



Experience in Setting a Fertilizer Platform in Mozambique

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1. Introduction



- **The Ministry of Agrc. developed:**

- National Fertilizer Program: 2012**

- Fertilizer Regulations: 2013**

- Approved by the Council of Ministers**

- meet the challenges of the current 5 yr (PQG)
 - contribution to international commitments that the country is signatory
 - Consultation: different parts interested with fertilizer value chain
 - Aim: establish a framework to help increase and improve quality of available fertilizers to farmers through sensitization of key participants and reinforcement of institutional capacity for its sustainable use

Introduction (cont.)



- National Fertilizer Program identifies:
 - Main constraints and policy options for regional procurement, cost reduction on fertilizer importation, encourage domestic production of fertilizers and provide a basis to overcome constraints related to availability, accessibility, fertilizer use, and therefore, pave the way for the implementation of a regional strategy that can result in a vibrant market for fertilizers.

Introduction (cont.)



- For this to happen various actions have been undertaken by several national and international institutions to put in place:
 - The National Fertilizer Program
 - The directives emanating from the Abuja Declaration
 - These include MinAgric, AGRA, IFDC, Agricultural Research Institute, AFAP, Private Sector, NGO's and Development Partners.

2. Why a Fertilizer Platform



- In 2012 the low use of fertilizers was recognized as a critical constraint
- Retail distribution network scarce, skills weak
- Lack of market integration: no incentive in fertilizer use
 - **National Program & Fertilizer Regulation: Basic instruments driving the fertilizer processes**
 - short lasting
 - Prone to change with election cycles
- **Aware of challenges various institutions agreed to establish a National Dialogue Platform**
- An entry point for dialogue with regional fertilizer forum.

Platform general objective



Establish a dialogue mechanism on policies and debate on issues related to the fertilizer value chain aiming at promoting sustainable use of fertilizers by farmers for increased production and productivity in Mozambique.

Platform specific objectives



- Interact with public sector (policy makers) for a favourable environment in development of a fertilizer value chain;
- Interact with private sector for quality fertilizers;
- Interact with research institutions for recommendations on appropriate fertilizers for different agroecological zones;
- Promote sensitization, debates, seminars on specific themes;
- Promote studies on issues (mapping and analysis of fertilizer value chain);
- Disseminate study results and debates for consensus;
- Establish a basis for creation of Mozambique Fertilizer Association.

Organizational structures



- The Platform was initially led by an installation Commission with representatives from MinAgri, AFAP, IFDC, USAID, AGRA.
- The installation Commission was responsible for the organization of first meeting/General Assembly of the Platform
- The General Assembly elected:
 - President and Vice-President of the Platform
 - Selected members for the Coordination Committee
 - The Coordination Committee in turn, indicated members for the Secretariat

General Assembly



- Participation in the Fertilizer Dialogue Platform was open for all actors in the fertilizer value chain:
 - Public Sector, PrivateSector, Cooperation Partners, NGO's (National and International), Farmer Associations, Financial Institutions, Research and Academic Institutions among others.
- Participation of all members takes place in the General Assembly
- However, daily operations of the Platform are responsibility of the Coordination Committee and Secretariat.

Functions General Assembly



- Propose and elect the President and Vice-Presidente of the General Assembly
- Propose elect members of Coordination Committee
- Appreciate and approve work plan submitted by the Coordination Committee
- Propose and provide recommendations on issues deserving attention of the Coordination Committee,

Coordination Committee



- The Coordination Committee is composed by a multi-sectoral team along the fertilizer value chain, in order to maximize knowledge and experiences from various sectors in the value chain
- The composition and number of members of the Coordination Committee was agreed in the launching General Assembly of the Platform
- Agenda and venue for meetings of the Coordination Committee agreed by members of the Committee

Functions of Coordination Committee



- Develop and propose action plans for the achievement of Platform objectives;
- Represent the Platform in national and international fertilizer fora;
- Provide advice to the Platform and its members on issues related to fertilizers;
- Identify and invite specialists for specific studies and report on specific themes that require attention of members of the Platform.

Secretariat



- Organize meetings of Coordination Committee and General Assembly;
- Implement activities according the action plan approved by General Assembly;
- Maintain internal and external communications.

3. From Platform to Association



Need for institutionalization

By Mozambican Law the most appropriate mechanism for institutionalization led to Association

Mozambique Association for Promotion of Fertilizer Use
(AMOFERT)

Association



- Objectives (basically same as Platform)

Vision

A dynamic and competitive fertilizer value chain which stimulates the development of agricultural sector

Mission

AMOFERT is a mechanism established to function as a vehicle to facilitate and stimulate the development of the fertilizer value chain, through the congregation of the various actors, operating directly or indirectly in the sector, for the implementation of common objectives through dialogue and cooperation.

4. Some achievements and issues



- **AMOFERT: Officially registered**
- **Strategic Plan elaborated and approved**
- **Studies of fertilizer cost structure**
- **Fertilizer Act: 2016**
 - **Consultations completed**
 - **Draft Act submitted to GOM**
- **Participation in Regional Conferences**
 - **2015: JHB (ESAF/FERTASA)**
 - **2015: Lusaka (ESAF/COMESA/ACTESA)**
 - **2016: DAR, (ESAFA)**
 - **2017: Cape Town (Argus)**
 - **2017: Maputo (ESAFA)**

4. Strategic Activities



1. Promotion of policies and regulations

- Technical advise to develop Fertilizer Act

2. Promote the increase in the demand for and access to quality fertilizers

- Training AD and extension agents
- Promotion and use of balanced fertilizers & technology packages
- Design and implementation of subsidy program

3. Promote the increase of availability and use

- Stimulate national production of fertilizers
- Reduction of prices of fertilizers at farm level

4. Promote access to finance in the fertilizer

- Training in preparation of business plans
- Facilitation of credit lines and bank guarantees

5. Key issues



- Deal with issues not in Government agenda
- Registration through 3 ministries (Agric, Health, Environ)
 - registration requirements can take up to 4 months
 - Requirement for blends to be registered
 - Need for accurate fertilizer data collection system
- Possible solutions
 - Digitize registration process to minimize bureaucracy
 - Improve capacity of MinAgr in product registration.
 - Review fertilizer regulations to be more flexible
 - Improve quality testing rather than blends registration
 - Eliminate clearance invoice for ingredients in the blend

6. The way forward



Advocacy on:

1. Reduction of fertilizer cost
 - a. Review the single electronic window
 - b. License Authorized Economic Operator (OEA)
 - c. Decentralize licensing (Maputo, Beira, Nampula)
2. Finalize Fertilizer Act and submit to Parliament
3. Harmonize policies and Regulations at Regional level
4. Strengthen AMOFERT Governing structures



**Thank you
for your
attention!**