



IV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES (IESE)

Maputo, 27-28 August 2014

State, Natural Resources and Conflict: Actors and Dynamics

As is happening in other African countries, the dynamics of State building in Mozambique has been marked by the centrality of processes of economic growth and accumulation based on close ties between emerging national capital and multinational capital, particularly organised around the control, appropriation and exploitation of natural resources and of the rents that derive from their exploitation. The large volume of foreign direct investment, in association with national capital and public finance, is reflected in noteworthy economic growth and growth in exports of primary goods, but has had practically no effect on reducing the poverty and vulnerability that characterise a large part of the population, and on diversifying and articulating the productive base. It is in this context that it is intended to discuss the State as a field and instrument of political struggle and of the exercise of power.

Three main lines of analysis are proposed for the submission of papers relevant to the Mozambican case (even if not necessarily about Mozambique):

- The relationships of various social groups with the State and among themselves (through the State) in the economic, social and political construction and contestation of society;
- Political and social institutions and processes in the context of the alliances, hegemonies and conflicts which characterise the relationship between the various social actors;
- The options, dilemmas, contradictions and paradoxes of the construction of extractive economies in contexts of global financialisation and its implications for State building, public policies and the development of collective debate and political action.

Papers will be particularly prioritised which deal with the following themes:

- Critical analysis of the political economy of growth, industrialisation and economic accumulation (growth, industrialisation and accumulation in Africa, economic porosity, patterns of financing of the State and of public investment, financial markets, public-private partnerships, patterns of employment and labour relations, hypotheses, challenges and dilemmas of transformation);
- Regional and international framework of the dynamics of growth, industrialisation and accumulation in Africa (financialisation and Africa, new paradigms of aid and cooperation, emerging and traditional multinational capital, regionalism and regional/national patterns of industrialisation);
- Demographic transition in the dynamic between income, consumption, savings and investment, and its impact on the shape of private and public social protection;
- Party trajectories and conflict in State building;
- Public services, citizenship and State building.

Researchers interested in presenting papers to the conference are invited to send a summary of their themes (in Portuguese or in English) in no more than 750 words to the address: conferencia4@iese.ac.mz. The summary should indicate, in addition to the theme and the problematic, the institutional position of the candidate and his/her contacts.

Proposals may be individual or collective. All the proposals will be considered and submitted to a jury for selection.

The themes should be relevant to Moçambique, even though they may have a generic theoretical or methodological focus or may be based on case studies of other countries. The approved papers will be published on the IESE website, in the IESE collection of “conference papers”, and some may later be chosen for publication in a book.

For any additional information, please contact IESE at the address: conferencia4@iese.ac.mz.

Important deadlines to be taken into consideration:

- Summaries of the proposed papers should be submitted to IESE by 31 March 2014;
- IESE will inform the candidates about the approval of their proposals by 15 May 2014;
- The definitive texts of the papers approved for the conference should be delivered by 15 August 2014.

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