



BioForMoz: Support for environmental research AID 12089

BioForMoz Newsletter 2

October 1, 2021 – December 20, 2021

Dear colleagues and friends,

another newsletter of the BioForMoz project (Support for Environmental Research AID 12089), funded by AICS, entrusted to the Department of Biomedical Sciences of the University of Sassari to collaborate with the Biotechnology Center of the E. Mondlane University of Maputo in Mozambique, together with the Dip Biology and Biotechnology C. Darwin, Sapienza University of Rome and the Department of Earth, Environmental and Life Sciences, University of Genoa.

Since the last newsletter in September, we have been able to develop several actions.

A mission was carried out by Dr. Simone Sabatelli, zoologist of the Sapienza University of Rome, who, among other activities, on 23 September, carried out a short course at the Natural History Museum for the establishment of the BioBank (bank for conservation of biological samples of wildlife from conservation areas), a joint initiative of the Center for Biotechnology and the Museum of Natural History.

On 17 September we had the pleasure of receiving a visit from the Italian Ambassador Gianni Bardini to the Biotechnology Center and the Natural History Museum to illustrate our activities.

Laboratory equipment and consumables for a value of approximately 130,000 euros are being acquired and shipped from Italy by our partner AISPO, to support research activities.

Our scientific manager Prof. Piero Cappuccinelli arrived on 24 September with whom we coordinated the research activities together with the Project Management and Coordination Committee.

On November 15th, were announced 6 research grants (environmental pollution, molecular microbiology, drug resistance, genetic characterization of wild mammals, molecular ichthyology and human genetics), 1 doctoral scholarship in phytopathology and a postdoctoral scholarship in molecular virology .

On November 26, the AICS mission was received, led by the Director General Dr. Luca Maestriperi, who visited our laboratories at the Natural History Museum. The following day, as part of this initiative, at the Marine Biology Station of the UEM on the Island of Inhaca, the Infrastructure and Maintenance Department of the UEM, presented the task book for the rehabilitation work of the laboratory, which will have to be carried out by our Project, with a view to developing marine biology activities.

Finally, on 10 December, the new BioBank laboratory was delivered to the Biotechnology Center, while the preparation of the laboratory of the Natural History Museum continues.

All the Mozambican and Italian staff of the project thank you for your attention and take this opportunity to wish everyone happy holidays and a happy 2022.