Mozambique

Mozambique hosts approximately 25,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, while 709,529 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, 632,408* 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

709,529* Internally Displaced Persons
582,764 (79%) IDP's in northern Mozambique due to the ongoing conflict.
126,305 (21%) climate related IDPs following the impacts of extreme weather events.
45% of IDPs living in relocation sites, 55% living in host communities.
80% of IDPs are women and children.

632,408* returnees, many in IDP-like situations with poor living conditions and a lack of access to basic services

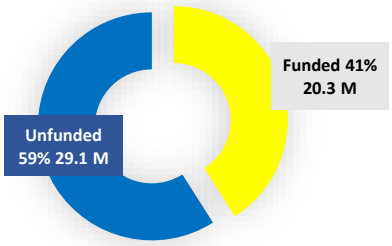
Approximately **25,000**** refugees and asylum-seekers

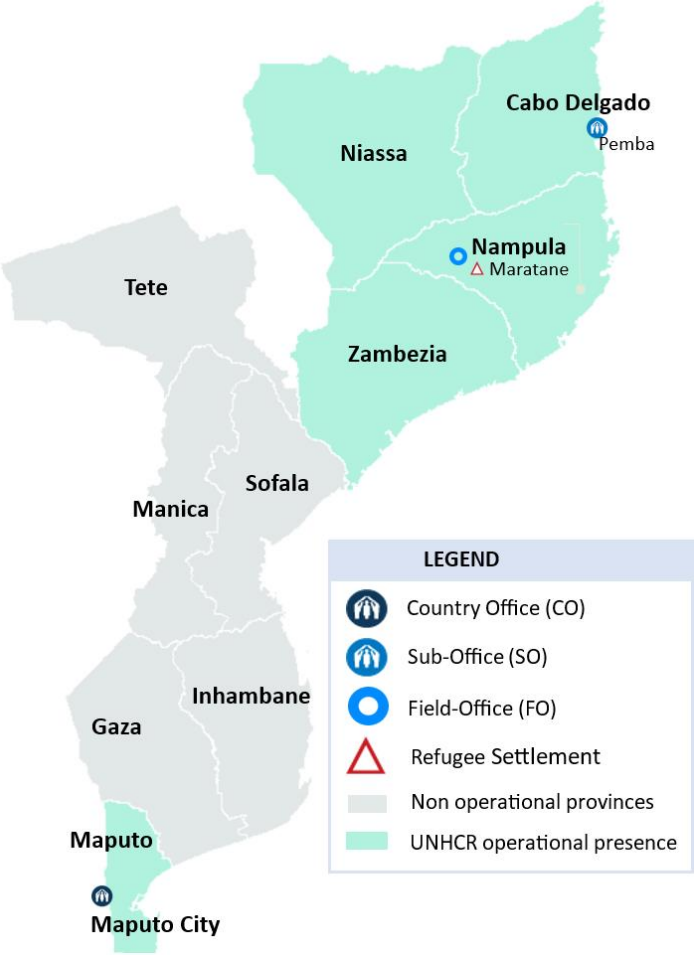
* Displacement figures: Mobility Tracking Assessment Report 20, January 2024, IOM
** According to UNHCR preliminary data from the verification exercise in Mozambique October 2023.
*** Tropical Cyclone Freddy Flash Update No. 12, 28 April 2023, UNOCHA

USD 49.3 M

Requested for the Mozambique operation in 2024

FUNDING (as of 10 July 2024)





Staff: 128
72 National Staff
56 International Staff
Offices: 3
1 Country Office in Maputo – 46 staff
1 Sub Office in Pemba – 45 staff
1 Field Office in Nampula – 37 staff

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | Mid-Year 2024

118,799 refugees (6,051) and IDPs (112,748) received protection services

13,789 refugees (6,066) and IDPs (7,723) were registered and/or received documentation

2,271 refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from education programming

25,612 people were reached with core relief items (CRIs) and shelter initiatives

42,370 IDPs and **46** refugees benefited from specialized gender-based violence (GBV) services

45,674 individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care and **1,866** consultations in mental health and psychosocial support services

KEY HIGHLIGHTS | June 2024

World Refugee Day

- On 20 June World Refugee Day was commemorated globally to emphasize solidarity and solutions for refugees. In Mozambique UNHCR, in collaboration with the government and various partners, organized celebrations which included awareness-raising sessions, cultural festivities, video and radio broadcasts, demonstrations of UNHCR projects, field visits, sports and art competitions, as well as tree planting and cleaning campaigns.
- In Cabo Delgado, the event started with a “Hope Far from Home” walk at sunrise and focussed on educational activities aimed at building a local talent pool. The official ceremony included reflections from refugee representatives on their challenges, such as the determination of refugee status or uncertainties in implementing durable solutions, including labour integration opportunities. Celebrations concluded in a friendly soccer match between UNHCR staff and refugees.
- In the Maratane Refugee Settlement, in Nampula, the joint commemoration by the presence of the Provincial Director of Social Affairs representing the Provincial secretary of State, the Delegate of INAR, various UN agencies, and I/NGO and community members from both the host and refugee communities, underlined the need for unity and sustainable solutions to ensure well-being and perspectives for refugees.

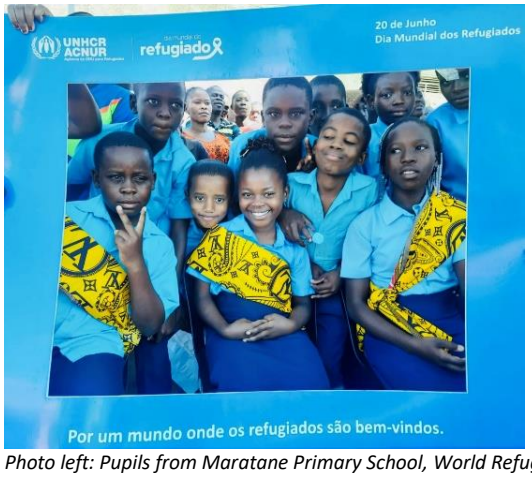


Photo left: Pupils from Maratane Primary School, World Refugee Day. ©UNHCR/ Kazi Afroja Ali Rainy
Photo right: WRD celebrations with Congolese, Somali, Burundian and Ivorian refugees in Cabo Delgado ©UNHCR/Isadora Zoni

Photo left: A mini tree planting campaign in Maratane refugee settlement. The event was led by Camp Administrator Ms. Marisa Valera. ©UNHCR/ Rumbani Msiska
Photo right: Refugees celebrate soccer win during World Refugee Day celebrations in Cabo Delgado. ©UNHCR/Isadora Zoni

Photo left: A representative of the Secretary of State, SPAS Provincial Director Nguma John Geraldo joins the Burundi Ngoma dance group. ©UNHCR/ Rumbani Msiska
Photo right: A visit to agricultural sites cultivated by refugees organised by UNHCR in collaboration with the Government Refugee Agency (INAR) and Refugee Community ©UNHCR/ Joaquim Ngoca

Protection & Solutions

- UNHCR's **protection monitoring activities** are critical for identifying protection risks and trends and referring people with heightened needs to specialized services. In June, protection monitoring interviews were conducted with 10,685 individuals from IDP sites, host communities, and return locations across several districts in Cabo Delgado.
- 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 June, UNHCR in collaboration with partner the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM) and governmental authorities, a total of 1,898 individuals were supported in reclaiming lost or destroyed civil documentation, including birth certificates and national IDs.
- In June, UNHCR reached 10,301 individuals through **protection awareness campaigns** in Cabo Delgado and 374 IDPs were provided with home visits and protection assistance. 108 individuals received tailored Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), and 115 individuals with disabilities were assisted.
- Following the **significant displacement** of populations in Cabo Delgado and Nampula at the end of February, various protection risks were identified by UNHCR in the affected areas, including lack of access to adequate

services, lack of documentation, and neglect of vulnerable groups. UNHCR activities continued in Chiure District throughout the month of June, with UNHCR supported **Protection Focal Points** in Chiure, continued to monitor for protection, CBP, child protection, GBV response, and human rights.

- **Gender-based violence (GBV)** remains a critical challenge affecting refugees, IDPs and host communities. UNHCR Mozambique works with the government and partners to address GBV issues. In Cabo Delgado, 24 individuals received GBV-specialized MHPSS training in Cabo Delgado, and 50 individuals received training on GBV protection and PSEA; this included activists, government counterparts, and community members. 24 people at risk were supported with case management in Pemba and Montepuez districts.
- On 01 June, International Children's Day was celebrated in Nampula. UNHCR and partners celebrated the day with displaced children in the Corrane IDP settlement and the Maratane Refugee settlement, respectively. The event in Corrane was graced by the attendance of the wife of the Secretary of State of Nampula Province, Ms. Maria Neto, who opened the program by visiting the maternity ward of the health Centre. Children, including those with disabilities, showcased their talents, spoke about their rights and duties, and expressed their aspirations for a better future through access to education and basic needs.

Wife to Secretary of State of Nampula Province, Ms. Maria Neto visiting the maternity ward of Corrane Health Centre as part of commemorations for Children's Day. ©UNHCR/ Kazi Afroja Ali Rainy

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 and the Internet, several Vodafone volunteers assisted in installing new equipment in several locations in Nampula province and districts and provided training to teachers.

Health

- The Maratane Health Centre launched a second Health Fair during the 2024 World Refugee Day commemorations. The Health Fair provided an opportunity for both refugees and the host community to be screened for non-communicable diseases, TB and HIV, general health consultation, nutrition education, to discuss issues of family planning and donate blood.

Camp Coordination and Camp management (CCCM), Shelter, Infrastructure, and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- In June, UNHCR, through its CCCM partners, provided **camp management support** in 11 displacement sites in Cabo Delgado, where 59,757 IDPs reside.
- In response to the crisis in southern Cabo Delgado, UNHCR distributed 200 **Core Relief Items (CRIs**) to newly displaced persons in Lianda (100 kits) and Eduard Mondlane (100 kits), benefiting 843 internally displaced people.
- In Nampula, 23 **resilient shelters,** that are better equipped to withstand extreme weather events, were completed in the Maratane Refugee settlement with 10 reserved for vulnerable women's groups who were prioritized after initial protection assessments.

UNHCR staff members handing over keys to a beneficiary of the resilient shelters. ©UNHCR/ Irfan Ali

Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

- With funding from GIZ, and the assistance of UNHCR, 292 people benefited from livelihood initiatives in June. Courses in Cooking and Carpentry have been successfully completed, while interns specializing in Masonry, Plumbing, and Electricity are gaining practical experience at prominent companies like Reef Investments and Avani Beach Hotel, facilitated by INEP. This initiative aims to enhance skills and employability among IDPs and the host community. UNHCR, again with funding from GIZ, also concluded the second training cycle for 50 young entrepreneurs in Pemba, including IDPs and host community members. Follow-up sessions in June focused on assisting beneficiaries in developing viable business plans, fostering entrepreneurship, and promoting economic self-sufficiency.
- UNHCR, with funding from AfDB, organized Pemba's inaugural Fish Fair on 24 June, bringing together over 40 fishermen, local suppliers, and 15 companies showcasing fishing-related products and services. The event facilitated the sale of approximately two tons of fish, with total sales reaching an estimated 500,000 MZN. Supported by provincial and district governments, the Fish Fair highlighted UNHCR's commitment to promoting economic activities and livelihoods for IDPs and the host community in Cabo Delgado.

Photo: Visitors to the Fish Fair buying fish. ©UNHCR/Momade Amade

Coordination

- UNHCR chairs the Protection Cluster and is 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).

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 has 21 agreements with 16 partners across the country. five NNGOs, five INGOs, 10 government partners, and one UN-UN agreement.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION | UNHCR Mozambique 2024

UNHCR Mozambique has rolled out a new Multi-Year Strategy for the years 2024 to 2026. Through this strategy, UNHCR is working with the Government of Mozambique, its various line ministries at national, provincial, and local levels as well as development actors to find opportunities to sustainably address the vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced people, build resilience among affected communities and to facilitate durable solutions. This strategic shift will allow UNHCR to provide more sustainable and effective support, for the short, medium, and the long term.

In 2024, UNHCR Mozambique will continue to

- 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.
- 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.
- Support preparedness and response efforts to natural hazards, including cyclones, flooding and drought. Through this engagement, UNHCR will continue to adopt an age, gender and diversity approach while maintaining a focus on accountability to affected populations (AAP).

UNHCR will also continue to 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 2024 here.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous support of donors who have contributed to UNHCR Mozambique and to UNHCR programmes globally in 2023 and 2024.

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For more information on UNHCR's programme in Mozambique:

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