

Community Development Program

Portucel Moçambique invites civil society organizations to be its partner

Maputo, January 23 2015

Portucel Moçambique intends to create various consultative forums on its project at national, provincial, district and community level, to ensure the participation of all stakeholders in the Project.

In this context, the first round of dialogue on Portucel Moçambique and its Community Development Program (PCDP) took place on January 21 in the city of Maputo.

Portucel Moçambique presented and discussed with nineteen (19) civil society organizations the Company proposals for community development and invited the organizations present at the meeting to be its partner in the development, implementation and monitoring & evaluation of the PCDP.

The Community Development Program is an instrument of the Communities Relationship Strategy that Portucel Moçambique intends to consolidate, which also includes a Plan of Social Communication, a Procedure of Access to Land and Relationship Management Facility with Communities.

The CEO of Portucel Moçambique, Mr. Pedro Moura, challenged the members of civil society to "be part of an Advisory Board of the company, so that we can solidify this communication platform, minimizing the margin of possible land conflicts before, during and after the implementation of this program."

Mr. Pedro Moura has also added that "this session is part of a series of dialogues that Portucel Moçambique has been developing, and a second round meeting will be held in the second quarter of 2015 as also similar meetings in the provinces of Manica and Zambezia."

Overall, the civil society participants recommend that Portucel Moçambique consider the following:

- Mozambique needs an example of "good practice" in the relationship between communities / private investors. Portucel Moçambique can be that example;
- Creation of an advisory committee on social issues;
- Support communities to register their DUAT and management areas not used by Portucel Moçambique;
- Ensure fully participation of vulnerable groups in the PCDP;
- The project Portucel Moçambique must meet what is promising.