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 one 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 populations through the expansion of their respective programming.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

834,304 IDPs and **420,200** returnees in 221 locations across northern Mozambique. *

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.

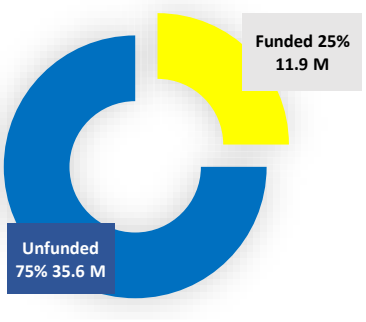
31,994 refugees and asylum-seekers****

* Mozambique — Mobility Tracking Assessment Report 18 (April 2023) | Displacement Tracking Matrix (iom.int)
** 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

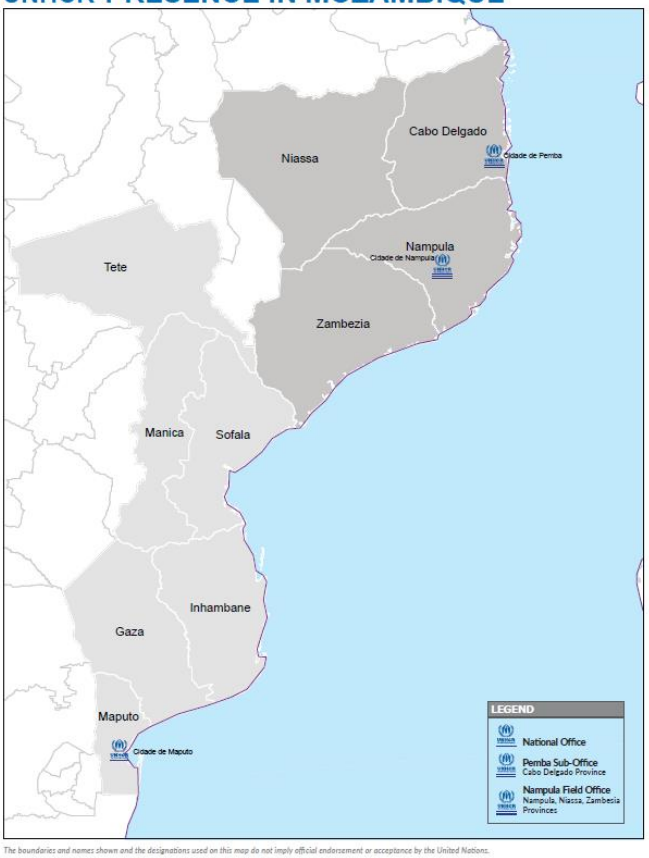
USD 47.4 M

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2023

FUNDING (as of 27 April 2023)



UNHCR PRESENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Creation date: 01 August 2022 Sources: UNHCR Feedback: mcsweene@unhcr.org

Staff: 130
73 National Staff
57 International Staff
Offices: 3
1 Country Office in Maputo – 48 staff
1 Field Office in Nampula – 36 staff
1 Field Office in Pemba – 46 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | APRIL 2023

Protection and solutions

Civil documentation and legal assistance in Namialo district ©UNHCR/Larissa Carvalho

- UNHCR 's protection monitoring activities are critical to identifying protection risks and trends and make referrals for people with heightened needs for specialized services. In April 2023, UNHCR through partner HelpCode, carried out protection monitoring interviews with 3,239 displaced and IDP returnee families in 18 sites across six districts of Cabo Delgado.
- Possessing civil documentation is crucial enabling displaced people to access services, including healthcare and education and enhancing their freedom of movement. During April 2023, UNHCR through its partner the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM), assisted 897 people to re-acquire lost or destroyed civil documentation in Cabo Delgado, while in Nampula, 852 people were assisted in obtaining documentation.
- UNHCR, through its partner AVSI, provided psycho-social support through home visits to 361 people with specific needs, including people with disabilities and older people, in the Pemba and Metuge districts in Cabo Delgado. The visiting psychologists provided psycho-social and occupational therapy sessions, while taking the opportunity to also deliver key messages on human rights.
- National Women's Day is celebrated in Mozambique on 7 April. To mark this date, UNHCR and partners coordinated dedicated awareness raising sessions targeting displaced, returnee and host communities on a range of topics including gender-based violence, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and mental health and psycho-social support.
- INAR, the Government's agency in charge of refugee affairs, and UNHCR have established a task force on local integration of refugees and asylum seekers to facilitate multistakeholder engagement and support the government's efforts developing local integration and out of camp strategies, including the spatial and economic integration of Maratane refugee settlement, a unique opportunity to advance solutions for refugees in Mozambique that will need in the months and years ahead concerted support across the humanitarian and development spheres.

Education

- In response to under-resourced classrooms, the Instant Network Schools (INS) was developed in several countries across Africa to provide a holistic solution to transforming an existing classroom into a multi-media hub for learning. In Mozambique, the INS programme has been implemented since 2021. In April this year, a training session for INS coaches was held to prepare them to then lead teacher training sessions on the INS programme in their respective schools. To date, over 50,000 students in Mozambique are registered in INS schools.
- UNHCR has taken steps to expand access to higher education for refugees and asylum-seekers in Mozambique. The DAFI scholarship programme offers qualified refugee and returnee students the possibility to earn an undergraduate degree in their country of asylum or home country as returnees. Payment for the 43 DAFI students currently enrolled in 2023 were finalized for the first quarter of the year.
- In April, UNHCR introduced its efforts to advance the inclusion of refugees into national education systems,

plans and programmes during a development partner meeting. Given the strong supporting role that development actors can play in this regard, this meeting was an opportunity for UNHCR to sensitize them on the importance to champion such inclusion efforts.

Public health

- Flooding following the double landfall of Cyclone Freddy in February and March this year increased the risk of cholera at a time when the country was already struggling to contain an outbreak since September 2022. As of 26 April 2023, the cumulative number of people affected by cholera stood at 28,958 across the 10 provinces in Mozambique. To date, there have been no reported cholera cases in Maratane Refugee Settlement.
- In response, UNHCR continues to take steps to sensitize communities on cholera prevention and control including through home visits, mass communication in public places and schools, and distribution of awareness posters, pamphlets, and booklets. In April 2023, sensitization meetings in public places reached over 3,400 people and 187 home visits were carried out.
- UNHCR supports refugees and members of the host community in Maratane Refugee Settlement with targeted health and nutrition support. In April 2023, 12 refugees suffering from chronic health issues received counselling and psycho-social support, 41 refugees had access to ambulance services, and 75 individuals suffering from malnutrition received complementary food assistance.

Shelter, infrastructure, and core relief items (CRIs)

- During April 2023, UNHCR carried out a two-day training for partner technical staff in Montepuez, Cabo Delgado on shelter upgrades with the aim that beneficiaries of the training would share these skills with members of local communities, contributing to enhancing their skills. Additionally, the construction of 158 transitional shelters was completed during April 2023.

UNHCR assessing transitional shelters in Nicuapa displacement site in Montepuez district © UNHCR/F. ESCOVA

- In Nampula, the construction of a waiting area and pre-delivery room in the maternity ward at Maratane hospital was completed in April 2023. In addition, a livelihoods skills centre and a TB centre for Maratane hospital were handed over during the month.

Camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)

- UNHCR currently supports 11 IDP sites in Cabo Delgado: Eight in Mueda (Chilindi, Eduardo Mondlane, Mpeme, Nandimba, Namatil, Naschitenge and Lianda) and three in Montepuez (Nicuapa, Ntele and Massingiri). During April this year, UNHCR through its partner, carried out headcounts in six of the eight sites it manages in Mueda district for the first time in six months due to security related access restrictions. A total of 8,824 families were verified residing in these sites.

Livelihoods and economic inclusion

- A five-day embroidery training workshop was conducted in Maratane Refugee Settlement in Nampula in collaboration with professors of fashion science at the University of the Arts, London, benefitting 18 people. This workshop represents a start for creating support refugee-led groups, organizations, or networks with a focus on women and youth who are asylum seekers, refugees and members of the host communities to gain skills on embroidery to enable them become more self-reliant and earn an income. The theme of the workshop was on domestic textiles and upcycling.
- In displacement areas in Mueda and returnee areas in Palma, Cabo Delgado, UNHCR carried out capacity strengthening for members of a local women's group - Grupo de Mulheres de Partilha de Ideias de Sofala (GMPIS) in the form of a one-week training of trainers' session. The women's group works alongside UNHCR's partner to provide economic empowerment programmes such as numeracy training, business management and data collection methodologies to survivors of gender-based violence and other vulnerable women in the community.

Embroidery workshop in Maratane Refugee Settlement. ©UNHCR/Adelina Ntinabo

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 IOM and the Housing, Land and Property (HLP) area of responsibility (AoR) of the Protection Cluster with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). More information on people reached and activities of Protection Cluster partners can be found here.
- 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.

National conference on IDPs in Cabo Delgado. ©UNHCR/Lara Bommers

- 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 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.
- In April 2023, UNHCR participated in the National Conference on IDPs in Cabo Delgado, organized by the Institute for Social and Economic Development (IDES). The event sought to bring together various actors involved in the IDP response and discuss strategies to improve the lives of displaced and host communities.
- UNHCR established a strategic partnership with UNDP to identify and address systemic barriers for the inclusion of forcibly displaced, stateless persons, and host communities in government systems and development plans. The two agencies agreed to jointly apply the SDG Tool in Mozambique, with a focus on

data & monitoring, and to work towards a joint action plan for long-term cooperation at the national and provincial level.

- Making the nexus a reality: On 25 April 2023, a joint humanitarian-development-peacebuilding (HDP) nexus planning meeting between UNHCR, the Government of Mozambique's agency for integrated development in the north (ADIN), and the Germany Development Cooperation was held in Maputo.

Multi-year strategy: 2024-2026

- UNHCR Mozambique developed its first multi-year strategy for the period of 2024 to 2026. This three-year duration will enable alignment to the existing UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026, to UNHCR's Global Strategic Directions 2022-2026, and importantly to Government plans, including the National Development Plan of the Government of Mozambique 2015-2035 and the Plan for Integrated Development in the North (PREDIN), among others.
- This shift towards multi-year planning enables UNHCR to maintain its urgent protection and assistance support for displaced and affected populations in the event of an emergency, while at the same time enabling the Office to drive real and sustainable solutions through analysis and strategic planning that is strongly informed by a wide range of stakeholders, including Government, humanitarian and development actors, and importantly also forcibly displaced people and the communities that host them.
- On 18 April 2023, UNHCR held an external workshop to validate the strategy with inputs and feedback from key participants, including the Government of Mozambique, UN sister agencies, national and international NGOs, refugees, IDPs, and members of the communities that host them.

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 adopts an age, gender and diversity approach while maintaining a focus on accountability to affected populations (AAP). UNHCR will 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 2022 and 2023

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For more information on UNHCR's programme in Mozambique:
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