

Food & Business Applied Research Fund Bridging the Gaps between Policy and Practice on Land Governance, Inclusive Business and food Security in Mozambique



Consortium Members

Action Aid-Mozambique: Amade Sucá (Executive Director); Márcia Cossa (Economic Alternative Coordinator); Dakcha Achá (Project Officer)

Utrecht University – International Development Studies Group: Annelies Zoomers (Professor); Femke van Noorloos (Assistant Professor); Kei Otsuki (Senior Researcher)

Action Aid-The Netherlands: Ruud van den Hurk (Executive Director), Danny Wijnhoud (Senior Researcher)

Main Innovation Objective

The project aims to research on whether and how large-scale investments in Mozambique impact on local communities and how they can benefit local livelihoods and food security. More information can be found at: <http://knowledge4food.net/research-projects/mozambique-land-inclusive-business-food-security/>

Expected Impact

The project will outline possible models of investments that are inclusive, pro-poor and environmentally sustainable. It will offer in-depth analyses of whether locally-rooted private sector development provides promising alternatives for sustainable and inclusive development and food security for vulnerable local community members especially women.

Impact Activities and Results

A series of focus group discussions, participatory diagnoses and exchange of community experiences have been conducted. The communities are becoming aware of the importance of raising their voices, which were presented in accessible papers in an interdisciplinary meeting held in Utrecht in July 2015. Based on these voices, workshops are planned for September 2015 to prepare for community action plans.

Opportunities and Challenges

The project has found so far that communication and consultation between donors, investors, governments and communities have been poor. We need to ensure that investments will take the importance of the concerted Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) seriously, while training local communities to enhance their negotiation capacity by bridging internal divides and building consensus on how to organize themselves and improve livelihoods and food security.

