

Mozambique – Complex Emergency and Tropical Cyclone

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>3.1 MILLION</p> <p>Number of People Facing Crisis—IPC 3—Levels of Acute Food Insecurity</p> <p><i>UN – March 2023</i></p> | <p>2 MILLION</p> <p>Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Northern Mozambique</p> <p><i>UN – July 2023</i></p> | <p>1 MILLION</p> <p>Number of People in Need as a Result of Tropical Cyclone Freddy, Floods, and Cholera</p> <p><i>UN – August 2023</i></p> | <p>850,600</p> <p>Number of IDPs Affected by Conflict in Northern Mozambique</p> <p><i>IOM – August 2023</i></p> | <p>966,200</p> <p>Acres of Land Adversely Affected by Tropical Cyclone Freddy and Flooding</p> <p><i>UN – March 2023</i></p> |
|---|--|--|---|---|

- The UN reports that approximately 1 million people require humanitarian assistance in September due to the effects of Tropical Cyclone Freddy, which impacted Mozambique in February and March, including subsequent flooding and a countrywide cholera outbreak.
- Cyclone-affected populations in central and southern Mozambique are experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity as low-income households have limited food stocks and fewer income-earning opportunities, FEWS NET reports.
- Nearly 850,000 individuals remained displaced by NSAG violence throughout Mozambique as of August, while more than 570,000 people have returned to northern Mozambique since February 2022 despite continued insecurity, according to IOM.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Mozambique Response in FY 2023

USAID/BHA¹

\$ 94,857,268

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7

Total \$106,899,221

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Approximately 1 Million People Still Require Humanitarian Aid Due to Cyclone Freddy Impacts

More than 1 million cyclone-affected individuals continue to require humanitarian assistance as of September due to the direct and indirect impacts of Tropical Cyclone Freddy, which made dual landfalls over Mozambique on February 24 and March 11, according to the UN. The storm resulted in extensive damage to infrastructure and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities and widespread flooding, which accelerated the existing nationwide cholera outbreak that began in September 2022 in Niassa Province. Mozambique's Zambezia and Sofala provinces are experiencing the highest level of cyclone-, flood-, and cholera-related needs nationwide, with approximately 502,000 people in need and 136,000 people targeted for assistance, respectively, as of August 31, according to the UN. In response to increased humanitarian needs related to the tropical cyclone, the UN scaled up assistance across the country in March by calling for an additional \$138 million to be added to the original \$513 million requested in the 2023 Mozambique Humanitarian Response Plan.

Relief actors reached approximately 1.2 million people with multi-sector support across eight provinces as of August 31, the UN reports. Health actors report that the cholera outbreak in Mozambique—exacerbated by damage to WASH infrastructure because of Tropical Cyclone Freddy—has begun to stabilize throughout the country, with approximately 1,800 new cases reported since June and a total of nearly 34,000 cases reported to the UN World Health Organization (WHO) between September 2022 and August 15, 2023. Cases are mainly being reported in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Zambezia provinces, with an average of 120 cases reported weekly across Mozambique during the last four weeks of August.

Acute Food Insecurity Persists in Mozambique Ahead of Projected Adverse El Niño Conditions

Cyclone-affected populations continue to experience Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity in central and southern Mozambique, where low-income households have limited food stocks and reduced access to income-generating opportunities, according to a September Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) report.² In addition, the high cost of living in central and southern Mozambique is driving Stressed—IPC 2—or worse food security outcomes for people in the region who cannot afford to meet their basic needs. Many households across Mozambique are currently able to meet their food needs through harvests from the primary and secondary growing seasons of 2023, which took place between March and May and between July and September, respectively. However, low-income households often have reduced food stocks and face difficulty purchasing staple foods such as maize, which increased in price by 20 to 60 percent between August 2022 and August 2023 across central and southern provinces, according to FEWS NET. In conflict-affected Cabo Delgado in northern Mozambique, the distribution of humanitarian food assistance is supporting Stressed!—IPC 2!—outcomes, while Crisis—IPC 3—outcomes are estimated in heavily conflict-affected areas, including coastal areas of Macomia District, as of September.³ During July and August, members of the Food Security Cluster, including USAID/BHA

² The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity. IPC Phase 5 is referred to as “Catastrophe” when classifying a household and “Famine” when classifying an area. Famine conditions occur when at least 20 percent of the population in a given area face an extreme lack of food; the Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence, measured by weight-for-height z-score, exceeds 30 percent; and the mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 individuals per day.

³ An “!” indicates that the phase classification would likely be worse without current or planned humanitarian assistance.

partners, assisted more than 684,000 people nationally with humanitarian food assistance.⁴

Strong El Niño conditions from October to December could delay the start of the 2023/2024 rainy season in Mozambique by an estimated 10 days, according to FEWS NET and forecasts from the World Meteorological Organization. This will likely reduce agricultural production and adversely affect low-income households who rely on agricultural labor opportunities, according to FEWS NET. In addition, FEWS NET projects that elevated staple food prices and decreased agricultural income will increase the number of households facing Crisis levels of acute food insecurity in areas of greatest need—including southern Mozambique, the most severely conflict-affected areas of Cabo Delgado, and cyclone- and flood-affected areas of Sofala, Tete, and Zambezia provinces—through at least January 2024.

NSAG Attacks on Civilians in Cabo Delgado Drive Displacement Despite Increasing Returns

Non-state armed group (NSAG) attacks targeting civilians in northern Mozambique continue to drive displacement and exacerbate protection risks, even as the number of people returning to their areas of origin continues to increase overall, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Protection Cluster. An NSAG attack directly targeting civilians in Cabo Delgado's Mocímboa da Praia District on September 14 resulted in 15 deaths—the highest number of civilian deaths recorded in a single attack in Mozambique since October 2022—and the destruction of at least eight houses, according to the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED). The incident also prompted the displacement of approximately 2,000 people between September 14 and 20, reportedly due to fear of additional NSAG violence, IOM reports. The displacement is likely to exacerbate humanitarian needs, particularly in Mocímboa da Praia, which currently hosts the largest concentration of returnees of any district in Mozambique, with more than 176,000 returnees as of August 4, according to IOM and relief actors operating in the area. ACLED warns that the direct targeting of civilians in the September 14 attack represents a dangerous shift in NSAG tactics, as civilians typically experience secondary effects of clashes between NSAG elements and government security forces rather than being actively targeted.

As a result of this incident and similar attacks, many internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees in Mocímboa da Praia urgently require mental health and psychosocial support in addition to basic humanitarian services, the Protection Cluster reports. Moreover, approximately 1,000 children abandoned school as they fled from the targeted September 14 attack, according to the cluster, which warns that children in highly militarized areas face additional protection risks such as armed group recruitment, particularly when not attending school.

More Than 570,000 People Return to Northern Mozambique Despite Continued Insecurity

An estimated 570,000 IDPs returned to their districts of origin in northern Mozambique between February 2022 and August 2023 despite continued insecurity, IOM reports. This figure includes more than 151,000 IDPs who returned to their places of origin in Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Niassa between April and August, constituting an approximately 26 percent increase in the total number of returnees in the three provinces over the course of the period. IOM attributes the overall increase in the number of recorded IDPs countrywide to improved humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas in central Mozambique's Manica, Sofala, Tete, and Zambezia provinces, enabling more comprehensive data collection.

⁴ The Food Security Cluster is the coordinating body for humanitarian food assistance activities, comprising UN agencies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

Approximately 850,000 individuals remained displaced countrywide due to NSAG violence and protracted insecurity throughout northern and central Mozambique as of August, with the majority—approximately 628,000 people—displaced within Cabo Delgado, according to IOM. Of the nearly 850,000 IDPs in northern and central Mozambique, 55 percent reside within host communities, while 45 percent are sheltering in approximately 190 displacement sites across seven provinces. Improved access to livelihood opportunities and emergency relief supplies and shelter are the highest-priority areas of need among IDPs, according to IOM.

KEY FIGURES



\$38.9 Million

In dedicated
FY 2023 USG support
for emergency food
assistance



\$1.6 Million

In dedicated
FY 2023 USG support
for protection
programming

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD ASSISTANCE AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA is supporting partners to provide agriculture, food, and nutrition assistance in Mozambique as climatic events, displacement, and protracted conflict continue to result in acute food insecurity and malnutrition throughout the country. With USAID/BHA and other donor support, the UN World Food Program (WFP) reached more than 588,000 individuals with emergency food assistance in August, including supporting approximately 220,000 individuals in 340 schools nationwide through the UN agency's school feeding program. In addition, WFP supported approximately 3,800 farmers in Sofala and Tete with emergency food assistance to improve their resilience during and after extreme weather events. USAID/BHA partner Action contre la Faim (ACF) also supported approximately 1,300 children ages five years and younger with nutrition interventions in Mozambique during July. Furthermore, USAID/BHA partner the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) provides life-saving nutrition services to conflict-affected populations, including children and adolescents, in northern Mozambique. With USAID/BHA and other donor support, UNICEF screened approximately 7,100 children and more than 700 pregnant and lactating women across northern and central Mozambique for severe acute malnutrition and provided vitamin A supplements to nearly 424,000 children in cyclone affected areas in August.

PROTECTION

The U.S. Government (USG) supports multiple partners to address protection concerns among conflict- and cyclone-affected populations in Mozambique. With USAID/BHA funding, CARE, FHI 360, IOM, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Save the Children Federation (SCF), and UNICEF are providing child protection programming, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and other specialized protection services such as assistance in gaining access to civil documentation, to IDPs and host community members throughout the country. USAID/BHA partner UNICEF supported nearly 201,000 people with GBV risk mitigation and response services and provided comprehensive case management to nearly 15,000 children between January and August throughout northern Mozambique. Through USAID/BHA support, the IOM also provided MHPSS to conflict-affected populations in Cabo Delgado and Nampula through awareness raising sessions, specialized mental health and civil services, and socio-recreational activities, reaching nearly 8,000 people

in July alone, approximately 4,500 of which were women and girls.

U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) supported access to civil documentation for more than 8,500 people from displaced and host communities in Mozambique throughout 2023, which allowed them to access basic services. In August 2023 alone, UNHCR and its partners assisted nearly 2,000 people in Cabo Delgado's capitol city of Pemba and the Nicoadala District of Zambezia Province in re-acquiring lost or destroyed civil documentation. Additionally, UNHCR provided nearly 2,000 core-relief kits—containing essential items such as blankets, buckets, jerry cans, kitchen sets, mats, and mosquito nets—to families residing in the Nicuapa site in Montepuez Province. UNHCR and shelter partners constructed nearly 60 shelters in the Corrane relocation site in Nampula and repaired more than 20 transitional shelters during the month, with more than 225 total shelters repaired in 2023. 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 August, protection monitoring interviews were conducted with nearly 4,200 displaced and returned families in displacement sites, host communities, and return locations across five districts of Cabo Delgado including Mecufi, Metuge, Montepuez, Mueda, and Palma, totaling more than 21,000 interviews in 2023.



\$2.1 Million

In dedicated
FY 2023 USG support
for health programming

HEALTH

USG partners provide health programming—often integrated with nutrition and WASH activities—throughout Mozambique to reduce the spread of communicable diseases and facilitate access to primary health care services. With USAID/BHA support, ACF provided outpatient consultations for diseases including diarrhea, malaria, and scabies to more than 2,600 individuals during July. The USAID/BHA partner also provided postnatal care to more than 50 women and newborns during the same month. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner SCF reached more than 5,000 people with outpatient consultations in July, including vaccinating nearly 350 children against tuberculosis, as well as providing more than 700 newborns with postnatal care.



\$8.7 Million

In dedicated
FY 2023 USG support
for WASH assistance

WASH

USAID/BHA supports partners to address populations' hygiene needs, improve access to safe drinking water, and prevent the spread of communicable diseases through several dedicated WASH interventions throughout Mozambique. USAID/BHA partner UNICEF provided nearly 42,300 people with improved access to safe drinking water by rehabilitating approximately 110 water points affected by Tropical Cyclone Freddy and reached more than 9,200 people with hygiene promotion activities to address WASH needs in conflict-affected northern Mozambique during August. To reduce the spread of cholera, UNICEF also established four bucket chlorination points and provided hygiene kits and disinfection

supplies to more than 7,700 households in Nampula and Zambezia in August. Furthermore, USAID/BHA partner Solidarités International provided hygiene promotion messages—on topics such as disease prevention, proper handwashing, and water treatment solutions—to more than 15,000 people across Cabo Delgado’s Eduardo Mondlane, Lianda, Mpeme, and Nandimba relocation sites during August. Solidarités International also delivered more than 1.2 million gallons of safe drinking water to nearly 52,200 IDPs in Cabo Delgado’s Mueda and Nangade districts during the month. With BHA funds, Solidarités International is also rehabilitating two water networks in Mueda District, which will decrease the need for emergency water trucking to the area.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- In 2017, local political grievances—exacerbated by growing competition over liquefied natural gas reserves, fisheries, and mineral resources—gave rise to a nascent insurgency in Cabo Delgado. The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria–Mozambique (ISIS-M) carried out escalating attacks on security forces and civilian population centers throughout the province in subsequent years, resulting in significant civilian casualties, exacerbating local food insecurity, and driving mass population displacement in Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Niassa.
- In 2020, ISIS-M elements gained control of large swathes of Cabo Delgado’s Macomia, Mocímboa da Praia, and Muidumbe districts, including Mocímboa da Praia town. In March 2021, insurgent forces launched a deadly attack on the critical port town of Palma in Cabo Delgado’s Palma District, driving a new wave of displacement through northern Mozambique and minimizing humanitarian access to populations in need. Beginning in July, Rwanda Defense Forces and the Southern Africa Development Community Standby Force Mission in Mozambique deployed to the region to support Government of Mozambique (GoM)-led offensives against ISIS-M enclaves and restore security in Cabo Delgado, resulting in the rapid recapture of ISIS-M-held territory, improved humanitarian access, and initial IDP returns. However, large areas of Cabo Delgado remain inaccessible to relief actors, and NSAG attacks on civilian populations continue to drive widespread acute food insecurity and humanitarian needs.
- On November 3, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Peter H. Vrooman renewed a declaration of humanitarian need (DHN) due to the ongoing complex emergency in northern Mozambique. USAID/BHA continues to support food insecure and at-risk IDPs and host community members with food assistance and other emergency interventions to improve agricultural production and revitalize livelihoods. In addition, USAID/BHA funding supports the provision of health care, protection services, shelter, safe drinking water, and improved WASH infrastructure among conflict-affected communities.
- Recurrent tropical cyclones pose a serious threat to food security, infrastructure, and public health in Mozambique. In February and March, Tropical Cyclone Freddy made consecutive landfalls in central Mozambique, adversely affecting nearly 1.2 million people—many of whom were still recovering from the impacts of 2022 cyclones—and damaging or destroying critical infrastructure, including health centers, housing, and WASH services. In response to elevated humanitarian needs exacerbated by Tropical Cyclone Freddy, Ambassador Vrooman issued a second DHN on March 3, 2023. USAID/BHA continues to support cyclone-affected populations in Mozambique with food assistance, critical relief commodities, shelter, and WASH assistance.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE IN FY 2023¹

| IMPLEMENTING PARTNER | ACTIVITY | LOCATION | AMOUNT |
|--|--|--|----------------------|
| USAID/BHA | | | |
| ACF | Agriculture, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Humanitarian Coordination, Info Management & Assessments (HCIMA), Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, WASH | Cabo Delgado | \$7,500,000 |
| CARE | Agriculture, WASH | Countrywide | \$1,250,000 |
| | WASH | Inhambane, Nampula, Zambezia | \$100,000 |
| CRS | Shelter and Settlements, WASH | Cabo Delgado | \$2,000,000 |
| iDE | Agriculture, Monitoring and Evaluation | Cabo Delgado | \$4,530,560 |
| International NGO Safety Organization (INSO) | HCIMA | Cabo Delgado, Manica, Sofala | \$1,000,000 |
| IOM | HCIMA; Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH | Cabo Delgado, Inhambane, Niassa, Nampula, Sofala, Tete, Zambezia | \$7,080,000 |
| MENTOR | Health, WASH | Cabo Delgado | \$2,499,984 |
| NRC | Agriculture, ERMS, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements | Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa | \$6,000,000 |
| Solidarités International | Agriculture, Food Assistance, Shelter and Settlements, WASH | Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa | \$8,374,842 |
| UNICEF | Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH | Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa | \$5,500,000 |
| UNOCHA | HCIMA | Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa | \$1,000,000 |
| WFP | ERMS; Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; HCIMA; Logistics | Cabo Delgado, Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Zambezia | \$45,500,000 |
| | Program Support | | \$2,521,882 |
| TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING | | | \$94,857,268 |
| STATE/PRM | | | |
| ICRC | Agriculture, Food assistance, Health, ERMS, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, WASH | Countrywide | \$141,953 |
| IOM | Agriculture, Food Assistance, Health, ERMS, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, WASH | Countrywide | \$4,300,000 |
| UNHCR | Agriculture, Health, HCIMA, ERMS, Logistics Support, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH | Countrywide | \$7,600,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING | | | \$12,041,953 |
| TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE IN FY 2023 | | | \$106,899,221 |

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2023.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)