

The news and prayer letter of Chris and Cãmica Hemborough

Project Mozambique - Plus

**WORKING WITH THE CHURCH OF MOZAMBIQUE AND OTHER
PORTUGUESE SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN AFRICA AND PORTUGAL.**

JANUARY 2025



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Firstly, we hope that you recently had a blessed Christmas as we again celebrated the coming of Christ Jesus into this world, bringing us God's peace and salvation. In this, our first letter for 2025, it was our plan to write and share of our preparations for the coming year as we build further on the work in Mozambique. However, as mentioned in our last letter, Mozambique is currently going through a very difficult time following disputed elections results held last October. So first, we start with news on this situation, asking for your **prayers** please...

The October elections (in which it was controversially declared that the ruling FRELIMO party had again won) has resulted in a very significant uprising, with the leader of the largest opposition party, PODEMOS, calling into question the result. In demonstrations and strikes that have since followed, brutally dealt with by government forces, there have been a considerable number of deaths. The situation has also led to food and fuel shortages, a lot of people losing their jobs, and several thousand refugees crossing over into neighbouring countries.

In such a situation, prayer is vital. Our prayers, together with those of the Church in Mozambican, can have a powerful effect. So please pray with us for this situation. Further news on the current situation, to help us **pray**, can be found on the Reuters news links;

<https://www.reuters.com/world/mozambique/>



One of the many scenes of rioting that have occurred during recent weeks.

In the midst of all the confusion there are servants who continue in God's work, here are two examples...

A member of our former team, Joaquim, had made contact with a prison about 115 kilometres from Beira and had received permission to take Gospel booklets from BeaconLight. Then just before Christmas, with the situation in the country deteriorating, Joaquim returned to the same prison to distribute bars of soap to those prisoners. This might not seem very much in our culture, but for the men held in prison this would have been a valuable gift to give them. So we **thank God** for this initiative of Joaquim which was greatly appreciated.

At the same time, we received this very encouraging photo of Pastor Pedro who, despite the current difficulties, continues to work tirelessly with local churches for which he is responsible, near the town of Mutarara on the north side of the Zambezi river. He even loaded his motorbike onto a canoe, to cross a river to reach some of the churches, and has been into Malawi to look for more Bibles. There are many others in different churches who are faithfully continuing to do God's work in the midst of all the challenges; please keep them all in your **prayers**.



The determination to overcome language barriers.

Moving on to other news, we received this following update regarding the Sunday school material we produce...

On the south side of the Zambezi river lies the town of Marromeu, where many people work in the town's sugar refinery and large sugar plantations. There are also a large number of churches with Sunday schools, scattered over quite this fairly wide area, who have been using our activity books for some time. This has been due to the very good work of a young pastor called Mateus. In the latter part of last year, we heard that Mateus had travelled quite a considerable distance to take some of our activity books into Malawi. This was in response to an appeal from a number of churches there for Sunday school material. There, the people managed to translate them into the Chichewa language for their Sunday schools. We don't fully know how they managed to do this, but it illustrates the hunger that many people have for God's Word, and their desire for their children to have access to this material.

News from Mark and Lesley's recent journey.

In our last letter, we wrote about a journey, that Mark and Lesley of Pro-vision Mozambique, were preparing to do. This was to deliver mosquito nets, and to visit their church 'Live Schools' projects for further training of local missionaries.

Mark and Lesley successfully complete this long and tiring journey on difficult roads to reach those churches and their communities, however, their trailer did take a bit of a hammering on the rough roads!

They also took a large quantity of our Sunday school activity books, BeaconLight Bible studies and Manna Publication commentaries; more than what was actually planned. But the extra quantities have turned out to be very helpful because, due to the current situation, it will be difficult to return to those churches in the near future. So, it was good to equip those churches with resources as this will help the people in the difficult days ahead.



Lesley distributing some of the books from BeaconLight.

Cyclone news...

A number of people have asked about cyclone Chido. This first crossed over the French territory of Mayotte where it caused much destruction. It then passed over the northern Mozambican province of Cabo Delgado where it caused further destruction. Please **pray** for the families who lost loved ones, and for the people as they rebuild following the cyclone.



Prayer points and final updates...

In our last letter, we wrote about the use of SD cards so that God's Word can be available to more people, and in this, we shared the vision of 'OneHundredFold'. We are continuing to work together on this, knowing how vital it is that all have access to God's Word. OneHundredFold told us that they do have some SD cards already that they plan to soon send to us. So please **pray** as we plan further on this, so that these resources reach the people. In the meantime, we continue to seek to provide the Scriptures in paper format.

A number of people have reluctantly felt that they must withdraw from the country while the volatile situation continues; such decisions are never easy to make. Mark and Lesley have also returned to South Africa just for the time being, but will be using that time to find ways to support the many still in Mozambique. Please do **pray for them and others** as they seek to respond to these situations

In the meantime, please **pray** for those in Mozambique itself, including our former team and their families in Beira; Joaquim, Maria, the family of Inácio and the family of Pastor Manuel. Please also **pray** for Carol (who does our printing) and her brother Lance and sister-in-law Lisa. Also Lynn, who kindly keeps the books secularly stored for us. Steven, who is situated in the Niassa province says that things are calm where he is situated, please **pray** that it remains calm there.

Above all, we **pray that peace** will be restored in the country, and that issues such as corruption and lack of justice, which has caused much frustration, can be dealt with. We also **pray** for all who are suffering in this situation, including refugees.

We also **thank God** that in the midst of all the difficulties, we have been able to get more books printed and delivered, including a large quantity of Scripture Union Bible reading notes.

Finally, we are in the process of rebuilding our website. This will be back up soon. In the meantime, our contact details and information for donations can still be found on the website, as well as in the text box below.

Contact information, including for donations...

Donations for the work of Project Mozambique - Plus can be sent to our treasurer:-

Ana Hemborough, 5 Tai Penyard, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 0LP. **Email:** ana.hemborough@gmail.com **Tel:** 07826 450 187

Ana can also provide information on gift aided donations.

Cheques can be made payable to 'Project Mozambique'

Bank details for online donations :

Name of Account: Project Mozambique Sort code: 20-99-40 Account number: 00993972

U.K. address: Project Mozambique - Plus, c/o The Bible Christian Centre, Haselbury Plucknett, Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 7QX.

E-mail: projectmoz@gmail.com **Website:** www.projectmozambique.com

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