

M O Z A M B I Q U E

Economic classification:	Low Income economy	
Oil exporter or importer (net):	Importer	
Annual per capita income:	US\$163	year 1981
Average annual growth 1960-80	-0.1%	
Annual inflation rate 1970-80	11.2%	
Annual inflation rate (current)	22.0%	
Volume of imports	0.414 billion US\$	year 1981
Of which food	17.8%	year 1981
Of which fuels	16.0%	year 1981
Principal foreign exchange earning export:	Agriculture, Shellfish	
Debt service as % of exports	70.0%	year 1983
Population	13.0 million	year 1982
Annual population growth	2.9%	years 1980-2000
Annual Consumption:		
Flour	147,000 tonnes or 1.13 kg/capita	year 1982
Meat	15,529 tonnes or 1.0 kg/capita	year 1982
Vegetable Oil	19,200 tonnes or 1.5 kg/capita	year 1982
Fish	48,100 tonnes or 3.7 kg/capita	year 1983

1. General Information

Despite a low level of development of the country's immense agricultural potential, agriculture is still the dominant sector of the economy. It accounts for 80% of the country's employment, 42% of the GDP and 75% of the commodity exports. The country has grown from a near basic food self-sufficiency position in 1974 to a substantial importer to meet minimum consumption needs. As a percentage of total imports, food imports increased from about 9.2% in 1974 to about 17.8% in 1978. Successive droughts, a cyclone and crippling floods have occurred resulting in an estimated total of 250,000 tonnes of grain being necessary to feed the victims. Official reports state that in one province alone 5,000 people have died as a result of drought with over 300,000 others suffering from its effects. The outflow of the expatriate population contributed largely to the falling level of production of agriculture products and the formation of state run communal farms has not been a success. According to the African Economic Digest the UK based Lonhro is to take over 3,000 to 5,000 hectares belonging to Complex Agroindustrial de Limpopo (CAIL), a giant irrigation scheme which has proven to be the most disastrous of the state farms. State operated firms are reported to have run up debts of US\$500 million - the sugar estates tend to experience the largest debt.

2. Crop Situation and Outlook

Maize production in 1981 reached 78,300 tonnes. Wheat is not grown, although project plans exist for its production. Mozambique's normal requirements for wheat and corn is in the region of US\$41 million per annum, wheat comprising 41% of this total. Reliable statistics are not normally available but a rough estimate of import requirements are 125,000 tonnes of wheat and 175,000 tonnes of corn. Reports indicate that the 1984 crops have been a complete failure.