

Climate change maputo

Maputo, 24 February 2022 - The Government of Mozambique has launched a USD 6 million project to protect its coasts from the impacts of climate change through the restoration and conservation of nature.

With funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and support from the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the project is drawing on the natural defences and buffers that coastal ecosystems offer against storms, flooding and saline intrusion.

Taking place in the Greater Maputo area on the south-eastern coast of Mozambique, the initiative will cover a combined population of 3 million people in the municipalities of Maputo, Matola and Boane, as well as the districts of Matutu?ne and Marracuene.

The project was officially launched on the 24th February at an event hosted by the Ministry of Land & Environment (MTA) and the National Fund for Sustainable Development (FNDS), the lead executers of the project.

"These areas are home to many coastal ecosystems whose services and goods are vital to local communities," said Wetela Jone, General Inspector for the Ministry. "This includes firewood, charcoal and timber, cultural identity, social services, welfare for recreation and tourism, as well as "regulating services" such as carbon sequestration, decomposition of organic water, water purification, erosion control, flood reduction and buffer storage."

Faced with this reality, the government, in partnership with the various economic and social sectors, developed the new project to respond and build resilience. The five-year initiative provides the Government of Mozambique, municipal authorities, districts, and especially local communities with the support, tools, and planning frameworks needed to develop sustainable solutions to protect coastal ecosystems and encourage climate-resilient livelihoods.

"The project brings together the climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation agendas," said Francisco Roquette, UNDP Deputy Representative speaking on behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for Mozambique, Myrta Kaulard, at the launch event. "Working in close respect with nature to improve climate resilience is an absolute priority."

The use of nature-based solutions for adapting to climate change is known as "ecosystem-based adaptation". Research around the world shows these ecosystem-based approaches are generally very cost-effective, as demonstrated in UNEP's Adaptation Gap Report 2021.

The Maputo Climate Change Assessment is based on the proposed Framework for Urban Climate Risk

Assessment developed by the Fifth Urban Research Symposium. The climate risk assessment framework focuses on how cities are affected by climate change as opposed to how they contribute to climate change, and thus adaptation rather than mitigation is highlighted.

The framework analyses climate risk from three interconnected vectors - hazards, vulnerability and adaptive capacities. The Maputo summary is based on the report titled "Climate Change Impacts in Urban Areas of Mozambique, A Pilot Initiative in Maputo City: Preliminary Assessment and Proposed Implementation Strategy", an initial output of the city's activities under the Cities and Climate Change Initiative.

Maputo, 22 September 2023 - UN-Habitat and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are strengthening the institutional and technical capacities of local government officials to build climate resilience in the Greater Maputo Area (GMA) of Mozambique.

The Maputo metropolitan area is experiencing rapid urbanization, influenced by population and economic growth, placing increased demand on natural resources. The new project will be focusing on ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) solutions, which are receiving increasing attention from the international community and are defined as the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to climate change.

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