



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Northern Mozambique

Response overview
January 2023



75 000 people assisted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 2022



USD 3.18 million received out of **USD 26.7 million** required by FAO under the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan



Funding provided by the Governments of Norway and the United States of America, the African Development Bank, the United Nations' Central Emergency Response Fund and FAO internal resources



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Response highlights in 2022

- Provided 15 000 households (75 500 people), including 2 200 internally displaced person (IDP) and host community households (11 000 people), with winter season agricultural kits (seeds and tools) for vegetable production in all nine districts of Cabo Delgado and three districts of Nampula province.
- Undertaken a rapid agricultural inputs market study (March 2022) to map out and assess agricultural input dealers' inventory, geographical coverage and capacity to serve farmers in northern Mozambique.
- Trained agrodealers and agricultural input suppliers in Cabo Delgado and Nampula on the United Nations Global Marketplace to empower them and ensure their active participation in the United Nations tendering process. This resulted in the increased participation and qualification of locally based agrodealers and agricultural input suppliers in FAO tenders.
- Engaged a total of 126 IDP and host community lead farmers in training of trainers sessions on good agricultural practices in Cabo Delgado and Nampula.
- Trained 30 women in intensive food production, after establishing a demonstration plot, through the application of conservation agriculture in collaboration with the nuns in the Chuiba community in Pemba. All 30 women received agricultural livelihood kits and planted their home gardens with beans and vegetables, which also benefited their households (150 people).
- Supported the Government of Mozambique through the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Fisheries to undertake a comprehensive assessment on the impact of the ongoing crisis on the fisheries sector in Cabo Delgado. The measures proposed will increase the resilience of fishers and the population at large in Cabo Delgado through economic development and improved food security and nutrition.
- Continued to strengthen the capacities of government institutions, as well as support government technical officers to facilitate and enhance their capacity to provide extension services to smallholder farmers.
- Supported the Institute for Disaster Risk Management's (INGD) community management committees to facilitate small stock income-generating activities. This has provided a foundation to nurture possibilities of localized, sustainable and durable livelihood solutions.
- Provided four INGD community management committees in four districts of Cabo Delgado with 50 goats. In addition, 252 households received poultry as a sustainable source of protein and income for their families.
- Vaccinated a total of 1 200 dogs to combat a suspected rabies case in Cabo Delgado, thanks to a joint One Health collaboration with FAO, the World Health Organization and the provincial government.

In numbers



1.2 million people in high acute food insecurity, of whom **160 531** in Emergency (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification [IPC] Phase 4)



+946 508 IDPs (June 2022)



142 000 returnees



+80% of the population engaged in agriculture; about **3.2 million** smallholder farmers account for **95%** of the country's agricultural production

Key points

- The ongoing conflict in Cabo Delgado continues to be the main driver of food insecurity in northern Mozambique. In just a little over a year, there has been a ninefold increase in the number of IDPs - from 110 000 in March 2021 to nearly 947 000 in June 2022 (International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix). Other key drivers include irregular rainfall and increasing food prices aggravated by the impact of the war in Ukraine.
- In its lead role in the agricultural livelihoods response across Mozambique, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continues to work with key partners to support affected people in the most remote and hard-to-reach areas in the north. In a country where agriculture is the main economic activity, FAO is focusing on restoring food production and enhancing the food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable IDP, host community and returnee populations.

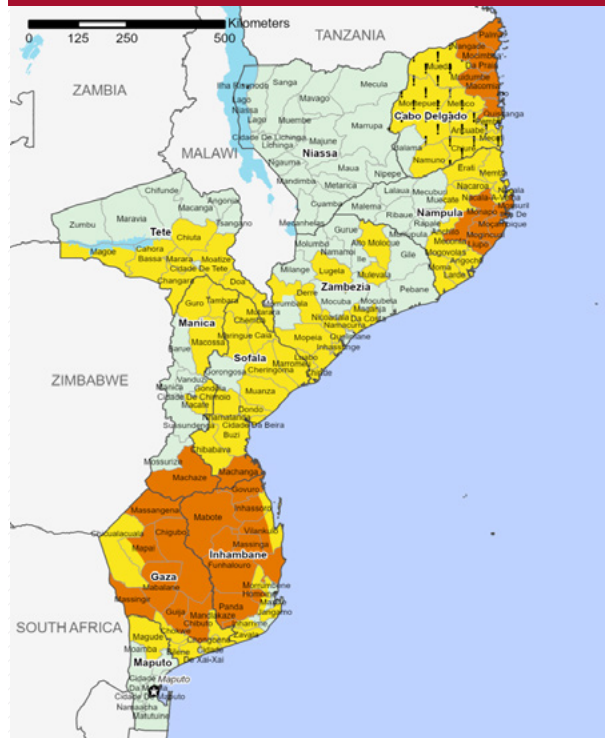


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Challenges facing food security and agriculture

Mozambique is prone to climate-induced shocks and crises, such as cyclones, floods and drought, which negatively impact agriculture and livelihoods. Conflict and insecurity in Cabo Delgado have further exacerbated the situation, leading to significant displacement, disruption of livelihoods and a lack of access to basic services. Despite the security situation improving in some areas of Cabo Delgado, high levels of acute food insecurity persist, with the majority of households dependent on emergency food assistance.

Acute food insecurity situation (October 2022–January 2023)



Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) classification*

- 1 – Minimal
- 2 – Stressed
- 3 – Crisis
- 4 – Emergency
- 5 – Famine
- Not included in the analysis
- ! Would likely be at least one phase worse without current or programmed humanitarian assistance

*FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols, but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

Source: FEWS NET. 2022. *Mozambique: Acute food insecurity analysis, October 2022–January 2023*. Rome, Italy. [Cited 3 January 2023]. <https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique/food-security-outlook/october-2022>

In addition, people internally displaced by conflict have had to flee to safer areas – sometimes more than three times a year – abandoning their crops before harvest. Host communities have also witnessed their resources become overstretched with the arrival of returnees and IDPs seeking safety. This has caused some of the most vulnerable people to turn to negative coping mechanisms to survive.

While the government allocated 0.5 ha of land to IDPs to restore agriculture-based livelihoods, it is unknown how much land is currently accessible to them. Moreover, IDPs and host communities have inadequate access to quality crop seed and agricultural extension support, and government extension officers lack the infrastructure and means to assist these communities.

Investments in agriculture-based livelihoods have restored the ability of vulnerable IDP, host community and returnee households in northern Mozambique to produce their own food, while strengthening their resilience and setting the foundation for longer-term sustainable development. However, humanitarian support must be scaled up in 2023 to reach even more people affected by food insecurity and malnutrition.





Priority activities

Under the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan, **FAO requires USD 38.7 million to assist 967 550 crisis-affected people**. The aim is to enhance their food security and nutrition while laying the foundation to sustainably build resilient livelihoods against future conflicts, climatic shocks and other stressors.

FAO will implement the below activities targeted to coastal and non-coastal districts to support the resumption of food production and enable self-reliance:

- agricultural input distribution (seeds, tools, fertilizer, etc.);
- certified seed production;
- community-based seed banks;
- promotion of conservation agriculture, post-harvest technologies, sustainable livelihoods and income diversification, including the pilot production of honey;
- provision of small livestock (goats and poultry);
- provision of continuous technical assistance; and
- restoration of the fisheries value chain (boats, cold chain and preservation technologies, and fishing gear).

Urgent support to restore sustainable food security and agriculture-based livelihoods is required to alleviate the current challenges for better production and nutrition, and to improve people's lives.

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