Revision of the Mozambique Frontiers

a Cooperation Project

Paula Santos (IICT), Ana Roque (IICT), José Mucombo (IMAF)
paula.santos@iiict.pt

54 countries

109 international frontiers:
- 26% follows natural features (mountains, rivers, …)
- 44% astronomical lines
- 30% mathematical lines

(Wolfgang Döpcke, 1999)
Revision of the Mozambique Frontiers: a Cooperation Project
TS06H Boundary Delimitation Issues: from parcel to country level

- **ANGÔNIA** (1899-1947)
- **BARUÉ** (1897 – 1912)
- **BRITISH CENTRAL ÁFRICA** (1900-1949)
  - **KIONGA** (1908)
  - **MANICA** (1892)
- **MAPUTO / TONGALAND** (1888-1897)
  - **NIASSA** (1898-1928)
  - **PAFURI** (1856-1926)
  - **RODÉS\IA (1903-1937)
- **RODÉS\IA DO SUL** (1922-1940)
  - **RODÉS\IA DO SUL / Cº de MOÇAMBIQUE** (1893-1909)
  - **ROVUMA** (1895-1937)
  - **SWAZIL\ÂN\DA / MUSSUATE** (1888-1901)
  - **SWAZIL\ÂN\DA / NAMAACHA** (1894-1924)
  - **TRANSVAL** (1890-1926)

Archive of Frontiers - Mozambique Documents
(1856-1940)

**Confluence of Limpopo and Pafuri rivers - tripoint**
Mozambique-South Africa-Zimbabwe
Revision of the Mozambique Frontiers: a Cooperation Project
TS06H Boundary Delimitation Issues: from parcel to country level

Official and diplomatic documents
Correspondence
Proceedings of the meetings related to delimitation and definition of the frontiers;
Registry of informations, petitions, objections, opinions and discussions concerning delimitation and definition of the border lines;
Reports
Detailed accounts of the fieldwork;
Description and geographic coordinates of the beacons;
Topographic and geodesic works;
Sketch maps.

COOPERATION PROJECT:
Implementation of a boundary information system for Mozambique

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:
• National Institute for Sea and Borders Affairs of Mozambique (IMAF)
• Portuguese Tropical Research Institute (IICT)
• Portuguese Army Geographical Institute (IGeoE)
National Institute for Sea and Borders Affairs of Mozambique (IMAF):
A executive and technical body of the Mozambique government to execute all the activities related to the delimitation of the land, maritimal, aerial and riverine boundaries, including the delimitation of the Mozambican Continental shelf

Tropical Research Institute (IICT):
Oldest government agency that promotes tropical knowledge in human and natural sciences. It seeks to increase the scientific and technical capacity of CPLP countries and also to ensure the preservation and access to its documentation.

Portuguese Army Geographical Institute (IGeoE)
- Production and updating of Portugal's basic cartography on a scale 1:25000 (Portugal Military Map) as well as other derived maps
- Management of Portuguese boundaries for which is certified by the International Commission of Limits

• an interdisciplinary team will be responsible for searching, compiling and analyzing all documents related to the Mozambique boundaries.

• selection of data to be associated with the historical-diplomatic database. Related geographic information will be extracted from the technical reports
• Conversion of the documents into digital formats. For fragile documents or requiring special treatment, IgeoE has a special system composed of a digital camera with a coupled digital back and a vacuum system to hold the documents in place.

• Optical character recognition

• Elaboration of historical and diplomatic databases. Keywords and geographic descriptors will be associated to each document.

GEODATABASE:

• Integrates decision support instruments

• User-friendly interface to visualize and query the databases and incorporate eventual changes at the beacon level.

• Visualization and edition with a link to Google Earth enhancing real time operations on the ground and remote edition.
This project:

• Responds to a specific demand of the Mozambique Government to access the basic information in order to redefine and rebuild its limits.

• Profits from the combination of a multidisciplinary research team from IICT, with the valuable practical knowledge and adequate tools of IGeoE and the local experience of Mozambican IMAF members.

• The final result will be the implementation of a BGIS that support the management and continuous characterization of Mozambique boundaries that contributes to support the stability and development of Mozambique, to prevent conflicts and in order to promote cooperation and peace as recognized by the AUBP and desired by all of us.