

## MOZAMBIQUE SITUATION POST-ELECTION VIOLENCE & CYCLONE RESPONSES

10 April 2025



Inter-agency teams assess the impact of Cyclone Jude in Namialo, Nampula Province, in March 2025. ©UNHCR/Rumbani Msiska.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Mozambique’s political situation remains calm with no major protests reported
- Most people displaced by Cyclone Jude in Mozambique have returned home. The Protection Working Group, led by UNHCR, continues to provide support through psychosocial aid, civil documentation assistance, and awareness activities.
- As of 10 April, the situation at Eswatini’s Malindza Refugee Reception Centre remains unchanged. Of the 1,104 individuals who fled post-election violence in Mozambique and sought asylum in Eswatini, 403 remain at the centre.
- Malawi’s Department of Refugees has begun Refugee Status Determination (RSD) for the 558 individuals to assess their eligibility for refugee protection.

Country	Total number of asylum seekers from Mozambique	Remaining as of 10 April
Malawi	7,904	558**
Eswatini	1,104	403**
Lesotho	9	9
Zimbabwe	4	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,021</b>	<b>1,244</b>

\* Residual number of individuals after repatriation and subsequent verification exercise.

\*\*Verifies number of asylum seekers following spontaneous departures from Eswatini’s Malindza Refugee Reception Centre.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### Key Developments

- While two accommodation centres remain operational in Ilha de Moçambique and Mosuril, the majority of displaced people affected by Cyclone Jude have returned home. **Protection Working Group partners have reached over 3,000 individuals across six districts—Cidade de Nampula, Ilha de Moçambique, Meconta, Mogovolas, Monapo, and Mossuril—**through activities such as awareness-raising sessions, psychosocial first aid, dissemination of PSEA messages, and identification of families who lost their documents. However, access to protection services in return areas remains limited, with a notable shortage of specialized protection actors to address the scale of needs. In Meconta District, UNHCR has also supported over 300 displaced families, approximately **1,600 individuals, with essential supplies.**
- As a result of cyclone-related damage, the N1 road linking Cabo Delgado and Nampula remains blocked, disrupting trade, transport, and humanitarian operations. Rehabilitation efforts are underway, including the construction of a new bridge to restore connectivity. During humanitarian response coordination meetings, partners discussed alternative routes to reach affected districts, including options that pass through coastal areas north of Nacala, a key port city in northern Mozambique. However, these alternative roads—while offering a potential workaround—are in poor condition and become nearly impassable during heavy rains.
- On 3 April, the Government of Mozambique launched a nationwide initiative to **use drones in strengthening [prevention and emergency response](#) to natural disasters, including cyclones and floods.** The project, led by the National Institute for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (INGD) with funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB), aims to enhance the country's capacity to save lives and protect property during emergencies.

## ESWATINI

### Key Developments

- As of 10 April, the situation at the Malindza Refugee Reception Centre remains unchanged. **Of the 1,104 Mozambican asylum seekers who fled post-election violence, 403, about 36 percent, remain at the centre, while the rest have spontaneously departed.** An additional 462 asylum seekers, whose arrival is unrelated to the post-election violence, are also hosted at the centre. The Government of Eswatini and UNHCR continue to inform asylum seekers about available support for voluntary return. No new arrivals have been reported since 13 January.

## MALAWI

- In March, **7,076 Mozambican asylum seekers were voluntarily repatriated from Malawi. Following this, a verification exercise was carried out, and it confirmed 558 individuals remain.** This week, the Department of Refugees began Refugee Status Determination (RSD) to assess eligibility for refugee protection and determine next steps.
- Services at Nyamithuthu settlement have been progressively scaled down. Distributions of food and essential items are currently on hold, and health services have been discontinued, with all medical referrals now directed to the nearby Nyamithuthu Health Centre. Access to water is limited to a single borehole located approximately 800 meters from the site. **The settlement is scheduled for closure by the end of April 2025.**

**Contacts:** Tina Ghelli – Head of External Engagement, Regional Bureau for Southern Africa ([ghelli@unhcr.org](mailto:ghelli@unhcr.org)); Edward Ogolla – Communications Officer, Regional Bureau for Southern Africa ([ogolla@unhcr.org](mailto:ogolla@unhcr.org))