

PARTNERING TO MAKE BUDGETS WORK FOR THE PEOPLE

Centro de Integridade Pública The Center for Public Integrity (CIP) - Mozambique

The Centro de Integridade Pública (CIP), or Center for Public Integrity, was founded in 2005 to promote democracy and human rights in Mozambique. The organization conducts research and advocacy on fiscal transparency and decentralization and monitors public-sector procurement, anti-poverty programs, and extractive industries operating in the sub-Saharan African nation.

CIP partners with a number of domestic and international organizations, such as Transparency International, Global Integrity, the Project for Democratic Municipal Governance, and TIRI – Making Integrity Work. CIP is also a member of the G20 Anti-Poverty Civil Society Platform, a group of 20 organizations monitoring the implementation of the government's poverty reduction plan, and was recently appointed the G20 representative in the government's Anti-Corruption National Forum.

CIP Monitors the Political Process in Mozambique

CIP has maintained a singular focus on corruption and graft in recent years. While Mozambique has come a long way since the ratification of its 1990 constitution, there is still room for further progress. Some government institutions are relatively weak, and low-level fraud is endemic. CIP addresses these issues by engaging with government ministries and pressuring policymakers to implement a more comprehensive anti-corruption strategy. CIP first identified significant gaps in the country's legislative framework for addressing corruption in 2006, and in 2008 it produced a provocative report detailing systemic weaknesses in Mozambican institutions.

CIP's report outlines strategies to bring Mozambique more in line with international standards established in the UN Convention against Corruption, the Protocol for the Community Development of Southern Africa against Corruption, and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. While these standards were endorsed by the government of Mozambique, they are not yet written into law. For example, current anti-corruption statutes do nothing to curtail corruption in the private sector, as they apply only to cases in which at least one party is an employee or agent of the state. CIP is pushing to fill these gaps.

CIP's report now serves as the basis for a massive overhaul of Mozambique's legislative framework on corruption. New legislation was approved by the Council of Ministers and will be sent to the National Assembly for review during its next session. The Ministry of Justice has agreed to hold a series of public forums on the issue, and authorities have started to interpret existing law more strictly, which led to a new wave of prosecutions in 2008. Pressure from CIP also led the government of Mozambique to join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in 2009. By joining the EITI, the government

Mozambique
Open Budget Index 2010
Overall Score: 28
Government provides minimal information to the public on how it manages public resources.

| Availability of budget documents critical for effective public input: | |
|---|-----|
| Pre-Budget Statement | No |
| Executive's Budget Proposal | Yes |
| Citizens Budget | No |
| Enacted Budget | Yes |
| In-Year Reports | No |
| Mid-Year Review | No |
| Year-End Report | Yes |
| Audit Report | Yes |
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Esta é uma iniciativa conjunta do Centro de Integridade Pública e da Associação de Parlamentares Europeus para África (AWEPA), que visa assegurar transparência e integridade nos processos eleitorais em Moçambique.



has agreed to follow a rigid standard for transparency in awarding contracts for the extraction of Mozambique's natural resources.

Building off recent momentum in fighting graft, CIP is more closely monitoring political corruption and democratic integrity. CIP's Mozambique Political Process Bulletin, published jointly with the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA), has covered elections and democratization in the country since 1992. The Bulletin highlights news collected from journalists and citizens

during both national and municipal-level elections and is published most frequently during election cycles. CIP's most effective technique to monitor elections for fraud and inconsistencies has been to enlist the help of voters.

During the 2008 local elections, CIP implemented FrontlineSMS, a grassroots mass text messaging system, to solicit citizen observations of polling stations around the country. The program was so successful CIP expanded its use in the 2009 national elections. CIP increased the number of available lines that could

receive messages and published citizen-generated reports of campaign and polling irregularities all around Mozambique on its website. By publicizing its program through television, radio, and newspaper advertisements, CIP was able to enlist the help of "citizen correspondents" in all of Mozambique's 43 municipalities. CIP hopes that by fighting corruption and facilitating grassroots monitoring of elections, the government will be able to build trust within communities and will begin to implement policies that better reflect the priorities of the people.

CIP's Participation in the Partnership Initiative

While the quality of governance in Mozambique has improved significantly in recent years, the country still lacks a tradition of accountability and responsiveness in the public sector. According to the Open Budget Index 2010, Mozambique provides only minimal information to the public on how it manages public resources. There are few opportunities for parliament to become involved in the budgeting process, and oversight bodies are too weak to be effective in monitoring the executive's budget proposals.

To study the effects of these institutional deficiencies, CIP implemented a local government monitoring project in six districts. The results of this project demonstrated that there was a disconnect between the stated goals of district development plans and the actual budget of local governments. The allocation of resources at the national level did not respond to the range of needs in Mozambique's various localities, resulting in inefficiencies and opportunities for waste, fraud, and abuse.

With the support of the Partnership Initiative, CIP plans to renew and expand its local government monitoring program. The organization will work in 30 districts in 9 provinces across Mozambique to train citizens to conduct expenditure tracking at the community level. The CIP will compile and analyze data collected by the community monitors, comparing it to national and local level development plans. This method of analysis seeks to create linkages between budget processes at the national, provincial, and district level by tracking the flow of resources at all levels of government and then auditing their execution. CIP's comprehensive approach to budget monitoring in Mozambique will provide a framework for the organization to advocate for more progressive and effective social investment.

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The IBP's Partnership Initiative is a collaborative effort that seeks to enhance the impact of civil society budget work in selected countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The initiative strives to contribute to the development of sustainable institutions; to increase public access to timely, reliable, and useful information; to enhance the effective participation of civil society in policy and budget processes; and to establish a platform of good practices on which future generations of civil society can build.