Mozambique

Mozambique hosts approximately 30,000 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**

- **2 million** people in critical need of assistance and protection
- **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 situation with poor living conditions and a lack of access to basic services
- Approx. **30,000** refugees and asylum-seekers

**USD 47.5 M**

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2023

**FUNDING (as of 31 August 2023)**

- **Funded 45%** 21.3 M
- **Unfunded 55%** 26.1 M

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**LEGEND**

- Country Office (CO)
- Sub-Office (SO)
- Field-Office (FO)
- Refugee Settlement
- Non operational provinces
- UNHCR operational presence

**Staff:** 128
- 72 National Staff
- 60 International Staff

**Offices:** 3
- 1 Country Office in Maputo – 49 staff
- 1 Sub Office in Pemba – 45 staff
- 1 Field Office in Nampula – 38 staff
KEY HIGHLIGHTS | August 2023

Protection and Solutions

- 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 August, protecting monitoring interviews were conducted with 4,196 displaced and returned families in displacement sites, host communities, and return locations across five districts of Cabo Delgado (Mueda, Montepuez, Metuge, Palma, and Mecufi). A total of 21,135 families have been interviewed so far in 2023.

- Possessing civil documentation is crucial, enabling forcibly displaced people to access services, including healthcare and education, and enhancing their freedom of movement. Working closely with Government authorities and the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM), UNHCR assisted 1,021 people in Pemba, Cabo Delgado province and 971 in Nicoadala, Zambezia in obtaining civil documentation, specifically birth certificates and national IDs. So far in 2023, UNHCR and UCM have assisted 8,555 people in acquiring their civil documentation.

- In the Chiure district in Cabo Delgado, targeted assistance and support was provided to 408 IDPs with specific needs, including elderly people at risk and people with disabilities. In Nampula province, assistive devices were also provided to people with disabilities to enhance their quality of life.

- Following their training by UNHCR and partners, 233 Protection Focal Points and Youth Mobilizers engaged their communities in the urban areas of Pemba city and in the IDP sites in the Montepuez and Metuge districts. With the overall goal of contributing to social cohesion and peacebuilding, the trainees engaged their communities in key protection issues ranging from human rights to PSEA.

- In August, in the Chiüre, Pemba, Metuge and Montepuez districts in Cabo Delgado, 120 community leaders were trained on access to legal services for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). In addition, two protection awareness-raising sessions on GBV and PSEA were organized in Pemba by the Protection Focal Points.
Public Health

- UNHCR continues to support refugees and host community members in the Maratane refugee settlement, Nampula province, with targeted health and nutrition support. In August, Community Health Volunteers were actively involved in sensitizing communities on cholera Infections, Prevention and Control (IPC). A total of 224 domicile visits were done to promote hygienic practices. Ten sensitization meetings were done in public places and twenty-one sessions were conducted at Maratane Health Center. During these sensitization sessions a total of 4,905 individuals were reached. Other themes that were highlighted include covid 19 and malaria prevention, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Family Planning and Vaccination of children against childhood diseases.

- In August, 8,272 refugees benefited from the National mass drug administration program against Bilharzia and soil-transmitted helminths.

Shelter, infrastructure, and core relief items (CRIls)

- In August, UNHCR and partners completed the construction of 60 shelters in the Corrane relocation site in Nampula province. Furthermore, 20 transitional shelters were repaired, bringing the total number of repaired shelters this year to 227.

- In Cabo Delgado province, 1,984 CRI kits, consisting of essential items such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and buckets, were distributed to 1,571 displaced families in Nicuapa site in the Montepuez district.

Camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)

- UNHCR works towards improving the overall infrastructure and service delivery in displacement sites. With the objective of enhancing community self-management, 76 IDPs from site management committees were trained on site management, community participation, and complaint and feedback mechanisms. Furthermore, UNHCR provided camp management support in displacement sites where 58,686 IDPs reside.

- In August, 58 CCCM community volunteers were trained on PSEA. As a result, a mass sensitization campaign on PSEA was conducted across seven sites, reaching 4,020 IDPs.

Livelihood and Economic Inclusion

- In August, the TVET training for 70 refugees, 42 IDPs and 18 host community members started in Nampula.

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.

Coordination

- UNHCR chairs the Protection Cluster and 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).

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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