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## GRB WORK IN MOZAMBIQUE

In Mozambique the GRB initiative is a partnership between Forum Mulher (a national coalition of women's organisations) and government, with support from UNIFEM. The Tanzania Gender Networking Programme, the NGO that has led GRB work in Tanzania, is providing technical support.

An important focus of the project has been ensuring that gender issues are addressed in key policy documents such as the Government Five Year Plan (2005-2009), the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (called PARPA in Mozambique) and the annual Economic and Social Plan. The project focused on these policy papers as they should lay the basis for sector policies and budgets. Thus a special interest group was formed, bringing together donors, government and civil society, to work on mainstreaming gender in the PARPA and national budget.

The focus on key policy papers also provided an opportunity to raise the issue of public participation – and, in particular, participation of women – in the development of government policies. The participation of Forum Mulher, the Mozambiquan coalition of women's organisation, in policy discussions led to the inclusion of gender indicators in the annual monitoring tool for the PARPA. Issues covered by the indicators included violence against women, HIV/AIDS and implementation of the national gender policy.

A second focus in the first phase of the GRB project has been raising awareness and establishing entry points. For example, women's organisations, UNIFEM and the Ministry of Women and Coordination of Social Action (the national gender machinery) have met with representatives of the Ministries of Planning and Development, Interior and Health to discuss how to take gender-responsive budgeting forward in the country. The Ministry of Planning and Development was targeted because it plays a key role in formulation of budgets and macroeconomic policies. The Ministry of Interior was targeted because its scope includes the police, who should play a key role in combating gender-based violence. The Ministry of Health was targeted because of its role in addressing the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

*Compiled by Debbie Budlender based on presentation by Cecilia Ncube, Programme Officer UNIFEM Mozambique, during UNIFEM/UNFPA GRB Workshop in Cape Town, April 2006*