

MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

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Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

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\$2 bn still lacking to rebuild after 2019 climate emergency cyclones

Higher sea temperatures in the Mozambique Channel caused by the climate emergency made the 2019 cyclones Idai and Kenneth particularly devastating. They killed more than 1000 people in Mozambique, displaced 420,000 others, and reconstruction costs were estimated at \$3.2 bn.

More than three years later, support from donors and lenders has reached \$1.2 bn, Public Works Minister Carlos Mesquita told a meeting of the Post Cyclone Reconstruction Office (GREPOC) in Beira on 27 October. But \$2 bn is still unfunded.

Money continues to drift in, but very slowly. GREPOC executive director Luís Mandlate said in September that government has pulled together \$42 mn for the reconstruction of 6,672 houses in Beira, starting in November, three and a half years after the cyclone. (Noticias 19 Sept)

Cyclone Ida made a highly unusual loop and hit Beira and central Mozambique twice, on 4 and 15 March 2019. The World Meteorological Organization on 20 March 2019 called it "one of the worst weather-related disasters in the southern hemisphere". Cyclone Kenneth hit Cabo Delgado on 25 April with sustained winds of 220 km/h, making it the most intense cyclone in Mozambican recorded history. (CNN 25 Apr 2019)

Cyclones build up their energy from heat taken from the sea in the Mozambique Channel, and recent research at the University of Cape Town shows that the Mozambique channel is subject to increasing "marine heatwaves". (*Climate Dynamics* 2022 number 58) The climate emergency is can be measured by rising sea temperature.

Who pays for climate damage done by the north?

The \$3.2 bn damage was done by global heating caused over the past century by the industrialised nations. Mozambique made no contribution to this. Yet it is being asked to pay the cost. For two decades, developed countries, led by Bangladesh, have been pushing for the industrialised countries to pay for the "loss and damage" done by global heating. But at the annual

climate talks (known as COP, Conference of the Parties to the 1992 Rio accord) developed countries have consistently refused to acknowledge their responsibility for the harm done by global heating.

At COP15 in Copenhagen in 2009, developed countries committed to providing \$100 billion per year by 2020 for climate action in developing countries. The goal was repeated at COP16 in Cancun, and at COP21 in Paris. But the \$100 bn target has never been met.

The COP26 talks in Egypt 6-18 November will face a bigger confrontation than in the past. Unprecedented flooding in Pakistan, Nigeria and Australia this year have shown the seriousness of the climate emergency. "We have waged war on nature, and nature is striking back, and striking back in a devastating way," said UN secretary general António Guterres when he visited Pakistan in September. But the war in Ukraine has provided an excuse for the developed countries to return to fossil fuels, notably gas and coal.

The target is that global heating since the start of the industrial era should be only 1.5°C, as agreed at the Paris COP21. The latest United Nations estimate, issued 26 October, is a projection of global heating of between 2.1°C and 2.9°, taking into account all national pledges to reduce emissions. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2022_04.pdf

Global heating has already reached 1.2°C and the floods in Pakistan and cyclones in Mozambique show the damage that is done; even 1.5°C will make matters worse. More than 2°C as planned by the industrialised countries will have a devastating impact. Even at 1.2°, Mozambique is still expected to find \$2 bn from its own budgets for reconstruction of the damage from cyclones more than three years ago.

Mozambique has made little contribution to global heating so far, but it hopes for a major gas development in Cabo Delgado. And it dreams that significant revenues from the gas, which could begin in a decade, will spur development. But based on the costs of the 2019 cyclones, the gas revenue is unlikely to pay for the damage in Mozambique caused by global heating in the next decade. In addition to stronger cyclones, there will be torrential rains causing damage and floods, and droughts and erratic rainfall will hit farming - before there is any significant income from gas.

Meanwhile the world's biggest oil and gas companies have made profits of over \$173 bn in the first nine months of this year, as Russia's war on Ukraine pushed up energy prices. The two big players in Mozambique gas are TotalEnergies which made \$10 bn in the third quarter (July-September) and ExxonMobil which made \$20 bn profit in the third quarter alone. Exxon said it would give \$45 bn to shareholders through dividends and share buybacks, compared to \$23 bn in capital spending. (Guardian 27 Oct, Financial Times 28 Oct)

Cabo Delgado

Syrah given \$220 mn to create 221 US jobs with Mozambique graphite

The US Department of Energy (DoE) announced on 19 October that it has given Syrah Resources \$220 mn to expand its factory in Vidalia, Louisiana, USA, which uses graphite from its mine in Balama, Cabo Delgado. The factory expansion will create 221 jobs. The DoE says: "Employing locally, training on-the-job, and progressing through a competency framework will attract and maintain a committed workforce. Syrah's community strategy includes partnering with over 150 local vendors to prioritize local investments and spending."

The factory makes active anode material (AAM) for lithium ion batteries. "Syrah's Vidalia facility will be the only vertically integrated and large-scale natural graphite AAM producer outside China," says the DoE, reducing the US dependence on China.

https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/DOE_BIL_Battery_FOA-2678_Selectee_Fact_Sheets_-_1_2.pdf

Such a factory could have been built in Cabo Delgado. "Battery graphite does require some processing, mostly to get the right particle size and purity, but in principle can be processed anywhere with the right infrastructure. The key as always is economics and political will," says Dr Billy Wu, a senior lecturer at Imperial College London in the Dyson School of Design Engineering, and is an expert in batteries, fuel cells and supercapacitors.

In the contemporary world, the capitalist US is allowed to give the private sector \$220 mn to create jobs, develop local suppliers, and beat China, while a developing country like Mozambique is not allowed similar state involvement in a key industry. So Mozambique gets a hole in the ground and the US gets skilled jobs and training. That is called "development".

Syrah strike ends

The six-week-long strike at the Balama graphite mine ended 27 October. Local workers say their grievances remain unaddressed. They had wanted the Mozambican management replaced. They accuse Mozambican managers of nepotistic hiring, bullying and sexual harassment, but an 8 September company document says protests were not accepted because they were not submitted correctly and the company continues to have full confidence in the management.

Strikers claim that non-locals, mainly from Maputo and Tete, are paid considerably than local people, even when they are only apprentices. They also say the payroll department says all local Balama workers have on a 7th grade education, when some have 12th grade. They also claim no worker from Balama has health insurance, but those from the south do. (Zitamar 12, 28 Oct)

War continues, with new attack in Nampula

The Cabo Delgado civil war continues, with insurgents moving south into mining areas, Chiure district, and down to the Lúrio River and again into Nampula province. There have been attacks near the two main roads.

The Indian-owned Gemrock ruby mine on the border between Ancuabe and Moatize districts was attacked 20 October, with substantial damage of equipment, vehicles and living quarters. Gemrock has suspended operations due to damage to heavy mining equipment, and has suspended plans for expansion.

Four villages were attacked in Mesa, Ancuabe, on 17 October, about 15 km south of the main N14 road connecting Montepuez to Pemba. Unverified reports say 26 dead.

An insurgent band moved south with attacks in Messaja, Katapua and Bilibiza in Chiure district and in Savamone and Nihamae on the Lúrio River. Insurgents are now further inland along the river than they have been. On 27 October they crossed the river and attacked Muaneia in Eráti, Nampula, near the main N1 road linking Pemba and Nampula.

Heavy fighting continues in Nangade district.

Macomia district town was attacked on 23 October, the first incursion into the town in a year. Three to five people were killed and cars, motorbikes and houses burned. Insurgents had infiltrated into the town in Mozambican army uniforms. (Zitamar, 27, 28 Oct; Cabo Ligado 18, 25 Oct)

Rwandan forces found three arms caches in heavy forest in the Mbau area in the south of Mocimboa da Praia district, in a zone where insurgents were pushed out of important bases last year. On 15 October a cache was found containing a large number of assault rifles, rocket-propelled grenades, and ammunition. On 19 October another cache was found nearby with over

200 firearms with ammunition. Two days later, the Rwandans announced they had found a third arms cache, containing assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers, this time in the Limala forest east of Mbau. "Most of the weapons in all of these arms caches appeared to be substantially rusted," reports *Cabo Ligado* (25 Oct), suggesting they had been in place since before the Mbau bases were taken last year.

Airline Fly Indico announced that commercial flights between Pemba and Palma will be reinstated from 28 October for the first time after being suspended in March 2021.

Rwandan president Paul Kagame met President Filipe Nyusi in Maputo on Friday 28 Oct.

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To cite for academic purposes, treat as a blog or a newspaper. Normal citation format would be: "Mozambique News Reports & Clippings, number XXX", DATE, bit.ly/Mozamb, accessed XXX.

Elections

CIP Election Bulletin. There is a Mozambique Elections Bulletin now published by Centro de Integridade Pública (CIP <https://www.cipmoz.org>; cip@cipmoz.org). To subscribe or unsubscribe: <https://bit.ly/Moz-sub>
Past election newsletters are on <http://bit.ly/2H066Kg>

Election study collaboration: We have detailed election data from 1999 through 2014 and are inviting scholars to use this data collaboratively. <http://bit.ly/MozEIData>

Important external links

Minimum wage & exchange rate charts, tables 1996-2022 <https://bit.ly/MozMinWage2022>

TSU_Tabela-Salarial-Unica - law, decrees, points system (2 Mb) <https://bit.ly/Moz-TSU>

Daily debt trial press clippings in English: <https://bit.ly/Moz-Debt-Map-Trial>.

Trial hearings over, judgement postponed to 30 November 2022.

Covid-19 daily <https://covid19.ins.gov.mz/documentos-em-pdf/boletins-diarios/>

Daily flood and monthly dry season reports - <https://bit.ly/Moz-Flood-2022>

Cyclone trackers, <https://www.cyclocane.com/> and <https://www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html>

Previous editions of this newsletter: <https://bit.ly/MozNews2022> and <http://bit.ly/MozNews2021>

Downloadable books: <http://bit.ly/Hanlon-books> Election data: <http://bit.ly/MozEIData>

My Mozambique archive: <http://bit.ly/Mozamb>

Cabo Delgado

Cabo Ligado weekly report on civil war <https://www.caboligado.com/>

Archive with reports, detailed maps, and census data <https://bit.ly/Moz-CDq>

Special reports on the war

Evolution of the war: global vs local. 27 Feb 2020 <http://bit.ly/CDelgadoOrigins>

Religion is shaping Cabo Delgado civil war. 30 April 2020 <https://bit.ly/CDelgadoReligion>

Intensifying argument over roots of war. 28 June 2020 <https://bit.ly/Moz-492>

Are the drums of war silencing any hope of peace? 26 July 2020 <http://bit.ly/Moz-496>

A history of violence presages the insurgency. 13 August 2020 <http://bit.ly/Moz-498>

Military & economic intervention. 3 Sept 2020 <https://bit.ly/CDelgadoIntervene>

Cabo-Delgado-Free-for-all. 20 Apr 2022. <https://bit.ly/Moz-593>

Mozambique heroin transit trade

English - LSE - 2018 - <http://bit.ly/Moz-heroin>

Portuguese - CIP- 2018 - <http://bit.ly/HeroinaPT>

2001 first article- *Metical* - English and Portuguese <https://bit.ly/MozHeroin2001>

Gas for development?

Gas_for_development_or_just_for_money?_2015 bit.ly/MozGasEng

Gás_para_desenvolvimento_ou_apenas_dinheiro?_2015 bit.ly/MozGasPt

Background reading

Special reports

Social protection report - 2017 Mozambique - <http://bit.ly/MozSocPro>

Special report on four poverty surveys: bit.ly/MozPoverty

\$2bn secret debt - in English

Secret debt trial (Aug-Oct 2021) press reports <https://bit.ly/Moz-secret-debt>

Kroll - Full report on \$2bn debt - <http://bit.ly/Kroll-Moz>

Kroll report summary - <http://bit.ly/Kroll-sum>

Key points of Mozambique parliament report - Nov 2016 - <http://bit.ly/MozAR-debt-En>

Following the donor-designed path to Mozambique's \$2.2 bn debt - <http://bit.ly/3WQ-hanlon>

In Portuguese:

Parliamentary Report on the Secret Debt (complete) bit.ly/MozAR-debt

2018 Constitution - <http://bit.ly/2KF588T>

Ten books by Joseph Hanlon can be downloaded, free: <http://bit.ly/Hanlon-books>

Bangladesh confronts climate change (2016)

Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique (2014) is on <https://bit.ly/Chickens-Beer>

Há Mais Bicicletas – mas há desenvolvimento? (2008)

Civil War Civil Peace (2006): <https://bit.ly/Civil-War-Civil-Peace>

Moçambique e as grandes cheias de 2000 (2001)

Mozambique and the Great Flood of 2000 (2001)

Paz Sem Benefício: Como o FMI Bloqueia a Reconstrução (1997)

Peace Without Profit: How the IMF Blocks Rebuilding (1996) <https://bit.ly/Peace-wo-Profit>

Mozambique: Who Calls the Shots (1991)

Mozambique: The Revolution Under Fire (1984)

Apartheid's 2nd Front (1986) <available shortly>

These are still available for sale:

Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento (2014) (free in English)

Zimbabwe takes back its land (2013)

Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South (2010)

Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique? (2008) (free in Portuguese)

Beggar Your Neighbours: Apartheid Power in Southern Africa (1986)

Mozambique media websites, English:

Club of Mozambique (free): <http://clubofmozambique.com/>

Zitamar (paywall): <http://zitamar.com/>

Mozambique media websites, Portuguese (all with partial paywall):

Notícias: www.jornalnoticias.co.mz

O País: www.opais.co.mz

@Verdade: <http://www.verdade.co.mz>

Carta de Moçambique <https://cartamz.com>

Mozambique think tanks and pressure groups, Portuguese:

Centro de Integridade Pública: CIP <https://cipmoz.org/>

Observatório do Meio Rural: OMR <https://omrmz.org/>

Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos: IESE <https://www.iese.ac.mz/>

Centro Para Democracia e Desenvolvimento CDD <https://cddmoz.org/> (some CDD in English)

Also CDD now controls Fórum de Monitoria do Orçamento - FMO (main debt group) <http://www.fmo.org.mz>
and RMDDH - Rede Moçambicana dos Defensores dos Direitos Humanos (a human rights group).

To subscribe to all CDD publications: <http://eepurl.com/gO9l6v> (English or Portuguese).

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