



# MOÇAMBIQUE FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER

## 2023 Year Review Food Security Cluster Bulletin

February 2024



[www.FScluster.org/mozambique](http://www.FScluster.org/mozambique)

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## HRP 2023 ([Conflict in the northern Region](#))

The conflict in Northern Mozambique, particularly in Cabo Delgado, has undergone significant shifts and challenges, impacting the region's stability and food security. In 2023, the government, with international support, reclaimed control over northeastern districts previously dominated by non-state armed groups (NSAGs), resulting in a decrease in attacks against civilians and improved humanitarian access. However, pockets of volatility persisted, with NSAGs adapting tactics and targeting security forces while engaging in trade to gain community acceptance.

The conflict's toll on civilians has been severe, with over 109,000 people displaced in 2023, primarily during military operations, resulting in casualties and destruction of homes. While there was a decrease in internally displaced persons (IDPs) by August 2023, significant challenges persisted, with vulnerable populations enduring violence, displacement, and food insecurity.

Displacement patterns evolved, with shorter distances travelled, but vulnerabilities remained, particularly among IDPs and returnees. Returnees faced inadequate services and infrastructure, prompting pendular movements between areas of return and displacement sites to access necessities and livelihood opportunities developed during displacement.

Food insecurity exacerbated the crisis, affecting IDPs, host communities, and returnees alike. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projected a rise in acute food insecurity from 2.6 million to 3.3 million people between October 2023 and March 2024, with Cabo Delgado experiencing a significant proportion of those in IPC Phase3+, including the districts of Meluco and Macomia in IPC 4 (emergency level).

Limited land tenure rights, especially for IDPs, worsened food and nutrition security, as scant food production failed to meet needs. Host communities also struggled to produce enough food, compounding assistance requirements. The conflict disrupted agricultural activities and livelihoods, leading to widespread displacement and hindering access to essential resources for food production.

Efforts to address food security challenges included humanitarian assistance and government programs aimed at fostering time-sensitive emergency agricultural interventions and livelihood-support activities. Partners assisted the affected population with food aid, livelihood, agriculture, and fisheries equipment and training session that also consider climate-related challenges. However, limited resources, the ongoing violence, restricted land access, and limited infrastructure hampered sustainable solutions.

Cluster coordination functions remained critical amidst increased humanitarian needs, including those exacerbated by climatic shocks and conflict-affected areas.

Collaborative efforts between humanitarian organizations and the Mozambican government were essential in addressing the multifaceted challenges of the crisis. Despite efforts to mitigate the crisis, ongoing violence, displacement, and limited access to resources continue to threaten the well-being and stability of affected populations. Sustainable solutions require coordinated action, long-term investments, and a comprehensive approach to address the root causes of the conflict and its impact on food security.

## Non-HRP response by FSC in 2023 ([addendum HRP](#))

The impact of natural disasters, particularly cyclones and droughts, has compounded existing challenges in Mozambique, exacerbating food insecurity, displacement, and infrastructure damage.

Tropical Cyclone Freddy, a record-breaking storm in 2023, struck Mozambique twice, causing destructive winds, extreme rainfall, and widespread flooding. Despite accurate early warnings, significant damage occurred, affecting infrastructure, displacing populations, and disrupting essential services. The storm worsened existing flooding and exacerbated the cholera outbreak, leading to increased vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs. Over 774,000 people were at risk during the 2023/2024 rainy season, necessitating preparedness efforts and humanitarian action.

Drought, another significant concern, has been increasing in frequency, particularly in southern areas of the country. The 2023/2024 rainy season forecast predicts below-average rainfall in southern and central Mozambique due to the El Niño effect, posing risks to agriculture-dependent populations. Over 565,000 people are at risk of severe drought in Inhambane and Gaza provinces, exacerbating food insecurity, malnutrition, and migration.

The compounding effect of cholera outbreaks, floods, and cyclones, alongside the ongoing conflict in northern Mozambique, has stretched humanitarian responses across the country. Cyclone Freddy displaced over 184,000 people and destroyed over 129,000 homes, highlighting the urgent need for critical humanitarian assistance and protection measures. The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) Addendum for Freddy, Floods, and Cholera outlines priorities to prevent loss of life, provide life-sustaining assistance, and address protection risks for affected populations.

In summary, the intersection of natural disasters and ongoing crises in Mozambique population amidst evolving climate challenges and conflict dynamics, underscores the importance of coordinated and timely humanitarian responses to mitigate the impact on vulnerable communities. Addressing the immediate needs while investing in long-term resilience and adaptation measures are crucial to safeguarding the well-being and livelihoods of Mozambique's.



Source: FSC / Mauricio Bisol

## FSC Donors

The FSC work in Mozambique in 2023 has been made possible by:



**Objective 1:** Provision of Life-saving food assistance to acutely food insecure population including displaced population, host communities and returnees.

**1.45M\***  
People reached at end of year 2023



**481K**

Averaged people reached monthly with Food Assistance with full ration (78% of kcal)

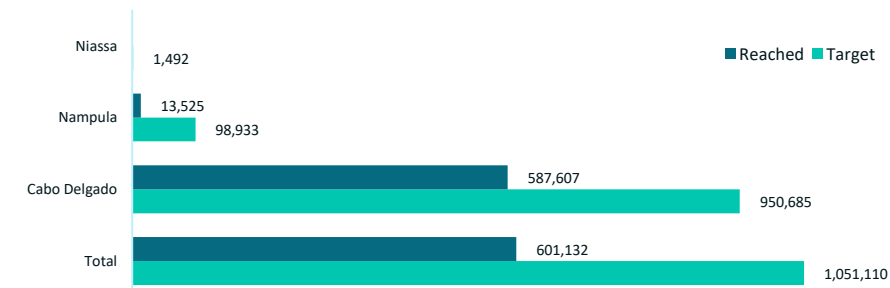


\*The FSC partners exceeded the HRP target for conflict response (unique beneficiaries) due to the increased figures of assistance in the northern districts after the increase in numbers of returnees, which are in need for assistance, but also related to the reduced ration coverage in 2023, which has been mostly done with half rations.

**Objective 2:** Emergency Support to recover agriculture-based and diversified livelihoods for acutely food insecure population including displaced population, host communities and returnees.

**279,727**

Reached cumulatively from January to December 2023 by HRP partners. Up to **601,132** beneficiaries would have received assistance including non-HRP Partners



**1.11M**



people targeted

576,657 women  
532,298 men

**936,114**



People reached at peak with Food Assistance (month of January/February Cycle)

**266,627**



People received agriculture inputs (Seeds, equipment, livestock) by HRP partners. Another **313,905** beneficiaries would have received assistance by non-HRP Partners in the north.

**36**



Partners participating in FSC (HRP and non-HRP)  
**18** International partners  
**8** National partners  
**5** UN agencies  
**5** Government  
Thanks to support by 11 Donors

**63.9%**



Percentage of FSC partners reporting programmatic information in [Monthly].



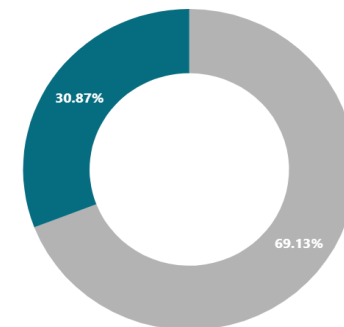
Funded\*:  
\$75.92m



Unmet funding:  
\$169.99m



Requirements:  
\$245.91m



\*Source: FTS information as of January 2024

In Cabo Delgado, province, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes persist in the worst conflict-affected areas, with areas receiving humanitarian assistance likely facing Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!). As the lean season progresses, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely to emerge in areas where the start of the 2023/24 agricultural season was poor due to below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures (FEWSNET Food Security Outlook Update December 2024)



Source: FSC/Mauricio Bisol



### Priority sectoral activities identified by the cluster and included in the HRP addendum:

#### Activities and targets mentioned in the HRP addendum:

- 1 week emergency food assistance in Accommodation Centres for 100,000 people
- 3 months general food distribution for 500,000 people (1 month with 75% of the Kcal needs + 2 months 50% needs with CBT)
- Seeds & tools - 2nd season cereals & horticultures (79,000 HHs)
- Livestock - vaccination, re-stocking, H2O & supplementary feed for livestock (21,000 HHs)

**500,000** 

people targeted

260,000 women


240,000 men

**584,441** 

People reached at peak with Food Assistance

**16,705** 

People received supported with income Generating Activities

**21** 

Partners participating

- 14 International partners
- 4 National partners
- 2 UN agencies
- 1 Government

Thanks to support by 16 Donors

**71.4%** 

Percentage of FSC partners reporting programmatic information in [Monthly].



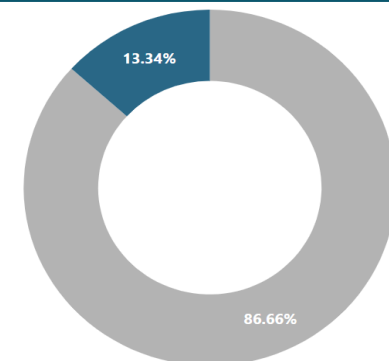
Funded\*: \$5.25m



Unmet funding: \$34.14m



Requirements: \$39.37m



\*Source: FTS information as of January 2024

Tropical Cyclone Freddy, impacting Mozambique in 2023, devastated agricultural lands and disrupted food security. Destructive winds and flooding destroyed crops, hindering food production and exacerbating food insecurity. Displaced populations faced heightened vulnerability, relying on humanitarian aid for sustenance. The cyclone's aftermath underscored the urgent need for agricultural recovery initiatives and sustained food assistance to mitigate the crisis's impact on vulnerable communities.



Source: FSC/Mauricio Bisol

**584,441**

People reached at end 2023



**218,921**

peak of assistance in March 2023 with HFA

**247,970**



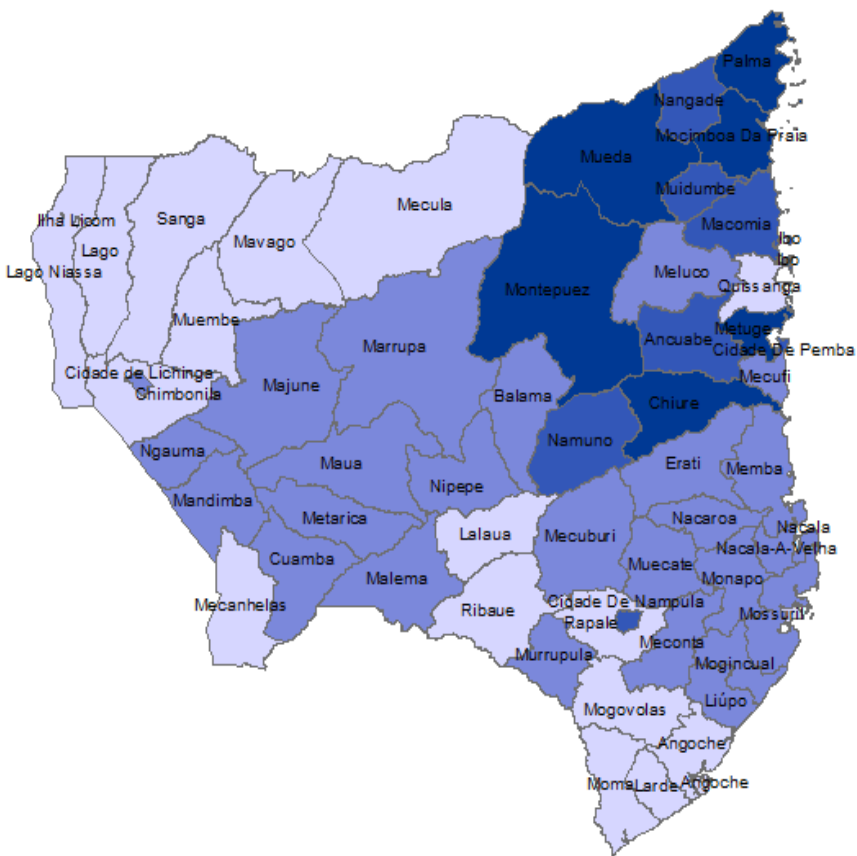
Reached cumulatively from January to December 2023

### Partners involved



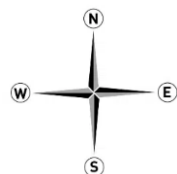
actionaid

### Operational Partners Presence (Lead and Implementing Partners)



# of Partners

- 0
- 1 - 4
- 5 - 8
- 9 - 12
- 13 - 16



Lead Organization
1. Action Against Hunger
2. Action Aid
3. ADEL_CD
4. ADRA Mozambique
5. AVSI
6. Ayuda en Acción
7. CARE International
8. FAO
9. Fundo Nacional de Desenvolvimento Sustentavel – FNDS
10. Good Neighbours Japan
11. iDE Mozambique
12. Iris Global
13. Johanniter Unfallhilfe e.V.
14. NCBA Clusa
15. Norwegian People's Aid
16. Norwegian Refugee Council
17. Save The Children International
18. Solidarités International (SI)
19. UNDP
20. UNHCR
21. WFP

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Implementing Partner
1. ACTED - Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
2. Action Against Hunger
3. Action Aid
4. ADEL_CD
5. ADRA Mozambique
6. AENA
7. ASAC
8. Associação de Meio Ambiente – AMA
9. AVSI
10. Ayuda en Acción
11. CARE International
12. Conselho Cristão de Moçambique – CCM
13. FAO
14. ForAfrika
15. Good Neighbours
16. iDE Mozambique
17. Iris Global
18. Kulima
19. NCBA Clusa
20. Norwegian Refugee Council
21. SEPPA
22. Solidarités International (SI)
23. UNHCR
24. Uniao Provincial de Camponeses
25. UNDP
26. UNHCR
27. WFP

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Donor
1. ADA
2. BHA (USAID)
3. BMZ – Germany
4. CERF
5. GIZ – Germany
6. Iris Global
7. Japan Platform
8. MoFA Ireland
9. NORAD – Norway
10. USAID
11. World Bank

11

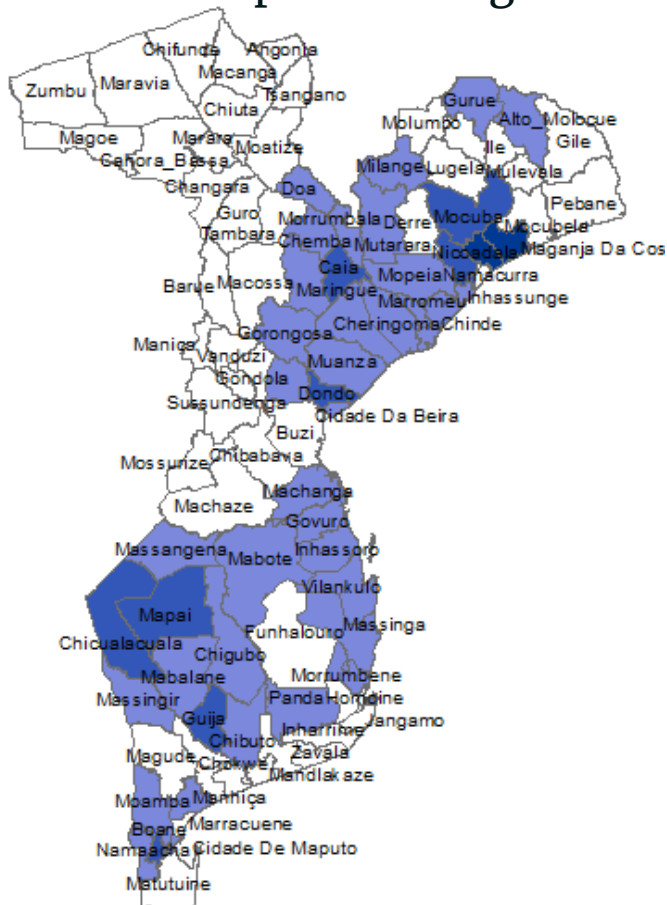
Government
1. DPAP (Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Fisheries)
2. INAR (National Institute of Refugee)
3. INAS (National Institute for Social Action)
4. INEP (National Institute of Professional Employment)
5. SDAE (Districtal Service of Economic Activities)
6. SPAE (Provincial Service of Economic Activities)

6

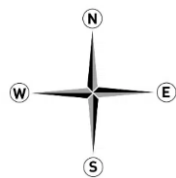
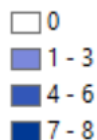
\* The list of Lead Organizations (organization leading the assistance, including funding and technical support), Implementing Partners (organizations implementing for other lead organization, or in many cases the same as lead organizations) donors and Government counterparts are compiled through the 5Ws matrix shared voluntarily by partners on monthly basis.

\*\* The list of partners does not only refer to the 14 organizations that took part of the HRP 2023 (ADRA, AVSI, Ayuda en Acción, DORCAS, FH, NPA, Plan International, SCI, WVI, WFP, FAO, Oikos, For Afrika, Oxfam), but also partners that have been operating in the same area with similar objectives.

### Operational Partners Presence (Lead and Implementing Partners)



# of Partners



Lead Organization	18
1. Action Aid	
2. ADRA Mozambique	
3. Caritas Moçambicana	
4. COSV	
5. FAO	
6. Food for the Hungry/FH Association	
7. ForAfrika	
8. French Red Cross	
9. HelpAge International	
10. International Potato Center – CIP	
11. Livangingo	
12. Mani Tese	
13. OXFAM	
14. Plan International	
15. Save The Children International	
16. Tzu Chi Foundation	
17. WFP	
18. World Vision Mozambique	

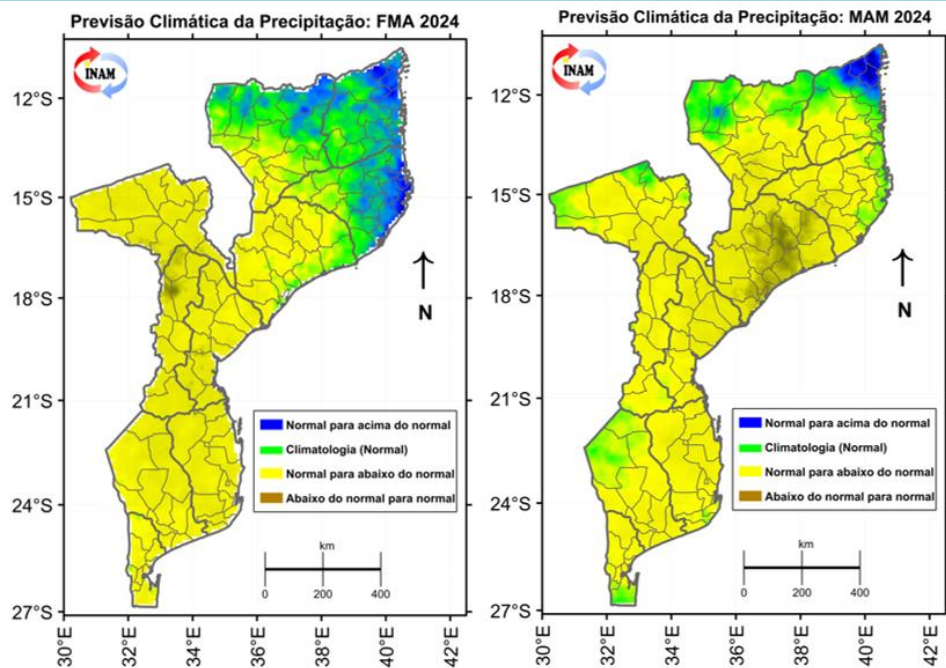
Implementing Partner	20
1. ACIDECO	
2. Action Aid	
3. ADRA Mozambique	
4. Caritas Maputo	
5. Conselho Cristão de Moçambique – CCM	
6. COSV	
7. Cruz Vermelha de Moçambique	
8. FAO	
9. Food for the Hungry/FH Association	
10. ForAfrika	
11. INGD/WFP	
12. International Potato Center – CIP	
13. Kukumbi	
14. Kulima	
15. Plan International	
16. SEPPA	
17. Tzu Chi Foundation	
18. UNHCR	
19. WFP	
20. World Vision Mozambique	

Donor	16
1. ADRA Network	
2. CERF	
3. DERF	
4. Dutch Relief Alliance	
5. ECHO	
6. Food for the Hungry USA/FHUSA	
7. ForAfrika	
8. HelpAge International	
9. IR-R	
10. MoFA	
11. MOZAL	
12. Norway	
13. PROACT	
14. Tear Fund NL	
15. Tzu Chi Foundation	
16. World Vision Mozambique US	

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### El Niño projections



During January 2024, the Southern and Central regions experienced a notable scarcity of precipitation, adversely impacting field crops. The majority of crops were in vegetative and reproductive stages, with a mediocre water satisfaction index, signaling potential low productivity. Seed planting began earlier in provinces like Maputo, northern Tete, and parts of Manica, Sofala, Zambézia, and Nampula.

November saw the commencement of planting in some provinces, while December witnessed increased activity due to regular rainfall in the North and parts of the Central region. However, irregular rainfall and high temperatures necessitated multiple replanting efforts nationwide, notably in the Southern and Central regions, revealing challenges in crop establishment. This situation hints at potential yield issues, reflecting the struggle with water availability and its adverse impact on agricultural productivity during the reviewed period.

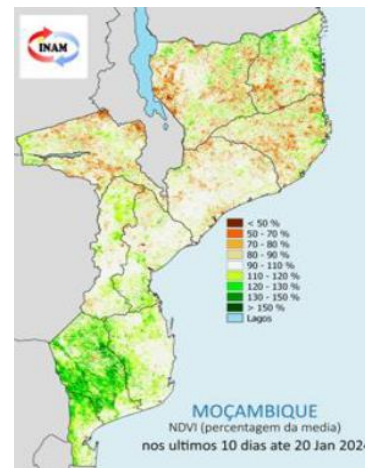
Despite localized variations, the prevailing trend underscores the need for adaptive strategies to mitigate the effects of irregular rainfall patterns on crop yields and overall agricultural sustainability.

### Agricultural conditions during 2023/24 rainy season

During the ongoing 2023/24 rainy season in Mozambique, agricultural conditions vary widely. In the south, early planted crops thrive, while the central region faces challenges with unsuccessful planting attempts, leaving crops in the germination phase due to late and reduced rainfall. This prompts households to prepare for a second season production, increasing demand for short cycle maize seeds and vegetables.

MODIS NDVI data reflects current vegetation anomalies nationwide, aiding in monitoring agricultural areas. Sowing began in October in some provinces, but late rains delayed planting in the north until November. Substantial rainfall in December prompted planting activities.

However, the overall rainfall shortage is expected to shorten the growing season, typical during El Niño cycles, potentially impacting harvest readiness and food security. These conditions necessitate adaptive agricultural strategies and close monitoring to mitigate risks and ensure sustainable livelihoods.



### FSC HRP 2024 Workshop



Source: FSC

The FSC organized a two-day workshop in Maputo to agree on the objectives, activities, coverage, people targeted, financial requirements for the HRP 2024 with cluster partners. 14 partners participated in the HRP process, with a total ask of US\$172.6 Million.

### Upcoming Events

#### FSC 2024 5W training

- **Dates:** 26 of February 2024
- **Location:** Online
- **Objective:** Training on the new 5W matrix for 2024 to have greater alignment and reporting of the activities by cluster partners.

#### Launch of FSC SOPs for Cyclone Response

- **Dates:** TBC
- **Location:** Online
- **Objective:** Dissemination of the FSC SOPs for cyclone response.