
BioForMoz Newsletter 8

June 20 –October 10, 2023

Dear colleagues and friends,

here is the eight newsletter of the BioForMoz project, funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (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 Dept. Biology and Biotechnology C. Darwin, Sapienza University of Rome and the Department of Earth, Environment and Life Sciences, University of Genoa.

First of all, we have the satisfaction of communicating the release of our **new website** WWW.bioformoz.org with which we can better disseminate information about our activities: check it out!

Since the last newsletter of June 2023, we have been able to develop several actions.

The development of the **BioBank of Mozambique's animal biodiversity** continues with the collection of new samples from conservation areas and a better structuring of the technical units in anticipation of its public presentation to be held at the end of October. In this context, on 14 July a delegation from the National Administration of Conservation Areas (**ANAC**), led by Dr. Francisca Steinbruch, visited our laboratories at the Natural History Museum. Furthermore, from 9 to 19 September, Dr. Nídia Cangi Vaz of the CB-UEM attended the advanced course "**Biobanks: being able to investigate in Health**" at the University of Lisbon, as part of her training as head of the Biobank of Biotechnology Center.

As part of the field activities relating to ongoing research, we point out the following actions:

On July 5th, a mission was carried out by researchers Vanessa Comé and Lucinda de Araújo in the district of **Matutuine**, for blood and faeces sampling in domestic animals, as part of the research "**Characteristics of antimicrobial resistance to eradicate *Escherichia coli***"

This mission was carried out together with Dr. Hermógenes Mucache, in collaboration with the **COMBAT** project, for blood sampling in cattle, as part of the research "**Evaluation of new tools for elimination of *Glossina* spp to control trypanosomosis**"

From 18 to 28 July, a field mission was carried out in the provinces of **Gaza and Inhambane**, as part of the project for the **genetic characterization of buffalo populations**, by Dr. Carlos Bento and Prof. Mauro Colombo, in the parks of **Limpopo, Banhine and Zinave**.

On 10 August, mission to **Matutuine** by Dra Lucinda de Araújo and Vanessa Comé for blood and faeces sampling in domestic animals, as part of the research "**Epidemiology and molecular characterization of Rift Valley Fever Virus**"

On September 4th, mission to **Namaacha** by Dr. Nadia Namunaua, Olívia Pedro and Joelma Leão, as part of the research "**Availability of emerging contaminants in the Umbeluzi river: its occurrence and effects in people**".

Few other initiatives were held by BioForMoz:



AGENZIA ITALIANA
PER LA COOPERAZIONE
ALLO SVILUPPO



BioForMoz: Support for environmental research AID 12089

On July 6, a meeting was held to organize the collaboration between the **UEM Botanical Garden** and the **University of Turin**, Italy for the **genetic characterization of medicinal plants**, a new research project financed by BioForMoz.

In the month of August, 3 meetings of the staff of the Biotechnology Center were held for the introduction of the quality requirements for the **ISO 17025 accreditation of the CB laboratories** with the consultancy of the **InSite company** and experts from the **SGS MultiLAB of Lisbon**

On 5 September, the seminar on **Strategy, Collection Techniques and Analytical Processing of Evidence in Crimes Against Biodiversity** was held, organized by the Biotechnology Center with AICS funds. Followed by a practical training course for Serviço Nacional De Investigação Criminal (**SERNIC**) staff.

Finally, from 8 September to 1 October, the mission of Dr. Simone Sabatelli of the **Sapienza University of Rome** took place at the Natural History Museum for collaboration with the **entomology and genetic characterization projects of buffaloes**, carrying out various molecular biology tests.

Finally, we would like to point out that the Biotechnology Center and BioForMoz, after a technical meeting on October 5th to coordinate all the UEM water research groups, are organizing the **Workshop on Water Quality Monitoring**, a public workshop that will be held 27 and 28 of November.

We thank you for your attention and we greet you cordially.