






Mozambique


Mozambique hosts approximately 25,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, while 850,599 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 March 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 months, 571,468* 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

 **850,599*** Internally Displaced Persons
 668,939 (79%) IDP's in northern Mozambique due to the ongoing conflict.
 181,660 (21%) climate related IDPs following the impacts of extreme weather events.
 45% of IDPs living in relocation sites, 55% living in host communities.
 51% of IDPs are women and children.

 **571,468*** 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

* [Mozambique Mobility Tracking Assessment Report \(August 2023, IOM\)](#)

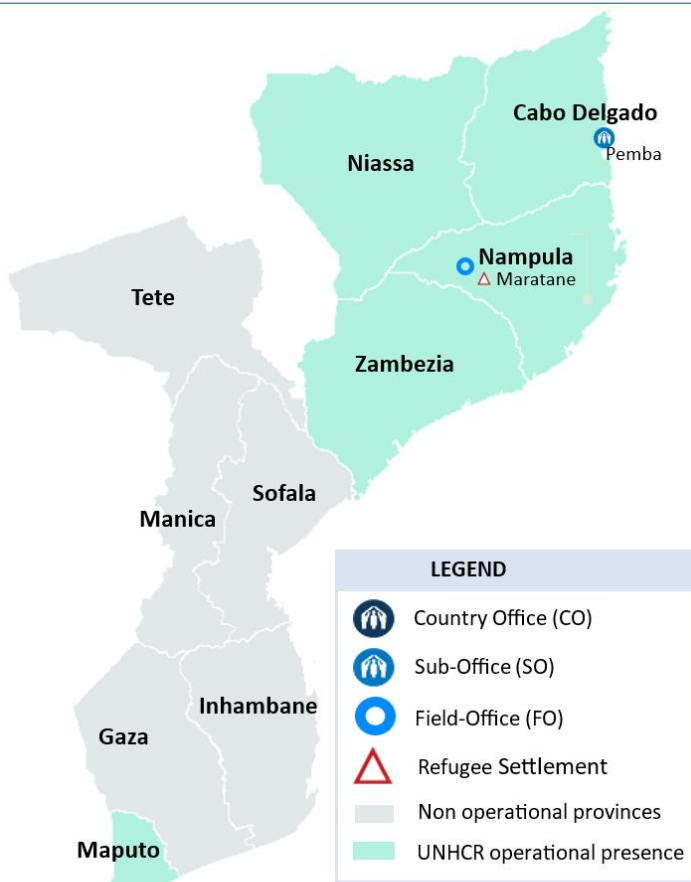
** According to UNHCR preliminary data from the verification exercise in Mozambique October 2023.

*** [Tropical Cyclone Freddy Flash Update No. 12, 28 March 2023, UNOCHA](#)

USD 47.5 M

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2023

FUNDING (as of 15 December 2023)



Staff: 131
72 National Staff
59 International Staff

Offices: 3
1 Country Office in Maputo – 46 staff
1 Sub Office in Pemba – 47 staff
1 Field Office in Nampula – 38 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | December 2023

Protection

- UNHCR’s protection monitoring activities are critical to identify protection risks and trends to make referrals for people with heightened needs to specialized services. In December, protection monitoring interviews were conducted with 1,561 displaced and returned families in 21 displacement sites, host communities, and return locations across five districts of Cabo Delgado (Mueda, Montepuez, Metuge, Palma, and Mecufi). In 2023, 26,816 households (representing around 134,080 individuals) were interviewed in Cabo Delgado.
- Gender-based violence (GBV) remains a critical challenge affecting refugees, IDPs and host communities. UNHCR Mozambique has worked with the government and partners to address GBV issues. On 10

December, UNHCR concluded its very successful 16-Days of Activism campaign against GBV in several parts of the country including Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Zambezia and Niassa provinces. The campaign resulted in more than 1,000 participants in multiple events including workshops, theatrical activities, radio, dance, and music. UNHCR also organized a workshop on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (PSEA) with government actors discussing strengthening of



UNHCR Staff Celebrating 16 Days of Activism @UNHCR Mozambique

the referral mechanism and reporting cases of PSEA. The event was attended by 120 participants (60 women and 60 men). UNHCR, partners and beneficiaries from various sectors actively participated in all the activities, demonstrating commitment to ending violence and empowering women and girls.

- In Cabo Delgado, UNHCR provided capacity building training to 35 staff from partner UCM in Pemba on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) basics, the survivor-centred approach, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and referral pathways.

- In collaboration with government counterparts and the Forum of Mozambican Associations of People with Disabilities, UNHCR organized an event in Pemba on the International Day of People with Disabilities, bringing together 250 participants, including 125 individuals with disabilities and various stakeholders. The event featured a ceremony where assistive devices were symbolically allocated, and a cultural segment enriched with theatrical



Unveiling of the disability inclusion mural @UNHCR Mozambique

performances addressing non-discrimination and showcasing inclusive good practices. Additionally, the occasion marked the unveiling of a disability inclusion mural created with and by people with disabilities.

- UNHCR and partners provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to 3,781 IDPs with specific needs in December, including elderly people at risk and people with disabilities in Cabo Delgado, bringing the total to 11,683 people supported in 2023.
- 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 2023, working closely with Government authorities and partner, the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM), UNHCR assisted 14,953 people from affected populations in Cabo Delgado, Zambezia and Nampula province to obtain civil documentation. 188 legal awareness-raising sessions were provided to the beneficiaries and 354 people received additional legal counselling and/or representation from UCM's on-site lawyers.
- On 01 December, UNHCR organized a successful beach clean-up at Wimbe Beach in Pemba with 110 participants, including 17 Protection Focal Points PFPs, 80 community engagement youths and staff from partner organizations and UNHCR. The objective was to raise environmental awareness and underscore collective responsibility for conservation.



Beach Cleanup in Pemba ©UNHCR Mozambique

Public Health

- In the Maratane refugee settlement, Nampula, community health volunteers continued with sensitisation activities aimed at containing and preventing the spread of cholera, malaria, and TB, organizing 12 community sensitization sessions which reached 2,207 refugees and people from host communities.
- In Nampula, 124 individuals benefited from ambulance services from Maratane to Nampula Central Hospital to receive secondary health care.
- On World HIV/AIDS Day, several events were held at the Maratane settlement, including community awareness raising sessions on HIV prevention and treatment, general medical consultations, testing and promotion of family planning services.
- In December, Soap and sanitary napkins were distributed to 2,256 women and girls in Maratane.

Camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)

- UNHCR, through its CCCM partners, provided camp management support in 10 displacement sites in Cabo Delgado, (seven in the Mueda district and three in Montepuez district) where 59,678 IDPs reside.
- In collaboration with protection partners, UNHCR trained 58 CCCM community volunteers in the Mueda district. The training focused on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and conducting mass sensitization campaigns across seven sites in the district: Eduardo Mondlane, Nandimba, Mpeme, Lianda, Chilindi, Nachitendje, and Namatil, reaching at least 1,488 IDPs.
- In the Montepuez district, UNHCR completed the installation of 16 solar streetlights in three sites: Ntele, Nicuapa, and Massingiri. This aims to decrease protection risks such as GBV for women and children. Additionally, care and maintenance (rehabilitation) of infrastructures, including two protection hubs and three community centres, were successfully concluded.
- UNHCR conducted training for 40 participants in Montepuez, including site management committee members, community volunteers, and protection focal points. The training focused on Complaint and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) engagement, infrastructure care and maintenance, and prevention of early marriages. UNHCR also organized community engagement meetings with site management committees in the Ntele, Nicuapa, and Massingiri sites in the Montepuez district targeting 89 members.

Shelter, infrastructure, and core relief items (CRIs)

- In December, UNHCR and partners completed the construction of 300 transitional shelters in the Lianda site in Cabo Delgado. Furthermore, 40 transitional shelters were upgraded in the Nicuapa IDP site in the Montepuez district.
- At the Corrane IDP site in Nampula, UNHCR finalized the construction of 150 resilient shelters. Furthermore, the construction of the Transit Centre and five classrooms at the secondary school in Maratane refugee settlement was completed.
- In Cabo Delgado, 631 CRI kits consisting of essential items such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and buckets, were distributed to 557 displaced families in the Ntele IDP site in the Montepuez district.



Resilient shelters in the Corrane IDP settlement and in surrounding host communities ©UNHCR Mozambique

Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

- In Cabo Delgado, UNHCR participated in the IFPELAC graduation ceremony with 189 youths from the displaced and host communities after completing courses in electricity work, engineering, plumbing and gastronomy. Most of the graduates are also enrolled in a three-month paid internship (facilitated by the national Institute for employment INEP). In Nacala, UNHCR attended the IFPELAC graduation ceremony with 60 IDP and host community students graduating having successfully completed courses in gastronomy, automotive mechanics, locksmithing, and masonry. 47 business kits were distributed to several graduates, benefitting 146 individuals.



Graduation ceremony for 189 IDPs (Lara Bommers/©UNHCR)



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 works with 21 partners, including government partners and international and national NGOs. In addition, one UN2UN Transfer Agreement with WFP was concluded in 2023 to operate a complaints and response mechanisms.



STRATEGIC DIRECTION | UNHCR Mozambique 2024

In 2024, UNHCR Mozambique will continue to (i) 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; (ii) 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, (iii) 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 2023 [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:

[UNHCR Mozambique Operational Data Portal](#) | [Protection Cluster – Mozambique](#) | [Global Focus](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)
[UNHCR Mozambique End of Year Report 2022](#)