



Mozambique Red Cross food distribution in Mabalane district, where El Niño weather conditions have crippled the country with severe drought resulting in failed crops and increased hunger. Photo: IFRC

Appeal No: MDRMZ024	IFRC Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 5 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 6 million ¹	
Glide No: DR-2024-000073-MOZ	People affected: 3.3 million in IPC3+ (553,492 in ICP3+ Tete, Manica and Gaza provinces)	People to be assisted: 55,000 people (11,000 households)
DREF allocation: CHF 900,000	Appeal launched: 23/05/2024	Appeal ends: 30/06/2025

¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Mozambique Red Cross Society in response to the emergency. It includes the Mozambique Red Cross' domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 1 million), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 5 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

As vast parts of southern Africa grapple with an unprecedented mid-season dry spell, the food security situation in Mozambique continues to deteriorate. The compounded effects of El Niño, above-average temperatures, extreme weather events such as Tropical Storm Filipo, excessive floods, coupled with the lasting impact of past shocks such as Tropical Cyclone Freddy, are exacerbating the situation. The 2023-2024 El Niño has been one of the strongest on record, bringing below-average rainfall between October 2023 and February 2024 in southern and central Mozambique, and average to above average rainfall to the northern part of the country.

This disruption continues to impact agriculture and rural livelihoods.² Between November 2023 and February 2024, typically the rainy season in Mozambique, the southern and central regions of the country experienced persistent dryness and unusually high temperatures, and many areas received less than half of their typical rainfall. These events in turn led to deteriorating vegetation conditions and crop wilting in parts of the central provinces.³

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network FEWS NET, as of April 2024, 690,000 hectares of crops (15 per cent of total planted area) mainly in southern and central parts of the country have been damaged by El Niño conditions and extreme weather events, leading to below-average harvests.⁴

In addition to a struggling harvest season, in February 2024 prices for maize increased by 12 per cent, marking a price hike of 24 per cent over 2023. These unusually high prices are attributed to the below-average harvest in 2022-2023 caused by these multiple shocks

during the season. Food prices are thus likely to remain high due to the prospect of yet another below-average harvest in 2024-2025, not only in Mozambique but in many areas of southern Africa. Availability of food in general is thus expected to drop throughout these areas.⁵

Looking at the larger picture, 80 percent of the population in Mozambique relies on “rain-fed” subsistence agriculture and over 20 million people reside in areas that have now been affected by drought, 2.7 million of whom were already struggling with food insecurity (IPC3+) before the impact of El Niño.⁶

As the country is in the lean season, marked by depleted food reserves, below-average harvest, high food prices and limited purchasing power, the expectation is that IPC3+ conditions will worsen, and will spread to new areas in the semi-arid south and central regions now. An estimated 1.25 million of people in IPC3 could be potentially moving into severe or emergency food insecurity (IPC4+). This situation will drive up the number of households depending on markets (rather than the usual subsistence farming) and humanitarian aid until early 2025. Thus, without immediate assistance, more households may resort to negative coping strategies, such as rationing food, reducing meal frequency or size and prioritizing children’s nutrition over adults.

The Government of Mozambique and its partners have taken action to mitigate the drought, including rehabilitating water systems, setting up irrigation systems, distributing drought-tolerant seeds and other agricultural inputs including small animals, holding nutrition trainings for communities, disseminating drought messages, and cash & voucher assistance to the most vulnerable households. However, as the situation deteriorates, the Government has also requested international support.

² FAO April 2024 [Mozambique: Mitigating and responding to the impact of El Niño on agriculture and food security: Urgent call for assistance - Mozambique | ReliefWeb](#)

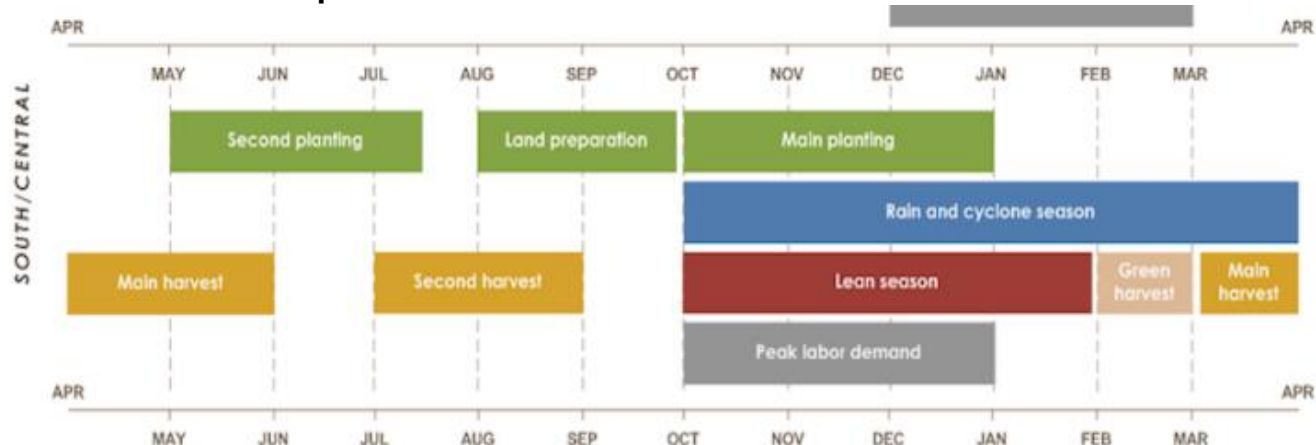
³ OCHA Report [Impact of El Niño in Mozambique - 26 April 2024 \[EN/PT\] | OCHA \(unocha.org\)](#)

⁴ FEWS NET [Crisis \(IPC Phase 3\) outcomes to persist in conflict and weather-shocked areas | FEWS NET](#)

⁵ FEWS NET March 2024 <https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique/key-message-update/march-2024>

⁶ Mozambique: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Situation for May 023 - September 2023 and Projection for October 2023 - March 2024.

FEWS NET Mozambique Seasonal Calendar



The Seasonal Calendar shows the annual and cyclical patterns of key food and income sources in a country throughout the typical year.

TARGETING

Prior to the current El Niño, 2.7 million people living in the drought-affected areas of Mozambique were categorized at food insecurity level IPC3+, but as mentioned, this number is expected to increase as conditions deteriorate. In the arid and semi-arid Gaza, Manica and Tete provinces, an estimated 553,492 people are in IPC3+ across 18 districts, and in some of these districts, up to 45 per cent of the population is IPC3+; out of these, 20,689 people are IPC4 (“Emergency”).⁷

Through this Emergency Appeal, the Mozambican Red Cross (*Cruz Vermelha de Moçambique* - CVM) aims to target 55,000 people (11,000 households) across Tete, Manica and Gaza with direct support. This represents 10 per cent of the current population in those drought-affected provinces who are at IPC3+, totalling 553,492.






With the situation evolving and the number of people in IPC3+ increasing, CVM may scale up operations to target and assist more affected people based on need. The exact division of beneficiaries by province and district will be done in alignment with the Government and is subject to change.


PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the Mozambique Red Cross in its response to the drought and food insecurity in the country. It is also part of a sub-regional scale-up planned by IFRC in response to the deteriorating situation in southern Africa. This sub-regional scale-up is closely aligned with the current IFRC Africa Region Hunger Crisis Appeal and contributes to IFRC's pan-African Zero Hunger initiative. As part of this scale-up, IFRC is coordinating National Societies in the affected countries and is also supporting with any cross-border collaboration required during the response.

⁷ Mozambique: Acute Malnutrition Situation For May - September 2023 And Projection For October 2023 - March 2024



The strategy for this Emergency Appeal adopts the approach defined for the Regional Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal, with a focus on the following areas:


	<p>PILLAR 1: FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS</p> <p>Immediate humanitarian support is needed for drought-affected households to help them meet their daily food needs during the lean season and to support farmers in safeguarding their livelihoods and assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-purpose Cash or Voucher Assistance (CVA) to the most vulnerable food-insecure households to increase their purchasing power and meet their basic needs for four months during the lean season.
	<p>PILLAR 2: HEALTH AND NUTRITION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition activities will promote the sustainable reduction of health and nutrition risks, improve the intake of nutritious foods and increase the overall nutrition practices of the targeted communities. CVM will set up community kitchens to provide nutritional surveillance and enable health & hygiene promotion throughout the year.
	<p>PILLAR 3: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASH activities aim to enable and maintain access to safe water and support a sustainable reduction in the risk of waterborne diseases. CVM will work on the rehabilitation and/or repair of water supply infrastructure (boreholes) for safe water access.
 	<p>CROSS-CUTTING SECTORS</p> <p>Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation, Resilience and Recovery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to farmers and communities through climate-smart information sessions and training, coupled with seed and tool distribution in time for land preparation and the main planting season. CVM will set up irrigation systems. <p>Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI):</p> <p>Safe and equitable provision of services with consideration of needs based on gender and other diversity factors; data disaggregated by sex, age and disability will be mainstreamed. Other protection activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training staff and volunteers on PGI, Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), disability inclusion, child safeguarding and Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV). • Providing and distributing messages on PGI and drought among the targeted communities. • Coordinating with local stakeholders (health staff, teachers, social services, etc.) to establish referral pathways for child protection/SGBV and malnourishment cases. <p>The Emergency Appeal will address PGI considerations based on the PGI Minimum Standards for each activity to ensure that there is a dignified, safe,</p>

	<p>accessible and participatory approach, including engagement of people at risk of increased SGBV, and inclusion of persons with disabilities, and of children, in the response.</p> <p>Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): Ensuring the engagement and involvement of all stakeholders, especially the affected communities, through close consultation throughout the response, and conducting regular surveys with communities to assess their views and satisfaction with the services provided and adapt the response accordingly.</p>
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Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

	<p>COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS</p> <p>CVM has maintained close coordination with the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD) at the national and provincial levels, and with district administrations at the provincial and district levels. IFRC and CVM also coordinate with Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), the Food Security Cluster and other clusters and humanitarian actors to align current responses, provide situational updates and avoid duplication of effort.</p> <p>Through IFRC, CVM will continue to be present in monthly partner meetings, and will as well start an internal, Movement-wide technical working group (TWG) specifically for the implementation of the drought response EA.</p> <p>Additionally, CVM, with IFRC, has direct contacts in World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and INGD, and belongs to groups with these members focusing on the development of the Drought Anticipatory Action and Response. This same group is currently involved in the response to the drought and will be tapped for continued coordination, including establishing monthly coordination meetings with them specifically for the roll-out of this operation. INGD, CVM and IFRC will also have monthly calls, as many proposed activities require government support for implementation.</p> <p>IFRC has also been in close coordination with regional structures, particularly Southern African Development Community (SADC), to ensure a coordinated approach to the regional response, but is also exploring the potential of a joint approach.</p>
	<p>IFRC SECRETARIAT SERVICES</p> <p>IFRC will support CVM on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Membership coordination: support aligning ongoing and new projects from PNSs to meet broader CVM and national targets regarding disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resiliency outcomes, ensuring complementarity for collective impact.

	<p>2. Resource mobilization and external communications: through both Regional and Cluster communications teams will be engaged in showcasing this response and gaining support for funding, including through social media, infographics and production of other communications materials that can support resource mobilization.</p> <p>3. Financial management, logistics and procurement: as part of long-term support to CVM to ensure quick processing and implementation of the project with accurate reporting.</p> <p>4. Technical expertise in the thematic sectors: through surge support for the management of this large-scale operation and external coordination with other stakeholders involved in the response. Surge technical support will provide overall coordination, implementation, and monitoring of the operation, and coordination with other international agencies.</p>
	<p>NATIONAL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING</p> <p>The capacities of the National Society will be strengthened during the response in a way that protects and strengthens their short- and longer-term goals; ensuring CVM is not negatively impacted and affected by the international support they receive. The position of the National Societies toward the public authorities is strengthened, as is trust within the communities. Volunteers engaged in operations receive the necessary support, training, and duty of care.</p> <p>The operation will continue to invest in the organizational strengthening of the National Society, including support covering financial, logistics, and volunteer management and development at both the provincial and district levels. The operation will link the appropriate preparedness for effective response activities to the response and building capacity of the CVM while National Society strengthening will be reflected as elements of capacity enhancements within all sectoral interventions.</p>





The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy, to be released in the coming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach, which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

After 30 June 2025, response activities to this disaster will continue under the [IFRC Network Mozambique Country Plan for 2025](#). The IFRC Network Country Plans show an integrated view of ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs in the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's action. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in time, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned time.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY



Mozambique Red Cross Society (CVM)

Core areas of operation	
   	
Number of staff:	165
Number of volunteers:	6,862
Number of provincial branches	11

CVM was founded over four decades ago and has been a member of IFRC since 1989 as an integral part of the combined disaster management instruments in Mozambique. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, CVM's core expertise and areas of focus are Humanitarian Response, Forecast-based Financing, Disaster Risk Management (DRM), WASH, social activities, Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)/Climate Change Adaptation, Community-based Health Care and First Aid, and Migration and Identity. With its headquarters in Maputo, 11 provincial branches, 111 district branches and close to 7,000 volunteers, CVM enjoys an unparalleled acceptance and reach across the country and a rapid deployment capacity of volunteers at national, provincial and district levels.

IFRC Membership Coordination

The IFRC Secretariat, which provides technical and financial support to CVM through the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation in Maputo, will play an essential role in ensuring effective coordination with partners. Six Partner National Societies support projects in Mozambique.

- Spanish Red Cross
- French Red Cross
- Belgian Red Cross
- Swedish Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Italian Red Cross

Among them, German Red Cross and Belgian Red Cross have been supporting CVM in developing, disseminating and activating the Early Action Protocol for Drought. Additionally, through their long-term nature-based solutions, Swedish Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross and French Red Cross have been supporting CVM and communities through trainings on climate-smart agricultural practices, branch and local capacity building for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and dissemination of agricultural inputs. The technical working group on DRR for IFRC, CVM and PNSs has been reactivated, led by the IFRC Disaster Management Coordinator, in order to align technical implementation of DRR and disaster management activities. Additionally, monthly meetings between IFRC and PNSs are in place to coordinate overall strategic engagement with CVM. For this Emergency Appeal, CVM has already appointed a lead project coordinator and partnership/resource mobilization officer, and IFRC has counterparts for those two individuals. Together the team will lead the full development and implementation of the EA, including setting up further coordination mechanisms as needed.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), through its mandate, is present in Mozambique, particularly in the northern part of the country, which is affected by ongoing armed conflict. The conflict has contributed to pushing approximately 900,000 people into acute food insecurity (IPC3+). ICRC is supporting CVM in providing assistance to affected people mainly in WASH, Healthcare, Restoring Family Links (RFL), Protection, and Emergency Assistance in those areas. Regular Movement coordination meetings are ongoing per the existing Movement Cooperation Agreement, ensuring a coordinated Movement approach to support CVM in preparedness, readiness and response efforts in areas affected by El Niño.

External coordination

The national Food Insecurity response is led by the Government of Mozambique while the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation and CVM are working at different levels with the INGD, National Institution of Meteorology (INAM) district authorities, Humanitarian Country Teams (HCT), United Nations (UN) agencies (WFP and FAO), and other stakeholders, to closely coordinate their efforts and avoid duplication. IFRC is participating in HCT and cluster coordination meetings ensuring complementarity with the planned response by the UN and other humanitarian actors.

Contact Information

For further information please contact:

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Reference



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