



CIOMA - LOBITO WETLAND CENTRE CONTAINER-BASED FACILITIES

Activities Report



2025



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Climate Action,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of
the German Bundestag



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I. INTRODUCTION

From the initial moments of cooperation between The WSFI and ADAMA that the representatives for these two organizations sought ways to establish a wetland centre in Lobito with a structure capable of meeting local needs in the context of the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in Lobito, this region being an important stopover point for birds resting and refueling during their migratory process along the East Atlantic Flyway. Finally 2025 is recorded as the year of the materialization of an old dream.

This report summarizes the sequence of activities that culminated in the inauguration and operation of the new facilities of the wetland centre called CIOMA – Lobito.

II. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

2.1. Acquisition of 2 shipping containers

On July 18th, two 20 ft shipping containers were purchased from the company Bendija – Comercio Geral e Prestação de Serviços Limitada, based in the city of Caala, Huambo Province in Angola. At the time of purchase, the containers were located at the company's yard in the neighboring city of Benguela, from where they were transported to the processing site in Lobito. The transportation of the containers to Lobito was the sole responsibility of the selling company.

2.1.1. Acquisition of the third container

Given that during the transformation process the company responsible for the work made adjustments in the design, it decided to introduce one more module to create the upper birdwatching deck at no additional cost to the project; this is how the third container, which was not foreseen in the original project, came about.

Containers identification data map

Container Acquisition Order	Size	Identification Number
1	20'	HALU3414155
2	20'	CZZU0120013
3	20'	PRSU2054324

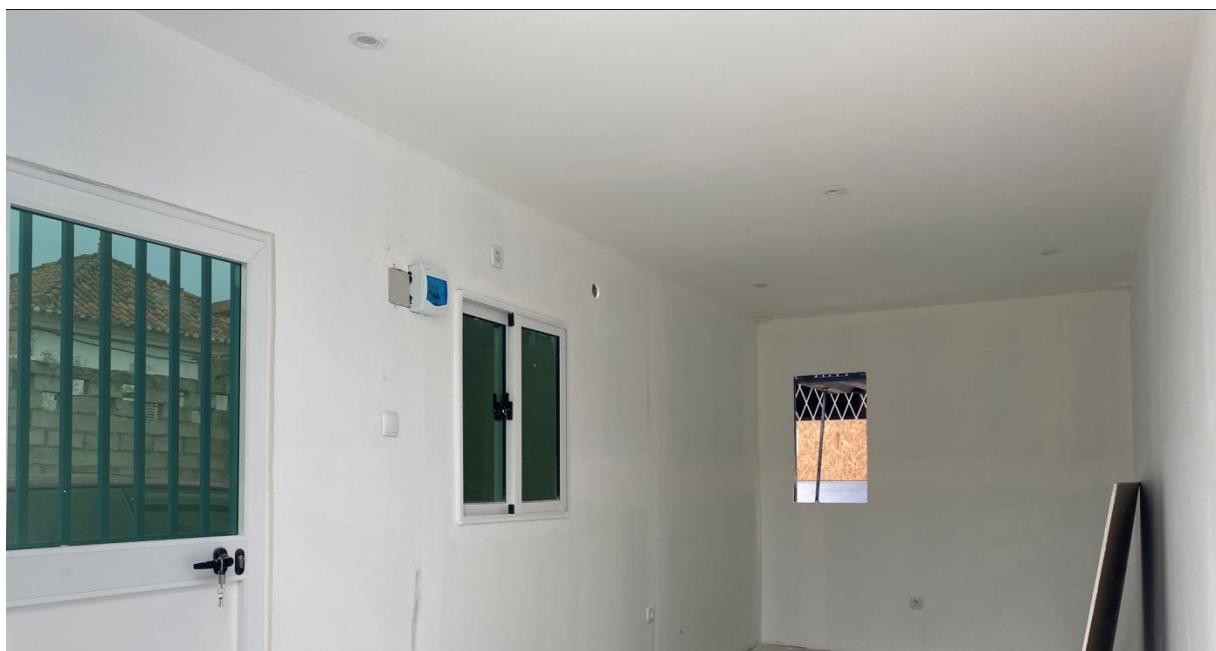


2.2. Conversion of the containers into a wetland centre with basic furniture and equipment

As set in the project, the containers acquired were delivered to the company Miragem Industria e Comércio, which immediately started to work on the transformation process based on the latest version of the project.



The transformation process lasted 2 months and was monitored by ADAMA's staff and the technical services of the Lobito Municipal Administration.



2.3. Site preparation and foundations for placing containers wetland centre

The work of laying the foundations at the designated location was the responsibility of the same company that transformed the containers, with work beginning on September 22nd. The foundation work was preceded by a thorough cleaning of the entire 4,826 m² area allocated to the project. At this stage, a modular bathroom was also added to the project, installed in the same perspective as the main modules.



2.4. Converted containers transportation from the workshop and their placement on site

After the acquisition and conversion of the containers, the final phase was clearly the transportation and installation of the modules on site, as well as the basic furnishing.



2.5. Opening ceremony

The inauguration ceremony for the new facilities took place on October 11th and marked the celebration of WMBD 2025. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Mr. Tim Dodman, a worthy representative of The WSFI, members of the Ministry of the Environment and INBAC, members of similar organizations and civil society, as well as invited professors and students, totaling 101 participants, 21 of whom were female.

Her Excellency Dr. Vanesia Fernandes, in her capacity as Acting Municipal Administrator of Lobito, cut the inaugural ribbon and presided over the activity.



III. POST INAUGURATION ACTIVITIES

3.1. Meetings and short training

Immediately following the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Tim Dodman led a meeting with ADAMA members in Lobito, in which he sought to learn about the organization's operations and the progress of ongoing projects. At the end of the day, a field visit was made to the Lobito wetland site.

The morning of the following day, October 12, was dedicated to a brief training session on bird identification and counting, facilitated by Mr. Tim Dodman and attended by ADAMA members, Omulamba members, and Lobito Municipal Administration staff. The training took place in one of the modules of the newly inaugurated centre.



The afternoon of the same day was dedicated to the practical component of the training, with the team traveling to Catumbela estuary wetland site to practice what they had learned in the theoretical session.



3.2. Centre operation

The month of October 2025 marked the opening and full operation of the new facilities; the centre has currently a team of 6 members, 3 of whom are female, distributed as follows: 1 centre manager, 4 environmental educators, and 1 cleaning assistant. Security for the facilities and adjacent area is in the responsibility of a private security company that has deployed 4 men to the site, working in shifts.



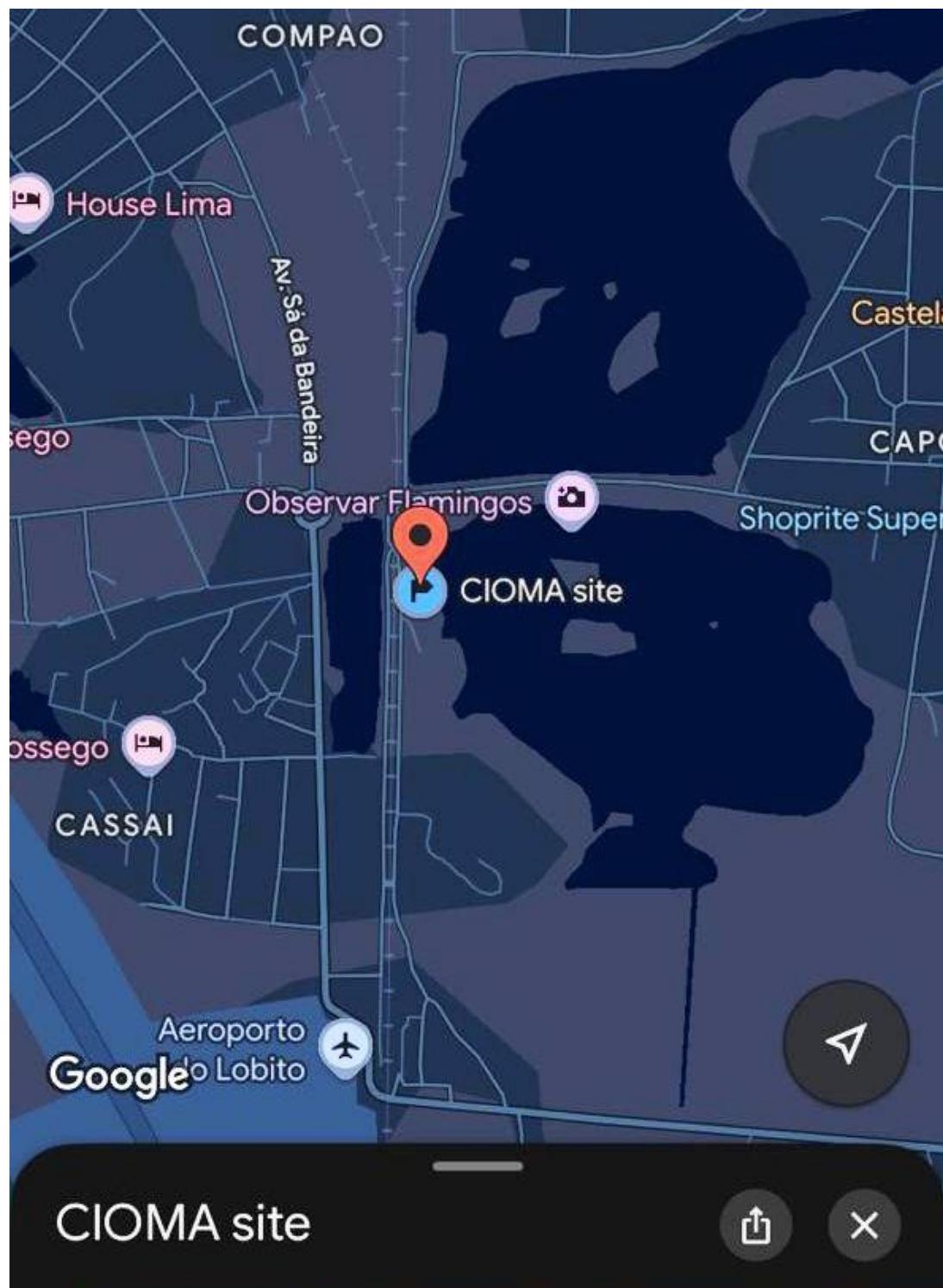
IV. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The completion of this project represents an important step forward in the conservation of migratory waterbirds along the East Atlantic Flyway. Thanks to this cooperation between the North and South of the flyway, based on mutual trust and the need for joint effort, Lobito is now on the map of the main wetland centres in the region. The facilities now inaugurated, in addition to contributing to the conservation of birds and their habitats in the region, will surely produce information and a database on the avifauna of this region that will serve as a basis for future studies on birds and contribute to decision-making in the context of environmental policy projects.

In fact, the sustainability of the project in the Angolan context is a very big challenge, but the will and determination that the parties have to keep this centre operational overcomes any adversity and the investment made was certainly worthwhile because the centre was opened to last.

V. ANNEXES

Annex 1 – Facilities location map



Annex 2 – Statement from Lobito Municipal Administration confirming the transfer of the land to ADAMA for the centre facilities.



REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA

Governo Provincial de Benguela
Administração Municipal do Lobito
Gabinete do Administrador

DECLARAÇÃO

CARLOS BARNABÉ UPINDI PACATOLO, Administrador Municipal do Lobito, concede ao município/empresa **ADAMA- ASSOCIAÇÃO DOS DEFENSORES E AMIGOS DO AMBIENTE**, Contribuinte nº **5000350311**, residente e domiciliado (a) na Província de Benguela, Município de Lobito, Bairro do (a) **Zona Comercial**, a solicitação de Terreno para Instalação de um **CIOMA – Centro de Informação, Observação E Monitoramento De Aves** - no seguinte endereço:

Bairro: Caponte

Tendo em vista a Isenção de que beneficiam as **Organizações Não-governamentais-O.N.G.**, referido pelo **Decreto Presidencial nº 176/24 de 24 de Julho, artigo 7.2.2.19.3.**

E para que não haja qualquer impedimento, mandei passar a presente declaração que vai ser devidamente assinada e autenticada com carimbo – selo branco em uso nesta Administração.

OBS: Esta Declaração, deve ser apresentados aos Órgãos de Fiscalização sempre que necessário.-

GABINETE DO ADMINISTRADOR MUNICIPAL DO LOBITO, AOS 09 DE JULHO DE 2025.

O ADMINISTRADOR
Carlos Barnabé
CARLOS BARNABÉ UPINDI PACATOLO

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Annex 3 – Additional activities photos







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General-secretary

Lobito, 11th November, 2025