

August 27, 2012

Comments form Germany on the Approval by Mail: Mozambique: Sustainable Land & Water Resources Management Project (SLWRMP) (AfDB)

Dear Patricia,

please find attached the comments form Germany.

We welcome the proposed project, and would like to commend all involved parties for submitting a well prepared proposal. There are no major objections from our point of view. We would like to request, however, that our recommendations be incorporated during project implementation.

Kind regards,

Frank

Frank Fass-Metz
Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

**Comments on proposed project:
Mozambique
Sustainable Land & Water Resources Management Project (SLWRMP)**

Summary

We welcome the proposed project, and would like to commend all involved parties for submitting a well prepared proposal. There are no major objections from our point of view. We would like to suggest, however, that our recommendations (see **bold** highlights below) be incorporated during project implementation.

Individual Comments on the Proposed Project

The proposed project represents a fairly standard sustainable agriculture/land and water management approach. While this might be the right approach in this particular part of Gaza province, the document is not very explicit about what the climate challenges are that this approach is trying to address. The climate scenarios are depicted in relatively broad and general terms. It is therefore difficult to assess from the document whether the approach taken is an adequate response to the questions and challenges climate change poses in this region. **We therefore request elaborating more clearly how the Project will addresses specific climate challenges.**

In relation to financial resources allocated for investment, the area covered by agriculture water infrastructure development is relatively small. This raises questions especially about the high financial rate of return (FIRR). Drip irrigation can produce a

high financial internal rate of return with high value crops. In the document it is not clear enough how these rates are possible with maize, rice and vegetables. Also the issues of institutional arrangements for irrigation investments to work, i.e. maintenance, land and water rights etc. have not been spelled out. **We therefore recommend being more explicit about the conditions for the approach to work, and spell out more clearly how the high financial rate of return (FIRR) is going to be achieved.**

Comments on Cross-Cutting Issues

Learning

The proposal makes only very brief mention of “*knowledge building*” but does not spell out how and with whom in Mozambique this is to be achieved. Also, when looking at the overall architecture of the proposal, the issue of learning seems insufficiently addressed in our view. The proposal does state that “the project will systematically document new lessons and experience for future use”. It remains very vague, however, in outlining how and by whom this will be achieved. The issue of how lessons learned in the SLWRMP will feed back into the *overall* knowledge management of the SPCR for the benefit of other countries and actors is not being discussed altogether. **We therefore recommend that the proposal provide more detail on how learning will be supported, both within Mozambique’s SPCR and as input of Mozambique’s SPCR to the PPCR as a whole, and how and in which roles Mozambican university and research institutions will be engaged.**

Synergies with German Climate Change Related Engagement in the Country / Region

The province chosen is neighbouring the provinces that an adaptation project supported by Germany will be implemented in. **We strongly encourage communication and exchange of experiences during implementation** as a number of issues addressed are similar yet the ways in which they are being addressed are different, **and recommend that both Projects actively seek communication about implementation experiences.**