

To review or evaluate?

Last Thursday (12-03), the [DEALS programme Advisory Committee](#) meeting took place to discuss the current state of events. This included a very insightful presentation about the DEALS programme in the city of Beira, Mozambique, and an engaging discussion about the DEALS mid-term evaluation.

Updates by Beira city team*

In 2019, Cyclone Idai affected the progress of the programme as most of the city of Beira was destroyed. A flexible response from the DEALS programme was used to support rebuilding the municipal office.

The Advisory Committee members discussed issues regarding the capacity of the municipality to coordinate the new donors and projects in Beira and align these with their master plan. They have to operate in a coherent way and have to be monitored by the municipality using the same indicator framework. However, the municipality is lacking the capacity to fulfil this role. Also, it cannot be expected that increase in tax revenue for the municipality is guaranteed for infrastructure maintenance. In the end the decision on the use of tax payers money is a fairly political process that depends on the political agenda of the administration. Furthermore, it was stated that the capacity building of the municipality might require more investment to deal with these challenges in order for the impact of interventions to become sustainable.

The overall objective of the programme in Beira is to strengthen the capacity of the municipality, improve land administration and improve the capacity to generate own-source revenue. These objectives include indexing and digitalizing of the cadastre, the creation of a Land Administration System, organizing compensation and resettlement of residents, and improving the property tax revenues.

DEALS mid-term evaluation

The DEALS programme is half-way its implementation period (2017-2022) and a mid-term evaluation is foreseen. The Advisory Committee questioned the proposed approach and discussed that an interactive review would be more insightful than an evaluation. Also, a review aims to be more forward-looking at ways to improve the programme in contrast to an evaluation that is more backward-looking at the results achieved so far. This would require a continuous dialogue between the review team and the programme team to discuss findings and come up with solutions.

The full report of the meeting will be released in the coming weeks. For more information about the programme in Beira have a look at [the presentation slides](#).

***Profiles Beira city team**

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