



# Mozambique

March, 2018  
<http://mozambique.unfpa.org/>

## Special Newsletter on the Visit of Ms. Laura Londén, Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA, to the Republic of Mozambique



Ms. Londén and Dr. Onabanjo were accompanied by Ms. Wojnar to the Coalizão Youth Association, where they met with inspiring youth activists and mentors.

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Ms. Laura Londén, the Deputy Executive Director (Management) traveled to the Republic of South Africa to participate in the 1st Anniversary of the SheDecides Movement, a global movement to encourage and empower “girls and women [to] decide about their bodies, their lives, their futures, without question.” While in the region, Ms. Londén was accompanied by Dr. Julitta Onabanjo, the Regional Director of UNFPA for East and Southern Africa, to the Republic of Mozambique from March 4 to March 6, 2018. This country familiarization mission gave the Deputy Executive Director the opportunity to

meet with UNFPA partner Ministries, organizations and development partners who have contributed to the successful implementation of essential programmes and initiatives in Mozambique such as the well-known girls empowerment programme, Rapariga Biz. The mission also allowed Ms. Londén to obtain insight on operational challenges and opportunities within the context of UN system reform.



# Engaging with the Government on the Demographic Dividend

Ms. Londén met with UNFPA partner Ministers, H.E. José Pacheco, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, H.E. Nyeleti Mondlane, Minister of Youth and Sports and H.E. Adriano Maleiane, Minister of Economy and Finance. These meetings allowed UNFPA and the Government of Mozambique to reinforce the relationship between the two entities and reaffirm their joint efforts to implement the demographic dividend agenda by ensuring full inclusion of Mozambican youth in national economic development.

Mozambique is considered a pioneer in the field of adolescent sexual and reproductive health. The Government's efforts gained particular traction in Mozambique following the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development leading to the inception of the Geração Biz (PGB) Program, a multi-sectoral initiative that was piloted in 1999 and fully scaled-up to all provinces by 2007. Ms. Londén praised and acknowledged the Government's ability to achieve what many other adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) programmes in Africa have not i.e. large scale and sustained scale up of a complementary set of interventions through the Geração Biz Program.



UNFPA Deputy Executive Director and Regional Director met with the Minister of Youth and Sports and her Deputy.



Ms. Londén and Resident Representative of UNFPA Mozambique with the Minister of Economy and Finance.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation received Ms. Laura Londén, Dr. Onabanjo and Ms. Wojnar to discuss advancing the demographic dividend agenda.

# Joining together to achieve Agenda 2030, the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in Mozambique



Members of the United Nations Country Team and the Resident Coordinator met with Ms. Londén and Dr. Onabanjo to discuss the UN Reform and Agendas 2030 and 2063.

Mozambique was chosen as one of the pilot countries for the “Delivering as One” (DaO) approach in 2007, an integral part of UN’s reform efforts at global level. The UN in Mozambique carries out its mission through a programme of cooperation jointly developed and agreed with the Government of Mozambique, the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which is jointly implemented by the different UN agencies operating in the Country.

During her visit to Mozambique, the Deputy Executive Director was able to engage with the Resident Coordinator, Ms. Marcia de Castro, and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) on the issue of UN Reform and discuss progress on the achievement of the UNDAF within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Similarly, Ms. Londén also met with close partners of UNFPA to exchange views and knowledge on UN Reform, the UNFPA change management process, and bilateral/multilateral cooperation in Mozambique.

These meetings provided an opportunity for UNFPA to underscore its commitment to continued collaboration with sister agencies and development partners in delivering a coherent, coordinated multi-sectoral response towards the achievement of the UNDAF, the SDG Agenda, and the African Union 2063 Agenda in Mozambique. Ms. Londén advised the UNCT and development partners to join together to create innovative ways to capitalize on opportunities, coordinate effectively, and engage with the Government on the Sustainable Development Goals.



Key development partners of UNFPA in Mozambique met with the Deputy Executive Director and Regional Director for a working dinner.

# Reiterating UNFPA Support to the IV Population and Housing Census in Mozambique



The high-level visitors were able to see the on-going post-enumeration data processing at the center.

Indicator	Country Data	Comments on Mozambique data
<b>Total Population (million)</b> <i>INE – Census 2017</i>	28.9	Population increased in 40.2% between 2007-2017
<b>Population aged 10-24 (million)</b>   <i>Pop projection (INE, 2010)</i>	8.9	Represent 1/3 of the total population.
<b>Population growth rate (%)</b> <i>Pop projection (INE, 2010)</i>	2.6	
<b>Total fertility rate</b> <i>IMASIDA, 2015</i>	5.3	
<b>Adolescent fertility rate</b> <i>2015 IMASIDA</i>	194	Mozambique has one of the highest adolescent fertility rate in the region.
<b>HIV prevalence among young people (15-24)</b>	7%	Among the youth, the prevalence rate is 7% (Male 3.2%; female 9.8%).
<b>Gender Inequality Index</b> <i>HDR, 2015</i>	0.574	Ranked 139 out of 149.

The 2017 Population and Housing Census represents the single largest source of population data collected in Mozambique providing the state, public bodies and the private sector a full and detailed profile of the population and households down to the smallest geographical unit. It also provides the master sample frame for data collection during inter-census periods and will be central to setting and measuring targets developed as part of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Owing to the financial crisis that began in 2016, the government could not fully finance the total USD 80 M budget of the census. In order to assist the government to mobilize resources, UNFPA established a Trust Fund to respond to a specific financial gap in the national budget and actively advocated international partners' contribution to the Census by organizing policy dialogues, updating the national

work plan, analyzing the budget and providing world class technical expertise. As a result, USD 10 M was mobilized, which has financed trainings, procurement and logistics required to conduct the enumeration. Owing to the advocacy and technical advice, the World Bank, Government of India, and Sweden also contributed funds (USD 30.6 M) directly to the government.

On March 5th, Ms. Londén and Dr. Onabanjo visited the Census Data Processing Center where they received a brief of the census process and a report of the preliminary results of the IV Population and Housing Census from Arão Balate, the Director of Census and Surveys of the National Institute of Statistics. The primary results revealed the scale and speed of the population growth in Mozambique (28.9 million in 2017 from 20.6 million 2007), with 65%

of the population below the age of 25.

This youthful population structure can create enormous opportunity for the growth of the country if adequate investments are made in education, health care, social protection, and job creation. Harnessing the demographic dividend is an imminent opportunity for all the partners, (the Government, UN, civil society organizations and development partners) to harness this young population, create opportunities for them and create greater and more sustainable income through growth strategies that include this key



# Encouraging the youth of Mozambique to lead the way to a brighter future



Visit to the SMS Biz Counselors Center implemented by the Coalizão Youth Association.

On the last day of their mission, the Deputy Executive Director and the Regional Director visited Coalizão, a Mozambican Youth Association which is the main NGO implementing partner of the Geração Biz programme (PGB), the multi-sectoral coordination mechanism (Health, Youth, Education and Gender) existing at national and provincial levels to address multidimensional youth-related development issues.

The visitors were briefed about three UNFPA-financed projects implemented by the youth association and key line ministries: i) SMS BIZ - where youth register via cell phones and have a platform to address personal issues that are answered via sms by Coalizão volunteer counselors, ii) RAPARIGA BIZ—mentoring

program targeting 1,000,000 vulnerable young girls in Nampula and Zambezia provinces in the areas of health, education and entrepreneurship with the express aim of reducing child marriage and early pregnancy, and iii) UBRAF – focusing on HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Londen praised the youth activists, volunteers, and mentors for the work they are doing to increase knowledge and access to sexual and reproductive health and rights for their peers in Mozambique. She was touched by the personal stories of behavior and lifestyle changes shared by the young female mentors and their dedication to the empowerment of other girls in their communities.





Lúcia, 18yrs old, a mentor in Zambézia Province showing one of her mentees how she uses SMS BIZ/U-Report on her mobile phone.

Snapshot of Progress to Date	
Total # SMS Biz users	134,638
# Questions fielded by counsellors	480,000 (Oct 2015 – Feb. 2018)
Safe Space Users	23,518 girls and young women between (10-24)
Youth-Friendly Center visitors through Rapariga Biz	77% of adolescents and youth clients
Rapariga Biz girls reintegrated into school	53% (in 2016)
% with comprehensive knowledge about SRH and HIV-AIDS prevention	73% young people aged 15-24 (in 2017)



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Group Photo with the staff of UNFPA Mozambique.