



## **Annual Project Progress Report 2013** **(Reporting Period 1 January to 31 December 2013)**

**Project Title:** Establishment of a National Volunteer Agency

**Total Project Period:** August 2009 – December 2011, Extension up to December 2014

**Country:** Mozambique

**Atlas Award ID:** 00059708

**Total Award (USD):** UNDP 360,000.00 – SVF 176,774.73 – JTF 319,547.00

**Project ID(s):** 00074799

**Implementation Modality:** NIM (with total support of CO)

**Implementing Partner(s):** Ministry of Youth and Sport

**Responsible Parties:** UNV, National Committee on Volunteering, VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas)

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### **1. Summary of the project:**

The project will establish a National Volunteer Agency (NVA) to enhance coordination and partnerships between government and civil society organizations. This will be achieved by strengthening capacity of the National Committee on Volunteering (NCV) in implementing its activities related to promotion of volunteering in support of the national strategy on absolute poverty reduction, PARPA II. Secondly, the project in collaboration with the NCV, will strengthen the capacity of both local civil society organisations and relevant government entities in management of volunteers and projects.

### **2. Relevant UNV Strategic Framework/UNDAF/One UN outcome:**

The project contributes to outcome 7 of the UNDAF: People in Mozambique participate in shaping and monitoring a transparent and equitable national development agenda.

The project aims to establish a National Agency for Volunteerism to promote volunteerism as an instrument for economic and social development in general and for the realization of the MDGs in particular.

The strategy of the project is to support the formation foundation of a National Committee on Volunteering Secretariat (National Volunteer Infrastructure in UNV terms), and together with the NCV achieve the project objectives by increasing capacity and ownership of the National Committee on Volunteering. By the end of the project, NCV should have had the capacity to implement projects without any further UNV support.

Several key aspects of the strategy aim to strengthen the existing Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs). Specifically, the project will promote an enabling environment and a functioning coordination mechanism such that VIOs can address key development problems, including challenges related to local governance and HIV/AIDS. The project therefore strives to mainstream volunteering across sector plans and programmes.

The project has already advocated for law on volunteerism and has started to build up the capacity of VIOs through training sessions on management of volunteer programmes. The project was able to solicit commitment from Ministry of Youth and Sports to offer office space as a form of project ownership. The project was able to initiate research on volunteering at community level and this is being spearheaded by VSO.

### **3. Project progress during 2013 (1 January to 31 December):**

#### Output 1: Study on a National Policy on the voluntary sector ready to be submitted to the Government.

In 2010 a bill on volunteering and its regulation was approved then enacted by parliament into law. It is now part of the national legislation though a national policy on volunteering needs to be defined in order to facilitate the implementation of the law.

In the Annual Workplan (AWP) 2013 the first output, "Establishment of the National Volunteer Agency", was removed and substituted with "Study on a National Policy on the voluntary sector to be submitted to the Government". This output has not yet been achieved; a National Policy on Volunteering does not exist yet. This is why this output has been modified in AWP 2014 into "Policy Proposal on Volunteering ready for submission to Project Board and main volunteerism area stakeholders".



The NVA, together with key stakeholders, will develop a draft proposal on National Policy on the Voluntary Sector. This will be submitted to the Government for analysis by the end of the year 2014 .

Prior to developing the draft proposal on National Policy on the Voluntary Sector, NVA will must collect data on existing VIOs. The NVA and NUNVs have already started collecting data and key information on existing VIOs in Mozambique in order to develop and update VIO database and mapping.

Output 2: The capacity of the CNCPV and Volunteer Association are strengthen.

CNV and VIOs still have low capacity in project development and management. In order to address this gap, Volunteer Programme Management training sessions have been conducted for VIOs based in southern and central provinces. The sessions focus on empowering VIOs members, providing them with basic skills and knowledge in project management including project implementation and action plan development.

The first regional training session on volunteer programme management was held in Xai Xai in Gaza Province from 29<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>, October 2013. 30 participants representing 18 different VIOs from Inhambane, Gaza and Maputo City Provinces were trained during this course.

The second regional training session took place in Chimoio from the 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>, December 2014 involving 16 VIOs and 26 participants from Manica, Sofala and Tete provinces.

Output 3: Increased recognition at national level of the contribution to development of volunteerism and volunteers

The contributions to development of volunteerism and volunteers are not formally recognized in Mozambique and there are no official references in national reports.

The NVA will develop a system in order to value volunteers contributions to development. For now, preliminary contact has been made with the John Hopkins University to facilitate work on statistics on volunteer numbers and actions.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2013, International Volunteer Day, the NVA team organized the National Volunteers Gala which took place in Chimoio. During the celebration, which started with a match by volunteers, VIOs from Manica were given awards for their community work.

Another important contribution to Output 3 is the research on "Valuing Volunteers" carried out by VSO. VSO is conducting this research in several different countries. This research will help to determine the contribution volunteers make to poverty eradication in Mozambique.

#### **4. Project challenges:**

One of the main challenges the project faced related to timely achievement of results. In particular, the formation of the project team was only completed by the end of October 2013. This delay had substantial knock-on effects for the project implementation timeframe.

Another significant challenge was that law and regulations relating to volunteering have not yet been widely disseminated. As a result, most affiliated associations do not fully comply with these laws and regulations. For example, several VIOs in Mozambique pay 'volunteers' on a monthly basis. This form of payment has blurred the line between volunteering and regular employment as many would-be volunteers expect to be paid for volunteering.

Finally, there is no updated list of active Associations Involving Volunteers nor is there a national VIOs registry. This lack of documentation presents an ongoing challenge.

#### **5. Approximately how many volunteers were mobilized during 2013 through this project:**

- a) International UN Volunteers:** 1 IUNV Project Funded
- b) National UN Volunteers:** 4 NUNVs Project Funded
- c) Other volunteers** (i.e. not UN Volunteers): 60 Volunteers members of local associations



## 6. Lessons learnt:

The NVA is still in the process of being established. The project team is now fully operative and an office space has been made available by the Ministry of Youth and Sport and the project team will move to this office space shortly.

The Agency upto now does not have a *by law*, however, the legalization process should start in 2014. Moreover, a VIOs database is not yet available. This is why Output 1 "Establishment of a National Volunteer Agency" is going to be re-set in AWP 2014.

Despite the recent dissemination of pamphlets detailing the law on volunteerism, most of the VIOs and the community at large are not well-acquainted with it. As mentioned above, this hampers the ability of VIOs to correctly implement the law. During our training sessions a space has been given to the law on volunteerism but we believe that more awareness raising activities are required. This will be done during 2014 through a wide campaign involving different media.

Another constraint, also mentioned above, relates to the payment of some volunteers. It is important to reinforce the norm that volunteers are not paid and that volunteering is not a form of employment. In particular it is important that national policy reflects that volunteers are not given a salary. Standardizing expenses and subsidy processes for volunteers should be a priority action in the future.

## 7. Budget and delivery:

### a) Budget and Expenditure for the UNV components of the project for 2013:

ACTIVITY	FUNDS	DONOR	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE
Activity 2	71036	JTF	UNV/MJS	30,490.75	24,241.70	6,249.05
Activit 2	70100	SVF	UNV/MJS	11,482.00	14,476.81	(2,994.81)
Activity 3	71036	JTF	UNV/MJS	26,900.87	27,310.19	(409.32)
Activity 4	71036	JTF	UNV/MJS	7,984.02	-	7,984.02

### b) Delivery rate:

Activity N.	Percentage
Activity 2	92.2%
Activity 3	101.52%
Activity 4	0%

## 8. Future Work Plan:

As stated above, the AWP 2014 will consider the re-integration of Output 1 "Establishemet of a NVA" as it has not been fully achieved in the past years.

Training of VIOs on Volunteer Programme Management will continue in order to cover the remaining Northern Provinces of Mozambique that include Niassa, Nampula, Quelimane and Capo Delgado provinces and Maputo Province region.

Once the training cycle is completed, development pilot projects focusing on volunteer actions will be funded by the project. Project proposals submitted by local associations will be considered as concrete outcome of capacity building training,

The project team, Ministry of Youth and Sport and CNV, will continue consolidating the data and information on VIOs required with a view to setting up a complete national database by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2014.

All other project outputs are on target to be achieved by the end of 2014.



9. **Prepared by:** Elisa Morrone

10. **Date:** 28/02/2014

11. **Annexes:** *(Include as attachments any publications, articles, relevant photographs with captions and videos related to the project during the reporting period. Also share documentation of field visits and/or quotes from UN partners, local counterparts and/or community members for use in advocacy and communication materials)*