

# 12 MONTH OPERATIONS UPDATE

# **Mozambique | Drought**

Emergency appeal №: MDRMZ024

**Emergency appeal launched:** 23/05-2024

**Operational Strategy published:** 27/07/2024

Operation update 12 months (#4)

Date of issue: 25/06/2025

Operation timeframe: 14 months

(23/05/2024 - 30/06/2025)

Funding requirements (CHF):

CHF 5 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal

CHF 6 million Federation-wide

Glide №:

DR-2024-000073-MOZ

Timeframe covered by this update:

From 27/05/2024 to 31/05/2025

Number of people being assisted: 61,165 people (12,233

HHs)

**DREF** amount initially allocated:

CHF: 750,000

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 6,000,000 (Fed-wide), is 17 % per cent funded. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the National Society, with the support of the IFRC and PNSs, to continue with the provision of humanitarian assistance and support resilience building efforts for people affected by the drought.



 $Figure~1.~CVM~staff~and~volunteer~during~e-~voucher~for~food~distribution~\_Marara\_Tete$ 

# A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

# **Description of the crisis**

Mozambique continues to experience the severe effects of the strong 2023-2024 El Niño season which brought below-average rainfall to southern and central Mozambique and above-average rainfall to the northern regions of the country, severely impacting agriculture and rural livelihoods. Provinces such as Tete, Gaza, Manica, and Inhambane, known for high production and pastoral activities, have seen significant reductions in agricultural output with well below-average harvests compared to last year and the five-year average.

In mid-2024, approximately 690,000 hectares of crops were damaged by the drought (OCHA). This has led to high competition for limited income opportunities and ultimately resulted in food access deficits for many poor and very poor households (FEWS NET, July 2024). The Mozambique National Institute of Statistics' (INE) June 2024 report indicated a steady annual inflation rate of 3%, with significant price increases in education and food and non-alcoholic beverages (Mozambique National Institute of Statistics). From May to June 2024, maize grain prices fluctuated across the country, with notable increases in the central and northern zones due to low supply and drought effects. Prices were 40% higher or more compared to last year and 55% higher than the five-year average, eroding purchasing power and leading to food consumption deficits (Mozambique National Institute of Statistics).

In 2024, approximately 2.7 million people were experiencing crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC3+) due to El Niño-induced drought. Towards the end of 2024, Mozambique experienced further issues related to food insecurity due to demonstrations related to the electoral period in the country. These contributed to limiting the supply of goods, restricting access to food markets, and increasing food prices. Additionally, compounding impacts of Tropical Storms and Cyclones and flooding in 2024 and 2025 (TS Filipo'24, TC Chido'24, TC Dikeledi'25; TC Jude' 25) continued to detrimentally impact communities' lives and livelihoods. These storms, cyclones, and floods cause significant infrastructural damage and further devastate agricultural lands. While the rainy season has increased some agricultural yields across the region, areas impacted by cyclones, floods, and storms experienced more limited gains (FEWS NET, May 2025). For example, the flooding in 2025 affected communities along the Licungo and Limpopo basins in Gaza and Zambezia provinces, respectively, with over 400,000 people impacted.

By March 2025, approximately 1.9 million people were still experiencing acute food insecurity (FEWS NET, May 2025). The World Bank Food Security Update indicates that food inflation was between 5-30% each month since 2024 through May 2025 (World Bank FS Update). With the new year, the Southern Africa region has reentered the next dry season. According to the NOAA, several countries in the southern region have been experiencing rainfall deficiencies since February, including northeastern South Africa and the southern part of Mozambique, leading to abnormal dryness. With the latest MET Monthly Climate Outlook report indicating that most countries in the region will expect normal or lower than usual rainfall levels and warmer than normal conditions for the period June to August, many countries could be exposed to dry conditions that would affect agriculture, food security and the population's livelihood.

# **Summary of response**

## Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

The Mozambique Red Cross Society (CVM) has a long history, having been founded over 40 years ago and becoming a member of the IFRC in 1989. With its headquarters in Maputo, CVM operates through a network of three central warehouses, 11 provincial branches, 111 district branches, 165 staff, and nearly 7,000 volunteers. This extensive network allows CVM to have a significant reach and influence at the national, provincial, and district levels. CVM serves

as an auxiliary to the public authorities, bringing its experience in humanitarian response, disaster risk reduction (DRR), epidemic preparedness and response, and social activities to support the government.

CVM's capacity in the provinces targeted by the emergency appeal (Manica, Gaza, Tete, and Inhambane) has been strengthened through the programs and ongoing efforts to enhance preparedness and response capabilities. The NS, supported by in-country Partner National Societies (PNSs), has ongoing projects focusing on disaster risk reduction (DRR), WASH, health, disaster preparedness, and livelihoods has invested in capacity building through training staff in Enhanced Vulnerability Community Assessment (EVCA) and National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT). It has also pioneered Anticipatory Action in Mozambique, developing Early Action Protocols (EAP) for cyclones and floods, with a drought EAP under validation, tested successfully in Massingir, Gaza province, in 2023, CVM has maintained a strong and collaborative relationship with the government, particularly in disaster management. CVM is an auxiliary to public authorities and collaborates closely with the National Institute of Disaster Management (INGD), the National Institution of Meteorology (INAM), and provincial and district authorities. This partnership enables coordinated efforts in disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness, and response activities. CVM plays an integral role in supporting the government's strategies and initiatives to mitigate and manage disasters across the country through its involvement in national disaster response frameworks and cluster meetings. In response to the deteriorating drought situation, the Government of Mozambique took action to mitigate the impacts of the drought, including rehabilitating water systems, setting up irrigation systems, distributing drought-tolerant seeds and other agricultural inputs including small animals, holding nutrition training for communities, disseminating drought messages, together with cash and voucher assistance to the most vulnerable households and further requested for international support, besides the already initiatives under taken. CVM, along with the IFRC, participates in cluster meetings for WASH and FSL and leads the Shelter Cluster for disasters. They engage in internal coordination through Gabinete de Operações de Emergência GODE meetings to ensure efficient technical and operational response across all levels.

To support Government efforts, the Emergency Appeal was launched in May 2024. The planned response aimed at meeting the urgent basic needs, including food and livelihoods, health, nutrition, and WASH while taking cross-cutting sectors into consideration including Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), and risk reduction, climate adaptation, resilience, and recovery. In summary, the following are some of the achievements made so far by Mozambique Red Cross Society (CVM), with IFRC and bilateral support under this Emergency Appeal:

#### Food Security and Livelihood Support

- ✓ Provided 2 rounds of food vouchers to 3,200 households, with contributions from the Belgian-Flanders and the American Red Cross. The third round of distributions is currently ongoing.
- ✓ Achieved a 98% satisfaction rate among beneficiaries for the food vouchers received.
- ✓ Conducted Market Assessments and CVA feasibility study in the 4 provinces covered by the Appeal (Gaza, Inhambane, Tete, Manica).
- ✓ Introduced and trained CVM teams on the RedRose digital platform for e-voucher distributions, advancing digital Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) systems.

## Health & Nutrition

- ✓ Volunteers are active in communities promoting nutritional practices in community kitchens for mothers and infants in Gaza, Manica, and Inhambane. Also, referring children to health centres.
- ✓ 64 volunteers have been trained in nutritional and health promotion.

#### WASH

✓ CVM has conducted field assessments in Gaza to identify boreholes that can be rehabilitated.

## Risk Reduction and Climate Adaptation

✓ Conducted a Training of Trainers (ToT) on Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) for 10 participants (6 CVM, 4 IFRC), supported by the Swedish Red Cross.

# Community Engagement and Accountability:

- √ 80 volunteers trained in Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Health, CVA, and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) standards.
- ✓ Held 15 community meetings to explain selection criteria and program details of voucher distribution, reinforcing transparency.
- ✓ Integrated PGI considerations into eVCA to ensure inclusive targeting of vulnerable groups such as women, children, and persons with disabilities.

## Regional Coordination and Learning

- ✓ Participated on the regular regional coordination calls and the Southern Africa Drought Workshop in Zimbabwe in May 2024.
- ✓ Engaged in a Resource Mobilization and Communications Workshop in Johannesburg to build strategic capacities.

Under this operation, CVM has prioritized voucher assistance for food, targeting 3200 households in 4 provinces of Gaza, Manica, Inhambane, and Tete. The first distribution was conducted through paper vouchers. However, for more operation efficiency, CVM completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> distribution piloting the RedRose one solution platform. The set-up and use of the Red Rose platform serves to enhance accountability, efficiency, and scalability, both within the Emergency Appeal Drought Operation and for broader capacity building of the National Society to implement Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) programming. The 3<sup>rd</sup> distribution is underway, and a fourth distribution is being planned.

To ensure scale up of the operation to long-term resilience through implementation of long-term disaster Risk Reduction interventions, CVM, with the support of IFRC and Swedish RC trained 10 staff (6 from CVM staff and 4 from IFRC) 8 staff at HQ on Enhanced Vulnerability Community Assessments (EVCA) who will support the rollout of EVCA in each of the 4 provinces. These assessments will inform about the interventions which will be undertaken to strengthen coping capacities and continuously reduce the risks of the communities to El Nino-induced drought.

CVM has also conducted water accessibility assessments to assess which boreholes could be rehabilitated under this operation and is providing nutritional health information to communities. However, it is not currently engaging in malnutrition screening nor providing supplementary feeding for malnourished children due to lack of funds. CVM has engaged with the Government and communities on which activities would be most beneficial to continue carrying out under the Emergency Appeal, with a focus on longer-term impacts to build to build resiliency to further climate-related shocks and to reach those most in need who have not been previously targeted by Anticipatory Actions and response efforts of other actors.

# **Needs analysis**

Mozambique is facing a severe and protracted drought exacerbated by the 2023–2024 El Niño event, which has significantly disrupted seasonal rainfall patterns. Southern and central provinces—including Gaza, Tete, Manica, and Inhambane—have been hardest hit, experiencing below-average rainfall and extensive crop failure. Improvements from the 2024-2025 rainy season were limited in areas impacted by flooding, storms and cyclones, compounding the national crisis.

**Food Security:** By March 2025, approximately 1.9 million people were experiencing crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC 3+) due to poor harvests, damaged crops (estimated 690,000 hectares), and soaring staple food prices. Maize prices have surged up to 55% above the five-year average, severely eroding household purchasing power. Many households have resorted to negative coping mechanisms, including reducing meal frequency and migrating in search of food.

**Livelihoods:** The drought has decimated agricultural production and pastoralist systems, with significant reductions in both crop yields and livestock productivity. Income-generating opportunities are scarce, especially in rural areas, deepening poverty and economic vulnerability.

**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):** Extended dry spells have limited access to safe drinking water, forcing many communities to rely on unprotected sources shared with animals, significantly increasing the risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea. Women and children are disproportionately affected, as they must travel long distances to collect water.

**Health and Nutrition:** The crisis is contributing to rising cases of malnutrition, particularly among children under five. Poor WASH conditions and overcrowded displacement settings are elevating the risk of disease outbreaks, including cholera, malaria, and tuberculosis. The high national HIV prevalence adds further strain to already fragile health systems.

**Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI):** Women, girls, and persons with disabilities face heightened risks. The burden of water collection, food insecurity, and displacement has increased exposure to gender-based violence (GBV), exploitation, and psychosocial distress. Child protection risks have also increased, with rising school dropouts and forced migration.

**Education:** Economic pressures, migration in search of food and water, and poor health have disrupted school attendance, particularly for girls. In some areas, schools are being used as temporary shelters, further limiting access to education.

The scale and multi-sectoral nature of this drought emergency necessitate a coordinated, inclusive, and resilience-focused response. Priority needs include food assistance (e.g., vouchers), WASH, health and nutrition services, livelihood restoration, and targeted PGI and education support. These interventions should be designed with climate adaptation and community resilience in mind, in line with SP1 (Climate and Environment), SP2 (Disasters and Crises), and cross-cutting PGI and CEA frameworks.

# **Operational risk assessment**

Currently, there have been no significant changes in the operational context that would affect the anticipated risks. While the electoral period posed challenges in movement and access to communities and caused delays in implementation, in the first quarter of 2025, the situation stabilised. However, the cyclone and flooding season hs been posing a risk of compounding crises on the already vulnerable population. With three cyclones and various floods affecting the country in early 2025, have diverted emergency efforts to respond to the immediate needs of those affected by cyclones and floods which have delayed some Drought operation activities. However, CVM had mitigated part of this risk by ensuring a different team of staff was available to continue doing the key Drought Appeal activity of voucher distributions. Further delays are not expected, and the no-cost extension will allow for the completion of activities that have been postponed based on availability of resources and competing needs earlier in the operation.

# B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

# **Update on the strategy**

The operational strategy developed for Mozambique Drought Emergency Appeal aimed to assist to support the CVM in responding to the humanitarian needs of 61,165 people affected by the drought under the IPC 3+ phase of food insecurity across the provinces of Gaza, Tete, Manica, and Inhambane. The operation is designed to target 16 districts in total, four in each province, when fully funded. Due to funding availability, the operation is currently targeting 8 districts, 2 per province, in the provinces of Gaza, Tete, Manica, and Inhambane. Therefore, all targets have been revised down to match the 8 districts currently targeted. Indicators have been revised accordingly as well.

The drought emergency response strategy has short, mid- and long-term recovery under three pillars (Food Security and Livelihoods; Health and Nutrition; and WASH). The National Society has completed the majority of the short-term activities (immediate relief through vouchers for food) and has started mid-term to long-term activities (borehole rehabilitation, nutrition and health promotion, and climate adaptation and risk reduction activities).

The operation has secured earmarked funding to cover a fourth round of food voucher distribution to households affected by the drought and continue with the eVCAs. Additional bilateral support to cover operational activities in the province of Gaza (FSL, WASH, and HEALTH pillars) has allowed for remaining funds to be reprioritized. The activities prioritized have been selected through discussions with donor governments, communities, and stakeholders on the ongoing needs. The activities are all aligned with the original plans of the Emergency Appeal. There is still not enough funding (appeal funded at 17%, including DREF loan), for all activities originally planned under the Emergency Appeal to take place.

Through this operations update, the Emergency Appeal is to be extended for another 4 months, up to 31st October 2025, in order to complete the activities highlighted below. CVM will continue focusing on immediate needs (voucher for food) as well as activities with longer-term impacts, such as climate-smart agricultural trainings with provision of agricultural inputs and borehole rehabilitation. Other activities, such as set up or irrigation systems, tree planting, and further distributions of WASH items, will not take place due to the limited availability of funding.

Thematic Area	Remaining Activities
Health and Nutrition (Pilar 2)	• Continue implementing nutritional health demonstrations in communities through the set-up of mothers' clubs (already ongoing in Gaza and Manica, started in Inhambane, to be set up in Tete)
Water and Sanitation Hygiene (Pilar 3)	<ul> <li>Rehabilitation of selected boreholes (assessment for selection of boreholes already completed in Gaza, and will be done in the remaining provinces)</li> </ul>
Livelihoods and Basic Needs (Pilar 1)	<ul> <li>Conduct a fourth round of voucher distribution (earmarked funding planned for June)</li> </ul>
Climate Adaptation and Risk Reduction	<ul> <li>Conduct eVCAs (training completed, implementation scheduled for June and July), follow up from eVCA findings in August-September</li> <li>Climate-smart agricultural training and distribution of agricultural inputs (to be completed in August in time for the next planting season is in September-October)</li> <li>Provide Early Warning messages and information in anticipation of drought</li> </ul>

Community Engagement and	•	Training on CEA with IFRC regional support and development, or a more		
Accountability/PGI		formalized NS community feedback mechanism that can be used for and		
beyond this response				
National Society Strengthening • Finalize/validate the Drought EAP				
Coordination and Partnerships		Continue engagement with the FSL cluster and the government around		
		the El Nino Drought response		

# C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

# STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

## **RESPONSE PILLAR 1: FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS**



# **Food security and Livelihoods**

Female: 20,852 Male: 19,248

Objective:	Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods		
Key	Indicator	Actual	Target
indicators:	# of households that successfully received vouchers for food	3,200	8,020
	# of times that voucher assistance was provided	3* (2 completed, 3 <sup>rd</sup> underway)	5
	% of households receiving vouchers were satisfied with the amount	71%	85%
	# of PDM conducted	2	5

## Progress:

## Voucher assistance for food

CVM, with the support of the IFRC and Partner National Societies, successfully provided food voucher assistance to 3,200 households (800 per district; 2 districts per province) across four drought-affected provinces: Gaza, Tete, Manica, and Inhambane. This critical intervention was carried out two times, first through paper vouchers and subsequently via a digital e-voucher system using the RedRose platform, marking a significant step toward digitizing CVA operations in Mozambique. The third voucher round is currently taking place. A fourth voucher round is being planned. There is no 5<sup>th</sup> round of voucher distribution nor the addition of further households to receive vouchers due to limited funding of the Appeal. These 3,200 families received food vouchers valued at CHF 70 per household, enabling them to purchase essential food items through pre-selected local vendors. The intervention addressed immediate food insecurity in regions heavily impacted by the ongoing drought and compounded by inflation, crop failure, and rising food prices.



Figure 2: Figure 3. CVM \_staff conducting CEA, on how beneficiaries can use voucher and RR smart cards to receive food\_Tete \_Marara

Round 1: Paper Voucher Distribution: Due to post-election unrest and related security concerns, CVM opted to initiate the first round of distributions using paper vouchers to avoid delaying critical assistance. In November 2024, CVM rolled out the distribution across all four provinces, mobilizing 80 trained volunteers and 20 staff to manage logistics, community engagement, and crowd control. The paper voucher model enabled households to redeem their vouchers promptly with 11 contracted vendors, selected through a thorough market assessment. This initial phase ensured timely support while building the operational groundwork for the digital transformation of the voucher programme.

Round 2: Transition to E-Voucher Distribution: Following the stabilization of the security situation and the successful completion of technical preparations, CVM transitioned to a fully digital e-voucher model in the second round of voucher distribution. Using the RedRose One Solution platform, CVM delivered digital food vouchers to the same 3,200 households<sup>1</sup>.

The e-voucher system allowed for:

- Automated beneficiary validation using digital ID and registration records.
- Real-time tracking of voucher issuance, redemption, and vendor payments.
- Increased transparency, accountability, and data accuracy.

Volunteers and technical teams facilitated the smooth implementation of the digital distribution process at community distribution sites. Beneficiaries who received e-vouchers had their data verified directly via the RedRose platform, streamlining distribution and reducing operational risks.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The three households not reached during round 1 (as explained in the last OU), were able to be supported through the second round of CVA

Round 3: ongoing May 26th-May 31st; Round 4 being planned.

At this stage, no 5<sup>th</sup> round of voucher is planned due to funding availability.

# Capacity Building on CVA and System Integration:

Before going to the field, 8 CVM employees received training on rapid market assessment in Maputo, and 10 volunteers were trained in each province to conduct the assessment. The assessment team visited selected markets, collecting information from traders and key informants. A total of **26 vendors** were interviewed as part of the "RAM Ferramenta 9: Diálogo com comerciantes (Wholesale or Retail)" survey. This survey aimed to gather information about their business practices, supply chains, experiences with voucher programs, and their willingness to participate in future interventions.

Additionally, 43 community members to get local perspectives. Interviews were also conducted with community leaders and district technicians, providing a detailed overview of the challenges faced by traders and the affected population.

The combination of interviews with vendors, community members, and key informants allowed for a detailed understanding of market dynamics, community needs, and the roles of various stakeholders in responding to the crisis.

# Geographic analysis of markets and drought-affected populations

The drought in the provinces of Gaza, Inhambane, Manica and Tete has had a severe impact on agricultural production, local economies and community livelihoods. Market assessments carried out with traders and community leaders reveal challenges such as reduced market access, rising prices and transport difficulties, exacerbating the shortage of essential goods. The limited diversity of products and financial constraints also affect the stability of local markets. As a solution, the beneficiaries highlight the urgent need to improve market access and stabilize essential goods to mitigate the effects of the crisis.

# <u>Vendors response capacity and constraints</u>

The assessment sampled 26 traders in the different districts, including based on where community members identified as their main merchant of choice and distance to markets. They also emphasized the need for reliable local suppliers capable of consistently meeting the demand for essential goods such as rice, maize flour, beans, cooking oil, sugar, and salt.

# **Vendor Capacity and Coverage:**

The market assessment identified 26 vendors, 18 of which were located close to the target districts, but not always accessible to the most isolated communities. Many local suppliers faced difficulties in meeting demand due to logistical limitations or unfulfilled legal requirements. In response, it became necessary to contract suppliers outside the initially selected areas, ensuring continuity and efficiency in the distribution of essential goods. The analysis highlighted challenges such as product availability, transport, storage and the geographical reach of traders, with large suppliers demonstrating greater supply capacity, while small traders faced difficulties in meeting all needs in some remote regions.

# **Legal Compliance and Pricing:**

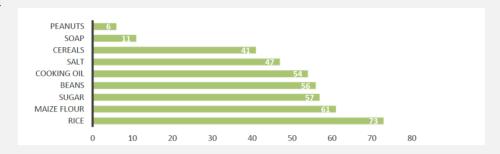
Most traders reported they are fully registered and possess the necessary licenses, ensuring compliance with government regulations for participating in aid distribution programs. However, when vendors were asked to share their legal documents proving registration and compliance, only **11 vendors** provided the necessary documentation. Ensuring compliance with government regulations for

participating in aid distribution programs is essential and this reduces the number of viable merchants that could be enlisted in the Emergency Appeal.

# Basic products and average costs of food items:

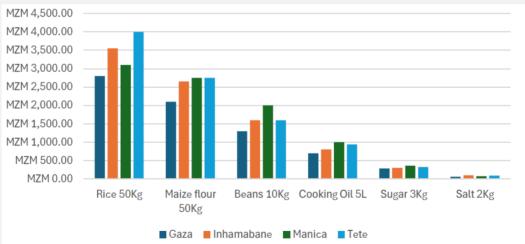
The supply of essential food such as rice (60 per cent), maize flour (60 per cent), beans (50 per cent), cooking oil (50 per cent), sugar (50 per cent) and salt (47 per cent) faces challenges in the provinces assessed, impacting food security. These products are essential for nutrition, while peanuts (6%) can reinforce the diet and soap (11%) is crucial for hygiene in crisis contexts. Improving the distribution of these items is key to serving vulnerable communities.

# **Basic products**



# **Pricing and Accessibility:**

While Manica and Tete have prices of MZM 2,750.00. Beans (10kg) have a price difference of 54%, ranging from 1,300.00 MZM in Gaza to 2,000.00 MZM in Manica. Cooking oil (5 litres) costs 700.00 MZM in Gaza and 1,000.00 MZM in Manica. Tete and Inhambane have the highest prices due to logistical restrictions and dependence on imports, while Gaza has the most competitive prices. Based on the analysis of prices, a voucher of MZN 5,140 was established to guarantee the purchasing power of vulnerable families.



### Assessment and Trader Analysis:

The market assessment report also highlighted that the drought in Mozambique has pushed up food prices due to shortages and high transport and fuel costs, reducing families' purchasing power and leading to shop closures. Demand has focused on essential products, while many families have resorted to debt and the sale of goods. The preferred assistance is cash and vouchers, as they help to mitigate inflation. Access to local markets is difficult, with journeys costing between 540 and 600 meticais, especially affecting vulnerable groups such as the elderly and people with limited mobility.

To support this transition, CVM conducted comprehensive training for 25 staff on the RedRose platform at national level in February 2025, with additional practical sessions delivered in Gaza province for 17 staff and volunteers. This training equipped the teams to:

- Configure digital systems, manage vendors, and track distributions.
- Register and manage beneficiaries through RR Collect.
- Set up and execute commodity baskets, top-ups, and reconciliation processes.

The RedRose system was also integrated into the broader Emergency Appeal operation, laying the foundation for future Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) scalability and digital inclusion.



# Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM):

After the assistance provided to the 3,200 vulnerable households in Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, and Tete. The operation followed two rounds of PDM's after distributions.

The 1st PDM to monitor the first voucher distribution was slightly delayed due to heightened tensions and restricted mobility during the post-election period, which made it unsafe for field teams to conduct in-person assessments. In response, the project team adopted the monitoring approach, opting for remote data collection through telephone surveys. Between 24 and 27 January 2025, trained volunteers, fluent in local dialects and supported by CVM and IFRC focal points, conducted interviews with a random sample of beneficiaries using the KoboToolbox platform. Although the initial plan was to survey 10% of the total 3,200 households (320), a total of 248 interviews were completed, representing 7.75% of the total beneficiary population. Despite falling short of the planned sample size, the survey still provides important insights into the first round of assistance.

Results indicate that 71% of respondents felt that the food they received was sufficient to meet their household's basic needs for at least one month. The remaining 29% expressed that the amount was insufficient, mostly due to large household sizes or unmet dietary preferences. Still, 98% of respondents reported being satisfied with the food items received, and 97% were satisfied with the distribution of the voucher process itself.

Despite logistical constraints, including network issues, missing contact numbers, the PDM yielded strong indications of program effectiveness and community satisfaction. These findings will help guide improvements in future distributions.

The second PDM began in May 2025, aligned with the digital phase, and included field data collection across some selected implementation areas. As of this report, analysis of second-round PDM results was still ongoing, with findings expected to inform further program improvement and accountability efforts.

# Targets reached:

The focus on 3200 HH rather than 8020HH, and the distribution of vouchers for four cycles rather than 5 was necessary due to limited funding. The appeal was funded 17% of the initial funding ask, a total ask of CHF 6Milion only ~CHF 1,480,000 was Mobilized including the DREF loan amount. It was more impactful to supply additional rounds of voucher to the same 3200 HH rather than provide fewer rounds to more HHs. The strategy remains that distribution of vouchers should be at a minimum of 3 rounds up to a maximum of 5 rounds per HH. This decision also improved operational efficiency without compromising the quality of assistance to the most vulnerable families. It was possible to maintain the CHF 70 value vouchers, ensuring a greater impact within the existing

financial constraints. The value of the voucher covers approximately the basic food basket for a family of 5 people for one month. This operation is providing immediate access to basic food needs for 4 months (4 rounds of voucher), while also working on implementing interventions aimed at building longer-term food security.

#### **RESPONSE PILLAR 2: HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

<b>Š</b>	Health & Nutrition	Female > 18: <b>18,576</b>	Female < 18: <b>5,904</b>
₹		Male > 18: <b>17,616</b>	Male < 18: <b>5,904</b>

Objective:	Strengthening holistic individual and community health of community level interventions and health system strengthening		impacted through
Key	Indicator	Actual	Target
indicators:	# of Mother's Clubs established across the 8 targeted districts (3 per district)	0	24
	# of volunteers trained in health, nutrition, and hygiene practices	64	240
	# children referred for malnutrition	TBD	1200
	# of nutritional & health campaigns conducted across the targeted provinces	1	4
	% of people reached through nutrition and health campaigns	0	80%

# Nutrition training/health campaigns:

CVM, in partnership with the local health authorities, carried out training and demonstrations on nutrition in Manica, Inhambane and Gaza between May 20 and June 3. 64 volunteers were trained in total so far: 24 volunteers for Manica province, 40 in Gaza in districts of Massingir and Massengena. Additionally, in Inhambane province, there was a specific demonstration to promote healthy eating habits, benefiting 194 families of Djodjo community in Panda district.

The volunteers are prepared to support communities affected by the drought, track cases of malnutrition, refer patients to health centres and promote nutritional education. In addition, they work on community mobilisation, offering support to families, strengthening knowledge about nutrition and HIV, and ensuring a sustainable approach to improving quality of life.

# Current (OU#4) Indicator revision note:

# of Mother's Clubs established across the targeted districts target has been reduced from 48 (estimated 3 per district, 16 districts) to 24 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.

# of volunteers trained in health, nutrition, and hygiene practices target has been reduced from 480 (estimated 30 volunteers per 16 districts) to 240 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.

# **RESPONSE PILLAR 3: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE**

	Female > 18: <b>30,162</b>	Female < 18: <b>9,585</b>
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Male > 18: <b>28,602</b>	Male < 18: <b>9,585</b>

**Objective:**Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions

Vov	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	# of boreholes constructed or rehabilitated across the targeted districts	0	24
	# of Community Water Management Committees trained	0	24
	# households reached with WASH items (e.g. soaps, buckets, or water treatment materials)	0	8,020

CVM has conducted assessments of 15 boreholes in Gaza with government officials to identify which boreholes can be rehabilitated. They are undergoing the selection amongst the 15 boreholes assessed to start the rehabilitation of hand pumps that can be used for irrigation. These assessments are planned to take place in the other three provinces.

## Current (OU#4) Indicator revision note:

# of boreholes constructed or rehabilitated across the targeted districts target has been reduced from 48 (estimated 3 per district, 16 districts) to 24 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.

# of Community Water Management Committees trained target has been reduced from 48 (1 per borehole) to 24 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.

#### **CROSS-CUTTING SECTORS**



# **Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

Female > 18:	Female < 18:
<b>23,700</b>	<b>7,495</b>
Male > 18: <b>22,476</b>	Male < 18: <b>7,494</b>

Objective:

Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	# of volunteers trained on implementing the PGI Minimum Standards, PSEA, and SGBV	80	240
	# Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials distributed TBD Referral pathways developed for PSEA, SGBV, and MHPSS	0	
	# of PSEA, SGBV, and MHPSS awareness session conducted by volunteer		

On-the-Job Training for Volunteers in PGI and CEA: All volunteers involved in the current voucher distributions in the selected districts have received PGI and CEA inductions. The training was conducted across eight districts, with 10 volunteers trained per district. As part of efforts to enhance community-based support services, 80 volunteers received on-the-job training in Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). This hands-on approach allowed volunteers to develop practical skills while actively supporting program activities in their respective communities. It focused on integrating PGI principles, such as identifying and addressing the specific needs of vulnerable groups, promoting gender equality, and ensuring the protection of children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Volunteers also gained experience in CEA, including effective communication, feedback management, and community mobilization, enabling them to strengthen relationships with local communities.

**Integration of PGI into the Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA):** eVCA have been designed to identify critical needs in protection, gender, and inclusion by integrating targeted questions into the assessment to identify and prioritize needs comprehensively. The eVCA is planned to take place - in parallel with the PDM following the distribution of vouchers for food. The emergency appeal will ensure that all aspects of PGI are considered to develop more inclusive interventions to support the most vulnerable population in the targeted communities.

**Community Engagement and Safeguards:** Throughout both distribution rounds, CVM maintained strong adherence to **Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)** and **Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)** standards. Pre-distribution briefings, transparent communication of selection criteria, and verification procedures ensured beneficiary safety and dignity. ID verification and systematic checks reduced fraud risk, while targeted outreach helped address questions and concerns among recipients.

#### *Current (OU#4) Indicator revision note:*

# of volunteers trained on implementing the PGI Minimum Standards, PSEA, and SGBV target has been reduced from 480 (estimated 30 volunteers per 16 districts) to 240 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.



# Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

Female > 18:

Female < 18: **7,495** 

23,700

Male > 18: **22,476** 

Male < 18: **7,494** 

Objective:	Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	# of communities assessed through eVCA	0	16
	# of farmers trained in Climate-Smart Agriculture	0	1200
	# of farmers who received assistance for agricultural seeds and tools	0	1200
	# of irrigation systems set up across the targeted districts	0	24
	# trees planted across the targeted districts	0	1600

The implementation of the Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA), initially planned for earlier in the operation, has been **rescheduled to June 2025**. This adjustment was necessary to avoid overloading communities already engaged in ongoing activities during this 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters, such as voucher distribution and monitoring and health activities, and to ensure proper sequencing of field-based interventions without creating overlaps or operational strain.

To prepare for the eVCA rollout, a refresher Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted at CVM Headquarters from 17 to 18 July 2024, with the participation of 10 individuals (6 from CVM and 4 from IFRC). The session was further strengthened by the support of the Swedish Red Cross, who facilitated one of the modules. The training covered the full eVCA methodology, including key steps and phases, and introduced participants to the eVCA tool, providing them with a thorough understanding of the available tools and how to apply them in the field.

The eVCA activity has been postoned until June 2025 due to significant challenges accessing the field during the post-electoral demosntration period, and the focus on distributing life saving support (prioritizing voucher distributions) as well as the response to Cyclones and Floods during the start of the 2025 year.



Figure 4- CVM and IFRC team during the ToT eVCA training in the headquarters

# Climate smart agricultural trainings and provision of agricultural inputs:

In Gaza province, CVM is working with the Ministry of Agriculture to evaluate the best seeds to be distributed that are drought resistant and planning the trainings ahead of the September-October planting season. This work is planned to also take place in other provinces.

There is currently no funding available to implement tree planting activities nor for the implementation of irrigation systems. However, part of borehole rehabilitation selection is focused on ensuring some rehabilitated boreholes and hand pumps are in proximity to agricultural areas to serve water for irrigation.

# Previous (OU#3) Indicator revision note:

**The target of # of communities assessed through eVCA** has been updated from 48 to 16. This decision was made by the Mozambique Red Cross (CVM) to focus on identifying one community per district as a representative sample for the assessment. This approach was adopted to better manage the available time and resources, which were identified as potential constraints in meeting the original implementation deadlines.

#### Current (OU#4) Indicator revision note:

# of irrigation systems set up across the targeted districts target has decrease from 48 (3 per district for 16 districts) to 24 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.

# of farmer groups established across the targeted districts target has been removed as the groups are already established and do not need forming.

# **Enabling approaches**



# **National Society Strengthening**

Objective:	Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster		
Vov	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	# of staff recruited or supported at HQ and Branch level to support the implementation of the operation	30	10

**Staff relocation:** No staff has been recruited at HQ and Branch level as of date, but reallocation of staff to key positions is being prioritized as well as support for staff working on this operation in all 4 provinces and the HQ. Some staff members with demonstrated technical capacity were promoted to manage this operation, ensuring effective leadership and coordination. Additionally, the IFRC allocated three surge personnel, including a PMER specialist and a Disaster Management (DM) delegate, to provide dedicated support and strengthen the operation's overall implementation and monitoring processes.

CVM and IFRC have maintained active engagement with local authorities and other stakeholders ensuring effective coordination and support for ongoing and planned activities. Activities conducted so far are aimed at the ensuring that CVM has the capacity and resources required to deliver and sustain humanitarian assistance to communities affected by the drought.



# **Coordination and Partnerships**

Objective:	Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster			
	Indicator	Actual	Target	
Key indicators:	# of response coordination sessions conducted among Movement Partners	11	10	

IFRC, CVM, and Partner National Societies (PNSs) have been actively coordinating on the development of the operational strategy and capacity-building activities for this operation. Key collaborative efforts include:

*Training of Trainers (ToT) for eVCA*: IFRC, in collaboration with the Swedish Red Cross, conducted a ToT refresher training for CVM staff, enhancing their technical skills and operational readiness.

Resource Mobilization and Communications Workshop: CVM's Communications and Resource Mobilization focal points participated in a workshop in Johannesburg, hosted by the IFRC. This event focused on strengthening national societies' capacity in Southern Africa, particularly in resource mobilization and communication strategies, given the increasing number of emergency appeals related to drought in the region.

Monthly PNS Coordination Meetings: IFRC and PNSs in-country hold regular monthly discussions to support proposal development and align PNS support with the Emergency Appeal objectives, including the bilateral project that is supporting Gaza Province by the Belgian-Flanders RC.

*Regional Engagement*: IFRC and CVM participated in Regional Partner Calls and attended the Southern Regional Drought Workshop held in Harare, Zimbabwe, to share experiences and strengthen response strategies.

#### Previous OU#3 revision note:

**# of IFRC monitoring visits to the operation areas TBC** has been moved to the Secretariat Services because it pertains more to monitoring activities rather than coordination and partnership. Secretariat Services is responsible for overseeing and assessing operational activities, including monitoring visits.



Objective:	Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	# of surge personnel involved in supporting the operation	3	5
	# of engagement sessions supported by IFRC showcasing the operation for funding support	3	5
	# of IFRC monitoring visits to the operation areas TBC	3	4

**Three Surge personnel have been deployed:** Deputy Operations Manager and Operations Manager to support the design, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of projects in line with IFRC emergency appeal objectives, defining operational strategies, and embedding recovery approaches to build community resilience. A CVA Officer was also deployed to drive the market assessment and ensure that CVA-relevant information was captured during assessment, providing technical support and overseeing CVA implementation to ensure adherence to procedures and progress monitoring.

German RC supported with the provision of two additional CVA technical support staff after the CVA Surge officer had departed.

*IFRC Regional Surge Deployment*: In July, the IFRC Regional Surge team traveled to Mozambique to support operational tools development, data collection, and budget revision for the assessment, further strengthening the operation's technical and financial framework.

Monitoring visits: IFRC staff travelled for the PDM and to accompany the second and third voucher distributions. IFRC staff is expected to travel for the fourth round of distributions and further PDMs.

IFRC developed materials to showcase the response and engaged with PNSs and has successfully managed to fundraise on utilizing these engagement sessions.

#### Previous (OU#3) Indicator revision:

# of operations coordination, implementation, and reporting sessions conducted has been replaced by the indicator # of engagement sessions supported by IFRC showcasing the operation for funding support because the former overlapped significantly with the coordination and partnerships functions. The new indicator focuses specifically on showcasing the operation to secure funding, which provides a clearer and more targeted measure of engagement efforts.



# **Community Engagement and Accountability**

Objective:	Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	# of volunteers trained on implementing the CEA Minimum Standards, CVA, Health, and WASH	80	240
	# of meetings conducted to communicate with communities what is happening in the operation including the selection criteria	15	16
	A functioning feedback mechanism is in place for the operation/programme/whole organisation	YES	YES
	% of complaints and feedback received and responded to	0	80%

**Volunteers trained on minimum CEA standards:** A total of 80 (40 women and 40 men) volunteers received training on minimum CEA standards. As previously mentioned, this was conducted through on-the-job training, enabling volunteers to apply what they learned while actively engaging with communities.

As part of this engagement, volunteers conducted information sessions with community members to clarify the distribution process and explain the selection criteria for beneficiaries. They also worked closely with the communities to define these criteria, ensuring transparency and inclusiveness. Additionally, volunteers facilitated the identification of the most vulnerable groups within the communities, ensuring that the assistance reached those in greatest need.

**Community Engagement Meetings:** So far, a total of 15 meetings were conducted across various localities to inform communities about the operation, including key aspects such as the selection criteria for beneficiaries, the distribution process, and the operation's overall progress. These meetings provided a platform for open dialogue, allowing community members to ask questions, express concerns, and offer feedback. This approach helped ensure transparency, fostered community trust, and encouraged active participation in the operation's implementation.

While these meetings do provide a functioning feedback mechanism where complaints and questions are being addressed, it is not a fully formalized feedback system that is allowing for the tracking of the complaints received.

Noting this area needs to be strengthened, CVM has planned a broader CEA training with support from IFRC with the support to develop a more formalized community feedback mechanism.

**Monitoring Activities**: In addition to the community meetings, other feedback mechanisms are planned and will be implemented throughout the course of the operation to ensure continuous engagement with affected populations and improve the overall effectiveness of the response.

To complement these efforts, two rounds of Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) have already been carried out following the first and second cycle of food voucher distributions. This exercise was initially conducted remotely due to post-electoral security concerns, and posteriority for the second PDM teams have been deployed in the field to do the assessment in some selected households. This exercise provided essential insights into beneficiary satisfaction, challenges experienced, and the relevance of the support provided.

**Collection of Community Insight Stories**: In July, the IFRC and CVM communications team carried out a crucial mission to Manica province, focusing on the districts of Guro and Mossurize. This mission was part of our ongoing commitment to community engagement and accountability, aiming to ensure that the voices of those most affected by the drought are heard and their stories are documented for broader awareness.

The team successfully gathered a total of eight compelling community stories, four from each district, specifically from the community of Chaiva in Mossurize and different locations within the Guro district. These stories provide invaluable insights into the daily challenges faced by these communities, particularly the severe impact of the drought on their livelihoods and food security.

Content from this mission is already being shared across IFRC and CVM social media platforms (links below), amplifying the voices of those at the forefront of this crisis and highlighting the urgent need for continued support and intervention. This engagement not only enhances transparency and accountability but also ensures that the needs and priorities of the communities remain at the heart of our efforts.

# Previous (OU#3) Indicator revision note:

- # of community leaders that participated in CEA training indicator has been removed as CEA training is specifically intended for volunteers who will be directly implementing activities in the targeted areas. The focus of this training is to equip volunteers with the skills needed for on-the-ground implementation, making the indicator less relevant for tracking broader performance metrics.
- # of opportunities for communities to engage and participate in planning the interventions (consultation meetings and focus groups) TBD has been removed because it duplicates the following indicator (# of meetings conducted to communicate with communities what is happening in the operation including the selection criteria), which is specifically designed to capture consultation meetings. The intent is to streamline and avoid redundancy by consolidating these related metrics into a single, focused indicator for consultation activities.

#### **Current (OU#4) Indicator revision note:**

## of volunteers trained on implementing the CEA Minimum Standards, CVA, Health, and WASH target has been reduced from 480 (estimated 30 volunteers per 16 districts) to 240 given that this operation is only active in 8 districts.

# D. FUNDING

Currently **CVM received 16.66%** of the total funding requested for the Federation Wide Appeal (including DREF loan).

As of the latest update, the EA has received confirmed and potential contributions from the following partners:

- **ECHO:** A cash pledge amounting to **€200,000** has been registered, marking a significant contribution to the ongoing response efforts.
- **Japanese Red Cross Society:** A cash pledge of **JPY 5,000,000** has been registered, providing essential support for immediate relief operations.
- **Canadian Red Cross Society:** An estimated cash pledge of **CAD 215,000** has been registered further strengthening the financial base of the Emergency Appeal.
- Monaco Red Cross Society: a cash pledge of €10,000 was registered to direct immediate support to impacted communities.
- American Red Cross Society: a cash pledge of USD 415,000 has been registered to support voucher distributions and other areas of the Emergency Appeal.
- **DREF:** The DREF has released a substantial loan amounting to **CHF 750,000** to support the Mozambique response. This loan is critical for enabling swift and effective relief actions on the ground.

To enhance support for emergency responses, CVM with support from the IFRC, is engaging various national and internation partners, stakeholders, including the private sector, embassies, and national and international organizations to mobilize funding. To further bolster funding efforts and raise awareness of the Emergency Appeal, the CVM Resource Mobilization focal point and IFRC Partnerships Officer have worked on a draft resource mobilization plan with inputs from CVM's Comms and Youth focal points.

# **Contact information**

# For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

# In the Mozambique National Society (CVM):

- **Secretary General** Cristina Uamusse, Secretary General; email: <a href="mailto:cristina.uamusse@redcross.org.mz">cristina.uamusse@redcross.org.mz</a>, phone: +258 82 3012251
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#### In the IFRC:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa DM coordinator:** Rui Alberto Oliveira, Manager, Preparedness and Response Africa Disaster and Climate Crises; email: <a href="mailto:rui.oliveira@ifrc.org">rui.oliveira@ifrc.org</a>, phone: +254 780 422276
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- **IFRC Geneva**: Santiago Luengo, Senior Officer Operations Coordination, email: <u>santiago.luengo@ifrc.org</u>, phone: +41 (0) 79 124 4052

## For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

 IFRC Regional Office for Africa Louise Daintrey, Regional Head, Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, email: <a href="mailto:louise.daintrey@ifrc.org">louise.daintrey@ifrc.org</a>, phone: +254 110 843978

## For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

• **Global Logistics Services** - Allan Kilaka Masavah, Manager, Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management; email: allan.masavah@ifrc.org +254 113 834921

## For Performance and Accountability Support (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting enquiries):

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#### **Reference documents**

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Click here for:

- 6 month Operation Update
- Operational Strategy

# How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere**) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.