

The effect of demand side financing in promoting institutional births in rural Moçambique.

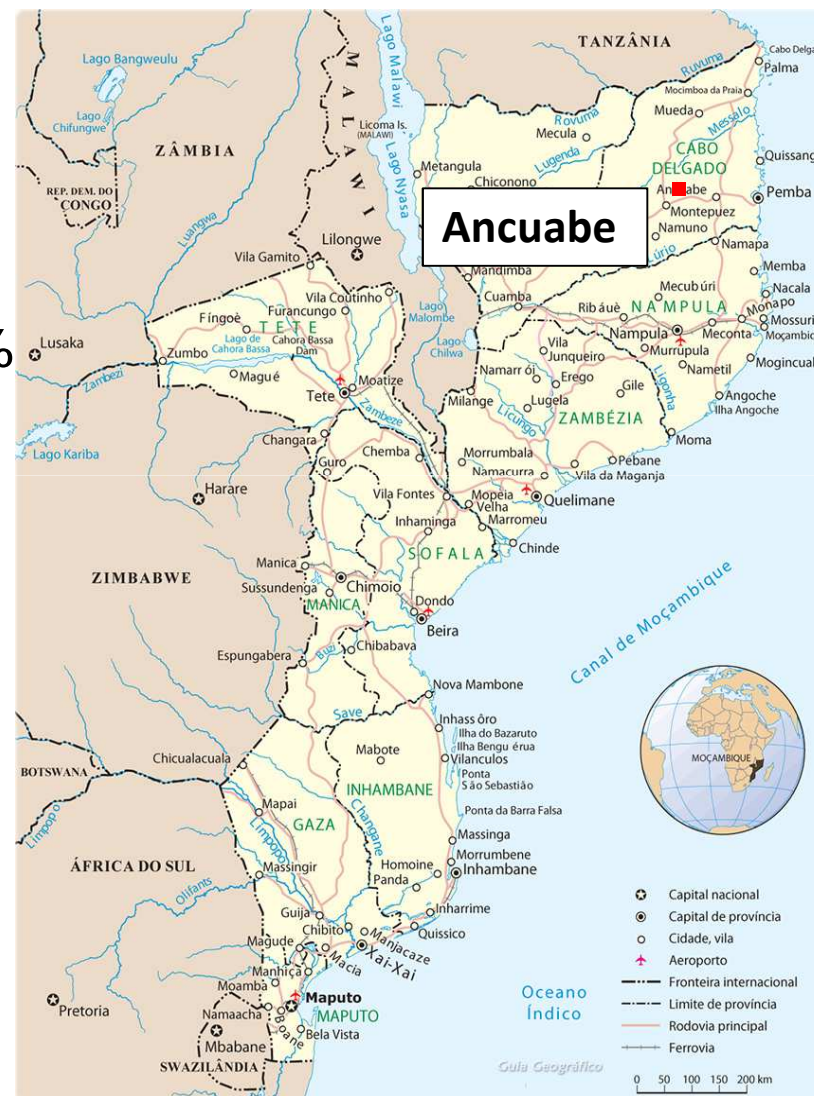
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Cabo Delgado, characteristics

- Population: 1.7 Mio
- Women: 51.6%
- Rural: 80%
- Illiterate (men/women): 51% / 80%
- Average N children/woman: 5.7
- Child mortality: 2/8
- Life expectation: <40y
- Access to Health services: <40%
- Access to safe water: <30%
- Access to electricity: 4%
- Civil registry (age 1-17y): 40%



District Ancuabe 2012:



- 119 565 inhabitants
- 4606 km²
- 6 health centres
- 14 SMI nurses
- 90 TBAs
- 5380 estimated births
this year



Hurdles to institutional births

They are numerous:

- cultural factors
- geographic factors
- economic factors
- health system factors

➔ One of the national recommendations is the offering of baby packages to women giving birth in a health facility



Investigate the effect of offering a 12 USD baby package to those women giving birth at rural health centres on institutional birth rates

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- From June 2010 to December 2011 a baby package was given to all those women who had an institutional birth in the district of Ancuabe.
 - The baby package consisted of: 3 reusable nappies, a basin, soap, and a traditional cloth

The Baby Package

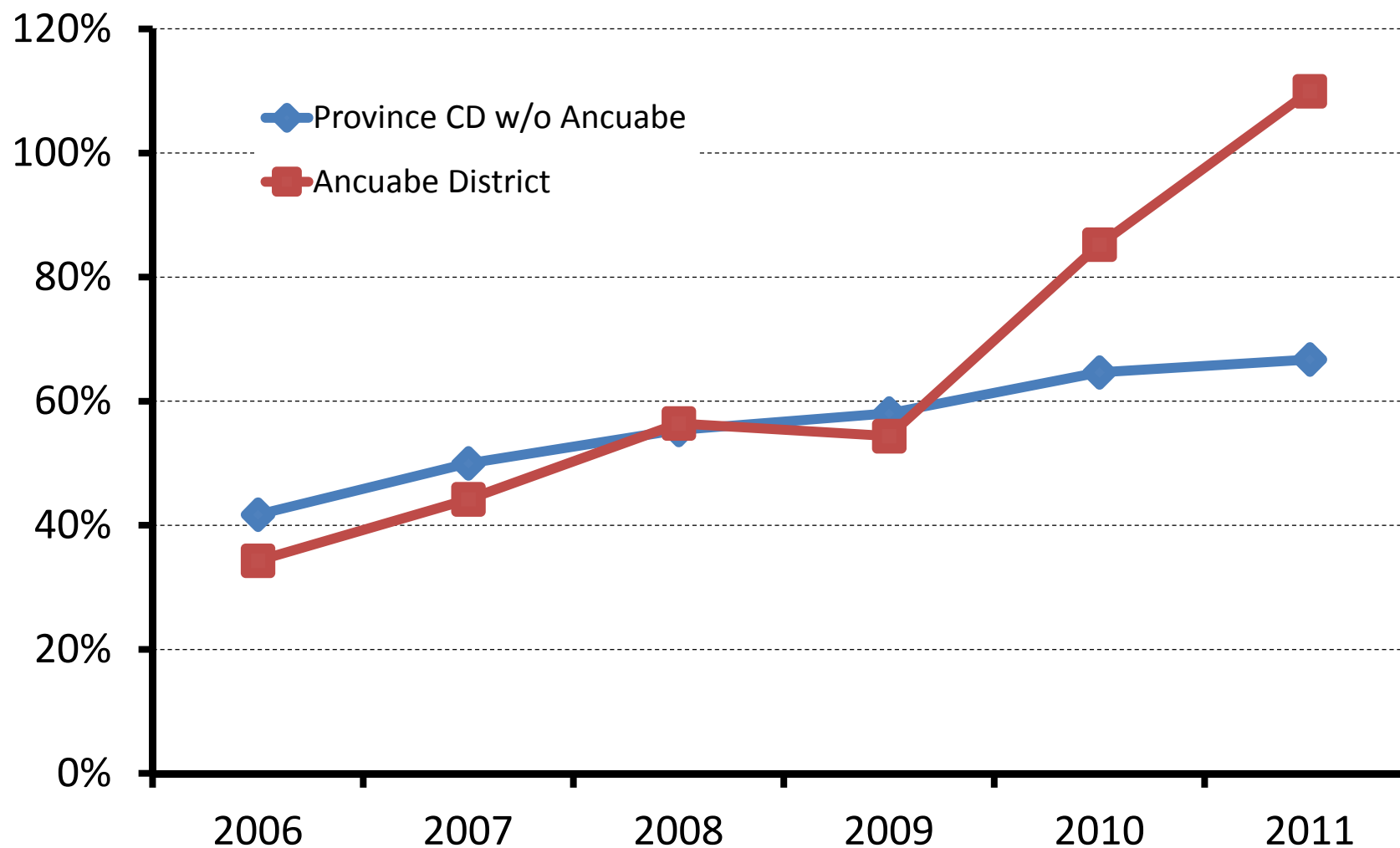
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8996 women had an institutional birth and received a baby package.

	Range	Mean	SD
Age	12 a 50	24.9	6.68
Distance travelled to HC (KMs)	0 a 60	8	7.74

Institutional Births 2006-2011



The increase was statistically significant in both groups (χ^2 for trend $p < 0.0001$).

	Ancuabe District		Cabo Delgado Province	
	N births	% increase	N births	% increase
2009	2741		40870	
2010	4391	96.3%*	46535	15.8%*
2011	5790	31.9%†	49096	5.5%†

*comparison: last 6 months 2009 with last 6 months 2010. 95%CI of increase: Ancuabe 95.2, 97.1; Province: 15.3, 16.2

†comparison: year 2010 with year 2011. 95%CI of increase: Ancuabe 30.5, 33.3; Province: 5.3, 5.7

Since 2010, institutional births became more likely in Ancuabe than in the rest of the province.

	OR	95%CI	p
2006 - 2009	0.85	0.83, 0.88	0.0001
2010 - 2011	22.61	19.86, 25.74	0.0001

A 12 USD baby package is an effective incentive in rural Northern Mozambique for women to change their birthing behaviour despite serious socio-economic difficulties.

Challenges ahead

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- Investigate the impact of this increase in institutional births on maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality using proxy indicators.
 - Handing over the initiative for full management by the district health authorities and possible expansion into other districts of the province.
 - Improve the quality of services in the health centres of the district, which in under 2 years have had to cope with double the number of births.
 - Formulation of medium-term “exit” strategies for all involved

Mothers who had institutional births with their healthy infants...they are very grateful.

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