Country: Mozambique

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Director of Maintenance

Breakaway Session B – 26 February
Road Research Center in Mozambique

▪ “Force of habit, inadequate specifications and lack of innovation have suppressed the more wide-spread use of innovative technology”

▪ ANE established a Road Research Centre (RRC) in Mozambique in 2014 aiming to provide the basis for improving the long-term capacity to undertake relevant, high quality research relating to the road sector of Mozambique.

▪ A strategic research plan and 5-year business plan for the RRC has been developed.
Mozambique RRC Strategy

Institutional Location and Reporting Structure

The RRC is expected to expand and grow over time.

In future, its size may necessitate that it is established as an independent organisation outside the structures of ANE.
The RRC is supported by three subgroups, namely a Research Group, an Information Centre and Laboratories.

The Information Centre serves the technical information needs of both the RRC researchers and ANE.

The RRC rely on available laboratory equipment and laboratory services rendered by ANE and LEM to support the initial RRC’s research activities.

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Due to the Economic crisis that Mozambique is facing, the Government is banning the creation of new institutions or new departments;

To overcome this issue, one engineer was recently appointed to be responsible for the activities of the RRC and will be available in full time;

Research sections are incorporated in rehabilitation contracts;

As the Decree which Regulates ANE and the Road Fund in under revision it was proposed to include a specific line to allow road Fund to finance research activities.
Completed Projects & Under Execution

- Various experimental sections were constructed as part of the Targeted Interventions for Low Volume Roads. As a result the Low Volume Roads Manual was prepared;

- Other relevant studies such as the Back Analysis Project, LTTP Monitoring of Trial Sections, Protocols for Improving Materials Testing Laboratories and Climate Adaptation Project are part of the RRC projects;

- The reviewing and Development of standard specifications and other 12 technical manuals is ongoing, where the climate resilience issues has been incorporated.

- Execution of trial Sections for the Climate Adaptation Study funded by the World Bank and embedment of trial sections in rehab projects;

- Acquisition of design softwares, computers and lab equipments for the RRC, also funded by the World Bank;
Challenges

- Absence of a legal framework for the RRC and lack of a dedicated budget for research activities
- Lack of resources (human and financial) to implement the Business Plan for the RRC;
- Need of improve capacity of engineers and contractors;
- Deficiency in application of laboratory testing standards.
Way Forward

➢ Signature of MoU with relevant institutions such as Universities, the Industry, Ministries, Laboratories and others for implementation of research activities;

➢ Create small units of research in all 10 provinces, as well as capacity building and promotion of Young engineers.

➢ Operationalize the Business plan;

➢ Increase more sections for monitoring;

➢ Use of the Manuals as mandatory for all road projects;

➢ Funding of additional trial sections through new programs that are upcoming such as the WB and EU 5 years programmes;

➢ Involve the private sector (including locals) in financing the research programs throughout PPPs or other models of financing.
Thank you for your attention

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