



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Mozambique Country Brief August 2020

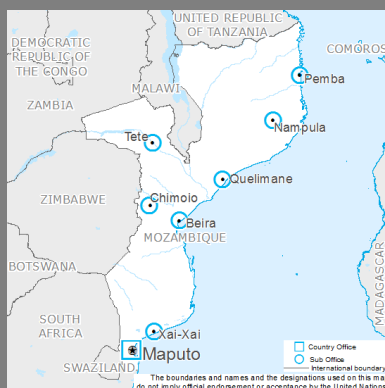


## Operational Context

After two decades of peace and stability, the intensification of violent conflict in Cabo Delgado Province threatens socio-economic progress. Additionally, Mozambique remains one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, with drought and pests affecting staple crops in much of the country. The central part was severely hit by cyclone Idai, and the northern area by cyclone Kenneth, resulting in agricultural losses, destruction of infrastructure, assets and livelihoods, as well as internal displacement.

Thus, significant challenges remain, impeding the achievement of food and nutrition security. Mozambicans still cannot afford the cost of a nutritious diet. High malnutrition affects almost half of the children under 5 years of age. Over 1.6 million people face severe acute food insecurity, according to the most recent IPC analysis. The economic growth forecast was revised further downwards, following the impact of the cyclones, subsequent floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Nearly half of the population remains below the poverty line. According to the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (May 2020 revision), there are 2.5 million persons in need of humanitarian assistance in Mozambique.

WFP has been present in Mozambique since 1977, strengthening the Government's capacity and providing food, nutrition and livelihood assistance to the most vulnerable communities.



Population: **30.4 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **180 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **43% of children aged 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**434,599 people assisted**  
in August 2020



**3,587 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 3,954,532** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 143 m** six months (September 2020 – February 2021) net funding requirements

## Operational Updates

- In August, WFP, in collaboration with local authorities and humanitarian partners, provided food assistance to 179,875 conflict-affected internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Cabo Delgado and 11,932 IDPs in Nampula. Additionally, WFP assisted 104,873 vulnerable persons in Sofala, 37,560 in Manica, 19,625 in Inhambane, and 45,375 in Gaza.
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP Mozambique is finalising a comprehensive strategy to address the secondary shock of COVID-19 to the food security and nutrition of vulnerable populations across the country.
- On 02 September, the isolation and COVID-19 treatment centre Decimo Congresso was rehabilitated through a substantial effort of United Nations agencies (WFP, World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, and International Organization for Migration), non-governmental organizations (Médecins Sans Frontières, and Caritas/Diocese of Pemba), the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the private sector.
- In August, WFP distributed cash-based transfers (value vouchers) to 51,450 conflict-affected IDPs in Pemba.

## Social Protection

- Preparations are ongoing for the implementation of the joint WFP/UNICEF COVID-19 response using national social protection programmes. This response foresees providing unconditional mobile money transfers to households that are suffering from the impacts of this pandemic in Moatize district in Tete province and Quelimane district in Zambezia province, targeting 17,134 households and 68,307 households, respectively.
- WFP and the National Institute of Social Action (INAS) signed an output agreement in which WFP will be assisting over 12,000 flood-affected households on behalf of the Government in the Province of Sofala.

## School Feeding

- WFP started a new cycle of take-home ration distributions in Tete province in collaboration with local education services; 41,080 beneficiaries out of a target of 128,670 have been reached so far in August. The assistance is part of the adaptation of the school feeding programme to the prolonged closure of schools. The programme reaches students in 104 primary schools in the districts of Cahora Bassa, Changara, Doa, Marara and Mutarara. In light of the increased vulnerabilities of the families due to the COVID-19-related restrictions and economic slowdown, the food baskets are reinforced to support other family members.
- WFP is working with the Nampula Education Directorate to prepare the distribution of take-home rations in 26 schools in the districts of Malena, Nacala-a-Velha and Ribaue. The distribution is planned to start in early September with a target of 104,100 people.
- Schools are planned to start reopening in October through a phased process that will start with secondary schools. Alongside education partners, WFP continues to work with the Ministry of Education to help schools prepare for reopening. WFP is also working with the Ministry of Education to organize take-home ration distributions to primary schools participating in the national school feeding programme (PRONAE) prior to their reopening.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>805.9 m</b>	<b>345 m</b>	<b>143 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Households have access to nutritious food

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Preparedness and management capacities of weather-related shocks with the National Institute of Disaster management (INGC) and the Technical Secretariat for Food and Nutrition Security (SETSAN)
- Technical assistance to develop Shock Responsive Social Protection (SRSP)

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Shock-affected people in Mozambique are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and immediately after a crisis

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:**

- Food and cash-based transfers
- Early recovery and treatment of malnutrition
- Food assistance to refugees

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Children have access to nutritious food

**Focus area:** *Home grown school feeding and capacity to Ministry of Education*

**Activities:**

- Capacity strengthening of government bodies responsible for the national home-grown school feeding programme while seeking to make PRONAE (Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar) more nutrition sensitive and gender transformative.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 4:** People have improved nutritional status

**Focus area:** *Government capacity for stunting*

**Activities:**

- Development of operational research products on prevention of chronic malnutrition.
- Technical assistance to government entities implementing the national strategy to combat stunting and micronutrient deficiencies
- Provision of specialised and staple fortified food

### Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and income

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Farmers have enhanced livelihood

**Focus area:** *Capacity of smallholder farmers*

**Activities:**

- Aggregation, marketing and decision-making capacities of smallholder farmers and their access to markets with a focus on women

### Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership

**Strategic Outcome 6:** Partners are supported by WFP expertise

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Storage, handling and accounting of food for humanitarian and development partners

**Strategic Outcome 7:** Government and humanitarian partners in Mozambique have access to effective and reliable services during times of crisis

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:**

- Provide services through the Logistics Cluster to government and other humanitarian and development partners
- Provide Emergency Telecommunications Cluster services to government and other humanitarian and development partners
- Provide humanitarian air services to government and other humanitarian and development partners
- Provide accommodation, transport and other services as required to humanitarian and development partners

## Nutrition

- WFP supports the Government in the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in six of Mozambique's 11 provinces. In August, 8,414 children under 5 received ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) and 5,916 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) received Super Cereal for MAM treatment at health facilities.
- WFP, together with UNICEF and WHO, is providing technical assistance for the development of the Mozambique Nutrition Response Plan in the context of COVID-19. Due to the pandemic, an increase of 15 percent in acute malnutrition cases is expected throughout the country. The assistance plan is being developed to respond to increased needs and funding.
- In the provinces where WFP supports the Nutrition Rehabilitation Programme (PRN), Nutrition Programme Assistants carried out supervision visits to provide training for health facility staff and to improve programme outcomes.
- In Sofala and Capo Delgado, the PRN contains a demand generation component consisting of community-based outreach activities to increase attendance and retention in the programme. In this sense, three radio spots were approved by the Provincial Health Directorate of Sofala and are now being broadcasted three times a day by seven radio stations of the province, reaching 115,910 people.
- WFP and GAIN jointly organized a webinar on 13 August on the food price trends in Mozambique in the context of COVID-19, and the implications for the private sector. Food prices throughout the country rose between March and June 2020, with the southern region registering a significantly higher increase compared to other regions. One of the main reasons for this was trader price speculation at the beginning of the pandemic due to the closure of the South African border coupled with increased consumer demand.
- WFP conducted a Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) cascade training in Chemba for partners to enable them to train community health workers (CHWs) to support field activities. As a result, in August, 68 CHWs were trained in the SBCC approach, demand generation for MAM treatment, and COVID-19 protocols. These CHWs are now able to conduct screening and referral activities, and have been provided with 68 bicycles, tee-shirts and backpacks, and 34 field kits to support implementation.
- A dashboard has been created to give monthly updates on the HIV/TB Roadside Wellness Project in the Beira transport corridor in Inhchope district. A mobile health clinic, called a 'Bluebox', provides HIV/TB and COVID-19 services for adolescent girls and young women, female sex workers and male truck drivers. The live dashboard can be accessed [here](#).

## Challenges

- Despite the escalation of the conflict in Cabo Delgado province and WFP food and property being lost in attacks in Macomia and Mocimboa da Praia Districts on 11 June and 27 June, respectively, WFP continues to strive towards reaching all conflict-affected IDPs in Mozambique. As such, WFP Mozambique is finalising an access strategy to reach IDPs in currently inaccessible districts.
- COVID-19 is compounding the already fragile humanitarian context in Mozambique. In view of the upcoming 2020/2021 lean season, when most vulnerable households will be at risk of food insecurity, WFP's overall funding requirements stand at USD 142 million for the next six months. WFP already anticipates pipeline breaks for its humanitarian operations in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa in October 2020 if sufficient resources are not mobilized on time. As of August, WFP aims to assist 310,000 people in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa. Donor contributions are therefore urgently required to fill these critical resourcing gaps for a timely humanitarian response. USD 4.7 million per month are needed to assist all IDPs.

## Donors and other Funding Channels to WFP's Country Strategic Plan in 2020

Austria, Canada, European Commission, Germany, Mozambique, Portugal, Private Donors, United Kingdom, United States, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), UN funds other than CERF.