


# Fund for Gender Equality

GENERAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Project Information				Mozambique
<b>Project Name</b>	Fighting for Women's Rights			<b>Programme Type:</b> Catalytic
<b>Lead Org</b>	MUGEDE - Mulher, Genero e Desenvolvimento (Women, Gender and Development)			<b>Grant ID:</b> 178
<b>Co-lead Org</b>				
<b>Thematic Area(s)</b>	Economic Empowerment			
<b>Thematic Sub Area(s)</b>	Improve women's economic conditions and their participation in local governance			
<b>Grant Amount</b>	\$438,550	<b>Grant Start Date</b>	December 18, 2009	
<b>Additional Gov't Funding</b>		<b>Grant End Date</b>	December 31, 2011	
<b>Total Budget</b>	\$438,550			

Partner Agencies	
<b>Government</b>	Parliamentarians, consultative community councils, and local governments of the administrative posts of Boane and Ressano Garcia
<b>Civil Society</b>	FORUM MULHER and other smaller NGOs (i.e. ORAM)

Programme Summary
The programme aims to improve the living standards of approximately 30,000 rural women by helping them capitalize on recent legislative advances that promote gender equality. It aspires to diversify the types of economic opportunities available to rural women in Mozambique and to increase their participation in politics. In parallel, the programme aims to make local political officials more aware of and increasingly accountable towards a women's rights agenda.

DETAILED PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Contribution to Law(s)				
Name of Law	Law Type	Year Implemented	Type of Contribution	Expected Level of Contribution (High or Low)

General Programme Goal
Increase the ability of rural women to achieve equality by strengthening their ability to improve their socioeconomic status and to boost involvement in the political affairs that affect their lives.

Expected Programme Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome 1: Increased willingness and capacity of rural women to solicit social and legal recognition of their rights in a constructive manner without causing conflicts in their communities</li> <li>• Outcome 2: Rural women in the districts of Ressano Garcia and Boane actively take part in political decision making at the local, district and administrative levels that affect their livelihoods and the well-being of their communities by December 2011</li> <li>• Outcome 3: Rural women of Ressano Garcia and Boane participate in more income-generating activities in order to ensure a minimum level of economic independence.</li> </ul>

Main Achievements
The programme in Mozambique has progressed significantly in strengthening opportunities for women in the economic realm. Moreover, the programme's lead, MUGEDE, has successfully engaged rural women in Mozambique as well as their elected officials, in ongoing exchanges around women's political priorities and practical ways to enhance their political participation and influence. The programme conducted a baseline study with interviews and data collection on living standards, access to land, knowledge of gender issues, rights, educational levels and family and community decision-making processes. The programme leveraged the research results to direct to all subsequent programme strategy and activities. Through the use of participatory approaches in all initiatives, MUGEDE has continued to create spaces for women's voices in public forums and to strengthen their standing in local communities through access to new economic opportunities. Key activities have included:

- Organizing discussion forums in the rural communities of Ressano Garcia and Boane (attended by both women and men as well as local Parliamentarians). These offered an opportunity for dialogues on community-level political and economic issues and sought to foster an environment conducive to women's public participation
- Launching a highly consultative process to draft seven brochures on various pieces of Mozambican legislation that directly impact rural women
- Liaising with government representatives to organize media appearances highlighting rural women's specific challenges
- Preparing for the registration of an agricultural cooperative for women
- Conducting training sessions with rural women on sustainable economic activities including sewing, cooking, sustainable agriculture and chicken breeding, as well as workshops on civics and methodologies, in order to encourage women's qualitative political participation
- Facilitating the land registration process for rural women
- Supporting adult literacy programmes

### **Key Highlights**

Use of qualitative baseline studies with rural women is an innovative approach which fostered rural women's confidence in MUGEDE's programme.