

1. Crisis overviewⁱ

3.9 / 5	2.3 million	1.7 million	\$413 million	36.6%
Inform severity index	People in need of humanitarian aid (HNRP 2024)	People targeted in the response plan (HNRP 2024)	Required to reach the target (HNRP 2024)	Of the required funding secured (HNRP 2024)
35 MSEK	-	-	35 MSEK	
Initial allocation	Additional allocation	Flexible Funding	Total Sida funding 2024	

The humanitarian crisis in Mozambique is continuing and mainly driven by the conflict in the northern province Cabo Delgado but also by natural and climate-based disasters. The current conflict is of a complex nature and has arisen from circumstances related to economic and political marginalisation and exclusion, a lack of access to natural resources, and a generally vast underdevelopment. These circumstances combined have led to an uprising with armed attacks that has escalated into a widespread conflict. During recent years, the conflict has evolved to also include religious views and insurgents have pledged allegiance to the global ISIS movement. As of August 2024, it is estimated that 5,776 people have been killed since the conflict erupted in 2017. Clashes between insurgents and official armed groups with the objective to overthrow the rebellion, as well as attacks targeting civilians is still occurring in Cabo Delgado on a regular basis with no signs of them halting, as a matter of fact, the violent activities has risen during 2024.

Apart from the conflict, Mozambique is also among the most adversely affected countries globally by climate-related risks. 2023 was no exception and the country was hit by the cyclone *Freddy* and suffered from floodings followed by a widespread outbreak of cholera, which still affects the country. In mid-2024 an emergency alert related to drought was declared in Mozambique and a Flash Appeal was released by OCHA. This drought, induced by the El Niño phenomenon during the 2023-2024 season, has significantly increased the humanitarian needs of affected communities, particularly in the central and southern regions of Mozambique. OCHA estimates an increase of 1.8 million more people in need (on top of the HNRP PIN level) due to these current circumstances. The humanitarian crisis in Mozambique is perceived

as complex and characterised by high levels of insecurity, continued movements of people as well as returns of displaced people to areas of origin. The crisis is facing challenges in terms of access, simultaneously as the needs are broadly spread and shift rapidly. An ongoing trend of declining humanitarian funds affects the response and hinders its ambition to respond to existing needs.

2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

The security situation in Cabo Delgado province remains volatile and around two million people are said to be affected by the conflict and require life-saving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance. Civilians bear the burden of armed violence and the movements of large numbers of people fleeing to get out of harm's way, have led to streams of displaced people with no resources and grave humanitarian needs. The people affected by the conflict suffers from; a shortage of food, WASH related issues, no healthcare, no adequate shelter, and of several numerous protection risks. Currently, there are over 716 878 internally displaced people (IDPs) in the country. Streams of displacements is placing a heavy burden on host communities, who, despite living just above self-subsistence themselves, have been sharing their insufficient resources with the displaced. On top of that, there has been an increase of people, formerly displaced, returning to their districts of origin. In total, around 632,408 have returned to this date. Many of these returnees find their homes and belongings totally destroyed by the conflict. In other occasions, people intending to return to their home do not succeed in getting back to where they actually lived but merely to the district or city of origin since the areas have not been as secure as expected. Instead, a lot of them end up in secondary displacement. Such misperceptions occur since there exist financial incentives amongst official structures to get IDP's to return as soon as possible, hence showcase this as an indicator for these areas being safe yet again, which in itself is a condition from the gas industry to resume their extracting activities in the area. Returnees, a group growing in numbers, will thus still be suffering from severe humanitarian needs that have to be taken into account.

About half of the current number of IDP's in Cabo Delgado are children and are perceived as a particularly vulnerable group with specific needs in in protection and food security. The projected Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) scale for October 2023 – March 2024 indicates that a majority of Cabo Delgado's 17 districts will be in level 3 (crisis) while two of them is indicated to reach level 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 gender-based violence, whereby women and girls are prone to being targeted by various types of sexual assault. Women and children are thus to be perceived as a specifically vulnerable within this setting.

Beyond the conflict, other parameters contribute to the humanitarian situation in the country. Mozambique is among the top three countries in Africa most exposed to extreme climate shocks. The rainy season, which stretches from November to May, often comes with a large risk

of cyclones and other climate disasters. During 2023, two larger cyclones (*Cheneso* and *Freddy*) affected Mozambique with devastating results. In addition to the overall destruction that comes with these climate shocks, ruining infrastructure as well as crops, these also pave the way for the spread of waterborne diseases, such as Cholera. With 2024 being a so called El Niño year, Mozambique has been struck by severe droughts and in mid-year the situation was declared an emergency and OCHA launched a Flash Appeal on 21 of August to trigger a response towards uprising humanitarian needs. It is expected that approximately 1.8 million people may experience food insecurity between October 2024 and March 2025. Of these 1.8 million, OCHA estimates that approximately 1 583 148 are unique and new PINs in relation to the 2024 HNRP assessment. The Flash Appeal itself targets 1,4 million people in geographical regions facing both IPC 3 levels and above and drought severity of 1 (severe drought) and 2 (intense drought). In these drought affected areas one in every three people are deemed as vulnerable.

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 recent and past cyclones and the effects these have brought upon the country, humanitarian needs also occurs further down in mid- and southern Mozambique. As a consequence of cyclone *Freddy* and its devastating aftermath a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) - addendum was released in March 2023, however the recently released Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) for 2024 has woven in these aspects to its scope as well. So, the humanitarian response carries a broader focus, which will continue throughout 2024 to respond to both remaining needs but also to be prepared for new climate shocks. 2024 is predicted to be a so-called El Niño year, which comes with even higher risks for environmental hazards to erupt.

The overall humanitarian response aims to support people in need with the specific objectives of sustaining humanitarian support for the most vulnerable including displaced people, people who have returned to their home areas and host communities. Furthermore the response should also include responding to the needs from potential new displacements. The response will be multisectoral and prioritised to 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 since it is critical in the country due to the rainy season and the risks that come with it, such as water-borne diseases, restricted access as well as agricultural lean seasons.

The largest humanitarian donors active in Mozambique are currently the USA, the European Commission, Germany, and Japan. To showcase donor priorities and strategies the largest donor, the USA, focuses its support primarily on emergency food assistance, protection services, shelter materials, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support. European Commission's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations department (ECHO), as the second-largest donor, focuses on 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.

Due to limited resources, there are sectors within the response that are particularly underfunded. Two of the most underfunded thematic sectors are protection and activities mitigating gender-based violence. In the geographical scope of the humanitarian crisis, there are also active development actors engaged. Essentially, working 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.

4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

The Mozambican crisis, six years in, is starting to be perceived more and more as a protracted crisis and is increasingly being overshadowed by needs in other humanitarian crises around the world, which means less humanitarian fundings allocated to it. 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 use its humanitarian allocation in order to make it as relevant as possible through focusing on the quality funding approach. Flexible funding will allow Sida's partners to be as adaptable 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 needed to carry out their response in the best manner possible.

Sida's humanitarian allocation for 2024 will continue its focus on supporting a multisectoral response with a prioritisation on where the needs are the highest. Sida will keep its specific focus on food insecurity, which is a major concern in the whole area and where actors are struggling to distribute even half rations at the moment due to lack of funds. Additionally, WASH and health is important due to the high risk of endemics. Protection, especially for children and women, will also be a focus as the conflict comes with huge risks for the population, the sector is underfunded, and it is a priority within Sweden's humanitarian strategy.

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 northern districts in Cabo Delgado, namely Palma, Mocimboa de Praia, Nangade, Mueda and Muidumbe, formerly perceived as hard to reach areas. Now with an increasing number of returnees going back to their districts of origin, the needs in these areas will grow even larger. Simultaneously, it is however important to not exclusively focus on the north and overlook the southern parts since there are currently still over 709,529 people displaced there, which is why flexibility will be of utmost importance for Sida's partners. 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.

PARTNER	SECTOR	INITIAL ALLOCATION (SEK)		
		2024	2025	2026
ICRC	Protection, Health, WASH	11,000,000	-	-
NRC	Multi-sector, Protection	8,000,000	8,000,000	-
Save the Children	Child-protection, WASH	7,000,000	-	-
WFP	Food security, Nutrition	9,000,000	-	-
TOTAL		35,000,000	8,000,000	-

5. Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus

In Mozambique, working along the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus to involve development actors and secure more longer-term development funding is of the outermost importance. Furthermore, the humanitarian situation is becoming protracted and the needs of displaced and returnees surpass the available humanitarian resources, leaving critical gaps in the response. As the insurgents tend to benefit from people's lack of opportunities and possibility of exclusion, supporting people in the more medium term to rebuild their communities and to regain lost livelihoods serves to reduce the risk of individuals voluntarily joining the armed group (whether due to personal convictions, or need for an income). Similarly, working on expanding access and availability to basic services in the northern part of Mozambique is an important aspect of addressing some of the root causes to the conflict.

The government has launched two nationally led plans for northern Mozambique to start addressing underdevelopment and recent destruction. The financing is, however, heavily donor dependent. One plan covers the three northern provinces of Mozambique, Niassa, Nampula and Cabo Delgado, and focuses more on longer term development. The other plan is smaller in geographical scope, concerning the six most conflict affected districts within Cabo Delgado, and has a greater focus on infrastructural repairs. The latter is to a large extent being implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, but vast amounts remain unfunded. Security also matter for the implementation of the plans and development interventions, as some areas are unable to attract contractors and development actors due to the unpredictability and volatility of the situation. The involvement of development actors in the context initially came with some difficulties in relation to mandates and humanitarian principles, but the need for interventions integrating a nexus approach and additional funding has increased the understanding on both sides, and cooperation is slowly improving.

The Swedish bilateral development strategy for Mozambique 2022-2026 includes a result area for peaceful and inclusive societies, and has a strong focus on integrating a nexus approach in line with the DAC recommendation, and as such there are opportunities for linkages between the Swedish -funded humanitarian response and nexus aligned development interventions. This

is true both in relation to building on the humanitarian response and in working in alignment to the government of Mozambique's plans in Cabo Delgado, and in working preventatively in Niassa and Nampula. On-going contributions in the north that integrate a HDP-nexus approach are a multi-sectoral intervention for UNICEF, a UN joint-programme on social protection, an intervention on Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights which are partly targeting IDP's in Nampula through the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Ipas. Furthermore, there is also support to Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) primarily for their work in Cabo Delgado on respect and knowledge of Human Rights, and support to the NGO SNV for a programme called Brilho which is providing off grid energy solutions to people in Niassa, Cabo Delgado and Nampula. Additional possibilities to expand basic services, increase food security and livelihood opportunities, and work on social cohesion are currently being assessed. Looking further south, interventions with a strong nexus approach are also taking place along the Beria corridor, where over 100,000 IDP's due to the effects of climate change remain displaced, and where a large number of ex-combatants recently demobilized under the Maputo Peace Accord reside. From the Embassy's side these include a project applying a triple resilience approach comprising environmental, social and economic resilience through the NGO International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), and a multi-sectoral contribution to the Swedish and Mozambican Red Cross.

In relation to Mozambique's susceptibility to climatic events, the Swedish embassy is currently working to include mechanisms that will allow for flexible early/anticipatory action through crisis modifiers to some of its agreements.

ⁱ The 2024 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The methodology was updated during 2023 to more clearly inform an allocation of funding that is proportional between crises, in line with Humanitarian and Good Humanitarian Donorship principles. Key changes in funding levels between the initial allocations for 2023 and 2024 for specific crises are therefore not only reflecting changes in the humanitarian situation but also changes in the analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data, thereby allowing future allocations to be informed by how indicators have changed since previous allocations. 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.