

MOZAMBIQUE

How child-friendly is the Government of Mozambique?

The African Report on Child Wellbeing provides an insight into the wellbeing of children in Africa and assesses the extent to which governments meet their obligations, through a ground-breaking **Child-friendliness Index** – developed by The African Child Policy Forum (ACPF).

The Government of Mozambique was found to be one of the fairly child-friendly governments in Africa

The Government of Mozambique ranked 25th in the Child-friendliness Index, out of the 52 African governments covered in the assessment. This was mainly for three reasons: first, as a result of the Government of Mozambique putting in place appropriate legal provisions to protect children against abuse and exploitation; secondly, because of its fair commitment in allocating a relatively high share of its national budget to provide for the basic needs of children; and thirdly, as a result of its effort and relative success in achieving outcomes as reflected on children themselves.

How well does the Government of Mozambique perform in protecting its children?

A number of indicators have been used to assess governments' performance in protecting children against abuse and exploitation (see report for the detail).

The Government of Mozambique has performed fairly well in putting in place appropriate legal provisions to protect children against abuse and exploitation. The ranking puts Mozambique 20th in respect of legal protection of children. Mozambique has ratified most of the relevant child rights treaties (see Table 1).

Mozambique ranked 20th for its effort to put in place an appropriate legal and policy

The Government of Mozambique has also performed well in areas relating to juvenile justice system, national plan of action and a government body for coordinating the national strategy for children. It has not, however, prohibited corporal punishment and does not have a policy for free primary education (see Table 2).

Table 1 List of child rights treaties by status of ratification, Mozambique

Ratified	Did not ratify
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-national Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Pornography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ILO Convention on Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (ILO Convention No. 138) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (ILO Convention No. 182) 	

How does the Government of Mozambique perform in providing for children?

Provision for basic needs of children is measured based on two elements: budgetary commitment and child-related outcomes achieved. All the indicators used for budgetary commitment and child-related outcomes were combined to yield governments' performance score for provision of basic services for children (see Figure 1).

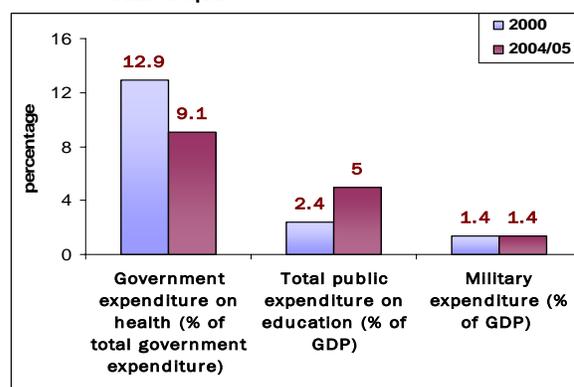
**Mozambique ranked
32nd in the combined
index for provision of
basic services for children**

The other set of indicators refer to the outcomes achieved for children. They measure governments' performances in terms of objective results achieved in services accessed and results reflected on children themselves. Table 3, below, summarises the indicators and the data used for this particular sub-dimension for Mozambique.

Table 2 Performance in other legal and policy related indicators, Mozambique

Indicators	Status
Prohibition of corporal punishment in:	
Homes	Not prohibited
Schools	Not prohibited
As sentence for crime	Prohibited
As disciplinary measure	Not prohibited
Policy for free primary education	Not free
Existence of juvenile justice system/child-friendly courts	Exists
Existence of national plan of action for survival, protection and development of children	Exists
Existence of a government body that coordinates national strategy for children	Exists

Figure 1 Budgetary expenditure on selected sectors, Mozambique



Indicator	Year	Number/Percentage
Child population	2006	10.7 million
Health		
Infant mortality rate	2005	100
Immunisation against measles	2005	77
Percentage of children underweight	*	24
Percentage of under-fives with suspected pneumonia taken to health provider	*	55
Percentage of the population using improved drinking water source	2004	43
Percentage of the population using adequate sanitation facilities	2004	32
Number of physicians per 100,000 people	*	3
Education		
Net Enrolment Ratio: Male (Primary)	2004	75
Net Enrolment Ratio: Female (Primary)	2004	67
Gross Enrolment Ratio: Male (Primary)	2004	104
Gross Enrolment Ratio: Female (Primary)	2004	86
Gross Enrolment Ratio: Male (Secondary)	2004	13
Gross Enrolment Ratio: Female (Secondary)	2004	9
Pupil-teacher ratio (Primary)	2004	65

* The data refers to the most recent available between 2000 and 2006

Table 4: Child-friendliness Index ranking of African governments

Country	Ranking	Category
Mauritius	1	Most child-friendly
Namibia	2	
Tunisia	3	
Libya	4	
Morocco	5	
Kenya	6	
South Africa	7	
Malawi	8	
Algeria	9	
Cape Verde	10	
Rwanda	11	Child-friendly
Burkina Faso	12	
Madagascar	13	
Botswana	14	
Senegal	15	
Seychelles	16	
Egypt	17	
Mali	18	
Lesotho	19	
Burundi	20	
Uganda	21	Fairly child-friendly
Nigeria	22	
United Republic of Tanzania	23	
Gabon	24	
Mozambique	25	
Togo	26	
Zambia	27	
Mauritania	28	
Ghana	29	
Djibouti	30	
Dem. Rep. Congo	31	
Niger	32	
Cameroon	33	Less child-friendly
Congo	34	
Angola	35	
Côte d'Ivoire	36	
Zimbabwe	37	
Equatorial Guinea	38	
Sudan	39	
Sierra Leone	40	
Benin	41	
Ethiopia	42	
Comoros	43	Least child-friendly
Guinea	44	
Swaziland	45	
Chad	46	
Liberia	47	
Sao Tome and Principe	48	
Gambia	49	
Central African Republic	50	
Eritrea	51	
Guinea-Bissau	52	

For references and data sources see the main report: **The African Report on Child Wellbeing 2008: How child-friendly are African governments?**

