

MOZAMBIQUE

2023 IFRC network country plan

Funding Requirement **CHF 11.1M**

Appeal number **MAAMZ003**

In support of the Mozambique Red Cross Society



133

National Society branches



167

National Society staff



6,500

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



350,000

Climate and environment



350,000

Disasters and crises



1M

Health and wellbeing



5,000

Migration and displacement



30,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multiyear focus

Emergency response

- floods and cyclones

Longer term needs

- livelihoods • disaster risk reduction
- epidemic preparedness and response
 - climate change adaptation

Capacity development

- internal systems strengthening
- communication and advocacy
- digital transformation • volunteer management

Key country data

Population **32.2M**

INFORM severity rating **high**

Climate ND-GAIN Index rank **54**

Human Development Index rank **181**

Population below poverty level **46.1%**

Hazards



Cyclones



Floods



Food insecurity



Conflict

Funding requirements

Total 11.1M CHF

Through the IFRC

5.1M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

2.4M CHF

Host National Society

3.6M CHF

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

1M CHF

Climate and environment

1.1M CHF

Disasters and crises

1.6M CHF

Health and wellbeing

700,000 CHF

Migration and displacement

270,000 CHF

Values, power and inclusion

445,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

Ongoing emergencies

MDRMZ016

Mozambique, 2021–22
Floods and Cyclones

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross*

Austrian Red Cross*

Belgian Red Cross

British Red Cross*

Burundi Red Cross*

The Canadian Red Cross Society*

French Red Cross

German Red Cross

Italian Red Cross

Japanese Red Cross Society*

Red Cross of Monaco*

The Netherlands Red Cross*

Spanish Red Cross

Swedish Red Cross



NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The Mozambique Red Cross Society was founded by constitutional conference in 1981, where it was recognized by the Government of Mozambique through legal instruments which define its competence and recognize it as a legal entity of public utility, with its auxiliary role to the public authorities.

The Mozambique Red Cross therefore has an officially recognized role in assisting the public authorities of Mozambique in the humanitarian sector. The National Society's status in civil society is well established and it is considered an integral part of the combined disaster management instruments in Mozambique. The National Society has been assigned responsibilities by the Government, including its disaster management and civil protection institutions, and the United Nations trusts it as a member and leader of the shelter cluster, together with the IFRC.

The Mozambique Red Cross has a longstanding presence in all 11 provinces of the country and currently covers 133 districts through its district branches, out of the 154 districts. The National Society has over 160 permanent staff who ensure programmes are delivered in all provinces and manage a network of 6,500 volunteers countrywide. The National Society also maintains

three central warehouses, one for each region in the north, central and south, enabling a considerable preparedness and prepositioning capacity to respond to emergencies.

The National Society strives to build capacity for vulnerable communities to prepare to confront disasters, to prevent and mitigate their impact where possible, and to respond effectively to their impact.

The National Society's strategic priorities for 2023 are as follows:

- Climate and environment: to increase the capacity of communities and adopt climate-resilient measures
- Disasters and crises: to increase its capacity to intervene in communities in disaster situations
- Health and wellbeing: to reduce morbidity, with a focus on the most marginalized or affected people
- Migration and displacement: to contribute to a dignified treatment of displaced people and migrants
- Values, power and inclusion: to improve access to social services for the most marginalized in society

IFRC NETWORK ACTION IN 2023

Joint situational analysis

Mozambique is located on the southeastern coast of Africa, bordering South Africa, Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania. It has an Indian Ocean coastline of 2,700km, making a large part of the country prone to tropical cyclones and flooding. Almost half the country is subjected to drought, flooding or both. Several geological faults cross the country, especially in the northern and central parts, resulting in the occurrence of earthquakes across Mozambique. These natural hazards have always had a long-term impact, especially on the lives of people with a limited capacity to cope.

Approximately 60 per cent of the population live along the coastline, where they are exposed to water-borne diseases. The situation is aggravated by the conflict in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, which has

continuously led to the increase of internally displaced persons and acute food insecurity.

About two-thirds of the country's estimated 31 million people live and work in rural areas. The country is endowed with ample arable land, water and energy, as well as mineral resources and newly discovered natural gas offshore, three deep seaports, and a relatively large pool of potential labor.

Mozambique is strategically located, as four of the six countries it borders are landlocked and therefore depend on Mozambique to give them access to global markets. Mozambique's strong ties to the region's economic engine, South Africa, underscore the importance of its economic, political and social development to the stability and growth of Southern Africa as a whole.

The Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (Frelimo) and the Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo)

remain the country's main political forces, followed by the Mozambican Democratic Movement (MDM). Frelimo won the 2019 presidential and legislative elections in a landslide. Nevertheless, Mozambique is still grappling with a military insurgency in parts of the gas-rich province of Cabo Delgado.

A modest post-COVID-19 recovery is underway. Mozambique saw its first economic contraction in almost three decades in 2020, owing to the pandemic that hit the services and extractive sectors hard.

The current conflict in Ukraine is expected to further affect economic growth through higher prices of fossil fuels, edible oils and wheat, products for which the country is a net importer. Deterioration of the security situation in the north of the country may increase public spending pressures, among others.

Despite large investments going into social sectors in Mozambique, poverty remains high. Since 2016, Mozambique has experienced a period of elevated macroeconomic volatility, after revelations of hidden debt caused a significant economic downturn, which in turn limited poverty reduction.

More recently, two cyclones damaged agricultural output, an important source of livelihoods for most Mozambicans living in rural areas, as 70 per cent of rural residents depend on agriculture. All of these led to a stagnation of the poverty rate trend at 62.4 per cent during the period 2015–2021, with more than 12.5 million people living below the national poverty line.

Ongoing emergency response

For real-time information on emergencies, see [IFRC GO page Mozambique](#)

- Mozambique, Africa 2021–22 Floods and Cyclones Emergency Appeal [MDRMZ016](#)
- Launch of Emergency Appeal: 25 January 2021
- End of Emergency Appeal 31 January 2023
- Total people affected by two tropical storms: 568,649
- Total people to be assisted: 226,500

An IFRC Emergency Appeal to address the consequences of tropical storms that have been affecting Mozambique has been active in the country since the beginning of 2021.

In recent years, Mozambique has suffered repeated devastating cyclones and floods, particularly the central

provinces, and 2022 has been no exception. Tropical Storm Ana made landfall on 24 January 2022, Tropical Storm Dumako on 17 February, and Tropical Cyclone Gombe less than a month later. Weather systems in 2022 have affected the same regions as 2021 (Tropical Storm Chalane and Tropical Storm Eloise) and 2019 (Tropical Cyclones Idai and Kenneth), depleting community resilience and halting the path to recovery.

Cyclones Idai and Kenneth were the worst natural disasters to hit Southern Africa in at least two decades, wreaking havoc in the spring of 2019, killing at least 1,000 people and displacing some 2.2 million people.

Exposure to repeated environmental shocks and stressors negatively affects the health outcomes of the affected communities, access to resources such as food and water, livelihoods and economic opportunities. The repeated destruction creates large barriers to recovery and to restoring livelihoods to increase resilience to such disasters. Recurring emergencies not only have a knock-on effect on shelter and livelihoods but also on the communities' mental health. They may impede efforts to end harmful social practices such as child marriage and gender-based violence.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The operational strategy of the Emergency Appeal includes:

- Ensuring that communities in the affected areas receive support through the emergency shelter and early recovery solutions (provision of shelter kits and training of volunteers in their use)
- Provision of support to communities to strengthen their livelihoods (through vocational training programmes)
- Provision of multi-purpose cash grants to affected households
- Community-based disease prevention activities
- Hygiene promotion and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities
- Sexual and gender-based violence prevention activities
- Community engagement and provision of support to local government in assessment of needs
- Search and rescue activities

The majority of activities planned for the acute emergency phase were completed, and recovery activities,

comprising construction of permanent shelters, have been carried out. However, the Appeal remains underfunded, thus limiting the scale of the Mozambique Red Cross's response.

The emergency response will be completed by the end of January 2023, after which remaining needs will be covered as part of longer-term programming under the strategic priorities of this country plan.

Strategic priorities

Climate and environment

Mozambique is heavily affected by climate change, which is causing shifts in temperatures and precipitation patterns, sea level rise, and increased frequency and intensity of extreme climatic events, such as droughts, floods and tropical cyclones. Mozambique was ranked first out of 180 countries in the Global Climate Risk Index, following Cyclone Idai in 2019.¹

The coastal and riverside communities of Sofala, Zambezia, Nampula and Cabo Delgado are prone to flooding and drought, presenting significant challenges to agriculture and livelihoods. A significant increase in crop pests has led to widespread food insecurity.

The [National Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation of Climate Change](#) found that 70 per cent of the Mozambican population live in rural areas, directly depending on forest resources. Despite forest covering 41 per cent of the total land in Mozambique, forests are rapidly declining due to high deforestation rates. The drivers of deforestation are mainly unsustainable agriculture practices and exploitation of timber and fuel wood. It is estimated that the deforestation level in Mozambique is 267,000 hectares per year.

Sustainable forest management would better enable rural communities to increase their adaptive capacity against climate change. The Government of Mozambique launched a national campaign 'one student, one tree, one community leader, one new forest' in 2009 to promote tree planting and the regeneration of natural forests. Between September 2020 and June 2021, 827,547 seedlings of both native and exotic species were planted across the country, covering 4,609 hectares.

Main actions and areas of support

Natural disasters, along with the economic consequences of COVID-19, pose a severe threat to livelihoods in Mozambique, while the impacts of climate change trigger further economic constraints. There is a need for sustained investment in programmes that

are in line with the National Society Strategy 2025, to continue to reduce vulnerabilities and build resilience in communities most affected by the climate crisis and environmental disasters.

The Mozambique Red Cross is part of the IFRC [Global Climate Resilience Programme](#), which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, and build community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The National Society aims to ensure that its staff and volunteers have better knowledge and capacity to engage with community members to further promote sustainability of these initiatives. Training will focus on climate-smart agriculture, and a focus on community-led solutions will ensure that indigenous early warning systems are included in all Early Action Protocols.

In line with the Government of Mozambique's strategy and with the IFRC's Pan-African Initiative on Tree Planting and Care, the Mozambique Red Cross, with the support of the IFRC, will focus on training volunteers and community members in all aspects of tree planting and care, promoting planting of multi-purpose trees, and production of seedlings for planting trees in communities.

The IFRC will facilitate the National Society and network partners climate change task team to ensure greater coordination and impact. It IFRC will support the National Society to aim its promotional and advocacy efforts for nature-based solutions in climate change

1 Analysis in this section supported by the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre: <https://www.climatecentre.org/>

mitigation at government agencies, private sector and the general public. The IFRC will also facilitate new strategic partnerships that enable scaling-up of tree planting efforts and other environmental actions.

Disasters and crises

Mozambique is at extremely high risk of humanitarian crises and is likely to require international assistance. The country is prone to natural hazards including droughts, cyclones, earthquakes, floods, earthquakes, epidemics and tsunamis.

Mozambique is the third most vulnerable country to extreme weather events in the region, and the 10th in the world. This situation compounds the high poverty levels and increasing vulnerability across the country.

Due to its high vulnerability to extreme climatic conditions, Mozambique often experiences a shortage of agricultural production and food scarcity. According to World Food Programme data, 80 per cent of the Mozambican population cannot afford to buy the food necessary for adequate nutrition. Food insecurity affects 24 per cent of Mozambican families chronically, while one in four families experience food insecurity at least once a year. The Government of Mozambique has recognized food and nutrition security as key priorities within its five-year plan (2020–2024), which emphasizes the importance of improved access to food, living conditions and the development of human capital.

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network's [food security outlook for Mozambique](#) the food crisis is likely to persist through early 2023. In drought-affected areas of southern and central Mozambique, a poor harvest, depleted food reserves and limited income-generating opportunities will likely result in food stress and food crisis outcomes. In Nampula Province, areas affected by storms and cyclones earlier in the year are likely in crisis due to the loss of harvests and livelihood assets. In Cabo Delgado, crisis and acute food insecurity outcomes persist, driven by the ongoing conflict.

Mozambique has very weak provision of public services, particularly health, education, and access to clean water and sanitation. Communities that have been exposed to the effects of extreme weather events, while also lacking access to essential health and social services, are further impoverished.

The Government of Mozambique believes that it is not enough to mitigate the effects of natural disasters with short-term actions. Medium- and long-term planning

must be designed and implemented with a view to reducing the vulnerability of the communities most exposed to these natural phenomena.

Through its Master Plan for Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, which is an integral part of the anti-poverty strategy, the Government has defined the following objectives: reduce the number of human victims and property loss; consolidate the prevention culture; provide the country with prevention and mitigation resources; improve the quality of life of the population.

Main actions and areas of support

In line with the Mozambique Red Cross Strategic Plan, IFRC Pan-African Initiatives 2021–2030, and the IFRC Framework for Community Resilience, the IFRC network will focus on supporting the Mozambique Red Cross in preparedness and readiness to respond to shocks, and enhancing community risk reduction and resilience. This includes early warning and action, and anticipation to mitigate risks from multi-hazards affecting the livelihoods, homes and living conditions of vulnerable communities and the most disadvantaged or hard to reach. Anticipatory action, forecast-based financing and Early Action Protocols will also be included, as well as supporting the National Society's efforts in legislative advocacy and disaster law.

The National Society will contribute to the government's goals by promoting awareness within vulnerable communities for resilient constructions, providing prompt emergency assistance, adopting Minimum Actions of Emergencies, and having systems in place to collect and follow up on community feedback. This is part of the IFRC Pan-African Red Ready initiative.

The IFRC will support the National Society through its Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative, by developing integrated interventions that support basic needs, prevent asset depletion and protect livelihoods, and by providing strategic technical guidelines for the National Society in early actions and Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), as they respond to food insecurity and hunger crisis.

Health and wellbeing

The major health risks that threaten people in Mozambique are high risk of COVID-19 spread; outbreaks of communicable diseases including cholera, measles and polio; food insecurity; and malnutrition. As a result of heavy rains, floods and cyclones, there are recurrent cholera outbreaks, especially in Sofala,

Nampula and Cabo Delgado Provinces. Malaria cases increase during the rainy season from November to March, and Mozambicans suffer from many chronic diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and diabetes. Due to COVID-19, the number of people stopping their treatments is increasing, and the death toll from HIV and TB will most likely increase in the coming year.

The health care system is fragile in terms of infrastructure, equipment, medicines and personnel. Medical equipment is insufficient and poorly maintained. Medical staff are not well trained and there were only 0.06 doctors per 1,000 citizens in 2017. The overall availability rate of health services is 28 per cent, the health infrastructure index is 31 per cent, and the service utilization rate is 27 per cent.

Disparities between those without access to improved water sources in rural and urban areas are estimated at 64 per cent and 17 per cent respectively. Mozambique has one of the highest open defecation rates in sub-Saharan Africa (36 per cent), and 76 per cent of the population do not have, or do not use, improved sanitation facilities. In rural areas, this rises to 88 per cent.

Women and girls are particularly vulnerable in the situation of poor access to water and sanitation as it threatens their security, well-being and education. A lack of toilets contributes to a loss of dignity and threat of sexual assault, both in times of emergency and stability.

Main actions and areas of support

The IFRC network supports the Mozambique Red Cross to expand the scale and quality of its health and water, sanitation and hygiene services at the community level, in both emergency and non-emergency settings. This includes significant investments into epidemic and pandemic preparedness, specifically through local actors, networks and volunteers, who act as community-based responders and are best placed to detect and respond to disease outbreaks and other health risks.

Aligned with IFRC Strategy 2030, the National Society intends to respond to epidemic outbreaks, address health inequalities among underserved populations and increase access for better water, sanitation and hygiene services through community-based health interventions. It will also use this approach to position itself as a key public health actor in the response to epidemic outbreaks.

To raise awareness on, and understanding of, community health issues, the National Society will focus on strengthening volunteers' capacity to carry out

community-based health activities through a community participatory approach. This will ensure quality interventions are provided that will effectively manage community-based health care.

The fight against COVID-19 will be reinforced through a continent-wide initiative between the IFRC and Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to invest in building resilient public health security infrastructure in Africa. Under the USD 39 million Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative funded by Mastercard Foundation, the IFRC and African National Societies are building a programme that aims to ensure that 60 per cent of African people are vaccinated against COVID-19. The partnership between the Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC will support the procurement and delivery of tens of millions of COVID-19 vaccines and hasten economic recovery on the continent.

Under this programme, the Mozambique Red Cross will deliver critical risk communication and community engagement activities to vulnerable communities, in support of COVID-19 vaccine uptake. Other programme partners will provide procurement and logistics services to a central warehouse (UNICEF), in-country logistics (World Food Programme), managing COVID-19 vaccination centres (Amref Health Africa and GHSS) and safety surveillance (Akros). Across Africa, the National Societies will work with partners in the Saving Lives and Livelihoods programme to achieve its objective of reaching at least 60 per cent of the continent's population with COVID-19 vaccines.

To ensure improved health outcomes for African communities, the Mozambique Red Cross will also be contributing to the scale-up of a strengthened, people-centred and integrated community health workforce and system through the IFRC network programme, funded by Africa CDC. This will involve organizing and mobilizing the community health workforce for the COVID-19 response and maintaining essential health services. This will be integrated within a wider health system strengthening approach to address the secondary health impacts of COVID-19, which includes but is not limited to: health promotion, disease prevention, community-based care, contact tracing, scaling-up of mass testing at the community level, and accelerating COVID-19 vaccine access and availability.

The National Society will collaborate on joint actions and initiatives to support member states in the attainment of the universal health coverage goals of the Sustainable Development Goals. This will include advocating for changes in policy and approach that are based on key

issues, such as task shifting through the community health workforce, and those identified through community feedback and social science research.

The three expected outcomes of the programme are:

- The capacities of community health workers and volunteers to provide and facilitate equitable access to essential health services, and to assist communities affected by public health emergencies, are scaled up
- Community preparedness and responsiveness to health emergencies are reinforced, community-led health resilience is built and access to essential health services is improved
- National and community health systems are strengthened, as well as the National Society's capacity to address the community health needs at all times

The Government and the Mozambique Red Cross aim to scale up the community health workforce to more than 46,000 community health workers, which will be part of a continent-wide ambition of establishing a workforce of two million community health workers in Africa. Each community health worker will support an estimated 250 people.

Migration and displacement

The combined effects of Cyclones Idai and Kenneth in 2019, and subsequent rains, destroyed more than 277,700 homes in Mozambique. When Tropical Storm Chalane struck at the end of 2020, an additional 270 families were displaced.

As of April 2021, the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix lists more than 730,000 internally displaced persons in Mozambique due to the Cabo Delgado conflict. According to the assessment completed in October 2021, 46 per cent of internally displaced persons plan to return to their home locations, 84 per cent of displaced people are living with host communities and 42 per cent of those displaced are children.

The largest need for internally displaced persons is food, with 98 per cent of those interviewed requesting it, followed by 86 per cent requesting shelter and 34 per cent requiring water.

Approximately 10 per cent of displaced people are staying in overcrowded collective sites with lack of privacy and limited access to safe shelter, water and sanitation. This contributes to protection risks, including gender-based violence and rising numbers of child

and teen pregnancies. At these sites, there is increased exposure to exploitation and negative coping mechanisms, including transactional sex.

Main actions and areas of support

The focus will be on making sure that all people who migrate and are displaced are safe, are treated humanely and with dignity, and have the assistance, protection and support they need to thrive in inclusive societies. To achieve this, the IFRC will put increased efforts into enhancing the National Society's capacities to understand migration dynamics in context. It will support the Mozambique Red Cross to deliver appropriate humanitarian services to migrants, host communities, displaced people and those affected by the migratory and displacement phenomenon – including families who stay behind – in coordination with relevant local and international actors. The National Society will also be working in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to ensure it fulfills these objectives, where support will be provided with the Safer Access Framework and restoring family links.

The IFRC will support the Mozambique Red Cross to ensure that minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion are mainstreamed into operations. The IFRC will also support the National Society to collect and analyze data on specific community perceptions and concerns regarding the issues and needs of migrants, displaced persons and host communities.

Values, power and inclusion

Traditionally in Mozambique, local gender-accepted norms, education and socio-economic factors provide privileges and leadership roles to men. This contributes to marginalization of women, with reduced levels of literacy, high rates of teen pregnancy and maternal mortality, as well as sexual exploitation and abuse or gender-based violence. In 2022, Mozambique was ranked 34 on the [Global Gender Gap Index](#).

The recent cyclones significantly exacerbated the spread of sexual and gender-based violence. A Ministry of Education survey carried out before Cyclone Idai found that, during emergencies, it is a common coping mechanism for families to pull girls out of school to support with domestic tasks or income-generating activities. When out of school, girls are exposed to additional protection risks, including early marriage – 48 per cent of girls in Mozambique are married before the age of 18 – and sexual and gender-based violence. A Ministry of Education survey found that 70 per cent of girls said teachers use sex as a condition for grade promotion.

In Mozambique, 14 per cent of children between two and nine years old are living with disabilities. They are often hidden away by their families – in effect rendered invisible – and are vulnerable to discrimination as well as an increased risk of violence. The cyclones have further aggravated the exclusion of people with specific needs and conditions, children, those living with disabilities, and elderly people.

During the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, many donors suspended their funding to social projects, reducing the availability of funds for social investment. If funds continue to be limited, this could become an impediment to the National Society's plans, and its ability to set goals and objectives.

Main actions and areas of support

In addressing protection, gender, and inclusion issues, the Mozambique Red Cross will focus on protecting and promoting positive changes, based on humanitarian

values and principles. To achieve this, the IFRC network will work on enhancing National Society capacities to reach more local branches, and increase youth awareness and action. It will engage with the education community and foster more inclusive working dynamics, greater diversity, and better protection for people, their dignity and contribution to resilient and peaceful environments.

The IFRC will support the National Society in strengthening its capacity to implement quality humanitarian education programmes and feedback mechanics for sensitive issues.

The National Society aims to ensure that there is awareness and understanding of concepts of prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, protection, gender and inclusion, and sexual and gender-based violence, among all its staff and volunteers. These concepts will be mainstreamed and required in all activities.

Enabling local actors

The Mozambique Red Cross is committed to pursue its institutional strengthening, and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2018. This is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The National Society is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanism, and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.

Engaged

With support from the IFRC, the Mozambique Red Cross plans to strengthen its communications with the Government of Mozambique. This will enable the National Society to better implement its auxiliary role and mandate, share experiences and connect to IFRC Pan-African initiatives. The IFRC will also support the National Society to develop tailor-made advocacy campaigns to support its work.

The National Society will seek to strengthen and broaden its partnership with Movement partners as well as with private entities in Mozambique.

To ensure effective management of its operations, the National Society aims to increase its digital and information technology (IT) capacity. The IFRC will support the National Society to ensure that concepts of data management and protection are addressed in all National Society activities.

Accountable

The IFRC is committed to supporting the Mozambique Red Cross in strengthening its management capacity. Emphasis will be put on providing adequate support to branches to ensure the National Society as a whole is efficient, accountable and well-functioning.

The IFRC, with support from the Italian Red Cross, will also support the National Society to develop a risk management framework.

Trusted

To ensure the Mozambique Red Cross is trusted by its partners and the communities it serves, the IFRC will support the National Society to:

- Develop, update and implement key policies guiding delivery of humanitarian aid, including on protection, gender and inclusion, youth, community engagement and accountability, and whistleblower policies

- Improve its human resources, risk management and financial procedures with support from Movement partners
- Support strengthening of the National Society's response capacity through development of the volunteer management strategy in emergencies
- Build capacity of National Society staff and volunteers in branches through adequate training
- Ensure better coordination between National Society partners
- Build stronger capacity in planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting through training, network meetings and needs assessments

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC supports the Mozambique Red Cross with a focus on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, including the reinforcement of its auxiliary role. Operationally, the IFRC's support is focused on the southern and central parts of the country which are most exposed to natural hazards.

In recent years, the National Society has been supported by a number of [Emergency Appeals](#), in response to food insecurity in 2016 and tropical storms in 2019, 2021 and 2022. The IFRC has also activated its Early Action Protocols in Mozambique for cyclone and floods in 2020 and 2022, with support from Forecast-based Action by the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF).

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IFRC, through its global Appeal, has supported the National Society in its COVID-19 response. The IFRC has been increasing its role in membership coordination and capacity building of the National Society in preparation for future waves of the COVID-19 virus. This has enabled the allocation of immediate resources for the National Society to train trainers on COVID-19 and community-based activities in all provinces.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing common priorities; co-developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, development assistance, and the auxiliary role efforts to

reinforce the role of National Societies in their respective countries.

The Mozambique Red Cross received support from more than 20 participating National Societies – through the current IFRC Emergency Appeal, bilateral contributions, surge capacity deployments and financial contributions. In addition, a number of participating National Societies have longer-term partnerships with the Mozambique Red Cross:













The Belgian Red Cross (Flanders) has been present in Mozambique from 2001 to 2014 and since 2017, supporting the Mozambique Red Cross with provision of first aid, blood banks, disaster risk reduction and preparedness, and water, sanitation and hygiene, with a focus on hygiene promotion.

In 2018, a disaster risk reduction project with the Mozambique Red Cross built resilience against floods and drought in 10 vulnerable communities along the Zambezi River, in Tete and Manica Provinces. This included the creation of a mechanism to ensure an immediate and direct response in case of disaster, which was used on several occasions. It was used in response to the Tete floods that preceded Cyclone Idai, both 2019 cyclones and the floods in Sofala in February 2020.

A bilateral recovery programme began in 2020, focusing on community-based health and first aid, disaster risk reduction, and water, sanitation and hygiene in the districts affected by Cyclone Kenneth in Nampula Province. As part of this project, the Belgian Red Cross supported the COVID-19 response programme in Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Nampula and Niassa Provinces.

In 2021, the Belgian Red Cross started projects with the Mozambique Red Cross to support water, sanitation and hygiene, including COVID-19 and cholera prevention, and agriculture and livelihoods. They focused mainly on internally displaced people from Cabo Delgado and their host communities in Nampula.

Participating National Society Support - Bilateral

Name of Partner NS	Funding Requirements	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
Belgian Red Cross	CHF 0.75M								
French Red Cross									
German Red Cross	CHF 0.45M								
Italian Red Cross	CHF 0.14M								
Spanish Red Cross									
Swedish Red Cross	CHF 1.10M								

Total

2.44M

The projects also focused on disaster preparedness, gender and inclusion in Inhambane Province, as well as water, sanitation and hygiene in Nampula Province, and first aid nationwide.

The French Red Cross has been supporting the Mozambique Red Cross through its Platform for Intervention from La Reunion (PIROI) on disaster risk reduction and response for significant emergencies such as Cyclones Idai and Gombé. More recently, it has engaged with the National Society on an ECHO funded disaster risk reduction project in Zambezia Province.

The German Red Cross is a long-term partner of the Mozambique Red Cross in the areas of disaster management, disaster risk reduction, forecast-based financing, water, sanitation and hygiene, and shelter. It has been present in Mozambique for more than 20 years since the floods in 2000. Currently, the German Red Cross is supporting the National Society in Sofala, Zambezia, Nampula, Manica, Inhambane and Maputo Provinces.

In partnership with the Mozambique Red Cross, the German Red Cross is also carrying out forecast-based financing projects, financed by the German Federal Foreign Office. The most recent of these closed the gap between disaster preparedness and emergency relief in Southern Africa, from September 2019 to December 2022. The project is being implemented in coordination with the National Institute of Disaster Management, the National Meteorology Institute and the National Directorate for Water Resources Management.

Since April 2021, the German Red Cross, with support from German Federal Foreign Office, has been financing an urban disaster risk reduction project to improve the readiness of the Mozambique Red Cross for urban disaster and humanitarian disaster risk reduction in Maputo City and the surrounding area. In 2023, it will continue to support the National Society in urban disaster risk reduction and forecast-based financing.

The Italian Red Cross has been present in Mozambique for four years, and is currently supporting the Mozambique Red Cross on a bilateral project on youth and volunteers, and ECHOVAX in Maputo and Gaza Provinces. It is also working in the area of risk management. Over the last two years, a delegate from the Italian Red Cross has been supporting the Mozambique Red Cross on National Society development.

The Spanish Red Cross began its first collaborations with the Mozambique Red Cross in the early 1990s and, since 2001, it has had a permanent presence in the country. It supports humanitarian aid, development cooperation and institutional strengthening projects.

From 2001 to 2005, the Spanish Red Cross supported the implementation of projects focused on health, water, sanitation and hygiene and HIV/AIDS prevention, in the Maputo and Cabo Delgado Provinces. Since 2006, the Spanish Red Cross has been supporting community development interventions in the field of public health and environmental management, incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of intervention, in

Maputo City communities. Since 2012, with funding from ECHO, it has established specific disaster preparedness programmes and early warning systems, and pre-positioned non-food items in the provinces of Zambezia, Sofala, Tete, Nampula and Maputo.

During these years, the Spanish Red Cross continued to carry out institutional strengthening actions for the Mozambique Red Cross, along with specific interventions in response to emergency situations caused by floods. The most recent of these was the deployment of an emergency response unit (ERU) for support during Cyclone Idai and Cyclones Kenneth, Eloise and Chalane.

The Spanish Red Cross provided strong support to the National Society in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic – with awareness campaigns, the distribution of protection material and training for volunteers. Through the regional vaccination campaign, it gave the

entire population of Gaza and Maputo Provinces access to vaccination. This was achieved through the Spanish Red Cross's own funds and funding from ECHO.

The Spanish Red Cross is developing specific health interventions in Maputo Province and Maputo City, as well as gender and livelihood interventions in Maputo City and Inhambane. It is also directing institutional strengthening actions to the Mozambique Red Cross.

The Swedish Red Cross has predominantly supported IFRC Emergency Appeals, most recently providing funding and delegates in response to the impact of Cyclone Idai in 2019. The Swedish Red Cross is currently developing a new partnership with the Mozambique Red Cross, including a proposal for a comprehensive community resilience project lasting four years from 2023, pending a favourable outcome from the donor. The intervention is planned for selected districts in Manica Province.

Movement coordination

A common International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Coordination Framework supports close collaboration between the Mozambique Red Cross, the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). For the emergency response to cyclones and floods in Mozambique, IFRC holds very frequent Movement coordination meetings, which include participating National Societies. The Mozambique Red Cross also organizes emergency response coordination updates. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The ICRC has extended its services in the country mainly in response to the severe humanitarian crisis in Cabo Delgado Province. The focus is to strengthen capacities jointly with the National Society to assist and protect people in need. The ICRC continues to distribute much-needed emergency relief provisions and give livelihood support to displaced people and host communities in regions affected by the conflict in northern

Mozambique. In addition to assistance and improved access to basic needs, including health care and water, a key priority is putting people separated by the conflict in contact with their relatives.

The ICRC also visits places of detention and conducts workshops on international humanitarian law with a range of weapon bearers.

The ICRC is working in Manica Province supporting the National Society in regular vaccination campaigns and restoring family links. Previously, the ICRC provided support in cyclone emergency response by offering food and livelihood assistance in Sofala, Manica and Tete Provinces. On 31 May 2020, the sub-delegation in Beira closed.

In addition to operations in the field, the ICRC will continue collaborating with the National Society in capacity building for its staff and volunteers in the areas of international humanitarian law and safe access.

Coordination with other actors

To increase the visibility and accountability of the National Society, the IFRC has been supporting multilateral agreements with the Mozambique Red Cross and external partners. In 2022, it started a partnership with the Australian High Commission, focusing on livelihood

restoration through climate-smart agricultural practices. The IFRC network in the country is also planning to assist with the establishment of the Southern African Development Community Emergency Operations

Centre in Nacala, Nampula Province – a four-year project starting in 2022.

During emergencies, the Mozambique Red Cross and the IFRC closely coordinate any response with government authorities and international humanitarian actors. For instance, for [Cyclone Idai](#), the National Society and the IFRC contributed to the humanitarian coordination system under the lead of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Maputo and Beira, participating in clusters and sectoral coordination. The Shelter Cluster was led by the IFRC and the Mozambique Red Cross, and co-led by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The IFRC and Mozambique Red Cross led the national level coordination as well as the hubs in Sofala and Manica Provinces, while the IOM was providing coordination in Cabo Delgado. The global shelter cluster is an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) coordination mechanism and IFRC has been leading the Shelter Cluster in disaster contexts since the establishment

of the cluster approach in 2005. This critical mandate places IFRC as one of the lead agencies in the international humanitarian coordination system. IFRC leverages its leadership position in the global shelter cluster for improved coordination, stronger policies and standards across the sector, and better support for affected people in their recovery.

In the COVID-19 response, the IFRC also attended the interagency Community Engagement Working Group, chaired by UNICEF and Plan International, which coordinated community engagement and social mobilization approaches and messages across several agencies. The Ministry of Health led the coordination for the country's COVID-19 response, with the close support of the World Health Organization. The IFRC and the Mozambique Red Cross have been part of the COVID-19 national emergency committee, together with different ministries, WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA. The IFRC and the Mozambique Red Cross have been leading the Risk Communication Committee.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with **192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** and around **14 million volunteers**. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

Contact Information

Naemi Heita

Head of Delegation a.i.
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation
for Mozambique & Angola, Maputo
T +258 87681 0013
naemi.heita@ifrc.org

Louise Daintrey

Head of Strategic Engagement
& Partnerships
IFRC Regional Office for Africa,
Nairobi
T +254 110 843978
louise.daintrey@ifrc.org

Mozambique Red Cross Society

W www.redcross.org.mz
