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A new paradigm for
development? The
issue of human
rights and
democratic
institutions



A renewed discussion on what is development (1995-2010)

At the end of the 1990s, there was a lot of discussion on the concept and measurement(s) of "development";

The notion of post-development appeared as a new concept or paradigm for the ailments of "development", it means the ailments of capitalist development, capital accumulation, capitalista elites, corrupt elites and other features all geared toward growth. (See Rapley 2004, 2013).

One of the main authors of post-development is Arturo Escobar (1995) defending moving beyond development, or leaving the notion behind and moving forward (1995, 1992, 2020).



A renewed discussion on what is development (2010-2020)

Sustainable development is not enough.

Another concept – to substitute for development – is still necessary.

Other knowledge bases are also necessary

Traditional economic development policy – especially big projects is arrogant.


Criticism

Post-development is also arrogant, not grounded in much empirical research.

Of course there are a lot of problems with economics, development economics and big projects (see Angola and Mozambique);

Concentrate on urban areas and big projects;

People in most rural areas and urban dwellings in shantytowns want well-being, and this include material goods



A central methodological note

- Space is neglected by postmodernism and post-development;
- Concrete space in which people live and thrive and associate meaning to dwelling in a particular place
- Milieu is broader than the notion of environment (see Berque 2010; 2020);
- This has methodological implications – namely deeper conversations and interviews
- Most of the discussion is about Guinea and Angola based on interviews and regional data.

Sustainability

- Bosselmann (2016) considers the "recognition of ecological sustainability as a fundamental principle to guide the entire legal system rather than just environmental legislation";
- Sustainability can be conceived as a complex institution, related to the long-term wellbeing of people and communities and broader than the legal system;
- Strong notion of sustainability (no easy substitute);
- Important link between ecological sustainability and wellbeing, at different levels – either individuals or communities, namely human rights.

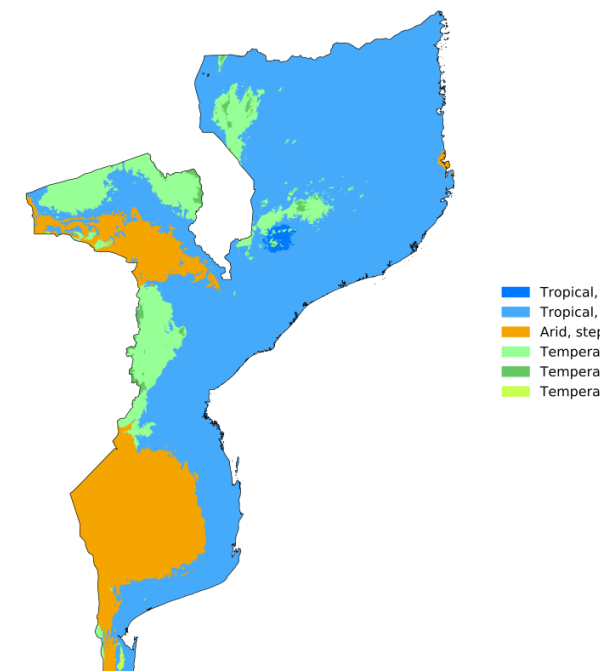
Drought in Angola (diff from Guinea and Mozambique)

- Why I talk about sustainability;
- Institutions that cope with it;
- Strong notion of sustainability (no easy substitute for water);
- Important link between ecological sustainability and wellbeing, at different levels – either individuals or communities, namely human rights;
- What does development can still mean for local populations.

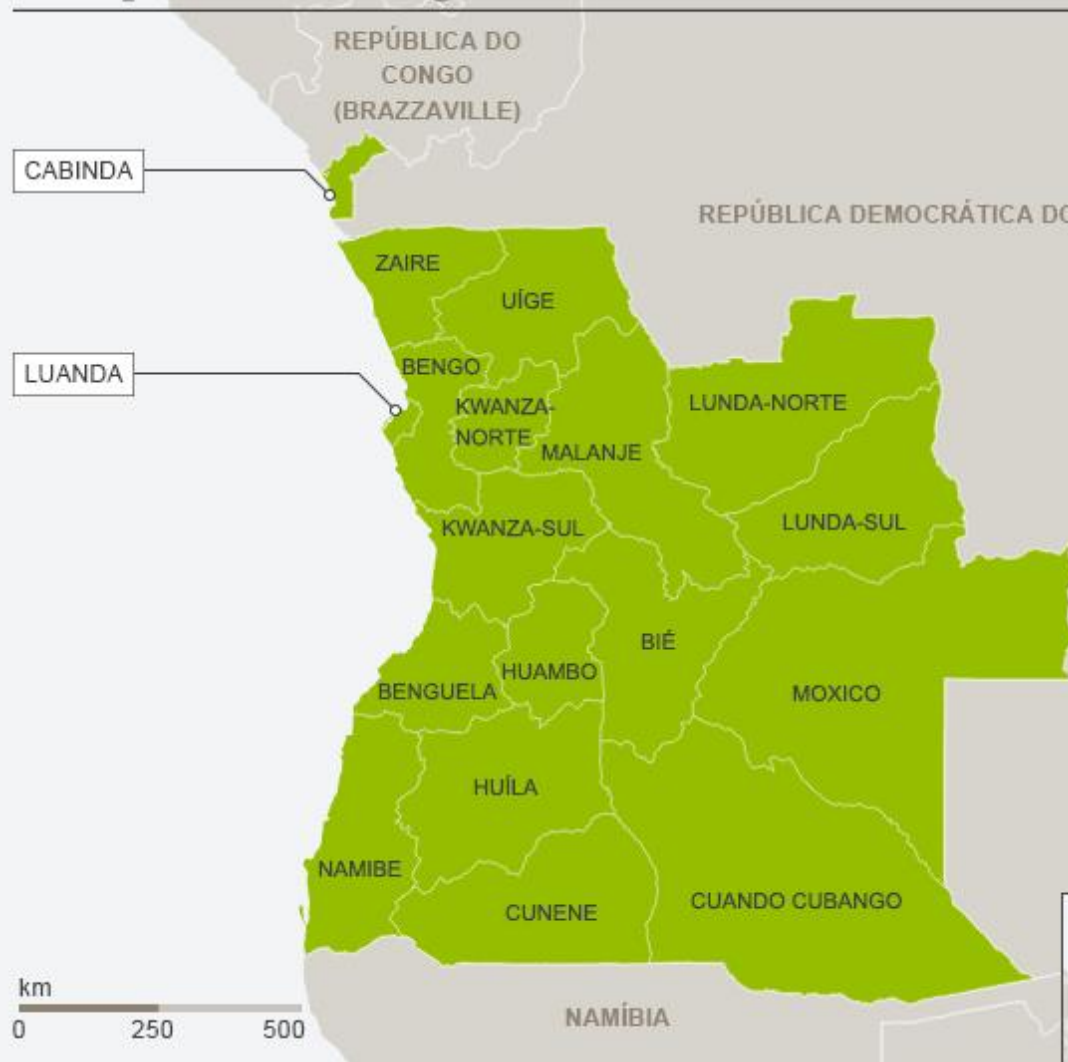
Studies on development and needs of the local people



Köppen-Geiger climate classification map for Mozambique (1980)



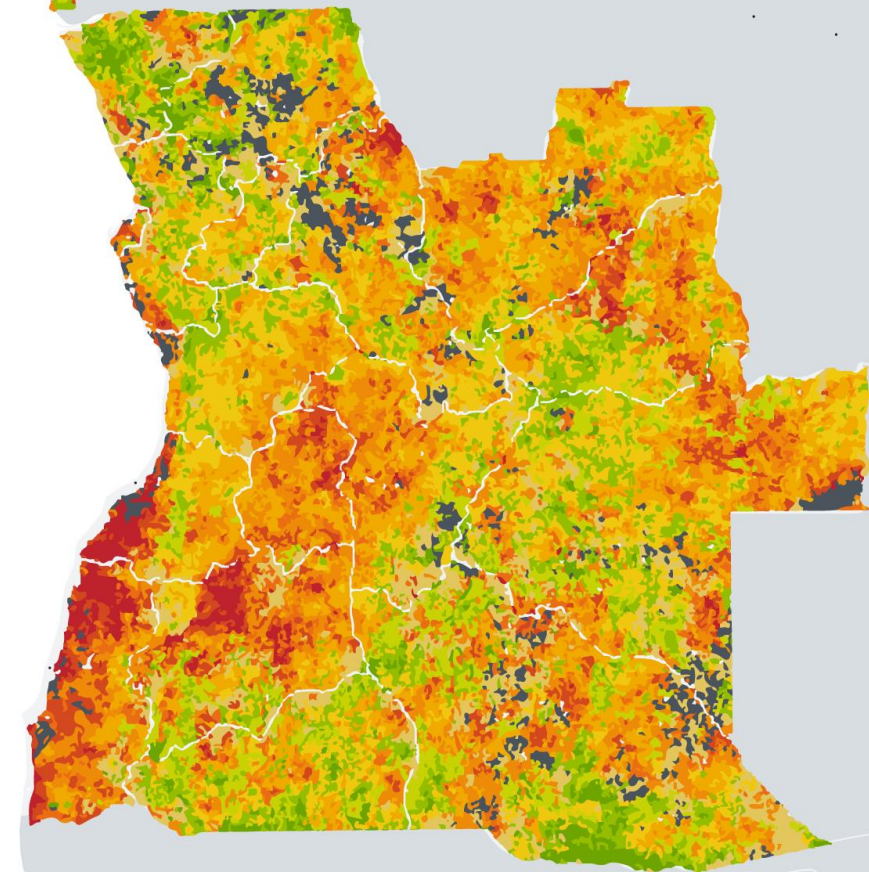
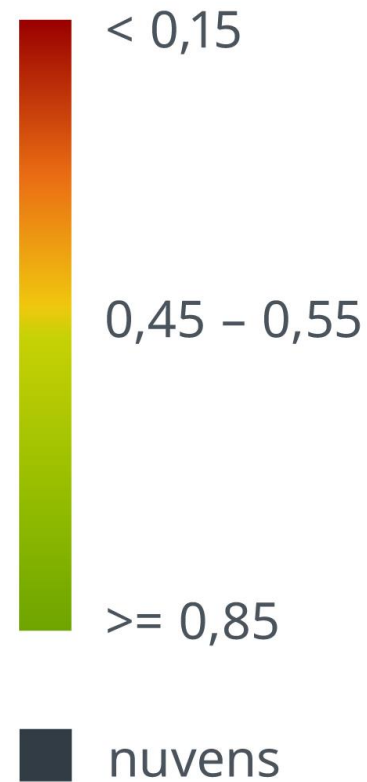
As 18 províncias de Angola



Provinces of Luanda and litoral and Sul (Benguela, Namibe, Cunene, Huila, Huambo and Kwanza-Sul)

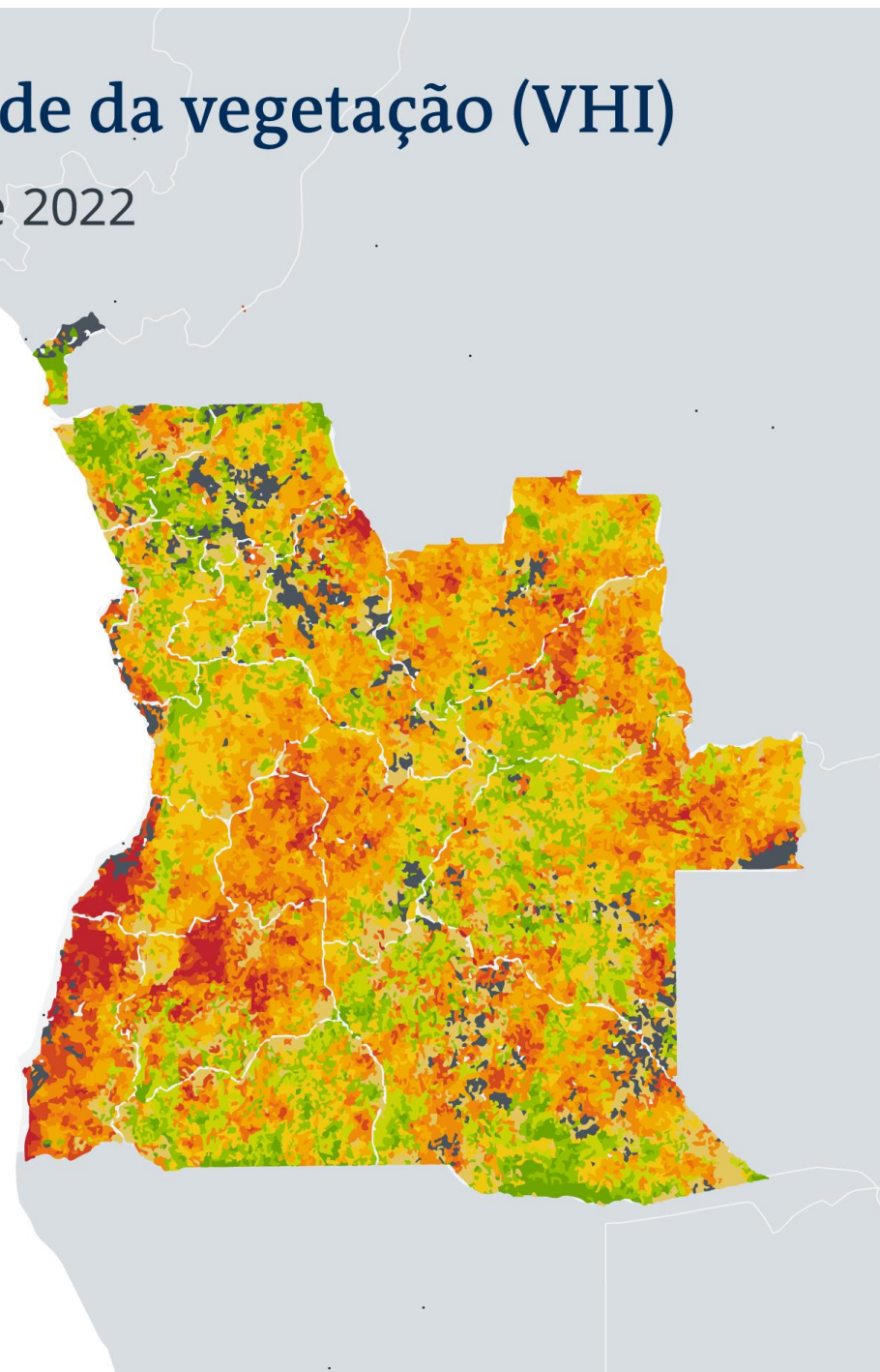
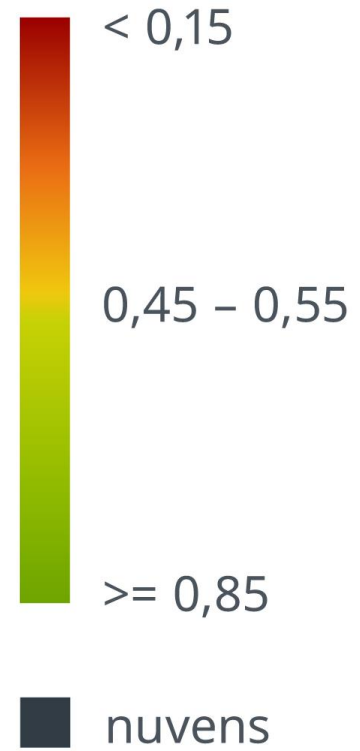
Índice de saúde da vegetação (VHI)

Angola, março de 2022



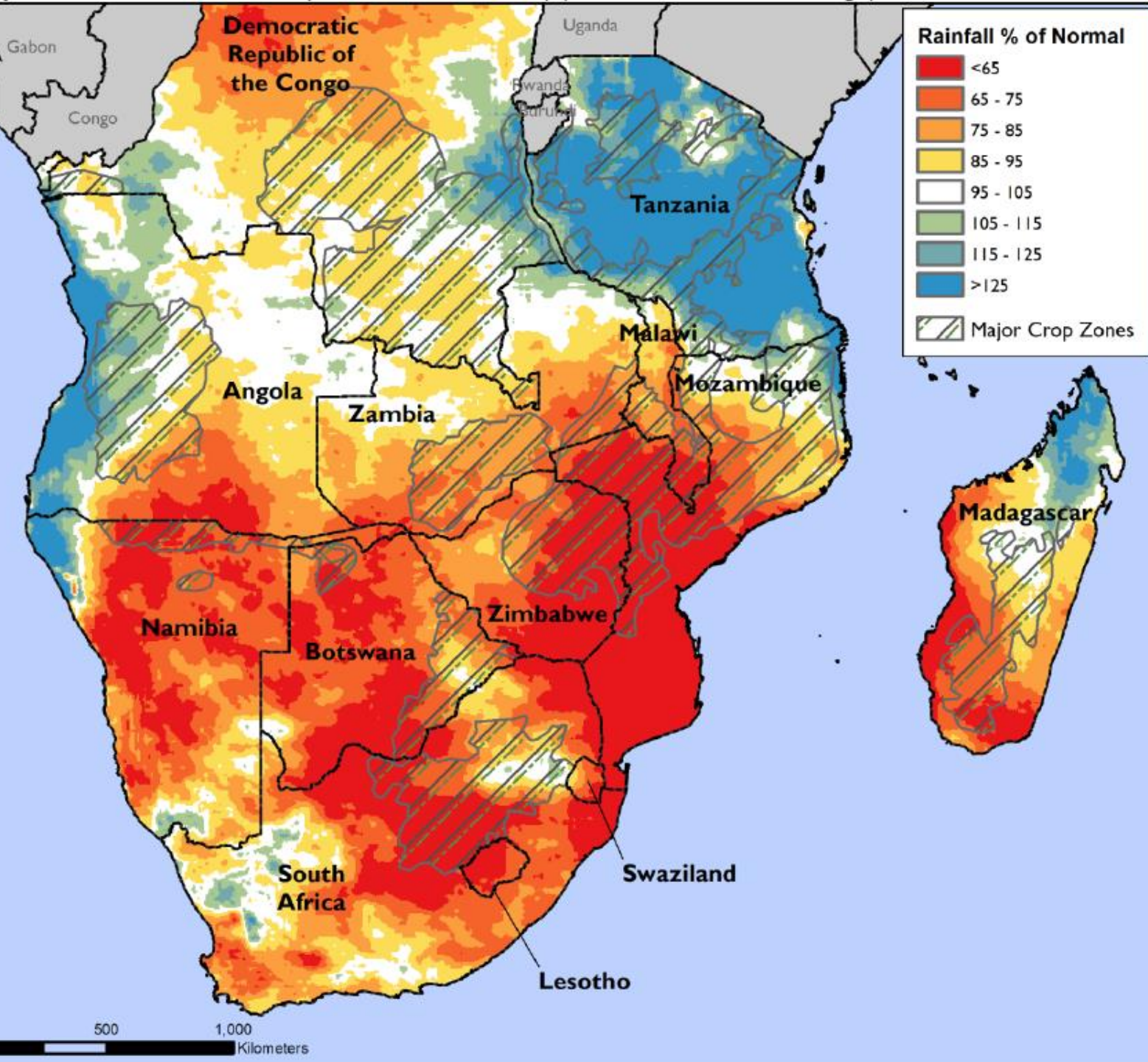
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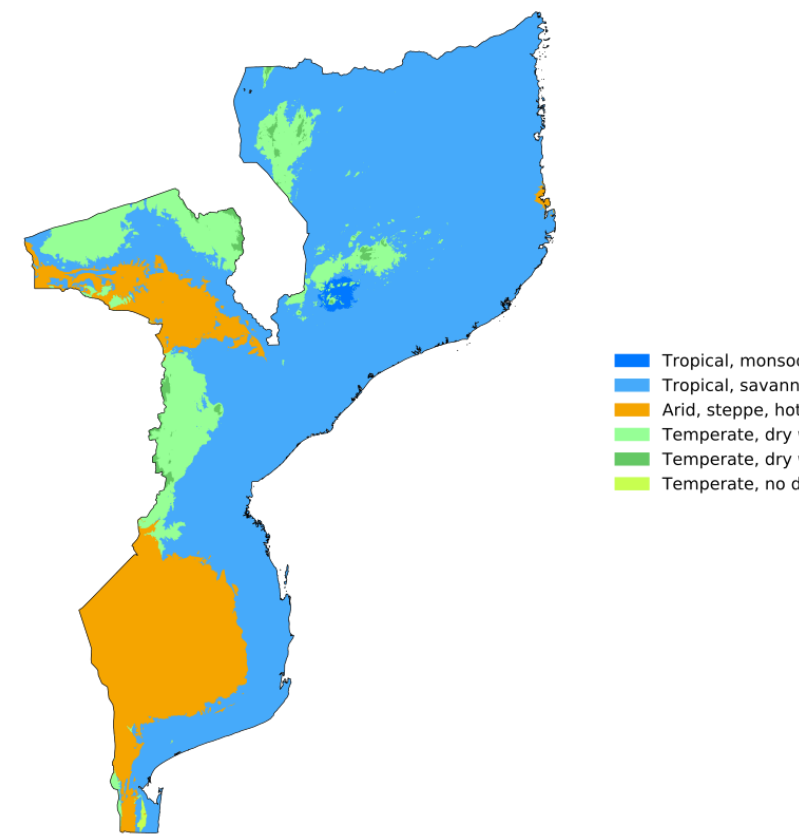


 Fonte: FAO/GIEWS





Köppen-Geiger climate classification map for Mozambique (1980-2010)



What do people want in rural areas of Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique?



Cadeado protege cacimba na comuna de Ombala-Yo-Mungo, no município de Ombadja. A província do Cunene e o Sul de Angola vivem uma seca extrema



What do people want in rural areas of Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique?



Water and
access to
usable and
drinkable
water.



Water (access to water) on a daily basis, food, charcoal, rain;
Less important but still relevant are institutions, namely local institutions (soba in the case of Angola).

Rural areas or small urban districts with easy access to land but less connected to greater urban centers

Institutions are not limited to law and order, but include traditional leaders

Western and Southern parts of the country with high stress on water resources. Investment in this area is important (retain water after rainfall)

Access to water on a daily basis, food, charcoal, rain, evacuation of residual water and garbages; Very relevant are institutions, namely local institutions (soba in the case of Angola).

Urban areas, sprawling urban townships (musseque – old extension of land)

Institutions are not limited to law and order, but also here include traditional leaders; it is extended to governamental action and the system of governance,

The urban área show increase contempt with government and local authorities with crucial daily experiences related to human rights violations (Luanda)
Not just traditional institutions but those related to urban life.

Conclusions

- Development matters. Material well-being, like access to land and water, is crucial.
- Some differences between rural and urban areas;
- Countries studied are not poor anymore, but rural population in Angola or in shantytowns are in a dire situations.
- Well-being indicators of these populations do not reflect the average statistics of the country.

Development
of
infrastructure
and access to
satisfy basic
needs matter

Sustainability related to long-term and daily well-being (the vanishing quality of life of drought or sudden heavy rains, floods, etc.

Water a political issue, well-being is a political issue too.

Water as metaphor and as a methodological tool to get to important well-being indicators;