

MOZAMBIQUE

Despite years of solid progress and growth, Mozambique continues to rank near the bottom of the UNDP's 2016 Human Development Index, ranking 181st out of 188 countries. In Africa, Mozambique is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change, and it remains dependent on international assistance.

Gender inequalities are entrenched and hamper progress. Maternal mortality remains stubbornly high, compounded by gender-based violence, child marriage, a shortage of sexual reproductive health services and social inequalities. There is, however, a commitment by the Government of Mozambique to improve gender equality. The government plans to do this by addressing important drivers of child, early and forced marriage. It also plans to assure the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls, including access to safe abortion.

To help address these challenges, Canada continued to seek lasting, systemic change and improvement of the delivery of services to Mozambicans. Canada continued to have a strong presence in the health sector. It helped promote excellence in maternity hospitals, update civil registration and vital statistic systems, and improve water and sanitation services in the province of Inhambane.

Canada was also a trusted partner in supporting Mozambique's priorities, outlined in its five-year plan. This was especially the case in human and social development, addressed through a contribution to the health and education sector pooled funds. In order to support inclusive economic opportunities for Mozambicans, Canada has promoted skills training, especially for women. It has also promoted access to finance and business know-how for small businesses.



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