WFP Mozambique
Country brief
July 2023

Operational Context

Acute food insecurity has been on the rise in recent years in northern Mozambique, as conflict and recurring displacement, compounded by climatic and economic shocks, have disrupted communities' agricultural activities, livelihoods, and purchasing power. Moreover, Mozambique is classified as one of the countries in the world most affected by extreme weather events. Since 2007, eleven Tropical Cyclones have hit Mozambique, and the global climate crisis is driving more frequent and intense floods, storms, and droughts.

Significant challenges remain in achieving food and nutrition security in Mozambique. Most Mozambicans cannot afford the cost of a nutritious diet. High levels of malnutrition affect almost half the children under five years of age. Approximately 3.15 million people face crisis, or worse, levels of food insecurity, as per the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment. Of those, 690,400 are in Cabo Delgado province alone. Nearly half the population remains below the poverty line.

WFP has been present in Mozambique since 1977. WFP Mozambique’s country strategy plan (2022-2026) is strengthening WFP’s support to nationally driven sustainable solutions towards zero hunger in the country.

In Numbers

773,757 people* Assisted in June 2023
7,411 MT of food distributed
US$ 1,252,736 in Cash-Based Transfers
US$ 42 million six-month (August – January 2024) net funding requirements

Emergency Response

Northern Mozambique displacement crisis

- In July, the first month of the July-August distribution cycle, WFP has reached an estimated 418,630 conflict-affected people with reduced food rations in northern Mozambique. Due to funding shortages and to meet rising needs, WFP has been distributing reduced rations since April 2022, except during the peak of the lean season in December 2022 and January 2023. In February 2023, due to funding shortages, WFP was forced to temporarily halt food assistance.
- In Cabo Delgado, WFP has started rolling out assistance based on Vulnerability-Based Targeting (VBT) in four of the nine districts where the exercise was completed, prioritizing food assistance to the most vulnerable members of IDP and host communities. The roll-out of the VBT will continue to be gradually implemented in the remaining districts, as the process requires thorough engagement with local government representatives and communities.

Tropical Cyclone Freddy response

- WFP finalized the household targeting and registration process for the second phase of the response to support recovery from the impact of the cyclone, in July and plans to begin the first distribution cycle in August. WFP plans to provide three months of food assistance to 190,000 beneficiaries in the most affected districts of Zambezia, Sofala, Tete, Gaza, and Inhambane provinces.

Social Protection

- WFP is supporting the National Institute of Social Action (INAS), the operational branch of the Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Action (MGCAS), to implement the shock responsive social protection programme PASD-PE to support the COVID-19 recovery phase in the province of Niassa. In total, nearly 360,000 individuals in Niassa will receive emergency cash support. WFP and its partners have finalized mobile phone distributions and the opening of mobile money accounts for almost 30,000 in Marrupa, Cuamba and Mandimba districts, and beneficiary households in Marrupa have already received their cash transfers. Preparations for the implementation of PASD-PE in Lichinga district, reaching over 42,600 households are ongoing.

Livelihoods

- In July in Cabo Delgado, 1,368 people benefited from self-employment courses in construction, electricity, tailoring, and food processing, while 460 received vouchers for their participation in the drainage system restoration project in Pemba.
- The families that received seeds and tools from WFP in the May-June distribution cycle (around 51,000 people) continued to receive technical support and mentoring.

*All assistance figures in this report are an initial estimate and are subject to change upon final verification.

Country Director: Antonella D’Aprile
Contact info: Conor Hollywood, Reporting Associate, conor.hollywood@wfp.org
Further information: https://www.wfp.org/countries/mozambique
Photo: Drainage project in Pemba district, Cabo Delgado. ©UNRCO/ Helvisney Cardoso.
School Feeding

- WFP continues supporting the Government in the implementation of the Government-led National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (PRONAE), which supports over 220,000 beneficiaries across 340 schools nationwide. In July, PRONAE monitoring visits were undertaken, covering all provinces with the objective of verifying financial reporting and ensuring program compliance. WFP is supporting the Government in this activity in line with its commitment/role to strengthening government capacity.

- In July, WFP supported approximately 104,000 beneficiaries through the complementary Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) programme in Tete, Nampula, and Cabo Delgado. Aiming to promote good nutritional and hygiene habits through existing school structures for social behaviour change, WFP launched a new Health and Nutrition Education approach and conducted training sessions for focal points, including a total of 134 teachers at schools covered by the HGSF program in Tete province.

- Additionally, under the School Feeding in Emergency and Recovery (SFEIR) programme in Cabo Delgado, WFP finalized the 6 cycles of take-home rations distributions for two semesters in 34 Schools in Palma and 11 schools in Mueda. The distributions aimed to support over 28,000 children for improvement of their education indicators and sexual health for adolescent girls by delivering menstrual hygiene kits.

Nutrition

- Under the National Nutrition Rehabilitation Programme (PRN), WFP is supporting the Government in treating moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in 270 health facilities in 30 districts in the three northern provinces of Nampula, Niassa, and Cabo Delgado. In July, 7,068 children under the age of five received Ready-to-Use-Supplementary Food (RUSF), and 1,108 pregnant and breastfeeding women received Super Cereal for MAM treatment.

- In Namuno district, Cabo Delgado, WFP resumed the supplementary feeding programme in July. The distribution cycle was a malnutrition prevention measure, with each household with a child under-two receiving 12 kg of Super Cereal Plus. In this first cycle, a total of 258 children were reached.

Climate Change Adaptive Food Systems

- In Sofala province, through the climate-resilient food security for smallholder farmers project, 3,500 farmers (53% female) had access to information on climate and weather risks in the month of July. As for conservation agriculture, 22 shallow wells were opened in Cala, Chembu and Mavingue districts to support beneficiaries in water management or irrigation of horticulture crops such as tomatoes, onions, leafy vegetables (cabbage, lettuce, kale).

- WFP attended two national workshops in Maputo in July – one on the Savings and Insurance Layering approach (SAIL) to present a new risk mitigation measure that integrates climate index insurance triggers into savings and insurance for smallholder farmers; and the other to present the results of the three-year assessment of the implementation of weather index agricultural micro-insurance in Tete, Sofala, and Gaza provinces.

Disaster Risk Management/Financing

- In July, WFP supported INAM (Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia) to analyse the seasonal climate forecast which indicates high probability of drought in several districts for the upcoming season. Drought triggers were hit in several districts in July. WFP and INGO (Instituto Nacional de Gestão e Redução do Risco de Desastres) will now activate and implement anticipatory action plans to mitigate the impact of the forecasted drought.

UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)

- Over the course of July, WFP provided logistics and transport services to government and humanitarian partners. In total, UNHAS transported a total of 1,047 passengers for 39 different partner organizations, and 3,25 metric tons (MT) of light humanitarian cargo.

Donors

Austria, Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Green Climate Fund, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, UN CERF, UN funds other than CERF, World Bank.