



# Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The humanitarian crisis in northern Mozambique has rapidly escalated, leaving an estimated 1.3 million people in need of urgent humanitarian assistance and protection in 2021. The main shocks leading to the deteriorating humanitarian and food security situation are armed conflict, natural hazards and the impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic on economic activity in the region.

## Objectives

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Save lives and alleviate suffering through safe, equitable, gender-sensitive and principled intersectoral assistance to the most vulnerable groups.
- Enhance timely and adapted access to essential services, livelihood sources and assistance to strengthen the resilience of people impacted by the crisis.
- Mitigate the protection risks and needs of affected people.

## Activities



### Improve agricultural production

cash and e-vouchers | seeds and tools | fishing gear and cool boxes | boat repairing | technical assistance | provision of small livestock | Newcastle disease vaccination campaign



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# Mozambique

## Humanitarian Response Plan 2021



to assist  
**485 000 people**



FAO requires  
**USD 15 million**



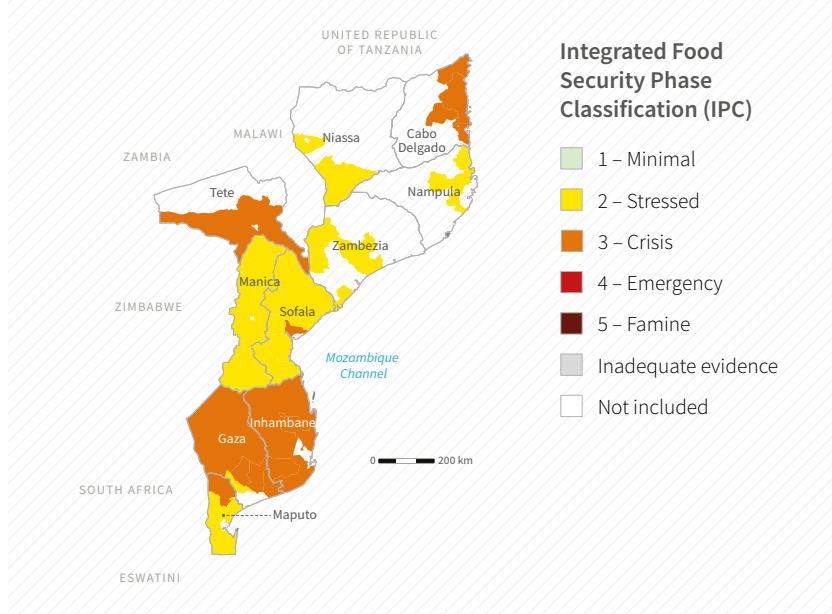
period  
**January–December 2021**

Disruptions to the agricultural livelihoods of vulnerable people in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa due to conflict, displacement, and climate-related shocks have heightened food insecurity. Providing timely support along the seasonal calendar will help maximize gains and enhance production, benefiting communities most at need.



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## Projected acute food insecurity situation (January–March 2021)



Source: IPC. 2021. *Mozambique: Acute food insecurity analysis, October 2020–September 2021* [online]. Rome, Italy. [Cited 17 February 2021]. [http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\\_Mozambique\\_AcuteFoodInsec\\_2020Oct2021Sept\\_English\\_summary.pdf](http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Mozambique_AcuteFoodInsec_2020Oct2021Sept_English_summary.pdf)

## Situation analysis



**950 000** people projected to be in high acute food insecurity\*



**670 000** internally displaced people



**+1 339** cases of COVID-19

\*This number refers to food-insecure populations in the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa.

## Impact on food security

Humanitarian needs in the northern provinces of Mozambique have drastically increased as the ongoing conflict in the region and effects of COVID-19 heighten food insecurity. Combined, these shocks have disrupted access to markets and led to price increases for food and non-food items. As a result, affected households have adopted negative coping mechanisms, such as spending savings and borrowing food and/or money.

Northern Mozambique, and Cabo Delgado in particular, is situated in an area prone to extreme weather and climate events. In addition to facing recurrent torrential rain and flash floods, many households in the region are still reeling from the impact of Cyclone Kenneth – which made landfall in April 2019 and affected 374 000 people. Moreover, recent climate projections indicate a strong likelihood of a La Niña weather event in the next main rainy season. In a worst case scenario, local authorities predict that 65 000 people will be impacted by the resulting shocks, either becoming displaced or losing their livelihoods or access to food as crop fields are destroyed. The presence of crop pests and diseases is also influenced by climate variabilities and is a further threat to food production. Depending on how the season progresses, poor farmers may face

additional challenges in meeting their basic household food requirements.

The number of internally displaced people (IDPs) continues to rise rapidly, increasing from 530 000 people in December 2020 to up to 670 000 just two months later. Repercussions of the conflict have been felt in neighbouring provinces, in particular Nampula and Niassa, as host communities cope with additional pressure on limited resources due to the influx of IDPs. Both host communities and IDPs are encountering difficulties accessing basic services and livelihood opportunities, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within the context of widespread poverty and poor health and nutrition, hundreds of thousands of people in northern Mozambique are still at risk of losing their lives and livelihoods and in need of urgent life-saving assistance. Timely and sustained humanitarian access to affected communities is critical to provide and restore people's means of survival and ability to cope with the dire situation.

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