Mozambique

August 2024

Mozambique hosts approximately 25,000** refugees and asylum-seekers, while 716,878* 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 April 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 year, 610,981* 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 POPULATION FIGURES

716,878* Internally Displaced Persons

577,545 IDP's in northern Mozambique due to the ongoing conflict.

139,333 climate related IDPs following the impacts of extreme weather events in southern and central Mozambique.

40% of IDPs living in relocation sites, 60% living in host communities.

81% of IDPs are women and children.

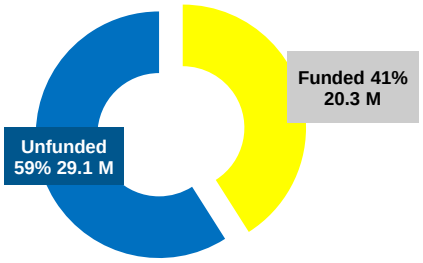
610,981* returnees (610,732 conflict and 249 climate displaced), many in poor living conditions and lacking access to basic services

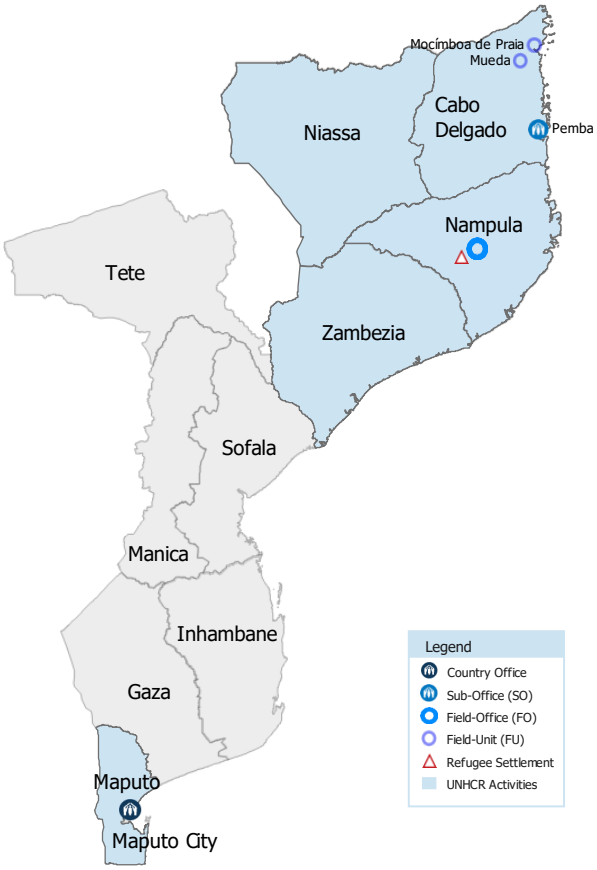
Approximately **25,000**** refugees and asylum-seekers

* Displacement figures: Mobility Tracking Assessment Report 21, July 2024, IOM. Central and Southern Mozambique and Northern Mozambique.
** According to UNHCR preliminary data from the verification exercise in Mozambique in October 2023.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS 2024 (AS OF 31 AUGUST)

USD 49.3 M





DISCLAIMER: The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by UNHCR.

Achievements

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Training on Mandatory Reporting of GBV in Chiure district. ©Helpcode

PROTECTION & SOLUTIONS

Civil Documentation

- Possessing **civil documentation** is crucial, enabling forcibly displaced people to access services, including healthcare and education, as well as enhancing their freedom of movement. In Pemba and Chiure districts in Cabo Delgado province, in August, 2,277 individuals (1,198 women and 1,079 men) received birth certificates and ID cards, including 666 IDPs and 1,611 host community members. 121 individuals accessed legal aid, while 80 individuals received awareness-raising information on gender-based violence (GBV), child rights, and legal aid.
- **Capacity Building in Civil Documentation:** Ten volunteers were trained in Mocímboa da Praia, to support civil documentation activities by taking records of the information needed for birth certificates and national IDs, for 10,000 individuals starting in September.

Community-Based Protection / Social Cohesion

- **Protection Awareness-Raising Sessions:** So far in 2024, 8,216 individuals were reached in Mecufi, Metuge, Pemba, Mueda and Mocimboa da Praia through protection awareness sessions, including on inclusion and disability (2,705); Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (2,530); and human rights, early marriage, PSEA, social inclusion, and peaceful coexistence (3,981). Protection awareness sessions are a key component of UNHCR's community-based protection approach, whereby forcibly displaced persons are informed about their rights and

access to necessary support. A total of approximately 30,755 individuals have been informed this year as a key protection measure.

- **Protection Assistance through Door-to-door visits:** In August, 5,066 individuals received protection assistance through door-to-door visits, bringing the total for 2024 to over 9,844. Additionally, 1,044 elderly persons were supported through the provision of MHPSS and referrals made upon needs identified during door-to-door visits, including approximately 229 IDPs with disabilities. To date, over 2,583 elderly persons have been reached this year.

Door-to-door visits are a fundamental aspect of protection work within UNHCR's operations to identify concerns, inform about services and assistance as well as support with necessary referrals. To enhance community-based protection, UNHCR trains members of the community to serve as protection focal points. These trained focal points conduct house-to-house visits, identifying and addressing protection concerns at the household level, especially for those who may not have easy access to formal support structures. This can, for example, include information about medical or legal assistance for women who experienced gender-based violence at home. By empowering the community to take an active role in protection, these home visits help foster a sense of ownership and strengthen the community's capacity to support its most vulnerable members.

- **Youth Engagement in Community Activities:** 781 young people participated in community activities in Mecufi, Metuge, Pemba, Mueda and Mocimboa da Praia, including awareness-raising on human rights, gender equality and protection (556 individuals) and training for community mobilization to strengthen social cohesion in communities through cultural events, sports and livelihoods activities (125 individuals). In 2024, about 1,830 young people were engaged in training (259) and awareness-raising (974), with 124 Protection Focal Points actively involved in outreach activities.
- **Support for Individuals with Disabilities:** 801 individuals with disabilities received support in areas such as health assessment (126), rehabilitation (366), assistive devices (153), and access to mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS) (169). In 2024, about 2,226 persons with disabilities have been reached in five districts in Cabo Delgado province. Additionally, 20 public health technicians were trained on disability etiquette.

GBV / MHPSS / PSEA

- **GBV Specialized MHPSS and Case Management Support:** In August, 180 individuals received GBV specialized MHPSS, contributing to a total of 849 individuals supported in 2024. These services are designed to address the emotional, psychological, and social impacts of GBV, helping survivors cope with trauma, rebuild their sense of safety, and support their overall well-being. Specialized MHPSS for GBV survivors often includes counselling, therapy, support groups, and other interventions that are sensitive to the unique needs of

those who have experienced GBV. Additionally, 180 at-risk individuals were provided with case management support during the same period.

- **Training on GBV Protection and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):** 91 individuals from public institutions such as the Prosecutor's Office, Social Service, Mozambique Republic Police, the health sector, as well as NGOs participated in training on GBV protection and PSEA in August, bringing the total to 563 individuals trained in 2024.
- **Protection Center and Awareness Raising Activities:** 1,613 individuals benefited from activities in protection centers in August, with a total of 11,867 individuals reached in 2024.

Protection Centers play a critical role in UNHCR's gender-based violence response, offering life-saving support such as MHPSS, case management, legal assistance, and economic empowerment programs. They provide a safe and confidential space for survivors to receive holistic care tailored to their needs.

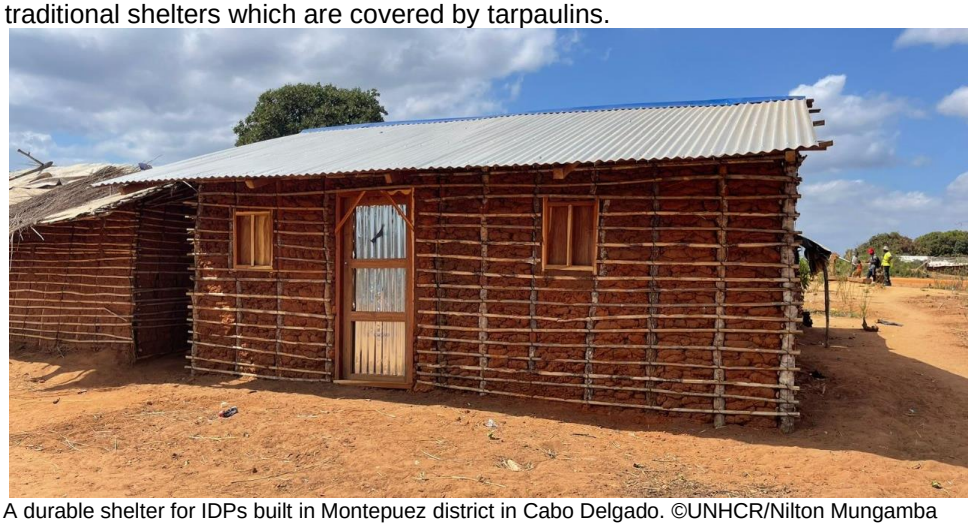
- Additionally, 15,891 individuals participated in awareness-raising activities in August, totaling 72,379 individuals reached this year. These initiatives aim to raise awareness among communities on GBV prevention, protection mechanisms, and the importance of gender equality, while also promoting peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. Through collaboration with partners and engagement with local stakeholders, these activities work to strengthen community-based protection and foster an environment where vulnerable groups, particularly women and girls, are empowered and supported.
- **Inter-Agency Training on GBV Case Management:** UNHCR and UNFPA conducted a four-day training on GBV case management in Mocimboa da Praia, targeting vulnerable women and girls among returnees and host communities. The training involved 26 participants from various sectors and NGOs and highlighted the need for improved referral processes and stronger collaboration to address GBV effectively.
- **Chiúre Case Management Pilot Project: Enhancing Localized GBV Services:** The GBV unit, in collaboration with Government entity Social Action under the CERF Chiúre project, is pioneering a localized case management pilot to strengthen GBV services. This initiative integrates a case manager directly within the national government structure, aiming to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of GBV support. The project focuses on local capacity-building by developing a joint monthly work plan and addressing technical and staffing challenges, ensuring that GBV services are more closely aligned with community needs and governmental processes.

Law & Policy

- **PEGDI Action Plan Workshop:** A workshop in Pemba advanced the final drafting of the Policy and Strategy for the Management of Internally Displaced Persons (PEGDI), a five-year Government plan involving the whole of Government, development and humanitarian actors to ensure displaced people in Mozambique. Community consultations are continuous and planned in Inhambane, Sofala, and Cabo Delgado.
- **Launch of the Solutions Working Group in Cabo Delgado**
  On 26th August, the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD), in collaboration with the Troika (UNHCR, IOM, and UNDP), launched the Solutions Working Group (SWG) in Cabo Delgado. The launch was attended by various humanitarian, development, and peace actors, many of whom expressed interest in joining the SWG. The INGD delegate, along with the Troika, emphasized a collective commitment to addressing persistent internal displacement and preventing new displacement crises, whether driven by conflict or adverse climate conditions. UNHCR reiterated the organization's commitment to contextualize and adapt global best practices to the unique situation in Cabo Delgado.

SHELTER, CAMP COORDINATION AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS

- In partnership with the Government of Mozambique, 38 new resilient shelters were finalized in August in Montepuez district, with a total of 50 shelters completed in 2024. 190 individuals benefited from shelter initiatives so far. The shelters are constructed to be more durable during the rainy season than traditional shelters which are covered by tarpaulins.



A durable shelter for IDPs built in Montepuez district in Cabo Delgado. ©UNHCR/Nilton Mungamba

- **Site Management and Community Spaces Access**: 61,180 individuals received site management and support services across 11 displacement sites in Cabo Delgado, with the coverage remaining stable since January 2024. These services, coordinated by UNHCR include the establishment and maintenance of

infrastructure such as shelters, latrines, and water points, ensuring safe and dignified living conditions for internally displaced persons (IDPs). They also involve regular site monitoring, community mobilization, and engagement with displaced populations to identify and address protection risks, as well as referral to specialized services such as healthcare, education, and psychosocial support. In August, 9,322 individuals accessed community spaces within these sites—safe areas designed for activities that promote social cohesion, mental health, and well-being—bringing the total for 2024 to 15,337. These spaces are critical for delivering information, conducting awareness-raising sessions, and offering psychosocial support, particularly for vulnerable groups such as women, children, and persons with disabilities. It also includes regular community engagement meetings with the site management committees.

LIVELIHOODS, COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- **Empowering IDPs and Host Communities Through Education and Livelihoods Support in Pemba:** With funding from the German BMZ and in collaboaration with GIZ, 122 individuals are benefiting from Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs at the Institute of Professional Training and Labor Studies Alberto Cassimo (IFPELAC). Recent successes include the completion of Cooking (19 individuals) and Carpentry (17 individuals) courses, with ongoing training in Masonry, Plumbing, and Electrical courses. Participants have also completed three-month internships with companies in Pemba, enhancing their practical skills before returning for further training.
- **Empowering Young Entrepreneurs in Pemba:** In August, UNHCR, supported by GIZ, launched the third cycle of training for 70 young people (26 men and 44 women), including 29 IDPs and 41 members of the host community. The training focusses on fostering entrepreneurial skills and enhancing economic opportunities for both IDPs and host community members. At the Employment and Entrepreneurship Fair organized by INEP (National Employment Institute) in Pemba, UNHCR's TVET beneficiaries showcased their products and services, demonstrating the practical outcomes of the training programs.

Photo left: Employment and Entrepreneurship Fair organised by INEP (National Employment Institute) in Pemba. Photo right: UNHCR's TVET beneficiaries among others showcased their products and services. Both: © UNHCR/ Mussa Sualehe

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Sir Lewis Hamilton speaking to students during his visit to Maratane refugee settlement. ©UNHCR/ Guilherme Chirinda

- High profile visitor to Maratane refugee settlement:

Sir Lewis Hamilton, a seven-time Formula One World Champion visited the **Maratane refugee settlement** on August 13th. During his time at Maratane, Mr. Hamilton visited the settlement's Primary and Secondary schools, including the INS programme, where he engaged with students and teachers. He also met with the INAR Programme Officer and held discussions with a group of refugee leaders, including the head of the Refugee Committee.

PROTECTION & SOLUTIONS

- Assistance was provided for the **voluntary repatriation of five Burundian nationals**—two men and three women, including two children—returning to their country of origin. The process included tailored pre-departure counseling sessions to ensure the returnees were well-informed about their rights, reintegration procedures, and what to expect upon arrival in Burundi. On the day of departure, in-person support was given at the airport, aiding with the check-in process and immigration formalities to ensure a smooth and dignified transition.

GBV / MHPSS / PSEA

- 32 participants attended a two-day training on Caring for **Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse and PSEA** organized by the governmental Social Action Agency (SPAS) with support from UNHCR.

SHELTER, CAMP COORDINATION AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS

- 1,329 households were assisted with **1,329 Core Relief Items (CRI) kits** in August, benefiting approximately 6,645 individuals (82% of the Maratane Refugee settlement population).
- **Secretary of State's visit to Maratane Refugee Settlement**: On 19th August 2024, the Secretary of State of Nampula province visited Maratane Refugee Settlement, where he presided over the **handover of resilient shelters and the inauguration of the Community Radio**. During his visit, the Secretary of State commended UNHCR for constructing the durable shelters, noting that they would significantly alleviate shelter challenges for both the refugee and host communities. He also emphasized the importance of the community radio in disseminating critical information to both refugees and the surrounding community, particularly in sharing health information from Maratane Health Centre regarding malaria and cholera prevention. Furthermore, the Secretary of State encouraged the refugee community to prioritize self-reliance by engaging in income-generating activities, such as agriculture, to move away from dependency and contribute to the economic development of Nampula Province.

Photo left: The Secretary of State His Excellency Jaime Bessa Augusto Neto cutting a ribbon to officially hand over one of the resilient shelters.
Photo right: The Secretary of State hands over keys to a family which is a beneficiary of the durable shelters from the host community. Both: ©UNHCR/ Rumbani Msiska

HEALTH

- **Mpox**: In Nampula, the UNHCR Public Health Unit convened a meeting with community health volunteers and preventive medicine personnel at the Maratane refugee settlement to discuss the risks of Mpox. They identified key communication channels, including community radio, to disseminate preventive and control messages which were translated from Portuguese into other languages commonly used by refugees.
- 7,270 refugees and asylum seekers received **assistance in the food and soap** distribution for July and August.

EDUCATION

- Through the **Instant Network Schools** (INS) program, an initiative by UNHCR and Vodafone to give young refugees, host communities, and their teachers access to digital learning content, three new INS centers were inaugurated and handed over in Meconta sede, Namialo, and Nacavala districts in Nampula. The event was presided over by UNHCR and the District Administrator, including principals of the four schools of the district, the Director of Education of district services, and representatives of teachers, students, and parents.

Inauguration of the INS center at Meconta sede Secondary School. ©UNHCR/ Rumbani Msiska

CLIMATE ACTION FOR FORCIBLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Photo: UNHCR Mozambique staff during joint assessment mission. ©UNHCR/Mozambique

The **Protection Cluster**, led by UNHCR contributed to a multisectoral drought appeal to alleviate the effects of the El Niño-induced drought. 776.555 people are considered in need and 621.000 people are targeted. The financial requirements for the protection response are estimated to be USD 5,5 Mio. In the Protection Cluster's response strategy, a total of 37 IPC3 and higher districts in seven provinces are included. The full appeal can be found here: Mozambique: Drought Appeal, August 2024 - July 2025 (August 2024) - Mozambique | ReliefWeb

- **Workshop and Simulation Exercise on Protection Mainstreaming for Natural Disasters**: A two-day workshop followed by a one-day simulation exercise on Protection and Mainstreaming was held in Buzi, Beira, organized by the Protection Cluster with active participation from the Protection Working Group (PWG), chaired by UNHCR, Nampula. The event was attended by 36 participants, including representatives from the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD), national organizations, civil society, and various UN agencies. The primary objective was to enhance the capacity of local Disaster Risk Reduction Committees, community leaders, and the broader community to prepare for and effectively respond to natural disasters including cyclones and floods, with a focus on protection mainstreaming.

Coordination and Partnerships

	National level	Sub-national level
Coordinates	▪ UNHCR co-leads and coordinates the **Protection Cluster (with Helpcode as co-coordinator).**	▪ UNHCR coordinates the Cabo Delgado **Protection Cluster** (with Helpcode as co-coordinator). ▪ Co-coordinates the Cabo Delgado **Housing, Land, and Property** Area of Responsibility (HLP AoR) (with NRC as co-coordinator).
(Co-)chairs	▪ Chairs the **Accountability to Affected Populations and Community Engagement** (CE/AAP) Working Group (with World Vision and UNICEF as co-chairs). ▪ Co-chairs the **Solutions Working Group** and **Technical Solutions Working Group** (with IOM and UNDP as co-chairs and INGD as Chair).	▪ Chairs the **CE/AAP Working Group** (with UNICEF as co-chair) ▪ Chairs the **Disability Working Group** (with FAMOD and HI as co-chairs). ▪ Co-chairs the Cabo Delgado **Solutions Working Group** (with IOM and UNDP as co-chairs and INGD as chair) ▪ Chairs the **Nampula Protection Working Group.**

- UNHCR has 21 agreements with 16 partners across the country. 5 NNGOs, 5 INGOs, 10 government partners, and 1 UN-UN agreement.

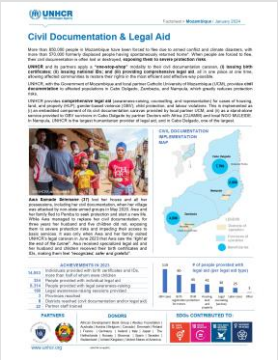
Financial Information

Find UNHCR's Global Appeal for 2024 here.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous support of donors who have contributed to UNHCR Mozambique and to UNHCR programmes globally in 2024.

Publications

SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL UPDATE



CIVIL DOCUMENTATION FACTSHEET

PROTECTION ANALYSIS UPDATE JANUARY 2024

CONTACT UNHCR MOZAMBIQUE EXTERNAL RELATIONS

For questions or comments, contact mozmaextrels@unhcr.org.

LINKS

Global Focus | Protection Cluster – Mozambique | Twitter | Facebook