Mozambique

Institution affiliation

Name

Date

Mozambique is a country in the southeast of Africa bordered by Tanzania to the north, the Indian Ocean to the east, Zambia to the northeast, South Africa to the southwest and Zimbabwe to the west. Maputo is Mozambique's capital city (Vail, 2010).

History

It was between the second and fourth centuries AD that people of Bantu origin migrated to the country from farther west and north. Beginning in the 12th century, Persians, Arabs and Somali traders started establishing commercial ports and settlements along the coast, and hence greatly contributed to the economic development of the country and spread of Swahili culture. The Vasco Da Gama voyage in 1497 marked the Portuguese arrival who began settlements and colonization in 1507. The country gained its independence in 1978 about five centuries of Portuguese rule (Vail, 2010). Few years after gaining its independence, the country sprung into protracted and intense civil war that lasted from 1975 and 1993. It was in 1995 that the country held the first election. The country maintains a presidential form of government.

Economy

The country is endowed with extensive and rich natural resources. The nation’s economy is largely based on agricultural productions but industrialization sector has been growingly mainly beverages and food, aluminum production, chemical, and petroleum production. The sector of tourism has been growing in this recent past. South Africa is the major trading partner and the main source of direct investment, while Portugal, Brazil, Belgium, and Spain are some of the key economic partners of Mozambique (Vail, 2010).

GDP

The annual average growth of the country is one of the highest GDP in the world. However, the nation is still considered one of the most underdeveloped and poorest countries worldwide. it has ranked low in GDP per capita, measures of inequality, human development and average life expectancy (Vines, 2013).

Government

The country is a multi-party nation with the executive branch comprising of Prime Minister, President, and Council of Ministers. There are municipal assemblies and national assembly. The judiciary is comprised of Supreme Court, district, provincial and municipal courts.

The nation is divided into 10 provinces and capital city but with provincial status. Its provinces are further divided into 130 districts. The nation of Mozambique operates a small but well-functioning military that is responsible for the handling of every aspect of domestic defense (Vines, 2013).

Unemployment

The unemployment rate in the nation has increased to 24.5 percent in 2016 from 25.56 percent in 2015. The rate of unemployment in the country averaged 24.76 percent from 1992 until 2018 but recorded low in 2015.

Education system

The education in the country is primarily organized into 3 major stages: primary education, secondary education, and higher education. The literacy rate in the country stands at 50 percent. Oldest and largest university in the country is Mondlane Eduardo University (Young, 2017). The university is located in Maputo and was established in 1961. Despite having the public national education system, numerous educational initiatives and programs in the country are supported and funded by the international community. In accordance with a report by the USAID, as of 2018, the country lacks adequate teachers and schools to guaranteeing quality education for the country youth. For instance, an estimated 70 percent of the people cannot write or read and illiteracy rate has been high among the girls.

The education is free and compulsory through the age of 11 years. However, matriculation fee is charged and is considered as an economic burden for the poor families. Nevertheless, a certificate of waiver-ship is issued to those families are unable to cater for the fee. Lawson enforcement of free and compulsory education is not consistent because of the lack of scarcity and lack of resources (Young, 2017). In 2004, the rate of primary education was at 102 percent. It should be noted that the net and gross enrollment ratios are usually based on the percentage number of students registered in primary education and hence are not the reflection of factual schooling attendance. In 1997, 50 percent of pupils aging 6 to 13 years were attending school. As of 2003, about 51 percent of pupils enrolled in primary school. However, at the end of 2003, about 400,000 children in the country were HIV/AIDS orphans.

Education completion rate – the complete rate at the higher institutions of learning is considerably low. For instance, in the late 90s, only 6 percent of UEM students and 12 percent UP students graduated.

References

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