



AFRICA IN MOVIMENTO / AFRICA ON THE MOVE

MACERATA 17 -20/09/2014

TITLE: RURAL WATER SERVICE DELIVERY IN MOZAMBIQUE: ACTORS AND DYNAMICS

AUTHOR: SALVADOR FORQUILHA, INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES MAPUTO
(salvador.forquilha@iese.ac.mz)

ABSTRACT:

In September 2012, the Government of Mozambique announced changes in criteria for calculating coverage rates of water supply in rural areas. From 500 people for a well or borehole equipped with a hand pump, in a distance of 500 meters, it moved to 300 people for a well or borehole equipped with a hand pump. These changes in criteria happen more than fifteen years after the approval of the National Water Policy (NAP) and come from the fact that, in many cases, official figures are far from reflecting what is really happening on the ground in terms of coverage rates. Over the last thirty years, like other African countries, Mozambique embarked on public sector reforms aiming, among other objectives, at quality improvement of public services. Conceived as a response to State crisis, these reforms have so far produced modest results. Integrated in a research project called "Governance, Public Services and State Building", and based on a field work on water sector in Mozambique, this paper seeks to analyze the conditions under which the service delivery of rural water is made, questioning how the institutional dynamics affect the process of provision. The analysis is focused on the factors that shape the results in rural water service delivery, arguing that the institutional dynamics of both supply side and demand side shape the results of rural water service delivery process.

AUTHOR'S ACADEMIC PROFILE:

Salvador Forquilha received his PhD in Political Science from the University of Bordeaux, in France, in 2006. He is Researcher at Institute for Social and Economic Studies (IESE – www.iese.ac.mz) and Lecturer at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique.