

Global Astronomy Survey: Mozambique

First Submission: Cláudio Moisés [see human resources section] Paulo 20 March 2009

1. Professional (Research) Astronomy:

(i) Number of universities offering Astronomy (and their names)

We have only 2 University offering a brief Introduction in Astronomy in our country:

- Universidade Pedagógica (UP).
 - o They offer a subject related to Astronomy for Undergrad students.
- Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM).
 - o The Introduction of Astronomy is one of the subjects of the new curriculum in the University for Physics Department. Indeed, it will be a third year subject aiming to give the Introduction of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

(ii) Number of universities offering Physics (and their names)

Same as Astronomy, there is only two universities offering Physics in Mozambique.

- Universidade Pedagógica (UP).
- Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM).

(iii) Number of academics who have been trained in Astronomy (ideally with their names and levels of qualification)

We have three students doing astronomy. Two are finishing MSc at University of the Western Cape (South Africa) and one is starting PhD at university of Liverpool (UK).

- Cláudio Moisés Paulo: MSc student
- Faustino Nhanombe: MSc student
- Valerio Ribeiro: PhD student

(iv) Number of astronomical facilities (observatories, telescopes, etc) and as much detail about each as possible (websites/contact details)
We don't have astronomical facilities in our country.

(v) Self evaluation (according to the different phases above, how would you rate your country in terms of Professional Astronomy? Please include any other relevant information to motivate your choice.)

According to the different phases, our country is

in Phase 3 in terms of Professional Astronomy.

2. Public Understanding of Astronomy:

(i) What governmental astronomy/science outreach programmes for the public take place (co-ordinated either by government departments or national facilities)

Using the IAY2009 program, the organizational committee of Mozambique is trying to put some governments institutions involved with Astronomical Activities. Until now, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Ministério de Ciências e Tecnologia, Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia, Escola Portuguesa and Escola Italiana are working together for science outreach which includes Astronomy.

(ii) What non-governmental astronomy/science outreach programmes for the public take place (NGO activities or international programmes that your country is involved in)

There is no non-governmental astronomy/science outreach programmes for the public taking places in Mozambique.

(iii) Comment on the presence of astronomy in the media (TV, radio, newspapers). Is it very prominent? Are there specific programmes on astronomy? Is the media generally willing to publish news on astronomy?

Some times, we have the presence of media when we show something well organized related to astronomy. As an example, we had the presence of one TV station when we did launch our IAY2009 program last year celebrating in the same time the Week of Space Science.

(iv) Comment on the presence of astronomy/science in the general culture of the people. Are there any specific challenges or setbacks? Is astronomy a welcome subject of conversation?

People from Mozambique make many questions about astronomy. So, It's a welcome subject of conversation.

(v) Self evaluation (according to the different phases above, how would you rate your country in terms of Public Understanding of Astronomy? Please include any other relevant information to motivate your choice.)

In terms of Public Understanding of Astronomy, our country is in Phase 4.

3. Astronomy in Schools:

(i) What governmental astronomy/science education and outreach programmes for schools take place (co-ordinated either by government departments or national facilities)

We don't have governmental astronomy education and outreach programmes taking place in schools. But, we do believe that we will encourage the people from the government to support the Introduction of Astronomy in schools with the planed activities for IAY2009.

(ii) What non-governmental astronomy/science education and outreach programmes for schools take place (NGO activities or international programmes that your country is involved in)

There is no non-governmental astronomy/science education and outreach programmes for schools taking place.

(iii) Comment on the presence of astronomy in the school curriculum. Is it part of the school curriculum? Is it very prominent? What age groups?

We don't have the presence of astronomy in the school curriculum.

(iv) Comment on the status of astronomy/science in schools. Are there any specific challenges or setbacks? Sufficient number of students studying maths and science? General interest in maths/science/astronomy in schools?

As I mention above, we don't have astronomy happening in schools.

But, there is sufficient number of students studying maths and science. In General, they are interest in maths/science and astronomy. They usually ask many question about Astronomy.

(v) Self evaluation (according to the different phases above, how would you rate your country in terms of Astronomy in Schools? Please include any other relevant information to motivate your choice.)

According to the different phases, our country is phase 3 in terms of Astronomy in schools.