Mozambique

Mozambique hosts approximately 30,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, while nearly 900,000 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, approximately 420,000 people have returned to their areas of origin, many of which lack services and have 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

834,304** internally displaced in northern Mozambique due to the ongoing conflict
- 35% of IDPs living in relocation sites, 65% living in host communities
- 79% of IDPs are women and children.

420,200** returnees, many in IDP-like situations with poor living conditions and a lack of access to basic services

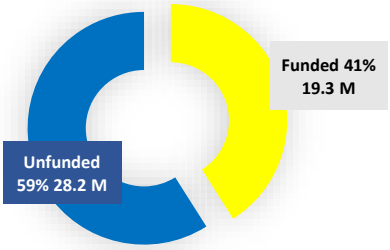
41,668*** climate related IDPs following the impacts of extreme weather events

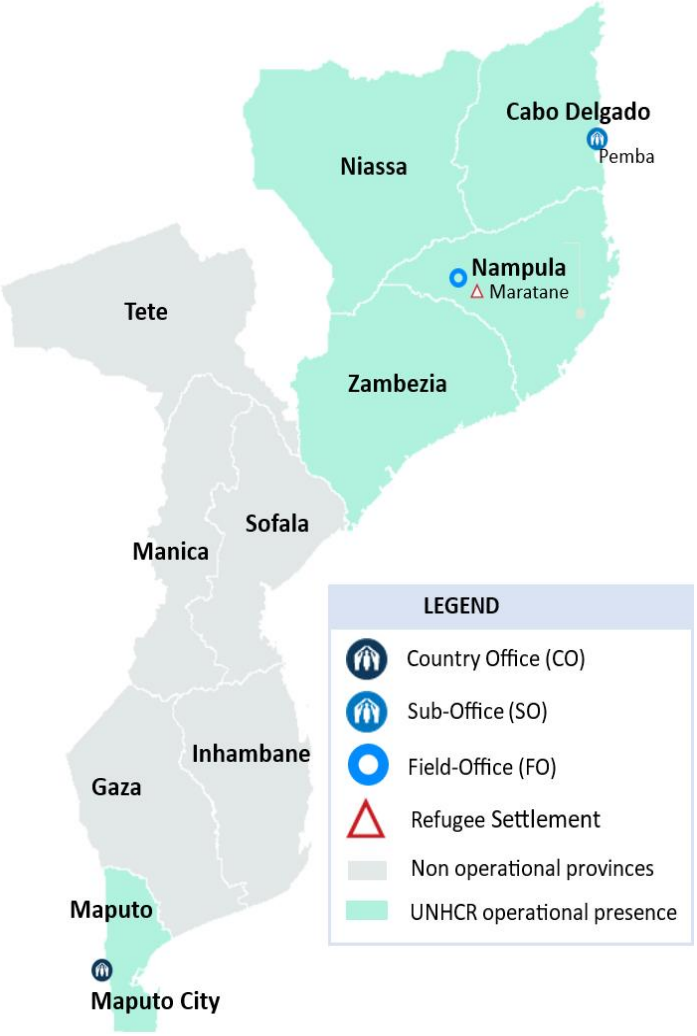
* According to Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 (February 2023, OCHA)
** Mozambique Mobility Tracking Assessment Report (April 2023, IOM)
*** According to INGD data (July 2023)

USD 47.5 M

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2023

FUNDING (as of 20 July 2023)





Staff: 128

70 National Staff
58 International Staff

Offices: Three

One Country Office in Maputo – 49 staff
One Sub Office in Pemba – 43 staff
One Field Office in Nampula – 36 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | July 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 July, protecting monitoring interviews were conducted with 1,087 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). A total of 16,939 families have been interviewed so far in 2023.

Protection Monitoring in Cabo Delgado ©UNHCR/Guilherme Chirinda

- 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 674 people in Pemba in obtaining civil documentation, specifically birth certificates and national IDs.
- In the Pemba, Chiúre, and Montepuez districts, assistive devices, such as wheelchairs and crutches, were delivered to eight people with disabilities to enhance their quality of life. Additionally, targeted assistance and support was provided to 189 IDPs with specific needs, including elderly people at risk and people with disabilities in the Chiúre district. So far, in 2023, a total of 265 people with disabilities were assisted by UNHCR and partners.
- Biometric verification for refugees and asylum seekers was concluded in Zambezia and Niassa provinces. In Zambezia, 2,532 individuals have now successfully undergone verification, while in Niassa, the number stands at 331 individuals. The verification identified individuals from various nationalities, including refugees and asylum seekers from Burundi, Rwanda, Congo, Somalia, and the Ivory Coast.
- As part of UNHCR's ongoing commitment to providing durable solutions for refugees and asylum seekers, the voluntary repatriation of 22 Burundian individuals (five households) was finalized when they flew from Nampula to Bujumbura.

Burundian families ready for departure to Bujumbura ©UNHCR/Julian Ramirez

Public Health

- UNHCR continues to support refugees and host community members in the Maratane refugee settlement, Nampula province, with targeted health and nutrition support. For instance, 7,874 individual refugees and asylum seekers living in the settlement were assisted with hygiene products in July. Additionally, twelve community health volunteers were trained in health promotion, nutrition, mental health, psychosocial support, GBV (including better support for GBV survivors), and PSEA.

Shelter, infrastructure, and core relief items (CRIs)

- In July, UNHCR and partners completed the construction of 70 shelters in the Mueda district of Cabo Delgado and 40 shelters in the Corrane relocation site in Nampula province. Furthermore, 117 shelters were repaired, and 17 shelters were upgraded in the Massingiri site.
- UNHCR distributed 510 CRI kits, consisting of essential items such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and buckets, to Malawian households previously affected by cyclone Freddy in the district of Mecanhelas in Nampula province. In Cabo Delgado province, 1,549 CRI kits were distributed to IDPs across four displacement sites, bringing the total in 2023 to 4,173 distributed CRI kits in Cabo Delgado.

Distribution of CRI's to Malawian IDPs in Malaia district, Niassa Province. ©UNHCR/Emanuel Chambal

Camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)

- UNHCR, through its CCCM partners, provided camp management support in 11 displacement sites, eight in the Mueda district and three in Montepuez district, where 64,758 IDPs reside.
- UNHCR works towards improving the overall infrastructure and service delivery in the sites. For example, in Ntele village UNHCR finalized the construction of a market space for displaced people and the host community.
- In the Montepuez district, UNHCR's CCCM partners conducted door-to-door safety awareness campaigns, focusing on waste collection and disposal, reaching 771 people in the Ntele site. 51 individuals were trained on site management and ensuring proper complaint and feedback mechanisms.

Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

- UNHCR in collaboration with the Government of Mozambique's Refugee Agency (INAR) and the Refugee Association in Nampula participated in the Agriculture fair held at the National Museum of Ethnography of Nampula City, where refugees residing at the Maratane Refugee Settlement also showcased their farm crops. Agriculture is an important income generating activity for both the refugee and host communities in this region.

Partnerships

- Through the UNHCR-UNDP strategic partnership in Cabo Delgado, UNHCR facilitated a training module on GBV for 20 police officers from the Quissanga and Macomia districts.
- 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)

Training on GBV for 20 police officers in Cabo Delgado ©UNHCR/Joao Moreira

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 are active members 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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