GRANT FACT SHEET





Ecosystem-based Adaptation to climate change in the Maputo Environmental Protection Area: Conserving and building resilience





Project duration	June 2022 - May 2027
Country/ies	Mozambique
Lead organisation	Peace Parks Foundation
Partners	ADRA Germany, ADRA Mozambique, Livaningo, Centro Terra Viva (CTV), Associação do Meio Ambiente (AMA)
Total project costs	€ 7,854,031
Blue Action Fund grant	€ 5,914,768 (75%)
Match funding	€ 1,939,263 (25%)



In 2019, the Government of Mozambique proclaimed the Maputo Environmental Protection Area, located in southern Mozambique and bringing together the Maputo Special Reserve, Ponta do Ouro Marine Reserve and Inhaca Island Partial Reserve. The area is part of the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area linking up with the iSimangaliso Wetland Park in South Africa, and has been submitted to UNESCO for recognition as a World Heritage Site. This region is considered one of the most biologically diverse and endangered ecoregions on earth. It is one of the most important turtle nesting sites in Mozambique and home to many rare and endangered species such as migratory whales, dugongs, and loggerhead and leatherback turtles. Dominant habitats include extensive mangrove forests, seagrass meadows and coral reefs, which shape biodiversity and the socioeconomics of local communities.

Climate-risk assessments show that climate hazards pose high risks to the region's ecosystems, particularly from extreme weather events, likely to physically damage ecosystems and negatively impact already vulnerable communities, who are heavily reliant on natural resources. Compounded

by unsustainable human pressures, the effects of climate change are already being felt on these vital ecosystems and small-scale fisheries, as are knock-on effects on tourism revenue, which must be urgently addressed.

The recent declaration of the Envrionmental Protection Area and resulting management responsibilities present perfect timing and a unique opportunity to set this landscape on a path to long-term sustainable development, by providing the financial and technical capacities needed to formally adopt climate adaptation strategies as a priority. Through this project, a human-centered and evidence-based ecosystem approach to adaptation and disaster risk reduction will be implemented, focusing on awareness, preventative and restorative measures. The project will bring together local authorities and civil society structures to help engage, enable and empower vulnerable coastal communities to take control of their own future. Through the lessons learned in this context, the region has the potential to become a lighthouse project for how to effectively implement ecosystem-based adaptation throughout marine protected areas in Mozambique.

KEY TARGETS

Newly created MPAs: N/A Effectively managed MPAs: 4,200 km²

Number of beneficiaries: 18.620

KEY ACTIVITIES AND AREAS OF WORK



MPA GOVERNANCE

- Update of MPA management plans to include climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Trainings and technical assistance to support implementation of operational plans
- Infrastructure improvements to increase resilience against the impacts of climate change
- Business plans and sustainable financing strategies
- Capacity building of government agencies and contributions to policy and regulatory frameworks



SPECIES CONSERVATION/SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

- Support for monitoring, control and enforcement to prevent illegal and unsustainable fishing
- Capacity building of Community Fishing Councils and Community Natural Resource Management Committees
- Awareness campaings on protection of natural resources



SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

- Climate vulnerability assessments, disaster risk reduction and response plans, early warning systems
- Creation of sustainable employment and initiatives, to increase value added in supply chains
- Vocational, skills and financial literacy trainings, promotion of women leadership
- ▶ Public and reproductive health programmes
- Manufacting of and promotion of sustainable cooking stoves



HABITAT CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

- Mangrove forest, seagrass bed and coastal dune rehabilitation
- Capacity building of communities to undertake restoration activities
- Monitoring of ecosystem health and management recommendations



