

1. Crisis overviewⁱ

3.4 / 5	3.05 million	2.4 million	\$550 million	7.1%
Inform severity index (Feb. 2025)	People in need of humanitarian aid / people affected by natural disasters (HNRP 2025 & FA 2025)	People targeted (HNRP 2025 & FA 2025)	Required to reach the target ((HNRP 2025 & FA 2025)	Of the required funding secured (HNRP 2025)
69 MSEK	-	-	69 MSEK	
Initial allocation	Additional allocation	Flexible funding	Total Sida funding 2025	

The humanitarian crisis is mainly driven by the conflict in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, but also by impacts of natural and climate-related disasters. The ongoing conflict is complex, arising from circumstances of economic and political marginalisation and exclusion, lack of access to natural resources and general vast underdevelopment. The combination of these circumstances has led to an armed insurgency that has escalated into a full-scale conflict. In recent years, the conflict has taken on a religious dimension, with the non-state armed groups (NSAG) pledging allegiance to the global ISIS movement and becoming known as the Islamic State of Mozambique (ISM). As of March 2025, an estimated 5,960 people have been killed since the conflict erupted in 2017. Clashes between insurgents and Mozambican armed forces and allied groups with the objective to overthrow the rebellion, as well as attacks targeting civilians, continue to occur regularly and show no signs of abating. On the contrary, violent activities have intensified during 2024. Recently, NSAGs have also shown signs of increasing their warfare capabilities, making their attacks more powerful. Besides the conflict, Mozambique is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to climate-related risks. 2024 and the beginning of 2025 has been no exception, as the country was hit by a severe drought. This drought, induced by the El Niño phenomenon during the 2024 rainy season, has significantly increased the humanitarian needs of affected communities, particularly in the central and southern regions. OCHA estimated an increase of almost 1.6 million additional people in need due to the drought, adding to the HNRP 2024 data. During the first months of 2025 the northern regions has also been struck by several cyclones that has had devastated effects in already crisis-affected areas. Mozambique recently also faced political turmoil with growing

miscontent and widespread civil unrest due to the national election held on 9 October 2024, which raised strong allegations and concerns of misconduct and electoral fraud.

2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

The security situation in Cabo Delgado province remains violent and volatile, and the lives of the district's population have been severely affected by the conflict, with many in need of life-saving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance. Civilians are bearing the brunt of the armed violence, and the movement of large numbers of people fleeing to get out of harm's way has led to streams of displaced people with no resources and severe humanitarian needs. Conflict-affected people are suffering from food shortages, WASH-related problems (e.g. only 24 per cent of the people in the province has access to water), lack of health care and adequate shelter, and multiple protection risks, both conflict-related and gender-based violence (GBV)-related.

There are currently over 716,878 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country. The flow of IDPs has placed a heavy burden on host communities, who often share their already scarce resources with the displaced, even though they themselves are barely surviving. There has also been an increase in the number of formerly displaced people returning to their areas of origin. According to IOM's latest census in June 2024, 610,981 people had returned to their areas of origin. Many of these returnees find their hometowns, homes and belongings destroyed by the conflict. Those unable to return are often repeatedly displaced. Approximately half of the current IDPs in Cabo Delgado are children, making them a particularly vulnerable group with specific protection and food security needs. The projected Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) scale for October 2024 – March 2025 predicts that approximately 23 per cent of Cabo Delgado's inhabitants will be in phase 3 (crisis) and 8 per cent will suffer in phase 4 (emergency). Nearly half of the children in the province suffer from malnutrition or stunting, and children are affected by various protection risks such as forced recruitment to armed forces, child marriage and abuse of different sorts. Another current protection risk is GBV, whereby women and girls are being targeted by various types of sexual assaults and aggressions. Women and children are thus to be perceived as specifically vulnerable within this setting.

Beyond the conflict, other parameters contribute to the humanitarian crisis. Mozambique is one of the three countries in Africa that are most vulnerable to extreme climate shocks. The rainy season, which lasts from November to May, is often associated with a high risk of cyclones and other climate-related disasters. In 2024, also a so called El Niño year, Mozambique experienced severe droughts throughout the country, affecting an estimated 1.8 million people. The IPC scale predicts that from October 2024 to March 2025, approximately 2.5 million people will be in phase 3 (crisis) and 773,281 will be in phase 4 (emergency) across the country. The situation became so critical in the second half of 2024 that OCHA launched a Flash Appeal in August focusing solely on food insecurity.

3. The humanitarian response

Based on severity of existing needs, the humanitarian response focuses primarily on the conflict-affected northern parts of Mozambique. However, due to both past cyclones and recent droughts and its aftermath, humanitarian needs also occurs further down in mid- and southern parts of Mozambique. As mentioned above, a Flash Appeal focusing on El Niño-related drought was launched targeting 1.4 million people in geographical regions that face both IPC 3 levels and above as well as drought severity of 1 (severe drought) or 2 (intense drought). In these areas one in every three people are deemed as being vulnerable and in need of assistance.

The overall humanitarian response aims to aid people in need with the specific objectives of sustaining humanitarian support for the most vulnerable including displaced people, returnees and host communities. Further, the response should also include covering the needs arising from potential new displacements. The response will be multisectoral and prioritised towards locations where the needs are the highest and most acute, with a specific focus on the harder to reach areas. The response also aims to take seasonality into account, to address the risks connected specifically to the rainy seasons, such as water-borne diseases, floodings that restrict access, as well as agricultural lean seasons.

The global freeze and scale-back of US humanitarian funding announced in January 2025 is having major consequences on aid operations (approximately half of Mozambique's humanitarian funding has priorly been sourced from the US government), and the Humanitarian Country Team is currently adapting the response in light of the new funding landscape.

The largest humanitarian donors active in Mozambique are the European Commission, Germany, and Japan. The European Commission's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations department (ECHO), as one of the larger donors, prioritises its efforts towards integrated and coordinated multisectoral humanitarian assistance with priority on covering the basic needs of the most vulnerable, underserved and hard-to-reach people of concern. Sweden, which stands for 1,8 per cent of the total humanitarian funding to Mozambique in 2024, is placed as the tenth largest humanitarian donor active in the country.

Due to limited resources and persistent trend of declining humanitarian funding, there are sectors within the response that are particularly underfunded. Two of the most underfunded sectors are protection and activities mitigating GBV. In the geographical scope of the humanitarian crisis, there are also active development actors engaged, who work to rebuild infrastructure and re-establish essential services that have been impacted by the conflict. The humanitarian response is also seeking to strengthen linkages with development counterparts to ensure complementarity of interventions when possible.

4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

The Mozambican crisis, seven years in and in every aspect still continuing, is starting to be perceived more and more as a protracted crisis and is heavily overshadowed by needs in other humanitarian crises around the world. Hence, less humanitarian funding reaches the country. With this at hand, the country's humanitarian response needs to prioritise and increase its efficiency in order to still make sure that the most severe needs are met. Sida will strategically and effectively channel its humanitarian allocation to make it as relevant as possible through focusing on the quality funding approach. Flexible funding will allow Sida's partners to be as adaptive as needed when it comes to targeting the most urgent needs, wherever in the country these might appear. Sida will also apply multi-year funding to the extent possible to allow partners to plan ahead and develop the capacity they need to carry out their response in a relevant and principle manner.

Sida's humanitarian allocation for 2025 will continue its focus on supporting a multisectoral response with a prioritisation on where the needs are the highest. Cabo Delgado and the conflict-based crisis in the north will maintain to be emphasised in Sida's scope, however climate related needs which are spread out across the country will also be taken into account. More specifically, the geographical coverage, based on severity and scope of needs, remains a priority in the selection of partner organisations. Sida will focus its response towards the districts in Cabo Delgado that are most affected by the conflict, by either IDP's and returnees movements or direct conflict-related events and its aftermath. Districts worth mentioning in Cabo Delgado are Macomia, Quisanga, Mocimboa da Praia, Palma and Nangade. Efforts will, as mentioned, also be made towards areas hit by the current droughts. The Flash Appeal indicates districts as Manica and Sofala as most critical for the time being.

Thematically, Sida will emphasise its specific focus on food insecurity, which is a major concern and a focus where actors are struggling to distribute even half rations at the moment due to lack of funds. Additionally, WASH and health is of importance due to the high risk of endemic diseases. Sida will also make sure to focus on protection, especially for children and women, as the conflict comes with huge risks for the population. The Protection Sector is also overall underfunded and a high priority within Sweden's current humanitarian strategy. Regarding choice of response modalities, Sida will emphasise actors who have shown capacity in cash and voucher distribution in order to develop a freedom of choice for the target population as well as a means to inject resources and thereby boost the local economy to the highest extent possible.

INITIAL ALLOCATION (SEK)		
PARTNER	SECTOR	INITIAL ALLOCATION
AAH	Multisector	10,000,000

ICRC	Multisector	18,000,000
NRC	Multisector	13,000,000 ¹
Save the Children	Multisector	13,000,000
WFP	Food insecurity, Nutrition	15,000,000
TOTAL		69,000,000

¹ The 2025 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.

¹ Of which SEK 8 million already committed in 2024.