

Mozambique

Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology

ROAM COUNTRY BRIEF

Agroforestry systems generate the best combination of socio-economic and environmental benefits, as demonstrated by its high profitability and carbon sequestration potential.

Why forest landscape restoration (FLR)

Mozambique has a forest area of 37.9 million ha, which represents 48.8% of the land area in the country. Forestry resources are essential for communities, providing food, fuelwood, building materials and medicine, especially in rural areas. However, natural forest resources are being rapidly depleted, mainly due to illegal logging, compromising people's livelihoods.

In 2016, the government of Mozambique made a pledge to the Bonn Challenge to restore 1 million ha of degraded landscapes by 2030. The FLR objectives focus on increased food security, resilience and biodiversity conservation. The restoration opportunities assessment provided vital support to the government of Mozambique in implementing landscape-level strategies. The assessment outcomes are recommended to be used by the FCPF Carbon Fund Emission Reduction programme, SUSTENTA, MozFIP, MozBio, AgDPO, FNDS, MozDGM projects.¹ Considering high climate change mitigation and adaptation potential of proposed FLR interventions, the results can also inform the proposal development for the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

How to restore the landscape

Building on the SUSTENTA project and funded by the World Bank, the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) was applied in 10 districts of Zambezia

QUICK FACTS

- **Mozambique has pledged to restore 1 million ha to the Bonn Challenge by 2030.**
- **Approximately 512,750 ha of land in Zambezia and 615,205 ha of land in Nampula could be targeted to increase food security. A total of 1.6 million ha are considered opportunity areas for FLR in both provinces.**
- **If implemented, proposed FLR interventions can meet 60% of Mozambique's NDCs under the UNFCCC Paris Agreement.**

and Nampula provinces was carried out through collaboration between the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER) and IUCN.

In the Zambezia and Nampula provinces, approximately 5.3 million ha of land have potential for FLR (in Zambezia, about 2,986,205 ha and in Nampula, about 2,340,384 ha). Of these, around 1.6 million ha (about 995,019 ha in Nampula and 644,942 ha in Zambezia) are considered opportunity areas for the five suggested FLR interventions:

- **Agroforestry:** Agricultural lands in areas with slopes below 24 degrees, tree cover less than 15%, and beyond the 50 m buffer zone along waterways (539,041 ha).

¹SUSTENTA (Integrated Management of Agriculture and Natural Resources initiative) – MozBio (Mozambique's Conservation Areas for Biodiversity and Development Projects) – MozDGM (Mozambique's Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Local Communities Project) – MozFIP (Mozambique's Forest Investment Project) – REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) – FNDS (National Sustainable Development Fund) – AgDPO (Agriculture Development Policy Operation)

- **Soil conservation:** Bare land areas with high soil erodibility and slopes greater than 24 degrees (412,846 ha).
- **Watershed conservation:** Areas with more than 54% tree cover and slopes greater than 24 degrees (404,723 ha).
- **Forest plantations:** Bare land areas with slopes greater than 24 degrees (81,665 ha).
- **Natural forest rehabilitation:** Natural forest in areas at high risk of degradation (224,621 ha).

Benefits and opportunities

Land use transitions (from degraded to restored land) were analysed in terms of their socio-economic impacts, i.e. cost of implementation, potential for job creation, net present value (NPV), and potential for carbon sequestration (using InVEST ecosystem services model).

The results show:

- Sediments retention of up to 8 tonnes of sediment per ha per year;
- Overall carbon sequestration potential of up to 450 Mt;
- Increased NPV of up to US\$ 450 per ha for agroforestry systems;
- Increased employment of up to 120 per ha for agroforestry systems.

Overall, agroforestry systems generate the best combination of socioeconomic and environmental benefits as demonstrated by its high profitability carbon sequestration potential.

Restoration in Nampula and Zambezia can benefit from a combination of community level financing, government and international development funding, and private sector partnerships. Some opportunities are: restoration value chains (e.g. cereals and natural timber); private sector models for financing or technical assistance (e.g. Staff Education Support Fund); harvesting fees and surcharges; programmes for financing emission reductions (e.g. FCPF ER programme); and grant schemes for landowners.

For further information:

[Mozambique country forest note - World Bank](#)
[Mozambique ROAM report](#)

Next steps

Mozambique has robust laws and policies that are pertinent to FLR; however, cross-institutional collaboration and harmonisation of strategies are required to enable efficiency and efficacy at district and provincial levels. There is a need to build the capacity of district level officials so they can integrate landscape approaches in their district development plans. The integrated landscape management platform that is already in place at district or provincial levels can be further strengthened to facilitate coordination and planning for gender responsive FLR. It is recommended that the assessment outcomes and the sustainable land-use practices be promoted among smallholder and small emerging commercial farmers, as well as micro, small and medium enterprise agribusinesses. Specific focus should be given to gender-responsive sustainable agriculture and forest-based value chains in the targeted area.

The following next steps are proposed:

- Cascade the analysis and mapping to priority sub-catchments within each of the districts using a participatory GIS approach.
- Build local capacity by providing training on tree species diversification and nursery establishment.
- Carry out a comprehensive inventory/assessment of FLR initiatives and develop a suitable performance-based monitoring framework that can be used by different stakeholders.
- Build on existing projects and consider financing gaps; prioritise gender, an integrated landscape management project that could be scaled-up across districts.
- Establish a cross-sectoral task force with a mandate to support effective and efficient implementation of the gender-responsive integrated landscape approach.
- Strengthen the national FLR monitoring system, with possible use of the [Barometer of Restoration Progress](#).
- The reduction of forest cover in the districts is negatively affecting women. Policy makers should consider the traditional knowledge of local women when adopting measures to restore degraded landscapes, to adopt better-informed and effective actions that guarantee women's access to the natural resources.



Resources:
InfoFLR.org
iucn.org/forests

INFOFLR
by IUCN