

PEER REVIEW OF MOZAMBIQUE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

2–6 February 2009



Republic of Mozambique



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Vision of Mozambique National Statistical System (SEN):
“To be the main statistical reference for National development”

Peer Review of the Mozambique National Statistical System

2–6 February 2009

Peer Reviewers

Mr. Charles Machinjili, Commissioner of Statistics, National Statistical Office, Malawi
Mr. Rodwell Mzonde, Deputy Director, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Malawi
Mrs. Radegunda Maro, Director of Statistical Operations, National Bureau of Statistics, Tanzania
Mrs. Grace Mosha, Assistant Director, Macro-Economic Cluster, Planning Commission, Tanzania

Secretariat

Mr. Tony Williams, PARIS21
Mr. Guest Charumbira, PARIS21

The Team was accompanied by Ms Destina Uinge, Director, Directorate of Integration, Coordination and External Relations and Mr. Renato Cassamo, Senior Technician, both of INE, Mozambique.

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Table of Contents

1	Executive summary and conclusions	5
1.1	Rationale for peer reviews	5
1.2	Methodology.....	5
1.3	Observations	5
1.3.1	Governance and strategic planning	5
1.3.2	Staffing and staff development.....	6
1.3.3	Statistical products.....	6
1.3.4	Advocacy and dissemination.....	7
1.3.5	Funding.....	8
1.4	Recommendations	8
1.4.1	Strategic plan	8
1.4.2	Staff development.....	8
1.4.3	Statistical products.....	8
1.4.4	Advocacy and dissemination.....	9
1.4.5	Funding.....	9
1.5	Organisation Chart of INE	11
2	Meeting with President of High Council of Statistics (Prime Minister)	11
3	National Statistical Institute (INE).....	12
3.1	President, INE.....	12
3.2	Directorate of Integration, Coordination and External Relations (DICRE).....	13
3.3	Directorate of Administration and Human Resources (DARH)	13
3.4	Directorate of National Accounts and Global Indicators (DCNIG)	13
3.5	Directorate of Sectoral and Business Statistics (DESE)	14
3.6	Census and Survey Directorate (DCI)	14
3.7	Demographic, Social and Vital Statistics (DEMOVIS)	15
3.8	Maputo Provincial Office (DPINE).....	15
4	Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD)	16
4.1	Deputy Minister	16
4.2	Directorate of Planning, Studies and Analyses	17
5	Ministry of Finance (MOF)	17
6	Ministry of Health	18
7	Ministry of Labour.....	18
8	President of Planning and Budget Commission (Parliament).....	19
9	Bank of Mozambique	19
10	Cooperation and Development partners	20
10.1	Denmark and Norway	20
10.2	UNICEF and UNFPA	21
10.3	IMF	21
11	The Media	22
11.1	SOICO	22
12	Private sector	22
12.1	Confederation of Business Association of Mozambique (CTA).....	22
13	Eduardo Mondlane University	23
	Annex A: Timetable.....	24
	Annex B: List of persons met	26

Abbreviations

BM	Bank of Mozambique
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DARH	Directorate of Administration and Human Resources
DCI	Census and Surveys Directorate
DCNIG	Directorate of National Accounts and Global Indicators
DEMOVIS	Demographic, Social and Vital Statistics
DESE	Directorate of Sectoral and Business Statistics
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DICRE	Directorate of Integration, Coordination and External Relations
GDDS	General Data Dissemination System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
INE	National Statistical Institute
IOF	Household Budget Survey
IT	Information Technology
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPD	Ministry of Planning and Development
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
NSS	National Statistical System
PAMS	Poverty Analysis Monitoring Assistance
PARIS21	Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century
PARPA	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PES	Economic and Social Plan
PRGF	Poverty Reduction Growth Facility
QUIBB	Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire (CWIQ)
SEN	National Statistical System
SISTAFE	Public Financial Management Reform
SP	Strategic Plan
TA	Technical Assistance
TV	Television
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

1 Executive summary and conclusions

1.1 Rationale for peer reviews

The Economic Commission for Africa's Committee on Development Information meeting in 2003 decided that African countries, supported by PARIS21, would carry out peer reviews to ensure that good practice passes from country to country, based on the first hand experience of peers, to help to accelerate the change processes in reforming statistical systems. The peer reviews can advise on processes to design and implement National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) which are central to implementing the 2004 Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics. Previous peer reviews have been carried out in Ghana (2005), Tanzania (2007), Zambia (2007), and Malawi (2009).

The focus of the peer reviews is on governance of the National Statistical System (NSS), its organisation, strategic planning, service to users and funding and sustainability – all against the backdrop of the African Charter on Statistics which sets best practice principles for professional independence, quality, mandates and resources, dissemination, protection of confidentiality, and coordination and cooperation.

1.2 Methodology

The peer review teams include both senior statisticians and senior policy makers from neighbouring countries to include the views of both producers and users of statistics. Mozambique was reviewed by teams from Malawi and Tanzania. The President of INE hosted the review and met the peer reviewers at the start and end of the review mission. The review was facilitated by consultants provided by the PARIS21 Secretariat.

Review meetings form the core of the peer review. The team met managers and staff of INE and with a selection of other producers and key users of official statistics within Parliament, Government, Reserve Bank, private sector, the media and academia; as well as funders of the NSS, including the Ministry of Finance and Cooperating Partners. Interviews were guided by a discussion schedule but reviewers had the flexibility to deviate from this schedule and to pursue topics in depth. The schedule of meetings is at Annex A and the list of people met is shown at Annex B. Notes on the individual meetings form the main body of this report.

1.3 Observations

The peer reviewers made the following general observations:

1.3.1 Governance and strategic planning

- The Peer Review Team noted the long history of strategic planning at INE and congratulated the Management for their foresight and being in the forefront of statistical planning on the African continent.
- The legal base for INE and SEN is being reviewed to focus on users, producers and providers of statistics in line with the African Charter on Statistics (which was adopted by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government on 4 February, 2009 in Addis Ababa, while the team was in Maputo).
- The Team appreciated the good working relationship that exists between the INE and development partners; in particular the creation of a Common Fund for

Statistical Development and selection of technical assistance providers through international tender procedures.

- The Team appreciated the high profile that statistics enjoys in Mozambique. It noted that the High Council of Statistics plays a crucial role in the development of Statistics in the Republic.

1.3.2 Staffing and staff development

- The Peer Review Team was informed that INE has a total establishment of about 740 positions. About 417 of these are currently filled. The organization's plans are to fill the vacant posts gradually (over time). However, the Team was also informed that in some cases it is not possible to recruit for some of these vacant positions because of financial constraints.
- The Review Team noted with admiration the training efforts being pursued in collaboration with the Eduardo Mondlane University in the field of statistics. Also there are two private institutions in Maputo that teach statistics at the middle level. These endeavours go a long way to improve the efficiency of the statistical system in Mozambique.
- A considerable and successful effort has been made to train staff. Between 1996 and 2006 \$1.7 million was spent on training. During this same period INE's staff rose from 203 (of whom 8.4% were professionals) to 417 (of whom 30% were professionals. INE HQ staff comprises of 52% professionals).
- There is high turnover of IT staff but not statistical staff. The statistical system is likely to experience difficulties in sustaining its production cycles.

1.3.3 Statistical products

- The Review Team was informed that INE produces a wide range of high quality products that have increased over the years, continue to improve and are respected by the local and international community. For instance:
 - a. The 2007 Census was commended by a number of users, both in its own right and as an important opportunity for further capacity building.
 - b. Statistics are being developed for the 129 districts in Mozambique. So far a pilot project is underway in six districts.
 - c. Business statistics are being developed. A working group between INE and the Tax Authority was recently set up for the establishment of a Protocol concerning the access to tax data and to improve the quality of the foreign trade data in order to reduce the survey burden.
 - d. The state of the art of the short-term indicators is good. INE is already doing the dissemination on a monthly basis of activity indices concerning employment, turnover and wages.
- Some gaps and relative weaknesses were observed, as follows:
 - a. The Team was informed that the frequency and delays to the household budget surveys mean that money-metric poverty measures are not produced frequently enough (currently every 5-6 years).
 - b. Agricultural statistics need improvement as a priority in view of the importance of agriculture to Mozambique.
 - c. Business statistics are under-developed. In particular, it was noted that the Index of Industrial Production is lacking in the range of statistics that INE produces, but

it is planned to begin with the production and dissemination of this index during 2009.

- d. Ministry of Planning and Economic Development want panel surveys. They would wish these surveys to complement other household surveys that provide base data for poverty estimates.
- The Team was advised that INE is strong at the central level but weaker at the Provincial level; and that sectoral data have some problems. For instance:
 - a. Concerns were raised regarding the processing of administrative data. Users would like to see statistics from this area complement the good results from censuses and surveys.
 - b. Statistics on Public Finance are not yet developed by Ministry of Finance
 - c. It was reported that Provincial Offices process and publish reports based on administrative data and sectoral ministries do similar activities; e.g., health service records.
 - d. INE cooperates with delegated authorities in survey work but not in administrative data processing. This has been cited as a weak link in the statistical production process.
- The Review Team noted that the Ministry of Planning and Development is responsible for deriving poverty estimates. Being a major user of the results, the Team was of the opinion that this was an unusual practice for such politically sensitive information.

1.3.4 Advocacy and dissemination

- It was noted that statistics is a difficult subject to study. Statistical products are equally difficult to appreciate. Some of those the Team met are of the opinion that it is possible to simplify some of the statistical products in such a way that ordinary people can appreciate them. They would urge INE to take initiatives to educate the public in the use of figures.
- Journalists are the natural link between the statistician and the general population. It has however been observed that journalists have limited knowledge of statistics and make limited use of available statistics.
- User needs/user satisfaction enquiries are carried out by INE. However, these are addressed to institutions and to those who collect publications and may not reach the actual users of the data.
- A Website has existed at INE since 1996. A wide variety of information is posted on the website, but some users have observed that the website is not well organized in that it is difficult for one to obtain the required information easily. The disaggregation of the data posted on the website is still insufficient. It was also noted that no information is available about its usage.
- The Review Team was informed that there are at least three data bases at INE (ESDEM (DevInfo), PX-Axis and CountryStat). In some cases these databases contain different estimates for the same variable
- The team noted that Mozambique does not have a Statistical Association.

1.3.5 Funding

- Government funding to statistics is relatively low. The figures availed to the Review Team revealed that the government's contribution is about 40% of INE's requirements. There is therefore an over-dependence on development partners

1.4 Recommendations

It is recommended that INE and partners consider the following:

1.4.1 Strategic plan

- The Government of Mozambique should incorporate a statistics chapter into the next version of PARPA.
- INE is at various stages in conducting a number of essential household surveys which could adversely affect the resources available for analysis and dissemination. Where possible prioritization and sequencing is recommended as indicated in the strategic plan.
- INE should ensure that the implementation of the strategic plans is monitored regularly at all levels of the organization.

1.4.2 Staff development

- The team suggests that while INE should continue its efforts to recruit and develop professional staff, increased emphasis should be placed on recruiting and training of middle-level staff in INE.

1.4.3 Statistical products

- INE should consider how to address gaps identified by users, including:
 - a. producing more frequent and timely statistics in some cases;
 - b. publishing more disaggregated data;
 - c. conducting panel surveys of household consumption;
 - d. developing agricultural production statistics and poverty estimates at Provincial level, etc.
- In addition to continuing to support delegated authorities and Provincial offices to develop administrative statistics and new areas such as public finance statistics.
- Consider taking over the computation of poverty estimates from the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
- Review the practice of the Bank of Mozambique in collating weekly price data rather than relying on INE.
- INE should intensify communication and collaborative arrangements with the delegated authorities and Provincial offices to assist their work in processing administrative data
- Expedite the delivery of price data from Beira and Nampula so that an overall price index for Mozambique can be processed more quickly to satisfy needs for more timely data
- INE should consider developing a unified electronic statistical enquiry (in collaboration with major users of economic statistics) directed at Mega Projects currently being executed in Mozambique to collect all important economic data.

1.4.4 Advocacy and dissemination

- INE should build on its innovative advocacy and dissemination work (e.g., the Statistics Diary) and intensify its educational campaigns to enlighten the public on the importance and use of statistics.
- Increased use could be made of the radio, television and print media, including using drama and advertising on radio and television to publicize statistics.
- INE should adopt a marketing approach to statistical products, through more intensive and targeted consulting and “selling” of statistics to users, and making statistics accessible and understandable to users.
- INE should intensify its training courses for Parliamentarians and journalists in the use of statistical information.
- Take advantage of the forth-coming World Cup and advertise census products and other statistical products on the large TV screens to be erected in large settlements
- INE should consider making its website more user friendly and easier to access information, including disaggregated data.

1.4.5 Funding

- Government should plan to redress the balance between national and development partner funding.

2 Meeting with President of High Council of Statistics (Prime Minister)

The President of INE introduced the Review Team to the Honourable Prime Minister. He said he was gratified that she had found time in her busy schedule to brief the Team.

The Prime Minister informed the Team that she has been working with statistics since 1995 when she was part of the Ministry of Finance at the time. That is the time when ideas of establishing an autonomous statistical institution were first mentioned. Many members of parliament were not aware of the issues. She took it upon herself to sensitize her colleagues on the importance of statistics in development. In particular, she assured all concerned that individual data would be safe. She mentioned the Bill establishing INE was tabled in 1997 and was adopted.

The Prime Minister noted the following significant milestones in the development of statistics in Mozambique:

- Quality of the data has been evolving
- Space for errors is very small
- In 2007, Population & Housing Census conducted by INE was successful and registration of voters done by Election Commission was successful. 89% registered for elections
- Under coverage in the Population & Housing Census was very small
- Capacity building has been consistent
- Conditions of work have improved
- A new headquarters building is being planned. The building should be ready in the next 18 months
- At the Provincial level office accommodation has been catered for.
- The Consumer Price Index used to cover Maputo only. Now it has been extended to other areas (provincial capital cities).
- Balance of Payments have been updated and are available on a monthly basis

On accessibility of INE products, the Prime Minister noted Mozambique data are accessible; however, for individuals it can be expensive. At the Provincial level it is still difficult. The beneficiaries are the international community, Government, civil society, business, and decision makers.

The major challenges are agricultural statistics, and financing statistical production in general. She noted that statistics are not cheap. At the moment the development partners shoulder the greater part of the budget for INE. Sale of products generates very minimal revenues. She noted that the long term solution is for direct budget support from the government.

The poverty reduction strategy (PARPA) was discussed. She would be happy to see a chapter on statistics included in the next version of the PARPA. She noted with satisfaction that the household surveys have supported the drafting and monitoring of PARPA. Statistics are a cross-cutting issue. Regarding levels of poverty in the country she informed the Review Team that the poverty level was at 70% in 1997, declining to 54% in 2002. The household survey due for completion in 2009 would provide new estimates. In any case she is optimistic that poverty would have been reduced to about 35% by the year 2015.

3 National Statistical Institute (INE)

3.1 President, INE

The President welcomed the review team to Mozambique and INE. The team thanked him for the warm welcome and arrangements for the visit. Topics for the review were confirmed to be governance, strategic planning, service to users, and financing and sustainability, with the overall aim to contribute to statistical development in Mozambique. The President said that he has high expectations that the review will boost the self-esteem of NSS staff; and boost the confidence of users. The programme for the visit was discussed and agreed with thanks from the team.

The President made a presentation on INE and the national statistical system (SEN). SEN is relatively centralised. The legal base is 1997 legislation which is being reviewed to focus on providers, users and producers of statistics, qualifications of the President, tenure of office, etc in line with the African Charter for Statistics. The vision of SEN is “to be the main statistical reference for national development”. SEN comprises a High Council of Statistics, chaired by the Prime Minister; INE; organisations with authority to carry out statistical activities (in addition to their own administrative records) delegated by INE (to Ministries of Health, Education, etc); Bank of Mozambique (BM); and the Population and Census Council.

Mozambique has had three strategic plans for statistics - the first covered 1998-2002 and related only to INE, while both the second (2003-2007) and the current one (2008-2012) cover SEN. The latest strategic plan (SEN SP) is aligned with PARPA II, Mozambique’s Poverty Reduction Strategy. The SEN SP was approved by the High Council, following a consultative process, in July 2007 before being endorsed by Cabinet. It will be reviewed and updated annually.

The role of INE is to be the executive body within SEN, including supervising and coordinating statistical processes, strategic planning and training within SEN. INE has 417 staff, of which 30% are professional statisticians, demographers, economists, etc and 33% are women. Of 181 staff at headquarters, 52% are professional and 34% are women. INE has 11 Provincial branches with between 12-30 staff each, 236 in total, of which 11% are professionals. INE has an agreed complement of 740 staff, a number that INE is building towards step-by-step in line with budget availability and demand for statistics. Around 24 new professional staff joined INE last year. The SEN SP has a sub-strategy on human resources. All INE staff receive one-week of in-service training each year. The President advised the team that the University has run a statistics degree programme for six years and that he led the team developing the curriculum.

SEN has a budget of \$64 million over five-years, of which donors will contribute 60%. A number of donors are putting their contributions into a Common Fund, which is managed by INE in support of a sector approach for statistics. This has reduced the administrative burden, focused donor support on the strategic plans and empowered staff of INE. The delegated bodies have sectoral plans which are in line with the SEN SP and submit their budgets to INE. SEN has been constrained by available funds because the Common Fund is not yet full.

The members of the review team were given copies of INE diaries which contain summary statistical information. A copy of the diary has been given to all MPs since 2004 and the team observed its effectiveness during their visits to other organisations (e.g., the media group Soico where the CEO was using the diary).

3.2 Directorate of Integration, Coordination and External Relations (DICRE)

This Directorate is responsible for the coordination of data storage and dissemination of statistics for INE. It is also responsible for standardization of statistical activities.

The Review Team was informed that a website has existed since 1996. However, there is no information about its usage. The website has links to other sites (e.g., Bank of Mozambique). A regular user satisfaction survey is carried out through the people that purchase the publications. The problem is that people who purchase the publications are usually not the actual users within their institutions. It is therefore difficult to have the questionnaires completed. Information collected from workshops indicate satisfaction with INE products; and the IMF and World Bank, etc say that INE's information is good, while sectoral information is not as good.

INE produces a wide range of publications and a pre-release timetable for all products is available to users. There is a Help Desk to deal with enquiries. INE plans to launch a national data archive (assisted by PARIS21's Accelerated Data Program).

Statistical literacy is not high among potential users of statistics. The current strategic plan has a component to address this problem. Some training courses have already been held for journalists. This Directorate is also responsible for maintaining INE's data bases. Currently there is no centralized database. Some of the existing databases of INE include ESDEM (DevInfo), PX-Axis and CountryStat, which do not necessarily come from the same source.

3.3 Directorate of Administration and Human Resources (DARH)

This Directorate is responsible for managing the human resource issues of INE. They are not responsible for the wider SEN, though officers from the delegated units are invited to participate in INE training. The Directorate was fully involved in the design of the Strategic Plan. Within the Strategic Plan there is a 5-year human resource development plan.

Provincial office accommodation construction is financed by the Provincial Governments. Constraints faced by the Directorate include:

- Budget limitation inhibits the filling of vacancies (this applies to the wider SEN as well as INE). The budget is usually enough to pay only those in post
- Office space is limited
- Unable to train as per plan
- Need more training in English

3.4 Directorate of National Accounts and Global Indicators (DCNIG)

The Directorate is divided into two departments: National Accounts and Economic Studies; and Prices and Economic Trends. The team was informed by the first of these that:

- The national accounts are compiled for all sectors (based on the UN System of National Accounts, 1993).
- Quarterly accounts have also been compiled since 2007.
- GDP indicators of regional accounts are produced using simple approaches
- Series of GDP are available for 1991 – 2007. By March, figures for 2008 will be available
- Figures are normally published 6 months after the reference period.

The major problem in national accounts production is data availability. Response rates are not very good. The response rate to the Economic Surveys is usually in the 60 – 70% range. Also users are generally not statistically literate.

Supply and Use tables are compiled and this has led to a rebasing on 2003 and improvements to the national accounts estimates. A number of surveys are underway, including a household income and expenditure survey. Results of these surveys will assist in rebasing the accounts.

The Department of Prices and Economic Trends compiles a consumer price index for three regions. Maputo represents the South, Beira the Central and Nampula the Northern regions. The average of the three gives the country's price index. Prices are collated for other regions, but so far for internal use only. Data from other areas outside Maputo are transmitted manually or by email, if it is working. The Bank of Mozambique collaborates with INE in Maputo and Beira. The Bank would like prices for some commodities to be collected more frequently. INE has said that the Bank can collate and use such figures internally.

The Maputo index is available 5 days after the reference period, the Beira index 15 days after the reference period while the Nampula index is available 20 days after the reference period. The national Mozambique index is published 25 days after the reference period.

The staff complement for DCNIG is 21, excluding field staff. Ten staff work on the national accounts. Most of these have a master's degree and all have a degree. More staff will be needed to expand the quarterly national accounts (which are currently based on projections). Equipment is said to be up to date.

3.5 Directorate of Sectoral and Business Statistics (DESE)

This Directorate is responsible for the following:

- Agricultural Census
- Informal Sector Survey (in 2004)
- Census of non-profit institutions
- Annual and monthly Business Surveys
- Business Register
- Foreign Trade Statistics (using data from Customs)

There are about 30 000 establishments out of which a sample of 1 400 is picked every year. Response rates are usually low (around 40-50%). Provincial offices assist with follow ups of non-respondents. The information derived from these surveys is passed on to the national accounts department, but this takes time and information is often sent to INE headquarters by post in the absence of electronic data capture in the provincial offices. DESE produces and disseminates on a monthly basis an economic activity index, namely for employment, turnover and wages, a business environmental index and some qualitative indicators (confidence and environmental economic indicators). DESE also produces on an annual basis a publication with structural and balance sheet data for business. This information is obtained from the Business annual survey. The maintenance and updating of the Business register is also done by DESE staff, on a daily basis with information obtained from surveys and from the Tax Business file from the Ministry of Finance.

3.6 Census and Survey Directorate (DCI)

The Directorate is responsible for the planning and conduct of all household surveys for INE and other ministries. In planning for all surveys they involve other directorates. Following the 1997

Census a Master Sample was created. The cartographic unit is used extensively to update the master sample. A core household module questionnaire that incorporates the recommendations of the SADC Statistics Committee has been developed. Surveys that have been carried out so far include household budget survey, demographic survey and labour force survey.

The challenges for the Directorate are:

- To improve skills so as to respond to all requests
- Enrich the teams
- Statistics for districts and Provinces
- Secure increased financing from government and donors

3.7 Demographic, Social and Vital Statistics (DEMOVIS)

The Directorate is responsible for the analysis of censuses and household surveys in INE. They compile socio-demographic indicators. For deeper analysis INE creates teams with subject-area specialists from other institutions. For some analysis they tender on a thematic basis while economic analysis is carried out by DCNIG and MPD; and poverty analysis by MPD. They produce reports and disseminate via CD and flash disks as well as hard copy reports.

There are regular consultations with major users to solicit the information they require. It is difficult to satisfy all needs and it has been established that many users are not aware of the amount of information available at INE, hence a lot of information is not utilized.

Dissemination includes:

- Provincial offices
- Internet
- Books, CD and flash disk
- Sale of publications at minimal cost
- Media enquiries are dealt with by subject area specialists

Challenges include:

- Funding is insufficient, e.g., so far for an Agricultural Census
- INE has only three officers with a Masters degree in demography

3.8 Maputo Provincial Office (DPINE)

The Maputo Provincial Office is one of 11 such offices in Mozambique. Each Provincial office has between 12-30 employees. The Provincial office collects data such as health system records at that level and collates information. Provincial offices report to INE.

The State President of Mozambique wants planning to be at the district level so the activities of the Provincial office are geared towards generating information that can satisfy planning at that level. The annual Economic and Social Plan (PES) is derived from the poverty reduction strategy (PARPA). There is a provincial planning office in each province.

The office comprises three departments:

- Administration and Human Resources

- Dept of Economic Statistics (enterprise and business register, collection and analysis of statistics, statistical yearbook for the province) – which links to DESE at INE headquarters
- Department of Demographic Statistics – which links to DEMOVIS in INE headquarters

There are 21 members of staff in the office: seven with higher education, four medium and ten basic education. Staffs for the two technical departments have higher education. The office has a complement of 25 staff (four vacancies).

The Provincial offices are funded by, and staff employed by, the Provincial authority. Funding for additional large-scale exercises such as household surveys comes via INE headquarters. In terms of work, the Provincial offices are branches of INE, headed at the same level as Director of a department within INE.

The Provincial office collects administrative data and compiles reports for the Province. INE aims to extend this to the district level. For example, health records are collected and reports are compiled. The same is produced by the Ministry of Health at the national level, based on information from its Provincial branches. The Provincial office compiles an annual statistical publication for the Province. INE edits the report before it is finalized and printed.

Regarding working conditions and motivation, employees expressed satisfaction for being associated with INE. The only improvement they would wish to see is more communication and interaction with headquarters.

4 Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD)

4.1 Deputy Minister

The President of INE introduced the peer review team to the Deputy Minister and explained the purpose of the review before leaving the meeting. The Deputy Minister welcomed the team to Mozambique and was thanked by the team.

The Deputy Minister drew a parallel with the peer reviews instigated by African Heads of States at a Summit of the African Union in 2003. The purpose is to share good practices in Governance, incorporating self assessments, not to make judgments. It was confirmed that this was the purpose of the statistical peer reviews, which use a light methodology with the overall aim of furthering statistical development.

The Deputy Minister explained the coordinating role of his Ministry in planning and development and observed that without statistics it would be difficult to understand the current situation or trends. He noted the importance of statistics in decentralisation processes. As a champion of statistics, MPD provides a “window” through which INE can access Government.

On challenges, the Deputy Minister said that INE should adopt a marketing approach to its products, by consulting and “selling” its statistics to users. INE also needs to be ready to adapt to accommodate changing situations; and to reduce the gap between perception and reality. The Deputy Minister clarified that data are used to improve performance. It is not enough to just criticise performance, rather solutions need to be found. There is also the challenge of explaining complex things in a simple manner – statistics need to be accessible to and understood by ordinary people. Community committees plan at the local level and need to know how to use statistics.

On funding, the Government wants to change the balance between national resources and external aid, for instance by developing capacity to reduce the use of technical assistance. Mozambique is in the forefront of applying the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, including harmonisation of donor support, joint project reviews, etc.

It was noted that INE does a good job, for instance on the national accounts, but more work needs to be done on agricultural production in view of the importance of agriculture to Mozambique. The PARPA provides the policy basis for development and uses statistics and indicators in its design and monitoring. The 2007 Census was well organised and provides consistent data across the whole country – the population’s participation was key in facilitating this.

4.2 Directorate of Planning, Studies and Analyses

The representatives from MPD said that they consider themselves to be part of SEN as users of statistics. In general MPD and INE work very closely together and participate in each other’s seminars and other consultations.

MPD uses information on poverty and inequality from the national household budget surveys (IOF) which have been carried out every 5-6 years since 1997. They also use the more frequent QUIBB (CWIQ) surveys to update their poverty estimates using poverty mapping techniques. The household survey data have informed policy design and evaluation of progress of PARPA I and II. The third national household budget survey in 2008/09 will be used to review PARPA II and feed into design of PARPA III in 2010.

In addition to the poverty data, macro-economic information informs resource allocation in the three-yearly Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and, for economic policy, MPD use statistics such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI) on inflation, GDP, population and monetary data (from the Bank of Mozambique). A committee comprising MPD, MOF, INE and BM advises on MPD’s projections of GDP estimates. The national accounts statistics themselves are produced by INE. MPD also uses administrative data from the bodies with delegated authority. They also noted the use of INE statistics in Mozambique’s MDG progress report.

Asked about data gaps, MPD mentioned their need for a panel survey to track household consumption. They noted that the Ministry of Agriculture is doing a panel survey on agricultural production. Another demand is for GDP and poverty estimates for each Province – it was noted that while INE is strong, the Provinces are weak in statistics.

The peer reviewers shared the experiences of Malawi, including plans to carry out a panel survey as part of Malawi’s next Integrated Household Survey and the availability of district estimates from their latest Welfare Monitoring Survey (Malawi has 30 districts compared with 131 in Mozambique).

5 Ministry of Finance (MOF)

(Directorates of Research, Budget and Treasury)

The representatives from MOF informed the review team that MOF uses SEN data (e.g., CPI, GDP, sectoral statistics) in preparation of the budget. They outlined the work of the GDP committee comprising MOF, MPD, INE and Central Bank. They confirmed that this committee was concerned about policy programming and doesn’t interfere with INE’s work. MPD is responsible for the

projections while GDP data are produced by INE. The committee also uses information from the Planning Units in sectoral Ministries.

MOF considers the quality of statistics collected by INE to be good. They identified gaps in the areas of public finance statistics, for which the IMF is providing technical assistance and a unit will be set up within MOF with delegated authority from INE. They also see a need to synchronise information gathered (e.g., by MOF, INE and Bank of Mozambique) from Mega Projects (e.g., the aluminium plant) which have fiscal implications.

On budgets, it was confirmed that staff and other resources of the statistics units (and statistics branches in the Provinces) in the delegated authorities are funded by the parent bodies (e.g., Provincial authorities, Ministries of Education, Health, Labour) except for large-scale statistical surveys which are carried out by INE (e.g., Labour Force Surveys).

MOF explained the roles of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, MPD and MOF in relations with Development Partners. Pooled funding in support of sector programmes (health, education and SEN) is managed by the sectors (INE in the case of SEN). In each case, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drawn up to provide predictable funding, and both the Government of Mozambique and donors are evaluated against their compliance with the MOU. MOF is implementing a strong integrated financial management information system (SISTAFE).

6 Ministry of Health

(Directorate of Planning and Cooperation, Department of Information)

It was confirmed that the Statistician interviewed was a professional member of the unit with authority for statistics delegated from INE. She explained her work as both a producer of statistics from administrative sources (e.g., health personnel, mortality and hospital admissions) and as a user of INE statistics (e.g., from the Population Census and Demographic and Health Survey). She thinks the quality of administrative data is good because it is checked. The information passes from district hospitals to Provinces and then to the headquarters of the Ministry of Health.

The Statistician confirmed that she knows about the SEN SP and is responsible for collating the sectoral plan for health statistics. This has not yet been approved by the Minister and High Council on Statistics. She also confirmed that the Ministry has a training strategy and she is invited to INE courses. She has received two weeks of training since she joined the Ministry three years ago.

7 Ministry of Labour

(Directorate of Planning and Labour Statistics)

The team met two Statisticians from the unit with authority for statistics delegated from INE. The unit produces an Annual Bulletin of Statistics, comprising administrative statistics on companies and Social Security, and separate reports such as on child labour. They work with INE on the Labour Force Survey. Asked about challenges, they said that they only produce administrative data but need other information. They are short of both equipment and software to process information and are therefore not fully exploiting all administrative data. They consider that their unit has too few staff and needs further training. They benefited from an Italian project with INE in 2004/05.

Asked how they could improve, they noted that INE helps the Ministry but they would benefit from continuous collaboration with INE. Staff turnover of IT specialists is a problem that they thought INE could help the Ministry to resolve. The strategic plan for labour statistics is at a draft stage. (The team was advised that INE and the sectoral units had received technical assistance from the Uganda Bureau of Statistics on producing sectoral plans.)

8 President of Planning and Budget Commission (Parliament)

The President of the Planning and Budget Commission welcomed the Review Team to the Parliament Buildings. She informed the Team that there are eight commissions of Parliament and each commission looks for a variety of information. Due to other commitments, the Presidents of other committees were not able to attend this briefing. She said as Parliament they are not used to getting information directly from INE. They get information directly from the government. However, INE does send them publications on a regular basis.

The only concern they have for the time being is timeliness of the products. She noted that there is significant lateness in external trade statistics. It is therefore difficult to analyse the Balance of Payments. Noting that the Bank of Mozambique is the delegated authority for Balance of Payments, there is late delivery of this product.

Regarding quality she noted that there have been significant improvements over time. They are however worried about too many revisions to the GDP numbers.

The President recommended that INE

- Should try to be more timely
- Knowledge of statistics amongst parliamentarians varies. They should mount more seminars to educate them.

9 Bank of Mozambique

(Department of Economics and Statistics Studies)

The Bank is a member of SEN and is active in the High Council of Statistics. There are regular meetings between the Bank and INE and the Bank uses CPI, GDP and external trade data produced by INE. There is close collaboration between the two institutions. In 2008 the Bank and INE shared the cost of a survey on external assets and liabilities.

The team was advised that the Bank has authority under its Law to collect information from financial institutions. This information comprises mainly monthly statistics collected from the commercial banks. These are disseminated on the Bank's web site and in the form of Monthly Bulletins. Methods are based on the IMF Manual (2000). Annual IMF missions "audit" the statistics in terms of quality and timeliness. A survey was carried out in 2008 to collect the opinions of users.

The Bank and INE have a Memorandum of Understanding to authorise the Bank to collect information for the balance of payments from non-financial institutions. The Bank has a problem in collecting these data because non-financial institutions think the information might be used for tax purpose. There is an annual International Investment Position survey and the Central Bank produces an Annual Bulletin on the Balance of Payments.

The Bank has not experienced inconsistencies between its information compared to INE data, e.g., comparing monetary movements and consumer prices. The Bank compiles an unofficial Consumer Price Index weekly for its internal purposes. Estimates of GDP based on expenditure are needed and there is a target for INE to produce these figures by 2012. External trade data are produced with a time lag that the Bank attributes to delays at Customs.

The MOU between the Bank and INE is subject to review to delegate more authority to the Bank.

10 Cooperation and Development partners

10.1 Denmark and Norway

The representatives from the Danish and Norwegian embassies explained that Norway now leads on Scandinavian assistance to INE (previously Denmark led) and Scandinavian funding is now paid into the Common Fund which was established in 2008 to support implementation of the SEN SP. Contributors include Denmark, Norway, Italy, Portugal, Canada and UNFPA.

The partners think that INE is doing a good job. Staff numbers and capacity have increased over the last five years which has led to better quality statistics. The national accounts have been revised and quality improved. The 2007 Census has provided a lot of new data. Progress has been made on social and demographic statistics and technical assistance is now focused on economic statistics and decentralisation. INE's credibility has increased and more reference is now made to INE data in both Government and development partner documents.

However, the partners do not find the website user-friendly and it could be improved, though they can access inflation and macro-economic statistics from the website. There is a planned five-yearly cycle of household budget surveys (IOF) but there were delays in beginning data collection for the 2008/9 IOF round, which make it difficult to track poverty since 2002/03.

The partners have concerns about INE's capacity and the need for prioritisation and sequencing of surveys. Delays in one year can lead to INE being over-stretched in subsequent periods. INE is currently involved in various stages of the IOF, Census, Agricultural Census, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and HIV/AIDS surveys. They said that planning and implementation are done well but analysis and dissemination have fallen behind. The partners said that they consider that training of middle-level staff is a priority.

Asked about the Common Fund, the partners explained that three meetings are held each year with the Government to discuss work plans, budgets and development partner commitments. The participating cooperation agencies no longer carry out separate reviews. A joint review will be held after three years. The partners think the Common Fund is generally working well, though to some extent they are learning by doing and they hoped other donors would place their support into the Fund. They noted that better financial information is now provided by SISTAFE. They mentioned a Government-donor group on Poverty Analysis Monitoring Assistance (PAMS) on which UNICEF is the lead donor.

The Scandinavian technical assistance programme ended in August 2008 and TA is now funded directly from the Common Fund. TA providers have been selected through tender procedures.

Asked about the heavy cost of Agricultural Censuses, the review Team shared the experiences of their own countries. Their importance to economies with heavy dependence on agriculture was noted.

10.2 UNICEF and UNFPA

Both of the UN funds said that they are satisfied with INE's operations, which take place according to the SEN SP programme (e.g., the Census and key social areas) and they have a continuous dialogue with INE. They observed that the Census has provided an important entry point for e.g., staff training to continue INE's development.

The review team asked about the relationship between MICS in 2008 and the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) in 2003 and planned for 2010. It was explained that the 2008 MICS national survey was carried out to provide much-needed data for the evaluation of PARPA II, which has 150 indicators, and design of PARPA III. DHS/ MICS-type surveys are needed every four years.

The UN funds advised that more work could be done on dissemination, including improving access to data (including micro data) from INE's website and developing the quality of INE publications. UNFPA is supporting adoption of an integrated management information system (IMIS), a Chilean product, to make micro data more accessible.

The UN funds confirmed that UNFPA is channelling its funding through the Common Fund in support of implementing the SEN SP. UNICEF supports the Common Fund but is not channelling its funds in this way.

The review team learnt more about the aid architecture in Mozambique which supports implementation of the PARPA. There are 25 sectoral Government-donor working groups, including the PAMS, on poverty analysis monitoring, in which UNICEF leads on behalf of 15 donors. PAMS has recommended setting up a panel of households to link household information across time and from the various household surveys carried out by INE.

10.3 IMF

The IMF Resident Representative explained Mozambique's relationship with the IMF. A PSI programme has succeeded the Poverty Reduction Growth Facility (PRGF) because the Mozambique Government wants to continue its relationship with the IMF but no longer needs IMF funding. The Government and development partners value the IMF's views on macro-economic stability. Technical assistance has been provided across IMF's areas of competence (in the case of INE, in national accounts and consumer prices). The IMF relates to BM, MOF and INE in Mozambique.

IMF uses the Maputo price index as a policy variable because it is available quickly – CPI data are now available more quickly but a two-to-three week time lag is too long for monetary policy decisions.

The IMF Resident Representative identified challenges for INE as:

- Improving the timeliness of the CPI
- Developing the basis for quarterly GDP estimates
- Coordinating with MOF, MPD and BM on interacting with, and building knowledge about the collation of information on, Mega Projects – which have a big impact on the economy, tax revenues, monetary policy, balance of payments, infrastructure needs, etc.

The IMF Resident Representative noted that the Common Fund is a good thing which builds leadership and ownership, putting INE in control of its own development.

In response to a question about the Anglophone GDDS project, in which Mozambique participates, the Resident Representative said that progress was good but he said that translating materials (e.g., metadata) into Portuguese would have a big impact in Mozambique.

11 The Media

11.1 SOICO

The team met the Chairman and staff of SOICO, an independent media company that publishes newspapers and has radio and television stations, and an Internet site. It is now a large establishment in media terms, with 400 staff.

The Chairman of the group informed the Review Team that statistics is a difficult subject. As such it is not easy to find what one wants if one does not have the basic knowledge about the subject matter. Their journalists are not good at statistics and need some basic guidance in understanding the statistics. They advised the team that a challenge for INE is to undertake a lot of educational campaigns. The chairman noted that INE has made efforts to train users but much more is needed. He said that INE needs to promote statistics to the media and business people. INE should hold more workshops and seminars for journalists.

He advised that the department should take advantage of the upcoming World Cup event and take statistics to the people. SOICO has won a tender to erect large out-door screens to broadcast the world cup. SOICO offers discounted rates for advertising for statistics (being a public good).

12 Private sector

12.1 Confederation of Business Association of Mozambique (CTA)

The team met the Chairman of CTA, whose organization's mandate is to assist the business community to develop policy. INE is their main source of information. Other sources are the Bank of Mozambique, the World Bank, World Trade Organization and the IMF. INE data have been very useful especially censuses and household surveys. They are of the opinion that the data are of good quality.

Regarding dissemination they noted that the website is not very user-friendly, in respect of:

- No guidelines about where to find data
- No guidance table
- In some cases no disaggregated data
- No distinction between “real” data and estimates and projections.

Regarding user needs/user satisfaction enquiries they noted that the questionnaire is addressed to the institutions not the person using the data. They suggested that the feedback process should be posted on the website. Regarding suspected errors they do not report back to INE. Where possible they correct the errors for themselves. They were however informed that INE publications have a contact point for interactions.

Data sets from international organizations and INE are sometimes different. On such occasions they chose to use those from international organizations, which have more user-friendly websites.

They put forward the following recommendations for INE to:

- Increase capacity to provide data on time
- Provide data in disaggregated format e.g., import/export data
- Improve website

13 Eduardo Mondlane University

(Bachelor's Degree in Statistics)

The Mathematics and Informatics Department offers a combined degree in mathematics and statistics. The course was originally meant to last four years and is equivalent to an honour's degree. It has since been compressed to three years by dropping some mathematics modules. The three year course will be launched in 2010. The last two years of the programme is devoted to statistics for those intending to take statistics as a career. The statistics course is five years old. Some of the lecturers come from INE. Due to lack of human resources the Department is not able to offer a pure statistics course. The University also has shortages of software and computers.

The department has close working relationships with INE. They use INE databases for teaching. The total teaching staff is 16 including part-timers from INE. There are about 200 mathematics students each year of whom about 20 graduate with mathematics and statistics, including five women. It is however reported that a number of them cannot find jobs for a variety of reasons.

A two year master's degree program has been designed but will not be launched as yet.

The team noted that Mozambique does not have a Statistical Association.

ANNEX A: TIMETABLE

Date/Time	Target Group	Place
DAY 1 - Monday, 2 February		
08:00-09:30	Meeting with the Presidency of INE	National Statistical Institute Flat 51
10:00-10:30 10:30-11:30 11:30-12:00 12:00-12:30 12:30-13:00	Central Statistical Office Directors DICRE DARH DCNIG DESE DCI	National Statistical Institute Flat 51
13:30- 14:30	Ministry of Planning and Development (Directorate of Planning, Studies and Analyses)	Ministry of Planning and Development 7 Floor
14:30-15:30	Ministry of Finance (Directorate of Budget)	National Statistical Institute Flat 51
15:45-17:00	Statistics Users: Media: Group SOICO	Group SOICO
DAY 2 Tuesday, 3 February - Public Holiday – team meetings		
DAY 3- Wednesday, 4 February		
08:00-09:00	Meeting with Vice Minister of Planning and Development	Ministry of Planning and Development
9:40-10:20 10:20-11:00 11:00-12:00	Enterprises Association (CTA) INE Directorates (DCI+DEMOVIS) Statistics Producers: Ministry of Labour (Directorate of Planning and Statistic) Ministry of Health (Directorate of Planning and Cooperation)	National Statistical Institute Flat 91
12:30-13:30 14:30-16:30	Bank of Mozambique INE Provincial Delegation (Maputo)	Bank of Mozambique DPINE Maputo Province

DAY 3 - Thursday, 5 February		
08:30-09:30	Eduardo Mondlane University – Bachelor’s Degree in Statistics	UEM
10:00-11:00 11:00-12:00 12:30-13:30	Statistics Partners: NORAD + DANIDA FNUAP + UNICEF IMF (<i>their office</i>)	National Statistical Institute Flat 51
13:45-14:45	Meeting with the President of Planning and Budget Commission (Parliament)	Parliament
15:00-16:00	Meeting with President of High Council of Statistic (Prime-Minister) <i>confirmed</i>	Prime-Minister Cabinet
DAY 4 -Friday, 6 February		
08:00 –09:00	Meeting with INE’s President	National Statistical Institute

ANNEX B: LIST OF PERSONS MET

High Council of Statistics

Ms. Luisa Diogo

Prime Minister (President of High Council of Statistics)

Parliament

Ms. Virginia Videira

President of Planning and Budget Commission

INE

Mr. João Dias Loureiro

President

Mr. Valeriano Levene

Vice President (Economics Area)

Ms. Destina Uinge

Director (Integration & Coordination)

Ms. Alda Rocha

Head of President's Office

Mr. Renato Cassamo

Senior Technician/ External Relations

Mr. Tomas Bernardo

Deputy Director (IT)

Mr. Domingos Maringue

Head of Finance Department

Mr. Artiel Arnaldo

Head of Human Resource Department

Ms. Leonette Mabjaia

Head of INE's School

Mr. Saide Dade

Director (National Accounts/Global Indicators)

Ms. Monica Magaua

Head of Department (National Accounts)

Mr. Cirilo Tembe

Head of Department (Business Statistics)

Mr. Azarias Nhanzimo

Director (Economic & Business Statistics)

Ms. Fatima Zacarias

Director (Demography & Social Statistics)

Mr. Cristovão Muahio

Head of Methods Department (Demography)

Maputo Provincial Office (DPINE)

Mr. Joaquim Julio Langa

Mr. Evaristo M Manhenje

Ms. Leia Simione Macamo

Mr. Milice Luis Januário

Mr. Alberto Simão Mahanjane

Head of INE's Provincial Branch

Ministry of Planning and Development

Mr. Victor Bernardo

Deputy Minister

Mr. Sousa Cruz

Economist (National Director)

Mr. Amorim Pery

Economist

Mr. Virgulino Nhate

Economist

Ministry of Finance

Mr. Augusto Sumburane

Senior Advisor

Mr. Domingos Lambo

Economist (National Director)

Ms. Ana Morais

Mr. Frederico B. Celenstino

Ministry of Health

Ms. Dora Polana

Statistical Technician

Ministry of Labour

Mr. Armindo Mapasse
Mr. Renato Cardoso

Head of Statistics Department
Statistician

Bank of Mozambique

Mr. Domingos Futeo
Mr. Alberto Herculano Manjate

Economist
Assistant Director

IMF

Mr. Felix Fischer

Resident Representative

NORAD

Mr. Thor Oftedal

First Secretary

DANIDA

Mr. Peter Engbo Rasmussen
Mr. Mahomed Murargy

Counsellor
Program Officer

UNICEF

Mr. Stefano Visano

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

UNFPA

Mr. Baisamo M. Juaia

NPO/PDS

SOICO GROUP

Ms. Maria Fernando Tonela
Ms. Balbina Inroga
Mr. Joaquin Massango
Mr. Daniel David

Affairs Assistant
Public Relations
Finance Assistant
Chief Executive Officer

Confederation of Business Association of Mozambique (CTA)

Mr. Eduardo Macuacua

Economist

Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)

Ms. Rafica Abdulrazac
Mr. Tiago Guilherme

Lecturer
Lecturer

