

CARE International in Mozambique



Participatory Poverty Assessment



Case Study in the Provinces of Nampula and Inhambane

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INTRODUCTION

According to the United Nations annual reports on progress and evaluation of poverty in the world, Mozambique, has been for many years on the list of the poorest countries in the world. On the last years although the country has been registering a continuous economic growth, characterized by the growth of 8.5% of the Gross Domestic Product of the year 2000, the poverty indicators show that about 70 percent of the Mozambican population still live/survive with less than 1 American dollar per day, the illiteracy rate is still very high (about 60%) and the access to basic services in the rural areas are very weak and with low quality.

CARE international has been in Mozambique since the year 1986 working together with the Government and its partners in order to reduce poverty in different geographical areas and intervention sectors in the rural communities of Mozambique. In the design and implementation of its approaches, CARE understands that it is important to incorporate the local knowledge as an important resource to develop more effective strategies.

It is based on the above mentioned context that the present study was designed and implemented to help on the CARE Mozambique strategically revision for the period of 2009-2011.

The main purpose of this study was to collect the necessary information in order to better understand how the communities participating on CARE Mozambique project understand and interpret the poverty and well being. This information will contribute for CARE to develop even better the endogenous programs and that they may incorporate the communities own perspective about the problems and solutions of the community development.

1. METHODOLOGY

1.1 Selection of the Districts and Communities

The methodology for the sample selection (I mean the districts and communities to be embraced by this study) was based on the previous bedding, according to some important identified characteristics for the poverty analysis in the communities of Inhambane and Nampula.

Nampula

In Nampula nine types of areas that are characteristic and that would be important were identified and selected in the districts and communities where the study will be carried out and these areas are namely:

1. Areas for the production of Sisal
2. Transport Corridor – Associated with the transportation of goods and services and HIV/AIDS.
3. Areas of Forest.
4. Urban and Peri-Urban Areas.
5. Strong Implementation Areas of Government Decentralization.
6. Cotton Planting Area.
7. Tobacco Planting Area
8. Areas related with the shortage of drinking water
9. Areas of weak precipitation

Taking into account these characteristics two districts were selected:

- ✘ The District of Angoche – sisal, peri-urban, shortage of drinking water, weak precipitation, strong decentralization.
- ✘ The District of Meconta – corridor, forest, urban/peri-urban, cotton and cashew nuts

Inhambane

In Inhambane 5 main areas with important characteristics were identified for the analysis of poverty and these areas are namely:

1. Fishing Communities
2. Areas with poor soils
3. Areas with problems of access to the market
4. Areas of animal production
5. Rural communities

Based on the above mentioned characteristics, two districts that “significantly” represent these types of areas were selected namely:

- ✘ Vilanculos: Fishing communities, and urban and peri-urban.
- ✘ Mabote: Access to the market, animal production, poor soils, rural communities.

For the two districts, the information sources were disaggregated by gender (Men and Women).

1.2 Information and data collection

The data collection was done from the focal groups that were facilitated in a total of 7 communities (4 in Inhambane and 3 in Nampula) having been administered 5 data collection tools in each one of the communities. And each one of these tools was applied for a group of men and women. Which means that in total 70 focal groups were administered (40 in Inhambane and 30 in Nampula), according to the chart that follows below:

Province	District	Community	Number of focal groups	
			Men	Women
Inhambane	Vilanculos	Mangalisse	5	5
	Mabote	Tessolo	5	5
		Manhique	5	5
		Maloca	5	5
TOTAL			40	
Nampula	Meconta	Ampita	5	5
		Teterene	5	5
	Nacaroa	Mulapane	5	5
TOTAL			30	

Due to the Jókwe hurricane the Angoche District which was initially foreseen as the sample of the study had to be substituted by the district of Nacaroa which offered better conditions for this effect.

1.3 Data analysis

The data analysis was done through an analysis of a “workshop”, which involved 24 members of CARE staff who participated on the data collection, and was facilitated by a consultant who is external to CARE Mozambique. The data analysis methodology had two main objectives: i) analyze the data collected for the survey, ii) facilitate the learning on qualitative data analysis for the staff of CARE Mozambique.

2. MAIN FINDINGS

The findings are divided according to the Logic Analysis:

Description → Interpretation → Implications

2.1 Description – themes and sub-categories

Of the data collected about poverty and well being of the communities of Inhambane and Nampula provinces, 8 main themes emerged which, by some way have been linked with causes and/or poverty consequences on the communities selected for the study, which are:

- Perception of poverty.
- Perception of well being.
- Social Groups
- Basic services.
- Food Security.
- Commerce.
- General Picture of the Community.
- Advocacy

2.2 Interpretation – voices, comparison

THEME 1: <u>POVERTY: Perception and Characteristics</u>	
Findings 1: Concept of poverty	There were no significant differences found concerning poverty perception between the communities selected by the study. For these communities poverty is mainly associated with the following factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Availability and access to the resources and social services: hospital, school, grinding mill, production, live stock, water, forestry resources✗ Social condition: physical deficiency, unemployment, families led by old people, to be widow/widower, orphan children living in substitute families, lack of initiatives, people incapable of working (old people and those who are chronically ill)

<p>Findings 2:</p> <p>Characteristics of poverty</p>	<p>Small differences were found in relation to the description of the factors associated to poverty, when separated by gender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The women tend to associate the characteristics of poverty more with domestic hygiene aspects and family stability <p style="text-align: right;"><i>“...to not have latrines ...”</i> <i>“...have a house, a husband and children” “...to have food, clothes to wear and to dress her children ...” etc.</i></p> ✘ While men tend to associate poverty mainly with “lack of initiative” and “scarcity of forest resources”
<p>Findings 3:</p> <p>Deprived Groups</p>	<p>It seems that men and women identify “deprived groups” in different ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ For women “the deprived” groups in the community are those: i) People who do not want to do anything, ii) those people without any initiative and thieves, iii) families without an agricultural area iv) families without food, v) families without a house ✘ For the men the “deprived” groups in the community are constituted by: i) Families who have nothing and only live by their pensions, ii) Blind people, iii) people who are handicapped, iv) People with chronically diseases and incapable of working <p>Nampula:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ Men – MASIKINI – widows, orphans, those with chronically diseases and the handicapped ✘ Women – MASIKINI Nasimola
<p>Findings 4:</p> <p>Causes of poverty</p>	<p>The perception of the communities in relation to the key causes of poverty varied a lot from community to community and from region to region p.e:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ Inhambane, community of Mangalisse – they point the lack of a market to sell fishing products, and the fishing material as the main constraint to come out of poverty ✘ For Inhambane, the community of Manhique – the lack of

	<p>live stock for animal agriculture, the lack of a market to sell construction material, to not have a family and lack of initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ For Inhambane, the community of Tessolo – lack of live stock, physical deficiency, lack of a grinding mill. ✘ For Inhambane, the community of Maloca – lack of live stock, physical deficiency and a market to sell construction material and lack of forest resources. ✘ Nampula, Mulapane – low incomes, lack of water fountains, low prices, low level of education, rottenness of cassava, problems with the beans, weak rains, poor fertility of the soils, lack of culture rotation, lack of capacity of buying agricultural inputs. ✘ There were no significant differences between men and women on what concerns the identification of the causes of poverty.
<p>Findings 5:</p> <p>Main critical aspects of poverty</p>	<p>In relation to the classification of the main critical aspects of poverty in the communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The communities were almost unanimous in saying that the main critical aspects of poverty are: Lack of water, lack of hospital and unemployment, however: ✘ For women besides the aspects that were mentioned above they additionally referred that they lack domestic utensils; the condition of being a widow, and the physical deficiency. ✘ While the men additionally referred that there is lack of live stock.
<p>Findings 6:</p> <p>The Consequences of Poverty</p>	<p>There were no clear differences observed in the identification of the consequences of poverty between men and women, but there were regional differences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ In Inhambane they referred the following most common consequences of poverty in the region: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase of the family responsibility for the women; 2. Immigration to the neighboring country South Africa 3. Lack of food 4. Robberies 5. Bandits 6. Deaths 7. Increase of the number of widows/widowers 8. Increase of vulnerable and orphan children 9. Diseases

	<p>10. Children abandoning schools 11. Exploration and child abuse 12. Premature marriages</p> <p>✘ In Nampula they referred the most common consequences of poverty:</p> <p>1. Thieves (who steal animals, home/domestic goods and at the agricultural fields) 2. Hunger 3. Women abandoned by their husbands and without any means to take care of their children. 4. Lack of improved seeds</p>
<p>Findings 7:</p> <p>Strategies to come out of poverty</p>	<p>Among the strategies considered by the communities as a way of coming out of poverty the following strategies were referred:</p> <p>✘ Make the community structure or leadership functional in a way that they can handle the worries and concerns and of the community; ✘ Construction of a building (material) to operate as an emergency centre of the community; ✘ Sell their resources (wood for example) in order to get money from the community that will serve for actions that can help to develop the community; ✘ Persuade the local government or partners and the private sector to establish a refrigeration system in order to conserve the fishing products; ✘ Cultivate cultures that can tolerate the droughts; ✘ Support from some NGOs;</p>

<p>THEME 2: <u>WELL BEING: Characteristics and Perception</u></p>	
<p>Findings 1:</p> <p>Concept of Well Being</p>	<p>✘ The perception about well being are similar among the communities, having been referred the following aspects related to the concept of well being:</p> <p>1. To have clothes, 2. To have food, 3. To have means of transport, 4. To have a business, 5. To have access to health services 6. To have houses built of cement, 7. Boats and fishing nets. 8. To be capable of working; 9. To have live stock and goats;</p>

<p>Findings 2:</p> <p>Characteristics of well being</p>	<p>However, some specific differences were observed related to the characteristics of well being, when analyzed by the gender of the respondents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The men identified the following characteristics of well being; to have live stock, to have an agricultural field, to have toilets and latrines, to be capable of working, fidelity on the marriages, boats and fishing nets, sea food business, to have drinking water ✘ The women identified the following characteristics of well being; to have an agricultural field, to have live stock, to have a house, to have knowledge to be able to use the latest production techniques, to have a job, to have a boat, to have a net, a family without fights, clothes, to have means of transport
<p>Findings 3:</p> <p>Motivating Factors of Well Being</p>	<p>Men and Women differed in the identification of factors that motivate the Well Being in the communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The men identified the following factors: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The means of transport motivate the community development because it allows more commerce/business, in case someone is ill if they have transport they can easily get to the Medical Center or Hospital. 2. Live stock is a big potential because it allows the farmers to easily open/start their fields, transport, consume and selling of meat to be able to have money and with money they can be able to carry on or implement different activities for the development of the community itself. 3. For the community to have live stock is the same as having a bank at home. . 4. According to the strategic needs of the men, some of the things identified are being implemented, having as a positive result the improvement of their life level. ✘ The women identified the following factors: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are families with children who go to school and also help their parents, this improves the well being. 2. The agricultural field is the fundamental base of sustainability of the rural families. 3. Have a house that allows the whole family to live in comfort, and protect the production. 4. For the community having live stock is the same as having a bank at home. 5. Good Health – to develop any activity the person

	<p>should be in good health conditions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Boat and fishing net – is the base of the income of the community, main economical activity of the community. 7. Employment – because if there is a member of the family with a payable job, he/she can create acquire other goods that the family needs. 8. Business because with money they get profit and expand their business
<p>Findings 4: Well Being Tendencies</p>	<p>In relation to well being tendencies it varies from community to community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ In the community of Maloca, Inhambane province – lately this community has been affected by natural calamities such as Floods and Droughts, which affected negatively but there are efforts from the members of the community in improving the situation. ✘ For the community of Manhique, Inhambane province – the members believe that the tendency of well being is improving because there are schools already, hospitals, water pumps, but this effort is threaten due to hunger. The people that are most affected by this negative characteristics are: the elderly, those people that are chronically ill and the handicapped. ✘ For Mangalisse, Inhambane province – the tendencies of well being are in a stationary state. This community essentially depends on the natural resources (the sea and the soils). For the case of agricultural fields, if it does not rain the production is very low, and in the issue of fishing it depends on the state of the weather and on the sea level.

<p>THEME 3: <u>SOCIAL GROUPS</u></p>	
<p>Findings 1: Existence of organized social groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The district of Vilanculos, in the province of Inhambane, has the majority of its region located on the coast and the fishing activities constitute one of the income sources of great expression that is why the Fishermen Association have a special importance.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The district of Mabote, in the province of Inhambane, because it is located inside the province it is more dedicated to agriculture and livestock a fact that allows the existing groups to work on these areas, this means that agricultural and livestock associations have a great importance.
<p>Findings 2:</p> <p>The importance of social groups in poverty reduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ In the community of the district of Vilanculos they believe that if there were employment opportunities and agricultural projects in the district that would facilitate the inclusion of people in organized groups and they would have more effective answers in the reduction of poverty. The communities of the district of Mabote think that initiatives developed on the local level such as mobilizing groups, collective activities carried out and the request of the intervention of the local leaders can be effective for the reduction of poverty.
<p>Findings 3:</p> <p>Vulnerable groups – People who do not belong to any of the social groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ The old people are considered one of the most vulnerable groups and they tend to not belong to any specific organized social group. Since they have an old age, they should not do a work that requires much strength. ✘ The youth is also considered a group that does not tend to belong to any specific social group. Because due to their age and the will to enjoy their youth most of the times they prefer to work on something that gives them an immediate income, capable of supporting their immediate needs. But on the other hand, there is a perception that the youth are excluded from the process of decision making on the community development.
<p>Findings 4:</p> <p>Nature of the Social Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ Most of the existing groups in the communities are self sustained by members and not to support the vulnerable groups. ✘ The churches have a very important role in taking care of the vulnerable groups in the communities due to their spiritual nature. ✘ An example to follow is to follow the Maloca community mobilizing groups because they are elements of the community chose by the community to serve the needy and it operates very well according to the people who were interviewed. ✘ One of the greatest challenges is to create awareness on the social groups and develop activities that support the most vulnerable people (OVC, old people, chronically ill

	people, etc) besides self sustaining of the group members.
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THEME 4: BASIC SERVICES	
Findings 1:	
Most common problems	<p>Among the most common problems related to the basic services, the following were highlighted:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Health and Social Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Lack of access to health services (medical centers, hospitals)✓ Lack of support to the old people. <p style="text-align: center;">Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Insufficiency of water pumps.✓ Water pumps located very far from the communities <p style="text-align: center;">Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Lack of access to education (long distances)✓ Lack of primary and secondary schools. <p style="text-align: center;">Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Lack of police stations in the community <p style="text-align: center;">Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Lack of improved roads✓ Lack of transport✓ Lack of electrical energy

<p>Findings 2:</p> <p>Community perspective for the resolution of problems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✘ Men – Catholic Church and a Mosque – they help those orphans who are ill, the widows in the agricultural activities. They help those in need to build their houses.✘ Women – Catholic Church and a Mosque – they help those orphans who are ill, the widows in the agricultural activities.
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2.3 Implications – for the community, SO, CO

TOPIC OR QUESTION	COMMUNITY	SUB-OFFICE	CENTRAL OFFICE	OTHER
Aspects to maintain: - agricultural practice	Improve the practice use for the conservation of soils	To motivate the practice of OWS	Collect funds to continue investing on the agricultural area	Support on the control fires
Aspects to be changed: - commerce	Better organization to improve the negotiating power	Support on the development of social infrastructures which are responsible for the commerce in the community	Make a linkage among the sub-offices and those who had the best success in this area in other countries.	The government should give information to SIMA and to the farmers
	Negotiate and sign contracts with the producers or buyers of agricultural products in the beginning of the season.	Train the leaders on negotiation techniques	Hire specialists in these areas	
	Improve the access roads	Credit for local commerce through the local partners.	Prepare studies that can help us better understand the situation	
	Promote advocacy campaigns to the government.		Develop projects in the area of commerce	
- lack of employment	Get other income activities	Capacity building on issues related with management and basic accounting for the development of small income activities.	Support the sub-office on the design of projects that help on the capacity development	
		Facilitate study visits on issues related with rural entrepreneurship	Introduce the Study Circles in the sub-offices	

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TOPIC OR QUESTION	COMMUNITY	SUB-OFFICE	CENTRAL OFFICE	OTHER
- animal production	Develop the production (breeding) of animals of small species	- create an awareness and incentive people on the breeding of animal of small species.	Establish partnerships on a macro level (Ministry of agriculture) and discuss responsibilities Make funds available for live stock breeding.	Give technical support to those communities that will benefit of the live stock breeding
		Create linkages between the organized groups of the community and the government institutions		
- diversification of food diet	Breed animals of small species	Support on the consciousness of a diversified food diet	Establish partnerships on a macro level (Ministry of health) and discuss responsibilities Develop nutrition projects using the study circle methodology	Create awareness and prepare the health institutions to make a follow up on the terrible cases of bad nutrition.
	Opening of vegetable fields/gardens.			
- working groups	Create an association or a group of farmers	Create an awareness for the appearance of farmer groups		
		Strengthen the groups that appear including its legalization		
		Facilitate partnerships among the communities and specialized institutions		
Widows and single mothers	??????	????????	????????	Women and Social Affairs???
Data to be collected		Strategies of the Nampula communities in relation to the situation that they are living	Continue to suggest qualitative studies that are participative	

TOPIC OR QUESTION	COMMUNITY	SUB-OFFICE	CENTRAL OFFICE	OTHER
Be capable of working	1. Organized in groups and associations.	1. Give technical support to organized initiatives	1. Design strategies that support the local initiatives.	1. The government should fund and follow up on these initiatives of the community.
	2. Always meet to plan the activities	2. Strengthen the capacities	2. assure the sustainability of these initiatives	2. The government should assure the continuity of this type of community initiatives.
	3. Widen the cultivation areas and diversify the activities	3. Establish linkages between different institutions in the community	3. Make a follow up	
Business	1. Incentive the local small business men/women.	1. Establish a linkage between the producers and the buyers	1. design strategies that support the local initiatives.	1. Provide loans for business initiative
	2. Create savings and rotative loan initiatives.	2. Support savings and local loans initiatives..		
	3. Motivate the small business men/women to practice fair prices			2. Assure them that there is a market
Have a personal hygiene	1. Create hygiene mobilizing groups	1. Establish a linkage between the health services and the community.	1. Design projects related with health and sanitary education	1. The government should train activists on sanitary health
	2. Accept messages about the prevention of certain diseases	2. Promote sanitary education initiatives.	2. make a follow up of these projects	2. The government should facilitate the spread of the messages

TOPIC OR QUESTION	COMMUNITY	SUB-OFFICE	CENTRAL OFFICE	OTHER
	3. Maintain the local initiatives on the prevention and fight against such diseases			3. Assure access to Health
Education	1. bet on the education of their children	1. Incentive female education.	1. Design projects that deal with the education of the community	1. Te government should allow the access of education to everybody 2. The government should Promote Adult education
	2. Participate on the adult literacy groups	2. Facilitate the link between the school and the community		
	3. Link the school and the community.			
Natural Resources	1. create associations that deal with natural resources management.	1. Facilitate trainings on resources management to the community.		
		2. Facilitate linkages between the institutions that deal with the area of resources exploration.	1. Design projects that deal with the management of resources	1. Assure that the community benefits from these resources.
Diseases	1. Accept to fulfill the messages	1. Promote school health	1. Design a strategic intervention in the health area.	1. Mobilize the communities
	2. comply with health services	2. Continue with the projects related with chronically diseases	2. Make a follow up of these projects	2. Guarantee access to health services
	3. Promote a dialogue about certain diseases	3. Establish a linkage between the communities and the health services.		
Child Work	1. Take their children to school	1. Promote the community education	1. Design Projects that deal with education	1. The government should mobilize parents to take their children to school

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TOPIC OR QUESTION	COMMUNITY	SUB-OFFICE	CENTRAL OFFICE	OTHER
	2. Promote a dialogue about the importance of education on the community	2. involve the parents on education initiatives	2. make a follow up of these projects	2. Education for everybody

3. FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

3.1 Dissemination – community, SO, CO

Events of dissemination and validity findings of this study are planned for the communities selected for this study, in the sub-offices of Nampula and Vilanculos (involving the extension agents in the communities selected for the study) and on National Office level.

3.2 Action plan – community, SO, CO?

The dissemination teams with the support of field staff of different projects that are being carried out in communities selected by the study should support the communities in developing an action plan in answering the identified findings of this study.

3.3 Potential areas of: Advocacy and design of new proposals

The findings obtained in this study, specially related with the implications for the government and other different stakeholders of CARE, can constitute areas of great advocacy for CARE-Mozambique

4. CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS

4.1 abilities that can be developed

Documentation ability – especially for qualitative material – is presently weak. It was developed for a certain staff through the present exercise, including training, field work, analysis and reflection, but there is still need of more work and a continuous reinforcement. Especially on elaborating a report, data maintenance, analysis, monitoring and hearing the communities.

Reflection ability – We can see this interest among the participants who are preparing a workshop on data analysis. This capacity increased progressively during the workshop, however, it is now weak in the organization and a capacity building is needed, reinforcement and development of systems and strategies that regularly engage the staff in reflection sessions. This may influence the work quality.

Analysis ability – of qualitative material – it is presently weak in the organization, but was definitely developed among the participants during the “workshops”.

However, there is a need to develop strategies and systems of engagement on a regular basis.

Visualization ability – to logically organize the ideas, presentation and dissemination, etc. – the interest is there, however it was not very used and can definitely be developed. E.g. “*mind mapping*”, other forms of graphic visualization, use of cameras and photographs, use symbols, etc. One more time it needs to be reinforced, peer revision, reflection and a continuous effort. Can make the reports more interesting and more useful.

4.2 Possibilities of Future Surveys

- ✘ “Immersion” Study whereby the staff will make an observation of the participants for more than 24-48 hours as a visitor of a family in the community.
- ✘ Develop a study about poverty with the community – choose some communities that show interest and responsibility. It would be possible to share a little more about the design and planification of the community itself.
- ✘ More studies similar to this one in other uncovered geographical areas (in Nampula more than 8 areas related to poverty were identified on this phase)
- ✘ Develop DM&A strategies, abilities and indicators.