TBA	ORGUT /Embassy