



MOZAMBIQUE

IFRC network mid-year report, January – June 2023

24 November 2023

IN SUPPORT OF THE MOZAMBIQUE RED CROSS SOCIETY



133

National Society branches



167

National Society staff



6,500

National Society volunteers



PEOPLE REACHED

Disasters and crises



914,891

Health and wellbeing



555,268

Migration and displacement



2,210

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW





in Swiss francs (CHF)

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Total | Funding requirements | 11.4M |
| IFRC | Emergency Operations Income | 75,000 |
| | Longer-term Funding requirements | 5.4M |
| Participating National Societies | Income | 1.7M |
| | Funding requirements | 2.4M |
| Host National Society other funding sources | Income | 770,000 |
| | Funding requirements | 3.6M |
| | Income | 575,000 |

[Click here for more financial information](#)

Appeal number **MAAMZ003**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Climate | People reached with activities to address rising climate risks | Applicable data not available |
| | People reached with activities to address environmental problems | Applicable data not available |
| | National Society is implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves) | Applicable data not available |
| Disasters and crises | People reached with disaster risk reduction |  915,000 |
| | People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery | 8,000 |
| | People reached with livelihoods support | 6,000 |
| | People reached with shelter support | Applicable data not available |
| Health and wellbeing | People reached with contextually appropriate health services |  555,000 |
| | People reached with immunization services |  360,000 |
| | People reached with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services |  196,000 |
| | People reached with psychosocial and mental health services | 2,000 |
| | People trained in first aid | 322 |
| Migration and displacement | Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection | 2,000 |
| Values, power and inclusion | People whose access to education is facilitated through National Society programming | Applicable data not available |
| | People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming | Applicable data not available |
| | People reached by National Society educational programmes | Applicable data not available |

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination

Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC network is part of 4

Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of 9

All volunteers are covered by health, accident and death compensation Yes

One National Society Development plan is in place Yes

National Society Development

Strategy for strengthening the auxiliary role developed or implemented Yes

Youth engagement strategy is developed or in place Yes

Humanitarian diplomacy

Domestic advocacy strategies are developed, aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

| National Society | Multilateral Support | Bilateral Support | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | Climate | Values, power and inclusion | Enabling Functions | Disasters and crises | Health and wellbeing |
| American Red Cross | ● | | | | | |
| Austrian Red Cross | ● | | | | | |
| Belgian Red Cross | | ● | | | ● | ● |
| British Red Cross | ● | | | | | |
| Canadian Red Cross Society | ● | | | | | |
| French Red Cross | | | | | ● | |
| German Red Cross | | | | | ● | ● |
| Italian Red Cross | ● | | | ● | | ● |
| Red Cross of Monaco | ● | | | | | |
| Spanish Red Cross | | | ● | | ● | ● |
| Swedish Red Cross | | ● | | | | |
| Swiss Red Cross | ● | | | | | |

Planned
 Supported

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Mozambique is prone to drought, flooding, cyclones, and other disasters. In recent years, Mozambique has suffered repeated devastating cyclones and floods. Almost half the country is subjected to drought, flooding, or both. These natural hazards have always had a long-term impact, especially on the lives of people with a limited capacity to cope. Approximately 60 per cent of the population live along the coastline, where they are exposed to water-borne diseases. The conflict in the northern province of Cabo Delgado aggravates the situation.

By June 2023, the Government of Mozambique's commitment to complete the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration efforts concerning Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo)'s remaining forces was concluded, with the final group of former Renamo combatants and the closure of the last remaining military base in Vunduzi, Sofala province.

Although the Government has made progress toward completing the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process to seal the peace deal and end hostilities with Renamo, the violence and protracted insecurity in northern Mozambique (Cabo Delgado province) remained ongoing during the year. According to estimates by the World Bank (2023), nearly one million people have been displaced by the conflict in Cabo Delgado. More than 420,200 former internally displaced people returned to their places of origin in Northern Mozambique as of March 2023.

Despite improved security conditions, displaced and returning communities continue to face severe humanitarian needs, particularly access to documentation, food, livelihoods, shelter and settlements, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH) support, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Many internally displaced persons are returning to conflict-affected districts that lack adequate basic services and critical infrastructure and where volatile security conditions remain, risking renewed displacement.

With economic growth reaching 4.1 per cent in 2022, Mozambique's economy is gaining momentum amid a challenging global context. Services and agriculture saw a good performance, thanks to the full resumption of mobility and higher agricultural productivity. Increased external demand and prices for Mozambique's key export commodities—notably coal and aluminium—have supported the recovery further.

The medium-term outlook is positive but subject to substantial downside risks. Growth is expected to accelerate in the medium term, reaching 6 per cent over 2023-2025, driven by continued recovery in services, increased liquefied natural gas production, and high commodity prices. However, downside risks linked to climate shocks, security risks, and food and fuel price pressures could lower medium-term gross domestic product (GDP) growth to 4.5 per cent.

More recently, two cyclones put a dent in agriculture output, an important source of livelihood for most Mozambicans living in rural areas as 70 per cent of rural residents depend on agriculture. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are present in areas of southern and central Mozambique that experienced a poor harvest following prolonged dry spells or storms and cyclones in February and March 2023, as household food stocks depleted, along with limited access to income. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) - Differentiates between different levels of severity of acute food insecurity, classifying units of analysis into five distinct phases: (1) Minimal/None, (2) Stressed, (3) Crisis, (4) Emergency, (5) Catastrophe/Famine. Each phase has important and distinct implications for where and how best to intervene, influencing priority response objectives.

Health actors recorded approximately 32,200 suspected cases of Cholera and 141 related deaths throughout Mozambique between September 2022 and June 10, 2023, with approximately 25,300 cases—nearly 80 per cent—reported since late February 2023, according to the Government of Mozambique and WHO.

The primary health risks facing the people of Mozambique include a high risk of COVID-19 transmission, outbreaks of communicable diseases such as cholera, measles, and polio, as well as challenges related to food security and malnutrition.

Between 31 January and 12 March 2023, 11 provinces in Mozambique experienced heavy rains, including rainfall from Cyclone Freddy, which made two landfalls.

By 31 March, 1,255,786 people had been affected by Freddy's double landfall in Mozambique, in eight provinces including Zambézia, Sofala, Inhambane, Tete, Maputo City, Niassa, Gaza and Manica. Tropical Cyclone Freddy and subsequent floods displaced more than 184,000 people and destroyed more than 129,000 houses according to the Government and the UN agencies. Furthermore, the cyclone and floods adversely affected an estimated 966,200 acres of land, risking widespread crop losses.

As of mid-May 2023, relief actors had reached nearly 480,600 people with assistance through the emergency response plans for Cyclone Freddy, the floods, and cholera outbreak by providing food security, health, livelihoods, protection, and WASH assistance as priority needs.

Key achievements

There have been significant advances under each of the strategic priority areas during the first half of the year despite the plan's implementation being impacted by the disasters. Most notably, there has been significant progress for the **Mozambique Red Cross Society** to be recognized as a key partner in scaling up climate action and working with vulnerable communities and governments.

The Mozambique Red Cross has increased its involvement in anticipatory action work across Mozambique and continues developing anticipatory/early action plans, recognized as a key stakeholder in the field. This year, the Mozambique Red Cross and IFRC have forged stronger partnerships with stakeholders across Mozambique and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region to align triggers and early warning messages and develop Early Action Protocols. The National Society was active across external and internal coordination platforms, including the African Dialogue Platform, governmental meetings and trainings, and partner events.

During this reporting period, the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation held the anticipatory action kick-off meeting in Maputo, hosting numerous African National Societies interested in anticipatory action. Additionally, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is exploring new partnerships to promote nature-based solutions. It has invested in developing tree-planting and care, and food security and livelihoods strategies.

During this reporting period, the National Society has also advanced in its commitment to strengthening human resources to respond to global challenges, particularly in the areas of community engagement and accountability (CEA) and youth development. During this reporting period, the National Society continued implementing the national strategy on youth and volunteers, supported strengthening management capacities at the branch level, and actively participated in training and retreats for CEA, disaster risk reduction and climate change.

Furthermore, this year has seen strong coordination membership coordination, enhancing programme effectiveness and response operations. The Movement's coordination efforts were heightened to support the implementation of long-term programmes and respond to emergency disasters in the country. The Mozambique Red Cross, participating National Societies, and IFRC convened regular meetings to assess project overlaps, discuss challenges and opportunities, share tools and resources, and plan activities.

Changes and amendments

The planned interventions of the 2023 country plan were delayed by a series of emergencies that impacted the country, including a cholera outbreak, heavy floods and Cyclone Freddy's dual landfall. These emergencies diverted the attention of the Movement from long-term programming towards emergency response due to the stretched capacities of the National Society and IFRC staff. Plans were revisited to fast-track the implementation of projects so that planned outputs and targets could be reached in the second half of the year. Additionally, given the size and scale of these emergencies, two Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) operations were launched to support the Mozambique Red Cross in its response efforts.

Additionally, climate forecasts indicate growing confidence in a significant El Niño event in late 2023. This is expected to result in below-average rainfall in southern and central Mozambique, while the north is anticipated to receive average rainfall from October to December 2023. These irregular rainfall patterns will likely worsen the impact of reduced access to agricultural inputs on planted areas, affecting the income-earning capacity of vulnerable households dependent on agricultural labour opportunities. Furthermore, flooding can elevate the risk of water-borne diseases, and both flooding and droughts may lead to internal displacement.

In response to this forecast, the National Society has increased its emphasis on climate, environment, disaster, and crisis programming. However, this shift has resulted in a slower implementation of programmes in other sectors.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Mozambique is heavily affected by climate change, which is causing shifts in temperatures and precipitation patterns, sea level rise, and increased frequency and intensity of extreme climatic events, such as droughts, floods, and tropical cyclones. Mozambique was ranked first out of 180 countries in the [Global Climate Risk Index](#), following [Cyclone Idai in 2019](#). The Mozambique Red Cross aims to ensure that its staff and volunteers have better knowledge and capacity to further engage with community members to promote environmental sustainability. Programmes have focused on scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action, and preparedness and enabling climate-resistant livelihoods and ecosystem services.

Coordinating and leading anticipatory action

During this reporting period, the Mozambique Red Cross and the broader Movement have expanded their role in anticipatory action, gaining recognition as critical stakeholders. In the year's first half, the National Society actively coordinated meetings with the Government of Mozambique, hydrological and meteorological services, and partners such as WFP, Save the Children and FAO. These meetings aimed to coordinate early action efforts and define trigger thresholds for droughts, cyclones, and floods. The Mozambique Red Cross will also share its experience activating its Early Action Protocol with the Government and stakeholders, collaborating on anticipatory actions related to cyclones, floods, and droughts.

In May 2023, the preparedness officer represented the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Angola and Mozambique at the anticipatory action training for IFRC staff held in Budapest, Hungary. This event provided an excellent opportunity to engage with the Anticipatory Action team, enhancing IFRC's capabilities in supporting the Mozambique Red Cross.

Throughout this reporting period, IFRC supported the Mozambique Red Cross in re-validating their Cyclone and Floods Early Action Protocols. At the same time, the German Red Cross continued to assist with developing the Drought Early Action Protocol. The Mozambique Red Cross is set to submit the narrative and budget for this Early Action Protocol in September 2023. Each Early Action Protocol has a budget of 500,000 Swiss francs, aiming to assist 2,000 households (approximately 10,000 people). This prioritisation of Early Action Protocols aligns with the natural disasters experienced in the first half of 2023 and anticipates the impacts of El Niño in late 2023.

In June 2023, the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation hosted the kick-off workshop for the anticipatory action grant. The grant aims to support the IFRC network to scale up anticipatory action in Africa and is funded by the Government of Italy for 32 months, until August 2025. The grants aim to set up and further develop anticipatory action systems in National Societies and support National Societies without a completed forecast-based financing system to act early. Participants came from Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Rwanda, Tanzania and South Africa, the IFRC Regional Office, and several IFRC Country Cluster Delegations.

Given that the Mozambique Red Cross is well advanced in the development of Early Action Protocols (one approved for cyclones and two under development for floods and drought), the National Society will utilize the anticipatory action grant to support system strengthening and capacity building to implement the cyclone, floods and drought Early Action Protocols. The latter two were under development to be submitted to the regional team in the third quarter of 2023.

Food security and livelihoods (FSL)

The Mozambique Red Cross and IFRC collaborated to develop a draft strategy for FSL programming in Mozambique. The framework was developed to move Mozambique towards enabling climate change-resistant livelihoods by increasing agricultural production and food and nutrition security. The strategy promotes conservation farming methods and climate-smart agriculture in the local communities to reduce erosion and soil degradation and create

more cost-efficient farming, among others. In 2023, the Mozambique Red Cross continued its sustainable agriculture programme with support from the Government of Japan, focusing on building resilience through Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) initiatives in the northern province of Niassa. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture at provincial and district levels, the programme trained 21 individuals as trainers in sustainable farming practices and crop diversification to address climate change challenges in Cuamba, Mecanhelas, Mandimaba, and Nipepe.

These trained trainers subsequently disseminated knowledge to local community members. The project also provided essential tools and seeds to the most vulnerable households in these districts. A total of 475 households received vegetable seeds, including varieties such as lettuce, cabbage, beans, tomatoes, onions, and farming tools. The National Society developed a plan to establish demonstration gardens to support the training efforts further.

As a result, an estimated 65 per cent of households that received training are actively applying these farming techniques, empowered by the tools and resources provided.

Tree Planting and Care Initiative

The Mozambique Red Cross, with IFRC support, intends to launch a Tree Planting and Care programme which aims to contribute to the protection, management, and restoration of forests while also addressing the drivers of deforestation in Mozambique. Over the past months, the IFRC network supported the draft of the tree planting framework for Mozambique, which will be used as a guide by the National Society, participating National Societies, IFRC, ICRC, and external partners.

The framework identifies and maps tree-depleted areas and categorises them according to specific characteristics that support the design of context-specific interventions for each area. During the first half of 2023, the Mozambique Red Cross and Movement partners created a technical working group for tree planting and care, tasked with providing technical expertise to collectively develop and implement the [IFRC's Pan-African Tree Planting and Care Initiative](#). Work related to this initiative is expected to occur in the second half of 2023 and is inherently linked to ecosystem conservation and climate-smart agriculture.



Disasters and crises IFRC NETWORK ACTION

During this reporting period there were two allocations from IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF).

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Emergency Operation | Mozambique - Floods and Tropical Cyclone Freddy |
| Appeal number | MDRMZ020 |
| Duration | 9 months (23 February 2023 to 30 November 2023) |
| target areas | Gaza, Inhambane, Maputo (city), Maputo, Sofala, Zambezia |
| Funding requirement | 973,954 Swiss francs |
| Link | Mozambique - Floods and Tropical Cyclone Freddy |

Following the two landfalls of Tropical Cyclone Freddy and the impact it brought, the DREF operation was scaled up to address the needs of those impacted by the storm. This response focused on the provinces of Sofala, Zambezia, Inhambane, Gaza, Maputo Province and Maputo City. The Mozambique Red Cross, with IFRC support, aimed to respond and directly support 17,500 people (3,500 households) in affected areas. This support is provided through interventions in shelter, health, and WASH sectors, integrating protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) and CEA. This approach ensures that communities are actively involved in all response stages.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Emergency Operation | Cholera Outbreak and Floods Readiness |
| Appeal number | MDRMZ019 |
| Duration | 6 months (20 January 2023 to 31 July 2023) |
| target areas | Gaza, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambezia |
| Funding requirement | 476,331 Swiss francs |
| Link | Mozambique - Cholera Outbreak |

The Mozambique Red Cross's operational strategy included response activities to stop the ongoing outbreak and to support disease prevention and health promotion efforts across impacted and at-risk communities. The strategy included actions to mitigate various effects of the likely impact of floods on the communities' shelter, livelihood, and health conditions.

Noting that health conditions would deteriorate during the flooding season if vulnerabilities were not addressed in advance, the Mozambique Red Cross ensured that volunteers and staff were mobilized and received appropriate Epidemic Prevention in Communities (EPIc) and CEA training to be able to conduct activities to stop the spread of the outbreak in Niassa, Gaza, Zambezia, Tete, and Sofala provinces.

In the first half of 2023, Mozambique experienced three overlapping crises, as previously mentioned. Therefore, much of the long-term disaster and crisis programming was shifted towards emergency response operations.

The Mozambique Red Cross continued its commitment to disaster risk reduction by raising awareness among vulnerable communities about resilient construction, delivering prompt emergency assistance, and implementing Minimum Actions of Emergencies, among other vital measures. Activities such as developing and disseminating Early Action Protocols (as discussed in the previous section), prepositioning stock, and capacity building play a crucial role in enhancing preparedness and reducing vulnerability to disasters.

Immediate food assistance

Long-term programming aimed at mitigating the impacts of natural disasters and reducing the vulnerability of communities exposed to these natural events is closely aligned with programmes within the climate and environment pillar.

The Government of Japan-supported livelihoods project aimed to provide immediate assistance, including food support, to internally displaced persons affected by the Cabo Delgado conflict and vulnerable individuals in host communities. In addition to the activities mentioned earlier, the Mozambique Red Cross distributed food parcels to 1,082 households, consisting of 442 internally displaced households (41 per cent) and 640 host community households (59 per cent). The parcels addressed basic needs and food shortages, particularly during the lean season. Distribution occurred across four Niassa districts: Cuamba, Mandimba, Mecanhelas, and Nipepe, spanning three cycles. Each household received the following items: 5 kg of beans, 5 litres of cooking oil, 0.5 kg of salt, 5 kg of sugar, and 50 kg of maize flour.

Climate-smart disaster risk reduction

In pursuit of climate-resilient livelihoods and the expansion of disaster risk reduction efforts, the Mozambique Red Cross, in collaboration with the Belgian Red Cross, is actively enhancing the capacity of local communities in the Inhambane province to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. These effects notably include heightened occurrences of droughts, floods, and cyclones.

To achieve this overarching goal, two complementary projects are underway in Vilanculos, Mabote, and Govuro districts. These projects are strategically designed to bolster climate resilience by focusing on three key aspects: disaster preparedness, response capacity, and food security.

Furthermore, these initiatives encompass training sessions and in-kind assistance to elevate the awareness and preparedness levels of local communities within the target areas. In anticipation of the forthcoming rainy season, the projects have established 12 community-level disaster risk management committees, delivering comprehensive training to 216 committee members and effectively implementing early warning systems at the community level.

Flood resilience

Furthermore, in Beira and Buzi within the Sofala provinces, as part of the Floods Resilience Alliance (ZFRA) programme, supported by the Zurich Foundation, The Mozambique Red Cross is actively strengthening the resilience of communities against flooding.

The Mozambique Red Cross has collaboratively worked with local government partners, including Mozambique's National Institute of Disaster Management, the National Institute of Meteorology, and the Central Regional Water Board, to develop policies to establish a comprehensive Sofala Contingency Plan. Within this framework, the Mozambique Red Cross has taken proactive steps to engage with local authorities, resulting in the creation of 6 disaster risk management committees. These committees have been equipped with readiness kits and provided with essential skills, while efforts have been made to improve drainage and waste management systems.

During this period, the disaster risk management local committees have been actively involved in mitigating the impact of floods through the following actions:

- Maintaining a flood warning sensor that covers the communities of Inhabirira, Macurungo, and Massane
- Continuing coordination efforts with local authorities and agencies in preparation for the 2022-2023 rainy season and in response to the potential impact of El Niño
- Strategically and technically coordinating with municipal and environmental departments to select appropriate tree species for coastal protection
- Engaging in ongoing discussions with a community radio station to commence podcasting radio spots aimed at mitigating the impact of floods

The disaster risk reduction activities have reached 37,800 households (approximately 189,000 people) in Beira and Buzi – through messages on flood risk reduction spread through radio spots, door-to-door visits, and other activities. In addition, 60 community volunteers were trained in first aid and climate change awareness activity as part of this project.

Disaster risk reduction, action, and early humanitarian response

To enhance the disaster response capacity of communities, the Mozambique Red Cross, with support from the German Red Cross, has been actively engaged in selected communities in Maputo province, including Maputo City and Matola. This engagement includes:

- Raising awareness and knowledge among targeted communities regarding hazards and risks associated with climate change, as well as equipping them with the know-how to prepare for and respond to these challenges
- Ensuring that these targeted communities undertake small-scale mitigation and preparedness measures, such as rehabilitating access roads using tires and sand, and acquiring the skills necessary for their maintenance

Throughout the first half of the year, the Mozambique Red Cross and the German Red Cross have worked collaboratively to enhance the individual preparedness capacities of the most vulnerable households by implementing mitigation measures at a very small-scale household level. Additionally, they have responded to early warning systems, contributing to the overall resilience of these communities.

Furthermore, these efforts have included awareness campaigns focused on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation within the target communities of Maputo City and Matola District, successfully reaching a total of 5,883 individuals.

Table 2. Total number of people reached by mobilization campaigns

| Age Group | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|-----------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| 5-18 | 768 | 26 | 752 | 26 | 1,520 | 26 |
| 18-49 | 1,710 | 57 | 1,587 | 55 | 3,297 | 56 |
| 50 and up | 529 | 18 | 537 | 19 | 1,066 | 18 |
| Total | 3,007 | 100 % | 2,876 | 100 % | 5,883 | 100 % |

During this reporting period, the Mozambique Red Cross and the German Red Cross, with support from municipalities, initiated road rehabilitation in project-covered blocks affected by erosion due to heavy rains this year. The project has backed communities in implementing mitigation measures to reduce the impact of upcoming rains. These actions are conducted collaboratively with the community to ensure that they can independently maintain the streets in good condition even after the project concludes.



Health and wellbeing

Due to heavy rains, floods, and cyclones, cholera outbreaks recur nationwide. Malaria cases surge during the rainy season (November to March), and Mozambique grapples with chronic diseases like HIV, tuberculosis (TB), and diabetes. The healthcare system faces fragility in terms of infrastructure, equipment, medications, and personnel.

The IFRC network assists the National Society in expanding the scope and quality of community-level health and water, sanitation, and hygiene services in both emergency and non-emergency situations. This includes substantial investments in epidemic and pandemic preparedness, primarily through local actors, networks, and volunteers. These community-based responders are best equipped to detect and address disease outbreaks and other health risks.

Since the onset of COVID-19, the National Society has firmly established itself as a crucial player in responding to epidemic outbreaks. It continues to implement long-term healthcare system support programmes to achieve its goals.

Strengthening the National Society's auxiliary role to the Ministry of Health

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), in collaboration with the Mastercard Foundation, held a workshop in Maputo in April 2023 with member states and implementing partners, including the Mozambique Red Cross. The workshop's purpose was to bring together the technical team from the Ministry of Health and implementing partners to elaborate the micro-plan for the COVID-19 vaccination programme for the country.

The IFRC is continuously supporting the coordination processes between the Mozambique Red Cross and the Botswana Red Cross as well as intends to support the host National Societies to implement risk communication and community engagement activities. These activities will ensure consistent demand for the vaccination and that eligible individuals make informed decisions about being vaccinated, which in turn will enable the National Society to reach its target of vaccinating 3,300,000 people in the four populated provinces in the central region of the country.

Through ECHO funds, the Mozambique Red Cross, in collaboration with the Italian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, has assisted the Ministry of Health in administering vaccines to over 350,000 individuals. This figure surpasses the initial target proposed in November 2022 by 106 per cent (as shown in Table 2).

The support provided by the National Society to the Ministry of Health's mobile vaccination teams has been instrumental in reaching a significant number of people with the COVID-19 vaccine. This outreach has covered 14 districts in Gaza Province, seven districts in Maputo Province, and three districts in Maputo City. It has effectively improved vaccine accessibility for individuals who previously had limited access, ensuring they are not left unvaccinated.

Throughout the reporting period, the project has maintained its focus on social mobilization campaigns and risk communication and community engagement activities, including household visits. These efforts have reached an estimated 230,000 individuals. Additionally, National Society volunteers have played a crucial role at vaccination sites by monitoring the temperature of individuals upon entry and managing crowds to ensure adherence to social distancing measures.

Table 2. Number of people who received the Covid-19 vaccine with support from the Mozambique Red Cross

| Result 4 Indicator 5 | Target | Disaggregation | Total vaccinated (1st, 2nd, Booster) | Total vaccinated 1st dose |
|--|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Number of target group that received a first dose of the vaccine | 339,100 | Male below 18 years | 117,940 | 82,020 |
| | | Female below 18 years | 133,490 | 92,760 |
| | | Male Adults (18-49 years) | 39,760 | 7,020 |
| | | Female Adults (18-49 years) | 51,369 | 7,989 |
| | | Male Elderly (> 50 years) | 7,370 | 3,290 |
| | | Female Elderly (> 50 years) | 8,371 | 3,956 |
| | | TOTAL | 358,300 | 197,035 |
| | | % achievement | 106% | 58% |

Responding beyond the DREF operation to the cholera outbreak

The Mozambique Red Cross went beyond DREF-specific activities to aid the Ministry of Health in responding to the recent cholera epidemic. Over 350 health volunteers were mobilized, with around 40 stationed at cholera treatment centres in Zambezia province. Red Cross volunteers facilitated the administration of cholera vaccines to over 190,000 people in Niassa and Manica provinces through risk communication and community engagement efforts.

In coordination with the Ministry of Health at provincial and district levels, 10,080 bottles of chlorine were distributed to health centres in targeted districts during the cholera outbreak concurrent with project activities. This complemented the cholera response operation serving the same target population.

As the cholera outbreak expanded nationwide, additional support was sought to supplement the DREF's scope. The Mozambique Red Cross and IFRC collaborated with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to enhance infection prevention and control activities. This included health and hygiene promotion training, radio-based sensitization messaging, and the distribution of hygiene kits, personal protective equipment, and cleaning materials.

The Cholera Country Support Platform (CSP)

The Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC) brings together various sectors to assist countries in implementing the Global Cholera Prevention Strategy, "Ending Cholera: A Global Roadmap to 2030." This strategy aims to achieve a 90 per cent reduction in global cholera deaths and cholera elimination in 20 countries by 2030. In response to country-specific needs, the GTFCC established the Cholera Country Support Platform (CSP), primarily focused on helping countries develop and implement their National Cholera Plans (NCPs) for cholera control and elimination. The IFRC serves as the host of the CSP at headquarters and in select countries.

In May 2023, a CSP manager (seconded by SDC) was deployed to Mozambique to support the ongoing NCP development work coordinated by Mozambique's National Institute of Health (INS). During the GTFCC surveillance working group meeting in Maputo in May, the CSP manager had the opportunity to network with key national and international counterparts, including the Mozambican Ministry of Health and other GTFCC partners. In addition to meetings with INS, there were bilateral engagements with GTFCC partners such as WHO, SDC, Centre for Disease Control, UNICEF, MSF, and IFRC. These discussions focused on their activities in Mozambique and the collaborative efforts in response to the recent cholera outbreak.

Promoting health and well-being during non-emergency periods

The Mozambique Red Cross has effectively incorporated health awareness programmes on malaria, cholera and COVID-19 into its ongoing long-term projects across different sectors. In the context of the FSL project funded by the Government of Japan, the National Society supported internally displaced persons and communities affected by climate-related risks such as drought and armed conflict. Approximately 4,620 mosquito nets (three per household) were distributed, and 1,082 households received hygiene kits comprising soap, toothpaste, washing powder, face towels, sanitary pads, and cloth face masks.

Access to safe water plays a critical role in promoting good health. With generous support from the Belgian Red Cross, the National Society has been actively working to ensure the provision of safe water and sanitation in six health centres situated in the Erati and Memba districts within Nampula province. During the reporting period, the procurement process for safe water provision in these six health centres was successfully initiated and completed. Additional activities are expected to continue throughout the remainder of 2023.

Strengthening community health

To ensure improved health outcomes for African communities, the Mozambique Red Cross will also contribute to scaling up a strengthened, people-centred, and integrated community health workforce.

Since 2022, the Belgian Red Cross has supported the National Society in providing basic first-aid training to train approximately 500 volunteers. Planning for training sessions in 2023 has been approved, and implementation is underway.

During the first semester, the Mozambique Red Cross, supported by the Belgian Red Cross, conducted a training of trainers on first aid / blended learning (FABL), resulting in the training of 10 FABL trainers who, in turn, trained 300 individuals using the FABL method. The FABL app has been updated, and the Portuguese version is currently undergoing proofreading by the Mozambique Red Cross. The technical rollout is scheduled for later this year.

The Italian Red Cross continues to support the training of Mozambique Red Cross youth volunteers in community-based health care, first aid, and WASH, among other areas. Additional information can be found in the National Society Development section.



Migration and displacement

With support from ICRC, the Mozambique Red Cross continues carrying out restoring family links (RFL) activities to guarantee the provision of humanitarian assistance support services to internally displaced persons and migrants.



Values, power and inclusion

Community engagement and accountability training for Portuguese-speaking African National Societies

In May 2023, the Mozambique Red Cross hosted the inaugural community engagement and accountability (CEA) training and workshop for Portuguese-speaking National Societies in Africa. Participants included representatives from Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, São Tome and Principe, and Mozambique. The training spanned five days and was supported by IFRC CEA team members at both regional and global levels. Its primary goal was to enhance the capacity of these National Societies in CEA. Attendees were expected to assume responsibility within their respective organizations and disseminate this knowledge through their branches to implement CEA.

Specifically, the training programme aimed to:

- Define CEA and underscore its significance in the Movement's work
- Outline steps for institutionalizing CEA within their organizations, integrating it into policies, procedures, and operational methods

- Emphasize the importance of community feedback mechanisms and provide guidance on establishing them
- Highlight the minimum actions for incorporating CEA into programmes, including assessments, planning, design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and learning
- Address how to integrate CEA into emergency response operations, particularly in scenarios with limited time and heightened urgency
- Explore the CEA Toolkit and its role in enhancing programme and operational accountability to communities
- Foster the development of CEA plans for the respective African National Societies, outlining clear and mutually agreed-upon goals. Additionally, the training aimed to establish a community of practice for Portuguese-language CEA in Africa

Plans are being made to strengthen the Mozambique Red Cross's capacity on protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), and most trainings of the National Society have PGI and CEA embedded. Following the CEA training and considering that, the IFRC [Strategy 2030](#) calls for an urgent shift in leadership and decision-making to the more local level. This puts local communities at the centre of change so that our actions are effective, inclusive and sustainable.

The Mozambique Red Cross, with support from the German Red Cross, has incorporated the cross-cutting approach of CEA in the ongoing disaster risk reduction to early humanitarian action and response project in Maputo City and Matola. Some minimum actions to better understand and direct the project by involving the community at all stages have been implemented to improve the quality and impact in the targeted communities.

During the reporting period, several actions were implemented to enhance transparency and accountability in the projects:

- Volunteers conducted a satisfaction survey in June, reaching 74 households. Results showed that 96 per cent of the surveyed persons were satisfied with the awareness-raising efforts by the volunteers, while 4 per cent expressed dissatisfaction and suggested including more information on domestic violence and diseases like HIV and AIDS and
- A satisfaction survey was conducted regarding the quality of the four latrines constructed in April within the transitional accommodation centre in the Magoanine neighbourhood, which houses flood victims
- A participatory process was used to identify small-scale mitigation measures
- In February 2023, a survey identified the most common illnesses and accidents within the community. In June, community-based volunteer first aid training focused on addressing the identified risks

Planned actions for the next quarter include:

- Preparing for a consultation session in August 2023 to address issues reported by local disaster risk management committees. Addressing these concerns will ensure the successful implementation of project activities.
- Conducting consultations to determine the most suitable materials for building bridges.

Contributing to the reduction of gender-based violence

The Mozambique Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross are jointly executing a project, funded by several city councils, aimed at preventing gender-based violence in Maputo. It is funded by Barcelona City Council, Sant Boi, Sabadell City Council, Granollers City Council and Rubi City Council. The project, in its second phase from 1 March 2022 to 30 November 2023, seeks to reduce gender-based violence by promoting gender equality and empowering female gender-based violence survivors in specific areas of Maputo and Inhambane provinces.

Specific goals include:

- Strengthening community capacities to combat gender-based violence, improving support services for survivors, and enabling socio-economic empowerment for women affected by gender-based violence
- Contributing to gender-based violence reduction through the promotion of gender equality, institutional strengthening of public structures, and socio-economic empowerment of survivors in various Maputo neighbourhoods

Based on the specific outputs of the project, the following actions have been carried out during the period:

Improved knowledge of women's rights, equity and gender-based violence at the community level to prevent, detect and report situations of gender-based violence

- Conducted awareness campaigns to educate the community about gender-based violence and available support mechanisms, reaching 446 households (246 in Maputo and 200 in Inhambane)
- Provided reinforcement training to 18 Mozambique Red Cross members and volunteers, as well as six community leaders in Morrumbene and 11 leaders in Inhambane, focusing on human rights, women's rights, and gender-based violence prevention
- Revitalized and retrained focal points and ten students linked to the project in gender-based violence-related subjects from professional technical institutes in Mocodoene, Combine, and Unisave in Inhambane province in March 2023
- Initiated the process of sensitizing teachers in Maputo, with plans for teacher and student training on building non-violence beginning in October 2023. This effort aims to create peer educators to drive change in their communities

Strengthening the capacities and resources of those responsible for the Multisectoral Mechanism for Comprehensive Care for Women Victims of Violence to improve the offer of prevention and comprehensive care services and their approach to the population

- Staff and officials in provincial and district sectors from social action, health, police, and Justice underwent training and reinforcement in gender rights and equality, case identification, and integrated care for women survivors of gender-based violence in both provinces.
- Monitoring visits were conducted by both the Maputo and Inhambane teams to assess performance and provide technical support in applying the multisectoral mechanism for integrated assistance to women victims of violence in health units and police posts. These visits demonstrated an improvement in the capacity of the actors involved in coordinating and applying the Mechanism's protocols, as per the gender-based violence care performance tool.
- Health providers in the health units at the headquarters and localities in Inhambane province received training in Forensic Medicine and the Basic Package in gender-based violence.
- The Mozambique Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross participated in organizing and coordinating the 5th Provincial Forum on gender-based violence in Inhambane. This forum saw extensive social and governmental participation from across the province. Employing an integrated approach, the Forum aimed to enhance the quality and availability of services for women, children, and adolescents who had experienced gender-based violence.

Increasing the socio-economic empowerment of women survivors of gender-based violence in the KaMavota and KaMaxakene districts through training in business management, women's rights, leadership, vocational training, employability support and the creation of micro-enterprises

- Meetings with the Integrated Care Centres for Victims of Violence (CAIVVV) have identified and selected women survivors of gender-based violence in the KaMavota and KaMaxakene districts for training in women's rights and leadership. Once the required number of participants is confirmed, the planning and logistical arrangements for these training sessions will commence.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

External coordination

During the review period, the Mozambique Red Cross continued its collaborative efforts with the government in humanitarian and development programmes, holding a pivotal role as a key stakeholder. The National Society actively engaged in disaster management coordination platforms at the national and provincial levels. Given the disaster response nature of this period in Mozambique, coordination meetings led by the National Institute for Management and Disaster Risk Reduction (INGD) and the National Institute of Meteorology (INAM) primarily focused on coordinating the response to floods and cyclones that the country faced.

Joint evacuations, assessments, and distribution of household items were conducted in collaboration with the government, capitalizing on the strength of the volunteer network. The Ministry spearheaded coordination meetings for cholera response, with the National Society participating at all levels.

In the realm of health, the Mozambique Red Cross closely collaborated with the Ministry of Health to implement long-term projects, including COVID-19 vaccination (COVAX) and cholera response. This collaboration extended to both national and provincial levels, ensuring effective coordination and cooperation. Discussions during these meetings centred around planned activities and geographical coverage, among other key topics.

Mozambique is a part of the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) grant, focusing on strengthening national coordination mechanisms for anticipatory action. The delegation has been finalizing a tripartite agreement with SADC and European Union, with IFRC supporting the operationalization of the SADC Humanitarian Emergency Operations Centre in Nacala, Mozambique. Additionally, the IFRC and National Society remain actively involved in the multistakeholder application for the Green Climate Fund.

Regular Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meetings are held in Mozambique, led by the Mozambique Red Cross in the role of Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator with OCHA's support. These meetings occur twice a month, and the National Society participates alongside other international actors. IFRC has supported the National Society for Shelter Cluster Coordination during emergencies.

During the review period, while the National Society was in the process of revising its Emergency Action Plans for cyclones and floods, partnerships were maintained with INGD, INAM, and other stakeholders. The Mozambique Red Cross also worked closely with WFP on developing the drought Early Action Protocol, which is nearing completion.

The Mozambique Red Cross is part of and participates in coordination meetings of the Charter for the Humanitarian Consortium of Mozambique (CHEMO), bringing together international and national NGOs in Mozambique to actively contribute to disaster risk reduction efforts in the country, aiming at strengthening community resilience.

Membership coordination

As part of its core mandate the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation coordinates the work of its members in the delegation. There are altogether six participating National Societies – Belgium Red Cross-, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross. Participating National Societies continue to support both humanitarian and developmental work of the Mozambique Red Cross. Regular monthly coordination meetings are held within the IFRC network, involving the National Society's management. Various technical meetings are conducted in sectors such as disaster management, health, and National Society development as part of the unified planning process.

The first half of 2023 was very much dominated by response operations, including the cholera response and the Freddy Cyclone. The IFRC network came together in support of the Mozambique Red Cross Response Plan with financial, material, and human resources.

Movement coordination and cooperation

Regular meetings are held with leadership from the Mozambique Red Cross, IFRC and ICRC to discuss matters of common interest. ICRC has been a consistent supporter of the National Society's work in Cabo Delgado, the conflict-affected province. Three meetings took place during the reporting period, with additional meetings postponed due to the demands of response operations.

The IFRC Head of Delegation in Maputo serves as one of the Seville Agreement 2.0 Champions and recently participated in global training conducted in June 2023. This training aimed to establish a group of experts proficient in the Seville Agreement worldwide, capable of providing guidance and support in situations requiring specialized knowledge and input.

Resource mobilization (domestic fundraising and international support)

During the review period, both IFRC and the Mozambique Red Cross have made concerted efforts to enhance resource mobilization. The Mozambique Red Cross established new partnerships with the Swedish Red Cross under the unified planning process. Additionally, financial support for the cholera response of the National Society was provided by the Swiss Development Cooperation.

The Italian Red Cross remains committed to supporting the National Society Development (NSD) efforts. In support of this work, IFRC assisted the Mozambique Red Cross in applying for the Capacity Building Fund, facilitating board induction and the establishment of a youth structure.



National Society development

Mozambique Red Cross Statutory and legal framework

During the extraordinary session of the General Assembly, the Mozambique Red Cross approved a revised version of its statutes. However, the previous version, which was prepared in 2017, is now outdated. As a result, the General Assembly decided to initiate another revision of the statutes to create a more up-to-date and improved version.

Leadership support

Support has been extended to the senior leadership of the National Society, encompassing governance development and management. Regular meetings have been held with the National Society Secretary General and the National Society Development team to ensure alignment of priorities and activities.

In June 2023, a Movement Induction Course (MIC) was conducted for the National Leadership as well as the elected provincial boards. This marked the first Portuguese-language MIC attended by the National Society, offering valuable insights into governance development and National Society management.

Youth development and volunteering

IFRC has provided support for youth development initiatives. The Italian Red Cross has a national programme focused on youth development in schools and, in collaboration with the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation, facilitated the induction and the Youth General Assembly. During this assembly, youth representatives were elected, and one of them now holds a seat on the Governing Board. This alignment of international support with development priorities also grants access to the National Society Development funding stream.

Youth capacity building

The Italian Red Cross has continued its support for implementing the National Strategy on Youth and Volunteers in collaboration with the Mozambique Red Cross. This bilateral project began in June 2021. The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation coordinates contributions to National Society Development from various partners, and starting next year, the Italian Red Cross's plan will be integrated into the IFRC National Society Development plan. The goal is to extend this approach to all partners. Additionally, the Mozambique Red Cross has benefited from support provided by the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) for the Movement Induction Course (MIC), youth induction, and the extraordinary session of the General Assembly.

National Society staff capacity development

The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation first retreat occurred in Nairobi, Naivasha, in June 2023. This retreat aimed to enhance the National Society's capacity in DRR, climate change adaptation, and Preparedness for Effective Response. It provided an opportunity to review and discuss the DRR strategy, goals, mission, and vision for the upcoming three years (2024 to 2026). Additionally, the CEA training mentioned in the previous section was conducted during this reporting period.



Humanitarian diplomacy

The Mozambique Red Cross has made significant strides in advancing its objectives by implementing strategic communication and advocacy activities bolstered by the steadfast support of the IFRC network. One of the key approaches employed was conducting meetings between the Mozambique Red Cross leadership and government Directors for the areas where the Mozambique Red Cross operates, enabling the National Society to engage with pertinent stakeholders actively.

Additionally, the Mozambique Red Cross played a pivotal role in high-profile events such as anticipatory action forums, where they not only participated but also took centre stage as keynote speakers, thereby amplifying their influence and impact. During the Cyclone Freddy response, the Mozambique Red Cross spokesperson emerged as a prominent figure in the media landscape, offering authoritative updates and insights. Notably, the Mozambique Red Cross's reputation as a reliable source of ground-level information was evident during both landfalls of the cyclone, with media outlets turning to them for accurate and timely updates.

The Mozambique Red Cross was invited to high-level emergency response meetings, often presided over by ministers and even the President of Mozambique. These were held in the provinces that bore the brunt of the cyclone's landfall. This seat at the table underscored Mozambique Red Cross's leadership in disaster response. The opportunity to directly engage with top government officials showcased the Mozambique Red Cross's expertise, commitment, and critical contributions to the recovery efforts, firmly establishing them as front-runners in effectively addressing the urgent needs of the affected communities.

The IFRC's innovative approach of disseminating content in Portuguese on Facebook, managed through the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation, has proven instrumental in conveying Mozambique Red Cross messages and efforts while preserving the authenticity of their narrative without translating to another language. This collaborative effort between the Mozambique Red Cross and the IFRC is a testament to effective humanitarian diplomacy, enhancing public trust, fostering understanding, and magnifying the impact of their vital work.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Financial development and accountability are integral to the work of the Mozambique Red Cross. To enhance financial management and development within the National Society, a working group has been formed. The primary objective is establishing an efficient system at the Mozambique Red Cross headquarters and branches, thereby increasing transparency and strengthening accountability to all stakeholders. The working group is led by the IFRC finance and administration delegate, with participation from the Mozambique Red Cross finance director and support from the Swedish Red Cross finance delegate.

An analysis of the National Society's financial gaps has been conducted, and the recommendations derived from this analysis will inform the Plan of Action, which will be presented to partners for support. The aim is to ensure that the Mozambique Red Cross has a dynamic management approach and a renewed financing model.

In collaboration with the Italian Red Cross, the IFRC has supported the Mozambique Red Cross in developing and updating its Risk Management Framework based on IFRC guidelines. The creation of the Terms of Reference for an internal audit and risk management committee has been supported. Furthermore, the IFRC has supported the revision of integrity and transparency policies and procedures.

Staff security remains a top priority in the IFRC delegation. To ensure this, regular security updates are provided during weekly staff meetings every Monday. The security focal point uses this opportunity to interact with staff and reinforce security awareness.

Staff in the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation are provided with skills development opportunities such as workshops or peer-to-peer support. Inductions of new staff members have been given emphasis during the period under review. For example, the logistics and procurement officer completed a two-week onboarding in Nairobi in May 2023. Both the IFRC communications officer and the National Society communications focal point attended the Global Communications Workshop in Jordan, while the IFRC communications officer also participated in workshops on Humanitarian Diplomacy and Strategic Partnerships & Resource Mobilization in Nairobi. The human resource officer received training in Uganda, focusing on standardizing HR-IFRC procedures in the Africa region. Additionally, the preparedness officer attended a retreat in Nairobi, facilitating connections with DRR team members from various National Societies and cluster delegations.

The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation boasts a diverse staff, consisting of both national and international personnel. Maintaining a strong gender balance, the team consists of 55 per cent women and 45 per cent men.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2023. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) data
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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