

MOZAMBIQUE

People in need
1.5 million

People targeted
1.2 million

Requirements
US\$ 13.41 million

Context

Mozambique is prone to emergencies resulting from natural disasters: flooding, droughts, and tropical cyclones. It is ranked as the third country in Africa which is most exposed to extreme climatic events, with a yearly tropical storm cycle that does not give affected communities time to recover before the next emergency.

Over the past four years, the frequency of cyclones has increased. These repeated devastating storms have affected the population with different health consequences. They include the disruption of health service delivery due to damaged health facilities, disease outbreaks in an already weak health system, and exhaustion of personnel from responding to multiple health emergencies..

Mozambique has also been challenged by two major humanitarian emergencies: the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the complex humanitarian situation due to the ongoing conflict in Cabo Delgado province. Despite efforts made to mitigate the devastating consequences of emergencies, there are gaps and challenges in coordination and leadership, including monitoring response actions. In addition, the exhausted and weak health system is a major concern at all levels. Some of the most pressing needs include operational costs to support surveillance, contact tracing, case management, ensuring the continuity of services, and vaccination. In addition to the inadequate capacity to manage severe COVID-19 cases at the subnational level, there is low testing capacity, slow vaccination roll-out, COVID-19 fatigue, and non-compliance with public health and social measures. The conflict in Cabo Delgado has widened the pre-existing health disparities in the province. This is placing considerable pressure on a weak system already overstretched by natural disasters, recurrent cholera outbreaks, and the COVID-19

In Mozambique, WHO works to strengthen the capacity of Mozambique to prevent, detect, and respond to disease outbreaks/epidemics, and ensure the provision of basic health services to internally displaced persons and host communities. © WHO / Dalia Lourenco

pandemic. One-third of health facilities were damaged and/or vandalized and are non-functional. The provision of primary health care services in accommodation centres and in host communities remains strained. There are limited partners and a shortage of drugs and supplies (cholera kit and Interagency Emergency Health Kits) to respond to disease outbreaks (acute watery diarrhoea, cholera, measles, and COVID-19).

Response strategy

WHO will employ different strategies to address the health problems of internally displaced persons and the strain placed on host communities as part of its response in Cabo Delgado. Support will be provided for the delivery of primary health care services, emphasizing vaccination, and distributing medicines and supplies for the timely treatment of the most common causes of morbidity and mortality. WHO Mozambique will also provide medicines, supplies, and manpower to temporary clinics to ensure the continuity of essential health services in the accommodation and resettlement centres. Health facilities will be strengthened, and the team will provide community-based surveillance to detect diseases and timely response to outbreaks.

WHO will continue to support the 10 pillars of the COVID-19 response building on the existing capacity at community level and enhancing coordination mechanism at provincial levels. Strategic actions will be implemented to enhance surveillance, contact tracing, and community engagement-related activities. Early case identification with increased testing and community-based COVID-19 testing using antigen rapid diagnostic tests, strengthening the referral of symptomatic patients, proper COVID-19 case management, and support for vaccination rollout will continue in the targeted population.



Country priorities

- Strengthen the capacity of Mozambique to prevent, detect, and respond to disease outbreaks/epidemics.
- Ensure the provision of basic health services to internally displaced persons and host communities.
- Strengthen the COVID-19 response through support across the 10 COVID-19 response pillars.
- Ensure continuity of basic health services through the provision of medicines and supplies for common endemic diseases, malaria, acute respiratory infections, measles, and diarrheal diseases for people affected by the health consequences of cyclones.
- Collaborate with other clusters, especially with water, sanitation, and hygiene, in flood-affected health facilities.
- Strengthen coordination and operational support at the subnational level to respond to emerging needs of affected people.

COVID-19 response

WHO is responding to COVID-19 across the pillars. Work includes coordinating partners, investigating cases, conducting contact tracing and follow-up, providing treatment, ensuring infection prevention and control, strengthening risk communication and community engagement, facilitating vaccination, and strengthening data management.

Overall country funding requirements for emergency response, including COVID-19, by pillar (US\$ million)

Pillars	Emergency response	COVID-19/ACT-A	Total
P1. Leadership, coordination, planning, and monitoring	0.35	0.21	0.57
P2. Risk communication and community engagement	0.09	1.10	1.19
P3. Surveillance, case investigation, and contact tracing	0.85	1.54	2.39
P4. Travel, trade, points of entry and mass gatherings	-	0.28	0.28
P5. Diagnostics and testing	-	1.30	1.30
P6. Infection prevention and control	0.05	1.09	1.14
P7. Case management and therapeutics	0.70	1.13	1.83
P8. Operational support and logistics	0.12	0.34	0.46
P9. Essential health systems and services	1.05	0.71	1.75
P10. Vaccination	0.67	1.71	2.39
P11. Research, innovation, and evidence	-	0.11	0.11
Total	3.89	9.51	13.41

For more information

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