

# MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

**361 22 February 2017**

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**Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique**

book by Teresa Smart and Joseph Hanlon <http://bit.ly/chickens-beer>

**Gas for development or just for money?** <http://bit.ly/MozGasEn>

## Also in this issue:

**Using the Lagarde model  
Cyclone**

**Josina Machel attacker convicted  
Academic research on Mozambique**

## Maputo water shortage to continue

The water shortage in Maputo, Matola and Boane, which has already led to water being supplied only on alternate days, could continue for the rest of the year. "The year ahead will be very difficult for Maputo, and we will have to use carefully the little water we have," said Manuel Alvarinho, head of the water regulation council. (*O Pais* 17 Feb)

The crisis is caused by a lack of rain in the Umbeluzi River basin. Last year there was no rain because of the El Nino drought and water levels behind the Pequenos Libombos dam, which serves the three cities, fell to below 14% of capacity in mid-January. Despite a normal rainy season everywhere else, there has been little rain flowing into the Umbeluzi. Rationing was only introduced on 10 January and the water level had risen to 18% on 21 February - very low for this late in the rainy season when the level should be 80%, and not enough to supply the cities for the coming dry season.

President Filipe Nyusi said last week that the main cause of the water shortage is lack of planning. (*O Pais* 13, 20 Feb) There have been criticisms of the water authorities for not imposing rationing earlier, and for moving too slowly on the Moamba Major dam, which is to provide a second water supply. *@Verdade* (16 Feb) says that the dam has been delayed because in 2015 the government failed to release its \$200 mn contribution to the project. A 100 km pipe to the Corrumana dam is under construction and could be speeded up to be completed by October. (*O Pais* 17, 20 Feb)

There is now a panic plan to drill 40 new wells and lay 28 km of pipe, at a cost of \$15 mn, but the money for that has not yet been released. (*O Pais* 21 Feb)

## Comment

**Lagarde model for misconduct,  
- already in use in Mozambique -  
could be useful for secret debt**

The former financial director of Mozambique Airlines (LAM), Jeremias Tchamo, was convicted last month of giving 25 contracts worth over 5.3 million meticaís (\$177,000) to his brother's construction

company. But his sentence of two years in jail was suspended. (*O País* 12 Jan) This triggered an angry report by the Public Integrity Centre (CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública) this week calling for a change in the law to prevent this. <http://www.cipmoz.org/>

But this is the international standard, confirmed by the case of Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), who was found guilty on 19 December 2016 of "negligence with public money" in approving an improper € 400 million payout when she was the French finance minister. Although clearly a serious crime relating to a very large amount of money, the court decided she should not be punished and that the conviction would not constitute a criminal record. Within hours of the court's decision, the IMF executive board convened a special meeting which gave Lagarde its full support. (See this newsletter 353, 8 Jan)

Now that it has the IMF stamp of approval, this system of convicting but not punishing senior people for financial misconduct could be very important for dealing with Mozambique's \$2 billion secret debt. There is pressure for former ministers and senior officials to be held accountable for their role in agreeing and guaranteeing the \$2 bn secret loans - politically, from the aid donors, and, perhaps more importantly, to back up Mozambique in refusing to pay some or all of the debt. The Lagarde model makes this easier, because senior people can be found guilty without being punished, and they can even retain their high status. *jh*

## Nyusi attacks road construction corruption

"With all the modern equipment that you see in the engineering laboratory, why was it permitted that Julius Nyerere [avenue in Maputo was paved] in that way? What was the agreement to not inspect the works?" asked President Filipe Nyusi on an inspection visit to the Ministry of Public Works. He went on to note that in Macomia, Cabo Delgado, a contractor was allowed to simply paint the road black instead of repaving it. (*O País* 13 Feb)

He went on to talk about "ridiculous" decisions that mean the roads cost more per kilometre in Mozambique - and then the ministry complains about lack of money to build roads. Nyusi denounced the existence of "many interests" around, including people from outside the ministry. And he said it does not make sense to delay projectors because of "interests". "Some road projects in Niassa, Nampula and Gaza were never finished, mainly for lack of inspection. We were eaten. The vulgar language is this. And we can not continue to be eaten."

**\$3 mn in corruption proceeds was recovered** in 2016 by the office of fight corruption (Gabinete Central de Combate à Corrupção). According to the CIP report, this included 12 buildings (two at Bilene beach and 10 in Maputo) and nine cars. <http://www.cipmoz.org/> "Suspensão da Execução da Pena por Corrupção de Jeremias Tchamo É Indicativa da Necessidade de Revisão da Punição dos Crimes de Corrupção" por Baltazar Fael.

## Josina Machel attacker convicted, but may not go to jail

Rofino Licuco, boyfriend of Josina Machel from 2012 to 2015, was sentenced to three years and four months in jail for beating her so badly on 17 October 2015 that she was blinded in her right eye. The Kampfumbe (Maputo) urban district court also ordered him to pay Josina compensation of 200 million meticaís (\$2.9 mn) and to reimburse her for all the costs of her medical treatment. Finally, the court said the jail sentence would be suspended if Licuco paid the compensation within 30 days. Josina is the daughter of Graça Machel and first president Samora Machel. Licuco is likely to appeal, which would delay the sentence and compensation.

Josina said that she laid her first complaint against Licuco at the police station in the Maputo central hospital while she was in hospital, but that the file, including the clinical report on her

condition written by doctors at the time, was mysteriously lost. With the help of sympathetic medical staff she had to reconstitute her case file. (AIM En & Pt 21 Feb)

## Cyclone hits Inhambane

Cyclone Dineo hit Inhambane province 15 February, killing seven people and injuring 51. The cyclone blew the roofs off of 70% of schools in the storm hit area, damaging 1700 classroom and 70 health units. Damage to government facilities such as school and health posts is estimated at 900 mn Meticaís (\$13 mn).

Prime Minister Carlos Agostinho do Rosario visited some of the damaged schools, and said the poor quality of the building work had increased the vulnerability of these schools to natural disasters. He said Mozambique is subject to cyclones and schools should be constructed to standards which made them more resilient; more care should be taken in selecting the contractors to build schools and the companies that inspect the work of the contractors. (AIM En 20, 21 Feb; *O Pais* 20)

## Former science minister dies

Venâncio Massingue, Minister of Science and Technology 2005-12, died 10 February of cancer. Born in rural Chibuto, Gaza, in 1960, he became a computer technician at the new informatics centre (CIUEM) of Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM) in 1982, and eventually became director. He was responsible for making Mozambique one of the first African countries to introduce internet and e-mail. He gained his PhD and then became vice-rector of UEM, and finally minister.

## Other news

**Renamo says peace secure.** Renamo brigades last week went into four districts of Zambézia heavily affected by the war - Mopeia, Morrumbala, Dere and Gurué - to tell people it is safe to return home and resume normal life. Renamo political delegates in the districts have come out of hiding. Similar actions are taking place in Sofala, Manica and Tete provinces. The current cease fire is officially only until 4 March, but Renamo provincial political representative Abdala Ossifo said the cease fire will continue. Ten schools in Gorongosa district, Sofala, which were closed by the war have now reopened. (AIM Pt 14 Feb, *O Pais* 15, 22 Feb)

**The Mozambique Democratic Movement** (MDM), the second largest opposition party, will hold its second congress on 5-8 December in Nampula, it decided at a political commission meeting in Nampula on 20 February. Mahamudo Amurane, the MDM Mayor of Nampula and a member of the political commission, did not attend, reflecting a split in the local MDM. Amurane worked with the Nampula branch of the Central Office for the Fight against Corruption (GCCC) to root out corruption in the Nampula Municipal Council. Seven people were arrested including the city councillor for finance, and four others went into hiding. Relatives of those arrested then accused Amurane of corruption. (AIM En & Pt 20, 21 Feb)

**Government wants to build a \$60 mn airport in Xai-Xai** and hopes the project will be funded by a Chinese export credit, said Transport Minister Carlos Mesquita. (AIM En 20 Feb)

**Police have removed 796 illegal miners** from the 33,600 hectare ruby concession of the British company Gemfields (75%) and the Mozambican company Mwiriti (25%) owned by Raimundo Pachinuapa, near Montepuez, Cabo Delgado. (*Noticias* 17 Feb) But in contrast, the **British company Xtract will hire local miners** to exploit its gold mining concession in Manica. (Zitamar 16 Feb)

**Kidnappings of businessmen continue.** The owner of a maize processing company, Pembe-Moçambique, was kidnapped near the factory in Matola on 16 February. (*O Pais*, 17 Feb)

**Police finally cracked down on illegal fuel sales**, seizing 12,000 litres of fuel from informal vendors in Gaza, Inhambane, Manica and Nampula provinces. The illicit trade in fuel had led to tragedies, the worst of which occurred in November 2016 in Caphiridzange, Tete, where over 100 people were killed. They had been in a crowd surrounding a tanker truck, owned by a Malawian company, which exploded while it was being looted of the fuel it was carrying. (AIM En 15 Feb)

## ***Academic research on Mozambique***

**The Portuguese Massacre of Wiriyamu in Colonial Mozambique, 1964-2013**, Mustafah Dhada, 2016, London: Bloomsbury. Pb ISBN: 781350036802, £26.09  
PDF eBook ISBN: 9781472506221 £17.39

Publication of information about the brutality of the Wiriyamu massacre was one turning point in the Portuguese colonial wars, eventually causing international condemnation and building the resentment of the soldiers who eventually overthrew the Portuguese dictatorship in 1974. This book, by a Mozambican-born historian Mustafah Dhada, is based on interviews with survivors, perpetrators and others, plus archive research. It tells an amazingly detailed story, and sets the massacre in context. It is an important account of a key event in Mozambican history.

Wiriyamu was a collection of five villages just 15 km south of Tete city. By 1972 Frelimo controlled half of Tete and was moving south into Manica. A main supply trail ran through Wiriyamu and the villages were sympathetic to Frelimo. At noon on 16 December 1972, the Portuguese air force bombed the area around the villages and troops arrived by helicopter. In each village, the people were gathered together. In Chaworha the group was told to clap their hands, and soldiers shot them. The bodies were brought together into a pile and set on fire. One young boy, António, was not dead but hid in the pile until it was too hot, and then got away - he later gave evidence that led to publication of the first reports.

In Juawu and Wiriyamu, the villagers were sent into the largest house and a grenade was thrown into it. The commander, António Melo, explained this was a normal tactic - the blast would lift up the thatched roof which would catch fire and fall back on the victims; anyone not killed in the blast would be killed in the fire. In Djemusse people were tortured and beaten to death to gain information on Frelimo, or were shot. The book lists the names of 385 people who were killed; Dhada believes many more were killed but are unnamed. In all, at least 29% of the villagers were killed - but now the survivors' stories have been told.

**Women, Migration & the Cashew Economy in Southern Mozambique 1945-1975**, Jeanne Marie Penvenne, 2015, Martlesham, Suffolk, UK: James Currey, ISBN: 9781847011282, £45.

In the colonial era, working in cashew processing factories was one of the ways that women could gain some autonomy. Jeanne Penvenne's book is based on interviews with more than 100 former workers at the Cajú Industrial factory in Chamanculo, Maputo - where 80% of the 2500 workers were women. The book looks at the ignored stories of migration to the city, complex social networks, working while raising children, fighting for legal wages, and self organising within the factory.

**Violent Becomings: State formation, sociality, and power in Mozambique**, Bjørn Enge Bertelsen, 2016, Oxford: Berghahn, Pb: ISBN 978-1-78533-293-7 \$29.95/£21.00

An anthropological approach to state formation, based on a decade of fieldwork north of Chimoio, provides some insights into recent conflicts in central Mozambique. Bjørn Enge Bertelsen argues that central Manica has seen two centuries of violent state formation, dating at least from Nuguni entry in the 1830, then occupation by the Mozambique company (often using Nugni mercenaries

and police), then Portuguese control, then the wars of the 1970s and 1980s, and finally more recent conflicts with Renamo. This has led to a continuing struggle for economic, political and social control between external and local forces. The local, although constantly changing, is labelled "traditional" and is collection of economic, social, hierarchic and belief structures.

At its best, the book situates current politics into the complex local reality. Thus Afonso Dhlakama is seen to employ the region's animal-named clan structure to use his party symbol, the *perdiz* (partridge), to turn Renamo into a Gorongosa-based clan with himself as a leader powerful enough to turn himself into the clan animal. Thus when his motorcade was attacked in 2015, local people insisted he had turned himself into a partridge and flown away. His waxing and waning of power is interpreted as the lion spirit moving to Gorongosa and then leaving.

But at its most murky, the book becomes mired in arcane anthropological debates. Also, as an anthropologist, Bjørn Enge Bertelsen accepts what he is told at face value, but one cannot help but wonder if sometimes his informants were embellishing their stories to keep the anthropologist entertained.

### **The Uncertainty of Prosperity: Dependence and the Politics of Middle-Class Privilege in Maputo**

Jason Sumich (2016), *Ethnos*, 81:5, 821-841, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00141844.2014.1002860> and **The Middle Class in Mozambique and the Politics of the Blank Slate**, Jason Sumich, in Henning Melber, ed, *The Rise of Africa's Middle Class*, London: Zed, 2016, Pb: ISBN: 9781783607136, £17.49.

"Privilege has become intertwined with precariousness and complicity, with members of the middle class increasingly hostage to a regime they fear will cause them to lose everything they and their families have struggled so long for," writes Jason Sumach. In part, he is trying to define the middle class. One definition is anyone earning more than \$2 per day - that is, anyone not in poverty. But for Sumich it is a smaller group, some from families with privileged positions in late colonial society and others who gained education and positions through Frelimo in the socialist and capitalist periods. And now there is a younger generation, often educated abroad, who gain jobs, partly through political connections, in government, NGOs or banking. But, he asks, what is their place and their future?

### **Land grab collapse**

"In Mozambique and many other African countries, the Great Land Grab has produced little but headlines and local opposition. In part because of that fierce resistance, mega-deal after mega-deal has collapsed," writes Timothy Wise, who directs the Land and Food Rights Program at the Small Planet Institute. <https://foodtank.com/news/2017/02/land-and-food-rights-in-mozambique/> In Mozambique, no new plantation agriculture project has succeeded since independence 42 years ago. The Procana sugar project has collapsed for a second time, and large timber plantations and a beef project are having trouble. (See this newsletter 360, 358, 329, 314)

Several recent studies have looked at the impact of earlier land grabs and alternatives. Soya beans in Gurué and elsewhere have shown large scale failures but small scale successes. Three plantations projects on an old state farm are in trouble, but some small commercial farmers are doing well. We dealt with this in detail in our book **Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique** by Teresa Smart and Joseph Hanlon (free download on <http://bit.ly/chickens-beer>). PLAAS, the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies at the University of the Western Cape, has done some of the most interesting research in this area. Chapter 3 of their new book **Changing agro-food systems: The impact of big agro-investors on food rights - Case studies in Mozambique and Zambia** by Refiloe Joala, Phillan Zamchiya, Clemente Ntauazi, Patrick Musole and Ceasar Katebe is a new set of interviews on soya in Gurué (free download on [http://www.plaas.org.za/sites/default/files/publications-pdf/Changing agro-food systems + OSISA.pdf](http://www.plaas.org.za/sites/default/files/publications-pdf/Changing%20agro-food%20systems%20-%20OSISA.pdf)) Some farmers were displaced by the land grabs, but there is growth in soya



as a crop for "emergent" small commercial farmers which has boosted the local economy, and also triggered local processing of soya for food.

Another important book is ***Africa's Land Rush*** edited by Ruth Hall, Ian Scoones and Dzodzi Tsikata (2016, Martlesham, Suffolk, UK: James Currey, Pb ISBN: 9781847011305, £19.95). The chapter "Agrarian Struggles in Mozambique: Insights from Sugarcane Plantations" by Gaynor Paradza and Emmanuel Sulle looks at the impact of two sugar plantations. The proposed Procana project has been abandoned twice and apparently no one has been forced to move yet. At the much older Maragra estate there is an outgrower scheme with nearly 400 farmers. There the land problem is not with the large company, but within the community, with generational and gender conflicts.

## Other agriculture

**Tobacco contract farming:** Tobacco has done more to reduce rural poverty than any government or aid intervention, but at a price in widening class divisions, as Helena Pérez Niño found in an excellent and detailed study. For smaller tobacco producers, she writes, this "entails substantial contributions of unpaid household labour and denotes self-exploitation. In contrast, for small capitalist farmers and landlords, controlling labour costs is made possible by the mobilisation of workers and tenants in precarious work and contractual conditions. It is only by adopting these forms of surplus value extraction that some farmers in Angónia have managed to preserve their status as independent producers working on their own land - and many have accumulated and reinvested." Helena Pérez Niño, 2016. "Class dynamics in contract farming: the case of tobacco production in Mozambique", *Third World Quarterly*, 37:10, 1787-1808.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2016.1180956>

**Goats:** "Women in male-headed households very rarely have the control over the incomes from goat sales, despite goats being seen as livestock that is appropriate and empowering for women," according to a study in Inhassiro, Inhambane. This raises questions about aid projects that provide goats as a way to support women. Birgit K. Boogaarda, Elizabeth Waithanjib, Elizabeth J. Pooleb, and Jean-Joseph Cadilhon, 2015. "Smallholder goat production and marketing: a gendered baseline study from Inhassoro District Mozambique", *NJAS - Wageningen Journal of Life Sciences* 74–75, 51–63. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.njas.2015.09.002>

**"Charcoal as a diversification strategy:** The flexible role of charcoal production in the livelihoods of smallholders in central Mozambique" (Daniel Jones , Casey M. Ryan, Janet Fisher, 2016, *Energy for Sustainable Development* 32, 14–21 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.esd.2016.02.009>) looks at a charcoal producing village in Manica, and finds it is not a full time occupation nor is it production by the poorest with no other choice. Instead, most producers use trees from their own farm and produce when they need extra money. Women produce charcoal "to gain a degree of financial autonomy from their husbands."

**Journal articles:** In our world, knowledge has a price. Access to academic journals requires a university link or buying the article. Embassies and NGOs should pay. Mozambican researchers can contact me directly on [j.hanlon@open.ac.uk](mailto:j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

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**Election study collaboration:** We have detailed election data from 1999 through 2014 and are inviting scholars to use this data collaboratively. <http://bit.ly/MozElecData>

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## Books and reports by Joseph Hanlon

**Special report on four poverty surveys:** [bit.ly/MozPoverty](http://bit.ly/MozPoverty)

**Comment: something will turn up:** <http://bit.ly/28SN7QP>

**Oxfam blog on Bill Gates & chickens:**

<http://oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/will-bill-gates-chickens-end-african-poverty/>

**Bangladesh confronts climate change: Keeping our heads above water**

by Manoj Roy, Joseph Hanlon and David Hulme

Published by Anthem Press

<http://www.anthempress.com/bangladesh-confronts-climate-change-pb>

**Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique** by Teresa Smart and Joseph Hanlon

In pdf format, 6 Mb file, free on <http://bit.ly/chickens-beer>

E-book for Kindle and iPad, <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00NRZXXKE>

**Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento**

by Teresa Smart & Joseph Hanlon. Copies are in Maputo bookshops or from

KAPICUA, Rua Fernão Veloso 12, Maputo; Tel.: +258 21 413 201 or +258 21 415 451

Telm.: +258 823 219 950 E-mail: [kapicua@tdm.co.mz](mailto:kapicua@tdm.co.mz) / [kapicuacom@tdm.co.mz](mailto:kapicuacom@tdm.co.mz)

Outside Mozambique, we have a few copies we can send from London. Please e-mail [j.hanlon@open.ac.uk](mailto:j.hanlon@open.ac.uk).

**Zimbabwe takes back its land**

by Joseph Hanlon, Jeanette Manjengwa & Teresa Smart is now available from the publishers

[https://www.riener.com/title/Zimbabwe\\_Takes\\_Back\\_Its\\_Land](https://www.riener.com/title/Zimbabwe_Takes_Back_Its_Land) also as an e-book and

<http://www.jacana.co.za/book-categories/current-affairs-a-history/zimbabwe-takes-back-its-land-detail>

**Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique?** by Joseph Hanlon & Teresa Smart

is available from the publisher <http://www.boydellandbrewer.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=13503>

**Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South**

by Joseph Hanlon, Armando Barrientos, and David Hulme

Most of this book can now be read on the web [tinyurl.com/justgivemoney](http://tinyurl.com/justgivemoney)

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NOTE OF EXPLANATION:

One mailing list is used to distribute two publications, both edited by Joseph Hanlon. This is my own sporadic "News reports & clippings", which is entirely my own responsibility. This list is also used to distribute the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, published by CIP and AWEPA, but those organisations are not linked to "News reports & clippings"

Joseph Hanlon

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**Mozambique media websites, Portuguese:**

Notícias: [www.jornalnoticias.co.mz](http://www.jornalnoticias.co.mz)

O País: [www.opais.co.mz](http://www.opais.co.mz)

@Verdade: <http://www.verdade.co.mz>

Diário de Moçambique (Beira): <http://www.diariodemocambique.co.mz>

Carlos Serra Diário de um sociólogo: <http://oficinadesociologia.blogspot.com>

**Mozambique media websites, English:**

Club of Mozambique: <http://clubofmozambique.com/>

Rhula weekly newsletter: <http://www.rhula.net/news-announcements.html>

Zitamar: <http://zitamar.com/>

Macauhub English: <http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/>

AIM Reports: [www.poptel.org.uk/mozambique-news](http://www.poptel.org.uk/mozambique-news)

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