What does MADICO stand for?

MADICO is the acronym from the Portuguese phrase 'Mapeamento dos Direitos Comunitários', which in English translates to "Mapping Community Rights".

What is the MADICO Geoportal for?

The MADICO Geoportal is a gateway to web-based geospatial resources related to delimited local community areas in Mozambique, enabling you to view, manage and access geospatial information and services. The main objective of the MADICO Geoportal is to share data on these community lands, as well as other relevant data.

The MADICO Geoportal is a centralised repository for:

– **sharing** data: whoever wishes can access information and easily download it;
– **archiving** data: the data is hosted in a secure centralised repository, providing an open digital archive for data and documentation on community delimited lands;
– **updating** data: the MADICO Geoportal provides a mechanism for continuously updating the data, allowing a range of stakeholders to submit new or better quality information and documents
– **improving** data: users will be able to validate, update, and suggest corrections and improvements to the data

What does a "delimited community area" mean in legal terms in Mozambique?

Under Mozambican Land Law, a 'local community' (which is self-defining and can exist at various territorial levels) has the right to delimit the boundaries of an area, over which they regard themselves as having common interests, which they would like to safeguard via the assertion of a statutory land right; the law allows them to identify and lay claim to having acquired the use rights over this land by virtue of their customary occupation, and this extends to residential, agricultural and fallow areas, forests, places of cultural importance, grazing lands, water resources and areas for their future expansion. The local community must agree on their common boundaries with their neighbours and can then request state registration and certification of this statutory right.

Why is a Geoportal necessary?

The Mozambican Land Policy, adopted in November 2022, clearly indicates that making land data available is part of a good governance agenda:

"Good governance of land, as well as its management and administration, also depends on the availability of accurate and up-to-date information on the use and exploitation of land and the exploitation of other natural resources, through the creation of a national infrastructure of accessible and functional spatial data, with a view to facilitating the production, sharing and dissemination, as well as the use of, geospatial data from the national to the local level."

The implementing strategy for the new Land Policy calls for two important activities:

1. The implementing of mechanisms "that ensure the exercise of the right of access to information of public interest on the legal situation of lands…" and,

2. the prioritising of "integrated planning, information and monitoring systems with the involvement of central bodies, decentralised governance and representative structures of local communities"

The MADICO Geoportal is therefore one step towards the policy goal of providing open and transparent data in respect to land.

Who is the custodian of the MADICO Geoportal?

Currently the custodian of the MADICO Geoportal is the Ministry of Land & Environment, with technical assistance provided by Terra Firma. All the data is serviced through computing services provided by Terra Firma, ensuring fast data transfers and constant availability. All the tools used in managing and deploying the MADICO Geoportal are open source. As conditions allow, the MADICO Geoportal will be fully guaranteed and supported by the Ministry and its staff.

What is the status of the data being made available through the MADICO Geoportal? Is all the data public?

All the data currently being made available through the MADICO Geoportal is already in the public domain, and no personal identification or private data is being shared. At the time of writing, data uploaded into the MADICO Geoportal is obtained from local communities, civil society organisations or the cadastral archives.

In the future, data may be uploaded which is only for certain users, groups or kept private.

Who can access and use the data? Do we need any special software?

Anyone with an internet connection can access the data. The MADICO Geoportal will be available through any web browser. Some functionalities may require people to register and logon as a recognised user, but this is simple and quick to do.

How will the data be kept up to date? What is the mechanism or procedure for publishing new content?

One of the key objectives of the MADICO Geoportal is to ensure that the data is as up to date and complete as possible, at all times. There are therefore tools to allow for the submission of data or documentation that may be missing. Anyone may use these the tools; people from NGOs or other organisations that work with communities, staff from the cadastral services, or members or leadership from local communities themselves.

Once submitted, the data will be checked by the Ministry to make sure that it is relevant and accurate, and will the be published through the MADICO Geoportal.

How do these tools work?

The tools are in the format of a digital form, which can either be completed online via a browser window on a computer, or through using an app on an Android-based phone or

tablet. The form is designed using Open Data Kit, and the application ODK Collect can be freely downloaded from the Google Play Store. There are detailed instructions on the MADICO Geoportal.

In recognition of the time and effort involved in checking and submitting missing data and documents, the MADICO Geoportal team have created an incentive scheme which will pay a small cash reward to contributors for any data that is validated and uploaded to the portal. The validation of all data is done with the involvement of Ministry staff. For more information, please contact madico.mocambique@gmail.com.

Where does the data come from?

The existing data has been compiled from a range of different sources (NGOs, private companies, district, and provincial archives, as well as data sourced from various online sources and the archives of the Ministry), and was put together by staff from Terra Firma and the MADICO Geoportal team over a number of years. The metadata generally indicates the source of the data.

Who funds Geoportal?

The original MADICO Project was implemented by Terra Firma on behalf of the Community Land Initiative, with financial support from the Embassy of Holland; this initial attempt to compile and audit the available data was conducted in 2016 and managed to source partial data for approximately 1,200 communities. Currently, the MADICO Geoportal has received financial support from the Swiss Development Corporation in Mozambique and the Integrated Land & Resource Governance (ILRG) Programme of USAID.

In the long term, it is intended for the Ministry to underwrite the costs of maintaining the Geoportal and to guarantee its availability.

Do I need to register to use the GeoPortal?

No. You can see and download as an anonymous user. It might be necessary to register for specific tasks, such as creating some contents or uploading data, for example.

Why are some of the parcels overlapping?

The MADICO Geoportal team are aware that there are several data quality issues that need to be addressed; the most important of these is the fact that some of the community land boundaries overlap each other. One of the objectives of the MADICO Geoportal is to identify those community land delimitations where the community boundaries require some form of remedial work.

What can I do if I notice that there is a community missing from the MADICO data set?

Please contact the MADICO Geoportal team at madico.mocambique@gmail.com to draw attention to the missing data. If you have data which is relevant and are able to submit it, the team can provide assistance with the procedures to be followed in order to send the data. If the data is validated and published, you will be paid a small reward for your contribution.

What can I do if I see an error in the data relating to a specific community?

As above, please contact the MADICO Geoportal team at madico.mocambique@gmail.com and follow the procedures to send updated/corrected data through the custom Open Data Kit forms.

How can we download the application for submitting new documents or data?

The app for Android-based phones and tablets can be found and downloaded by searching for 'ODK Collect' in the Google Play Store. It will then be possible to scan a QR code, supplied by the MADICO Geoportal team, which will automatically ensure that the app is correctly configured and supplied with the custom-made blank digital forms for submitting data.

How can I learn more about how to use the MADICO Geoportal?

Training videos and documents can be found in Geoportal. The MADICO Geoportal team is always available to clarify questions by phone, email, or virtual meeting.

What specific communities are included in the MADICO Geoportal?

No specific communities. All the areas of communities that have been delimited in terms of the Land Law and Technical Annex are eligible to be included in the MADICO Geoportal.

What types of information can I find about these communities in the MADICO Geoportal?

In addition to the spatial representation of the extent of the land use rights delimited by communities, it is possible to access copies of documents, maps and photos that are relevant to each community delimitation process.

How accurate and up to date is the information provided about these communities?

As noted, the data held in the MADICO Geoportal was not perfect at the time of launch, and one key objective of publishing the data through the portal was, and is, to enlist the support of a range of stakeholders in addressing these shortcomings. It is the hope of the MADICO Geoportal team and the Ministry that over time the data will become more and more accurate, and be kept up to date. This will depend very much on contribution of users.

Can I download or export data from MADICO Geoportal?

You can do both. It is possible to use the Geoportal to make a map based on the available data, or to download the spatial data for your own use in a GIS environment. It is also possible to print or download copies of the documents.

Are there any tools or features in the MADICO Geoportal that allow me to interact with or explore the community data in new ways?

Yes. Through the web browser, with no specific knowledge of GIS software, you can filter the data depending on attributes or spatial references. It is also possible (being a registered member) to create new maps, using one or more layers of spatial data. With the *GeoStories* tool, it is possible to create and share a document that includes maps, text, photos, or links.

With the *Dashboard* tool, you can create your own analysis based on the data from the available layers.

Is there a cost associated with accessing the data in the MADICO Geoportal?

All use of the MADICO Geoportal is free of charge.

Are there any restrictions on the use of the data provided by the MADICO Geoportal?

No. All information shared is public and available for any use.

Are there any privacy or security concerns related to the community data in the MADICO Geoportal?

No. All information shared is in the public domain.

How do I search for specific data within the MADICO Geoportal?

Search can be done directly in the MADICO Geoportal using tools to filter and search.

How can I provide feedback or report issues with the community data in the MADICO Geoportal?

Contact us by email: madico.mocambique@gmail.com.