



Christian Council of Mozambique

Women and Climate Change in Mozambique

Location of Mozambique

Mozambique is a country located in the southern region of Africa and surrounded by the Indian Ocean, with about 32 million inhabitants, a coast of about 2515 km from the Rovuma River to Ponta de Ouro, with 11 provinces. Given its geographical position, Mozambique is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change and therefore prone to strong winds and rains, tropical cyclones, rising sea levels and severe droughts, erosion, whose impacts are reflected in the social, economic, political and environmental spheres. Annually, almost all provinces of the country mainly coastal ones are severely affected by erosion, saline intrusion and destruction of mangrove forests and other native species along the coast, also resulting in landslides, the destruction of public and private infrastructure and increasing the vulnerability of local communities.

As a consequence the population lives in a situation of threat and instability. The Government of Mozambique (GM), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), United Nations Organizations, International Partners and Humanitarian Agencies (HA), Religious Organizations have been making efforts to reduce the impacts of extreme events through the development of various action plans and programs, such as the National Action Programme for Adaptation to Climate Change.

Concepts

Disaster risk reduction (RRD) is the set of practices aimed at reducing disaster losses or damage through a Prevention ethic. In practice, RRD represents systematic efforts to analyse and manage disaster-causing factors, including reducing the exposure and vulnerability of people, women and girls and property to natural hazards, wise management of land use that is mostly used by women (although most often do not have any say over them), environment, as well as better readiness for adverse events. Disasters are also the product of social, political and economic environments because of the way they structure the lives of different groups of people.

More vulnerable people, including women, girls, and the elderly, live in adverse economic conditions that oblige them to live in regions and places that are affected by natural hazards. Therefore, disaster risk reduction measures must take into account vulnerability and its causes.

Effects of Disasters on Communities

Numerous times when an adverse event affects a community or city, the degree of implementation and reliability of RRD practices are tested by expressing the losses or damage that have occurred, increasing the level of poverty and vulnerability of these communities; in particular women, girls, children and the elderly; communities go through frequent events per year.

Women are most affected by climate change and those who have died in the most in natural disasters. This vulnerability is the result of a number of social, economic and cultural factors.

Disaster Response Strategies

Countries such as Mozambique have committed to integrating the RRD into policies, plans, programmes and budgets at all levels. For the materialisation of the commitment, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the EIRD in December 1999 and established its secretariat to ensure its implementation.

Studies indicate that for every dollar invested in prevention can save seven dollars from emergency operations.

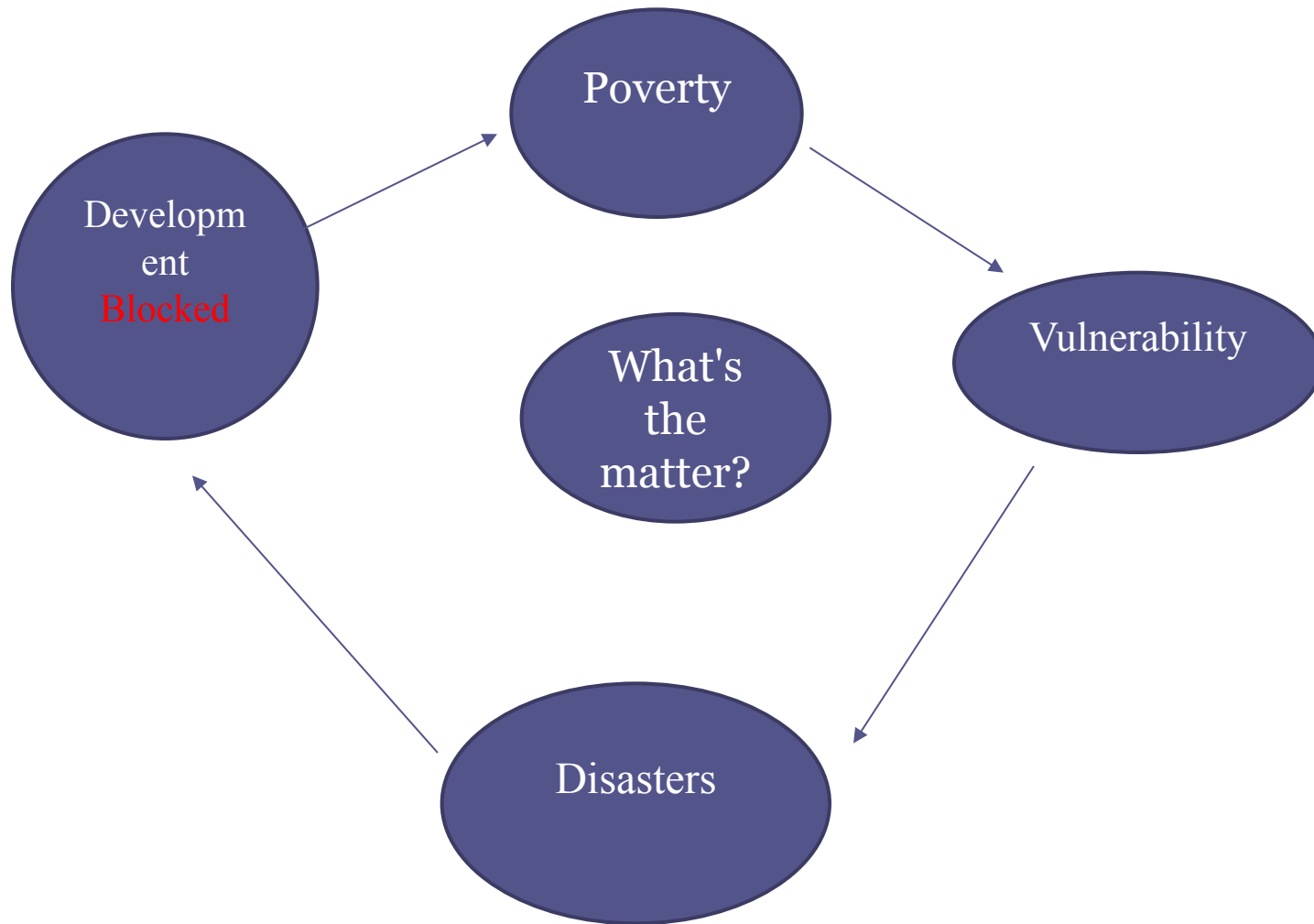
Calls have been made for at least 1 per cent of all national development funding to be channelled into RRD measures, essentially for the most vulnerable, women, girls, children and the elderly.

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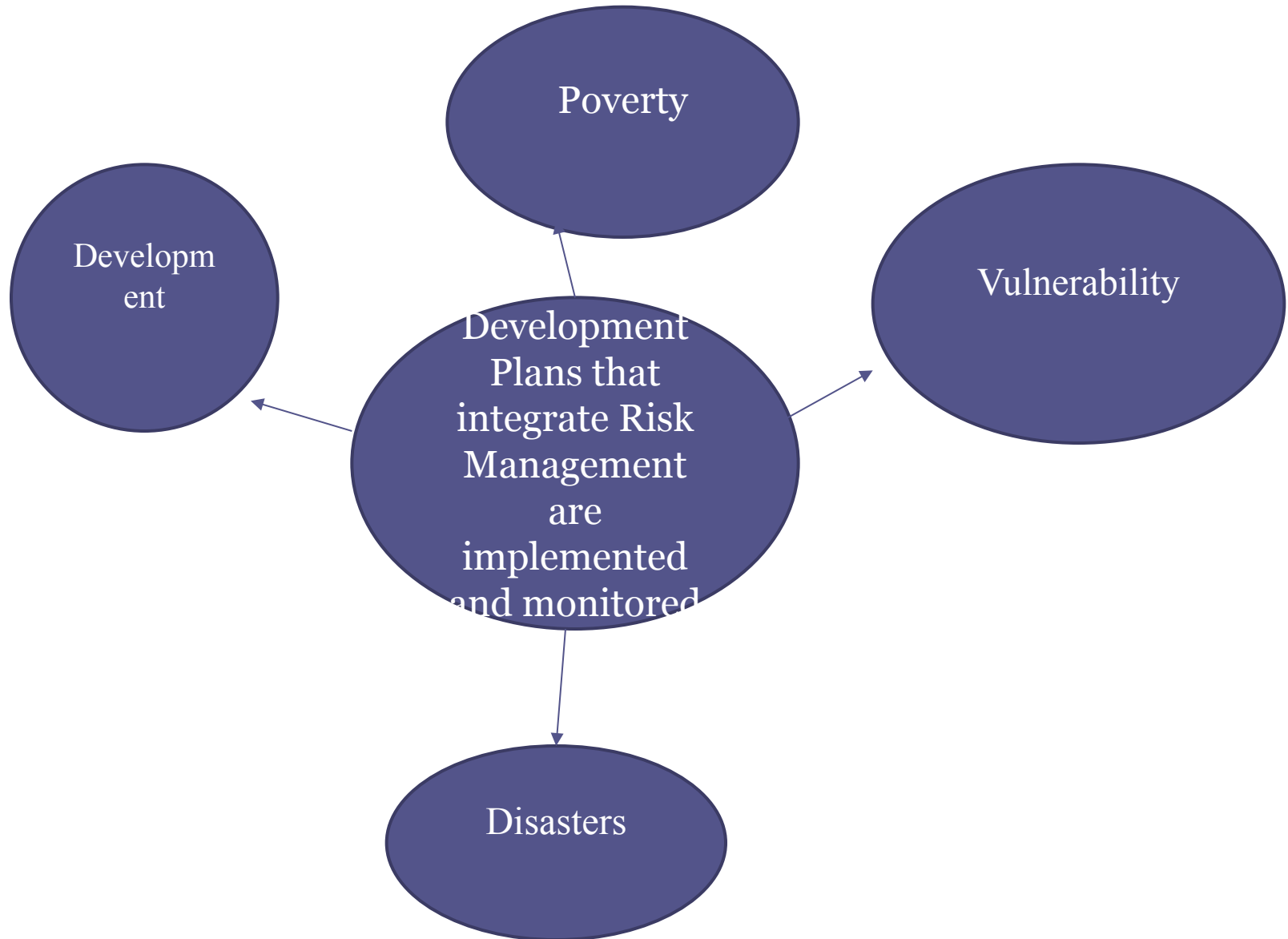
There are a variety of measures/options to protect vulnerable women and girls, their assets, and the environment:

- ❖ Reduce and manage the risks of measures to reduce potential threat impacts;
- ❖ Measures to reduce vulnerability;
- ❖ Strengthening community capacities or strategies in dealing with threats; and
- ❖ Women in the countryside and the city lead and promote concrete actions to improve the quality of life and a more sustainable environment: they diversify income; guarantee food security; protect biodiversity; defend territories, act in agroecology and solidarity economy and well-living, among other activities.

Disaster cycle in vulnerable communities



How to Break the Cycle of Disaster in Vulnerable Communities



Disaster management of the effects of climatic changes

- Disaster/disaster management, among others, is currently coordinated by the Council of Ministers at central level, INGD present in all provinces, Emergency Operating Centers (COE), Local Disaster Risk Management Committees (CLGRC), that can be provincial or district with donor support/partnership, CSOs, religious leaders, as protagonists in community mobilization on the risk of climate change and dissemination of good practices with a view to creating communities more resilient to extreme climate events and those promoted by man's own action.
- Women promote the diversification of food crops and the introduction of short-cycle and drought-resistant crops.
- Women improve the water storage system and its efficiency by provision of rainwater storage through gutters.

Visit the Prone Areas





Thanks!