

Mozambique

Mozambique hosts nearly **32,000 refugees and asylum-seekers**, while **more than one million people remain displaced internally** due to violence perpetrated by non-state armed groups and the devastating impact of the climate crisis – where Mozambique is 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 devastating Tropical Cyclone Gombe, affected over 1 million people, destroyed infrastructure and displaced some **184,000** people.

This context, paired with lingering effects of COVID-19, has resulted in further disenfranchisement of already vulnerable populations. 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.

UNHCR stresses that all refugee and IDP return movements should take place 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 ultimately support the inclusion of displaced and returned populations through the expansion of their respective programming.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

834,304 internally displaced people in northern Mozambique due to ongoing conflict and **420,200** returnees in IDP-like situations*.

1,187,265 people affected by the double landfall of Tropical Cyclone Freddy, including **184,000** people displaced**

736,015 people affected in Nampula and Zambezia provinces by Tropical Cyclone Gombe in 2022,*** **129,327** people have remained displaced internally in central Mozambique following cyclone Idai in March 2019.

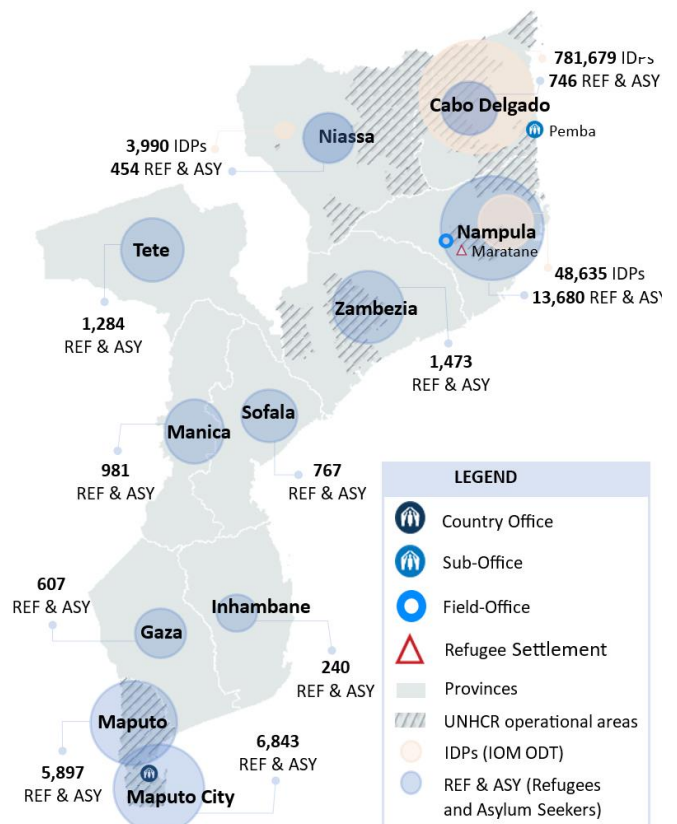
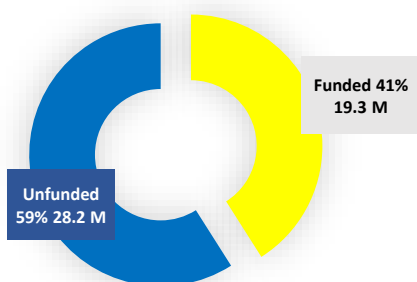
32,854**** refugees and asylum-seekers

* Mozambique Mobility Tracking Assessment Report (April 2023, IOM)
** Tropical Cyclone Freddy Flash Update No. 12, 28 March 2023, UNOCHA
*** Tropical Cyclone Gombe Flash Update No. 6, March 2022, UNOCHA
**** According to UNHCR data (30 June, 2023)

USD 47.5 M

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2023

FUNDING (as of 27 June 2023)



The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Staff: 131

71 National Staff

60 International Staff

Offices: 3

1 Country Office in Maputo – 48 staff

1 Field Office in Nampula – 37 staff

1 Field Office in Pemba – 46 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | June 2023

World Refugee Day: Hope away from home

- UNHCR Mozambique commemorated World Refugee Day in Maputo, Nampula and Pemba with various activities. In Maputo UNHCR organized a press conference to commence the World Refugee Day 2023 celebrations and launch the [UNHCR Global Trends Report 2021](#). Local and international media coverage included interviews on the Global Trends Report, World Refugee Day activities country-wide, and recent IDP returns in Cabo Delgado.
- In the Maratane refugee settlement in Nampula, several activities were organized including a fruit and vegetable fair, a health fair with blood donation, cooking demonstrations, general medical check-ups, HIV testing and counselling services and information sharing to support refugees, asylum seekers and the host community. In Pemba, UNHCR hosted discussion events on displacement, football matches between host and displaced communities and a solidarity race.



Women's and Men's football championship and solidarity race on World Refugee Day in Cabo Delgado. ©UNHCR Mozambique/Lara Boomers



UNHCR Representative and INAR Director both speaking at Press Conference on WRD in Maputo. ©UNHCR/Guilherme Chirinda



Burundi Ngoma performing and the Head of the UNHCR Nampula Field Office handing a trophy to the winning team of the WRD championship at Maratane refugee settlement, Nampula. ©UNHCR/Guilherme Chirinda

Protection and solutions

- Possessing civil documentation is crucial, enabling forcibly displaced people to access services, including healthcare and education as well as enhancing their freedom of movement. Working closely with Government authorities and partner the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM), UNHCR assisted 1,095 people in Pemba in obtaining civil documentation, specifically birth certificates and national IDs.
- In Pemba, Chiúre and Montepuez, 101 assistive devices such as wheelchairs and crutches were delivered to people with disabilities to enhance their quality of life. UNHCR also organized three workshops with humanitarian stakeholders in Pemba to advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities across all protection activities in Cabo Delgado.
- In June, in the Chiúre and Montepuez districts in Cabo Delgado, 120 community mobilizers were trained on access to legal services for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). In addition, 27 protection awareness-raising sessions took place in Pemba.
- UNHCR undertook a safety audit mission to return areas of Mocimboa da Praia. Through six focus group discussions, interviews were conducted with over 150 returnees, mostly women, who emphasized gaps linked to access to healthcare, energy, water and sanitation services, as well as the lack of response services and support to victims of sexual violence.
- The Mozambique Leave No One Behind (LNOB) analysis is a national process to identify the most vulnerable groups in the country and barriers they face. In Cabo Delgado, UNHCR provided input on the vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced populations and how displacement can be a driver of vulnerability. The analysis will inform national and provincial debates and policy responses for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- In the context of the ongoing revision of Cabo Delgado's 10-year Provincial Development Strategy (2018-2027), UNHCR, in partnership with UNDP and the government of Cabo Delgado, delivered a workshop on sustainable responses to IDPs to 24 representatives from 12 districts throughout Cabo Delgado and various stakeholders from the provincial government. The workshop sought to foster greater understanding for durable solutions to IDPs, with special attention to the government's role in facilitating them.
- UNHCR's protection monitoring activities are critical to identify protection risks and trends and make referrals for people with heightened needs to specialized services. In June, protecting monitoring interviews were conducted with 2,963 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).



Biometric scanning for Civil Documentation ©UNHCR/Mozambique



Protection Monitoring Activities ©UNHCR/Mozambique

Public Health

- UNHCR continues to support refugees and members of the host community in Maratane refugee settlement, Nampula province, with targeted health and nutrition support. In June, 93 beneficiaries received food assistance and 2,240 girls and women received sanitary napkins and soap.
- 60 individuals, 15 from each zone in Maratane, were trained on psychological first aid, counselling, alcohol and drug abuse, disability and inclusion, health and wellness, WASH, child protection, GBV, communication, and feedback and response. Also, community support groups were established to promote community-based psycho-social support and social well-being.

Shelter, Infrastructure, and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- In June, several construction and rehabilitation projects in Maratane were completed. These included the construction of a waiting area, a pre-delivery room, TB & psychiatric room, and the rehabilitation of the maternity ward at the hospital in Maratane. In addition, the IFPELAC center was rehabilitated as was the warehouse.
- In Cabo Delgado, 140 shelters were constructed in Mueda and 30 transitional shelters in Nicuapa IDP site were upgraded. UNHCR also continued improving housing conditions of IDPs in Massingiri site, with 75 shelters repaired in June, bringing the number of shelters repaired to 205.
- In June, the distribution of 3,000 CRI kits in two displacement sites in Mueda district began, consisting of essential items such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, plastic sheeting, jerry cans, solar lamps, and buckets.



CRI Distribution in Mueda, Cabo Delgado Province ©UNHCR/by Eunice Da Barca Nhantumbo

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- UNHCR, through its CCCM partners, provided camp management support in 11 displacement sites, eight in Mueda and three in Montepuez, where 64,258 IDPs reside (34,848 in Mueda and 30,410 in Montepuez).
- In Montepuez, UNHCR's CCCM partners conducted door-to-door campaigns on safety awareness, focusing on fire prevention measures. 15 CCCM community mobilizers were trained on key thematic topics of community mobilization. Furthermore, cleaning and maintenance campaigns were carried out in protection hubs and community centres. To improve CCCM campaigns on community awareness and protection risks mitigation, eight CCCM community mobilizers were trained on PSEA in Mueda.
- UNHCR works towards the improvement of the overall infrastructure and service delivery at IDP site level. For example, in Ntele village UNHCR supported the construction of a market space for displaced people and the host community.

Livelihoods and Economic inclusion

- In Cabo Delgado, UNHCR delivered 40 business kits to women who completed economic training in the displacement area of Mueda with the aim of strengthening the women's economic and social autonomy.

Coordination and Partnerships

- UNHCR chairs the Protection Cluster and the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) working group, and co-chairs the PSEA working group with the IOM, and the Housing, Land and Property (HLP) area of responsibility (AoR) of the Protection Cluster with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).
- 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, 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 mechanism.



STRATEGIC DIRECTION | UNHCR Mozambique 2023

In 2023, UNHCR Mozambique continues 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 continues to adopt an [age, gender and diversity](#) approach while maintaining a focus on [accountability to affected populations](#) (AAP). UNHCR focuses 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 2022 and 2023

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For more information on UNHCR's programme in Mozambique:

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