






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 \(August 2023, IOM\)](#)

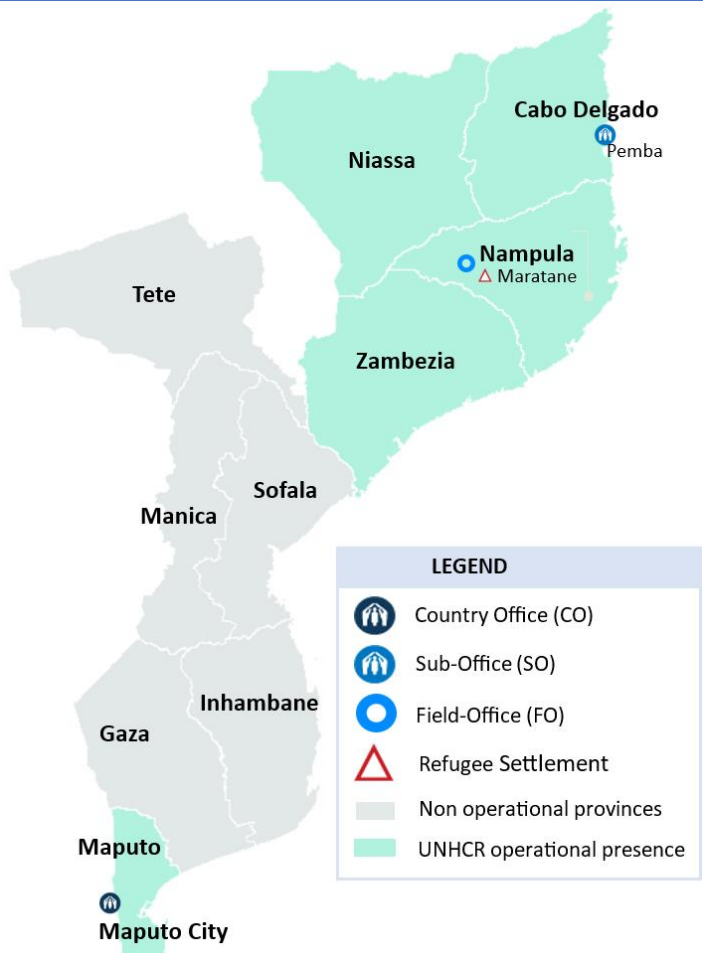
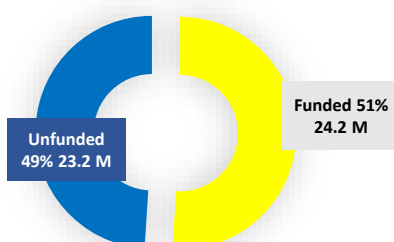
** According to UNHCR preliminary data from the verification exercise in Mozambique October 2023.

*** [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 31 October 2023)



Staff: 132

72 National Staff

60 International Staff

Offices: 3

1 Country Office in Maputo – 46 staff

1 Sub Office in Pemba – 47 staff

1 Field Office in Nampula – 39 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | October 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 October, protection monitoring interviews were conducted with 1,106 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). So far 24,184 families have been interviewed 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. Working closely with Government authorities and the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM), UNHCR assisted 708 people in Pemba, Cabo Delgado province in obtaining civil documentation. So far, 6,547 people were assisted in 2023 in acquiring their civil documentation in Cabo Delgado. In Nampula, UNHCR successfully achieved its target of issuing 2,000 birth certificates and submitting requests for 890 IDs. The legal caravan, led by UCM, has also extended its activities to the Namacurra district there.
- UNHCR's legal partner CEMIRDE, provided support to three Rwandan refugees who were facing accusations of theft. Following a trial process, two male refugees were acquitted, while a female refugee received a three-month sentence, which was ultimately converted into a social work program. In the aftermath, UNHCR conducted a comprehensive post-detention assessment to evaluate the individuals' physical and psychological well-being to facilitate their reintegration.
- UNHCR provided capacity building training to 41 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.
- UNHCR and partners provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to 470 IDPs with specific needs, including elderly people at risk and people with disabilities in Cabo Delgado, bringing the total to 6,447 people supported in 2023. On 10 October, World Mental Health Day, UNHCR and partner Doctors with Africa also carried out several activities such as MHPSS capacity-building for community activists, and MHPSS awareness-raising sessions, reaching 60 people in Pemba.



UNHCR and partner UCM delivering civil documentations to IDPs and host community members in Pemba. @UNHCR/Guilherme Chirinda

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 October, 7,759 individuals, including refugees and asylum seekers, received soap, while 24 individuals received health counseling services with necessary referrals and assistance provided to access specific health services.
- A successful blood donation fair occurred at the Maratane refugee settlement with 49 individuals donating blood. This collective effort will directly benefit refugees needing blood transfusions, emphasizing the community's commitment to supporting one another.

Shelter, infrastructure, and core relief items (CRIs)

- In October, UNHCR and partners completed the construction of 133 shelters in the Lianda site and 49 transitional shelters in Nicuapa sites in Cabo Delgado. So far, 1,561 families have been supported with shelter interventions in Cabo Delgado in 2023.
- In Cabo Delgado province, 1,009 CRI kits consisting of essential items such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and buckets, were distributed throughout several areas to displaced families and returnees in Cabo Delgado.
- UNHCR repaired the community centre and protection hub in the Ntele site in the Montepuez district in addition to the ongoing construction of latrines for the Montepuez hospital waiting area, which include fencing and wall rehabilitation.



UNHCR and partner Helpcode distribute core relief items to 500 IDP families who fled from recent attacks in Mocimboa da Praia district. ©UNHCR/Guilherme Chirinda

Camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)

- UNHCR, through its CCCM partners, provided camp management support in 10 displacement sites, seven in the Mueda district and three in Montepuez district, where 59,678 IDPs reside.
- UNHCR provided camp management training in the Mueda district Cabo Delgado to 20 officials from the District Service Department of Planning and Infrastructure (SDPI) and Solidarités International (SI). The training focused on enhancing community participation, humanitarian principles, service mapping, site-planning and improvement standards, information management, and effective coordination. UNHCR also trained 76 community representatives in the Montepuez district, focusing on enhancing community engagement and participation. The UNHCR CCCM capacity-building programme targeting local government officials and community representatives aims to enhance localization and self-management of IDP sites.



CCCM monitoring in Mueda ©UNHCR/Guilherme Chirinda

Education

- In October, 15 students were selected to participate in the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI program). In Mozambique, 76 students have been selected in total since

the beginning of the program, with 53 currently enrolled in a university program. The [DAFI scholarship programme](#) is a UNHCR initiative that offers qualified refugee and returnee students the possibility to earn an undergraduate degree in their country of asylum or home country.

Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

- In the Maratane refugee settlement, UNHCR supported local farmers with sowing fruits and vegetables and teaching them innovative production techniques, such as staking cucumbers with wires and ropes, which is crucial during the dry season to prevent decay and contamination.
- Through UNHCR's partnership with the African Development Bank (AfDB), UNHCR provided training to 80 fishermen and fish traders on sustainable fishery and entrepreneurship in the districts of Metuge and Mecufi in Cabo Delgado.
- In Pemba, UNHCR provided entrepreneurship training to IDP youth and provided cash-based intervention (CBI) allocations to 48 young people. UNHCR and partners also carried out monitoring visits to 96 young entrepreneurs who followed the three first cycles of the technical and vocational education and training programs (TVET) of the public training institute IFPELAC in Pemba.



Training for Fishermen in Metuge, Cabo Delgado ©UNHCR

Coordination

- UNHCR chairs the Protection Cluster and is an active member of both the Shelter and CCCM clusters. In October, in Tete Province, the UNHCR led protection cluster provided Protection induction training to INGO, prosecutors, police, IPAJ, FAMOD, four local NGOs and 22 community leaders, highlighting protection mainstreaming in the response of communities to extreme natural events in the province.
- 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).



Protection Induction Training in Tete ©UNHCR

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 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:

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