Mozambique

Mozambique hosts approximately 25,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, while 709,529 people remain displaced internally due to violence perpetrated by non-state armed groups and the devastating impact of the climate crisis – with Mozambique being one of the most adversely affected countries in the world. The double landfall of Tropical Cyclone Freddy in February and April 2023, a year following the devastating Tropical Cyclone Gombe, affected over one million people, destroyed infrastructure, and displaced some 184,000** people.

UNHCR and partners work closely with a range of stakeholders, including the Government, to provide lifesaving protection services and assistance to refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs, IDP returnees, as well as host communities, while harnessing opportunities to invest in and build resilience among communities and facilitate sustainable solutions to displacement. In the past year, 632,408* people have returned to their areas of origin, many of whom lack services and live in poor conditions.

UNHCR stresses that all refugee and IDP return movements should occur in an informed, safe, voluntary, and dignified manner. At the same time, UNHCR supports the inclusion of all refugees and IDPs in national services and systems, including national data systems and climate-related contingency planning and response. Simultaneously, UNHCR is scaling up engagement with development and peace-building actors to support the inclusion of displaced and returned populations by expanding their respective programming.

KEY FIGURES

709,529* Internally Displaced Persons
582,764 (79%) IDP's in northern Mozambique due to the ongoing conflict.
126,305 (21%) climate related IDPs following the impacts of extreme weather events.
45% of IDPs living in relocation sites, 55% living in host communities.
80% of IDPs are women and children.

632,408* returnees, many in IDP-like situations with poor living conditions and a lack of access to basic services

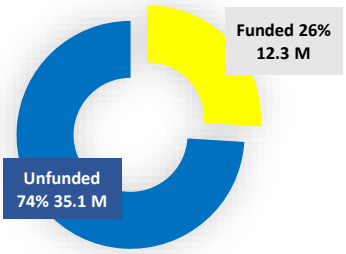
Approximately **25,000**** refugees and asylum-seekers

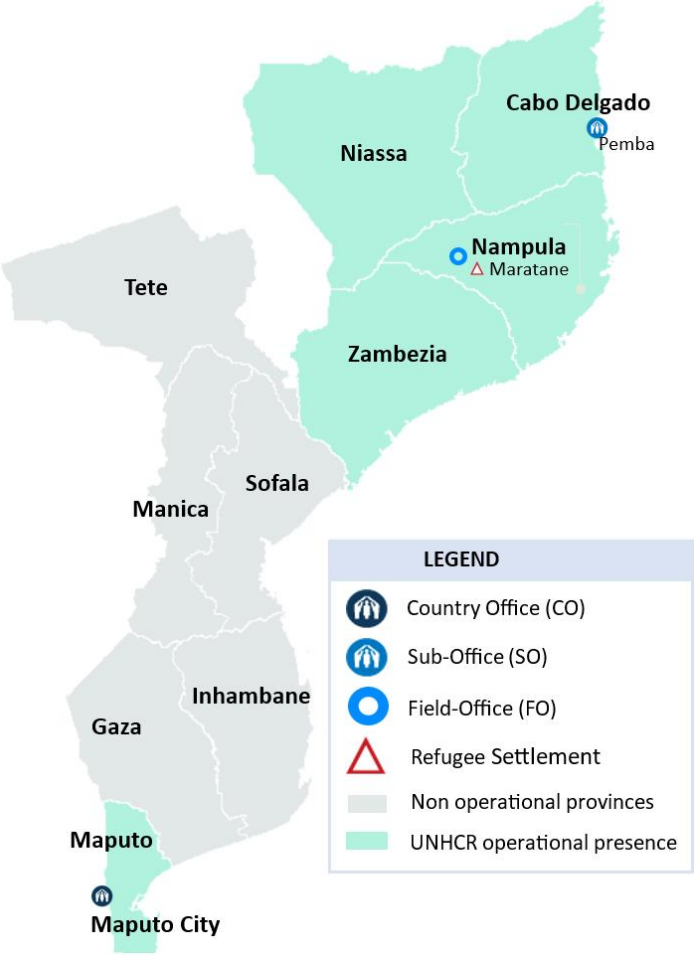
* Displacement figures: Mobility Tracking Assessment Report 20, January 2024, IOM
** According to UNHCR preliminary data from the verification exercise in Mozambique October 2023.
*** Tropical Cyclone Freddy Flash Update No. 12, 28 April 2023, UNOCHA

USD 49.3 M

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2024

FUNDING (as of 31 May 2024)





Staff: 128
74 National Staff
54 International Staff
Offices: 3
1 Country Office in Maputo – 45 staff
1 Sub Office in Pemba – 46 staff
1 Field Office in Nampula – 37 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | May 2024

Protection and Solutions

- UNHCR's **protection monitoring activities** are critical for identifying protection risks and trends and referring people with heightened needs to specialized services. In May, protection monitoring interviews were conducted with 2,397 households from IDP sites, host communities, and return locations across several districts in Cabo Delgado.
- Possessing **civil documentation** is crucial, enabling forcibly displaced people to access services, including healthcare and education, as well as enhancing their freedom of movement. In May, UNHCR in collaboration with partner the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM) and governmental authorities, a total of 1,239 individuals were supported in reclaiming lost or destroyed civil documentation, including birth certificates and national IDs.

Photo Left: Gracinda Torado, an IDP from Chiure Velho in front of her shelter in Megaruma IDP site. Photo Right: Gracinda during protection training to act as a community volunteer in Megaruma. ©UNHCR/ Isadora Zoni

- In May, UNHCR reached 446 individuals through **protection awareness campaigns** in Cabo Delgado and provided home visits and protection assistance to 374 IDPs. 121 individuals received tailored Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), and 580 individuals with disabilities were assisted.
- Following the **significant displacement** of populations in Cabo Delgado and Nampula at the end of February, various protection risks were identified by UNHCR in the affected areas, including lack of access to adequate services, lack of documentation, and neglect of vulnerable groups. UNHCR activities continued in Chiure District throughout the month of May, including **training for Protection Focal Points** in Chiure, where 50 volunteers were trained on protection strategies, CBP, child protection, GBV response, and human rights.
- **Gender-based violence (GBV)** remains a critical challenge affecting refugees, IDPs and host communities. UNHCR Mozambique works with the government and partners to address GBV issues. In Cabo Delgado, 49 individuals received GBV-specialized MHPSS training in Cabo Delgado, and 85 individuals received training on GBV protection and PSEA; this included activists, Government counterparts, and community members. 49 people at risk were supported with case management in Mueda, Palma, Pemba and Montepuez districts.
- On 29 May, the Mozambican government, UNHCR, and UN-HABITAT organized a workshop in Maputo on **Inclusive Community Engagement on Solutions,** drawing over 60 participants from government, development, humanitarian, and civil society sectors. Presentations covered normative frameworks, community engagement activities, and best practices. Group discussions focused on best practices for community engagement and its link to durable solutions, aiming to instil a common understanding

among stakeholders and solidify the connection between inclusive engagement and achieving durable solutions.

Community Based Protection activities in Megaruma IDP site, Chiure district Cabo Delgado. ©UNHCR/ Isadora Zoni

Health

- **Community Health Volunteers** carried out home visits to chronically ill individuals in the Maratane Refugee settlement, organized cleaning campaigns, held community sensitization meetings, and supported ambulatory services. During these activities and at the Maratane Health Centre, they reached a total of 2,153 people (628 men and 1,455 women) with key health messages. The main topics covered included malaria, cholera, STIs and HIV/AIDS, family planning, and personal and environmental hygiene.
- **Health counseling** was provided to refugees and asylum seekers, with some cases referred to the Nampula Central Hospital and a few to Maputo.

Mandatory training for all UNHCR partners as part of UNHCR's collective commitment to strengthening protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. The training was also part of the pledge to ensure all UNHCR partners are equipped to maintain a safe environment for all the people we are working for. ©UNHCR/ Rumbani Msiska

Camp Coordination and Camp management (CCCM), Shelter, Infrastructure, and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- In May, UNHCR, through its CCCM partners, provided **camp management support** in 11 displacement sites in Cabo Delgado, where 59,757 IDPs reside.
- In response to the crisis in southern Cabo Delgado, UNHCR distributed 679 **Core Relief Items (CRIs**) to newly displaced persons in Megaruma IDP site in Chiure district and in Pemba city (403 kits), benefiting 2,797 internally displaced people. In the Maratane Refugee settlement, 772 Households throughout five zones of the settlement were assisted with CRI kits. The CRI kits include essential items such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and buckets.
- In Nampula, 16 **resilient shelters,** that are better equipped to withstand extreme weather events, were completed in the Maratane Refugee settlement, benefitting 80 refugees.

Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

- With funding from GIZ, and the assistance of UNHCR, 118 individuals (IDPs and host community) were enrolled in May in **TVET programs** at the Institute of Professional Training and Labor Studies Alberto Cassimo (IFPELAC) in Pemba. This program not only imparts valuable skills but also enhances employability and fosters sustainable livelihoods. UNHCR, again with funding from GIZ, also concluded the first training cycle for 50 young entrepreneurs in Pemba, including IDPs and host community members.
- With funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB), UNHCR conducted training sessions for 80 beneficiaries in Metuge and Mecufi, comprising both men and women. The sessions covered **life skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and protection, with a focus on the fisheries sector**. This initiative aims to equip participants with the necessary tools for sustainable livelihoods and economic resilience.
- In May, **UNHCR and the International Finance Corporation (IFC)** conducted joint scoping missions in Mozambique to enhance economic integration for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and explore sustainable market opportunities. In Pemba, the mission included a round table with the private sector to discuss SME growth, financial inclusion, and economic integration of IDPs. In Nampula, the mission visited the Maratane refugee settlement, and a round table was organized with local entrepreneurs, focusing on agricultural value chain development, market linkage, and support for IDPs.

IFC-UNHCR scoping mission visiting artisanal and soap-making groups in the Maratane refugee settlement. ©UNHCR/ Rumbani Msiska

Coordination

- UNHCR chairs the Protection Cluster and is an active member of both the Shelter and CCCM clusters.
- In addition, UNHCR co-chairs the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) working group (with World Vision), co-chairs the PSEA working group (with the IOM), and co-chairs the Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) area of responsibility (AoR) of the Protection Cluster with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).
- UNHCR also chairs the UN Solution Working Group and the UN Solutions Technical Group (with the IOM).
- In Cabo Delgado, UNHCR co-chairs the CE/AAP WG (with Save the Children).

Partnerships

- UNHCR Mozambique has scaled up its partnerships with development actors to mobilize their support in displacement settings, achieving the inclusion of refugees and IDPs into development actors' programmes in areas of climate financing, energy provision, and access to services, among others as well as throughout the Common Country Assessment (CCA) process, which informs the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), in short, also known as the UN Country Framework. UNHCR is an active member of all four Strategic Priority groups of the UNSDCF and the Programme Management Team (PMT) that serves as a think-tank and advisor to the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) for the implementation of the Country Framework.
- UNHCR has 21 agreements with 16 partners across the country. Five NNGOs, five INGOs, 10 government partners, and one UN-UN agreement.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION | UNHCR Mozambique 2024

UNHCR Mozambique has rolled out a new Multi-Year Strategy for the years 2024 to 2026. Through this strategy, UNHCR is working with the Government of Mozambique, its various line ministries at national, provincial, and local levels as well as development actors to find opportunities to sustainably address the vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced people, build resilience among affected communities and to facilitate durable solutions. This strategic shift will allow UNHCR to provide more sustainable and effective support, for the short, medium, and the long term.

In 2024, UNHCR Mozambique will continue to

- Address the protection and assistance needs and support sustainable solutions for internally displaced people in the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa, as well as the communities that host them.
- Address the protection and assistance needs and support sustainable solutions for refugees and asylum seekers, as well as the communities that host them; and cross-cutting UNHCR's entire response.
- Support preparedness and response efforts to natural hazards, including cyclones, flooding and drought. Through this engagement, UNHCR will continue to adopt an age, gender and diversity approach while maintaining a focus on accountability to affected populations (AAP).

UNHCR will also continue to focus on reinforcing its operational presence and coordination leadership in protection, while supporting areas of shelter/NFI and camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) through operational response, technical expertise and active participation in coordination fora; continue and strengthen protection advocacy; strengthen development partnerships to amplify and reinforce protection mainstreaming and address the needs of the people we serve sustainably; and, remain proactive in climate related preparedness activities, such as pre-positioning of CRIs, capacity building of the Government and partners, sensitization of communities on the importance of preparedness.

Find UNHCR's Global Appeal for 2024 here.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous support of donors who have contributed to UNHCR Mozambique and to UNHCR programmes globally in 2023 and 2024.

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For more information on UNHCR's programme in Mozambique:

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