

31 MAY 2018  
9.30 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Maputo, Radisson Hotel

# Panel Discussion: Harnessing Exports To Transform Mozambique

## AGENDA

**09:30-10:00** Arrival coffee & Registration

**10:00-10:15** Welcome address:  
**Flavia Culuane**,  
MC Ministry of Industry and Trade

**10:15-13:00** Panel Debate:  
**National Export Strategy**  
Chair:  
**Piergiuseppe Fortunato** (UNCTAD)

Kick-off interventions:  
**Amilcar Arone**  
(Director of External Commerce),  
**Epifania Langa** (IESE),  
**Oliver Maponga** (ECA),  
**Tamara Paremoer** (CCRED)

## Q&A

**13:00-14:30** Cocktail

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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# Panel Discussion: Harnessing Exports To Transform Mozambique

In the last two decades, industrial growth, especially in the manufacturing sector, has been lower in Southern Africa than in other parts of the continent. Services are absorbing most of the people moving out of agriculture, with employment in industry stagnant, at well below 10 per cent of the labour force. Most of the economies of the region are insufficiently diversified and dependent on a few, and unsophisticated, commodity exports.

Mozambique does not present an exception in this respect; despite experiencing some productivity growth, the country has encountered considerable difficulty in kicking off a structural transformation and agriculture continues to be the mainstay of the economy, employing over the 70 per cent of the workforce. The share of manufacturing sector has remained low, both in terms of value added and employment. The sectoral output peaked at 17 per cent in 2004 and has been on a decline since, reverting to its 1990s values.

Re-igniting economic transformation in the country is therefore more urgent than ever. In this perspective, a strategic and selective trade integration strategy tailored to local conditions and capabilities and tuned to biases and asymmetries in the external environment, can be key to foster the modernization of the domestic economic structure, spur productivity and ultimately accelerate the process development.

The global economy, however, appears still stuck on its path to recovery from the crisis of the 2007-2008. Advanced economies in particular are experiencing one of the slowest recovery of the history, and this loss of economic momentum is depressing global demand and trade. The recognition of these difficulties has led many developing economies to seek opportunities that are different from the paths previously chosen. A greater emphasis is being posed, in particular, on regional and South-South markets that can help generating economies of scale, creating employment and fostering diversification and production upgrading.

The panel discussion will examine key elements around which an effective and transformative export strategy should be constructed in Mozambique, focusing in particular on how to exploit regional markets and favor the development of Regional Value Chains.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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