



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Mozambique

## External Situation Report

01 March 2024

### Emergency Response in northern Mozambique

Over 81,000 people displaced since 22 December

582,754 Internally Displaced Persons in northern Mozambique

632,408 returnees in northern Mozambique

510,000 WFP caseload for humanitarian food assistance (Jan-Apr 2024)

## Highlights

- More than 81,000 people have been displaced due to attacks and fear of attacks in Cabo Delgado since 22 December 2023. Over 33,200 people fleeing attacks and fear of attacks in Chiure, Cabo Delgado, have crossed into Nampula province, seeking refuge in the district of Erati. Cross-provincial border displacement has occurred for the first time since 2022.
- In coordination with National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD), WFP is responding with emergency food ration and scaling up its nutrition response to respond to new displacements.
- In Chiure, WFP has so far reached 5,485 individuals under the Joint Response Plan (JRP) in coordination with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNICEF.
- Over 1.2 million people in Cabo Delgado and Nampula are facing high levels of acute food insecurity and require urgent action. In Erati, prior to the latest displacement crisis, one in four people were already facing acute food insecurity.
- Monitoring data indicates that Chiure has among the highest number cases of acute malnutrition in Cabo Delgado. In Erati, the **global acute malnutrition rate is close to 10%**, according to the 2023 Nutrition SMART Survey.
- WFP operations in Mozambique are facing a shortfall of USD 73.9 million for the next six months.

## Situation Update

- Over 81,000 people have been displaced due to attacks and fear of attacks in Cabo Delgado since 22 December 2023.
- In February, attacks and fear of attacks in the districts of Chiure, Macomia, and Mecufi have led to a surge in the number of displaced people. Between 8 and 27 February, over 68,156 individuals were displaced and altered the dynamics of population movements in Cabo Delgado.
- From 20-21 February, over 33,200 people were recorded seeking refuge in Erati district, Nampula province. These represent the first major cross-provincial population movements since 2022.
- WFP food assistance was suspended in Chiure and Quissanga districts due to security concerns following the attacks and deterioration in the security situation. Access constraints owing to disrupted road connections, due to heavy rains as result of El Niño, are hampering food assistance in several other districts of Cabo Delgado.
- In Erati, the first wave of arrivals were women and children, followed by men. The newly displaced are being accommodated in host communities whilst the district administration organises relocation to existing IDP sites.
- In Cabo Delgado and Nampula, according to the latest [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#), over 1.2 million people are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3) during the current lean season (October 2023 – March 2024), including 120,000 in Phase 4 (Emergency). In Erati district, the IPC estimates that 1 in 4 people were already facing acute levels of food insecurity prior to the current displacement crisis.



## WFP response

- **Food Assistance:** WFP is prioritizing immediate assistance to displaced families. In coordination with INGD and local authorities, WFP is distributing 7-day rations to newly displaced people in Erati district, Nampula. As of 29 February, 16,785 individuals have been reached with rations consisting of 12.5 kg of cereals, 12.5 kg of pulses, and 4 litres of vegetable oil per household.
- This follows the initial Government response, which provided displaced people with rations covering the first 72 hours. WFP and the Government plan to reach around 33,000 beneficiaries by 2 March.
- WFP supported the Area Humanitarian Country Team and Government rapid needs assessment conducted in Erati on 24 February.
- In Chiure, WFP, IOM and UNICEF, in coordination with local authorities, activated the Joint Response Plan (JRP). As of 29 February, 5,485 individuals were reached through the JRP with emergency food kits consisting of 25 kg of rice, 10 kg of beans, and 2 litres of vegetable oil, enough to cover the food needs of a family of five for fifteen days. Continued coordination with UNICEF and IOM is being carried out to provide complementary support for WASH, non-food items, and shelter.
- **Nutrition:** In Erati, WFP is scaling up its nutrition response in light of the new displacements. WFP is coordinating its response with the Nutrition Cluster in Nampula. WFP, UNICEF, and local partners are preparing to assess the needs and prepare mobile brigades to provide protective nutrition services and health services, nutritional screening and scale up support to the national Nutrition Rehabilitation Program (PRN).

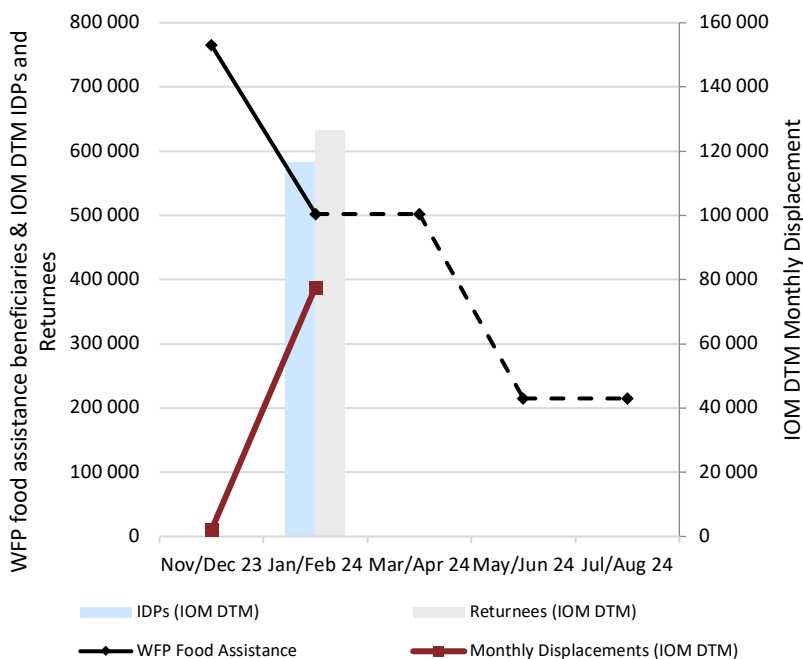


Photo: WFP emergency food distribution in in Erati district, Nampula on 25 February. Photo credit: WFP

## WFP 2024 Humanitarian Food Assistance plan in northern Mozambique

- Due to funding constraints, WFP has been forced to drastically reduce humanitarian food assistance in 2024. From January to April, the caseload has reduced to around 510,000 people, compared to over 1 million people during the same period in 2023. From May 2024, a further reduction to around 215,000 people is planned.
- To stretch limited resources available, WFP has been providing food rations every other month (covering 39% of the caloric needs) to beneficiaries since April 2022.
- Additionally, WFP has been gradually reducing the caseload, prioritizing assistance to those most vulnerable to food insecurity through the Vulnerability Based Targeting (VBT) exercise that ensures the provision of assistance according to vulnerability instead of displacement status.
- WFP continues to sensitize local communities and authorities following the reductions in the caseload due to funding constraints and with assistance in certain districts being carried out based on VBT.

### Northern Mozambique - WFP Food Assistance and IOM DTM Population Movements



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WFP operations in Mozambique are facing a shortfall of **USD74 million** for the next six months.